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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 7TH, 1900.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

TIENTSIN, after three repulses, has been relieved by the Allies.

ANOTHER plague case is reported from Osaka on Monday. The patient, a male, was taken to the Momoyama Hospital.

MR. BUSKER, an Austrian resident of Nagasaki, has been engaged by the local Government for service in the Kobe police.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR'S losses in the attempt to reach Peking were very heavy, over 62 men being killed and nearly 300 wounded.

A MAN living at Iriye-dori, Hiogo, was attacked by cholera on Wednesday. This is the first case of cholera in Kobe this year.

THE foreign Legations still remain in Peking, but with the exception of the British and French, the buildings have all been burned by the mob.

THE news is confirmed of the murder of the German Minister in Peking. The Emperor William vows vengeance. Germany is sending an army to China.

GUNNER W. SIMS, of the *Powerful*, who was with the Naval Brigade which was at Ladysmith during the siege, has been promoted to lieutenant. This is an unusual promotion for a warrant officer, only two previous instances being recorded during the Queen's reign.

LORD ROBERTS is gradually hemming in all the straggling Boer commandos. Skirmishes have taken place throughout the week, with but little loss to the British.

A TERRIBLE fire has occurred in New York. The whole of the N.D.L. Wharf at Hoboken has been burnt, together with three large steamers. The loss of life reaches 300.

THE Fourth of July was celebrated in Yokohama on Wednesday with the usual enthusiasm. There was a baseball match, which the Americans lost, sailing races and fireworks.

ANOTHER case of cholera was reported in Kobe on Monday. A coolie living at Higashi Shiriike, Hyogo, was attacked on Saturday night after eating a quantity of ice. He was taken to the Higashiyama Isolation Hospital.

JUDGMENT in the case instituted by Mr. Kato Hokichi against Mr. S. Reich, claiming 164.59 *yen* for goods sold, was delivered in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho, on Monday morning, in favour of the plaintiff, costs being given against defendant.

A COMPLETE Field Hospital, native general hospital containing 200 beds, an ordnance field park, and an engineer field park accompany the Indian Brigade to China. All the regiments will be armed with the Lee-Metford rifle and they will also be provided with Maxim guns.

A TELEGRAM which appears in the *China Mail* says that the officers accompanying Gen. Gaselee to North China, where he takes command of the British forces, are General Barrow, second in command; Lieut.-Colonel G. H. W. O'Sullivan, Royal Engineers, A.A.G.Q.M.G.; Captain T. Jermyn, Second Sikhs, Brigade Major; and Colonel Bookey, I.M.S., Principal Medical Officer.

Two Russian sailors, who were arrested a short time ago for committing a violent assault on an old Japanese, whom they also relieved of 12 *yen* and an umbrella, were brought up for trial at the Nagasaki Saibansho. One of the men had been intimidated into committing the robbery by his companion. The sailor who threatened his comrade was sentenced to six years' hard labour and the latter was released.

SHAMROCK badges on the collar and shoulder-straps and on the forage and field caps will be a prominent feature of the uniform of the new Irish regiment of Foot Guards. The badge is to be the Star of the Order of St. Patrick; the buttons will display the Irish harp and crown, and a spray of shamrock will adorn the belt. These details apart, and save for a little green piping here and there, the uniform will be much the same as that of the other household regiments, plus a green feather to the bearskin cap. The bands of the forage cap will be green, the field cap will have green piping along the top, and the locket of the bolt will show the St. Patrick Star surrounded by the words, "Irish Guards." On the front of the tunic buttons will be arranged in groups of four, the regiment being the 4th Guards.

AN English pilgrim who has just returned from Rome gives a striking account of the continued strength of the ninety-year-old Pontiff. Leo XIII., though appearing emaciated, was full of vigour, and not only went through the very trying process of blessing the 25,000 pilgrims, among whom he was carried on his chair, but stood up many times in order that none might lose the benediction.

IT is said there is at present more than fifty thousand gallons of various brands of liquors in Manila which have been made by mixing water with crude alcohol, flavouring extracts, and colouring matter, and in some of the establishments there can be prepared at a moment's notice anything from a bottle of "old blackberry brandy to one of old Scotch or rye whisky, mellowed in the wood."

JULY will witness a Pan-African Conference in London, with the object of securing increased recognition of the rights of Great Britain's coloured subjects. The idea originated with Mr. H. S. Williams, a native of Trinidad, whose appeal met with an enthusiastic response, and South-West Africa, the West Indies, Abyssinia, and, it is said, the United States, will send representatives, with a view to looking after the interests of the coloured race.

ALREADY twenty war correspondents have lost their lives in South Africa either through wounds or disease. A number, too, have been made prisoners, and the last of these (as the *Liverpool Courier* points out) may be shot, as he was an Outlander, and a Boer warrant was out for his apprehension. In the American Civil War 600 war correspondents found their death. It should be remembered, however, that they were mostly combatants as well as newspaper men.

THE Court at Colombo has ordered the sale by public auction of the Chinese junk *Fleur de Lotus*, which left Hongkong to sail to France as an exhibit at the Paris Expedition. The junk was sailed as far as Singapore, and then towed by the Shell Transport Company's steamer *Chigwell* to Colombo. The owner preceded the junk by steamer to Colombo. The owners of the *Chigwell* pressed for payment of $1,000 for towage, and a claim was also made on behalf of Captain de Bourdonnel and the vessel's crew for wages due. It was argued that the captain and crew had priority of claim. The junk will be sold by public auction and the proceeds deposited in Court before the question of priority is decided.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

THE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES LATE OF PEKING.

Saturday, June 30.

Intelligence about the Foreign Representatives in China grows more perplexing. We have now had two telegrams through the French Legation, the first telling us that the Foreign Representatives were under Admiral Seymour's escort; the second, that Admiral Seymour has re-entered Tientsin with a heavy list of casualties. In the latter message nothing is said about the Ministers, an omission which can not be reconciled with the hypothesis that they were with Admiral Seymour. It is hard to tell what should be believed, and as the facts must very soon be known, speculation is idle. A working and easily credible theory can be constructed on the bases that Admiral Seymour reached Peking and returned thence with the Foreign Ministers. On the other hand, it is possible that he deemed the repair of the railway his first duty, and that he devoted himself to accomplishing it, making his own arrival in Peking a secondary consideration. If that be so, it is easy to conceive that he never reached Peking at all, inasmuch as, prior to the completion of the railway repairs, he received an intimation that the Ministers were leaving Peking, and that he himself had better lead his men back to Tientsin, which he proceeded to do at once. But in that case it is evident that the Ministers must have entrusted themselves to the escort of Chinese soldiers. Is that credible? The Legation guards in Peking mustered only 428 men, whereas Admiral Seymour's column numbered over a thousand. It seem to us natural that the Ministers, on receiving the Peking Government's request for their departure from the Capital, would have required not only to be safely escorted, but also to have Admiral Seymour's column joined to the Legation Guards *en route*. Of one thing we feel assured, namely, that if Admiral Seymour's unique purpose had been to reach Peking, he would have reached it, and that, if he did not reach it, his progress was not interrupted by the Chinese but delayed by the difficulty of repairing the railway. Concerning his casualties, we venture to doubt the numbers telegraphed. Had it been necessary for Admiral Seymour to assault strong positions garrisoned by Chinese troops, he might have lost heavily. But there are no such positions between Tientsin and Peking. The country is absolutely flat, not affording cover or command anywhere. Even the roads do not present any difficulties. Troops can march anywhere, the ground being hard and level. It is not conceivable that either the Boxers or the Chinese regulars delivered an attack of a serious character: they would have been shot down by hundreds.

There is a great deal of speculation as to the intention of the Chinese Government in requiring the Foreign Representatives to leave the capital within 24 hours. Was it a declaration of war or was it a measure of precaution suggested by solicitude for the safety of the Ministers? In our opinion the latter interpretation is the more probable. It is true that the Chinese Government has shown culpable negligence in failing to adopt strong measures for suppressing the insurrection. The course of events suggests, however, that the Government's hesitation may have been due, in great part, to misgivings about the army's loyalty if required to attack the Boxers. But without attempting to elucidate that point, we can at least point to the facts that the Chinese Government has summoned Li Hung-Chang to Peking for the purpose of making peace with the Foreign Powers, and that the Emperor's last decree emphatically and unequivocally condemns the Boxers. It is incredible that the Peking Authorities should think of defying the world. The Empress Dowager's career includes experiences which may be trusted to save her from such insanity. There can be little doubt, we think, that the Chinese Government has no intention whatever of drawing the sword against Western Powers, and that it will invite the return of the Foreign Representatives so soon as ever it re-establishes control over the insurgent elements. Whether it can or can not re-establish control is another question. We are merely considering its intention in asking the Foreign Representatives to withdraw from the capital.

RUMOURS.

Most contradictory reports were received yesterday in Tokyo. A telegram which arrived in the morning stated definitely that Admiral Seymour had returned to Tientsin escorting the Foreign Ministers from Peking, who were all safe. But on the heels of that news came a second telegram from an official source warning the Japanese Government to place no credence in the former intelligence. The question of the Foreign Representatives is thus becoming an extraordinary mystery. Have they been required to leave Peking or are they there still? If they were required to leave, and if they did leave on the 20th instant, what has become of them? If they were not required to leave and if they have not left, how does it happen that they have not been able to communicate with the outer world for more than a fortnight? Is it conceivable that no Chinaman could be found to carry a message to Tientsin; or is it conceivable that if no interruption of amicable relations with the Chinese Government had taken place, the latter would have declined, or would have been unable, to have letters and messages carried for the Foreign Representatives? From whatever point of view we regard the matter, it is very inexplicable.

THE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES IN CHINA.

Monday, July 2.

It appears that the intelligence about the Foreign Representatives having arrived safely in Tientsin was sent to the Naval Department in Tokyo by Vice-Admiral Togo, who commands the standing squadron at Taku. The Foreign Office in Tokyo, however, thinking it strange that no telegram had been received from Baron Nishi under the alleged circumstances, wired to Chefoo for information, and quickly obtained from the Consul there a statement that no reliance whatever was to be placed on the story of the Ministers' safe arrival.

The hope raised by Admiral Togo's telegram was no sooner dispelled than another message came to the French Legation saying that the Foreign Diplomats had left Peking under Chinese escort, taking the route to Shan-hai-kwan. But within a few hours of the receipt of that intelligence, the British Consul in Chefoo wired to Her Majesty's Legation in Tokyo that the Ministers were still in Peking. Once again, therefore, we have to choose between two wholly contradictory stories, both apparently possessing an equal title to credence. Many considerations suggest, however, that the later telegram is the more trustworthy. We can scarcely conceive that the Foreign Ministers would have consented to leave Peking under Chinese escort, or that, if they had consented to that part of the arrangement, they would have agreed to take the Shan-hai-kwan route. They probably received notice to quit. That we can scarcely doubt, seeing that it has been announced from various quarters and that Sir Robert Hart himself stated it in writing. But when the notification reached the Ministers they had to think, in the first place, whether any reliance could be placed on an escort of Chinese troops. Their conclusion must have been negative. The Chinese troops had not achieved the smallest success against the insurgents up to that time. What they had shown unequivocally was that they sympathised with the Boxers and were prepared to fight on their side rather than against them. It would surely have been an act of culpable rashness on the part of the Ministers to entrust their persons to the protection of such troops for the purposes of a long journey through the very heart of the districts where the Boxers were active. Besides, the Foreign Representatives had to think of their nationals as well as of themselves. It is impossible to say with absolute accuracy how many foreigners there are in Peking outside the Legations, but 220 is a very close approximation, and in addition to these there are many women and children. These could not have remained in Peking after the Ministers had left the city; all had to go or none. Then there was the question of route. From Peking to Shan-hai-kwan is 250 miles by the shortest road. The Legation staffs total 93 without ladies and children; the foreign residents, 220, and the Legation guards, 428. Thus provision would have had to be made for 741 persons—probably 850 if the women and children are added. Besides, the hardships of such a journey in midsummer would be terrible. Europeans and Americans do not travel in northern China after the middle of May unless some imperative necessity compels them. The heat on the great plains surrounding Peking is unendurable, and a journey to Shan-hai-kwan at the end of June and the beginning of July, even if performed under the most favourable conditions, would greatly tax the endurance of a strong man. It is most improbable that the Foreign Representatives would have consented to expose their nationals to the hardships of such an undertaking. They doubtless declined to leave the city.

But, though their refusal was very natural, the situation that resulted from it is most anomalous. They are isolated and practically helpless. Steps must be taken to restore communications, and the only effective step will be an armed expedition. Can the Ministers remain in Peking while the forces of their countries are advancing against the place? We have never heard of such a thing.

There is another hypothesis, namely, that the Chinese Government did not convey an order but merely made a suggestion. That view is particularly welcome, for it involves the conclusion that the good relations between China and the Foreign Powers have not been interrupted. It is really very remarkable that we should be left in a state of uncertainty about these matters. If neither the Foreign Representatives nor the Customs officials can contrive any means of conveying despatches, they should have no difficulty in getting the Chinese Authorities to undertake the task. But there has not been any official intelligence for over a fortnight.

THE CHINESE COMPLICATIONS.

It is stated that orders have been issued for the mobilization of the Second Division, whose head-quarters are at Sendai. The Fifth Division (Hiroshima) is already under orders. We conclude, therefore, that the

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Government is determined to be prepared for any emergency. Two Divisions would place a force of twenty thousand men in the first fighting line, and the same number in the second. So far as we can ascertain, no date has yet been definitely fixed for the embarkation of any of these troops; they are merely required to hold themselves in readiness. The Government in Tokyo is behaving with great circumspection, and, indeed, its perplexities must be great.

Decrees of June 20th and June 21st.

Tuesday, July 3.

In connexion with the Imperial Decree issued in Peking on June 20th, there is a point to which attention should be directed. In our translation, the document reads that governors of provinces and their subordinates are urged to adopt suitable measures for preventing foreigners from accomplishing their purpose. According to the *Japan Times'* translation, the governors of provinces are instructed to take steps that foreigners may be satisfied. The latter rendering is in strict agreement with the text, but can not be reconciled, we think, with the context. The decree sets out in sufficiently moderate language. But the latter part of it is distinctly anti-foreign. It attributes to foreigners the object of obtaining permanent possession of Chinese territory, and it calls upon all the high officials to prevent such a calamity by taking adequate steps for national defense. Such an interpretation of foreign purpose is quite inconsistent, we think, with the idea that governors and subordinate officials should be invited to provide for the accomplishment of foreign designs. Our rendering was dictated by that consideration. At all events the decree can not possibly be read as a conciliatory and amicable document unless we assume that the Chinese Government approves of the permanent acquisition of Chinese territory by foreign nations. No Chinese perusing the decree could entertain any doubt, we imagine, that the Government desires foreigners to be attacked and driven out.

This decree was followed on the 21st by another of a most unequivocal tone. The latter decree says, according to a telegraphic summary received in Tokyo, that although the Boxers are not imperial soldiers, they have fought stoutly against foreigners, and that their loyalty and courage command approval. "Governors and subordinates," the decree concludes "should spare no endeavour to drive out foreigners."

There can be no question about the import of this document, nor is it conceivable that a Government which issued, on the 20th, a decree recommending measures for the purpose of satisfying foreigners, would have issued, on the 21st, a decree enjoining upon all loyal and brave persons the duty of expelling them. It is further plain that the decree of the 20th was read by Yung Lu and the Southern Viceroys in a sense hostile to foreigners. The telegram says that Chang Chi-tung, Liu Kun-yi, Li Hung-chang and the Governor General of Szechuan have all instructed their subordinates that no attention need be paid to any imperial decree issued on or after the 20th of June.

So untrustworthy is the intelligence now received that we can not possibly be sure whether the above decrees were really issued, or, if they were issued, whether the southern Viceroys have assumed the attitude attributed to them. If the news be credible, its importance can scarcely be over-rated. There has hitherto been much doubt about the real sentiments of the Chinese Government. No one could clearly decipher whether it desired to countenance the Boxer insurrection or to fulfil its treaty obligations by protecting the lives and property of foreigners. All ground of uncertainty is now removed if the above decrees be authentic. And with the dispelling of doubt on that point the duty devolving upon foreign Powers becomes proportionately plain. So long as there was room to hope that the Boxers were the enemies of the Peking Government as well as of foreigners, the latter were naturally disposed to hold their hand. Especially was that the case with Japan, who perceived clearly that from the moment when the Foreign Powers entered the lists openly against the Chinese Government, complications of the most serious nature would become almost inevitable. But if the Chinese Government has deliberately challenged the world, the consequences of its rashness can not be averted, and it behoves Japan to take care lest by undue hesitation at this stage she forfeits her right to be heard when the final council meets.

Another and almost equally important fact established by the decrees and by their immediate results is that China is now clearly divided into two parts. The north is conservative and anti-foreign; the south is moderate and enjoys the benefit of being under the control of progressive Viceroys. These Viceroys have now openly renounced their allegiance to the Throne so long as the latter remains subject to its present advisers. That, we take it, is the death-knell of the Empress-Dowager and of the conservatives, assuming that her Majesty is acting in concert with them; an assumption, however, which requires verification. We may look for an immediate ministerial crisis in Peking. The decision of the three Southern Viceroys and of the Governor-General of Szechuan will have more effect upon the politicians in the capital than any display of force by foreign States. Already, indeed, there are rumours that Kang Yi, the head and front of the conservatives, has been driven from office. It is quite possible that the speedy outcome of the crisis may be the final overthrow of conservatism and the restoration of the liberals to power. If foreigners could afford to stand aside and let the entanglement unravel itself, the situation might perhaps be viewed with equanimity. But unfortunately the risks attending such a course are too serious.

The Fighting at Tientsin.

It is evident that the Japanese contingent took an active part in the relief of Tientsin. The detachment had one officer—Captain Suga—killed, and one officer and five men wounded.

An absurd story has been circulated to the effect that the Chinese forces investing Tientsin and opposing the relief of that place numbered fifty-five thousand regulars under Nieh, Sung and Tung, assisted by Boxers and rowdies; that they had 12 Krupp guns and 160 Maxims; and that the allies mustered only 2,000, armed with old-pattern muzzle-loading rifles. The whole tale is obviously a gross exaggeration. Its character is stamped at once by the item as to the equipment of the foreign contingent. Truly we doubt whether rumour ever behaved more wildly than she is doing at the present time. Who manufactured the appalling stories that have reached us of late? Who spread it abroad that all the Foreign Legations in Peking were destroyed; that the whole of the Foreign Concession at Tientsin was burned; that 500 foreigners had been massacred there; that 150 foreigners had been massacred there; that every Chinese soldier in Chihli is in arms against foreigners? Is there a deliberate attempt to magnify this crisis, to excite public feeling, and to precipitate complications in which the account of some Powers is not difficult to see? If so, the thing is being overdone. There is a want of true art about it, and its extravagance will soon have a corrective effect. People will be asking by-and-by whether the attack on the Peiho Forts was not premature, and even whether it was necessary at all.

Tientsin's Time of Trouble.

Wednesday, July 4.

Colonel Shimamura, who commanded the Japanese troops in Tientsin prior to the relief of that place, has sent a report of the incidents from the time of the attack until the retreat of the assailants. Like all Japanese official reports, it is of the briefest and least detailed description. On the evening of the 15th June, the insurgents burned 5 churches outside Tientsin and showed signs of advancing to attack the railway station, but were beaten back by the Russians. At 6 a.m. on the 16th, the Japanese detachment from the *Suma* was sent to guard the road on the southern bank of the River. At noon this detachment was relieved by a Russian force, and at 6 p.m. it again relieved the Russians. At 8 p.m. some hundreds of Boxers carrying lighted torches advanced to the assault. The Japanese patrol fired several vollies and the Boxers fled, throwing away their torches. Thenceforth they approached in small parties of 3 or 4, but made no resolute attack. On examining the bodies of the slain they were found to be young men of 24 or 25, clad in silk and carrying pouches with Mauser ammunition.

On the 17th, the Japanese detachment from the *Suma* remained constantly on guard at the same place. At 4 a.m. some 1,500 Chinese wearing red caps and red belts approached brandishing swords. As soon as they got within range, two or three vollies were fired, and they retired hastily. From 3.45 p.m. the Chinese troops began to bombard the Concessions. Many of the shells fell between the British and German Concessions, and one lodged in the kitchen of the Japanese consulate, but there were no casualties to life or limb. The Chinese troops, meanwhile, advanced against the railway station, but were beaten back by the allies. Thereafter the chief duty of the *Suma's* detachment was to guard the French Concession, while the *Kasagi's* detachment guarded the Japanese Consulate. At this time, a body of Chinese cavalry, 50 strong, advanced against the part guarded by the Germans, and the latter having asked for assistance, two sections of the Japanese troops from the Consulate were despatched to the place. At 6 p.m. the fighting ceased.

On the 18th, at 7 a.m., the Chinese troops, uniting their forces, attacked simultaneously from the north and the south. The allies met and beat back the attack. Several Chinese sharpshooters, lying behind the salt-hills on the other side of the River, fired across, and a bullet hitting Captain Banzo of the *Suma* in the head, killed him. The Russian troops crossed the River and attacked the enemy from the front, and were followed by the English, Germans, and Japanese. These last were a detachment of the troops told off to guard the Specie Bank, under the command of Lieut. Fukuda. After driving back the enemy, in cooperation with the British troops, they returned to their post. The enemy's shells were aimed at the conspicuous buildings in the Concessions. As they fired much at the Gordon Hall near the Japanese Consulate, many shells fell in the vicinity of the latter,

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and some dropped within the enclosure of the Consulate. A part of the *Suma's* detachment guarded the road leading past the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha's offices to Tientsin city, and the rest of the detachment guarded the French Settlement, their head-quarters being in front of the Specie Bank. The *Kasagi's* detachment guarded the Consulate and the approaches to the Public Garden. In the detachment guarding the Specie Bank, one man was wounded severely and two were wounded slightly by a Chinese shell.

On the 19th, the enemy's attack was directed from the left bank. As before, their shells were aimed at the Foreign Concessions, and they succeeded in setting fire to the Specie Bank, which was burned to the ground. Shells fell constantly in the Concessions.

June 20th.—Since the 19th shells dropped continually in the concessions. At 5 a.m. the Japanese troops built a parapet opposite the Consulate. Some Japanese residents assisted in the work, and one of them was killed and one wounded. Lieut. Takumitsu also was wounded. Among the men of the *Kasagi's* detachment at the Public Garden, one was wounded. The Chinese troops now seemed inclined to make a general attack on the Concessions, but they apparently lacked courage and confined themselves to bombarding the streets.

June 21st.—At 6 a.m. the Chinese troops in the neighbourhood of the military college on the opposite bank suddenly retired, and placing themselves under cover wherever they could find any, assumed a defensive attitude. A good deal of firing was then heard, and the Chinese subsequently returned to their former posts. For the rest, there was no change in the general condition.

June 22nd.—Things remained as before. The shelling of the concessions was continuous. The Cossack patrols now brought intelligence that a force of the allies, numbering from 2,000 to 3,000, was advancing from Taku and had arrived within 16 miles of Tientsin. On this day the British Consul received by messenger from Peking a despatch from the British Minister, saying that, on the 19th instant, the Foreign Representatives had been ordered to leave the capital within 24 hours.

June 23rd—In the forenoon, the allied force, attacking from the east and south, drove off the enemy and the firing ceased.

June 24th—No change.

June 25th—At 12 a.m. a force of 2,000 men, composed of 1,000 Russians, and 1,000 British, Americans, Germans and Japanese, crossing the bridge in front of the military school and marching along the mud wall, advanced to succour Admiral Seymour, who was said to be surrounded by a great force of Chinese troops at a point 7 miles distant. The Russians marched on the right side of the railway; the other detachments, under the command of the Captain of the *Alacrity*, on the left.

There is great scarcity of provisions and unless communications are fully established with Taku before a fortnight, much distress will be felt. The Japanese are more favourably circumstanced than the foreigners, since stores of rice can be obtained in Tientsin. But nothing else is procurable. All the troops are in excellent health and spirits. Admiral Seymour experienced fierce resistance on his return journey and had many casualties. The Ministers are not with him, and nothing is known about them.

Another Decree.

It is alleged that a Chinese Imperial Decree, issued on the 25th of June, applauds the loyalty and courage of the Boxers, who joined the Government's forces and defeated the foreign troops in Tientsin. The decree says that there are doubtless many Chinese subjects who share the brave and patriotic sentiments of the Boxers, and that steps should be taken to enrol such persons for the purpose of driving out foreigners.

We wonder how these decrees come to be known. There is no ordinary means of telegraphing them, and unless the Chinese have a system of carrier-pigeons, or wireless telegraphy, or some other special device, it strikes us as rather a strange feat of communications that a decree issued in Peking on June 25th should be known in Tokyo on July 2nd. The unscrupulous newsmonger appears to be having an unopposed campaign. Within the past three weeks there have been enough lies circulated to do honour to the most prolific manufactory. It is a pity that a few of the Ananiases can not be captured and tarred.

Out of the mass of *canards* there seems to emerge one solid fact, namely, that Prince Twan is supreme in Peking, and that a violent schism has arisen between him and Yun Lok. If the latter can hold firm, there is still hope for the situation. The attitude of the Southern Viceroys will probably produce more effect than any punitory measure within the immediate competence of foreign Powers.

The Taku Forts.

It is evident that the failure of the Chinese gunners to sink the four gun-boats engaged in the attack on the Taku Forts was due chiefly to the fact that the gun-boats had upstream positions. Most of the shells fired by the Forts passed over the gun-boats, and so soon as the latter had approached sufficiently close, they enjoyed comparative immunity. It will probably be found that the Forts were designed mainly for the purpose of guarding the approaches to the River, and that their efficiency for bombarding vessels lying above them was defective. However that may be, the gun-boats took an immense risk. Nothing of the kind would have been dared had the Forts been manned by Europeans, Americans, or Japanese. Four little gun-boats engaging three powerful forts which mounted 54 pieces of heavy artillery, is an incident without parallel in modern warfare. The assault on the land side by 800 men, though a fine feat, was less remarkable. Assaulting parties under such circumstances are usually small.

There can be no question that the Chinese fought stoutly. They deserve full credit. If properly drilled and properly led, these men would make as fine soldiers as any in the world. They were not responsible for the policy that culminated in the loss of the Forts. Their commanding officer had no alternative but to resist.

An Ugly Charge.

Herr Schmellitschek, who is described as a Sydney resident, has communicated to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* an account of the bombardment and assault of the Taku Forts. In the course of his narrative, which professes to be founded on his own observation, he says:—"The Russians killed the wounded with the butt ends of their rifles." Of course no one will believe that statement without corroboration. Such savage acts are not perpetrated by the soldiers of civilized nations in cold blood. Herr Schmellitschek sets down the charge in the briefest language without comment of any kind, but he can not have been without a sense of its gravity, nor will the Russians fail to notice it. The question now becomes important, what became of the Chinese wounded? The duty of caring for them devolved on the Allies by whom the Forts were captured. We have not heard anything, however, about the Chinese wounded. We have, on the other hand, heard a good deal about the wounded of other nationalities. Were there no Chinese wounded? There must have been. What then became of them, for their own people were certainly not in a position to look after them?

A Perilous Journey.

The Japanese Representative in Peking, of whom very little has been heard since the Chinese complications commenced, is said to have employed the services of Mr. Yoda Isanji to convey a message secretly to the Consul in Tientsin, after communication by railway and telegraph had been interrupted. Mr. Yoda Isanji went to China originally under the auspices of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, and it is said that he has acquired a thorough knowledge of the Chinese language, the Mandarin and the Peking dialect alike. Disguised as a Chinaman he hoped to be able to traverse the disaffected districts without mishap. But the Boxers discovered him, beat him severely, and would have murdered him had he not escaped into a pond, or river, and remained hidden there for several hours with only his nose and mouth above water. He finally reached Tientsin in a pitiable condition.

The Peking Assassination.

What are we to believe about the alleged assassination of Baron von Ketteler? If it took place at all, it took place either on the 13th or the 18th of June. Now from the official report of Colonel Shimamura, who commanded the Japanese troops during the defence of Tientsin, it appears that, on June 22nd, the British Consul in Tientsin received a despatch by messenger from Sir Claude MacDonald in Peking, saying that the Foreign Ministers, on the 19th instant, had received a notice from the *Tsung-li Yamên* requiring them to leave the capital in 24 hours, but saying not one word about the murder of the German Minister. Is such an omission conceivable? Certainly the the concurrence of reports, seemingly from different sources, suggests grounds for alarm, but it is very possible that the majority of these reports are mere echoes.

Vladivostock.

From the officers of the *Yamashiro Maru*, which has just arrived at Nagasaki from Vladivostock, it is said to have been learned that the Russians on the 25th ultimo, called out their first and second reserves, and that large bodies of troops were despatched on the 26th by men-of-war to Port Arthur. The same informants allege that all Chinese and Korean residents of Vladivostock have been ordered to move 10 miles out of the town, and that the Japanese keep their doors closed and do not venture out.

Friday, July 6.

Admiral Seymour.

The furthest point reached by Admiral Seymour's column on its expedition to Peking was Lang-fang, which lies about half-way between Peking and Tientsin. It is now evident that the Admiral's main purpose was to repair the railway and thus re-establish communication between the two cities. It is also evident that when he set out from Tientsin he did not anticipate any serious resistance *en route*. His expectation was that Peking would be reached without much difficulty, and that his column would

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then serve to re-inforce the Legation guards already in Peking, after which he himself would immediately return to Taku. But when the line had been restored to Lang-fang, the Admiral found that a state of war had practically arisen, and that the Chinese troops of General Tung's division were opposing his advance, while those of General Nieh were massing in his rear. The situation was highly critical, for though he could probably have fought his way to either Peking or Tientsin, so far as mere fighting was concerned, he was severed from his base, and had no means of obtaining provisions.

What has surprised many people is the fact that Admiral Seymour undertoook such an expedition in person, instead of leaving the conduct of the force to a military officer. Perhaps the explanation is that the Admiral did not appreciate the gravity of the situation. He imagined that the Boxers only were to be opposed. It is possible that his estimate would have proved tolerably correct had not a different kind of crisis been precipitated by the attack on the Taku Forts. But there may have been another reason for his determination to lead the force himself. At the Taku conference on the 7th of June, the French Admiral proposed that the command of the forces garrisoning Tientsin should be given to Colonel Wogack. The German and British Admirals opposed the suggestion, on the ground that, for the present, the various detachments might very well cöoperate without combining; but Admiral Seymour agreed that, should the occasion arise for an united force acting with a single purpose, its command should naturally devolve upon one officer. Thus, when the movement of a battalion from Tientsin to Peking was subsequently decided, the question of leadership at once presented itself. If Admiral Seymour went himself, the problem found an easy and natural solution, as he was the senior officer on the station. But if he did not go, then the post would fall to an officer of another nationality whose choice might become the first "rift within the lute." It is not unlikely that a cognate question of much larger dimensions may soon present itself. If an allied force moves against Peking, who is to command it? When France and England undertook the duty of attacking Peking in 1860, the Generals of the two armies cöoperated, but each retained his independence of command. It was the same in the Crimea, and it can always be the same when the allies number two only and the aim of the campaign is perfectly plain. When, however, an army is composed of the troops of eight nationalities—French, Russians, Germans, Italians, Austrians, Americans, Japanese, and British—independence of command is out of the question. Who, then, will be the leader? If seniority is to be the paramount consideration and if General Alexieff has really gone to Taku, then the supreme command would devolve on him. That is a thorny point. The ties of alliance are not unlikely to be strained from the outset.

The Shanghai correspondent of the *Jiji Shimpo* telegraphs the gist of Admiral Seymour's report to the Admiralty. It is dated June 29th and runs then:—"During our advance from Tientsin to Lang-fang we were repeatedly attacked by the Boxers, but we beat them back, inflicting heavy loss and not suffering any casualties ourselves. When we reached Lang-fang, a large force of the enemy attacked us fiercely, using artillery as well as rifles, but we defeated them, killing about one hundred, and having five Italians wounded on our own side. On the same day the force guarding Loh-fah station was vehemently attacked, but we despatched reinforcements, and the enemy were defeated with a loss of 100. On our side the casualties were two British marines wounded. Thence we pushed on to An-ting, where we were again attacked, and again defeated our assailants, inflicting on them a loss of 175. We then found that the railway in front of us was hopelessly damaged, and that its repair would be out of the question with the means at our command. I therefore decided to return to Yang-tsun, for the purpose of taking the river route from that place. When vacating Lang-fang, we left two trains with a strong guard which were to follow us. They were attacked by an army of Boxers and Chinese regulars, who were defeated after a severe contest, their casualties amounting to from 400 to 500, and our own being 6 killed and 48 wounded. At Yang-tsun we were joined by three trains, but they had been so much injured as to be unfit for further service. We were also in straits for provisions and our wounded hampered us greatly. I therefore determined to fall back upon Tientsin. Our communications with that place had been severed for 6 days, and not only were we without proper appliances for the wounded, but also no means existed of obtaining food. It was deemed best to put the wounded in boats and take them down the river, the troops marching along the two banks. During these operations we were subjected to constant attacks. We marched all night, and finaliy came in sight of the Tientsin military stores. When we had passed this place on our way north, there had not been any sign of the enemy, but as soon as we appeared on the banks of the River on our return journey, the enemy opened a hot fire on us with rifles and cannon. The fire of our advance guard checked them somewhat, and Major Johnstone's detachment stormed the salient angle of the stores' compound, effecting a lodgment and capturing one gun. Shortly afterwards the German detachment on the bank of the River silenced two of the enemy's guns, and crossing the River, captured these guns. We finally obtained complete possession of the stores. Several times on that day and during the succeeding days the enemy tried to recover the position, but failed. In the stores we found a quantity of rice and other grain which served for provisions, and we also captured a number of new-pattern guns as well as a quantity of ammunition. We were able to use some of the guns at once for the purpose of attacking a Chinese fort at a point further down the River. The rice and grain enabled us to hold out for several days, but we were much embarrassed by our wounded. I therefore despatched a messenger to Tientsin asking for reinforcements. They arrived on the 23rd, and we were able to re-enter Tientsin on the 24th, having previously set fire to the military stores, and destroyed them."

The Legations and the Foreign Community in Peking.

We scarcely like to think of the situation of the three remaining Legations in Peking. Some800 foreigners are divided among them, including many ladies and children; it is a time when to live in Peking at all is to suffer terribly from heat; the inmates are the perpetual target for Chinese rifles, and they must be in cruel straits for provisions. Artillery has not yet been employed against them—or had not been employed up to the 25th of June—, but cannon have been trained and may be fired at any moment. There is not very much to fear from rifles, for the Legations, especially the British Legation, are surrounded with high strong walls. These walls, however, though they afford protection, constitute also an obstacle to defence, being as high on the inside as on the outside. Probably that difficulty has been overcome by erecting barricades here and there with planks or furniture, and keeping them manned day and night. Of course, from the moment that artillery is used, the position becomes desperate. There is one thing to be noted, however. It is that to employ artillery against buildings situated as the Legations are, the gunners would have to expose themselves to rifle fire at short range. They can not take up a distant position and bombard the buildings effectively without themselves incurring great danger. Probably the worst feature of the case is the question of provisions. Peking obtains its supplies of beef and mutton from the Chinese, and access to the markets is now, of course, impossible. Supplies of meat can not have been laid in: they would be unusable in 24 hours. A certain quantity of preserved provisions and of liquors were doubtless obtained from the Hotel de Peking, from Messrs. Imbeck and Co., from Messrs. Kierulff & Co., and from Messrs. Taillien & Co. But it is to be feared that a considerable part of these stores was burned with the nine Legations that have been destroyed, namely, those of Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Portugal, Russia, Spain, and the United States. If speedy succour were in sight the situation would not be so desperate. But it is scarcely possible that any strong advance can be made against Peking for a considerable time. Thirty thousand troops will be required at the very lowest calculation and those that have already been landed will barely suffice to preserve communications between Taku and Tientsin.

Japanese Troops.

Several Cabinet Councils are said to have been held in Tokyo during the past few days for the purpose of discussing the course to be adopted at this crisis. The final decision arrived at is believed to be that a large military force must be despatched to China at once. The public knows that a Division of troops was mobilized some time ago, but the date for its embarkation was deferred until the 6th of July at soonest. Since then, two other Divisions have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness, and the probability is that during the next fortnight many thousands of Japanese troops will cross the sea. Mr. Kato, who accompanied Major-General Fukushima to Taku, is understood to have telegraphed to Tokyo, urging the speedy despatch of large re-inforcements. But indeed his requisition was not needed. Humanly speaking the only hope for the Peking community rests in Japan's action. There can no longer be any doubt that the whole of North China's military strength is arrayed against foreigners, and that an army of some fifty thousand regulars will have to be encountered on the way to Peking, while the Boxers will constitute a hostile population whose constant menaces will require a powerful force for guarding the lines of communication. We do not doubt that a column of ten thousand men could relieve Peking if its lines of communication were guarded. But for the purpose of conveying provisions and military stores the whole of the Peiho will have to be held from Taku to Tung-chow, and a force of at least twenty thousand men will be needed for that pur-

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pose. Then there must be five thousand to garrison Tientsin, and if the Peking column is to do its work quickly and effectively it should be at least twenty thousand strong. Thus we arrive at forty-five thousand as a minimum total, to say nothing of reliefs to replace casualties. Japan must supply at least twenty thousand of these, and if she can land them in Tientsin within the next ten days, Europe and America will be grateful to her. The Emperor has issued a decree forbidding the export of horses; a measure doubtless dictated by Major-General Fukushima's report of the impossibility of procuring transport animals in North China. No attempt seems to have been thus far made to organize a camel corps for land-transport purposes, though hundreds of camels are procurable in the neighbourhood of Tientsin. The crisis illustrates Japan's weakness in cavalry. What is wanted above all things now is a column of cavalry and horse artillery. It could reach Peking from Tientsin in 3 days.

THE GERMAN MINISTER IN PEKING.

It is to be feared that no further hopes can be entertained with regard to Baron von Ketteler. The point that imparted an element of doubt to the story of his assassination was the date. All accounts agreed in fixing a day not later than the 18th of June, whereas official intelligence from Peking dated the 19th said nothing of the event. But it now appears that the tragedy happened subsequently to the 19th. The exact time is still uncertain, but it seems to have been between the 20th and the 25th of June Baron von Ketteler was on his way to the *Tsung-li Yamên* when his murderers attacked him, and put four bullets into his body. It would appear that a deliberate scheme had been concocted to entice the Foreign Representatives from their Legations with intention of assassinating them *en route* Fortunately the other Ministers did not respond to the summons from the *Tsung li Yamên*, but most unfortunately Baron von Ketteler was deceived, and thus he met his fate in the discharge of what he believed to be his duty. We have no information with regard to Baron von Ketteler's career, but it is understood that he was regarded by his countrymen as a diplomat of the highest ability. His death under such circumstances is very terrible, and Englishmen will everywhere sympathise with his family and his countrymen. We sincerely trust that he will be the only victim, but it would be idle to deny that the situation in Peking is perilous in the extreme, and that at any moment we may hear of a shocking tragedy.

JAPANESE SERVANTS.

A correspondent desires to add his testimony to that of "A Householder of Eleven Years in Japan" It is testimony founded not on eleven years of housekeeping in this country, but on thirty-three years. He says:—With regard to the assertions of the Rev. R. B. Peery that "the whole class of Japanese domestic servants are impudent and impertinent" and that "as a body, they are dishonest," I can not too strongly protest against the injustice of such sweeping declarations. What right has Mr. R. B. Peery to pronounce a hard and fast verdict upon the whole class of Japanese domestic servants? What right has he to denounce them as a body. He is entitled to give his own experiences—experiences which, unless I am mistaken, extend over a few years only—but he is not entitled to assume that what has come within the limits of his narrow observation is universally true. I do not think that such carelessness of assertion consorts with the title he arrogates. For my own part, I have never met a Japanese domestic servant who was either impudent or impertinent: never have I had such an one in my own service, nor ever seen such an one in the service of a friend. As to honesty, I have had two men-servants in 33 years. One came to me in 1867 and remained with me until his death in 1878. The other came to me in 1871 and is with me still. It would be impossible to find in any country two men more faithful or more honest. I do not believe that under any conceivable circumstances could either of them have been induced to swerve by a hair's breadth from the path of strict rectitude. I have never thought of locking up money in my house. Yet I have never had a yen stolen to my knowledge. Like your correspondent "A Householder of Eleven Years in Japan," I have repeatedly dropped money without knowing it and have always found it picked up and placed on my table or desk. I have habitually trusted these men with large sums. The one who died, managed undertakings that involved the handling of thousands of dollars and gave him opportunities which he could have easily and safely utilized to enrich himself. He died a humble servitor, leaving behind him scarcely enough to pay for his burial. The other has been trusted for a longer time though not on so large a scale—the latter difference is not due to any want of confidence—and has stood the test nobly. Perhaps it may be objected that these are only two. Granted. I can not go beyond my own experiences and they must be taken for what they are worth. But I may add that I have had many others in my service in various positions and that I have never detected one of them in an act of dishonesty. It is not my habit to visit a bank myself for the purpose of cashing my cheques. With very rare exceptions they are sent by a servant to be cashed, and without one solitary exception the money has been safely carried. I know beyond all question that my servants have my interests at heart, and that I can rely upon their invariably acting with an earnest view to my benefit. As for impudence or impertinence, why they are the politest, most deferential people I have ever met. In a word, my experience of 33 years garnering, is diametrically opposed to that of Mr. Peery. Which of us has found the representative type? I do not profess to determine, but I can say this, that Mr. Peery makes a great mistake if he imagines that a Japanese domestic servant is without self-respect. A Japanese servant has as high an idea of honesty, of duty, and of fidelity as can be discovered among any people, and he will not swerve from his standard even under pressure of strong temptation. Doubtless Mr. Peery has been unfortunate. It is well known in Japan that bad servants and good servants will not live in the same house. All of one pattern or all of the other—that is the invariable rule. Hence it may happen that one employer never comes in contact with a high type, whereas another never encounters a low. Neither is justified in quoting his own experience as conclusive.

THE COTTON-SPINNERS.

There is great distress among the cotton-spinners owing to the troubles in China. They have temporarily lost their most important market, and the result is that yarns previously selling for 100 *yen* are now quoted at only 78. The banks, however, had advanced 80 per cent. of the former value, so that they also are seriously embarrassed. This important question was taken up by the *Yuraku-Kai* at a recent meeting, and Count Inouye, who has always displayed keen interest in the cotton-spinning enterprise, took a leading part in the discussion. The unanimous opinion of the meeting was that the Bank of Japan ought to furnish a sum of 10 million *yen* for the purpose of tiding over the crisis. It happened that Mr. Takahashi Korekiyo, Vice-President of the Bank, was present at the meeting. Strong pressure was exerted to obtain from him some assurance of favourable action on the part of the Bank, but he naturally declined to commit himself. A committee was finally appointed to open communication with the Bank and the Authorities. Its principal members were Baron Shibusawa and Mr. Yasuda.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE IMPERIAL NAVY.

The Imperial Navy of Japan has been classified as follows:—

		Displacement tonnage.
Battleships	1st class	Above 10,000
	2nd class	Below 10,000
Cruisers	1st class	Above 7,000
	2nd class	Above 3,500
	3rd class	Below 3,500
Ships for coast defence	1st class	Same as cruisers.
	2nd class	do
	3rd class	do
Gunboats	1st class	Above 1,000
	2nd class	Below 1,000
Torpedo boats	1st class	120
	2nd class	Above 70
	3rd class	Above 20
	4th class	Below 20

The vessels, according to the above standard, are classified as follows:—

BATTLESHIPS (8).

1st class—*Fuji, Yashima, Shikishima, Asahi, Hatsuse, Mikasa* (6).

2nd class—*Fuso, Chinyen* (2).

CRUISERS (20).

1st class (iron clad)—*Asama, Tokiwa, Yakumo, Azuma, Iwate Izumo* (6).

2nd class—*Takasago, Kasagi, Chitose, Yoshino, Naniwa, Takachiho, Itsukushima, Matushima, Hashidate,* (9).

3rd class—*Akitsusu Suma Akashi, Chiyoda, Izumi* (5).

SHIPS FOR COAST DEFENCE (10).

1st and 2nd class are wanting.

3rd class *Hiei, Kongo, Takao, Mido, Katsuragi Yamato, Tenyu, Kaimon, Tsukuba, Seiyen.*

GUNBOATS (15).

1st class—*Tsukushi, Heiyen* (2).

2nd class—*Atago, Akagi, Oshima, Chokai, Maya, Awaki, Soko, Chinto, Chinzei, Chinan, Chinkoku, Chunchiu, Chimpen* (13)

DESPATCH SHIPS (4).

Chihaya, Miyako, Tayeyama, Tatsuda.

TORPEDO-DEPÔT SHIP (1).

Toyohashi

TORPEDO CATCHERS (12).

Shinonome, Usugumo, Kagero, Yugumo, Shiranui, Yugiri, Murakumo, Ikazuchi, Inajima, Akebono, Sazanami, Oboro, Niji (12).

TORPEDO BOATS.

1st class—*Kodaka, Fukuryo, Hayabusa, Shirataka, Kasasagi, Manazuru, Chidori* (7).

2nd class—From No. 1 to No. 25; from No. 29 to No. 49; from No. 60 to No. 66 (31 in all).

3rd class—From No. 5 to No. 20, Nos. 26 and 27; from No. 50 to No. 59 (27).

4th class—Kept on board No. 28.

THE PEST.

A dead rat is said to have been found between the rails on the hatoba in Yokohama near the place where the *Rosetta* lay when she was last at the pier. It has not yet been determined whether the plague bacillus was present in the animal's carcase.

A case of pest has occurred at Shanghai. The patient fell sick on the 18th June and died on the 23rd.

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KOREA.

It is alleged that Mr. Sands, Foreign Adviser to the Korean Government, has injured his reputation by the outspoken character of his memoranda addressed to the Authorities in Söul. He was so earnest in his recommendations against the idea of Korea's leaning upon either Japan or Russia, that he incurred the emnity of M. Pablov, forfeited the friendship of the Japanese officials, and lost the confidence previously reposed by his own nationals in his discretion. We have already expressed with regard to this an opinion which we venture to repeat. It is that the indiscretion was not on the part of Mr. Sands, but on that of the Korean Authorities. If the Government employing his services is so inconsiderate as to publish his private memoranda, there can be no difficulty in apportioning the responsibility.

Two or three days ago it was announced that a certain Korean named Kim Yüng-ching had sailed from Nagasaki for Chemulpho. No one paid much attention to the statement; or if any person thought about it, he probably concluded that this was a case of another refugee going home to run the gauntlet of torture and strangling. It now appears, however, that Mr. Kim Yüng-ching was an official assassin sent to Japan for the purpose of making away with Li Chun yong, the grandson of the Tai Won-kun. Li and his father were implicated by the confessions extracted from An and Kwöng, and the story is that Kim Yüng-ching with three assistants received secret instructions to proceed to Japan and put the younger Li out of the way, but that finding it impossible to achieve their design, they have returned *re infectâ* It is hard to believe all these tales of abortive assassination schemes. The Korean Government is now said to have fallen back upon the equally futile course of applying to Japan for Li's extradition. Korea is a very pleasant kind of neighbour; a constant thorn in Japan's side.

Statements continue to be made about difficulties connected with the transfer of the land at Masampho recently purchased by Russia. A letter appearing in the correspondence columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shumbun* confirms the news sent across the wires, and suggests that as the purchase was made on the sole responsibility of M. Pablov, it may have been found expedient to resort to the device of setting off an imaginary indemnity against the price of the land, funds not being procurable from any other source. The tale is at least *ben trovato*. It is quite an artistic notion that Russia, having estimated at several tens of thousands of dollars Korea's responsibility for the detention and punishment of the master of a Russian whaling schooner found trespassing in Korean waters, and having experienced great difficulty in collecting the money from Korea, should negotiate for the purchase of a slice of Korean territory, and then appropriate the land as part payment of the alleged indemnity. These picturesque stories have a certain value, but their practical importance is infinitesimally small, inasmuch as nothing is more certain than that a question of dollars and cents will never be allowed to obtrude itself between Russia and the consummation of her national designs.

EXPORT OF HORSES.

An Imperial Ordinance forbids the export of horses from Japan, the penalty being major imprisonment for one year, or a fine of 200 *yen*, together with confiscation of the animals. The Ordinance takes effect from the day of its issue (July 4th), but 5 days' grace are allowed for the completion of contracts already made.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The Emperor and Empress have made a donation of 4,000 *yen* to the sufferers by the Takaoka fire.

The sum appropriated by the Government for the immediate purposes of operations in China is four and a half million *yen*

The *Yakumo* which left Kiel a short time ago, is reported to have arrived at Plymouth on the 29th ultimo for the purpose of taking her armament on board

It is stated that the Eleventh Division—head-quarters at Marugame—which has already sent a battalion to Taku, has received orders to call up the first and second reserves, and fill all the vacancies in its ranks.

Twenty-eight ladies and children have arrived in Kobe by the *Sendai Maru* from Newchwang. They have deemed it prudent to escape from that place while there is still an opportunity to do so. Probably Japan will become the refuge of a good many foreign residents of China this summer.

Japanese newspapers allege that the French conjurers now performing at the Shintomi-za in Tokyo have made a fiasco; that there was a great disturbance at their last exhibition, and that the Japanese lessee was finally obliged to announce that all the door-money would be handed over to the Tokyo Municipality.

A small bank called the *Kanda Shogyo Ginko* has come to grief. It was established last January with a capital of five hundred thousand *yen*, and rumour says that the chief occupation of its employés has been to frequent tea-houses and amuse themselves. The *coup de grâce* was given to the Bank's reputation by the absconding of an official named Baiju Sanjin, with a sum of 30,000 *yen*. He has been arrested, but the Bank is said to be in a parlous state.

The East-Asian Cognate Language Society gave a farewell entertainment on the 27th ultimo to the Viceroy Chang Chi-tung's eldest son, who is returning to China after some years of study in Japan. The young man made a speech the gist of which was that China is fully persuaded of the integrity of Japan's sentiments, and looks to her for assistance to establish a better order of things within her dominions.

The conflagration in Takaoka on the 27th ultimo seems to have been a terrible affair. It commenced at 2 p.m. and burned until 11 p.m., and during these 9 hours more than 5,000 houses were reduced to ashes and 7 persons lost their lives, 6 being burned and 1 crushed under a falling building. There was some insurance—35,000 *yen* in the *Tokyo Buppin Kusai Kaisha*, and various smaller amounts in other offices.

The Three-Companies Union which has secured the concession for building street railways in Tokyo is said to have received many applications from foreign capitalists desirous of furnishing funds. Fifteen million *yen* are required, and the idea apparently is that some well-known banks should combine to guarantee the repayment of one-fourth of the loan, the lines being given as security for the remainder. That is a somewhat vague statement, but we are without farther details.

It is stated that the British Consul in Kobe has been engaged collecting men to serve as land-transport coolies in China. Nine hundred was the number required, and eight hundred were obtained at once. The British Authorities doubtless remember what excellent work was done by the celebrated "bamboo corps" in the days of the last trouble with China. This time, however, Japan will supply the men, not China. The coolies and horses are said to have been shipped by H.B.M. Consul in the *Moji Maru*.

The Chinese complications have so completely engrossed public attention that questions which used to possess vivid interest have faded quite out of sight. It is worth noting, however, that, at its last meeting, the *Yuraku-kai* unanimously voted in favour of granting to foreigners the privilege of owning real estate. The *Yuraku-kai* is a most influential association. It includes among its members nearly all the leading merchants and bankers of Tokyo, as well as many prominent statesmen, of whom Count Inouye is one. We think it may be taken for granted that the Diet will be invited, next session, to legislate in favour of removing the restriction against which so many foreign voices have been raised.

The Mitsui have just held a great meeting at which Count Inouye, Baron Shibusawa and many other leading men attended. Representatives of all the eleven Mitsui families were present, and a code of house law was unanimously endorsed. Briefly speaking, its purport is that all the families must work uniquely to promote the family reputation and credit; that no important question must be decided without a general council; that any conduct of an extravagant nature detrimental to the interests of the Mitsui will expose its perpetrator to have his affairs controlled by the other members of the family, and so on. It is, in fact, a renewal of the conditions drawn up by the great founder of the family, 300 years ago. In connexion with the event, it was decided that a sum of 30,000 *yen* should be subscribed to the Tokyo Municipal fund, 20,000 *yen* to the Kyoto funds, and 3,000 *yen* to Matsuzaka.

It is again bruited abroad that Marquis Ito has lent an ear to the representations of those advocating his connexion with a political party. The *Hochi Shimbun* is very explicit on the subject. It makes out that Marquis Yamagata and Count Inouye are both urging Marquis Ito; that even men like Viscount Watanabe, Baron Suyematsu, Baron Kaneko and Mr. Tsuzuki Keiroku are working vigorously to bring about the organization of a great new party: that the Liberal leaders will dissolve the present association and enlist in the ranks of the Marquis' following; that the Imperialists will join him to a man; that the Independents are almost equally unanimous, and that even the Progressists will lose their cohesion—indeed Mr. Ozaki Yukio is already said to have opened communications with the Marquis. The *Jiumin*, which may be supposed to have better information, is not so emphatic, but it confirms the statement that the Marquis definitely inclines to place himself at the head of a party organization.

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JAPAN AND CHINA.

SOME of the leading vernacular journals show considerable impatience because the Government does not at once despatch a strong military force to China. They contend that there is no danger of such an act's being wrongly interpreted, and that since Japan's position confers special advantages for dealing effectually with the trouble, she should not shrink from stepping into the breach. Such arguments had great force a few days ago, when the whole foreign community in Tientsin were in danger of massacre at the hands of the insurgents and of the mutinous soldiery of China. But Tientsin having been relieved, the cause for immediate anxiety disappears, and leisure is afforded for taking a calm view of the situation. It is true that the Foreign Representatives and the foreign residents of Peking appear at first sight to be in a perilous condition, and that they are cut off from communication with the outer world. But does it follow that the Chinese Government is disposed to fight, or has any intention of fighting? What pushed the situation to an acute stage was the action at Taku There seems to be no doubt that the fighting which culminated in the capture of the Forts was commenced by the Chinese. But it would have been commenced by the allies seventy minutes later. They had formally announced their intention of opening hostilities at 2 a.m., and the Chinese opened them at 12 50 a.m. The alternative presented to the Governor of Chihli and to the Chinese commanding officer was that the Forts should be handed over to the allies. Without distinct orders from Peking, the surrender of the Forts would have been an absolutely unjustifiable step. There was no time, however, to communicate with Peking. The Japanese official despatches show that the conference of Naval officers at which the question of the Forts was determined, took place on board the *Rossia* at 11 a.m. on the 16th of June. Assuming that the Conference rose at noon and observing that the *Yamên* of the Viceroy of Chihli is in Tientsin, it is plain that the Conference's decision could not be conveyed to him before the evening, the distance being 50 miles and the telegraph being interrupted. In fact, we are disposed to doubt whether any effective attempt to inform him could have been made, inasmuch as the insurgents occupied a part of the intervening district. As to the officer commanding the Forts, we can not discover that the Allies' ultimatum was conveyed to him until 7 p.m. on the 16th, when a Russian officer proceeded to the Forts for that purpose. The situation presented to him, therefore, was that unless he handed over these important fortifications which commanded the route to the capital, the Allies would proceed to take them by force seven hours later. These are hard facts. Even in war-time such haste is rare, and as preluding the commencement of belligerent operations against a Power hitherto friendly, we can not remember that history furnishes any instance of similar precipitancy. It may have been wise or it may have been rash. That is not the point at present. We are only considering the question from the Chinese point of view. The Commander of the Forts in a time of peace received a sudden summons to surrender, and was not even given leisure to consult with the Governor of the Province. The Governor of the Province, even on the scarcely tenable assumption that some intimation of what was pending reached him before the catastrophe, could not possibly have communicated with Peking. Had the commander of the Forts surrendered them under such circumstances, the only proper reward for him would have been to stand up before a platoon of musketry. He necessarily refused. Seven hours remained, then, before the time indicated for the attack He anticipated the expiration of the time by seventy minutes, doubtless because he saw, or thought that he saw, some prospect of tactical advantage by doing so. It would be extravagant and unjust to say that the responsibility of breaking the peace rests with the Chinese. A pistol was held to their head, and they sought to disable the holder before he fired. That is the story. Then followed the bombardment and storming of the Forts; then the attack upon Tientsin, and then the intimation from the Tsung-li Yamên to the Foreign Representatives that they should withdraw from Peking. In the eyes of the Chinese Government war had been commenced by the Foreign Powers, and the continued residence of the Foreign Ministers in the capital became anomalous as well as dangerous As to what ensued, we can only conjecture, but the strong probability is that the Foreign Representatives denied the existence of a state of war; alleged that their desire was to maintain friendly relations with the Chinese Government, and urged that the demonstration at Taku had been directed uniquely, against the insurgents and their military allies whom the Government also regarded as its enemies. Up to this point the facts fit each other perfectly, and are quite consistent with the theory that a state of war does not exist, and that no occasion, nor even any justification, can be found for marching an army against Peking. But here we find one feature of great perplexity. If friendly relations continue between the Chinese Government and the Foreign Representatives, how does it happen that the latter are unable to communicate with the outer world? The Chinese Government must have means of communication, and ought to place them at the disposal of the Foreign Representatives. Its failure to do so is difficult to reconcile with any hypothesis that it is acting amicably and in good faith The situation is most bewildering, and to interpret it falsely might entail consequences of the most serious kind. These are the plain facts as they present themselves to plain minds. There is also a wide range of contingencies which add enormously to the responsibilities devolving on Japan's statesmen at this juncture. We refrain from stating or discussing them, our only object at the moment being to show that since the duty of rescuing a foreign community from something like destruction no longer presses for immediate discharge, the problem has entered a new phase, justifying and demanding the utmost circumspection.

THE SITUATION IN PEKING.

HER Imperial Majesty Tsi An, Empress-Dowager of China, is at this moment one of the best abused women in the world. Journalists vie with one another to discover epithets which shall render her name detestable in the ears of all civilized peoples. She is undoubtedly a great woman, if success in achieving the objects of one's ambition be any test of greatness. Life began for her as a slave girl. Her parents, reduced to a state of extreme indigence, sold her to a rich merchant almost before she had emerged from babyhood, and when she conceived the apparently mad notion of presenting herself in Peking among the maidens eligible to become secondary wives of the Emperor Hien Fung, her status had to be changed to that of an adopted daughter before she set out on her journey. It has been her misfortune, from a reputable point of view, that all those whose timely departure from this earthly scene was calculate to promote her projects, departed in a timely manner. So it fared with Hien Fung himself when the psychological moment came for him to yield the throne to Tsi An's son, Tung Chi. So it fared with Tung Chi when he conceived the ambition to rule in fact as well as in name. So it fared with Tung Chi's wife when it became possible that she might bear a posthumous child with inconvenient titles. So it fared with Tung Kung, Empress-Dowager of the East, when the Young Emperor's preference for her became undesirable. So it would have fared, many people think, with the Emperor Kwang Su himself in 1898 had there been no telegraph to carry innumerable messages of remonstrance from every part of the empire. If these things have been fortunate for the Empress-Dowager's plans, they have been unfavourable to her reputation. Yet they represent no tangible materials for accusing her; nothing but vague suspicions. On the other side of the account stand two solid facts; namely, that she was the informing spirit of the Prince Kung Cabinet which effected so many reforms and established such good relations with foreign Powers after the Tai Ping rebellion, and that she has uniformly been the friend and supporter of Li Hung-chang, the head and front of Chinese progress such as it is. Who can undertake to say that in 1898 the Empress-Dowager's hand was not forced by circumstances which, had she defied them, would have overwhelmed her completely; and who will undertake to say that in the present complication the Manchu nobles have not escaped her control? It

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is not conceivable that she should commit the insane blunder of throwing China's gauntlet in the face of the whole world. She knows too well what that would mean. But Prince TWAN does not know, and his Manchu supporters do not know. Rather than suspect the Empress-Dowager of such madness, is it not much easier to supect that the Manchu Princes are preparing to exercise the power which the law reposes in them, the power of deposing the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor, and giving the throne to one of their own number? It is not with the approval, or even with the tacit assent, of the Empress-Dowager or the Emperor that Chinese troops in Peking have burned all the Legations save three and are now seeking to murder the inmates of those three. It is not with the approval, or even with the tacit assent, of the Empress-Dowager or the Emperor that Prince TWAN has despatched KANG YI with a present of a hundred thousand taels to the Boxers by way of reward for driving back Admiral Seymour.

If these conjectures be correct, the fate of the Manchu dynasty is evidently sealed. Its fall may be preceded by some cruel events; by the loss of some precious foreign lives. But it will fall and a new China will probably rise from the ruins. Many far-seeing men have predicted that the overthrow of the Manchus is a preliminary essential to the awakening of China. No one, however, has had sufficient insight to foresee that the Manchus would deliberately dash themselves against the rock of progress. They have done so now, and they will go under. The great problem is, by what administrative power are they to be replaced. It is alleged that LI HUNG-CHANG, obeying his imperial mistress' call, has set out for the north. A heroic but sad act on the part of the old Viceroy. We admire him for not ignoring the appeal of the ruler who never deserted him in his many troubles, but we marvel at the temerity which impels him to thrust himself into an apparently hopeless situation. Yet, if it be really true that he is going north, he must have some not altogether impossible programme. Can it be that he relies on some foreign Power to exert all its strength on behalf of the Empress Dowager?

THE RUSSIAN ACQUISITION AT MASAMPHO.

The agreement between Russia and Korea for the purchase of land at Masampho, puts the area of the land at 986,300 square metres, of which 888,600 metres are Government property; 6,500 metres belong to Japanese subjects, and 91,000 metres are the property of Korean subjects. The price is 39,600 *yen*, with a yearly rental of 1,950 *yen*, and the purposes for which the land is to be used are a coaling station and a naval hospital. This is the agreement which Korea is said to have returned to Russia.

The criminal action instituted by Messrs. Murai Bros. of Kyoto against Kimura Shokai, a tobacco manufacturer of Tokyo, on the charge of infringement of trade-mark, has been dismissed by the Procurators of the Tokyo Chiho Saibansho.

THE CHINESE TROUBLES AND TRADE.

The troubles in China have created universal consternation among Japanese merchants engaged in foreign commerce, remarks the *Osaka Asahi*. Indeed, the trade of this country has fallen into a grievous condition during the past few years. From 1894 to 1898 the excess of imports reached 219 millions of *yen*. The reduction in the excess to 5½ millions in 1899 relieved the public mind to a certain extent, but the revival of trade in the latter half of that year and in the first half of this has again swelled the figure to 62 millions. The rate of interest quickly rose, and nearly all branches of trade have consequently suffered. To make the matter worse, the insurrection in China has seriously affected the commercial community in Japan.

As to trade with China the following statistics may be of interest:—

	1899.	1899.
Total volume of trade with various countries	Exports in ¥ 214,929,894	Imports in ¥ 220,401,926
Volume of trade with China	41,257,033	28,687,455
Same with Hongkong...	34,321,301	7,338,449

Thus the amount of exports to China covers 35 per cent. of the total volume of foreign trade, while imports embrace 16 per cent, the total of the two items representing 26 per cent.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The *Shakai Zasshi* publishes a thoughtful article entitled *Meiji Shakai no san Ishoku* (Three distinct Characteristics of Meiji Society), of which we give a somewhat full epitome. During the past 14 or 15 years in educated circles three distinct lines of thought have been in the ascendent, which are championed by three parties. These parties are (1) that of the University (2), that of the Keiôgijiku, and (3) that of the Christian church. (1) In science and philosophy, in education generally, in influence on the administration, and in the moulding of the official mind the University is paramount. (2) In legislation, in influence on the business world, and in the training of members of the Diet the Keiôgijiku is unrivalled. From this institution more than a hundred of the present members of the Diet have come. And the number of men it has supplied to the business world is very large. Broadly speaking the two above-named educational establishments represent the official and the non-official sections of society respectively. (3) The influence of Christianity in political circles may be said to be *nil*, neither has it any perceptible influence in either of the great educational establishments just mentioned. None of the Presidents of the University have ever had any inclination towards allowing Christianity to play an important part in national education. Doctors Katô and Toyama during a short interval both made a show of supporting Christianity, but it did not last in either case. It has been the rule for Presidents to discourage religion. The influence of the University has been so invariably anti-Christian that not one graduate of the University has figured prominently in the religious world. This is a fact which differentiates our University from the Universities of Europe and America. Though at present there are University students who seem to take an interest in religion, they are few in number, and their characters are too unformed to allow of their exercising wide influence over society, and, what is more, they are chiefly Buddhists or men whose sympathies lie in that direction. . . It is important to note that University Professors like Doctors Inoue, Motora, and Nakajima have all repeatedly written treatises on the subject of religion and lately the views expressed by these scholars have been positive in character, but their influence on thought in general is very slight. By the Keiôgijiku school of thinkers, from Mr. Fukuzawa downwards, religion is regarded as a mere device for attaining certain ends and not an end in itself. Christians alone have stood forth as advocates of the absolute necessity of religion in all departments of life; and among Christians the Dôshusha students may be said to have exercised the most influence on thought in general. Speaking broadly we may say that among educational establishments the University has been anti-Christian, and the Keiôgijiku indifferent, and that in Mission Schools alone has Christianity been regularly taught. At the present moment the Keiôgijiku's influence is very small when compared with that of the University. Christian education, which has so many past results to show, is under a cloud, with the one exception of female education, which seems to bid fair to more than hold its own against competitors.

Turning to the Press we find the University occupying a very important position both as regards connection with high class journals and in the matter of supplying writers, although the Waseda Semmon Gakkô and the Keiôgijiku have both proved formidable rivals. In science and philosophy the University is preeminent, but no religious publication is issued by it. Among Christian publications or journals edited by Christians, the *Rikugô Zasshi* and the *Kokumin Shimbun* occupy the highest rank. It is asserted that Messrs. Oshikawa and Honda purpose starting a daily Christian paper at the end of this year, from which great things are expected. In the discussion of social topics Christian journals take a leading part. There are two magazines connected with the Unitarians that figure prominently in this line, the *Shakai Shugi Kyôkai* and the *Rôdô Sekai*. Their principal rival is published by the Law graduates of the University and bears the name of the *Shakai Seisaku Gakkai Zasshi*.

Coming to the subject of charity, we find that Christians are to the front everywhere. Temperance Societies, Infirmaries, Orphan Asylums, Reformatories, and various Industrial Establishments are to be found scattered here and there throughout the land. In seeking to reform customs and in the anti-prostitute crusade Christians are taking a prominent part.

In Ethics the Keiôgijiku has attracted the notice of the world by its issue of what purports to be a system of ethics suited to the present age. University writers generally have opposed the principles enunciated in the *Shûshin Yôryô*. Christians have for the most part refrained from thoroughly discussing the Mita system of ethics, with one or two exceptions.

. . . . . The conclusion we reach is, says the *Shakai Zasshi*, that in the world of thought and in politics Japan is growing very one-sided; that the lack of variety of opinion bodes ill for the future. There is nothing more fatal to progress than the undue prevalence of one set of ideas. The three schools of thinkers referred to above each dominate their own special spheres in a despotic manner, which results in the suppression of individual differences of opinion. We are suffering from the prevalence of a certain kind of intellectual clannism, which seriously interferes with national development. The remedy for this is to encourage in every way possible private schools where inquiry shall be untrammelled.

* * *

Dr. De Forest, of Sendai, has recently published a small pamphlet entitled *Kyôiku Ippan*, which gives an account of the American system of education. The headings of the six principal subjects treated are as follows:—(1) There is no Education Department connected with the Central Government in the United States. (2) The Education of each separate State. (3) The flourishing state of private Schools. (4) Female Education. (5) Libraries. (6) The relation of education to religion. Dr. De Forest expresses entire satisfaction with the position occupied by religion in America, and thinks that those Japanese who have come back from America with a different tale were unfortunate in not getting to know all the facts bearing on the subject. Dr. De Forest informs his readers that as far as America is concerned Christianity has never been more prosperous in the world of education than it is to-day.

L'Abbé Francois Ligneul's latest work is called "The Flower of Civilisation." Among all the various elements of which civilization is composed the moral qualities of individuals and of nations are the most important, says M. Ligneul; and among these there is nothing more influential than the life of a thoroughly refined virtuous woman. Woman

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may then be said to be the "Flower of Civilisation." The little volume bearing the above title, covering 253 small-sized pages, is devoted to the portraiture of the type of woman that in M. Ligneul's opinion Japan needs to possess—a woman that is full of love, charity, and unselfishness, who ir ready devote herself heart and soul to her family and to her country. Such a being is at once an ornament of the society in which she mixes and one of the most striking illustrations of the power of the religion she professes. The *Bunmei no Hana* is written in very simple language and has *Kana* supplied throughout, so that it may be understood by anybody that can read. It sells at 22 *sen* per copy.

The Rev. L. B. Cholmondeley in the May number of the *Nichiyô Soshi* asks. "How far is the England of to-day a Christian Country?" and replies that, taking all things into consideration, England may still be pronounced Christian, notwithstanding the enormous crowds of people who never darken a place of worship and who take no kind of interest in religion. The chief reasons Mr. Cholmondeley gives for his opinion are that new churches are being built every year to accommodate the ever-growing population, that existing churches are well attended, that the worship conducted in them is characterised by real devotion, that men of distinguished talent form the episcopate, that scores of ministers have turned their backs on the highest worldly honours in order to pursue their sacred calling, that the Bible is still considered the Book of Books, that there is an ever growing demand for Christian literature, that foreign missions are more prosperous than they have ever been and last, but not least, that in all works of a benevolent character the Christian Church invariably takes the lead. Mr. Cholmondeley admits that there is much that is unchristian in England and thinks that to a superficial observer the general conduct of the masses of the people must appear very unchrist-like, but he is satisfied that as a people the English can still claim to be called a christian nation. Mr. Cholmondeley's contribution is designed to answer Buddhist sneers at Christianity. The Buddhists have frequently answered the question which forms the title of Mr. Cholmondeley's article in the negative.

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The *Tôkyô Maishû Shimpô* (874) has a very sensible article entitled "Christian Faith and Money," of which the following is a brief summary:—Buddhism teaches that Nirvana being the final goal of the sojourner on earth, no importance is to be attached to any worldly possessions; the true Buddhist treats them all with contempt. But Buddhist human nature enters a protest against this extreme view and expresses itself in verse as follows." *Yo wo sutete mi wa naki mono to omoe domo, yuki no furu hi wa samuku kosoare.* (Though the world be renounced and our personality be regarded as non-existent, on a snowy day the cold is keenly felt). The same thing happens with Christianity in reference to the use of money. It is felt by all thoughtful Christians that the money-despising ideal preached by so many evangelists needs mod.fying. Poverty is lauded as a virtue in itself by many teachers of Christianity. The texts that dwell on the comparative insignificance of worldly riches are quoted so frequently and with such emphasis that the Christian convert in many cases goes away with the impresssion that poverty and Christianity are synonymous terms. The careful use of money, diligence in making it, and the like, are all regarded by a large number of Christians with suspicion as savouring of worldiness. And this feeling has been so encouraged by the habitual teaching of pastors that in many cases churches are made up of a crowd of very unthrifty people, who are not only without much money to spend on themselves, but who have little to devote to Christian work. Such Christians seem to take Confucius' words *Hiji wo magete makura to shi, tanoshimi sono uchi ni ari.* (To make a pillow of one's bent arm; in this true happiness consists) as their motto, and they grow careless about the clothes they wear, the houses in which they live and the food they eat. Their view of the world is that of extreme pessimists. The language of scripture was never intended to bear the meaning given to it by numerous Ministers of the Gospel. Texts which teach the superiority of faith and devotion to worldly gain are not intended to represent the latter as of no importance whatever. But the trouble is that so many of the teachers that come to this country have Puritan notions about worldly wealth and their teaching is all in the direct on of an undue depreciation of the value of money. The writer of this article when in America was struck by the regard in which money is held in that country and asked an eminent d.vine how it was that a nation which professed Christianity was so earnest about money-making. He replied, "We serve God and hold money in high esteem." Christ said that God and mammon were not to be served, and so this Theologian did not use the word "serve" in reference to money, but to ordinary persons there would seem to be little difference between "esteeming" and "serving." The Japanese as a people have hitherto been accustomed to despise money; so that the class of teaching referred to above finds an echo in their minds. But we are confronted with the fact that poverty-stricken Christians are a great hindrance to the progress of Christian work. If civilisation and Christianity are to go hand in hand then Christians must be taught to esteem money while they serve God. Christianity must not be explained as designed to suppress and annhilate all the natural feelings and desires of the human heart.

* * *

The Rev. G. E. Albrecht of Kyôtô writes in the *Tôkyô Maishû Shimpô* on "The Future of Mission Schools" in the following terms: The number of the Dôshisha students is now reduced to 130 or 140, that of the Awoyama Gakuin and the Meiji Gakuin to about 80 each. The reduced numbers in each case may be traced to the reaction against Occidentalism which set in some years ago and to the action of the Mombushô the year before last in regard to the status of private schools. Looking to the future, it is not to be supposed for a moment that Japan will be able to dispense with the help of private schools, considering the important part they play in Europe and America. Japanese individual character needs to come under the influence of a variety of developing agencies. Government schools may turn out human machines, but for the production of men of pronounced characteristics of a varied type private schools will always be needed. As regards moral influence the private mission school must always occupy a higher rank than can be attained by a Government school.

The *Tôkyô Maishû Shimpô* notices the efforts being made among Missionary Societies in Europe to celebrate the opening of the Twentieth Century by inaugurating new evangelistic work of various kinds and goes on to state that the Fukuin Dômeikai (Evangelical Alliance) at a large meeting held a few weeks ago decided to collect the sum of 5,000 *yen* towards a suitable celebration of the occasion. The movement is to be entirely unsectarian and the paper we are quoting thinks that great results may be expected from it.

* * *

The *Fukuin Shimpô* states the views of Dr. Greene, of the American Board Mission, on the present state of mission work in Japan and its prospects. Dr. Greene, according to the *Fukuin Shimpô*, expressed himself pretty much as follows:—I came to Japan 31 years ago with the idea that I had undertaken to found a mission in a country that differed in nothing from China, where 50 years of labour showed such poor results. But I soon found out my mistake, and before I had been here long baptized my two first converts, and began to make friends among the Japanese. In 1874, we founded a church in Kobe. I was very much surprised at the progress made There were not wanting persons who said that the Japanese Christianity of that time was very shallow But such was not my opinion. When I compare those days with the present time, I am struck with the extent to which individual freedom of belief is now granted to everybody, not only within the pale of the Christian Church but in society generally. There are those who affirm that the civilisation which Japan has adopted is essentially material, but such is not the case. In the course of the thirty years that I have watched them, the ideas of the Japanese have changed on a variety of subjects. Freedom of belief and opinion is the foundation of Japanese civilisation to-day and I for one can rejoice that it is so . . . . . Although the progress that religion makes does not fulfil our expectations, yet there are signs of improvement on every hand. The influence of Christians in various walks of life is more striking than their numbers. Are there not Christians among Ministers of State, members of the Diet, and newspaper writers? There are no less than 13 or 14 Christian members of the Diet. This is a proof of the position Christianity occupies in society generally. So that Christians have no cause to be discouraged. . . . . As regards Theological ideas there seems to be a growing tendency to drift into Pantheism. The individual relationship of Christians to a personal God is not sufficiently realised. These are two things that are to be regretted connected with Japanese Churches; one is the low esteem in which Christian work is held, and the other is the lack of cooperation among the churches. Other defects that should be mentioned are carelessness in the handling of public funds, neglect to write down everything on which church money is expended, and a studied reserve in the dealings of Christians with each other, which prevents their knowing each others' real thoughts and causes endless mistakes and misunderstandings. If Christians would be open with each other, everything would go on much more smoothly than is now the case.

* * *

Under the title of "Customs that need to be introduced," the *Seikyô Shimpô* discusses the interesting question of how far it is desirable for Christian teachers to attempt to change native customs. Religion and customs, faith and custom, the church and native customs, these are all intimately connected subjects, says the *Seikyô Shimpô*. It cannot be said that all the customs practised by Christians are of Christian origin. Some may be traced to Buddhism, others to traditional native modes of thinking. The custom which the *Seikyô Shimpô* specially wishes to see introduced is the practice of giving money to ministers of the gospel for all the offices they perform. This practice we are told is only observed in a very few churches. Consequently the money at the disposal of pastors for religious purposes is always inadequate. The *Seikyô Shimpô* thinks that in the case of the 30,000 Christians belonging to the Greek Church in Japan the money devoted to sacred purposes is very small and that this is one reason why Christian work makes so little progress. The *Seikyô Shimpô* is of opinion that all Christian Churches should pay closer attention to home education and should see to it that converts are supplied with a good stock of books suitable for young people. Christianity has been deliberately banished from the Government schools, says this organ, but it still may be welcomed in the home. The policy that refuses to allow religion to play a part in the education of the young carried on by schools is an entirely mistaken policy, says the *Seikyô Shimpô*, but as long as it is followed the church must employ every means availalbe for counteracting the evils engendered thereby, and home education is one of the most important of these.

* * *

The *Rikugô Zasshi* (No. 232) complains of the way in which the views of Unitarians are habitually misrepresented and in an article entitled "The views of Japanese Unitarians" restates the position held by this body in religion and ethics. After denying that the chief function of the sect is pulling down what others have erected, the *Rikugô* proceeds to state the attitude of Japanese Unitarians to the principal questions of the day in the following manner:—Unitarianism sets before itself two objects, one being the reform of religion the other the reform of society. In its view these two undertakings are intimately connected with each other and hence Unitarians have little sympathy with those who would separate them. The would be reformers of society who take no interest in religion and those religious sects who take little if any interest in Social reform, are

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alike out of touch with Unitarians. To the stickler for articles and confessions of faith the Unitarian movement appears to be non-religious, if not anti-religious. Many people suppose that the union which we are anxious to promote is confined to ethics, and that the basis of union we propose is vague and undefined. We are objected to because we do not insist on certain articles of religious faith being made the basis of union. Now what we wish to point out is that we are not the only advocates of a union whose chief promoters ignore creeds and confessions of faith. Take the Young Men's Christian Association. It has no special creed. Yet on this account it is not denounced as a non religious body. The same may be said of the Fukuin Dômei-kai (Evangelical Alliance). Because we do not draw up a set of articles and make them binding on others it is inferred by some that we are but lukewarm supporters of religion. Where is the logic of such an inference? Is the essence of religion a matter of creeds or an affair of the heart? Are outward formulas a *sine qua non* of religion, devotion, and faith? If religious people are to unite at all, it can only be done by their agreeing to sink all minor differences and unite on those general principles on which they are all agreed. In all cases of union there is necessarily a certain amount of vagueness and generality about the principles that form the basis of union. But it is quite untrue to say that because the persons who promote such unions do not insist on others conforming to them that they have no religious belief and no religious devotion. . . But we shall be told that the members of the Young Men's Christian Association and those of the Evangelical Alliance are all Protestant Christians and that they would not care to unite with Roman Catholics nor with Greek Church converts, whereas we, on the other hand, purpose to extend the hand of fellowship to Buddhists and Shintoists. This again is a misconception of the position we take. We only purpose to unite ourselves with those Buddhists who are dissatisfied with their own creeds as they are now accepted and explained, that is, we propose to unite with the progressive sections of Buddhists and Shintoists. There who believe that religion as understood to-day and as practised needs reform can come together and consult as to the best means of effecting this reform. With those who are satisfied with what they possess and who see no need of change, whether Buddhists or Christians, we have nothing to do. But, it will be asked, what is the basis of union you propose? If it be merely an ethical basis, then you have not established your claim to be called a religious sect. To this we reply, the basis we propose is contained in the words "Then shalt love the Lord thy God. . . . and thy neighbour as thyself:" Love of God and love of man: can it be said that these emotions are confined to Christian breasts? Does not the devout Buddhist and the devout Shintoist share the feeling of reverent affection for divinity with the devout Christian? And this being so, may not this common feeling create a basis of union? Can it be said that in the past history of the world Christianity has been the only creed that has laid stress on the importance of loving God and of loving our fellow-men? Has not this been the essence of the teaching of the Buddhists, the Shintoists, the Confucianists and other sects? It is true that in many cases much that was superfluous has been added to this simple creed, but nevertheless it has formed the real foundation of all the religion that has existed in the world. . . . . It is true that we apply no test to those who wish to join us and therefore it is not beyond the range of possibility that even atheists may have appeared among us, but since those who join us do so voluntarily after acquainting themselves with our tenets, we do not think it at all likely that any Unitarians deny the existence of God. With religious belief as a motive power, we take an earnest part in bringing about social reforms. We interest ourselves in all the pressing questions of the day—in the abolition of licensed prostitution, in the adjustment of labour and capital, in various works of charity. While we seek to help people we endeavour to enlighten them. To give money where it is required is a comparatively easy matter. To take steps to create right feelings in the breasts of those who are the objects of charity and to prevent their being demoralised by the gifts they receive is a harder task. Without possessing any of the outward organisation of a religious sect, we are doing religious work and we are actuated by religious motives. On our banner we inscribe the words *Aishin, Aijin* (Love of God and Love of Man) and all who will join hands with us on the broad principles which these words imply we welcome. We hold that there is no finality about any existing form of religious belief. "We know in part" only. As the world progresses religious thought will develop more and more and ideals of ever increasing loftiness will be evolved with the march of the ages.

THE BOOKSHELF.

Friend Tommy and Other Topics, by Joss Chinchinjoss: Singapore, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.

We are glad to see that Joss Chinchinjoss has collected the verses contributed over his signature to the *Singapore Free Press* during the last few years, thus putting them into permanent shape, for many of the poems rise above the average, while about all is an air of distinction too often, alas, entirely absent from "imitations" and ephemeral *vers de société*. The singer of Singapore professedly bases many of his poetical flights and fancies upon the style affected by Mr. Rudyard Kipling, but we can honestly say he does not suffer by comparison with the greater man. The little book freely lends itself to quotation, but space forbids indulging the desire as we would like. But here are some stanzas from "The Jelly-Fish Nation," which we think will be fourd very *apropos* and can not be passed by:—

Where the Rulers reck nought of their Country—
and the Country recks nought of itself;
Where each takes no thought of the other, and the
Government key-word is "Self";
Where, down through their prejudiced ages, they're
taught (and herein lies their fate)
To regard everything that is Foreign with a stubborn,
implacable hate.

Yet the items that make up this nation are men with
grand traits of their own,
And their faults are faults that are taught 'em, and
the blame is their Leaders' alone.
When the Chinaman shakes off his country, no matter
what country he choose,
He expands,—and there's no one can stop him—*He*
gains—his competitors lose.

You may tax, and re-tax, and poll-tax him; you
may pour out new laws on his head,
But while those that tax him are starving—*he's* housed
and *he's* clothed and *he's* fed;
And hidden somewhere in his hovel is a hoard that
grows steadily more,
Till your wealth has been sapped to enrich him, and
he's rich, inasmuch as you're poor.

* * * * * * *

Still, all this is proof of his value. If he didn't go
scouring the foam;
Were his energies used for his country by his Rulers
that cramp him at home,
Were his 'go' made a State monopoly and his 'push'
conserved with care,
There's material for making a *Nation*—presentable
anywhere.

Yes; give these poor Devils the *Leaders*, to open their
closed-up mind,
To give them a hand, who have struggled so long so
helplessly blind.
Give them the chance at home that they find for themselves
elsewhere,
And the Star of the Jelly-fish nation 'mid others would
shine as fair.

The last poem of all, "In Futuro," we must also beg leave to reprint:—

In the great unopened future—In the book that is still to read·
In the land of mystic fancies—In the land of an unlearned creed.
In the days of things that may happen—In the time that is near and far.
When things we hoped for are not and things unhoped for are·
When fancied fears are scattered or fancied fears are proved
When our lives have run in channels our fancy never grooved·
When joys unlooked for gladden and joys long cherished fail,
We may learn that planning and dreaming were of little or no avail.
When the grasping struggle is over, and our footsore race is run:·
When time is no more measured by cycles of the sun
When the present and future are buried in the grave of a hungry past,
In the future's dawning Future, May we all find rest at last.

"Friend Tommy" comes to us from the South and it is therefore appropriate that he should be Khaki-clad, like the other "gentlemen." We sincerely hope that Joss Chinchinjoss will soon find sufficient material accumulated for another volume, for we can assure him that it would be heartily welcomed.

Two Text-books for Japanese Students.

English Letters and Their Sounds; by C. M. Bradbury, Ph.D. Tokyo; Sanseido.

The New Analytical English Letter Writer. Prepared by C. M. Bradbury, Ph.D. for Yaichiro Isobe; Tokyo, Kokumin Eigakkwai.

There are few text books prepared for Japanese students that are both interesting and instructive. Many are interesting to the point of amusement and even of sadness, but they are not instructive. Of this kind are the various conversation books appearing continually under all kinds of names. One purports to be "Guide Post of English Language," another, more ambitious, is called, "Alphabet, Pronunciations, Numbers, Simple-words, Conversations. Grammar, in the Modern English Language." Japanese may some day learn that it is not so easy to write in a foreign language, but at the present time a good book from their hands is as an oasis in the desert.

On the other hand there are many books of the pot-boiling kind that are instructive but not interesting. Of this kind are dry-as-dust compilations from English grammars, or nice discriminations of the meanings of nearly synonymous words. The books with which we have to do here are both interesting and instructive. The title of the first promises little enough in the way of interest, and yet the somewhat difficult matter is treated in a clear and interesting way.

In the introduction the writer says that the objects of the book are to present the more important facts of English phonology in such a practical way as to encourage the student to study pronunciation. For teachers the book is designed to serve as a "higher" spelling book. Mr. Bradbury goes on to say:—"In the case of students belonging to large classes which meet an instructor in pronunciation only a very few hours in a week, it is certain that the best progress can not be made without thoughtful attention, aided by whatever really useful written instruction can be procured. . . . .The pupil, being left to remember the sound of new words as best he can, instead of being enabled to make definite inquiries and accurate memoranda with regard to them, often forgets, and is also less attentive to pronunciation than he ought to be."

Students of English come under the instruction of the foreign teacher with a great number of bad habits of pronunciation, very many of which are due to the use of *kana* in the primary schools to represent English sounds. Incredible as it may seem, one may hear in any primary school the pronunciation of *they* given as テー, or that of *cat* given as キャット. In another school another teacher may elect to use different *kana* but in any case the pupil is sure to get a wrong pronunciation.

The book under review gives the means of representing English sounds—something that our overworked alphabet cannot do. Instead of simply giving the correct pronunciation the teacher can by means of this system write, for instance, "Your mistake is in saying *bard* for *bird*." Or, if he calls the vowel sounds by their numbers, he may say "Your mistake is in saying *three* instead of *nine*."

The mistakes commonly made fall into classes and the origin is usually easily traced. For instance, the mispronunciation of *bird* and like works, a shibboleth for the Japanese, is evidently due to trying to conform an unknown sound to

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a known one. Thus *bird* will be represented by ﾊ — ﾄﾞ, or in some such way. To enable the student to correct these mistakes various practical exercises are given. The book is not a compilation of theoretical matter but is designed for practical use and the exercises have been gone over and over by the writer in the class room.

Until teachers in the primary schools are either forbidden to teach any pronunciation, or are enabled to teach correct pronunciation, the teachers in higher schools must wage a continual war against errors in pronunciation. In this book they have a weapon forged and tried.

It is perhaps too much to hope that the Educational Department would forbid the use of *kana* to represent English sounds but we can but wish for such a decree. And if censorship is to be exercised on the press, and the publication of that which is hurtful to public morals prohibited, why should not some censorship be exercised over these false "Guide Posts of English Language?

Another book by Mr. Bradbury is The New Analytical Letter Writer. That an authoratative work of this kind, and one adapted to the needs of the situation, is called for is shown by the host of such works, as one entitled "The Pocketbook New English Japanese Modern Complete Letter Writer," containing, among other things, such useful letters as those from "A Lady to her Lover whom she suspects of inconstancy" and from "A Sailor to his Sweetheart." The language may not be parliamentary, nor the proverb applicable, but in reading such books one is irresistibly reminded of the words of the wise man: "Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar yet will not his foolishness depart from him"

This much by way of contrast. The book under review contains nearly everything that the writer of a letter is likely to search for in the way of information. It may be useful not only to Japanese students but also to democratic Americans not used to titles. But the book is designed especially for Japanese. In witness thereof there is an amusing, list of "Don'ts," among which we find, "Don't write 'Please do not be anxious about me,' to a person who has not expressed any anxiety about you." The writer seems to be given to pointing truth with sarcasm.

Not only the needs of Japanese students but also the demands of the Japanese editor of the book seem to have been considered. Foreigners who prepare a book for a Japanese editor, or bookseller, seldom have a free hand. The title in its length seems akin to the titles quoted above and is more Japanese than English. Moreover the writer's sense of fitness would not have allowed him to include very minute directions for the ways of writing to one's father, mother, and other close relations. Though the demands of the editor may have caused the insertion of some matters that are of no use—and which are for that reason hindrances to the student—the painstaking care of the writer is shown in the correctness of all that is given in a book of 240 pages. It can be recommended to all students who ever have to write an English letter. The more such a book is studied the less often will foreigners in Japan be startled by letters beginning, *My dear:* and ending *Your lovely, I, Gushi.* The greeting is good as far as it goes but it does not go far enough; and though the closing information may be true it is not customary to give it.

For students of English in India, MacMillan & Co. publish an excellent series of text books. In Japan there are series enough and compilations more than enough, but there are few books that are reliable and useful. "English Letters and Their Sounds" seems to have been copyrighted by the writer under the new arrangement allowing a foreigner to obtain a copyright. The time may come when a series of books will be issued under the imprimatur of a reliable firm protecting the student alike from false teaching and useless compilations.

F M.

A subway system is proposed for Chicago to relieve congested conditions. The proposed width is 35 feet, divided into three spaces, two for street car tracks and the third for wires. The rails will be 17 feet below the surface of the street.

THE FOURTH OF JULY.

Independence day was celebrated with great ardour by the American community in Yokohama. The whole of the former Settlement was profusely decorated with flags, and in every direction were evidences of the enthusiasm with which Americans enter into the observance of their national fête. From 9.30 to noon Mr. J. McLean, U. S. Acting Consul-General, held a reception at the Consulate, where light refreshments were served to all comers. Among the official visitors were Mr. R. G. E. Forster, Mr. Hobart Hampden, and Mr. E. Hamilton Holmes, of H. B. M. Consulate; Mr. C. D. Moss, Clerk of Her Majesty's Court for Japan; Mr. F. Steenackers, French Consul; Dr. Ohrt, of the German Consulate; Mr. Wassellieff, Russian Vice-Consul; the Chevalier de Waepenaert Belgian Consul; Mr. Jelitschka, Consul of Austria-Hungary; Mr. Izquierdo, Chihan Consul-General; Mr. V. C. Cobianchi, Italian Chargé d'Affaires; the Chinese Consul-General; Governor Kohei Sufu; Mr. Watanabe Nobu, Judge of the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho; Mr. K. Mita, Judge of the Ku Saibansho; Mr. Rinoiye, Secretary to the Kanagawa Kencho; Mr. Umeda, Mayor of Yokohama; Mr. Hayashi, Superinteudent of the Yokohama Quarantine Station; Mr. Kuwada, Inspector in Chief of Education for Kanagawa Ken; the Director of the Imperial Customs; Mr. Kosaka, Chief Procurator; Mr. D. Aoki, Director of Posts and Telegraphs, &c.

In the evening a capital display of fireworks was given in the harbour off the Grand Hotel, the verandah of which, as well as those of the Oriental Hotel and the Boathouse, was crowded with foreign spectators, while the Bund was packed with Japanese, for whom "the fourth" is quite as much a red letter day as for the American community. The Grand Hotel premises were tastefully adorned with the usual lanterns and *hanakago*, or flower-umbrellas.

THE BASEBALL MATCH.

The Cricket-ground was thronged long before the game commenced with an eager crowd of all nationalities, and the ladies' tent was filled to over-flowing. The afternoon, though overcast, was fine and the breeze kept constant throughout, thus preventing the air from becoming muggy and oppressive as it too often is at this time of the year. During the afternoon Mr. Vaughan entered the field on his elevated "high flyer" bicycle—the seat is just eleven feet from the ground—and naturally attracted much attention.

Yokohama went to bat first and lost Ellis immediately on a fly. Then Hellyer was missed and managed to work round to 3rd base before Blake had left the plate. Blake, with a nicely placed ball, brought Hellyer home—the first run of the match. After this runs came freely, the Japanese fielding being loose and wild. The whole side, indeed, went to the bat for the loss of one man. Then Putnam was put out and shortly after Hellyer was forced off between 2nd and 3rd in attempting to make the base. Eight runs had been scored by this time. Such a lead was demoralizing for the home team, as the rest of the game proved, only four more runs being made by the side during the whole of the remaining innings.

The Japanese visitors nothing daunted by the big score of their opponents went steadily to work to equalize, and by the fifth innings they passed to the top and kept there. Their play was greatly superior to the home nine, once they settled down to work, throwing-in with the accuracy and judgment we have come to associate with Japanese baseball players. As for the Yokohama men, the lack of practise together was sadly evident and their opponents scored in consequence, particularly when all bases were occupied and a chance of double-play presented: then Yokohama lost their heads and went to pieces, while the Japanese ran home merrily and scored. Yokohama put up a good many flies during the afternoon few of which were refused, Moraki in centre field particularly distinguishing himself in this line. This same player hit one ball to the fence and brought home two men, but as a rule the Japanese players did not indulge in hard hitting. Putnam, the Yokohama pitcher, was relieved by Blake at the seventh innings, but the change did not affect the game, which concluded at 4.54 p.m., as follows.—

Yokohama...8—1—0—0—0—2—1—0—0 12
Tokyo.. .....2—0—4—0—5—1—1—0—† 13

The players were.—Yokohama—Ellis, c.; Hellyer, c.f.; Blake, 2 b.; McChesney, 1 b.; Swan, s.s., Onderdonk, 3 b.; Putnam, p.; Read, l.f.; Merriman, r.f. Tokyo—Ihara, s.s.; Fujino, c.; Moraki, c.f.; Aoi, p.; Inoue, 2 b.; Fujino r.f.; Kamimura, 3 b.

Mr Wylie was Umpire and, except in one instance, his decisions were accepted without challenge by the visitors.

SAILING RACES.

The Yokohama Yacht Club had a good programme of races in the afternoon. There was a light breeze and a calm sea. Five got away in the 39 rater class, the times being as follows:—

	Rating.	Start.	Tsurumi.	Lightship.
Haidee	39	1.0.16	1.21.40½	Stood on (4th)
Kingfisher	39	1.0.28	1.24.00	1.53.11
Mary	37½	1.0.13	1.21 04½	1.51.30
Maid Marion	36½	1.0.21	1.21.50½	Stood on (2nd)
Spray	34	1.0.23	1.22.30	1.56.35

	Finish.	Allowance Club time.	Corrected Club time.
Haidee	6.33.06	—	6.33.06
Kingfisher	6.21.48	—	6.21.48
Mary	6.10.35½	3.57	6.06.28½
Maid Marion	did not finish	6.45	—
Spray	gave up	14.18	—

	Allowance arbitrary.	Corrected arbitrary.
Haidee	12.00	6.21.06
Kingfisher	12.00	6.09.48
Mary	Scratch	6.10.25
Maid Marion	7.30	—
Spray	19.00	—

First prize, American Minister's Cup, and 2 record points, *Mary*; 2nd given by Mr. Louis Eppinger, and 1 record point, *Kingfisher*.

The 21-rater race attracted six entries. The result was as follows:—

	Rating.	Tsurumi.	Lightship.	Harbour Entrance.
Kodesu	20½	3.38.24½	4.24,18	—
Yugao	20½	3.39.00	4.21.45	4.38.00
Vixen	19½	3.39.10	4.21.10	4.36.55½
Sodesuka	19½	not taken(6th)	4.24.35	—
Nandesuka	19½	not taken(5th)	4.28.00	—
Abunai	19½	3.38.53	4.23.20	4.39.49

	Finish	Allowance club time.	Corrected club time.	Allowance abitrary.	Corrected abitrary.
Kodesu	4.56.51	—	4.56.51	4.00	4.52.51
Yugao	4.51.51	.58	4.50.59	6.45	4.45.12
Vixen	4.50.40	2.01	4.48.39	Scratch	4.50.40
Sodesuka	4.54.34	2.01	4.52.33	5.30	4.49.04
Nandesuka	5.00.44	2.01	4.58.43	5.00	4.55.44
Abunai	4.55.24	2.01	4.53.23	4.15	4.51.09

First prize, given by Mr. J. McLean, U. S. Vice-Consul and 2 record points, *Vixen*; 2nd, given by American residents, *Yugao*.

The 17 raters brought out six starters. Times:—

	Rating.	Southern Breakwater.	Mandarin Bluff.
		h.m.s.	h.m.s.
Wettinge	17	4.21.17	4.36.15
Daisy May	17	4.20.19	4.35 27¼
Eclair	17	4.18.52	4.34 22
Devonia	16½	4.21.25	4.37.23
Shamrock	16½	4.30.32	not timed
Bonito	16	4.24 51	4.41.30

Finish.	Allow'ce Club Time.	Cor'ted Club Time.	Allow'ce Arbitrary.	Corrected Arbitrary.
h.m.s.	m.s.	h.m.s.	m.s.	h.m.s.
5.07.02	—	5.07.02	Scratch	5.07.02
5.07 55	—	5.07 55	0.55	5.07.00
5.06.30	—	5.06.30	1.05	5.05.25
5.10.50	1.24	5.09.26	4.45	5.06.05
—	1.24	—	7.30	—
5.15.00	2.48	5.12.12	4.15	5.10.45

First prize, given by American residents, and 2 records points, *Eclair*, 2nd, given by the Club *Devonia*; *Wettinge*, 1 record point.

THE LOSS OF THE "TOKYO MARU."

The inquiry into the circumstances attending the wreck of the S.S. *Tokyo Maru* took place on Friday at the Marine Bureau, under the presidency of Mr. Yamabe Yusuke, assisted by Messrs. Koichiro Yabe and Tokutaro Kodama (Marine Assessors). Captain Jones said the ship struck at 12.10 p.m., Witness called all hands and ordered the boats to be got away. The steamer was cut clean in two about the location of No. 2 compartment. All the passengers—1st, 2nd and 3rd class—were provided with life belts. Witness told them to keep cool. There was no immediate danger. The Chinese and Japanese rushed and lowered a boat. The Chinese cooks and the Chinese passengers mixed together. No means could be taken to save the steamer; she was a total wreck. Two passengers were drowned, one died after being picked up from the water (2 Japanese and 2 Chinese) and 2 Chinese were mis-

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sing. They were drowned by the boat capsizing, after being lowered. The ropes were seen hanging all equally, so that nó boat capsized through any fault in lowering. The corpses were washed ashore next morning, likewise the boat.

The chief officer also gave evidence, and the Court was adjourned.

The inquiry was resumed on Saturday. The captain and first officer were further examined, but no facts of particular interest were elicited, and the inquiry was adjourned till July 3rd for further evidence.

CORRESPONDENCE.

JAPANESE SERVANTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me to offer a few words corroborative of the concluding paragraph in your recent review of a book entitled "Lutherans in Japan" by the Rev. R. B. Peery. You quote the reverend gentleman as follows: "He condemns the whole class (speaking of domestic servants) as "impudent and impertinent." "The servants as a body are dishonest, and I have confidence in none of them." Your commentary on the above sweeping libel (for it is nothing less) I can fully endorse after an experience of eleven years' housekeeping in Japan. During that time, my experience has been the very antithesis of Mr. Peery's, for I have only met with one who was ever "impudent and impertinent," and he, being a sample of young Japan, and only 20 years of age, was no more so than probably would have been the case had he been a young Englishman or American imbued with the independent spirit of the present age.

I have always placed the fullest confidence in my servants—have never turned lock or key on them. They have been aware that cash, to the extent of several hundreds of *yen*, and jewelry, has been always within their reach, but never during the eleven years, have I lost a cent of money, and only on one occasion an article of jewelry, which I had carelessly left out when I vacated my house for the country, and it was in temporary occupation of a friend who brought his own servants, who may or may not have taken it, but if so, I considered I had only myself to blame for my carelessness.

My servants have always paid all my household bills with scrupulous exactness, they have over and over again returned me money when I have accidentally overpaid them, and I have many times found small coins that had accidentally slipped from my purse or pocket, carefully replaced in a conspicuous part of a mantel-piece or dressing-table.

I am well aware that my servants consider it perfectly justifiable to exact a small percentage of a sen or two, from the tradespeople with whom they negociate my business (familiarly known as "squeezing") but considering our relative positions, they being *so poor*, and I comparatively so rich,—although I am not really a millionaire, or anything approaching to one—I consider these little transactions if carried out, as justifiable as they do and as only a very small commission levied for saving me a vast amount of loss of time and petty annoyance.

I have also observed that my servants have always studied my interests in every possible way, and, in numberless cases, have made suggestions that have saved me considerable expense in transactions with their own countrymen. Perhaps the Rev. Mr. Peery's experience has been gained amongst servants who were "professing Christians"—for I know several householders who say they would not have one of these in their houses, for they are as a rule liars and thieves; and not long since a lady of my acquaintance told me she took a "Christian" servant into her employ, and the first thing he did was to steal some jewelry, and that she would never have another.

Leave these people alone in their ways and beliefs; do not take them into your house without a satisfactory reference; place confidence in them, at the same time letting them see that you are no fool, and in nine cases out of ten you will be served as well, if not better, than by the same class in England, America, or the continent.

Such being the case, it is a great pity that such awfully misleading statements as those which you quote—which after all are only the individual experiences of one who evidently by his own showing does not know how to gain the respect and confidence of those who serve him, should be widely circulated and read, to the detriment of a very large and deserving portion of the people of Japan, while counter-statements such as yours and mine, will probably never reach the eyes of those who read the Rev. Mr. Perry's book.

In conclusion allow me to quote again the paragraph of his book quoted by you—"Doubtless there are people among the friends of the Lutheran Mission in Japan who think the work ought to grow much more rapidly than it does. It would seem that two missionaries and two native preachers working for seven years ought to have gathered more than seventy-five converts."

Yes, it would seem so, and it is always a puzzle to outsiders to read how the early missionaries, such as Xavier and many others, could count their converts by hundreds of thousands, while the missionaries of the present day can only show their results by tens.

Perhaps the reason may be found in the fact that the people who need converting are well aware that those who come to convert them are well paid for doing so, and despite the melancholy plaints that go forth now and again, as in the book under discussion, of the difficulties and drawbacks of a missionary's life in Japan, they manage to live pretty comfortably and keep the heathen to wait on them in the capacity of servants.

Suppose, as an experiment, that all missionaries now in Japan were to agree, say for the term of one decade only, to live as did Christian Missionary Ferdinand de Capillas, who suffered martyrdom in 1648, and who by his dying words, testified as follows:—"I have had no home but the world—no bed but the ground—no food but what Providence sent me from day to day—and no other object than to do and suffer for the glory of Jesus Christ and for the eternal happiness of those who believe in His Name." Then onlookers would be able to judge whether the work of conversion still progressed by units and tens, as at present, or by thousands and hundreds of thousands as it did in the time of such missionaries as Xavier, Capillas, and many other noble men of the same stamp, who literally, not metaphorically, gave up all for the work to which their lives were dedicated.

I am, yours etc.,

A HOUSE-HOLDER OF ELEVEN YEARS IN JAPAN.

June 30th, 1900.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mrs. McKelvey (*née* Bell) has again applied to the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho for a divorce, the period of desertion required as a ground of divorce by the Pennsylvania law (two years) now being more than complete. The case was opened on Saturday morning before Judge Fujise.

On Thursday, in the Chiho Saibansho, a case in which Mr. Kildoyle, of Nakamura, claimed from Messrs. H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf., the payment of a sum 20,490.545 *yen*, the cost of the Phœnix Saw Mill formerly belonging to Mr. Kildoyle, but sold later to C. E. Leopold, came up for hearing. The parties were represented by Mr. Masujima and Mr. Akiyama respectively. The hearing was adjourned till 22nd September.

The U.S.S. *Oregon*, which has grounded on the Miaco group near Chefoo, was built in San Francisco in 1893 and cost £636,000. Her displacement is 10,287; length 348 feet; beam 69 ft. 3 in.; draught 27 ft. 1 in.; i.h.p. 11,110. Her armour belt is 18 inches thick, gun positions 6 to 17 and deck plating 3 inches. Her armament consists of 4 13-in., 8 8-in., 4 6-in., 20 6-pr. q.f., 6 1-pr. and 4 Maxims. She is fitted with seven torpedo tubes, her speed being 16.7 knots, and her complement 473 men.

The 21 and 17-raters of the Y. Y. C. had an outing on Saturday afternoon, the first prize in both instances being presented by the Scotch Residents. The course was round a mark-boat off Mandarin Bluff, another boat off the Southern Breakwater, and back. In the 21-raters class, *Vixen*, *Kodesu*, *Nandeska*, *Abunai*, *Yugao*, and *Sodeska* started. *Vixen* drew away to the front from the first and won easily, with *Kodesu* second and *Nandeska* third. The 17 raters which started were *Wettinge*, *Devonia*, *Bonito*, *Eclaire*, and *Shamrock*. After a good race between *Wettinge*, *Daisy May* and *Eclaire*, *Wettinge* won the first prize and two record points; *Daisy May* 2nd with 1 record point.

Shortly after 11 o'clock on Monday night an alarm of fire was given, the outbreak being at No. 187, Settlement—a row of recently erected small shops, occupied by Japanese, Chinese, and Cingalese store-keepers. By the time the bell rang the flames had risen to a great height, and despite the prompt arrival of the firemen it was manifestly impossible to save the building. The efforts of the Brigade were therefore directed towards preventing the fire from spreading, of which there was great danger, as the neighbourhood, especially towards the rear, is very closely built. Finally the fire was confined to the block in which it originated, which, however, was completely gutted. The damage must have amounted to a fairly large sum.

On the 23rd June the following ships were lying outside Taku bar:—Russian: *Sissoi Veliky*, *Dmitry Donskoi*, *Rossia*, *Sivooch*, *Koreetz*, *Petropavlovsky*, *Navarin*, *Admiral Kornuloff*, one torpedo tender, and two torpedo boat destroyers. British: *Algerine*, *Centurion*, *Orlando*, *Endymion*, *Aurora*, *Barfleur*, *Alacrity*, and *Terrible*. French: *Surprise*, *Jean Bart*, *Descartes*, *D'Entrecasteaux*, and *Léon*. German: *Iltis*, *Kaiserin Augusta*, *Gefion*, *Hansa*, and *Hertha*. American: *Newark*. Italian: *Calabria* and *Elba*. Austrian: *Zenta*. Japanese: *Akagi*, *Tokiwa*, *Kasagi*, *Suma*, *Takasago*, *Yoshino*, and a torpedo boat destroyer. The fleet has since been greatly augmented from Japan, Hongkong, and Manila.

In the Tokyo Chiho Saibansho on Friday afternoon, before Judge Fujinami, a libel suit instituted by M. A. Francois, No. 14, Bund, Yokohama, against the editor, publisher, and printer of the *Niroku Shimpo*, came on for hearing. Date Kitaro, editor and publisher of the *Niroku Shimpo*, deposed that he was the writer of a paragraph published in that journal on the 29th April, under the heading of "A Row at the Central Hotel." The matter had been investigated by the reporters and he had simply arranged it in the form suitable for insertion in the paper. Defendants' counsel asked the Court to examine Mr. Dugasta, who witnessed the quarrel between the plaintiff and the plaintiff's wife; also Seki Ibei and Dr. Munro, who had examined the injuries of the plaintiff's wife. The request was refused by the Court, which afterwards adjourned.

A dinner was given on Wednesday evening at the United States Legation, Tokyo, by Col. Buck, United States Minister, in honour of Mr Takahira, late Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, and newly appointed Minister to Washington. The guests present included the Premier, Marquis Yamagata, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Viscount Aoki, Marquis Ito, the Governor of Tokyo, ex-Governor Asada, Count Hirosawa, Mr. Akabone, Mr. Mitsuhashi, Mr. Kato, late Minister to London, Mr. Whitehead, the British Chargé d'Affaires, the Belgian Minister, Baron D'Anethan, the Mexican Minister, President Jordan of Stanford University, Mr. J. McLean, U. S. Acting Consul General, Mr. G. H. Scidmore, U. S. Pro-Consul, Consul-General Wildman of Hongkong, Lieut. Hobson, Brigadier-General Smith, Lieut. Viddle, Mr. N. W. McIvor, Dr. Eldridge, Lieut. Key, U. S. Naval Attaché, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Julian Ralph, the American war correspondent, contributes an interesting analysis of British valour to the *Daily Mail*. He admits its terrible costliness, but in view of its proved efficiency as a substitute for defective strategy and its capacity of discounting enormous odds and transforming failure into success, he concludes that he would not go into a war without it, and to confirm his view quotes the testimony of a foreign Military Attaché:—"I always thought the Turk was the finest solder in the world, but—leaving out your cavalry, which have not done so well—I shall always say that there is no other army to compare with the British. For courage, dash, staying power, discipline, and all that makes for success with an army, there is no other like it." Mr. Ralph's description of the Boer as a hunter rather than a warrior is no doubt true in the main, but he hardly does justice to them in denying them courage. The attempt to storm the British positions at Ladysmith on January 6th was conceived and carried out with the greatest audacity and persistence.

It was supposed, says the *Jiji*, that the Chinese troubles would have the effect of enhancing the price of coal, but this idea has proved fallacious.

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In Osaka the price has fallen by 2 *yen*, and the stock in Ajikawa at present is no less than 20 million catties. Moji and Wakamatsu are reported to be least over-supplied and prices there are higher. England does not allow her warships to consume coal other than that produced in her own territories. Russia has bought 100,000 tons of coal at Moji during each of the past two years, but, having stored it partly in Vladivostock and partly in Port Arthur, is not in need of a further supply. Moreover, the spinning industry in the interior has fallen into a state of disorganisation and consequently needs less fuel. Under these circumstances coal is steadily depreciating. Quotations at present are 39 *yen* for best lump coal, 27 for ordinary, 25 for dust, and 14 for inferior coal.

According to a report of the Finance Department, published in the *Official Gazette*, the amount of currency in circulation at the end of May was as follows:—

Coins.	Amount in yen.	Increase or decrease in comparison with the corresponding period of last year. yen.
New gold	7,369,751	3,957,395*
Old gold	9,537,458	479,411*
Total	19,907,211	4,426,806*
Subsidiary silver	51,162,652	111,148*
Subsidiary copper	17,564,915	129,131
Total in coins	85,634,779	4,418,821*
Government paper	—	4,957,069*
Bank paper	—	1,448,539*
Convertible banknotes	196,622,248	22,339,353
Total in paper	196,622,248	15,933,744
Total of specie and paper	282,257,027	11,514,922

(* represents decrease).

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, on Tuesday, Judge Fujise had before him the case of Ro-Chong, No. 6, Yamashitacho, *v.* Chong So-pang, No. 173. The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Fujiwara and the defendant by Mr. Akiyama. Plaintiff said on February 6th defendant asked him to find somebody to advance a loan of 25,000 *yen* on the security of the buildings at Nos. 145 and 146. Through the medium of the plaintiff the defendant borrowed 25,000 *yen* from Mr. J. R. Morse. Later on the defendant obtained another loan to the amount of 10,000 *yen* from Mr. Morse, through the instrumentality of the plaintiff. The latter also notified the defendant of certain successful arrangements he had made on his behalf for a loan of 5,000 *yen* each from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and Singleton, Benda & Co. The defendant, however, did not borrow from them. The plaintiff claimed from the defendant one per cent. commission on 35,000 *yen* and 138 *yen* for the other 10,000 *yen* which was not borrowed by the defendant, the calculation being based on the fact that he spent 69 days in the matter, for which he charged at the rate of 2 *yen* per diem. The defendant denied the agency of the plaintiff, and said that the transactions were arranged through the efforts of another party. The Court adjourned till Sept. 25th.

The marble produced in Matsumae is quarried at Inakura-yama, Yeramachi-mura, Matsumae-gun, Hokkaido, and has already gained a good reputation not only in Tokyo but in various other places, owing to its excellent quality and to the large size of the blocks produced. Inakura-yama is situated among the mountains, and is about one *ri* distant from Yeramachi. According to a survey report made by a famous expert engineer, the quarry is inexhaustible, and will last for thousands of years, however vigorously it may be worked. Several thousand of large natural boulders of marble are visible at present, the largest amongst these being from 42 to 48 square feet in size and the smallest to less than 6 square feet. There are more than 100 varieties of colour, and subjected to intense heat they lose none of their characteristics, only becoming harder. On this account the marble has been selected as the material for the building of the new palace of H.I.H. the Crown Prince at Akasaka, Tokyo. It is also to be used for the monument to be erected at Mukojima in Commemoration of the Promulgation of the Constitution. More than one half of this erection is to consist of Matsumae marble. The number of orders from other places is increasing daily and the future working is said to offer the brightest prospects. Well-known Tokyo sculptors have made carvings in this stone and propose sending them to the Capital and abroad. Two carvings in this marble presented to H.I.H. the Crown Prince are exquisitely beautiful. The office of the Matsumae marble quarries is at No. 23, Kotobuki-cho, Hokkaido, manager, Mr. Nagasawa Mankichi.

A decision has been given in the local Saibansho, says the *Nagasaki Press*, that would furnish unlimited material for a good story of Oriental life. Liu was a poor Chinese, who left China many years ago to seek fortune in Japan. After a short residence in Nagasaki, he, by wise management and thrift, acquired a business of his own. As time went on he continued to prosper, and the influence that he wielded in the Chinese quarter was recognized as greater than that of any of his countrymen. The above is a brief outline of Lin's accession to wealth. The rest of the story has been told in the Saibansho, and is as follows: Shortly after arriving in Japan, Liu cohabited with a Japanese woman, who had had a child by a former master, also a Chinese. Lin took a great fancy to the boy, and when his own child proved to be a girl, the latter was given in adoption to a family, friends of his mistress. Later on Lin took a Chinese mistress, and all lived peacefully under the same roof until his death, which occurred a few months ago. After his death the Chinese claimed to be his lawful wife and applied to the Chinese Consulate for the entire estate to be handed over to her. The Japanese mistress then brought a suit in the Saibansho, and on the 26th ult. the case was decided. It was proved to the satisfaction of the Court that neither of the women could be legally recognized as the wife of the deceased, and as the Chinese woman had borne no children, it was ruled that the entire estate should go to the first child of the Japanese woman—the boy, who though not legally adopted, the Court considered should, under the circumstances, receive the same recognition.

CHINA NOTES.

The German community at Hongkong has received permission from Emperor William to offer its services to the Colonial Government for the defence of the Colony.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* has issued the following:—Two Missionaries of the Jesuit Mission, Patres Isoré and Audlauer, have been murdered in the town of Hsienhsien (Province of Chihli), S.E. Paotingfu.

When the *Pochi* left Taku ten days ago, the Russians and Germans were burning the dead Chinese, and the fire made a great blaze, being remarkable for the absence of smoke and the clearness and fierceness of the flames.

Owing to the numbers of Christian Chinese refugees flocking into British territory from all parts, the Hongkong Government has placed the vacant buildings within the walled city of Kowloon at the disposal of the London Mission for their accommodation. The exodus of Chinese from Shanghai is said to be remarkable, all the southward bound steamers being crowded.

A writer in the *North China Daily News* says:—The tents put up in the streets of Peking by Boxers are for the worship of their ancestral teacher. They will not say who this is. They prefer to say they worship Kuan Fu-tze, the god of war of the Manchus, and his associates Chan Fei and Chao Yun. This worship is one of the bonds by which their Society is held together. These tents have, in the edict of June 15th, been ordered to be destroyed.

The Shanghai papers just to hand contain voluminous reports dealing with the crises in the North of China, and hosts of telegrams from Chefoo, and elsewhere, the gist of which have already reached Japan by wire. But naturally there are many items which have not been transmitted. We learn from the *North China Daily News* that pending the arrival of General Gaselee, the British War Office has appointed Colonel Dorward to be Brigadier in command of the military force at Taku. Wei-hai-wei will probably be the military base, and Commander Gaunt resumes command there, Major C. D. Bruce commanding the military. A defence scheme has been arranged there.

The London *Daily Mail* from its Absent-Minded Beggar Fund, has remitted by wire the sum of £200 to be used in the purchase of comforts for the sick and wounded, which are to be sent to the chartered hospital ship, *Shengking*, at Taku, and the *Daily Mail* wishes to know by wire what further hospital relief is required. Three doctors with a large quantity of hospital stores are now on their way up from Hongkong to the North.

The five following steamers belonging to the China Merchants' S. N. Co. have been transferred to the American flag, the prices being noted against the names:—

	Taels.
Taishun	240,000
Kwangchi	40,000
Chiyuen	70,000
Tienan	90,000
Pochi	50,000

Of the other sea-going steamers, 15 are to be transferred to the English, and 3 to the German flag. As to the river steamers, nothing has yet been decided.

As an individual instance of some of the Imperial officials showing friendliness toward foreigners, it is said, remarks a correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury*, that Governor Yuan of Shantung is obviously endeavouring to preserve relations with the foreign Powers. He is providing escort for the missionaries in the interior. In a personal despatch to the Consuls he gave assurances of the continuance of his efforts for the protection of foreigners. He emphasies the disturbed condition of the country to the North of Chinanfu, and says that couriers sent there to report have not returned. Attempts which he has made to open communication with Peking have also failed. The inland authorities are doubtful, and he cannot say whether they will withstand the orders and influence of the Empress-Dowager.

The commander of H.M.S. *Orlando* reports that in the attack on Tientsin on the 22nd, Private Robinson, of the *Orlando*, was killed, and stoker Bowden wounded; two marines of the *Barfleur* were wounded. The marines under Major Luke, with the foreign detachment, captured and destroyed the Military College at Tientsin. Among the American forces, Capt. Beatty and Lieut. Wright were wounded that day. Three attempts were made by the Allies to reach Tientsin before they were successful, and in these attacks the Russians lost heavily. One correspondent alleged that the repulses were due to the lack of combination between the various forces. The Russians seemed to have had the hardest task. The British and Americans were the first to enter the beleaguered city.

When news of the destruction of the American Mission at Weihsien reached Shanghai, our contemporary said there was reason to doubt whether the attack was the work of the Boxers. Some six miles from Weihsien there is a colony of some twenty Germans, well armed, engaged in coal mining at a place called Maosa, and it is quite possible that the country people attacked both these stations. Some 36 miles from Weihsien is the important missionary station of Chingchoufu, and if that should be threatened it will be very awkward for the foreigners there, as the way of escape to Chefoo lies through Weihsien. It is possible that the missionaries at Chingchoufu and Weihsien have escaped to Yangchiakou, whither the U.S. Consul at Chefoo had sent a steamer a week ago to bring away the American and British missionaries and other foreigners from Western Shantung and Honan.

Our contemporary has obtained from the officers of I.C.S. *Lienshing* the following notes on the battle of Taku, which incidentally corroborate the report of Herr Schmellitschek in the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*:—After the bombardment, which lasted from 0.45 a.m. to 8 a.m., the dead were found lying in heaps in some of the forts, and one place entered by the British contained only a headless body. The Russians and Japanese took no prisoners, bayonetting all the Chinese they found in the forts. The English commander was helped into the fort by the Japanese captain, and the latter was shot dead soon after while hoisting his flag. The fire from the fleet was terrific, H.M.S. *Algerine* alone sending in 580 shots. It was when the firing ceased that the Japanese sailors joined the British and rushed the forts. At 5.30 a.m. a magazine was blown open and a shot from the *Algerine* blew up the large magazine in the main fort. This added to the havoc wrought by shot and shell and the scene inside was awful, some of the pools of blood being a foot thick. It is estimated that the Chinese cannot have lost less than 2,000.

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The *N.-C. Daily News* has been furnished with a translation of a notice which was posted on the walls of the Protestant Church at Kading. It reads as follows:—

"Special Edict issued by the God of Happiness and Prosperity:

"The fifth day of this moon (the 1st July) has been chosen for the suppression of the Christian religion, the burning of all church property, and the massacre of all the missionaries and converted Chinese. We know that there are many pawn-shops attached to these establishments, as well as that a quantity of vestments and jewels are kept there—we will take them for the payment of our soldiers. Afterwards we will sweep away all the public halls. We must do away with all that is not for the good of the people. We have suffered so much, that now is the time to avenge ourselves. We shall not ask the assistance of the literati or the gentry. We have a hundred and some thousands of divinely ordained soldiers. The orders of our God are to stop at nothing in the suppression of all that is disadvantageous to the people, and to leave nothing undone which might help them towards prosperity and well-being."

AMERICAN NOTES.

The current issue of the *Northwestern Miller* says that an attempt is being made to organize the flour mills in Oregon and Washington into a trust.

At a meeting of the Royal Cork Yacht Club, held at Queenstown on June 7th, Sir Thomas Lipton was elected a member. He expressed his intention of challenging for the American Cup under the auspices of the club.

In the State of New York the average person, including women and children, spends $2.27 for postage per annum; Massachusetts, $2.30; District of Columbia, $2.16; Colorado, $1.93; Connecticut, $1.80; South Carolina, per capita, 25 cents; Mississippi, 34 cents; Arkansas, 37 cents; Alabama, 35 cents; North Carolina, 11 cents.

The Naval Appropriation Bill just passed for the ensuing fiscal year is the largest in the history of the American navy during a time of peace. It exceeds that of last year by $12,740,347.19, and at this rate of progress is likely to reach the one hundred million dollar mark in less than five years and to exceed that of Great Britain in ten years.

One of the latest fads in New York is the substitution of old-fashioned knockers for door bells. The older and more battered the knocker the higher the price it commands; and enterprising dealers are already manufacturing antiquities of this kind out of iron and brass. A battered brass knocker can be made in a few hours, but it takes longer to turn out rusty iron specimens.

The Rev. Dr. Henry Moeller, secretary and chancellor of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Ohio, has been appointed Bishop of Columbus, Ohio. Rev. Dr. Henry Moeller was born in Cincinnati in 1849, and was one of the first students in the American college at Rome. He was formerly pastor at Bellefontaine, Ohio, and professor at St. Mary's Seminary. In 1879 he was secretary to Bishop Chatard.

In 1899 the people of the United States consumed alcoholic drinks to the value of $973,589,080, and $173,308,742 worth of non-alcoholic stimulants. The latter item includes $134,695,145 worth of coffee, $33,613,588, worth of tea, and $5,000,000 worth of cocoa. The whole represents a yearly per capita expenditure for beverages of $15.09, assuming that the population of the United States last year was a little over 76,000,000.

At the last Episcopal convention in Massachusetts a system of pensions for clergymen was established with but one dissenting voice. Five hundred dollars annually is the allotted sum. Only clergymen who have been in the diocese for twenty-five years and have reached the age of sixty-five are eligible. This meets the objection that men from other dioceses might direct their energies to getting a Massachusetts parish just before they reached the age limit.

The immigration returns for the State of California during May are interesting reading. According to the Bureau of Immigration there were 1068 arrivals of alien immigrants during the month. Of these 380 were tourists and 688 will remain in California. The nationalities represented were: Japanese, 437; English, 88; Korean, 19; Mexican, 24; Portuguese, 28; Scandinavians, 11, and Spanish-Americans, 11. The preponderance of Japanese was naturally seized upon by the local papers and turned into an electioneering cry.

Important work for the benefit of commerce in the Pacific is to be performed by the American navy now that Congress has authorized the appropriation of $100,000 for ocean and lake surveys. Rear-Admiral Bradford, chief of the Bureau of Equipment, has approved a recommendation by Commander Todd for an elaborate charting of a triangle formed by the Hawaiian Islands, the southernmost point of the Philippines and the islands of Japan. It is also proposed to establish a path between Honolulu and the Philippines to be followed by American warships, so that if any become disabled others following may pick them up.

Yale University has just received a valuable addition to its library in the gift of a bound volume of "Mercurius Politicus" 1658-59, printed in London. The volume has been missing from the set which is in possession of Yale University for 100 years, and was discovered by accident. Mr. Perry, of Newhaven, the donor, came across the old volume in the possession of a farmer. After repeated efforts to secure it the price was agreed upon and the volume bought. The book contains weekly issues of *Mercurius Politicus* from March 25th, 1658, to April 1st, 1659. The volume contains a number of important political documents and letters which are not in any other collection. The British Museum has long sought to secure a set.

The appropriations made by the first session of the Fifty-sixth Congress amount to $709,729,476. This sum includes $131,247,155, estimated to be on account of, or incident to, the late war with Spain, and deducting it, the remaining amount, $578,482,321, represents the ordinary appropriations made for the support of the Government during the session. It will be observed that, after deducting the amounts estimated to have been appropriated on account of, or incident to, the war with Spain for the ensuing, the current, and the last fiscal years (which cover the period since the beginning of the Spanish war), the appropriations for the five fiscal years—including the two immediately preceding the war—are as follows: 1897, $515,845,194; 1898, $528,735,079; 1899, $532,371,688; 1900, $554,278,866; 1901, $578,482,321.

Authority has been given by Congress to construct two battle-ships of 13,5000 tons each, three armoured cruisers of 13,000 tons each, three protected cruisers each of 8,000 tons, and five Holland submarine torpedo boats. The aggregate cost of these thirteen vessels is $29,150,000 exclusive of armour and guns, and $13,540,699 is made available toward construction of hulls and machinery. A further sum of $4,000,000 is allowed for armour and guns, discretionary power being given to the Secretary of the Navy to purchase armour for the vessels already under construction at $545 per ton and to contract for the new vessels' armour at $445. In the event of his failure to make satisfactory armour contracts the Secretary is authorized to purchase the site for a government armour plate factory and to erect the requisite plant at a cost not to exceed $4,000,000, of which $2,000,000 is made available. Provision is made for extensive improvement at the several navy yards; the floating dock at Havana is to be purchased for $275,000, and with that at Algiers and four others in course of construction, will go far toward making the docking facilities of the navy correspond with the requirements of the ships. There are strong indications that the naval station and drydock at Port Royal will be abandoned, and the Secretary of the Navy is authorized to select and recommend another suitable site in the State of South Carolina. A board of naval officers is likewise to determine the desirability of locating and building a drydock on the Columbia River, Oregon.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE TRANSVAAL.

Shanghai, June 29.

The Times' correspondent telegraphs from Laurenzo Marquez that it is reported that the Boers are entrenching in considerable force beyond Middleburg.

ASHANTI.

A letter from Hodgson in Kumassi, saying that he could hold out until the 20th June, only reached Major Wilkinson on the night of the 21st. Continuous firing was heard on that night.

THE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES.

A letter from Sir Robert Hart, dated the 19th inst., says that on that day the foreign Representatives were ordered to leave Peking at 24 hours' notice.

INDIAN TROOPS FOR CHINA.

The Indian troops under orders to China total about 17,000.

THE TRANSVAAL.

Shanghai June 30.

The *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent telegraphs from Pretoria under date of the 28th of June that since Sunday Generals French and Hamilton have been endeavouring to surround the enemy's position 15 miles eastward. There were three days' fighting, but on Tuesday night the enemy decamped eastward along the railway. The British casualties were under 150. It is hoped that Buller will intercept the retreat of the Boers.

THE FOREIGN LEGATIONS.

Shanghai, July 1.

Mr. Brodrick stated in the House of Commons that he believed the Legations were still in Peking.

MR. CONSUL FRANCOIS.

Mr. Consul François left Yunnan for Tonking on the 24th of June, the Viceroy facilitating his journey.

SHIPS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN SQUADRON.

In response to a request from the Admiralty, three vessels from the Australian squadron are proceeding to China.

THE TRANSVAAL.

Roberts telegraphs from Pretoria on the 29th that the Boers attacked a convoy going to Lindley. After a heavy rear-guard action the convoy reached Lindley, with a loss of 10 killed and 50 wounded. In two skirmishes elsewhere 5 were killed and 27 wounded. Methuen pursued the Boers for 12 miles in the direction of Lindley, and captured 8,000 sheep and 500 head of cattle.

OFFERS FROM THE COLONIES.

Shanghai, July 2.

New South Wales has offered a naval brigade and 2000 or 3000 troops for service in China.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The advance of Clery nine miles from Standerton constitutes a further step towards encircling Dewet. Steyn is indefatigably instigating activity among Olivier's and Dewet's forces.

PEKING.

The German Minister in Peking has been murdered.

NO LONDON NEWS.

Shanghai, July 3.

There is no news from London. The lines are congested.

THE MURDERED GERMAN MINISTER.

HIS BODY RECOVERED.

A Chefoo telegram received to-day says that the German soldiers in Peking have rescued the Minister's body and burnt the *Tsung-li Yamên*.

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, July 4.

The prolonged delay in dealing with Dewet is much criticized.

Col. Colville has been ordered home. The reason of his recall is unexplained.

Gen. Clements' flying column has left Senekal in the direction of Lindley. It was hotly engaged on the 29th ult. and fighting is now proceeding.

The Boers are massing towards Ficksburg.

Botha is showing signs of activity.

Five columns are now converging to break the enemy's resistance south of the Vaal.

THE NEW YORK FIRE.

It was reported from London on the 3rd

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inst. that the entire wharfage of the Norddeutscher Lloyd at Hoboken, New York, has been burned.

The damage was enormous, three liners having been destroyed and a fourth damaged. It is believed that 200 persons perished by drowning or burning.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

London, July 3.

The German Emperor has ordered a naval division to prepare to proceed to China.

London, July 4.

German transports with 2300 men on board have sailed for China. The Emperor witnessed their departure. There was a patriotic demonstration.

A later telegram says that a German Brigade of all arms is being formed of Volunteers from the army for service in China.

The Emperor, in addressing the marines before they sailed, said that the crime (the murder of the German Minister in Peking) was of horrifying barbarity, which demanded vengeance, and that he would not rest until the German and allied flags floated over Peking.

TROUBLE IN MOROCCO.

A fanatical mob in Fez has attacked and burned alive a Frenchman and an American citizen who accidentally jostled a religious chief. The French and American agents have forwarded representations to Morocco.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Hunter has crossed the Vaal River and is moving on Frankufort, which is the Boer supply depot. Macdonald's Brigade from Heilbron joins him.

INDIA.

The rainfall in India is causing anxiety.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France.)

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR.

Shanghai, June 28.

The column commanded by Admiral Seymour has returned to Tientsin. It counts 62 dead and 313 wounded.

TIENTSIN.

The injury done in the Tientsin Concessions has been much exaggerated. No one has been killed among the foreigners.

COLONIAL DEFENCE.

Saigon, June 29.

The Chamber of Deputies has adopted the project of law for the defence of the Colonies, which opens a credit of 170 millions of francs.

ADDITIONAL FRENCH FORCES FOR CHINA.

Two new mountain batteries have been formed at Toulon for service in China.

THE FRENCH IN YUNNAN-SEN.

The Viceroy of Yunnan has telegraphed to the Chinese Minister in Paris that the French residents of Yunnan-sen were conducted to the frontier on the 24th of June under good escort.

THE FOREIGN MINISTERS IN PEKING.

The Foreign Diplomats have quitted Peking with a Chinese escort, taking the route to Shan-hai-kwan.

OPERATIONS BEYOND TIENTSIN.

Ten thousand European troops are advancing from Tientsin on Peking. They have relieved the first detachment under Admiral Seymour, which had 63 killed and 200 wounded.

THE FOREIGN MINISTERS.

Saigon, July 1.

The Foreign Ministers are 12 miles from Tientsin.

THE FRENCH IN YUNNAN.

The French residents of Yunnan-sen were at Tonghai on the 27th of June The Viceroy has beheaded the insurgents who, on June 7th, prevented the French from quitting Yunnan-sen.

THE INCREASE OF THE FRENCH FLEET.

Saigon, July 2.

The Chamber of Deputies has adopted the project for the augmentation of the fleet.

FIRE IN NEW YORK.

A fire in New York has destroyed the docks of the German Lloyds Company, together with four Transatlantic German liners. The loss is reckoned at 20 millions of dollars. It is feared that some 300 persons have been killed or injured

RUMOURED ASSASSINATION OF THE GERMAN MINISTER.

The British Consul at Chefoo telegraphs that the German Minister in Peking was assassinated on the 18th of June by Chinese soldiers.

FRANCE AND BRAZIL.

Saigon, July 4.

France has granted to Brazil a reduction of 20 francs in the import duty on coffee.

PEKING NEWS.

A rumour is current in London that the allied troops have entered Peking, after beating the Chinese soldiers and the Boxers.

[Official Telegrams.]

Foreign Department.

DISTURBED CHINA.

Shanghai, June 27.

At a conference of Consuls held on the 27th instant it was resolved that the stipulations concluded on the same day between the Consuls and the Chinese officials should be interpreted in the following sense: So long as the Viceroys Li Hung-chang and Chung Chih-tung endeavour to preserve peace and order in their jurisdiction by means of their special representatives, the Consuls agree not to interfere.

The family of Liu Kun-yi, who were formerly represented as having left Nankin, are now known to be Liu's nephew and the latter's family.

Shanghai, June 28.

According to an Imperial Edict issued on the 17th instant and received here through Pao-tung, the Emperor has expressed deep regret for the cruel death of Chancellor Sugiyama of the Japanese Legation in China, and has directed the Authorities to arrest the murderers without delay, adding that should they fail to apprehend the criminals within the prescribed period, the responsible officials must be severely punished.

Two Chinese Commandants of Garrison in Shinho, having received instructions from the Government to proceed to the north with troops under their command, left the place on the afternoon of the 28th instant.

A telegram received by a Chinese officer from his subordinate in Pao-ting states that an imperial edict issued on the 25th instant embodied instructions to the authorities requiring them to protect the various Legations in Peking, as the situation of the latter was considered dangerous.

Chefoo, June 30.

Mr. Tei, Japanese Consul in Tientsin, reports that, on the 19th of June, the Foreign Representatives in Peking were instructed by the Chinese Government to leave the city within 24 hours. They declined to do so, however, on the ground that the journey presented too many perils.

The Foreign Consuls in Tientsin have held a meeting and passed an unanimous resolution to the effect that the Governments of the Treaty Powers should be asked to inform the Chinese Government that in the event of any one of the Foreign Representatives in Peking receiving any injury, the troops of the allied Powers would be instructed to destroy the imperial tombs in Peking.

Shanghai, June 30.

The Chinese newspaper at this port announces that Yung Lu has instructed the Governors of provinces to pay no attention to Imperial Edicts issued after the 20th June.

[The edicts in question are those of which a specimen is given above, namely edicts favouring the Boxers. —Ed. *J.M.*]

The *Yayeyama* and the *Takao* have reached Shanghai, to the great satisfaction of the residents there. But as the Chinese continue to leave the place at the rate of some 1,500 daily, the Foreign Consuls have issued a notice advising them to remain.

Sydney, June 30.

Three men-of-war capable of navigating the Yangtsze are to be sent from the Australian Squadron to China.

The Governments of New South Wales and Victoria have announced that, if Her Majesty's Government wishes, they are prepared to send troops to China.

Naval Department.

Chefoo, June 28.

On the 25th instant Lieutenant Shiraishi, accompanied by some non-commissioned officers and men, 6 in all, proceeded towards Tientsin for purposes of correspondence. In a message from the Tong-ku-station, the Lieutenant reports that the road to Tientsin is now open to traffic, but that some two days will be required for the repair of the railway, judging from the accounts given by the man in charge of the locomotive, who had returned from the "New River."

The above information was received in Chefoo on the afternoon of the 27th instant.

Chefoo, June 28, 3.01 p.m.

On the 27th instant two companies, consisting of 5 officers, 90 non-commissioned officers, and 136 marines, were despatched to Tientsin from the *Tokiwa* and *Takasago*, for the purpose of transporting provisions.

The steamer *Tosa Maru* arrived in Taku at 4.55 p.m. on the 25th instant.

Taku, June 26.

The allied forces entered Tientsin on June 25th.

(War-Office Telegram.)

Chefoo, June 30.

Major-General Fukushima reports from Taku, under date of June 28th, that the Japanese troops would advance from Taku to Tientsin on the 29th.

On the 23rd instant the allied forces entered Tientsin, and immediately despatched a force northward to succour Admiral Seymour's column.

The Tientsin arsenal has not yet fallen.

The allied forces are attacking the Tientsin Fort.

The railway is opened to within a few miles from Tientsin, and a boat service has been established from that point to carry provisions to the foreign community.

The gunpowder magazine was observed to blow up to-day.

The river will soon be open for traffic throughout.

There is considerable scarcity of food in Tientsin, and the work of transporting it is vigorously carried on.

The Japanese are to send one company of infantry to the west of the railway line to

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guard the provisions and munitions stored there.

This forenoon Captain Hashiguchi arrived here from Tientsin. The line is open and the state of affairs in Tientsin is now clearly known.

(Sent by Major-General Fukushima.)

Chefoo, June 27.

The Peiho was completely opened this morning.

There is no change in affairs at Tientsin.

The Japanese troops required to guard the railway were despatched this morning.

There is much difficulty in procuring water. Three ships have been told off to obtain a regular supply.

There is plenty of cleaned rice in Tientsin.

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

Shanghai, June 28, 4.56 p.m.

Information received by the English Consul to-day announces that Admiral Seymour, being rescued, has arrived in Tientsin, and that the casualties among his troops were 62 killed and 313 wounded. The losses previously reported at Tientsin were much exaggerated. It is believed that the foreign Representatives are still staying in Peking.

A telegram received by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha confirms the restoration of communication between Taku and Tientsin, adding that the Tungku railway is now in working order.

Another telegram to the Russo-Chinese Bank in Shanghai confirms the arrival of Admiral Seymour in Tientsin.

Intelligence from Chefoo under date of the 23rd instant says that, while the Japanese Consul was engaged in mustering his nationals for purposes of defence, one of them was killed and another wounded by rioters.

Inch-hon, June 28, 7 p.m.

According to intelligence brought by the steamer *Ise Maru*, which has just arrived here, leaving Honkiu early on the morning of the 27th instant, with flour from Shanghai, the rioters have advanced as far as a place about 100 Chinese miles from the port, and a force, 800 strong, stationed in Honkiu, has proceeded to suppress them. Three thousand troops were expected to arrive in the port in a few days.

Shangai, June 29, 6.25 p.m.

Li Hung-chang has telegraphed to the Superintendent of Railways, inquiring whether it is true that the Foreign Representatives have arrived at a place 12 miles distant from Tientsin. No confirmation is forthcoming

The French Consul in Yunnan, who was reported as being in the hands of rioters, has been released, and sent beyond the boundary of the district under a Chinese escort.

The steamers belonging to the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company have had their registers altered, and are now flying the English, German, and American flags. None have been transferred to the Japanese flag.

Telegraphic communication with Chefoo is now open, but there is a certain amount of delay.

Shanghai, June 29, 9.41 p.m.

Russian troops to the number of 900, together with horses and waggons, under Commander McCan (?) left Taku for Tientsin by railway on the 25th instant.

Mr. Fenton, a newspaper correspondent, reports that some of the American marines have arrived in Taku from Tientsin, and that the allied forces entered the latter city on the afternoon of the 23rd instant. The American and English troops were the first to reach the city. No accurate information has been received as to the casulties sustained by the foreigners in Tientsin. The casualties to the relieving column were 3 Americans killed and 2 injured, while on the side of English the figures were 2 and 1 respectively. The Germans had 15 killed, including one officer, and 27 wounded. The Russians lost 10 killed and 46 wounded. In Tientsin not a single woman or child has been murdered.

Shanghai, June 29, 11.40 p.m.

The American battleship *Oregon*, while proceeding towards Taku, struck on an unknown rock at 2 p.m. on the 28th instant, at a point about 3 miles south of the Howky Lighthouse, in the neighbourhood of Chefoo, and was utterly lost. The casualties are not yet known. The weather was fine at the time of the disaster.

Shanghai, June 30.

General Alexieff, Commander-in-chief in the Liaotung Peninsula, started for Taku on the 26th of June, for the purpose of taking command of the troops and ships collected at Taku. This fact indicates that Russia looks forward to a long campaign.

Vice-Admiral Beudemann, commanding the German squadron at Taku, reports that, after 80 hours' fighting, he succeeded in taking possession of Tientsin. In the operations, Captain Friederick and 10 men were killed and 20 wounded. The casualties in the German contingent which formed part of Admiral Seymour's brigade were 1 officer and 10 men killed and 4 officers and 3 men wounded among the marines belonging to *Kaiserin Augusta*, and 1 officer and 40 men wounded among the marines belonging to the *Hertha*.

The *Kanko Maru* has arrived at Chefoo with 70 fugitive missionaries from Shantung They are of American, British, and Canadian nationality. They suffered great hardships before being taken off by the *Kanko Maru*.

An attack has been made on the Manchurian Railway in the north, and 1 Russian was killed. Russian troops are vigilantly guarding the line.

The *Sagami Maru* has arrived in Chefoo with 52 foreign fugitives from Newchwang, 42 of them being females.

An iron railway bridge near Mukden has been destroyed and a missionary church wrecked.

The Russian Consulate at Newchwang is guarded by marines.

At a place 60 miles from Newchwang, Chinese dressed as soldiers intimidated the foreign residents and compelled them to leave the place.

On the 20th of June the following Imperial Edict was issued in Peking :—

"The Boxers in the neighbourhood of Tientsin, animated by religious exasperation, have conceived sentiments of hostility towards foreigners, and are daily burning Christian churches and killing Christian converts. Foreign troops, unable to speedily subdue these Boxers, have assembled at Taku and in Tientsin, and affairs have become very serious. You, Governors of provinces and subordinates, whose loyalty is assured, employing military force or money according to the circumstances of your districts, must contrive suitable means of protecting the country, must take care that foreigners do not accomplish their purpose, and must relieve the Government's anxiety. The foreigners aim at getting permanent possession of various places in the provinces. You, Governors and subordinate officials, with unity of purpose and junction of forces, must save this dangerous situation."

The Viceroy Li has received instructions from Peking to raise a force of volunteers in Kwan-tung and Kwan-si.

Sir Robert Hart, Inspector-General of Customs, has arrived at Shanghai.

H.M.S. *Pique* has started to return to Hankow.

Chefoo, July 1.

The German Minister in Peking, when on his way to the Tsung-li Yamên on July 18th, was assassinated by Chinese soldiers. The interpreter who accompanied was also slightly wounded and was sent to one of the Legations.

The number of Legations not wrecked on the 23rd of June was only three. It is not known what Legations were destroyed.

Shanghai, July 1.

According to a letter from Hanking, Liu Kun-yi received a telegram from Yu Lok on the 27th of June to the effect that the state of affairs in Peking is serious, and assistance by telegraphic communication is desired. The troops of the eight Powers already amount to 30,000 or 40,000 in the neighbourhood of Peking. The city can not hold out for more than 5 days.

Another message to the same Viceroy from Yuan Shi-kai says that the foreign troops, having defeated the Boxers and the Chinese army, entered Peking on the 25th of June. (These telegrams are obviously untrue).

Another telegram from Yu Lok to Lin Kun-yi says that the German Minister in Peking has been assassinated.

Another message says that Liu Kun-yi has been superseded, but has declined to vacate his post.

Shanghai, July 1.

According to official telegrams received by the Consuls of England and Germany in Shanghai, the German Minister was assassinated by Chinese soldiers on June 13th, and, with the exception of the British, Austrian, and Belgian Legations, all the rest were burned on the 20th of June.

The *China Gazette* says that the corpse of the German Minister was guarded for a time in the *Tsung-li Yamên*, but, the *Tsung-li Yamên* having been burned by the Boxers, the corpse was dragged round the city. Prince Twan now exercises supreme power.

Hongkong, July 1.

The Viceroy Chang, having received orders to send troops to Peking, is preparing to send by land 2,500 men from Honan and 500 from Hupeh.

Shanghai, July 2.

A majority of the provincial governors are in favour of Prince Twan's assuming imperial power.

[How can that be known?—Ed. *J.M.*]

The Emperor and the Empress Dowager are held in confinement by Twan.

Tientsin is quiet. It is guarded by 5,000 foreign troops, and the Chinese braves have retired.

The U.S.S. *Princetown* has arrived at Shanghai and the *Brooklyn* has left for Taku.

All the Viceroys of Southern China have informed the Foreign Consuls that, whatever may happen in Peking, they are determined to preserve order in their districts and to protect foreign life and property. The Foreign Powers have therefore decided that the war shall not be carried into any part of China south of the Yellow River.

(How is this to be reconciled with the statement that a majority of the Governors are in favour of Twan's assuring supreme power?—Ed. *J.M.*)

The Southern Viceroys are in favour of bringing all China south of the Yellow River under a system of cooperative government, with Nanking for capital.

Shantung is in a state of great unrest.

The casualties in Admiral Seymour's column up to the 28th of June were as follows :—

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	Killed.	Wounded.
British	27	97
American	4	25
French	1	10
German	12	62
Italian	5	3
Japanese	2	3
Austrian	1	1
Russian	10	27

The *Yayeyama* has gone to Hankow, whether the *Akagi* also has proceeded.

The consulates, the ships, and the hongs in Shanghai have their flags half-masted in consequence of the murder of the German Minister in Peking.

The *Oregon* is not seriously injured. She will be got off and taken to Port Arthur to be docked.

Later.

The Chinese troops are again attacking Tientsin. They have re-commenced the bombardment. The allied forces require more guns, and are much in want of a supply of drinking water.

The *Pigmy* has arrived at Shanghai.

There is trouble at Mukden. Christian churches have been burned and Christian converts killed. The missionaries have fled to Newchwang.

Sir Robert Hart was safe on the 25th instant.

[From the "Asahi Shimbun."]

Inch-hon, June 28.

The steamer *Ise Maru* is reported to have witnessed a number of new Chinese ships proceeding from Shanghai to Chefoo.

Shanghai, June 28.

A telegram received this morning by the Taotai confirms the news of the restoration of telegraphic communication between Taku and Tientsin, and reports that the eastern forts at Peh-tung are occupied by the foreign troops, while the western forts are in the hands of the Chinese. No collision, however, has occurred.

According to information received by the Chinese officials under date of the 25th inst, the Empress seems to have issued secret instructions to the authorities to the effect that they should devote their utmost energies to detaining the foreign Representations in Peking.

Hankow, June 28.

Chung Chih-tung and Liu Kung-i recently addressed a memorial to the throne urging the necessity of speedily suppressing the insurrection and concluding peace with the Powers.

Shanghai, June 29.

On the 28th instant the Superintendent of Railways, acting upon the instructions from Liu Kung-i, requested the Taotai and the President of the China Bank, as well as the agents of the foreign banks, to appear in the Railway Office to discuss the means of relieving the financial pressure. As a result of this conference the China Bank borrowed 300,000 taels from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and issued notes for circulation. Foreign silver has consequently fallen in value to 758, while the rate of interest now stands at 95. The Taotai and Consuls having issued a notice as to the security of Shanghai, the number of people returning to their native provinces has considerably decreased, and the port on the whole is now comparatively calm. Shanghai was, from the outset, free from danger, and Japan ought to be on guard against wild rumours now circulated about the place.

Chefoo, June 29.

Military communications have been established between Taku and Tientsin.

Hankow, June 29

A force, 5,000 strong, stationed in Hupeh and Honan is about to proceed to the north with a view to suppressing the insurrection and protecting the Crown. Of these troops 200 have already started.

Sōul, June 29.

Many Chinese have taken refuge in Korea.

Taipeh, June 29.

At present the two Japanese warships *Izumi* and *Tsukushi* are at Amoy. Foreigners, as well as Chinese officials and people, appear to be trusting to the Japanese for safety. The Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese Squadron has requested the captains of the above ships, as well as the Japanese Consul, to render assistance to him in the event of an emergency.

The Japanese, English, American, and French Consuls recently held a conference and passed the following resolution:—That the Japanese warships be requested to perform the duty of protecting the foreigners in the port, and to send a request to their home government, whenever occasion requires, for the despatch of the Formosan garrison.

It is rumoured that a Hongwanji preaching place in Shung-chiu has been set on fire by the rioters.

Shanghai, July 1.

The Taotai of Shanghai has published in the newspaper a declaration that since the 21st instant imperial edicts have been issued over the signature of Prince Twan which have no binding force; that the Governor and officials in the districts south of the Yellow River and the Governor of Shantung have refused to recognise the present Government; that taxes need not be paid, and that the duty of the moment is to restore the Emperor to power.

The day before yesterday, a party of rioters made an attack on the railway works at Kan-mih, and killed Mr. Hildebrand and 5 others. There was a severe fight and many Chinese were killed. The mob fired the villages in the district. Several foreigners barely effected their escape to T'sing-tao. The Chinese have commenced to plunder.

There is a rumour that the German Minister in Peking was fired at on the 13th June, *en route* for the *Tsung-li Yamên*. He reached the *Yamên*, but died there. His Secretary was slightly wounded.

The railway between Tientsin and Peking is entirely destroyed. That between Taku and Tientsin has been torn up through a length of 9 miles. The insurgents are firing the hamlets

Yuan Shi-kai has refused to allow German soldiers to proceed to the interior to guard the missionaries.

The Chinese officials are abetting the insurgents' attempts to drive out the Christians.

Admiral Seymour has captured 50 Maxims and a number of Krupp guns.

A telegram addressed to the German Consul in Shanghai has reached Liu Kung-yi saying that no incident had occurred in Peking up to the 23rd June.

Tientsin is quite safe Five thousand foreign troops are guarding it. The Chinese soldiers have retired

The English-drilled detachment of Chinese troops from Wei-hai-wei has set out, accompanied by a party of 100 marines.

Many of the men belonging to H.M.S. *Barfleur* were among the wounded.

Captain Jellicoe of the *Centurion* was severely wounded, Lieut. Beyts (R M.A.) slightly, and Lieut. Powell of the *Aurora* was hit in the breast.

Shanghai, July 2.

Yun Lok, in reply to messages from Li and Chang, advising him to crush the Boxers and protect foreigners, has replied that there is no hope of saving the situation.

The Russian forces already landed in North China are said to number 6,800.

[Received at the Foreign Office in Tokyo.]

Shanghai, July 1.

There are symptoms of unrest at Amoy, but full preparations have been made for defence. Everything is quiet in Formosa.

Chefoo, July 2.

A message from Sir R. Hart by a messenger who left Peking last Monday (25th June) and arrived in Tientsin on June 29th, says that all the Legations except the British, German, and Italian, have been wrecked. The staffs of the Legations and the missionaries who escaped to the British Legation are now being fired on by the Chinese. The guns trained on the Legation have not yet been fired. Affairs are very critical.

Chefoo, July 2.

There are great numbers of Chinese troops in Peking. The chief of the Boxers is said to be in the Tsung-li Yamên. The three Legations which escaped were the British, German, and French, not the Italian. The Germans and the French are in their own Legations. All the rest of the community are in the British Legation.

Thirty thousand Chinese troops are moving against Tientsin. A part of them have reached Yang-tsun, within 18 miles of Tientsin. There is also a rumour that the Chinese troops from Lutai have seized the bridges between Taku and Tientsin and cut the railway communications.

River communication with Tientsin is open, but the Chinese have opened the river gates (?) and let the water out, so that craft drawing more than 3½ feet can not get up.

Sydney, July 2.

The three ships for China, two cruisers and a gunboat, have sailed.

Shanghai, July 2.

The Vice-governor of Kangsu, Luk, has set out for Nanking to hold a conference with Liu Kun-yi, preparatory to proceeding to Peking.

Kongchow, July 2.

Things are not absolutely quiet here. The officials at Chekiang are making preparations against an emergency.

Chefoo, July 2.

The German Minister has been murdered on his way to the *Tsung-li Yamên*. The greater part of the Foreign Legations are burned, and the Ministers and their staffs are in the British Legation, where they are surrounded by Boxers and Chinese troops who seek to butcher all foreigners. The above news was sent from Peking on the 26th June.

Sōul, July 2.

According to a telegram from Newchwang, the Boxer trouble has extended to Mukden, where churches have been burned and native Christians massacred.

Newchwang, July 2.

According to a telegram from Mukden, a party of Boxers, joined by Chinese troops, yesterday wrecked several churches and attacked the Christians.

(Major-General Fukushima.)

Taku, June 29.

The insurgent are again attacking Tientsin.

One party of Japanese troops has set out for Tientsin. Foreign observers were much struck by the rapidity with which the troops were entrained.

From to morrow morning provisions and water will be sent by river.

The allied troops are increasing daily and the railway is kept very busy.

Considering the importance of the river route, it is most desirable that some strong

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boats drawing not more than 6ft. should be sent here at once.

At present military supplies are not procurable in North China. Provisions and fodder must therefore be sent without cessation.

Chefoo, June 30.

Major Yui reports that the German Minister in Peking is said to have been murdered, and that all the Legations except the British and German have been burned.

The Chinese troops are advancing from all directions against Tientsin.

The arsenal in Tientsin was captured by the allied troops on the 29th of June.

The Japanese engineers have set out to repair the first section of the Tientsin-Taku Railway on the south of Tientsin.

The commanding officer (Major-General Fukushima) has set out for Tientsin. The Japanese troops have been delayed owing to all the available horses and boats having been requisitioned by other Powers.

Foochow, July 3.

The Governor-General has taken full measures to protect foreigners and all is quiet. On the 2nd instant, he sent a message to the Foreign Consuls, saying that as the coming of a foreign man-of-war might excite the people, he trusted that none would enter the river for the present.

Shanghai, July 2.

The Vice-Governor of Chekiang has published an anti-foreign manifesto from Prince Twan.

It is reported by a man who left Peking on the 27th June and came to Chainan-fu, that 150,000 Boxers and Chinese troops are attacking two of the Legations in Peking but that they had not been captured up to the 27th of June. All the officials serving near the persons of the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor are Boxers. The palace is kept closed, one gate only being opened for 6 hours in the 24.

The Manchu princes leagued with the Boxers have erected an altar in the Palace, where they worship.

TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE IN TOKYO.

Shanghai, July 3.

It has been learned from a trustworthy source that Liu Kun-yi, feeling uneasy about the proceedings of the Kolao-hui, has offered to grant a military command to their leader, hoping thus to win his allegiance, as was done in the case of Liu of Formosa.

Shanghai, July 4.

It is thought that, although the Vice-Governors of Chekiang and the neighbouring province gave publicity to Prince Twan's anti-foreign proclamation, they will cooperate in the arrangement effected between the southern Viceroys and the Foreign Consuls.

Tientsin, July 1.

A private message from Peking tends to confirm news already received. It says that the Legations of Austria-Hungary, America, Italy, and Holland were first burned by the Boxers, and a part of the Russian Legation was subsequently destroyed. The Japanese Legation guard seized a position on the other side of the canal opposite the British Legation, and are there guarding 300 Chinese Christians. The German Minister, after being shot, was carried into the Tsung-li Yamen. As soon as the news reached the German Legation, the German soldiers marched to the Yamén, whence the officials had all retired, and broke everything they could lay their hands on. General Tung's troops are holding two of the city gates, having mounted a gun on the wall at each gate. The German soldiers, with another gun, are holding a position on the wall between the gates. The troops of Yuan Shi-kai are said to be marching towards Peking. Yuan's intention is to petition the Throne to make overtures to foreign countries for peace, and to release the foreigners who are isolated in Peking. All the foreign houses in the neighbourhood of the Foreign Legations have been burned. The above details have been learned from a messenger sent by a Roman Catholic Missionary in Peking.

[FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO."]

Chefoo, July 3.

The whole of the foreign troops are attacking the Chinese at Tientsin.

The British Legation in Peking is still beleaguered by the Chinese but artillery has not yet been used against it.

Chefoo is peaceful.

The Chinese have destroyed some bridges between Taku and Tientsin and communication by rail is cut. The Russian and Japanese troops are advancing to repair the damaged places.

The *Akitsushima* has gone to the aid of the *Oregon*.

The Russian and the Japanese troops are on the best of terms.

Admiral Seymour has captured the arsenal at Tientsin, taking a number of guns.

Prince Twan has sent a hundred thousand taels to the Boxers by Kang Yi, as a reward for beating back Admiral Seymour's column.

It is stated that there are 110,000 Chinese troops in Peking.

[RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT IN TOKYO.]

Chefoo, July 4.

A number of troops and quantities of provisions and ammunition have been forwarded from Japan to Tientsin in junks towed by steam launches. The wounded are to be brought from Tientsin by the same means. Since communication was re-opened with Tientsin the land and river routes have been quite safe, and there has been great activity on the part of all the Powers, forwarding men and stores.

News having been received that some 2,000 Chinese soldiers are at Peh-tang, the Russians from Tong-ku are planning to attack them.

The Japanese naval brigade has been forbidden to take part in operations far inland, and the part of it in Tientsin has been ordered to return. Should circumstances be unfavourable for carrying out the latter order, the detachment with Admiral Seymour, at any rate, is to come back to Taku, since the greater part of the Japanese troops have reached Tientsin.

Amoy, July 4.

Captain Izumi reports that, although many rumours are current in the neighbourhood of Amoy, there has been no disturbance.

[Sent originally from the Commander of the *Newark* to the American Consul in Chefoo, and by him communicated to the Captain of the *Akitsushima*.]

Taku, June 28.

The Peking relief expedition under Admiral Seymour, consisting of a Naval Force of about 2,000 men, composed of English, Germans, French, Russians, Americans, Japanese, Italians, and Austrians, marched into Tientsin on the morning of the 24th inst. They had advanced as far as Lang-fang, 40 miles south of Peking, on June the 18th, after having been subjected to a number of attacks by the Boxers, but with few casualties. The column was fiercely attacked by imperial Chinese troops at Lang-fang. These troops apparently came from the direction of Peking. In this fight the English, Germans, and Russians lost 7 killed and about 50 wounded. The relief column then fell back to Yang-tsun, 18 miles from Tientsin, and, finding the railroad destroyed, it retreated toward Tientsin by river, carrying the wounded in junks.

On June 22nd, after suffering considerable loss from attacks by Boxers and Imperial troops, this force attacked and captured the Chinese arsenal and store house 5 miles north of Tientsin, and waited there for reinforcements. In this arsenal were immense stores of guns and ammunition. After reinforcements arrived from Tientsin on the 23rd, the arsenal was burned and the entire force returned to Tientsin.

Casualties of the Peking relief column to date:—

Nationalities.	Killed.	Wounded.
Americans	4	25
Austrians	1	1
British	27	97
French	1	10
Germans	12	62
Italians	5	3
Japanese	2	3
Russians	10	27
	62	228

The American contingent consisted of 106 men under Captain McCola. The officers were Ensign Watsbough and Gichen, Naval Cadets Taussing and Courteney, Paymaster Pennet and Gunner Sheldon. Capt. McCola and Naval Cadet Taussing were wounded.

The Legations are still in Peking. On the 19th they were given notice to leave the city. This the Ministers refused to do. The foreign forces for the protection of the Legations in Peking consist of 428 men of the allied Powers. Captain Thoman de Montalmar, of the Austrian cruiser *Zenta*, is the senior officer. The American force in Peking consists of 53 marines from the *Oregon* and the *Newark* and three sailors from the *Newark* with an automatic gun. These were under the command of Captain Myers, U.S.M.C., the other officers are Captain Hall, U.S.M.C., and Dr. Lippitt, U.S.N.

[Extras issued by Tokyo journals contain various sensational rumours—many of them derived from that essentially "Shanghailand" newspaper the *China Gazette*—to the effect that the defenders of the Legations in Peking had exhausted their ammunition on June 24th; that the Russians and Japanese are quite unable to stand against the Chinese; that all hope of saving the foreign community in Peking has been abandoned; that the whole community has been butchered; that the men are discussing the advisability of killing the women and children to prevent their falling into the hands of the Chinese; that the foreign troops in Tientsin have probably been completely beaten by this time, and so on. We refrain from reproducing in detail these startling and obviously false rumours. The persons that manufacture them should be punished as criminals.—ED. *J.M.*]

Shanghai, June 30.

Captain Narita of the *Takao* reports that Shanghai is tranquil and that there is no prospect of disturbance. Preparations are, however, made for any emergency. There are, however, all kinds of alarming reports among the Chinese. They have been escaping from the place and the Taotai has found it necessary to issue a notification reassuring them. The Viceroy Liu has addressed strong assurances to the Foreign Consuls, declaring that no anti-foreign decrees issuing from Peking will be respected, and that he answers for the tranquillity of the districts under his charge.

The Chinese fleet is all in the Yangtsze.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE IN TOKYO.)

Tientsin, July 1.

On the 25th instant the Tientsin arsenal was burned by the foreign troops.

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Chefoo, July 4.

The state of affairs in North China is highly perilous. As already reported several churches have been burned. A church at Ping-kan-chow has also been burned. Foreigners here feel very uneasy. Nothing has yet occurred, but trouble may be experienced at any minute.

The United States Consul, acting on the recommendation of the commander of the Squadron, has advised his nationals in Chefoo to go over to Japan.

Tientsin, July 2.

On the 29th June, 900 Japanese troops arrived in Tientsin, and took up their quarters near the Japanese Consulate. The remaining Japanese troops are expected from Tong-ku on the 2nd instant.

The railway for a distance of 9 miles south of Tientsin is broken, but from thence to Tong-ku it is open for traffic.

English tug-steamers go up and down the River safely every day, with trains of boats. Japanese tug-boats passed up on June 30th with barges laden with provisions and ammunition. The masters of the steamers do not, however, guarantee the safety of the cargo. If, after a few trials, the route is found safe, the Japanese residents will all withdraw.

CHINESE IMPERIAL DECREES.

(From "North-China Daily News.")

13th June.

(1) We are deeply grieved to learn that a Chancellor of the Japanese legation, named Akira Sugiyama (Ts'ing San-shan), was murdered by a number of outlaws outside the Yungting Gate of Peking on the 11th of the month. It is the duty of the authorities to be always on the watch to protect foreign officials abiding with us, and now that outlaws are making disturbances this watchfulness over their well-being should be all the more strict. We have already repeatedly urged upon the local authorities to detail men specially to patrol the vicinity where foreigners happen to be, to protect them and to arrest at once all who may interfere with them. In what a state is the condition of the country then that we find, even within the precincts of the Imperial residence, our military and civil officials neglecting their duty insomuch that a Chancellor of the Japanese legation has now been murdered? How is it that, failing to give due protection, the officials have also failed to arrest any of the perpetrators? We hereby command the Commandant of the Peking Gendarmerie to allow a certain time to his subordinates to effect the arrest of the murderers, in order that they may punished to the utmost extent of the law, failing which the guilty officials are to be severely denounced to the Throne.

(2) Of late the vicinity of the Imperial Capital has been disturbed by the rioting of the Iho Ch'uan outlaws and even the Capital itself has not escaped from them. We have not only repeatedly decreed that these outlaws must be dispersed, but have also commanded the officers at the head of the Imperial garrison and Commanders of Corps in the vicinity of the Capital to detail troops to preserve the peace and prevent further outbreaks. But it seems that, in spite of this murder and arson are constantly being reported while traitors and outlaws continue manufacturing all sorts of rumours, exciting even the well-behaved to look with enmity on the Christians. The laws of the Empire are despised and held lighter than a feather. It does not matter whether we have clear proof of murders inflicted by organised outlaws, or that others have falsely assumed the names of law-abiding people, but so long as they refuse to obey the commands of the authorities [they are outlaws.] We would ask whether in the history of any established Government there has been any instance of its encouraging rebel subjects to conspire against itself? Moreover, we have discovered that there are actually subjects of ours who have joined the Iho Ch'uan Society [the word "min," subjects, is here meant to convey that they are law-abiding people.—Translator,] and organised themselves into bands, as well as revolutionary society outlaws and ruffians who have joined them for the purpose of pillage and llunder.

We ordered Kang Yi and Chao Shou-ch'ao to proceed yesterday to Liangh-sang and Cho-chou [two hsien cities not many miles from Peking.—Translator] to proclaim the benevolent policy of the Throne and accordingly, the law-abiding Iho Ch'uans immediately drew up bonds to obey our commands, tore down their general assembly sheds and successively dispersed. This shows clearly that the murders and arson reported from various places are really the work of traitors and outlaws.

The only course for the Government to pursue is, therefore, to make a discrimination between those who create disturbances—to be treated as outlaws and severely punished—and those who keep quiet who are to be looked upon as law-abiding subjects. We hereby command Sung Ch'ing (Commander of the Szechuen Corps) to send General Ma Yü-k'un with troops to patrol the vicinity of the Capital and attack all outlaws en route, capturing their head men and dispersing their followers. This should be the chief objective of the said force. The strictest discipline must also be observed and soldiers prevented from seeking excuses to create disturbances. It will then be easy to distinguish the law-abiding and peaceful from others. Let this decree be made known to all.

15th June.

(1) Yesterday, owing to the disturbances caused by the Iho Ch'uan outlaws inside the Capital, we commanded the Commandant of the Gendarmerie to make strict search for the chief rioters and to patrol the city carefully and watchfully. Previous to this, certain persons who had been caught manufacturing rumours and exciting the masses were handed to the Board of Punishments for trial and subsequently summarily decapitated. But in spite of this, numerous fires were started, as usual, inside the Capital last night, and even more, there were men who, having stirred up the mob, daringly headed them, arms in hand, before the sight of all, shouting and killing en route, eagerly seeking for enemies. Men were slain before the eyes of the Government troops who lifted not severely a finger to stop them, allowing them to work their own will and keeping open the city gates for the mob to go in and out. The consequence has been that panics have been created amongst the people of the capital several times a day. An uneasiness pervades all classes. And all these disturbances are allowed to proceed within the very shadow of the Imperial Palaces! If measures be not enacted to severely punish such actions words will not be able to depict the result. We hereby command the Commandant of the Gendarmerie to give strict injunctions to the local authorities [to prevent further disturbances.] We further command that the Commanders of the Peking Field Force [Prince Ching Kang Yi, etc.,] the Hushêng Corps [Prince Tuan] and the Middle Corps of the Grand Army of the North [Jung Lu's own Division] combine and send out cavalry and infantry to overawe the mob and exercise extra care in preventing further disturbances. If they should find any one with weapons in his hands, crying out "slay!" they are to arrest such on the spot and hand him over to the Gendarmerie who have our orders to summarily decapitate such offenders. The said Commanders are further ordered to give a certain period of time to their subordinates to arrest the chief ringleaders who are to be captured as soon as possible. They are forbidden to show further indifference and listlessness in stopping disturbances. If any parties of soldiers be found to be indifferent to their duties, the officers are to be called to account and denounced to the Throne. Moreover, the duty of opening and closing the city gates is a most important one and we hereby appoint the following high officials, namely, Ch'ung Hsun, Hsiang Pu, Fêng Shen, Ilpu, K'ê Mêng-ngeh, Ying Sin, Sung Ho, Sê-pu-chêng-ngêh, and Tê Yun (all Manchus) to look after the nine city gates of the Capital. They will superintend the opening and closing of the said nine gates and keep a watch on the traffic of people entering and leaving the city. The police Censors of the five cities of the Capital are also to give aid in the matter and diligently help to search for outlaws. This duty especially devolves upon the Censor of the Middle City, Chên Pi-ch'ang, to take the lead of his brother Censors. In addition to the above, we hereby command I K'uang, Prince Ch'ing, 1st Order, Tsai Yi, Prince Tuan, 2nd Order; Prince Tsai Lan, 3rd Order; and the Grand Secretary Jung Lu to send officers with bodies of cavalry and foot to act in conjunction with the local civil and military officials in obeying our commands. Should there be any more lack of diligence in preventing riots, these officials are to be severely denounced to the Throne for punishment.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week :—

	Temp. Air Max	Min	Lake Max	State of Weather.	Remarks in General
Sunday, 24th	66°	53°	70°		Fine...Clear.
Monday, 25th	69°	58°	70°		Rain...Heavy blow.
Tuesday, 26th	70°	60°	71°		Fine...Clear.
Wednesday, 27th.	67°	58°	71°		Fine... do.
Thursday, 28th	66°	62°	71°		Fine... do.
Friday, 29th.	68°	61°	71°		Fine ..Cloudy.
Saturday, 30th	63°	60°	71°		Rain...

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 479.

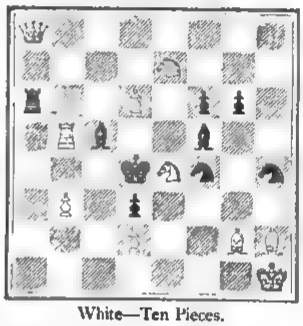
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Q sq	1—K to K 5
2—Q to K R sq ch	2—P to Kt 7 (must)
3—Q takes Kt P mate	
	1—K to B 5
2—Q to R 4 ch	2—K to Q 4 (must)
3—Kt to B 7 mate	
	1—K takes Kt
2—K to K 3!	2—P to B 3
3—Q to Kt 3 mate	
	2—Any other
3—Q to Q 6 mate	
	1—K takes P
2—Q to R 4 ch	2—K to Kt 3
3—B to B 5! mate	
	1—P takes Kt
2—Q to B 3 ch	2—K any
3—Q to Q 3 mate	

Correct solution received from "W.H.S."

PROBLEM No. 481.

By H. Mendes da Costa, Amsterdam.

Black—Nine Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

GAME 602.

SICILIAN DEFENSE.

White—Mason. Black—Blackburne.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P-K4	P-QB4	23 BxKt	RxB
2 Kt-KB3	Kt-QB3	24 B-B	RxP
3 Kt-B3	P-K3	25 K-Q2	R-B3
4 P-Q4	PxP	26 B-Kt2	P-B4
5 KtxP	Kt-B3	27 R-KB	B-KKt
6 KKt-Kt5	B-Kt5	28 P-Kt3	K-K3
7 Kt-Q6ch	K-K2	29 K-K3	P-KB4
8 KtxBch	RxKt	30 R-B4	R-Kt
9 B-Q2	P-Q4	31 B-Q4	R-Q
10 PxP	KtxP	32 P-B3	R-Q4
11 Q-Kt4	BxKt	33 R B2	P Kt3
12 PxB	Kt-B3	34 K B4	P Kt4
13 QxKtP	R-KKt	35 P Q R3	P R4
14 Q-R6	Q-Q4	36 R Q Kt2	K B2
15 Q K3	Kt-KKt5	37 K Kt5	K K3
16 Q-K2	QKt-K4	38 KxP	P K6
17 P-B3	Kt-B5	39 K Kt5	RxB
18 PxKt	RxP	40 PxR	K Q4
19 R-Q	R-K5(3)	41 RxP ch	KxP
20 B-Kt5ch	P-B3	42 K B4	P K7
21 RxQ	PxR	43 R K5	Resigns.
22 QxRch	PxQ		

GAME 603.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

White—Gunsberg. Black—Ward.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	18 K K2	K K2
2 P K3	P K3	19 Q B2	PxQP
3 B Q3	P QB4	20 BPxP	B Q2
4 P QB3	Kt QB3	21 P Kt3	R B2
5 P KB4	P B4	22 B R3ch	K K
6 Kt B3	Kt B3	23 K K	Kt K2
7 Castles	B Q3	24 B K2	B B3
8 QKt K2	Castles	25 R B	Kt Kt
9 Kt K5	BxKt	26 K Q	Kt R3
10 BPxB	Kt KKt5	27 Q K	P QR3
11 R B3	Q K	28 Q Kt4	R Q
12 R Kt3	Q R4	29 BxRP	Q R3
13 P KR3	Q R5	30 RxB	PxR
14 Q K	P KR4	31 Q B5	Kt Kt
15 PxKt	RPxP	32 QxPch	KR Q2
16 Kt B	K B2	33 QxPch	Kt K2
17 K B2	P KKt4	34 B Kt5	Resigns

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The Paris Tournament.

Play commenced with the following pairing and result:

Maroczy v. Mason. QP Opening. Maroczy won.
Brody v. Burn. Petroff's Defence. Burn won.
Pillsbury v. Showalter. QP Opening. Draw.
Marco v. Janowsky. Ruy Lopez. Janowsky won.
Sterling v. Mieses. QP Opening. Draw.
Schlechter v. Lasker. Four Knights' Game. Lasker won.
Mortimer v. Marshall. Petroff's Defense. Marshall won.
Rosen v. Didier. Evans Declined. Draw.
Tchigorin a bye.

Maroczy won, after a hard fight, an ending with the exchange to the good.

Brody tried to win a drawn position—Burn offering a draw three times—and lost.

Pillsbury could make no headway with Showalter, and the latter consented to a draw at a late hour, not having sufficient to win.

Sterling, although losing a Pawn in the middle game, managed to draw by good play.

Mortimer through delaying to move his QP got an inferior position and lost; and Didier sacrificed three pieces and forced a perpetual check very ingeniously in what was considered a hopeless position.

The drawn games have to be played over again under the rules, and the second game counts half a point each in case it should result in a draw again.

The second round was played in the following order.—

Lasker v. Didier. QP opening. Lasker won.
Janowsky v. Mortimer. QP Opening. Janowsky won.
Showalter v. Schlecter. Ruy Lopez.
Burn v. Sterling. QP Opening. Burn won.
Mason v. Marco. Vienna Opening.
Tchigorin v. Pillsbury. Petroff's Defence.
Maroczy v. Brody. Ruy Lopez.
Mieses v. Rosen. French Defence.
Marshall a bye.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, June 30th:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other habilities to shareholders	17,246,728
Amount of convertible notes issued	215,770,738
Government deposits	62,834,426
General deposits	3,958,228
Exchange liability	46,319
Total	329,886,431

Cr.	
Discount notes	86,048,993
Foreign discount notes	14,816,074
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	68,939,223
Exchange liability	2,482,394
Government bonds	52,694,422
Property	2,104,514
Bullion and Specie	80,797,422
Total	329,885,431

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	207,639,350

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	76,126,677
Silver	4,000,000
Total	80,136,677

Securities:—

Government bonds	18,158,255
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	11,608,021
Commercial notes	75,735,287
Total	127,502,573

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	1,741,437
Silver	—	—
General loans	2,215,919	—
Government deposits	—	3,453,777
General deposits	—	1,702,876

The police regulations with regard to bathing from the front of the Bund, will not, we understand, be applied to the members of the Y.A.R.C.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart 1	Sa. July 7
America	P. M. Co.	China 2	W. July 11
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Tonkin 3	W. July 19
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 4	Sa. July 14
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. July 16
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric 5	Th. July 12
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. July 21
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. July 23
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. July 26
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su. July 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. July 30

1 Left Hongkong on the 27th ult.
2 Left San Francisco on the 22nd ult.
3 Left Hongkong on the 2nd inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 5th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 30th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. July 7
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. July 11
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. July 12
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. July 11
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart	Su. July 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu. July 17
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Tonkin	F. July 20
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. July 20
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. July 23
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. July 25
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. July 27
Hkongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. July 30

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, K. Kori, 30th June,—Shanghai via ports, 23rd June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, K. Tsuda, 30th June,—Hakodate, 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 30th June,—Yokkachi, 28th June, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumumoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Yamamoto, 30th June,—Yokkaichi, 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, R. Nunome, 1st July,—Bombay via ports, 29th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Tamuke, 1st July,—Yokkaichi, 30th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 2nd July.—San Francisco via Honolulu, 14th July, Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 2nd June,—Vancouver, B.C., 19th June, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,364, A. E. Moses, 2nd June,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe, 1st July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,591, J. Campbell, 2nd July,—Kobe, 1st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Albenga, German steamer, 2,745, H. Peterson, 2nd July,—New York via ports, and Shanghai, 28th June, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 3rd July, Otaru via ports, 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Clan Mackenzie, British ship, 1,509, P. MacMahon, 3rd July,—New York, 23rd February, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Strutor, British steamer, 4,308, Chas. Jackson, 3rd July,—Liverpool via ports and Kobe, 2nd July, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 4th July,—Hakodate, 1st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 5th July,—Otaru via ports, 30th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Euplectella, British Tank steamer, 2,507, E. Stott, 5th July,—Batoum via Singapore, 21st June, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 5th July,—Yokkaichi, 5th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 5th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 4th July, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 5th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 4th July, Mails and General. Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, G. Sakano, 5th July,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,881, J. B. McMillan, 5th July,—London via ports, and Kobe, 4th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Algoa, British steamer, 4,897, F. G. Hansford, 29th June,—Hongkong via ports, General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Konowa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 19th June,—Otaru via ports, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 30th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 30th June,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bayern, German steamer, 3,128, H. Bleeker, 30th June,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 30th June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,797, H. Peterson, 30th June,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Trunkby, British steamer, 1,668, John McCarthy, 30th June,—Vladivostock, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Nymphe, German ship, 2,049, Hilmer, 30th June,—Royal Roads, Ballast.—Standard Oil Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese Hospita. steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 1st July,—Taku.—Red Society.

Ly, Norwegian steamer, 2,002, Rasmussen, 1st July,—Kobe, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Wittenberg, German steamer, 2,363, Hemple, 1st July,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 2nd July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 2nd July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 3rd July, Hongkong via ports, Mails and General Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Albenga, German steamer 2,745, H. Peterson, 4th July,—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, K. Kori, 4th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 4th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,591, J. Campbell, 5th July,—Otaru via ports, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Shanghai via ports.—Miss G. Taft, Mr. M. Delbourgo, Mrs. J. J. Efford and baby, Mr. G. H. Perry, and Mr. L. Langer, in cabin; Mr. J. Roborge, Mr. S. Owa, and Mr. K. Torigai, in second class; 16 Japanese, and 3 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Prince Alexis Dolyoroukoff, Mr. J. G. Upton, Mrs. B. H. McCalla, Miss Sarah McCalla, Miss Mary H. McCalla, Miss Lily N. McCalla, Miss Stella H. McCalla, Mr. Y. Wakita, Rev. I. M. MacNair, Mrs. MacNair, Mr. S. C. Higgins, Mr. Jas. Richards, Mr. J. T. Meyer, Mr. T. Kawai, Mr. A. J. Marcus, Mrs. Marcus, Miss M. B. Curry, Miss N. O. Loughlen, Miss C. C. Frazier, Rev. K. Hirai, Mr. Y. Matsumoto, Mr. C. G. Edwards, Mr. C. Shiozawa, Mrs. Shiozawa and 3 children, Miss S. Naruse, Mr. Y. Kasahara, and Mr. R. Furuya, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. K. Iwai, and Mr. H. Tanaka, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Miss Blanche Simon, Miss R. Seligson, Mrs. C. Woodcock, Mrs. John Meston, Miss T. J. Edgington, Mr. F. Seghezza, Mr. S. H. Perkins, and Mr. Henry Jensen, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. E. Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Bevan, Mr. Hans Bruening, Miss M. Baggaley, Miss E. Baggaley, Miss R. Chamberlin, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Comey, Mr. W. H. Decker, Prof. B. Dean, Mrs. Dean, Mr. A. M. Eaton, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Gessner, Mr. T. Ikeda. Mr. R. Lakin, Mr. E. L. Lakin, Mr. B. Matsuki, Miss Kate Murphy, Mr. Weiler, Mr. R. Metz, Miss McLachlan, Rev. T. Richard, Mr. Y. Schida, Mr. A. H. Savage-Landor, Mr. and Mrs. Schurch, Mr. T. S. Unwin, Dr. and Mrs. H. C. Wood, Miss Wood, Mr. A. Wada, and Miss K. Yemon, in cabin; 9, intermediate; 94, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, from Melbourne via ports:—Mr. S. Kodera, Colonel G. B. Austin, Mr. Thos. Pringle, Ms. and Mrs. Bowyer

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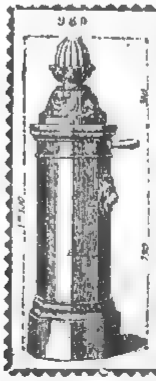

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 14TH, 1900.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

☞WITH this week's edition is issued the Index of the *Japan Weekly Mail*, January to June, 1900. Subscribers not receiving a copy will please notify the Manager.

TO-DAY the French residents of Yokohama are celebrating the National Fête of the fall of the Bastile.

JAPAN, in response to the request of the Powers, is sending an Army to China to take part in repressing the Boxers.

HOTEL accommodation at Nagasaki is completely exhausted, so great has been the rush of foreign refugees from China.

THE news has reached Japan of the death in France of the veteran commander in the M. M. fleet, Commandant de Maubeuge. His last ship in these waters was the *Ernest Simons*.

THE heavy rain on the morning of the 8th inst. caused several rivers to overflow and at Hamamatsu over 1,500 houses were flooded.

THE British Government has raised a loan of £3,000,000, bearing interest at 3 per cent., to defray the war expenses in China.

THE Transvaalers are now surrendering in great bodies, and it is thought that peace is not far away, though racial feeling is intensifying at the Cape.

THE Japanese law courts have given their first decision in a foreign divorce case, granting the prayer of the deserted wife of a Mr. McKelvey.

THE Russian Volunteer steamer *Vladimir* from Odessa, with 1,139 troops, arrived at Nagasaki on the 6th inst., and sailed for Vladivostock the same evening.

YENOMOTO TSUNEJIRO (52), residing at Yamamoto-cho, Fukagawa, Tokyo, and four others, all blind men, were arrested for gambling on the 10th inst.

THE N.Y.K. steamer *Kobe Maru* arrived at Kobe from Shanghai on the 11th instant with 41 passengers, 18 for Nagasaki, 10 for Moji, and 7 for Kobe. More than half were missionaries and nearly all refugees.

THE murder of Mr. Haynes, Magistrate of Gaya, British North Borneo, is reported by Straits papers of the 21st June. The deed was committed by a Dyak and is not referred to any political cause. The murderer escaped.

THE four men-of-war coming out from home to reinforce the French Squadron in Chinese waters will probably be four first-class cruisers, of the same class as the *D'Entrecasteaux*, the flagship of the French Squadron in the Far East.

AT about 9 o'clock p.m., on the 8th inst., a young man named Matsuo Tatsunosuke, a conductor in the service of the Railway, while working at Yokohama Railway Station, was caught between two trains and died immediately.

ANOTHER case of pest was reported by the Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture on the 7th inst. It was that of a man named Yokoyama, employed in the Infectious Hospital at Hamamatsucho, Shizuoka. The patient died in the morning.

A TELEGRAM from Nagasaki to the *Jiji* says that the *Sagami Maru* arrived there at eleven a.m. on the 8th, with 98 passengers on board, of whom 36 were British and French Missionaries from Newchwang. There were also three from Chefoo for Kobe.

A REPORT has been received at the Home Department, from Nagasaki Ken, that on the 6th inst. a landslip occurred at Kita Yamagashimura, Minamikoraigori, Nagasaki, and two houses were smashed in, six men being killed and two severely injured.

THE news from China at the latter end of the week was, in some respects, more reassuring. The two Legations in Peking are still intact and the Chinese are supplying foreigners with food; at Tientsin, however, the Allies are said to be sadly pressed.

THE Indian Government has acted with great promptitude. Already the first of the troopships have arrived at Hongkong bearing the soldiers intended for service in North China, while six other transports have passed Singapore. The American troops from Manila are expected at Taku before the week end.

THE Yokohama police have arrested a man named Ariyama Seizo, aged 27, of Katase, Kamakura. It is alleged that the man broke into the bakery of Mrs. R. Herman in August last year, and stole a bag of flour and some bread, and later he stole some 300 *kin* of sugar from the godown at No. 60, belonging to Messrs. Butterfield & Swire.

ON Saturday morning in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, before Judge Fujise, F. da Rosa, of No. 33, Ishikawa Nakamachi Ichome, Yokohama, was ordered to pay the sum of *yen* 109.87 to Mr. William Campbell, representative of Messrs. Bowden Brothers, No. 164, Yokohama, as claimed by the latter. The costs of Court were also charged to Mr. da Rosa.

THE *Fürst Bismarck*, which has been ordered to the Far East, is a first class armoured cruiser of 10,650 tons and 14,000 H.P. She carries four 9.4 in. and twelve 5.9 in. quick-firing guns, ten 3.4 in. guns, ten 1.4 in. guns and eight maxims and she has six torpedo tubes whilst her complement of men is 565. The *Fürst Bismarck* is commanded by Captain Goecke.

THE N.D.L. steamer *Koln*, chartered as a transport by the German Government, arrived in Yokohama on Sunday. She has 300 men on board, mostly time-expired men, who are returning from Taku. The sick and wounded among them were sent to the German Hospital, and the vessel then proceeded home. Captain Lans of the *Ilts*, who was wounded at the bombardment of the Taku forts, entered hospital here.

BY command of the Queen a Levée was held on 28th May at St. James's Palace by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., on behalf of Her Majesty. The Diplomatic Circle was attended by the Chargé d'Affaires for Japan. Among the presentations made to the Prince of Wales was that of Captain the Hon. Hedworth Lambton, C.B., R.N., on return from active service in South Africa by the First Lord of the Admiralty.

SIR ALEXANDER SWETTENHAM has returned to Singapore after a visit to Brunei. The idea is prevalent, according to the *Singapore Free Press*, that Brunei is to be annexed, or, to put it in diplomatic language, a resident is to be placed there after the style of the Malay Peninsula. In connection with Brunei's residency it is also reported the British Government is intent on taking over the administration of Labuan from the Chartered Company.

THE McKelvey Divorce case was resumed in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday morning before Judge Fujise. Mr. G. H. Scidmore, Law Secretary of the U.S. Consulate-General, was examined as to the divorce laws of Pennsylvania, the native state of the defendant. He proved that desertion of a wife by her husband for two years was made a ground for divorce. The Public Procurator thought the petition of the plaintiff reasonable. The Court then gave judgment for the plaintiff, and ordered that costs be borne by the defendant.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

PEKING.

Saturday, July 7.

Perilous as is the situation in Peking there is no reason to regard it as desperate. One solid fact must be placed in the forefront of our calculations: it is that never yet has a Chinese mob, or a body of Chinese soldiers, succeeded in capturing a position held by Europeans who were armed and prepared for attack. The action of a mob is very different from the action of a disciplined army, and so far as this particular crisis is concerned, the assailants of the Legations, although they number many soldiers in their ranks, are nothing better than a mob. A disciplined army moves to an assault with a knowledge that heavy loss may have to be suffered, and with a determination to achieve the object in view irrespective of loss. A mob looks to accomplish its purpose without any loss, and is deterred so soon as it experiences a sense of danger. There are 430 foreign troops in Peking, and they are now divided between three Legations, so that each Legation has, within its walls, a force of from 130 to 140 well armed and thoroughly disciplined men, prepared to die at their posts rather than to surrender. There is probably no mob in the world that would rush a position in the face of such resistance as would have to be encountered in Peking. Whatever is possible in the way of strengthening the defences of the threatened buildings has certainly been done, and it may be taken for granted that the marines brought with them to Peking three or four machine-guns. Of course, the danger of incendiarism at once suggests itself; but the Legations in Peking are solid brick structures surrounded by strong, high walls. To set them on fire while their occupants are vigilant would be an exceedingly difficult operation. It is true that several Legations have been already burned. But they were not burned in the face of resistance offered by their guards. We may be sure of that, for had the conflagrations hitherto recorded taken place in the sequel of attacks by a mob, they would certainly have been accompanied by serious casualties, whereas not one casualty, except the assassination of Baron Ketteler, has been reported. What happened was probably this: the Foreign Ministers, after consulting together, came to the conclusion that the occupation of 12 separate Legations involved a dangerous dissipation of strength, and that, in view of the threatening aspect of affairs, the best plan would be concentration for the defence of two or three only of the buildings. That the British Legation would be first chosen may be taken for granted, since the great area of its enclosure and its comparatively isolated situation constitute special advantages. In fact, as we stated some time ago, we should not have been surprised to learn that the whole community had taken refuge in the British Legation. The season, however, and the number of those seeking shelter, doubtless precluded that degree of concentration, and led to a division among three Legations. The German and French would naturally have been chosen in succession to the British, for they are strong buildings with roomy compounds, and being on opposite sides of the street with an interval of about 80 yards between their gates, they are in a position to aid each other materially in the event of a frontal attack. If these conjectures be correct, nine of the Legation were left virtually unprotected. Doubtless they were formally placed in charge of the Chinese Authorities, but the Chinese Authorities being either abettors of the rioters or helpless to check them, the destruction of the unprotected buildings followed without much delay. Thereafter, however, it does not appear that any resolute attempt was made to capture the three defended Legations. The insurgents seem to have confined themselves to firing at them with rifles from positions of safety; a method of procedure which might be continued for a twelvemonth without producing any tangible effect. It will be observed that we do not hear of the destruction of any foreign buildings except those in the neighbourhood of the Legations and some Christian places of worship. The Customs Compound apparently stood intact at the date of latest advices. It will also be observed that the German Legation guards were able to proceed to the *Tsung-li Yamên* and carry thence the body of Baron Ketteler. That must have happened not earlier than June 18th, as we showed in a previous issue. From the German Legation to the *Tsung-li Yamên* is a long distance, and the journey has to be made through streets where every facility offers for attacking a wayfarer. The German troops did not encounter any opposition either going or coming, though their behaviour at the *Tsung-li Yamên* seems to have been of a character which, however natural as a display of rudimentary emotion in the face of strong exciting causes, can not be defended and certainly was not calculated to avert a retaliatory display of violence on the part of the Chinese. Baron von Ketteler had been shot as he passed along the street. If Chinese soldiers shot him, they were mutineers for whose acts the Government was not directly responsible. He seems to have been carried into the *Tsung-li Yamên* for shelter and succour. The wrecking of the *Tsung-li Yamên* under such circumstances was a kind of vicarious revenge which did not help to ease the situation. However, the point we desire to make is that the German guards were able to move freely about the streets of Peking a fortnight ago, which clearly proves that the Legations were not then in a state of siege. It is very possible that even now they may not be actually beleaguered, and that although their foreign inmates dare not venture into the streets, still less attempt to leave Peking, their condition may not be so immediately perilous as rumour would have us suppose. The question of provisions is probably the most embarrassing factor in the situation, and even with regard to that there is consolation in the thought that money has as least as great potency in Peking as in any city in the world, and that the Chinese servants of the Legations may perhaps be able to hold intercourse with the markets.

MOVEMENTS OF JAPANESE TROOPS.

It it stated that the first part of the Eleventh Regiment embarked on the 5th instant at Ujina, under the command of Colonel Awaya, and that the second part, with some batteries of artillery and the supply corps, embarked on the 6th instant, to be followed quickly by other troops. Lieut.-General Baron Yamaguchi will be in command of the whole; that is to say, of the Fifth Division, for we presume that the remainder of the Division will be despatched quickly. It is not likely that the public will learn much about the movements of Japanese troops from this time. We read in the *Jiji Shimpo* that most stringent rules of secrecy are to be enforced, and that newspapers will not be allowed to make statements as to the number of men sent, the composition of the corps, the names of the commanding officers or any other details ordinarily published as items of news.

DESPATCH OF JAPANESE TROOPS.

Monday, July 9.

On Saturday the Japanese Government decided that additional troops should be at once despatched to China. The force for this purpose was fixed at a Mixed Division; that is to say, about nineteen thousand men. As three thousand have already been sent, the Japanese contingent will thus be brought up to twenty-two thousand. It is difficult to say exactly when this force will reach Taku and be in a position to commence its advance to Tientsin, but as the preparations had already been made and the transports engaged prior to the Government's final decision, we may assume that there will not be much delay. The British troops from India can not reach Taku before the end of July; the German troops—that is to say, the large contingent which the Emperor talks of sending—can not be available until the end of August; no material assistance can be expected from France until about the same time, and in spite of all the talk about great columns of Russians, it appear from the latest official information that Russia has not succeeded in massing more than from four to five thousand men at Taku and Tientsin. The fact is that Russia can not spare many troops from Manchuria. It is pretty plain that if she loosens her military grasp of that region, troubles will at once arise. Taking everything into consideration, we can not perceive that a greater force than from thirty to thirty-five thousand men will be assembled in North China by the 20th of this month. Should that number be deemed sufficient for an advance on Peking, the brunt of the work will have to be taken by the Japanese, while the naval contingents occupy themselves in keeping open the communications. Just at present the country between Tientsin and Peking presents great obstacles to the advance of troops. The millet stands over six feet high, and to move through it being impossible, it not only narrows the available path, but also presents unique facilities for ambuscades, as the French troops learned to their cost at Tungchow in 1860. At the best we can not hope to see Peking relieved before the end of this month. We do not doubt that the Legations can hold out until that time unless their ammunition fails, and even that danger may not be so grave as appears at first sight, for it is unlikely that anything like a regular siege of the Legations has been organized. Whatever may be Prince Twan's mood he must understand something of his obligations towards the Representatives of Foreign Powers, and when he finds that he can not count on any assistance from the Southern Viceroys, but must rather look for their opposition, and that Nieh, Sung and Ma are unable to effect anything against the comparatively small force of foreign troops in Tientsin and Taku, he will surely begin to take some thought for the future. Much will depend, in our opinion, on the operations of the next few days. The retreat of Admiral Seymour's column, though in one sense a great disaster since it inspired the Chinese with new courage, may have had compensating advantages. Had the Admiral reached Peking, he would have been as completely isolated as are the Foreign Legations there at present. Further, their success in driving him back appears to have led the Chinese troops to assume the offensive. Sung, Nieh and Ma are said to be combining for an attack on Tientsin. That is the best thing

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that could happen. They will certainly fail and lose heavily in the attempt. The allies have cleared away the houses surrounding the Concessions, and have now an uninterrupted zone across which the Chinese must advance in order to make any attack. There can be no doubt about the result, and if only one crushing defeat is inflicted, the situation will probably be greatly relieved. As for Peking, we are now in receipt of Shanghai rumours that the Legations have all been captured, and that the whole of the foreign community of Peking has been butchered. We do not believe a word of it. Nothing would conduce more to the public's peace of mind than that the Shanghai newsmongers should have their heads tied in a sack for the next two months. Two important pieces of intelligence have been received from Chinese sources. They may be untrue, but they do not bear the stamp of canards. One is that the German troops occupy a position on the wall; another that the allied troops hold a gate. The greatest danger for the Legations lies in the possibility that the Chinese might plant cannon on the wall and bombard them from thence. From the south wall the British, French and German Legations are within easy ranges for artillery, and the guns could be fired from behind parapets. Failing the wall as a platform, it would be necessary to clear away a large number of houses in order to get a clear trajectory. Thus the statement that the German soldiers have taken a position on the wall is quite intelligible. With provisions and ammunition they could defy any probable effort of the Chinese to dislodge them. The second item of intelligence is that the allies hold a gate. That is not so credible. The only conceivable gate is the one leading into the Chinese city, which is at a considerable distance from the British Legation, and is approached by streets which would be difficult to defend successfully. Still, as the advantages of holding a gate would be enormous—especially the gate leading into the Chinese city whence supplies could be obtained—we can not dismiss the rumour lightly. Of one thing, however, the public may feel assured, namely, that the capture of the Legations and the massacre of the foreign community are feats beyond the range of immediate execution by the Chinese, and that should such a stupendous calamity occur, the news will not reach us in the form of sensational rumours emanating from that extraordinary emporium of falsehoods, Shanghai, but will come swiftly and direct through official sources.

An Opinion.

Mr. Hoshi Toru, writing in the columns of the *Jiumin*, makes a statement of his views with regard to the Chinese crisis. He says very plainly that the time has gone by when a resolute and rapid effort might have solved the problem, and that the situation has assumed dimensions such as place it beyond the limits of foreign control without an enormous and unwarrantable exercise of force. He would therefore leave Peking to its fate, and confine foreign operations to securing the bases, Taku, Tientsin and Newchwang, and to maintaining order at the important places in the Yantsze Valley. The Liberal leader appears to consider that the Chinese insurrection has an infinite coefficient of elasticity and that the greater the efforts made by foreigners to quell it, the larger the proportions it will assume. We certainly should not have expected such an expression of views from a man of Mr. Hoshi Toru's strength, and as to leaving Peking to take care of itself, the thing is out of the question. Public opinion in Europe and America would be revolted by such a proposition. Whatever be done, every nerve must be strained to save the foreign community in Peking. Happily Japan will very soon have a force of 22,000 men massed at Taku, and these, with the foreign contingents, will probably bring the total strength to 35,000, without counting the troops from India which will subsequently arrive. It is not enough to make the advance on Peking a safe operation, but the advance will be undertaken none the less, and we entertain no doubt that it will succeed.

The Customs Compound in Peking.

His Excellency M. Harmand has received information from the French Admiral at Taku, under date of the 30th of June, that the Customs and all the Legations in Peking are burned except those of Germany, England and France. This dispels the hope expressed in our last issue that the Customs buildings had escaped. The Customs staff in Peking consists of 28 persons, including the Inspector-General, Sir Robert Hart, and the Deputy Inspector-General, Mr. R. S. Bredon. Doubtless they are now among the inmates of the British Legation.

The Japanese Press and the Despatch of Troops.

Tuesday, July 10.

The leading journals of Tokyo are unanimous in approving of the despatch of a large Japanese force to North China, but they seem to strongly endorse the attitude of reserve hitherto maintained by the Government. Their view is that, Japan never having previously acted conjointly with Foreign States in any military enterprise, it behoved her to show the utmost circumspection, and not to take in any respect a forward part. Her prudent course was to wait until some definite expression of foreign views had been obtained. They think, therefore, that the Government has been well advised, and that the course pursued by it deserves approval. Concerning the contention that a moral obligation devolves upon Japan in this matter, our contemporaries treat it with quiet sarcasm. Did no moral obligation devolve upon the Powers of the West, they ask, to step in and prevent Japan's spoliation of the just fruits of her victories in 1895? Did no moral obligation devolve upon the Powers of the West to prevent the subsequent appropriation by one of their own number of the very territory that had been thus arbitrarily taken from Japan? This country has had a bitter experience. It would be insane if it relied on the chances of obtaining consideration from Foreign States. They have shown that they are quite capable of combining for the purpose of prosecuting their own selfish ends without any regard to the rights of others. The preaching of moral duties by such Powers from the text of the precedents set by themselves is just a little too thin. Japan is ready to do her duty from an altruistic as well as from an egoistic point of view, but she would like to have a clear understanding that the toil is not to be entirely on her side and the fruits on the side of her mentors. It is further easy to see that many Japanese consider Germany and Russia primarily responsible for the present crisis in China. They consider that Kiaochou was the beginning of all the trouble, and that Port Arthur and Manchuria capped it. If any duty devolves upon any one, it devolves upon Russia and Germany.

Peking.

The news from Peking, though not absolutely trustworthy, is more re-assuring. Apparently the Chinese merchants, who have enjoyed the custom of the Legations for years, who appreciate the value of having them in the capital, and who doubtless have established friendly relations with many of the inmates, are now evincing their good-will by supplying provisions. Prince Ching and Wang Wen-Shao are also making a fine stand against the violent conservatives. A telegram received on the 6th instant said that Wang had been killed, but as nothing of the kind is mentioned in later news, we may perhaps hope that the intelligence was incorrect. Prince Ching seems to be acting the part of a hero, and, if he survives until the day of reckoning comes, he will not go unrewarded. At all events he will have a high place in the history of his regenerated country.

Japanese Transports.

The Government has requisitioned eight more ships from the Yusen Kaisha and one from the Shosen Kaisha, making a total of 30 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 70,682 tons. These vessels were all to assemble in Ujina by the 9th instant. The following are the names and respective tonnages:—

Yusen Kaisha.	Tons.
Sakura Maru...	2,979
Ikai Maru	3,091
Tairen Maru	2,897
Asagao Maru...	2,461
Tosa Maru	5,809
Yamaguchi Maru	3,287
Higo Maru	1,405
Mikawa Maru	1,968
Sakata Maru...	1,963
Wakayama Maru	2,510
Kumamoto Maru	1,963
Tenshin Maru	2,943
Saikyo Maru...	2,904
Satsuma Maru	1,939
Kinshu Maru	3,854
Matsuyama Maru	3,195
Jinsen Maru	2,332
Otaru Maru	2,547
Yeijo Maru	2,506
	52,553

Shosen Kaisha.	Tons.
Kanagawa Maru	421
Unkogawa Maru	417
Taihoku Maru	3,319
Taito Maru	3,319
Sato Maru	1,045
Bungo Maru	1,162
Tatsutagawa Maru	408
Tainan Maru	1,669
Taichu Maru	3,319
Kumagawa Maru	558
Fusan Maru	2,491
	18,129

All the above vessels have hitherto been employed on the Chinese and Formsan routes, with the exception of the *Kinshu Maru*, which is taken from the American line. No vessel has been removed from the European service.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

There has been no cessation of the attempts made by newsmongers and sensationalists to prove that Russia and Japan are on the verge of war, and the Chinese crisis seems to these writers an occasion likely to verify their predictions. Certainly it is not improbable that serious complications may arise in the sequel of the Chinese trouble, but its immediate effect will probably be to draw Japan and Russia together. The Russian officers, acting either in obedience to orders or from an instinctive conviction of what is wise, are evidently endeavouring to establish friendly relations with their Japanese comrades, and

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since it is pretty certain that the flags of the Eagle and the Rising Sun will be carried side by side for some time to come, there will be established in the field relations which can not fail to mitigate some of the dangers arising in the Cabinet. It is reported that General Aliexieff and Admiral Togo have had a meeting at Taku; that they have agreed as to the conspicuous insufficiency of the forces now available for the relief of Peking, and that they have also agreed as to the inexpediency of endorsing the suggestion of the Foreign Consuls that desecration of the imperial tombs should be put forward as a menace to secure the safety of the Foreign Representatives in Peking. Rumour further says that the Japanese and Russian soldiers are exceptionally friendly. It is plain, indeed, that the two forces fighting with a common purpose, will be drawn very closely together and that a good many prejudices will be dissipated.

A GIRLS' UNIVERSITY FOR JAPAN.

For a long time Mr. Naruse, a prominent Japanese Christian, has been endeavouring to arouse public interest in the establishment of a female university in Japan. He obtained Count Okuma's support at an early date, but Dr. Kato's powerful influence was thrown into the opposite scale, on the ground that the project was premature. Mr. Naruse has succeeded, however, and succeeded signally. He has obtained the necessary permission, has received from the Mitsui family a gift of 5,000 *tsubo* of land at Toyokawa-machi, in the Koishikawa suburb of Tokyo, together with all the trees and stones belonging to it, and has been able to organize a committee consisting of Baron Iwasaki Yataro, the two Barons Mitsui, Mr. Kubota Yuzuru, M.P., Mr. Kojima Iken (formerly Chief Justice), Mr. Tsuji Shinji, Baron Shibusawa, and Mr. Sumitomo. Such names constitute a complete guarantee for the success of the undertaking. Moreover, a sum of 130,000 *yen* has already been subscribed, Baron Y. Iwasaki and Mr. Sumitomo giving 10,000 *yen* each; Baron H. Iwasaki, Baron Shibusawa, Mr. Asano and others, 5,000 *yen* each; Count Okuma and others, 2,000 each; Marquis Hachisuka and others, 1,000 each; Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Prince Konoye and others, 500 *yen* each, and so on.

"JINZO SHINJU."

The heading of this paragraph is the name given by the Japanese to pearls of a peculiar kind which lately began to find a market in this country and abroad. *Jinzo Shinju* signifies "artificial pearl," but the term is somewhat deceptive, for human agency takes only a very small part in the production of these pearls. The method pursued is this:—The inside of an oyster shell is scraped, and the scrapings are rolled into little pellets, which are then dropped into the shell of a live oyster, and the shell is lowered into the sea. After three or four years it is raised, and on opening the oyster the pellet deposited there is found to have been transformed into a pearl. The only disadvantage of the process is that the pearl has a flat base attached and is consequently imperfect. For rings, pins, brooches, bracelets, lockets, and other objects of jewelry in which a perfect sphere is not required, these pearls are as good as the best, and of course they are comparatively inexpensive, being about one-third of the cost of a perfect pearl of the same dimension. The place of production is Toba in Ise.

CHRISTIAN PROPAGANDA IN THE 16th AND THE 19th CENTURIES.

The outbreak in China has furnished a handle for the anti-missionary writers. We have been edified with another repetition, for the thousandth time, of the hackneyed charges which always seem to find willing listeners, namely, that Christian missionaries not only force their presence upon unwilling people, but also attack the beliefs and traditions of other nationals with little tact and so much intolerance that indignant and even violent protests are natural. It is so easy to set down accusations of that kind, especially as it has been already done again and again, that the temptation to paragraphists is comprehensible. Nor can we deny that the missionaries are not always wise as serpents: sometimes their methods of propagandism seem to be too zealous, and sometimes their exercise of the temporal power which has been vested in them appears to be a little injudicious. But any one that has taken the trouble to watch their doings and observe their lives, must admit that they are good men, that their influence is thoroughly wholesome, and that they set an example which greatly lessens the reproach attaching to foreign communities in general. It is probable that several of the complications with China would have been avoided had the missionaries shrunk from availing themselves of the privileges secured by treaty; had they confined their work to the open ports and avoided going out among the people. There is no difficulty in foreseeing, however, how such reserve would have been greeted by their habitual detractors. It would certainly have been interpreted as an evidence of fear for their personal safety, and they would have been asked how such conduct could be reconciled with the explicit command of the Master whom they serve, or with the intentions of the good people in home lands whose contributions support them. The fact is that the missionary can not possibly be right in the eyes of certain folks. They are bitterly prejudiced against him and all his works; so bitterly prejudiced that reason has ceased to have any place in their estimates. By way of illustration we may allude to a statement often advanced and recently repeated in the columns of this journal by a correspondent, that whereas the number of converts won by St. Francis Xavier and his fellow workers in the 16th century might be counted by hundreds of thousands in Japan, no comparable success has been achieved by modern missionaries, from which fact this critic infers corresponding degeneracy in the methods of the 19th century missionary. To argue in such a manner is to ignore history altogether. The Christianity of Japan in the 16th and 17th centuries was, in the main, political and commercial Christianity. Ota Nobunaga favoured the foreign faith, not because he had examined its tenets or been swayed by its preachers, but because he desired to have a counterweight to Buddhism which had become a most inconvenient power in the State. Ota's patronage and his grants of lands and funds resulted in Christianity's being at once taken up by his vassals. There were unquestionably many true-hearted converts in Kiushiu, but it is quite plain that the attitude of the feudal nobles in that part of Japan was mainly influenced by the consideration that foreign commerce followed the Cross; to welcome the latter meant to receive the advantages of the former, and among these advantages was a supply of fire-arms and ammunition, which were of vital importance to the Japanese *Daimyo* in that age of civil war. For every point that Christianity gained by its own merits in those days, it gained a hundred on account of its political and commercial aspects. The teaching of history on these questions is perfectly plain, and equally plain is the fact that whereas commerce and Christianity went hand in hand in mediæval days, they have not only ceased to co-operate in this 19th country, but are absolutely antagonistic. In eight or nine cases out of every ten, the treaty-port merchant is either hostile to the missionary or unsympathetic. The propagandist of Christianity in modern Japan has to contend not only against the traditional beliefs of some Japanese and the agnosticism of others, but also against the abusive and belittling writings of his own countrymen in the local foreign press. These are obvious facts. There is also a matter of logical consistency which ought to be evident to the shallowest critic. The favourite contention of the missionary's traducers is that he leads too easy a life; that he considers his personal comforts, and is luxurious where he ought to be self-denying, extravagant where he ought to be penurious. We do not propose to recapitulate the facts that vitiate such a line of argument. Men that cry out for a high standard of education and moral endowment on the part of the missionary, and, at the same time, insist that he should deny himself all the refinements of life with which an educated man finds it hard to dispense, do not appear to have reflected very deeply. The point we wish to make here, however, is that the Protestant missionary had no existence in the sixteenth century. The men that brought Christianity to Japan in the days of Ota, Hideyoshi and Iyeyasu, were all Roman Catholics. Has the Roman Catholic method of propagandism undergone any change, further than that it no longer relies on the rack and the stake? Do we not see all around us the same splendid self-abnegation, the same heroic endurance of hardship and privation, the same noble sacrifice of all the creature comforts and physical compensations of life on the altar of cause and ideal? The Protestant missionary's critics love to draw disparaging contrasts between his fine linen and roast sirloin, on the one hand, and the sackcloth and mess of porridge of the Roman Catholic missionary on the other. Then, with magnificent inconsistency, they go on to allege that the propagandism of the Protestant missionary does not succeed now as well as it succeeded three hundred years ago, though there was no such thing as a Protestant missionary three hundred years ago; and while themselves admitting that the Roman Catholic missionary's methods in the present time satisfy their sackcloth-and-ashes ideas, they fail altogether to observe that the Roman Catholic missionary makes as few converts to-day as his Protestant fellow worker. The fact is that when we come to the question of method there are no data to help our decision. The life of the Roman Catholic missionary is a very fine thing; an unceasingly eloquent testimony to the strength of the Christian spirit. The life of the Protestant missionary is a beautiful illustration of the family virtues; of moderation, of thrift and of refinements such as ought not to be banished from civilized existence. The sentiment of humanity would be impaired if either example were withdrawn.

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SIPIDO.

Englishmen were not at all concerned about Sipido's fate. They regarded the man as a mad crank, for whom the most appropriate treatment would have been a sound flogging and some years in a house of correction. But they were not prepared to see him acquitted and set at liberty. The telegrams tell us that the Belgian Judges found him irresponsible. The world has perfect confidence in Belgian Judges, and that they had excellent reasons for their verdict can not be doubted. By "irresponsibility," however, we understand insanity. Sipido was found to be in such a state that he could not be legally held accountable for his actions. He was labouring, in short, under an attack of homicidal mania. That is very probable and very easily understood. But why was the man set at liberty? We read that he left Belgium after the verdict. To put the matter briefly, the Court, having decided that the man had a license to murder with impunity, sent him to do so if he pleased. It is very incomprehensible. If Sipido was in such a state that assassination had ceased to be a crime in his eyes, and that the assassination of the heir to the British Crown seemed to him a programme so attractive that he attempted to carry it out even before a law court declared him irresponsible, have the Belgian Authorities no duty to intervene between him and his victims? If he is irresponsible, he should be placed under restraint and deprived of any further opportunities to consummate his murderous impulses. What renders the matter still more mysterious is that his confederates also were acquitted. Were they also irresponsible? Are we to understand that a gang of ferocious cranks who conspired to assassinate a man simply because he occupied an illustrious position, have been judicially informed that they possess a kind of natural mandate to slaughter any one whose fame or social status excites their hysterical mania? It is not to be supposed for an instant that international feeling had anything to do with the Belgian tribunal's finding. The matter is simply a judicial curiosity. We await the explanation with interest.

THE HOKIGAWA LAW-SUIT.

Nearly two years ago a terrible disaster occurred on the Japan Railway. A train was blown off the Hoki-gawa bridge, and 23 persons were killed and over 60 wounded. The injured passengers as well as the relatives of the dead, accepted consolation money offered by the Company, and there the matter ended so far as they were concerned. But one person, Mr. Kawano Senyemon, a barrister, whose son had been killed, refused to receive the proposed compensation, and instituted legal proceedings, claiming a sum of thirty thousand *yen*. He commenced by a preliminary suit, praying the Court to determine whether ground for action existed, his contention being that the Company had been guilty of culpable negligence is not building a balustrade on the bridge, despite warnings from experts that the district was subject to storms of violence. The Court has just decided that action lies, and the question of damages will now come up. It is thought that this suit may prove the preface to several others, unless the acceptance of compensation voluntarily offered by the Company be held to debar legal action.

THE CHINESE SOLDIER AND OTHER MATTERS.

A local contemporary, the *Japan Herald*, publishes an interview with Lieutenant Von Krohn, of the German Navy, who is now lying wounded in the Yokohama German Hospital. Some of the Lieutenant's remarks are very interesting.

He said that the Commanders in the field and everybody in general had very greatly under-estimated the quality of the Chinese troops. He laid special stress on the fact that they are not undisciplined, but on the contrary, are a highly efficient fighting force, possessing the latest patterns of rifles and guns, and having above all, excellent artillerists, who shoot with precision and can serve the guns as well as any European soldiers—thanks to the instruction they have received from their German trainers. As regards the quality of the Chinese as soldiers, Lt. von Krohn thinks they are splendid material, and if they had good officers, would probably be invincible. But as it is at present the officers on horseback are always seen to run away first, and then of course, the men will not stand any longer. Lt. von Krohn is therefore of opinion that it would be utter folly to think that with an army of forty, fifty or even a hundred thousand the allied forces could reach Peking, but that a force of at least 150,000 and especially a large force of artillery and cavalry, and a carefully planned campaign, will be necessary to attain that end.

We have often thought that the story of the war between China and Japan in 1894-5 misled people greatly as to the quality of the Chinese soldier. Doubtless there was, at that time, much unwillingness to admit that Japan's troops were as efficient as the results of their operations seemed to indicate. Critics found it more agreeable to conclude that the Japanese won easily because it was easy to win against Chinese, not because the Japanese really deserved to win. Before the war commenced no such opinion prevailed. On the contrary. the general impression was that Japan would be beaten and that the Chinese soldier was a fine fighting machine. However, when Japan gained battle after battle without suffering a single reverse, European onlookers changed their mind, and agreed to think that from a contest so one-sided no inference could be drawn as to the powers of the victors. The same Chinese are now in the field led by the same Generals, but confronted by Germans, French, British, Italians, Americans, Austrians and Japanese. We say advisedly the same soldiers and the same generals, for Nieh, Sung, Ma and Tung were leaders in the war of 1894-5, and the troops they now lead are of precisely the same material as those they then led. Lieutenant von Krohn seems to suggest that there is a difference, since the Chinese now "possess the latest patterns of rifles and guns, and have, above all, excellent artillerists, who shoot with precision and can serve the guns as well as any European soldiers—thanks to the instruction they have received from their German trainers." All these things the Chinese had in 1894. They had more, indeed: they had magazine rifles and smokeless powder, whereas, until a very late stage of the war, the Japanese had neither the one nor the other. They had also received instruction under German trainers. The writer of these notes witnessed a parade of 18,000 Chinese troops at Tientsin in 1885, part of a corps of 37,000 men who had received careful instruction from a large number of German officers then, and for many years subsequently, in the employment of the Viceroy Li. We are not aware that there have been any German experts drilling the troops in the north of China since 1895. There have been German experts in the south, but the men instructed by them are not under the command of Sung, Tung, Nieh or Ma, whereas it was precisely against the northern Chinese, who had been drilled by Germans, that Japan was required to fight in 1894-5 Of course we are not reflecting in the remotest degree on the competence of German officers. We are merely endeavouring to show that the great advantage of having enjoyed German training rested with the Chinese of 1894-5, more than it rests with the Chinese to-day. The world will begin to appreciate more justly the achievements of Japan five years ago now that it has to make practical experiment of the quality of the Chinese soldier. We do not agree with Lieutenant Krohn that an army of 150,000 men is needed to march to Peking. But that is a matter of opinion, and we can only say that the Japanese, who thoroughly understand what they are doing, will make the essay with less than a third of that number. We proceed to another question:—

The campaign of Admiral Seymour, was a great mistake, and could only end in the failure it did, for his forces had no knowledge of the country, no maps, only eight days' provisions, and above all very little ammunition.

This reads very like a reflection upon Admiral Seymour, and from that point of view we protest against it. In the first place, it is quite misleading to speak of Admiral Seymour's expedition as a "campaign." It did not partake of the nature of a campaign in any respect. Admiral Seymour's object was to reinforce the Legation Guards in Peking. If he met with opposition from the Boxers, he was to overcome it, but no idea existed that he would have to fight against Chinese regulars. Had there been any such outlook, he would never have left Tientsin with a force so petty. The assertion that his forces had no knowledge of the country appears to us very singular. The country between Tientsin and Peking is perfectly well known, and besides, what Admiral Seymour had to do was to stick to the railway, and repair it as he went along. The only reasonable criticism, we venture to think, is that the real situation was not appreciated by either the home governments, the Ministers in Peking, or the commanding officers. We have, a very high admiration for the military qualities of the German, but we have not an equally high admiration for the critical habit that some German officers indulge, or for the assurance that persuades them to pose as final arbiters on all questions connected with warfare.

One more statement of the Lieutenant calls for comment:—

As far as the capture of prisoners is concerned this was an impossibility, as the Chinese are not civilized enough for that kind of warfare. Our representative asked Lt. von Krohn about the statement of a German that the Russians had despatched the wounded with the butt ends of their rifles? when the Lieutenant said it was not quite as bad as that, but he authorized our representative to say that under the circumstances of the present warfare in China, they had been and probably would in future be compelled to kill the wounded with the bayonet. In the beginning they had even sent wounded to the hospitals in Tientsin, but they soon found out that as long as a man was able to raise a hand, he would try and stab the foreigners, and as moreover they found the prisoners very refractory and had all they could do to attend to themselves, they had been compelled to kill all wounded with bayonets, and generally speaking accept no prisoners, but to kill everybody who stood up against them. Frequently they found "Boxers" who had taken their red bandages and cloths off in the hope of trying the "amigo" trick on them, and while that, too, worked at first, the allies soon "tumbled" to it, and orders were given to kill every Chinese, who would stand. The Chinese in turn decapitate and mutilate every foreigner who may be wounded or killed, and who is unfortunate enough to fall into their hands. On one occasion a large number of Boxers succeeded in encircling an Italian officer with eight men, and while four of the men cut their way through, the other four and the officer were simply overwhelmed by numbers and literally hacked to pieces with the long knives of the Boxers.

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When Lt. von Krohn afterwards saw the body of the Italian officer, his head was split in four places, and his entire body was cut.

This is a very terrible statement. Every reader will be struck at once by the extraordinary contrast it presents to the rules of warfare with which the Japanese were expected to comply five years ago. If the Japanese had bayonetted the wounded Chinese in those days, above all, if they had ventured to assert the necessity for such a savage method of warfare, they would have been shouted down as barbarians. Once, under circumstances of great provocation, they forgot themselves, and repeated a scene such as used to be among the common incidents of European warfare in the early part of the present century. A veritable storm of indignation arose among foreign onlookers, and even to this day people would have us believe that Port Arthur constituted an indelible blot on the escutcheon of Japanese civilization. The wheel of fortune brings some strange things into view. Here we have a German officer stating in a calm, matter-of-fact manner, that the allied troops were compelled to kill all wounded with bayonets, and "generally speaking to accept no prisoners but to kill everybody who stood up against them." It was charged against some of the British soldiers in the South African war that they had shot the wounded, and in no country was a louder cry raised against such barbarity than in Germany. The English denied the accusation, and retorted that the wounded Boers made a habit of shooting anyone approaching them. No one thought of admitting that, under any circumstances, a defense could be found for the policy of taking no prisoners, killing everyone that stood up, and bayonetting every one that fell wounded. In truth our civilization stands confessed. Let us take off our judicial robes and step down into the dock.

JAPAN AND THE POWERS.

A leading Japanese statesman observed, when this country found itself confronted by the Chinese crisis, that a man can not commit a worse solecism than to thrust himself to the front in a society to which he has just obtained the *entrée*. It was evidently by that conviction that Japan's attitude at the outset was dictated. She felt that reserve rather than forwardness would best become her under the circumstances, and we can not but think thus she acted with excellent judgment. It is more than probable that, had she shown any eagerness to take a leading part, her intentions would have been misconstrued, and European Powers would have suspected her of playing for her own hand She seems to have adopted throughout, and steadily obeyed, the common-sense view that the lead should be taken by the Power having the greatest interests at stake, so long as the policy of that Power was one with which she could entirely sympathise These conditions pointed plainly to England England's unique aim is to keep China's markets open to the whole world, without favour or affection, and to preserve the integrity of the Chinese empire, provided that the latter end can be accomplished consistently with the fulfillment of the treaties and consistently with the adoption of a progressive programme by the Middle Kingdom. Japan seeks to accomplish precisely the same results and we may say without exaggeration that she has waited upon England's action in this matter. Happily her Majesty's Government have appreciated the situation, and, what is more, have shown their implicit confidence in the integrity of Japan's motives by unconditionally asking her to send a large force to China. There has been some talk of Great Britain's guaranteeing that Japan's outlay shall be reimbursed. Of course no such responsibility can have been assumed. England may have said that in the day of settlement just account shall be taken of Japan's financial claims. That pledge would simply amount to promising that Great Britain will not consent to any combination like that of 1895 for robbing Japan of her rights. Unfortunately experience has proved that no reliance can be placed on international justice where an Oriental State is one of the claimants History does not contain any more flagrant example of unscrupulous arbitrariness than that exhibited in the Far East during the past five years. It is unnecessary to recapitulate the facts, but every one familiar with them must agree that Japan had warrant for seeking some assurance about the harvest before she put her hand to the plough. These occurrences have certainly brought her closer to England. On the other hand, Russia is said to have deemed it necessary to impose a condition that the despatch of a large force by Japan should not be construed as investing her with any special claims in the resulting settlement. Such a proviso comes with bad grace from Russia. Her material interests in China do not preponderate. With the exception of her share in the tea-trade she has nothing commercial at stake. From that point of view, therefore, her title to impose conditions calculated to delay the rescue of a large foreign community in Peking, fails to impress us. Neither can we close our eyes to the fact that she represents in the Far East a Power conspicuously pursuing a policy of territorial aggrandisement. She has absorbed an immense area of the Chinese empire—the whole of Manchuria—and it is upon the possession of that territory that her chief claim rests to raise her voice in the present crisis. If she wanted to see a strong China and a regenerated China, she would not have any desire to tie the hands of Japan, who aims at both of those consummations. Finally, it is to be observed that no question whatever has been raised as to the strength of the forces hitherto sent, or to be hereafter sent, by Russia to China. According to her own public declaration of 1895, she possesses in Liaotung a basis from which the safety of the Chinese capital can be effectually menaced. During the past two years she has been free to mass large bodies of troops there, as well as in Manchuria and Vladivostock. The world believes that she could without difficulty place a force of thirty thousand men in Chili. Already the troops landed by her at Taku are twice as numerous as those landed by any other Power. Yet there has been no word of protest. We do not hear that Japan has asked for any guarantee about Russia's position in the final settlement All these considerations induce us to say that Russia's policy is not graceful. It seems to lack the wise reserve shown by Japan, and it does not abound in tactfulness, for, so long as Japan works in company with England and America, she has comrades who will not countenance any undue aggressions, and, if Russia could not trust Japan alone, she might at least trust Japan in association with such partners. We have always been disposed to recognise the forces impelling Russia forward, to admit that England, in her time, obeyed the same forces, and to appreciate the civilizing effects of the great Northern Power's aggrandisement. But only a blind partizan could close his eyes to the character of Russia's doings in the Far East during the past five years. She has been eminently successful from a material point of view, and, after all, nothing succeeds like success. But it is not possible to pen any glowing appreciation of her policy.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE IN THE FAR EAST.

Our local morning contemporary complains of the "lamentable lack of newspaper enterprise in Yokohama," which, it says, "contrasts strongly with the remarkable development of that enterprise in the West." In proof of this criticism our contemporary adduces the fact that whereas column upon column of details relating to the Taku fight appeared in the San Francisco journals on the morning when the news reached Japan, people in this country had only a meagre announcement of the bombardment. We quite agree with our contemporary as to the poor supply of news received in Yokohama, but we do not agree that lack of enterprise is the fault The fault lies, in the first place, in the fact that the field is small. There is little room for newspaper enterprise: it does not pay. A Yokohama journal may spend hundreds of *yen* on special correspondence or special telegrams, but it will not find that more than a small fraction of its disbursements comes back in the way of subscriptions. What can be expected with a community so small as ours? Another cause is the number of journals. There are no less than six newspapers published in this little settlement of ours. And for charity's sake the public lends a measure of support to them all. Yet another cause is the fact that in the present very defective state of Japanese law a journal has no protection for the results of its enterprise. The very newspaper which makes the above complaint about the sleepy-hollow condition of Yokohama journalism reproduces in the very same issue nearly two columns of telegraphic matter which had appeared two hours previously in the *Japan Mail*, and appends at the end of the last paragraph the words *Japan Mail*. No one reading the two columns could suppose for a moment that any part of them except the concluding paragraph had been "lifted" from the *Mail* There is no protection against that kind of pilfering. We do not take our local contemporaries' telegrams, when they have any, but they persistently take ours, and they seem to thrive on the process. All these conditions are fatal to the development of newspaper enterprise in Yokohama.

"WOODMAN SPARE!"

The grand old pine trees crowning the moat on the eastern side of the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, are being cut down for firewood. We presume that some wise programme of city improvement has dictated the removal of the trees from that particular place, but we are certain that nothing can justify their destruction. Within a stone's throw of the spot where these noble trees have been growing for centuries there is a large space—the some-time Hibiya parade-ground—which has been set apart as a site for a public park. It is entirely without trees, if we except a small grove of cherries transplanted thither last year from the moat on the north of the Hotel. Why are not the pines carried there? Two years devoted to preparing the roots would enable the operation of trans-

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planting to be undertaken with almost complete safety. Three years would ensure absolute safety in the great majority of cases. There should be no particular hurry to complete the removal. The moat with its fine slope of green turf and its delightfully picturesque line of spreading pines have charmed, without incommoding, the citizens since the early part of the seventeenth century. They might well have been left undisturbed for two or three years longer. In no European city would the destruction of such trees have been conceived or tolerated. But the Japanese, with all their love of gardens and parks, and all their keen appreciation of a fine tree, often show themselves singularly reckless. Extensive changes have been made at various parts of the Tokyo moats during the past twelve months, involving the removal of numerous pines. But in no one instance, so far as we know, has a tree been transplanted. All have been hacked to pieces for firewood. What makes the thing particularly reprehensible in the case of the Imperial Hotel pines is that a park waiting to be laid out and planted lies a hundred yards away. Some of the trees are still standing. We trust—though we scarcely venture to hope—that our suggestion may save their lives.

MARQUIS ITO AND THE LIBERALS.

The Liberals have held a general meeting to consider Marquis Ito's reply to their proposal that he should assume the leadership of their Party The reply, having been taken down by a stenographist, was read to the assembled politicians, numbering about sixty. It ran as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,—I deem myself much honoured by the proposal you have made to me that I should assume the leadership of your Party. I fully appreciate your action, and have reflected carefully as to how I might meet your wishes. With regard to joining your ranks and becoming your leader, it appears to me that some difficulty may be experienced in collecting materials among the people for the organization of a political party on a sound basis, in framing a general policy which shall have binding force, and in educating a practically effective sense of responsibility, so as to form a genuine instrument of constitutional government. It would give me the greatest satisfaction to be of any service, however small, in such a matter, and I know that you share my views as to the necessity of reconstructing political parties. The time will probably come when I shall be in a position to express my ideas as to the essential means of consummating the objects of constitutional institutions and the aims of enlightened government. If at that time I find it possible to walk in the same path with you, gentlemen, it will be a happy event not for myself alone."

This speech, having been read by Mr. Hoshi Toru to the Liberal meeting, was highly approved, and the meeting voted unanimously that thanks were due to the committee by which the negotiations had been conducted, and that they should be instructed to proceed on the same lines.

It is rumoured that there is a great deal of friction among the Progressists owing to Mr. Ozaki Yukio's having approached Marquis Ito without previously consulting any member of his Party, and owing to his refusal to make known what passed between him and the Marquis. Mr. Ozaki has hitherto been the head and front of the Progressists, and his disaffection would be a great blow to the party. The duty of dealing with the matter has been handed over to the General Committee.

Rumour alleges that the delay in Marquis Ito's giving a reply to the Liberals was due to consultations which he considered it necessary to hold with the principal *Meiji* statesmen and the members of the Privy Council. It is believed that the Marquis carries with him the great majority of prominent Japanese publicists in the steps he is now taking.

There is some anxiety to know what exact interpretation should be put on the use of the word "future" by Marquis Ito in his reply to the proposal of the Liberals. The Marquis promises that at a future time he hopes to be able to formulate a programme for the organization of an efficient political party. That does not commit his Excellency to anything very definite, whereas it does compel the Liberals to wait Their organ, the *Jiumin*, hopes that the "future" of the Marquis may be a near future, lest the present unique opportunity should be lost.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

All the Military Attachés of the Foreign Legations in Japan have gone to Ujina to witness the embarkation of the Japanese troops.

The storm on Sunday morning is reported to have developed great violence in Saitama Prefecture. Eleven houses were destroyed and a woman was killed.

Japanese securities have experienced a heavy fall in the London market. The war-bonds are quoted at £99 0s. 5d., and the 4 per cent. new loan at £76 10s.

The volunteers in Shanghai are now said to aggregate 1,057 and their number is steadily increasing. The Settlement is evidently resolved to take care of itself in any emergency.

Dr. Wykeham Myers of Formosa has gone to Taku in the capacity of a volunteer physician. It is stated that two of Dr. Myers' daughters are in Peking. One of them married a son of Sir John Walsham.

There has been a wholesale case of cutting and slashing in Nagasaki. No particulars are forthcoming. Only the bare fact is announced that, owing to some family feud, seven persons were assaulted and five of them killed.

Six hundred refugees from China, some Japanese and some foreign, have arrived at Moji, and 62 have reached Nagasaki from Shanghai. It is probable that all foreigners coming to Japan from China at this juncture will be classed as "refugees."

The *Asahi Shimbun* publishes a telegram saying that four missionaries and a nun have been murdered by Chinese insurgents at Mukden, and that the Russian soldiers saved the lives of two other nuns The telegram adds that a church has been burned at Newchwang.

Japanese securities have taken an upward leap in the London market. The five-per-cent. War Bonds have gone up more than 10 shillings, being now quoted at £99 10s. 4½d, and the four-per-cent. New Bonds have risen £2, the present quotation being £78 10s.

Six large British transports have passed Singapore *en route* for Hongkong, whence they will doubtless proceed at once to North China. Each of these vessels carries at least a thousand men. It must be confessed that the Indian military authorities have shown remarkable alacrity.

It is stated that permission has been granted to a company to utilize the water-power of Hakone for generating electricity in Tokyo. The works are to be at Tonosawa, where a fall of over six hundred feet is believed to be obtainable. This will develop a force of 8,000 horse-power.

The Emperor yesterday sent Mr. Inouye, a chamberlain, and the Empress sent Miss Kitajima, a lady in waiting, to convey an imperial message of condolence to the wounded Germans who are lying in the Yokohama German Hospital They have also been visited by members of the Kanagawa Branch of the Red Cross Society.

The outflow of gold from Japan is again beginning to cause anxiety. Thirty-two and a half millions of *yen* were exported between January 1st and June 30th. During the first half of June it was thought that things showed signs of mending, but the Chinese complication has created an abnormal demand for gold in Shanghai, and Japan is suffering in consequence.

A letter published by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* draws a gloomy picture of the state of affairs in Manchuria It represents the conduct of the Cossacks and Russian troops as most violent and unruly. People have abandoned their occupations and their homes, desolation rules everywhere, and no sound disturbs the solitude except the occasional crack of a rifle.

News from Taku says that when the Japanese detachment marched out of the Forts at Taku it received an ovation from the British forces, and when it reached the station, the Russians gave it an equally hearty welcome. Nothing could exceed the mutual friendliness of the soldiers of the various nationalities.

The Tokyo Local Court has rejected the suit for libel—damages 170,000 *yen*—brought by the Morioka Emigration Company against Mr. Furusawa, Governor of Yamaguchi Prefecture, in connexion with statements published through him about Japanese emigrants to America. It is predicted that a bill for the better protection of emigrants will be introduced in the next session of the Diet.

The houses destroyed in the recent conflagration in Fukuoka were insured for *yen* 226,000. The principal policy-issuers were:—

	yen.
The Brewery Fire Company.....	45,000
The Imperial Fire Company.....	50,000
The Osaka Fire Company	48,000
The Domestic Fire Company	27,000
The Eastern Goods	21,000
The Meiji Fire Company	19,000
The Kanagawa	10,500

Danjuro, Kikugoro and the other stars of the Japanese stage must be edified to learn that Mr. Kawakami is described by London journals as the Henry Irving and Miss Yakko as the Ellen Terry of Japan. Their portraits are published in illustrated pictures under that title, and doubtless the London folk are fully persuaded of the truth of the representations. It is good to have these occasional reminders of the wonderful ignorance of Japanese affairs that prevails in England.

The rainy season (*bai-u*) this year has not been as prolific of moisture as is desirable. It is true that an unusually large quantity of rain fell before the commencement of the *bai-u*, but Japanese farmers like to be remembered by the skies with due accuracy of time, and do not find that rain in May makes drought in June less disastrous. There has not, however, been anything approaching disaster this year. All that can be said is that in the districts to the north and east of Kyoto people were beginning to get anxious, and that the heavy downpour of Saturday

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night (7th) and Sunday morning was heartily welcomed. In Nagano, Saitama, and Gifu the rustics assembled and organized dances and other forms of merry-making in honour of the weather. Kiushiu, on the other hand, and Wakayama Prefecture seem to have found the rain rather too heavy. We do not read that any special damage was done to the crops, but in Karatsu and Nagasaki railways were torn up, and in Fukuoka and Wakayama bridges were carried away by the floods.

It is stated in Shanghai that the assassination of the German Minister took place on the 13th of June, and that the Chinese deliberately altered the date to the 18th in order to make the event subsequent to the capture of the Taku Forts. There are, as we have shown more than once, several reasons which render it difficult to believe that the murder did not occur later than the 18th, but the 13th is almost incredible. At all events, the spectacle of Shanghai girding against Chinese mendacity reminds us of the Devil reproving sin.

The *Nippon* repeats its assertion that the responsibility for the state of affairs in China rests entirely with Germany and Russia. No one has ever been able, it says, to discover any excuse for the seizure of Kiao-chou by Germany, and Russia's conduct with regard to Port Arthur and in Manchuria has been scarcely less arbitrary and indefensible. The actions of these two Powers has roused the indignation of the Chinese nation, and upon them should devolve the task of restoring order. There is no reason why Japan should help them out of difficulties of their own making.

It is alleged that Russia signifies her cordial agreement as to Japan's sending a large force of troops to China so long as the Japanese Government adheres strictly to the policy of working in entire unison with the Powers. But if there is to be anything in the shape of a special understanding between Japan and one of the Powers, then Russia emphatically objects. The reference evidently is to the rumoured engagement said to have been given by England with regard to the re-imbursement of Japan's outlays. Very likely Russia objects to anything of that kind.

A remarkable story has been circulated. It is to the effect that the soldiers of a certain Power in North China, having reason to suspect the fidelity of their Chinese transport coolies, killed 200 of the latter, and loaded their bodies into a junk, which they set on fire and sent drifting down the Peiho. The thing would have been utterly incredible prior to Lieutenant Krohn's revelations about the slaughter of the Chinese wounded by the allied forces. Even in the face of these revelations we can not credit this latest tale, but it has at all events one title to credence—it does not emanate from Shanghai but from Chefoo.

Speaking of the strength of the Boxers, the *N-C. Daily News* writes:—"The Boxers themselves, we are informed, hoped to have a membership of eight millions by the end of September, the time at which the rising was originally fixed to take place. The Paotingfu rising precipitated the outbreak; but even now the lowest estimate of the friendly Chinese officials in the north, of whom it must be remembered there are a large number who do not dare to disclose their real feelings, places the number of Boxers in the provinces of Chihli, Shantung, Honan, and Shansi at three millions. Of these, only the picked men are sent to the front, the remainder staying at home to guard their respective villages and to forward supplies and keep up communication with the fighting forces. Camps are being established along the Grand Canal and along the highways between north and south."

Lieut.-General Baron Yamaguchi has embarked at Ujina. That means, we presume, that the greater part of the Mixed Division of 19,000 men are already on board ship, for the General in command would not be likely to sail until the whole force was ready. The operation of landing at Taku is exceedingly tedious. Transports can not cross the bar, but must lie some six miles distant from the landing place, so that a large service of boats has to be employed. Moreover, special boats are necessary, as the sea is often very rough. It is useless, therefore, to send a great fleet of transports at one time. Things have to be done gradually.

There was some talk of summoning a special session of the Diet to obtain funds for the prosecution of the campaign in China, but it appears that no such step will be necessary. If the usual time of the Diet's meeting in November is a little hastened, all the needs of the occasion will be met. The calculation is that the cost of keeping a Division in the field will be 4 million *yen* per month. Hence if one Division is employed, the outlay by the end of October will be 16 millions, and if two Divisions, the cost will be 32 millions. The Government has more than the latter amount in hand, and can therefore carry on without any difficulty until the Diet comes together in the ordinary course of events.

The Mitsu Bishi Bank directors and shareholders had their semi-annual meeting on the 10th instant. The accounts submitted and passed were these:—

Gross Earnings for the half-year	¥1,062,214
Expenses (including allowance for depreciated securities)	942.453
Net profit	118,761
Brought over from previous account	874.576
Total	993.337
Dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum	50,000
Carried forward to next account ...	943.337
	993.337

It will be observed that the Bank has made a very large allowance on account of the depreciation of securities held by it. The depreciation is, of course, temporary, but the allowance made is wise financing.

The Graduation ceremony of the Imperial University took place on the 10th instant, in the presence of H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, Their Excellencies Count Kabayama and Marquis Nabeshima, and other notables. Prince Komatsu delivered a brief address, and President Kikuchi made a speech which is not reported. The number of graduates were:—

Law	129
Medicine	34
Engineering	104
Literature	78
Philosophy	21
Agriculture	13

This distribution shows a change. The largest number of graduates used to be in the philosophy section, but a more practical mood has supervened, and engineering now attracts the former philosophers. It is significant that the law secures the greatest number of all.

We are very glad to observe that the leading Shanghai journal recognises something of the wrongs which have driven the Chinese to take up arms. It says:—"From whom then has the sense of wrong originated? From two sources—the one political, the other religious. If we could but for a moment see ourselves as the Chinese see us, we should recognise at once that our unblushing despoilment, and proposed despoilment, thinly veiled under the phrase "spheres of influence," was sufficient to arouse the deepest animosity in the heart of every patriotic native, except such as have lost all hope of regeneration from within. It is not necessary to enlarge upon this political cause of the present unrest. Neither need we dwell upon the religious side of the question, for that too is allied to the political. The Chinaman of rank troubles himself no more than Festus did of old in matters of creeds and formularies. He does resent interference with his temporal power, and properly so."

THE BRITISH CHINA SQUADRON.

There has been a certain amount of mystery, and apparently an equal amount of change of intention, in regard to the next appointments which are to be held respectively by Vice-Admiral Sir Compton A. Domville and Vice-Admiral Sir Cyprian A. G. Bridge. It has long been believed, says a naval correspondent of the *Globe*, that the former would succeed Vice-Admiral Sir Edward H. Seymour in command of the China Station when that appointment becomes vacant in December, and when it was found that Sir Cyprian Bridge did not succeed Sir Compton Domville as Admiral Superintendent of Naval Reserves rumour associated his name with the command of the Channel Squadron. It is now said that these positions are to be exactly reversed—that Sir Compton Domville is to have the Channel command and Sir Cyprian Bridge the command in China. Each man is so good an officer that it would be invidious to draw any comparison as to their fitness for the respective posts, but there would certainly be a singular suitability in the appointment to the command in the Far East, where difficulties may arise at any time, of a man with the record of Sir Cyprian Bridge. He is a great gunnery man: he was for five years Director of Naval Intelligence, and he has held the command of the Australian Station.

CONCERT.

A project is on foot to build a Christian Association Hall in Yokohama, and with a view to raising funds for that purpose a concert was given under the auspices of the Yokohama Y.M.C.A. on Monday evening at the Van Schaick Hall. The programme was largely carried out by Japanese vocalists and instrumentalists, Mr. W. K. Vincent, Miss Griffin, and Miss Moulton lending their assistance. Miss Hayashi sweet true voice was heard to advantage in two solos, sung with much feeling and the pupils of the Ferris Seminary executed a chorus with taste. Two quartets with Japanese instruments formed a feature, and needless to say the foreigners' contributions were very acceptable. The programme was as follows:—

Quartette (Japanese Instruments).
Piano and Organ Duett, "Romanze".....*Bach.*
Mrs. Murohara and Miss Hayashi.
Vocal Solo, "Sweet Mignonette" ....*Tours.*
Miss Hayashi.
Piano Duett, "Spanische Tänze".....*Moszkowski.*
Miss Griffin and Miss Moulton.
Trio (Japanese Instruments).
Vocal Solo "Come unto Me".....*Cowen.*
Miss Hayashi.
Piano Solo, "Lyric Pieces from Op. 28 & 43 ...*Grieg.*
Mr. W. K. Vincent.
Chorus, "Recessional".....*De Koven.*
Pupils of Ferris Seminary.
Quartette (Japanese Instruments).

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THE EMPRESS-DOWAGER.

SINCE the publication of the imperial decrees issued in Peking on the 13th and the 15th of June there can be no question as to the sentiments of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER and the EMPEROR towards the Boxers, and as to their desire to protect foreign life and property. The first decree opens with strong expressions of regret for the assassination of the Japanese chancellor, Mr. SUGIYAMA. It denounces his murderers as outlaws; upbraids the officials for failing to apprehend them; orders that if their arrest is not effected within a certain time, the officials must be punished; and then goes on to denounce the rioters, to call for their speedy suppression, and to enjoin the preservation of strict discipline among the troops. The second decree is couched in more general terms, but it is not less emphatic as an exposition of the Imperial Court's desire to restore order and subject the rioters to severe penalties. Running through both documents, however, there is a note of appeal. The Court seems to be pleading with its servants rather than issuing imperative orders, and it is there, we imagine, that the true inwardness of the situation may be detected. Neither the EMPEROR nor the EMPRESS-DOWAGER has ever been in a position to deal imperiously with the Boxers. It has been necessary to treat the insurrection with gloved hands, lest it should become a powerful instrument for the promotion of designs which the EMPRESS-DOWAGER perceived but could not immediately defeat. She and the EMPEROR saw themselves threatened with a crisis that concerned their own tenure of power. They were obliged to be content with exhortations instead of peremptory commands and uncompromising enforcement. This inference, suggested plainly enough by the tone of the decrees, is confirmed by subsequent events. Five days after the issue of the second decree, documents of an entirely different character began to emanate from the Throne; documents openly espousing the cause of the insurgents and inviting all loyal Chinese subjects to join in expelling foreigners. We have no detailed knowledge of the course of events in Peking during those five days, but it is not difficult to conjecture that the climax was the virtual setting aside of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER and the EMPEROR, and the usurpation of power by Prince TWAN and General KANG. Probably if the Chinese themselves were asked to write this story, they would say that the crisis was forced by foreigners, and that had not the allies attacked the Taku Forts, the Government could have satisfactorily controlled the situation. That point will never be cleared up, we imagine. It will always remain a mystery whether the commanders of the allied forces acted on a just estimate of the circumstances, or whether their action created the circumstances that justified it. At all events we can not reasonably suppose that the radical change of policy exhibited in the decrees of June 15th and June 21st represented a corresponding change of sentiment on the part of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER, especially since the Southern Viceroys, whose competence to read between the lines of such documents is undoubted, interpret the former decree as a true exposition of Her Majesty's views, and the latter as a manifesto issued by men who had unlawfully possessed themselves of her authority. Thus the situation has now resolved itself into a struggle between the anti-foreign usurpers of power, headed by Prince TWAN, and the liberal section of the nation under the leadership of the Viceroys CHAN, LI and LIU, acting in cooperation with SHÊNG, YUAN and YUNG LU, and not disloyal to the EMPEROR and the EMPRESS DOWAGER. The latter section will unquestionably triumph, for they have the times with them and they have also the armed assistance of Foreign Powers. In the great Taiping insurrection Europe threw her influence into the scale of what seemed to many people to be the conservative party. There can be no obscurity on this occasion. That, at all events, is a gain.

JAPAN'S LUCK.

JAPAN seems to have been born under a lucky star. Events have certainly conspired to her advantage during the past thirty years. It is the custom of the world to ascribe to luck many results which in reality are brought about by wise management. Neither can it be denied that opportunities present themselves most frequently to those that know how to utilize them. In fact, an opportunity which inures to the advantage of a certain individual or a certain State, is recognised by the public at large only because that State or that individual employs it so successfully as to attract attention. It is only when the brilliant outcome becomes palpable that the existence of the occasion is appreciated by outsiders. Thus, instead of saying that a man has been lucky in getting such and such a chance, it would be juster and more correct to congratulate him on the insight that led him to observe and utilize the chance. Probably we all live in the midst of opportunities did we only know how to utilize them. When, therefore, we say that Japan seems to have been born under a fortunate star, our meaning is that she has taken advantage of more than her normal share of the chances coming within her reach. The remarkable series of incidents antecedent and subsequent to the Restoration of 1867 were mostly of deliberate human contrivance, and we must give full credit to the heads that planned them and the hands that carried them out. But think how Japanese finances would have fared had not the appreciation of gold come to her assistance. Could she have emerged from the slough of a depreciated fiat currency had not the rapid fall in the gold price of the white metal facilitated export transactions by which a hard-money reserve was gradually accumulated for the resumption of specie payments? Then, just when her essay in constitutional government threatened to involve her in domestic embarrassments, problems of foreign policy intervened to occupy the national attention and divert the superfluous energy of her people into patriotic channels. The war with China not only brought relief in that sense, but also gave Japan a status which years of peaceful effort could not have won for her. Moreover, it materially helped her to solve the treaty-revision problem, for it put an end to the tariff convention with China which might have proved, and indeed threatened to prove, an almost insuperable obstacle. And now comes this Boxer trouble. Unless we are much mistaken, it will turn out to be one of the most fortunate events in Japan's modern career. It can not be denied that Europe still regards Japan with a measure of distrust; still classes her with Oriental nations and still believes that she would cast in her lot with the "yellow race" in the event of a struggle against the Occident. Nothing could have disabused Europe's mind of that prejudice except some practical demonstration for which it was in the last degree improbable that events would shape themselves. Suddenly, however, the opportunity is created. A terrible situation, a situation unprecedented in history, occurs in the neighbouring empire, and Japan finds herself in a position to furnish a striking object lesson as to the sincerity of her sentiments towards Europe. It devolves on her to come forward, and to endeavour by force of arms to rescue from destruction a foreign community composed of all nationalities and including the Representatives of eleven Occidental Powers. Hereafter there will be no mistake about Japan's position. This incident will effectually differentiate her from the rest of the Orient. People whose geography is hazy and their prejudices stronger than their ethnographical knowledge—and there are legions of such persons—will no longer labour under any doubt as to whether Japan is not a part of China. There will be a new and potent reason for ceasing to discriminate against Japanese immigrants, and imperial artists will no longer be inspired to paint pictures of the "Yellow Spectre."

THE SHIZUOKA FRACAS.

We have had from the Rev. E. H. Van Dyke the true particulars of the recent affair at Shizuoka in which he and a native preacher were concerned. The occurrence, more or less garbled accounts of which have appeared in the native press, arose out of the following circumstances. On the 11th June a girl belonging to the prostitute quarters came to Mr. Van Dyke's house, and represented that she was desirous of quitting the business, which she regarded with loathing. Her case was, unhappily, a common one, but none the less pathetic. In 1891 the girl's home was wrecked by an earthquake, and her mother and several of the family were killed. Nor did misfortune stay here, for a little later a flood came and completed the ruin of the miserable family. The poor girl, who was practically the only support of her father, who was well advanced in years, made a struggle for some time against adverse circumstances, but things went from bad to worse, and finally her father, yielding to the

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temptations offered him by one of the agents of the brothel-keepers, sold her into a life of shame. The poor girl was employed for eight years first in Tokyo and then in Shizuoka. At length, finding no prospect of being able to free herself, as she was, according to the usual system, always kept in debt to her employers, she decided to take a bold step. She had learned from a friend that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* had stated that there was some way of rescuing girls in her situation, and she got this friend to look into the matter on her behalf. The friend discovered that there was a society engaged in the rescue work in Nagoya called the Kyofukai, and a letter was sent to this association. At the time the Rev. E. H. Van Dyke and his co-workers were thinking of starting a branch society in Shizuoka, and the Nagoya association referred the case to them. Mr. Van Dyke got the girl to sign a paper pledging herself not to engage in the business or anything akin to it for the rest of her life, and also giving him authority to act on her behalf.

Furnished with this he sent a messenger to her master with her *haigyo-todoke*, or notice of dismissal, which by the *ken* regulations has to be signed both by employer and employed. This was sent to the employer for signature, but he of course refused to sign it unless the girl's debts were paid. Mr. Van Dyke then sent the document to the police station, with an explanation as to why the master's name was not attached.

Nothing was heard officially of the matter till 4 o'clock the same afternoon, but several rough-looking fellows came round to Mr. Van Dyke's house—20 or 30 in all—and demanded an interview. They tried to invade the house, but Mr Van Dyke declined to see more than one, and while he was speaking to this representative the police arrived with a warrant for the girl to appear at the station. Mr. Van Dyke told the officers that he had a written authority to act as the girl's representative, and asked to be allowed to appear with her, but this was refused. He accompanied her, however, to the station, a crowd of 20 to 30 bullies following. He was refused admittance to the examination chamber, but was allowed to remain in the general waiting room. After some time the master of the girl (a graduate of the *Chiugakko*) was called in, and she was delivered into his hands. Mr. Van Dyke again asked to be heard, and was now allowed an interview, in which he pleaded for the girl on general grounds, saying he would be prepared to go more fully into the case later. This availing nothing, he asked that she might be kept in the police quarters one night, so that she should be free from the persecution which was likely to be meted out to her if she returned to the prostitute quarters. He was, after some hesitation, granted an interview with the girl, and, reminding her of her expressed determination to relinquish her mode of life, urged her to be firm and to resist all endeavours to make her give her consent to further remaining in it.

Mr. Van Dyke was informed that the girl would be called to the office at 8 o'clock and sentenced as a runaway. He announced his intention of appearing on her behalf, and next morning interviewed the Governor, who promised to give the matter his consideration. He also went to the *Kabecho* and asked him for assistance. Subsequently calling at the police station, he was informed by the Chief of Police that the girl was a runaway of the worst kind, and she would be sentenced to 10 days' imprisonment. The master of the girl then appeared and handed in a document cancelling the notice which the girl had signed the previous day, but Mr. Van Dyke questioned the authenticity of the stamp, and when this had been proved alleged that her signature had been obtained by oppression. The girl was called in and questioned with severity on this point. She at first refused to answer, and commenced to cry, but at length, apparently frightened by the sternness with which the question was repeated, she nodded her head in token that she had signed of her own free will. The police said that settled the matter, and she must return to her master; and the imprisonment would be remitted. Mr. Van Dyke pointed out that this was inconsistent, and that the 10 days' imprisonment appeared to be in the nature of a threat to induce her to return, but the police replied that they had power to do that. In a further interview with the Governor Mr. Van Dyke found that nothing more could be done, and that the case must be dropped.

In the meanwhile it was rumoured that a meeting had been held in the prostitute quarters, and it had been resolved to attempt violence on Mr Van Dyke and his two co-workers. The chief of police, in the presence of the Governor, admitted that he had heard the report, but simply thought it an empty threat.

From the 17th the Rev. Y. Tsugawa had a number of suspicious-looking fellows calling at his house, and one, pretending to be well disposed, informed him that there was a plot against his life. A complaint was sent to the police, but they declined to give any special protection unless 17 *yen* a month was paid for six months for the services of a constable in the case of the Japanese pastor They agreed, however, to give protection to Mr. Van Dyke without any charge.

On the 22nd, about 3 o'clock Mr. Van Dyke received a note from Mrs. Tsugawa saying that her husband was in danger, and asking Mr. Van Dyke to come as soon as possible. He proceeded to the house immediately, reporting the matter to the police on the way. On arrival at the house he found everything was then quiet, but that in the morning an assault had been attempted on the pastor, who, however, defended himself so well that his assailant retreated. This with other incriminating facts were subsequently laid before the chief of police, and while admitting that he knew by means of a detective, not only of the plot to attack him, but that the attack was imminent, he still declared his inability to offer any protection except on the conditions before stated. A few minutes after Mr. Van Dyke's arrival a man came and spoke to Mr. Tsugawa in a quiet manner. Then, without any warning, four or five others came on the scene and commenced to pound the unfortunate pastor on the head. Mr. Van Dyke tried to protect him by striking at the group with his umbrella, which he happened to have in his hand, but the latter was seized and used to beat Mr. Tsugawa about the head with until it was of no further avail, he being at the same time dragged from his house. Mr. Van Dyke perceiving that unless Mr. Tsugawa was shielded from the rapid and heavy blows delivered on his head he would soon be rendered unconscious, if not actually killed, grasped him round the waist with one arm, and holding the other over his head warded off as many of the blows as possible. No direct assault was made on Mr. Van Dyke, though clenched fists were raised in his face several times. When both had been dragged about 15 feet from the house, Mrs. Tsugawa, observing the blood oozing from her husband's forehead (an ugly gash had been inflicted by a broken rib of the umbrella), and regarding the situation as very serious, fired a shot gun which was in the house. This startled the assailants, and ceasing their pounding they begged that the firing of the gun be stopped. Mr. Tsugawa thinking that this would have a conciliatory effect, called to his wife not to fire again. No sooner was this word given than they began to beat him more furiously than before, and at the same time dragged the pair as rapidly down the street as possible, until they reached a blacksmith and wheel-wright shop, where they called for a club.

In response to Mr. Van Dyke's appeals to the crowd that gathered around to go and call the police, the roughs called out,—"It is all right. The police know all about it." The bullies were now 10 or 15 in number. It was afterwards learned that at this point clubs were actually found in their hands and one was wrung from them just as it was raised over the head of Mr. Van Dyke, in the act of striking him down. The whole of the violence had up to this point been directed against the Japanese pastor, but seeing that Mr. Van Dyke was effectually thwarting their designs, the mob seemingly made a more daring resolve. The clubs having been wrenched from them (one by a noted brave of the neighbourhood and the other by a policeman who had just arrived on the scene), a desperate effort was made to break the missionary's hold on his native helper, or in other words to get them separated. Several seized hold of Mr. Van Dyke's arms and one or two caught him by the back of his collar endeavouring to choke him. This struggle continued for some time in spite of the presence of one or two policemen, during which time they were dragged fully two blocks further down the street, and nearly all the clothes torn from Mr. Tsugawa's body. Only once, however, was the hold effectually broken, and then almost immediately again secured. Meanwhile at every opportunity blows were delivered on the head and in the stomach of their victim. Just as Mr. Van Dyke's strength seemed giving away, a group of five or six policemen came rushing up and effected a release. Hearing that there were 100 men in the prostitute quarters in reserve to make another attempt that night, and feeling no confidence in the local police authorities, Mr. Van Dyke wired the American Minister for protection. As soon as this was known to the police, they assured Mr. Van Dyke that the fullest protection would be given to all concerned. They have since done so, and nothing worse has happened than the circulation of threats. Upon examination, Mr. Tsugawa was found to have sustained no very serious injuries, beyond a severe pounding on his arms which for two days rendered him unable to clothe or feed himself without assistance. Five of the roughs have been apprehended and are now in the hands of the law.

RED CROSS SOCIETY.

A most interesting exhibition was given on Monday morning at the Cricket Ground by members of the Kanagawa Branch of the Red Cross Society. These young women are trained by Dr. Hirose of the Juzen Hospital, and are intended to be of use in the case of natural calamities, such as earthquakes and inundations, and not in warfare. Mr. Sufu, in his capacity of Governor of Kanagawa-ken, is also President of the Society, and Dr. Miyajima is Secretary. Both these gentlemen were present on Monday, as well as Dr. Yamakawa, of the Central Office of the Red Cross Society, the inspecting officer. The girls, who were attired in neat and fresh-looking white tunics and skirts, with a red cross on the cap, went through their drill under the direction of Dr. Hirose, and the efficiency of their work compelled admiration. The cricket field was arranged with nets and fences to represent natural obstacles over which the wounded—some dozen boys—were to be conveyed. The barriers included a canal six feet deep and three feet wide, a stone wall 2 ft. 5 in. in height and one foot thick, a trench, &c. The wounded had to be picked up from various parts of the field, their wounds dressed, and limbs set, and they were then placed on stretchers and conveyed each by two nurses to a temporary place of shelter, where, after the first necessary steps had been taken, they were removed to one of two field hospitals to receive more careful attention. The nurses showed admirable skill and gentleness in their handling and carrying of the wounded, who were supposed to be suffering from every variety of injury, bullet wounds, sword wounds, scalds, burns, crushing wounds, &c., in every part of the body. Some of the nurses employed were already graduates, others were still uncertificated, but in all cases a remarkable degree of skill was shown, giving evidence of careful training. The operations were witnessed by a very large crowd of Japanese spectators, as well as a few interested foreigners.

NEW BRITISH LOAN.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in Yokohama have advice of a new loan in London for three millions sterling, issued at 99, and bearing interest at 3 per cent. It is supposed to be for China War purposes. The Japan 4 per loan rose from £76.10 to £79.5 simultaneously.

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COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO MR. ASADA.

A complimentary dinner to Mr. Asada, ex-Governor of Kanagawa Ken, was given last night at the Oriental Hotel. The fine dining hall was handsomely decorated, and, as is always case with the management of Messrs. Muraour and Dewette, the arrangements were in every way excellent. A choice repast was set on the tables, which were adorned with vases of beautiful flowers. The dinner had the double object of bidding farewell to Mr. Asada and of welcoming his successor, Mr. Sufu Kohei, and these two gentlemen occupied the seats of honour on the right and left hand sides respectively of the chairman, Mr. H. J. Holm, President of the International Association. The full list of hosts and guests may be seen by reference to the following plan :—

THE TABLE.

J. McLean, Acting American Consul-General
Admiral M. Mori, Harbour Master.
D. Jackson, German Consul-General.
H. E. Asada Yasunori, Ex-Governor
H. J. Holm, Chairman.
H. E. Sufu Kohei, Governor
Leandro, Chilian Consul-General
Ryle Holme
Judge N. Watanabe
Don Gomez de Rosmilla, Spanish Consul

Ralph G. B. Forster Act. Brit. Consul			F. Rodrigues Parra, Mexican Consul
E. Flint Kilby, Vice-Chirman	John H. Jewett, Danish Consul	O. Haynemann, Peruvian Consul	Procurator K. Kosaka
H Minakami, Director of Customs	T Rinoiye, Sec. Kencho	T Kuroiwa, C'ef Insp. of Police	J Dodds
H. V Gielen, B'lian Consul	E. M. Janion	J. Lindsley	S. Saito, Director of Revenue Bureu
D. Aweld, Director of Post & Tele	Dr. E. Wheeler	J. F. Lowder	M. Pors
N. W. McIvor	T Egi, C'ncilor	J. W. Copmann	H Abegg
A. Woolley	C Weinberger	V. Umeda, Mayor	F. Biagioni
B. C. Howard	V. R. Bowden	F. Reis	S Sakaya, Councillor
G. Reiffinger	C. V. Sale	G. Middleton	W T Payne
A. Meier	M. Saito, Vice-Mayor	C. J Strome	J. Favre-Brandt
J. D. Hutchison	G S. Thomson	M. Surth	S Isaacs
K Otani, C'rman C'ber of Commerce	O Orth	R. Fachtmann	J. Mendelson
H. C. Pigott	Press	Press	T Okada, Sec. Chamber of Commerce
R M. Surling	Press	Press	L. Abenheim
W Vehling	O Meyer	T. H. Ziegfeld	A. H. Cole-Watson
R. Pohl	H J Sharp	H W Lea	C. D. Mosa
Le Marquis Nembrini de Gonzaga	T L. Brower	Jno. W Hall	D. H. Blake
J Johnstone	R Forshaw	W. P. Daniels	C. D. McGrath
J T Griffin	Dr. S. Eldridge	F. M. Tegner	R Abenheim.
A Coye			M. Oberlein
T W McIlraith			J. E. Beale, Sec Foreign Chamber of Commerce.
G. W. Bramhall			

The *Menu* was as follows :—

Potage Reine Hortense.
Ortail Soup.
Truite Saumonée Sauce Joinville.
Petits feuilletés à la Montglas.
Cœur de Filet de bœuf à la Bouquetière.
Volaille à l'Ivoire.
Jambon d'York à la Gelée.
Granité au Kummel.
Asperges Sauce Mousseline.
Double de Mouton Roti.
Dindonneaux Truffés.
Salade.
Savarin à la Normande.
Bombe glacée Nélusco.
Fromage.
Fruits.

During the repast the Band played the following programme :—

1.—March "Oriental Hotel" .....W. T. Ekeda.
2.—Waltz "Rosita" .....Wagner.
3.—Overture "Soldiers' Life". .....Bera.
4.—Fantasie "The Fransu" .....Kanch.
5.—Waltz "Lion du Bal"..... ..... —
6.—Potpourri "Muskalische" ....Entanne.
7.—Quick Step "The American" ..... —
8.—Waltz "Golden Dream" ....Brunds.
9.—Schottische "Dear One Far Away"..... —
10.—Waltz "Once More I'd love to see My Home" .... —
11.—Galop..... .... —

At the conclusion of dinner Mr. COATES, the German Consul-General, rose and proposed the health of the Emperor, which was musically honoured.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the ex-Governor's health in the following terms :—

Your Excellency and Gentlemen: I have the honour to propose the health of our principal guest of this evening, our late respected Governor, His Excellency Mr. Asada. Your Excellency, we are happy and very much obliged that you have come down from Tokyo to give us this opportunity of meeting you once more at a festive board to publicly say good-bye to you, and also to congratulate you upon your promotion from the Governorship of this Ken to another position in the Central Government in Tokyo. We are sorry that we could not arrange this farewell dinner prior to your departure from Yokohama. The news came rather unexpectedly, and we thank you the more for still sparing us the time. Your Excellency, it is not the first time that you have been taking leave of Yokohama. It is some 10 years ago, I think now, since you first were Governor of this Ken; though no doubt your office then required not less a full measure of industry and circumspection still your last tenure will no doubt also in your own judgment be the more important period of the two, since during this term the transition from the old to the new order of things became an accomplished fact. I think I may admit that foreigners generally had been looking forward to the altered state of affairs with a good deal of anxiety. A conscientious official like yourself has, however, no doubt had his concerns about the future as well, and we therefore in common now may rejoice in the fact that everything has passed off so successfully and so smoothly. We all know fully how to appreciate the cooperating work of your staff, but we are also aware that in the first place we have to thank you for the policy of patience and tact that has been the key note of the administration while you were our Governor. To be sure there have been differences of opinion, and there are some pending now, but what I am happy to state is that the foreign community have learned to have confidence in the good intentions of your Excellency and that we hold a conviction that you are sufficiently friendly to us and cognizant of our true mutual interests as to insure to us justice at your hands on any doubtful or debatable point. With regret, therefore, we see you part from us, but that regret is not unmingled with pleasure at your promotion and at the fact that in Tokyo you are not entirely out of reach. We hope that in your new sphere, as Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, you may be equally successful, and at the same time not altogether forgetful of your friends in Yokohama. Your time in future will principally be taken up with large questions, with questions of State policy, etc., but you may also have an opportunity, and in a way perhaps even more so, of also furthering our little affairs, and we pray and hope that you will do so. On an occasion like the present, I should not like to particularise much, but I may be permitted to mention one small thing, small as compared with the general interests of this great Empire, but sufficiently important for those who are individually and directly affected thereby. I refer to the perpetual lease and house-tax questions which are still in abeyance. It is true that the house tax has not been enforced and that we have consequently not much to complain of on that score so far. But the uncertainty that reigns over the whole question and in particular also with regard to the titles of our holdings is having a very deteriorating effect upon the values of our property. To many who have put their earnings or savings into property in the former foreign Settlement in the firm belief that the titles were indisputable and to others again who now find themselves debarred from raising or continuing mortgages on such property the present situation amounts to a real hardship. By a coincidence I have had on previous occasions to publicly refer to this same subject. I may be permitted to reiterate my belief that the members of the Imperial Government are not fully aware of this serious side of the case, or that ere this they would have seen to it that the matter was settled. I have pointed out before that we do not intend to ask for anything but what we believe has been secured to us by treaty, and if you will kindly be the exponent with your Government in Tokyo of this our view and of the actual state of affairs, and if you will also in any other way endeavour to promote the solution of this question, you will acquire but an additional right to the grateful remembrance of the members of the foreign Community.

Mr. ASADA, in replying, said they might mutually congratulate themselves on the manner in which the revised treaties had been brought into operation, which was largely owing to the law abiding instincts of the foreign community. With regard to the points which had been mentioned he would lay them in all their bearings before the proper authorities. He hoped Mr. Sufu might have the same pleasant relations with the foreign community that he had himself enjoyed.

The toast of the health of the new Governor fell to Mr. E. FLINT KILBY, who acquitted himself of the task in the following words :—

I now have the honour to propose the health of His Excellency, Governor Sufu Kohei. In doing so I beg, on behalf of the foreign community, to offer our congratulations on his appointment to so important a post and to extend a hearty welcome to him. Although Governor Sufu has not been personally known to this community generally, he has already been Governor in Kobe, where he is well and favourably known, and I venture to express a hope that the same cordial good-feeling will be found to exist between him and us as has been the case with his predecessors. The foreign community of this Port represents no inconsiderable proportion of the citizens of Yokohama, both numerically and commercially, and whilst it is the policy of the Imperial Government to recognise this fact, and to appoint as Governors gentlemen of such liberal and enlightened views as those we have already known, as the gentleman who now vacates the office, and as the gentleman whose health I now ask you to drink, I am sure that he and we, recognising that the interests of Japanese and foreigners are mutually bound together, will work together to promote the good of this city and its increasing commercial prosperity.

Mr. SUFU, in replying, said 30 years ago he was a resident of Yokohama, which he left to go abroad. During his sojourn in Europe and America he was an ardent admirer of the western civilisation, and they might imagine how glad he was to reside again in Yokohama, which had become one of the greatest commercial centres of the Far East. Much of its advancement was due to the enlightenment and enterprise of the foreigners and he would propose prosperity to the foreign community.

Mr. OTANI KAHEI expressed his pleasure in being present at a meeting where there could be an interchange of sympathy and good-will between Japanese and foreigners. He thanked them for the beautiful manner in which they had been entertained, and proposed the health of their hosts.

With this toast the proceedings concluded, and the company broke up.

MC'KINLEY AND ROOSEVELT.

When the last mail left San Francisco all loyal Republicans were shouting themselves hoarse and behaving strangely whenever the names of McKinley and Roosevelt were mentioned, while the party press had worked itself into a white heat of enthusiasm over what it described as the strongest platform ever presented to the nation, the record of the present administration. There never was any question that President McKinley would be nominated; interest therefore centred in the Vice-Presidential struggle. When the Convention opened in Philadelphia many names were mentioned, but gradually Mr. Theodore Roosevelt was recognised as the coming man. But he "hung-back" and unbalanced and unsubstantial talk arose that Senator Hanna was opposed to his nomination. Thereupon the picturesque writers of the great American press exerted their best descriptive powers and filled page after page of closely printed broadsheets concerning the doings, hopes, and fears of everybody who was anybody at the Philadelphia Convention. The caricaturists had a happy time also. But gradually the pressure of public opinion grew too strong for the reluctant "Teddy," as he is familiarly called, and he allowed his name to be presented. Then, to judge by the American papers, the States went mad with joy for a whole day and the best part of a night. In fact the "high-spirits" must have taken even longer to work off. It seems that President McKinley received every vote of the Convention. Roosevelt received one less vote than McKinley; he would not vote for himself.

President McKinley wired his congratulations as follows :—

"Executive Mansion, Washington, D.C., June 21.

"Hon. Theodore Roosevelt, Philadalphia, Pa.: Your unanimous nomination is a high and deserved honour. I extend my heartiest congratulations.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY."

Regarding the unanimity which characterised

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the convention, most of the Republican journals acknowledge that this feature is important as being the first occasion on which it could honestly be placed on record. The *San Francisco Chronicle*, writing editorially, says :—

The proceedings at Philadelphia were but a formal registration of a mandate already delivered. It could not have been otherwise, for never has a President so absolutely won the confidence of his countrymen. The lives even of our two greatest Presidents, whose memories are revered as are those of no other Americans, were embittered by the venom of political enemies such as we do not see in these more peaceful days, and those trials and the glory which crowned them have not fallen to President McKinley; but the fact remains that but twice in our history has a President been confronted with such mighty responsibilities as those which President McKinley has discharged with firm courage, wise forethought, unceasing patience, infinite tact, and unvarying success. The people have faith that in all emergencies he will know the right thing and do it. If at any time he has seemed to differ with party leaders, the people have recognized his deeper insight and unselfish purpose, while his never-failing tact has assured the accomplishment of the end sought while retaining the full confidence and loyal friendship even of those who were compelled to yield. There could be no question of the renomination of such a man. The nomination of Theodore Roosevelt for Vice-President is an instructive instance of the power of the people to have their way regardless of leadership, political intrigue, and even of the wishes of the nominee himself. Governor Roosevelt was nominated because the people were determined to have him.

TIME BARGAINS IN YARNS.

At a recent meeting of the Union Spinning Companies, it was resolved that a representation be made to the Government urging the necessity of revising some of the Articles embodied in Imperial Ordinance No 74 of the 26th year of *Meiji*, and forbidding fictitious transactions in yarn. The prohibition demanded consists of limitting the period of time bargains to less than one month and forbidding the return of goods once purchased, while the transfer of rights in connection with sales is to be conducted in accordance with established rules. The reasons assigned for the revision are of some interest. The spinning industry has had so remarkable a developed that the number of companies now engaged in it is 68, with 79 factories possessing 1,200,000 spindles in all. The monthly output does not fall short of 63,000 bales, the annual productions aggregating 760,000 bales, valued at over 20 million *yen*. Hence the spinning industry occupies a most important position and its vicissitudes can hardly fail to effect the country's general financial welfare. The system of rules enforced for the control of exchanges has proved defective in many respects, and those defects have not unfrequently involved the trade in serious fluctuations. Exchanges, indeed, have almost assumed the character of gambling saloons. Below are the comparative figures for actual and nominal transactions effected in the yarn and cotton exchanges in Osaka during the past five months :—

	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.
	———	———	Bales	———	———
Amount of nominal transactions	83,065	165,035	313,115	323,245	197,640
Deliveries actually effected	885	810	1,020	6,245	17,875
Ratio of actual delivery against nominal transactions	1/94	1/203	1/306	1/52	1/11

The general ratio of deliveries to normal transactions was thus not more than as 1 to 300. Fluctuations in price were so serious as to create constant uneasiness among exporters. Below are the figures for the past five months :—

	Maximum. Yen.	Minimum. Yen.
January	101.85	95 10
February	107.95	100.15
March.....	114.05	108.25
April	105	97.70
May	98	90.50

In the beginning of June the quotations stood at 91.80 *yen*, but on the 15th they had fallen to 78. The loss estimated since the outbreak of the insurrection in China is not less than 24 *yen* per bale, while prices are still rapidly falling. These abnormal fluctuations, however, must chiefly be ascribed to speculative transactions on the yarn exchanges.

The expenses of manufacture for a bale of 20's are at present 103 *yen*, of which 88 are paid for raw cotton and 15 for labour. The so-called market value of yarn, which is fixed from time to time at the exchanges, is not based on the actual facts, but in proportion to nominal transactions effected by speculative dealers. In Europe and America the period fixed for time bargains does not exceed a week, and similar restrictions, if not to the same extent, should be adopted in Japan.

THE CAPTURE OF THE TAKU FORTS.

A FRENCH ACCOUNT.

We have been kindly furnished with an account of the taking of the Taku forts, and the events which preceded their capture, by a French refugee who was present at the action. We translate it below. After some preliminary remarks, the writer proceeds :—

"The situation grew worse day by day. Communication with Tientsin became more and more difficult. Several attempts to destroy the railways were made, but the damage was repaired immediately by the European staff charged with this work. But there was ground to fear that at any moment, the railway might be entirely severed between the Tongku station, the point of debarkation on the left bank of the river and the spot where the Consulates stood. It was necessary therefore at all hazards to be master of the railway in order to assure the supply of provisions and the defence of Tientsin and to be able to go to Admiral Seymour's column. People were in a state of the greatest anxiety as to his fate, and in fact some days later they learned that he had completely failed in his generous but problematical attempt on Peking, and that he was painfully retracing his steps towards Tientsin, surrounded by numerous bands who attacked and harrassed him incessantly.

"The hostility of the Chinese authorities was manifestly visible, and the activity which had prevailed for several days in the forts which defended the entry to the Pei-ho, indicated clearly their state of preparation. It was announced also that considerable munitions of war were being conveyed into the forts.

"Meanwhile rumours and grave reports, which it was always necessary to receive with caution, were arriving to the effect that the Imperial troops either in Peking or in the environs, had made common cause with the Boxers. A more tangible fact was that the detachment from the *Pascal*, landed the day following its arrival at Taku, the 19th June, had encountered difficulties in reaching Tientsin, whither it had proceeded to reinforce the little garrison of the French Consulate. There had been since but very little news from this town, the telegraphic communication with which had been almost completely invested by the Boxers, to whom the regular Chinese artillery were about to lend their powerful aid.

"The connivance of the authorities was no longer open to doubt. It was now indispensable to act with the utmost promptitude, especially before the Celestials, having completed the formidable armaments at the mouth of the river should have placed themselves in a position to prevent the passage of the allied fleets; whose efforts would be directed, before everything, to securing free access and assuring communication with Tientsin.

"The Council of Admirals decided therefore to demand a pledge of good faith from the Chinese authorities. An ultimatum requiring the surrender of the forts to the allied fleets, before 2 a.m. on the 17th June, was addressed to the Viceroy and the commandant of the Chinese troops. On the evening of the 16th the Chinese authorities were apprised that in case of a refusal the attack on the forts would take place at the stated hour.

"The gunboats of the Allies were anchored in the river above the forts to the number of five, the *Lion* (French), the *Gilyak* and *Bobre* (Russian), the *Iltis*, (German) and the *Algerine* (English); two English destroyers, the *Whiting* and *Fame* were also anchored here.

"The ultimatum was sent to the commandant of the forts in the evening. He asked time to get instructions from his Government, and promised a reply. At 40 minntes past midnight, however, without any previous warning, he opened fire on the gunboats, the ranges of which he had been able to obtain during the day.

"The *Lion* and the *Bobre*, anchored rather higher up the river in front of the custom house, were awaiting the hour of the turn of the tide, which would be about 2 a.m., to proceed to the positions which had been assigned to them in the plan of operations. They got under way immediately, under a well sustained and very well directed fire, to take up their position to join in the action, the *Lion* between the *Bobre* and the *Gilyak*.

"The reply of the gunboats to this sudden attack of the forts was immediate and was vigorously sustained. Aided by the well directed fire of these little vessels the troops on land seized successively the forts on the left bank.

"Towards 4.30 a.m. at sunrise, a considerable explosion took place in one of the forts, throwing its defenders into some disorder; then, at six o'clock, there was a second explosion, much more formidable than the first; it was the cavalier powder magazine in the centre of the Southern fort which had just blown up, struck by a projectile from the *Lion*, which was the only boat to fire at that moment. An enormous cloud of smoke, stones, and dust rose, showing the anxious spectators of the allied fleet, so far removed from the scene of action, that an important incident favourable to the attack, had just happened.

"In fact, under the blow of this terrible explosion, which dismounted several guns, the Chinese, utterly demoralised, fled by way of the South, leaving the forts in the hands of the allied forces, the hoisting of whose various flags a little while afterwards indicated their complete success, fortunately but dearly purchased. It was then 7 o'clock.

We also translate the following extract from a private letter from a French officer, dated Taku, June 26th. Speaking of the strength of the Chinese position and the good fortune which attended the operations of the allies, he says :—

"As you may judge it was a fortunate *coup-de-main* effected by warships which had to face a defensive front much more formidably armed than had been expected; the forts were, indeed, able to sweep the river with more than 60 guns; whereas our information only extended to a few, and those very infrequent, facing up the river.

"It was the change in the anchorage of the *Lion* and the *Bobre*, in going to take up their fighting positions, that enabled them to avoid so well being hit, and the effect of the powerful projectiles from our guns certainly had a great part in the success of the day.

"The American Admiral abstained from taking part in the action.

"On the first shots being fired the two English destroyers captured four Chinese destroyers which were in their vicinity, and the crews of which had apparently no notion of defending themselves. They were divided between England, Germany, France, and Russia."

REGULATIONS FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OR CUSTODY OF PERSONS SUFFERING FROM MENTAL DISEASE.

The following regulations have been published in the *Official Gazette* :—

Art. I.—When the house of a person under obligation to protect lunatics, as specified in the 2nd clause of Article I. of the Law for the protection of persons suffering from mental diseases, has been altered, the fact must be reported to the local Governor through the police authorities, within seven days, by the person concerned.

Art. II.—In case any person has been nominated as liable to assume protection of lunatics in

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accordance with paragraph 5 of the 2nd clause of Article I. above referred to, the fact must be reported by the family council within seven days, to the local Governor through the police authorities.

Art. III.—In case a lunatic is to be detained in a private house, hospital, or any other place in conformity with Article III. of the main regulations, the persons under obligation for his protection must forward a report or application, together with a medical certificate to the local Governor through the police authorities. When, however, a lunatic is detained in conformity with the note to the 1st clause of Article III, the medical certificate above mentioned need not be presented, a report to the police authorities being only required.

Art. IV.—Whenever it is deemed that there is no time to obtain permission of the local Governor for the detention of a lunatic, application may be made to the police authorities by the persons concerned, with a medical certificate attached. In such cases, however, a fresh application must be presented to the local Governor within 30 days.

Art. V.—When the aforesaid application or report is made, the method and place of detention must be stated, and in case a room is to be set apart in a private house for purposes of detention, documents showing the construction and furnishing of the same must be annexed.

Art. VI.—In case an application concerning a lunatic is not made to the local Governor within 30 days, or the application in question has been rejected by the local Governor, permission granted by the police authorities shall be regarded as withdrawn.

Art. VII.—The report specified in Articles IV, and V. of the main regulations must be presented to the local Governor through the police authorities, together with a medical certificate, except in cases in which the whereabouts of a lunatic are not known.

With regard to lunatics detained in accordance with the 1st clause of Article IV. of the main regulations, the aforesaid report must be forwarded to the police authorities.

Art. VIII.—The rooms for the detention of lunatics in a private house must be properly constructed and furnished according to the means of the lunatic or of persons under obligation to protect them, and the same must be placed under the superintendence of the latter.

Art. IX.—Whenever public or private lunatic asylums or apartments for the detention of lunatics in a public or private hospital are to be established, apart from prefectural or municipal institutions, the permission of the local Governor must be obtained by forwarding a statement containing details as to their construction, furnishing, and superintendence. This provision applies also to cases when alterations are to be made in them.

Art. X.—The functions of administrative authorities specified in Articles VII. and VIII. of the main regulations shall be discharged by the local Governor. In urgent cases, however, such functions may be performed by the police authorities, provided the directions of the local Governor are immediately obtained.

Art. XI.—The local Governor shall perform the duties of the administrative authorities specified in the 1st clause of Article IX. of the main regulations, but in regard to apartments for detention in a private house the duties in question shall be discharged by the police officials.

Art. XII.—The power of the administrative authorities, as specified in Article XI. of the main regulations, shall be exercised by the Minister of Home Affairs, the local Governor, or the police officials.

Art. XIII.—Violation of Art. IX. of these regulations shall render the offender liable to a fine not exceeding 10 *yen*.

Art. XIV.—Offenders against Article I. or II. of these regulations shall be liable to a police fine of not more than 1.95 *yen*.

Art. XV.—In Tokyo the functions of the local Governor shall be performed by the Superintendent General of the Central Board of Police.

DEALERS IN SNOW AND ICE.

The following regulations are published in the *Official Gazette* in reference to dealers in snow and ice :—

Art. I. The terms "snow" and "ice" in these regulations shall mean ice offered for sale. By dealers in ice are to be understood persons engaged in gathering or manufacturing the same, together with wholesale merchants and retailers.

Art. II.—Dealers in snow or ice must obtain permission of the local Governor. This provision, however, does not apply to retailers. The local Governor, in giving such permission, shall direct sanitary experts to examine the place of gatherings, manufacture, or preservation, as well as the materials used.

Art. III.—Melted ice or snow water must be transparent, without colour or odour, and, if it contains any heterogeneous substance, the quantity must be very slight. In a million parts of such water the quantity of chlorine shall not exceed 2 parts, nitric acid 1 part, ammonia 0.05, hypermanganate of kalium 3, while of sub-nitric acid there must be only a trace.

Art. IV.—Dealers in snow or ice shall not sell or preserve for use in food or beverages any snow or ice which does not conform with the provisions of Article III.

Art. V.—Retailers of snow or ice for food or beverages are not allowed to sell or preserve for any purpose materials not approved by Article III.

Art. VI.—With regard to ice or snow which does not satisfy the requirements of Article III., measures may be taken by the local Governor to deal with the same in accordance with Article I. of Law No. 15 issued in February of the 33rd year of *Meiji*, in the cases specified below. A similar procedure may also be adopted against dealers violating these regulations in the following ways :—

1. When ice or snow is sold or stored by dealers with a view to the same being used in food or beverages.
2. When dealers specified in Article V. are known to have sold or preserved ice.

Art. VII. With regard to the enforcement of these regulations the local Governor may exercise authority as prescribed in Article II of Law No 15 issued in February of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.

Art. VIII.—Violation of the 1st clause of Article II and of Article IV shall be attended by a fine not exceeding 25 *yen*.

Art. IX.—Offenders against Article V shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 10 *yen*.

Art. X.—These regulations shall come into operation from the 1st of August, 1900. With regard to snow, however, the regulations shall take effect on the 1st of January in the 35th year of *Meiji* (1902).

The local Governor is empowered to establish rules necessary for the control of the trade prior to the operation of these regulations, and to exercise the authority specified in Law No. 15 above referred to.

Art. XI.—The local Governor may establish rules in regard to construction or alteration in arrangements in connection with the place of gathering, manufacture, or preservation of ice or snow, or the methods of superintendence.

Art. XII.—In Tokyo the functions of the local Governor in connection with these regulations shall be discharged by the Superintendent General of the Central Board of Police.

FOREIGN STUDENTS IN JAPANESE SCHOOLS.

The *Official Gazette* publishes the following regulations over the signature of Count Kabayama, Minister of Education :—

Regulations relating to foreign students in schools under the direct control of the Department of Education.

Art. I.—Any foreigner desiring to receive instruction in one or more of the prescribed courses of study in any of the schools under direct control of the Department of Education may be specially permitted to do so, without being amenable to the provisions of the general educational regulations, provided that he is entrusted to the care of the school by the Minister or Consul of his nation duly accredited to Japan.

Art. II.—Foreigners desiring to receive instruction in accordance with the preceding article must apply to the President of the Imperial University or the Director of the School concerned, forwarding a document from the foreign Minister or Consul.

Art. III.—The President of the Imperial University or the Director of a School shall, on receipt of the aforesaid application, grant permission to such students only as are considered by him to be possessed of a suitable amount of knowledge, except in cases where the arrangements of the school present inconvenience or difficulty.

Art. IV.—The aforesaid foreign students may obtain, by examination, a certificate for the curriculum they have completed.

Art. V.—Foreign students may be exempted from entrance examination fees and tuition fees.

Art. VI.—The President of the Imperial University or the Director of a School may establish by-laws in connection with these regulations, subject to the sanction of the Minister of State for Education.

Art. VII.—Foreigners actually studying in the schools under the direct control of the Department of Education at the time of the operation of these regulations may not comply with the provisions of the same until they have completed their course of study.

KUMAMOTO LEPER HOSPITAL.

BALANCE SHEET TO DECEMBER 31ST, 1899.

BUILDING FUND.

1898 Dec. 31st. Dr.		
To Balance		$60.49
		$60.49
1899, Dec. 31st. Cr.		
By Balance in Bank		$56.04
By Cash in hand		4.45
		$60.49

DISCRETIONAL FUND.

1898, Dec. 31st. Dr.		
To Balance		$788.98
1899, Dec. 31st.		
Interest at 2%		15.78
		$804.76
1899, Dec. 31st. Cr.		
Balance in Bank		$804.76
		$804.76

GENERAL FUND.

1898, Dec. 31st. Dr.		
To Balance		$ 693.84
1899, Dec. 31st.		
To English Subscriptions		2,328.55
To Japanese "	$37.94	
To less for religious purposes	30.00	
		$ 7.94
To Sundry Receipts :—		
Dispensary	$51 48	
Fees from patients	61.12 6	
Sale of kaya, &c.	19.92.5	
		$ 132.53.1
		$3,162.10.5
1899, Dec. 31st. Cr.		
By Initial Expenditure :—		
Kaya, Futon, Kimono, &c.		$ 64.87.1
By General Expenditure :—		
Salaries Professional	$840.00	
" Domestic	150.00	
Food and Firing	992.39	
Medicine	207.67	
Fire Insurance	52.00	
Repairs, Taxes, & Sundries.	367.63	
		$2,609.69.
By Balance :—		
Cash at Bank	$349.91	
" in hand	137.63.4	
		$ 487.54.4
		$3,162 10.5

We certify the above to be a complete statement of all amounts received for and expended on account of the Leper Hospital in 1899.

Audited and found correct.

G. NOTT. SHELDON PAINTER.
A. H. WRIGHT. HENRY L. BLEBY.

Feb. 12th, 1900.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense, responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

INDIAN FAMINE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Will you kindly acknowledge the following amounts received for the India Famine Fund?

Previously reported...	...	Yen	1,497.12
W. Y. Jones...	...		20.00
Mrs. Spence...	...		5.00
H. J. Hamilton	...	...	15.00
			1,537.12

Sincerely, V. W. HELM.
Y.M.C.A. Mitoshiro-cho, Kanda, Tokyo.
July 9th, 1900.

A CABLE CODE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Dear Sir,—The enclosed copy of a letter from the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, Mr. Kume, will interest your readers.

Faithfully yours, HUGO BENEDIX,
General Superintendent for the Far East.
International Cable Directory Company
July 5th.

(COPY.)

Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 25th inst. I beg to inform you that the use of the Code-book has now been officially recognized by the Telegraph Authorities at Aden.

Please see our notification No. 243 published in the *Official Gazette*.

Yours faithfully, K. KUME
Director General of Post and Telegraphs.
Tokyo, 28th June, 1900.

JAPANESE SERVANTS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I was pleased to read the testimony of "A Householder of Eleven Years in Japan" and of one of "thirty-three years." I now wish to add my own of thirty-five years, and it quite agrees with theirs in every way. Two of my servants have been with me 22 years, and one 18. My only changes have been caused by death or marriage. I have found these Japanese servants faithful and trustworthy, making my interests their own; devotedly attached to my children, whom they never seemed to forget; and on the return of the latter from school in England welcoming them back as if they had been their own. Always respectful, kindly, and polite, they are of the old school, now alas, dying out. In my friends' houses I often see specimens of New Japan, products of the Mission schools, that not only disgust me with their bad manners but whose conduct has been noticed and commented on by many, both natives and foreigners. I am afraid "Manners maketh the man" is not the motto or teaching of the present schools, as it was of old Japan, and England also.

Yours, E. J. MOSS.
Yokohama, 101, Bluff, July 4th, 1900.

SOCIAL REFORM—ANOTHER BATTLE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—As you seemed to have some trouble lately in getting the facts about the rescue case in Shizuoka, Mr. Murphy asks me to give you a short account of his latest case.

It occurred in the little town of Kambe in Ise, where there are 800 houses and 23 brothels. With the brother and uncle of the poor girl we three arrived before noon. After a long talk the necessary papers were made out and signed by the girl alone, the keeper refusing to affix his seal. But to avoid conflict with the *shimpo* the police of this *ken* (Mye) last year changed their regulations on the surface so that they are seemingly obliged to accept any girl's *haigyo todoke* (stop work notice) without the keeper's seal. However, there is a private agreement that they will not accept unless the keeper signs.

At 1.30 p.m. we three went to the police office and presented the papers. Then began a long series of devices to block the rescue. The Chief claimed to be meting out even-handed justice, but he was really straining every nerve to help out the keeper. By the rules his plain duty was to accept the *haigyo todoke* at once and declare the girl free but he did everything possible to avoid that. First he said he would call out the keeper and consult him about it. "Call the girl too" we asked, and after an hour's wait—the brothel was only a few rods away—the parties appeared. Next an hour was wasted in arguing that we must find a way to return the money before we took the girl. "No," we said, 'we are not taking her. She is of age and is leaving of her own desire. And as for the sin of not paying debts, supposing she never pays, which is worse, to fail to pay such a doubtful debt as this, or to commit infamous crime nightly for years in order to earn money to pay it? Furthermore, even though she took your advice and consented to stay in this vile business in order to repay, there is no hope of getting free, for the debt grows instead of decreasing."

Next, two hours or more were wasted trying to get the Chief's next claim satisfied. He graciously said he would accept the *todoke* provided she brought back her license with it. "It is at the brothel." "Then let her go with the keeper to get it." "She declines to go in person, let her brother go and get it." "She declines to go, does she? We'll see about that and compel her to go! Let her understand she is a *shogi* still and not free to go and come at will!" These words from the Chief so stirred freedom's blood in the writer's veins that he launched a few hot Anglo-Saxon ideas so straight at the head of that Chief that he rather recoiled and agreed that the brother could just as well get the license. Off they went—wait half hour—then return of brother reporting positive refusal to give up the license to anybody but the girl. Next our Japanese preacher went, followed by the uncle, and finally by Mr. Murphy. They return saying "keeper absent and licence lost." Then policeman goes, returns reporting the license exists but can't be found just now.

It is now 6 p.m. so we present notice that so far as the girl is concerned the license is lost; therefore this *haigyo-todoke* must be accepted and we allowed to depart.

"No," says the policeman, "the keeper says he has loaned the girl many articles during her stay and he must have them." "But the girl has nothing but the clothes she stands in. Every thing else is left behind." "However, please wait." "No, we will go," and we start, but the police order back the girl and she stops. Too late for that train. Finally, after much talk, the vice-chief accepts the *todoke* and sends police with the party to escort them to the station. In high glee they get tickets and go out to the train. Just then a crowd of roughs rush on them, push off police and friends, seize the girl and choke her unmercifully till the train moves off. Then rescue and rest in the station. While waiting for the next train the Chief telephones them to return as he has something more to say. Decline. Argue. Finally the police guarantee safe conduct to town and back to Railway Station, so on that guarantee we returned. Chief says it was a mistake, he didn't accept the *todoke*! "But you did accept the *todoke*; in proof you sent the police escort with us." "Oh no, they went on other business," blandly. "You lie, Sir! You did accept, and said you called us back on another different matter. This is perjury." "Excuse me, I can't argue with you," and he laid down the *todoke* and retreated.

No more trains till after midnight, so a long wait in police quarters with a howling mob outside. When that time came we started to go: the police forbade them but could give no reason, so finally they started out and got about a square. Ruffians in a great crowd here rushed out and made straight for the girl, Mr. Murphy struggled desperately but of course was overpowered. The police rushed in and took the party back to the police station. Then a doctor was called to look after the poor girl's injuries.

Seeing it was absolutely impossible to take the girl without the help of the police, and as the police declined to help, the girl and her brother were left together in the police quarters with instructions to resist anybody who tried to force her back, but as they had lied so often yesterday we were not at all sure they can be believed this morning.

So to-day this full grown Japanese subject is practically a prisoner, denied police protection in her freedom, and in hourly danger from the police of being forced back to a life of shame and hellish slavery, when she has fulfilled every legal condition to get free. She is detained by the police when they cannot assign any reason for such detention. The laws are fair and correct, but the officers of the law violate the law.

Of course things can't be left this way and all legal means will be exhausted to extricate this poor slave. But how horrible that such slavery should exist, and be protected by the legal executors.

Yours etc., R.E.M.
Nagoya, July 4th, 1900.

THE SIPIDO CASE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Regarding the verdict in the Sipido affair, the explanation you want is to be found in the premises of the cause.

The Belgian Judges had nothing to do with the matter, as it was brought before a jury,—the telegram and yourself speak of a "verdict."

Sipido, whom you call a "man," is a boy of 16, and his so-called confederates were hardly more advanced in age; they consequently should have been sent to a house of correction till their majority. But to please the British Government the four young fools were arraigned before a Jury.

Public opinion in England having rendered the whole country responsible for the act of a young blackguard, and the leading papers having given vent to some ridiculous menaces against poor little Belgium, the decision of the Jury was evidently influenced by those unwarrantable utterances.

Moreover Sipido being described as a very quiet girlishlike fellow who at the time was simply under the influence of some feadings on the Boer war, the fears you seem to entertain about his pursuing his career as a crowned-head hunter will certainly prove vain.

Kindly excuse me for trespassing on your valuable space, and believe me,

Sir, Yours faithfully, A BELGIAN
Yokohama, July 11th, 1900.

[We have not found any intemperate utterances on this subject in any leading English newspaper. At all events, so soon as it is admitted that the verdict was based on resentment caused by newspaper writings, not on the merits of the case, the matter assumes a strange complexion. "A Belgian" asks us to believe, first, that the proper legal procedure was departed from to please the British Government, and secondly that the Jury framed their finding in accordance with their prejudices. Surely that is a singular defence.—Ed. *J.M.*]

JAPANESE SERVANTS.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Perhaps a word in explanation of certain statements of mine about Japanese servants would not be out of place. I wrote from my own experience and observation; and I am glad to learn that others have been more fortunate in this regard than I have.

In the first place, I have been misquoted. Your correspondents make me say. "The whole class of Japanese domestic servants are impudent and impertinent." A reference to the book in question will show what I do say to be this. "With perhaps one exception, I have not had a servant since coming to Japan that was not impudent and impertinent." These are two very different things.

My experience in Japan has extended over a period of eight years—a short time in comparison with a householder of thirty-three years; but still long enough to learn some things about the people. I have not been a hard master. My servants have been paid liberal wages, and have had only light work. In addition, they have been given nice presents at least once a year. I have often sent them to my own physician when they were sick, and paid the bills myself. In every way I have treated them kindly and considerately. But in spite of this, with few exceptions, they have been dishonest and insolent; and their conduct has justified the opinion I have formed of them. I could fill a whole page of *The Mail* with accounts of their short-comings, some of which I am sure would shock your readers, but I dislike making private matters public.

My conclusions have not been formed solely from my own comparatively narrow experience, however; a somewhat extended observation has led me to believe that many others have had a similar experience. So I think the statements are not wholly groundless. But I am willing to acknowledge that the one sweeping assertion that the servants "as a body" are dishonest is too strong. My experience and observations, while not so narrow, do not justify an exclusive statement; and I will be glad to modify this in later editions of the book.

The serious feature of the whole matter is the implication of one of your correspondents that I have intentionally circulated reports unfair to Japan. This I most emphatically deny. I have always been an admirer of Japan, and a friend of the Japanese people. In all my writing about this country I have been careful to represent it in the best light possible; as any one who will candidly read the book which has given offence, and my former volume "The Gist of Japan," must acknowledge. I have often been charged with being too pro-Japanese, and blind to the failings of this race, but I have never yet been charged with being anti-Japanese. No one would regret it more than I should any statements of mine give an untrue impression of the Japanese people.

I remain, Sir, very truly yours, R. B. PEERY.
Saga, Hizen, July 9th, 1900.

[The sentences in Mr. Peery's book which attracted the Reviewer's attention and drew forth the remarks which subsequently led to the correspondence alluded to above, read as follows:—

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"Japanese servants do not have that respect for a foreign master that they do for a Japanese master. We are foreigners, and too much obedience and service seems to be thought unbecoming from a Japanese to a foreigner. With perhaps one exception, I have not had a servant since coming to Japan, that was not impudent and impertinent, and would not at times insult me to my face. The servants as a body are dishonest, and I have confidence in none of them."—*The Reviewer*]

REGULATIONS FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE INSURANCE LAW.

The following regulations have recently been published in the *Official Gazette*:—

Art. I.—Any person desiring to organize an Insurance Company must apply for official sanction.

The aforesaid application must be accompanied by documents specified in Articles V. and VI. of the Insurance Law.

Art. II.—The application for official sanction must be made before any shareholders or members are secured.

Art. III.—The application for permission to start an insurance business must be made by the Directors as well as the Auditors of the company.

The said application must be accompanied by documents specified in Paragraphs 2, 6 and 9 of the Second Clause of Art. CLXXXVII. of the Law of Procedure relating to non-judicial matters, or those prescribed in Paragraphs 2, 3 and 5 of the Second Clause of Art. LXXXIX of the Insurance Law in addition to those mentioned in Articles V. and VI. of the Insurance Law.

Art. IV.—In case application is made by an Insurance Company for making alterations in documents as provided for in Art. VIII. of the Insurance Law, the application must be accompanied by a statement of reason for such alterations.

Art. V.—The Insurance Company must report to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce details of the registration and date of the same in case registration is made as provided for in the Commercial Code or Insurance Law.

N.B.—This provision, however, does not apply to items or statements made in the register of members of the Company.

Art. VI.—The Insurance Company must forward to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce a copy of the forms of the Policy, Application for Insurance, and any other printed papers prepared for the purpose of advertisement.

Art. VII.—The Insurance Policy must contain the entire articles of the regulations for insurance, or must be accompanied by a paper containing the same.

Art. VIII.—A Life Insurance Company is required to state on the policy or annex a paper thereto specifying the amount of money or the fixed rate thereof payable to the person concerned within the limits of his right as specified in clauses 6 and 7 of Art. VII. of the Insurance Law, or a table enabling him to determine the amount referred to in accordance with Form No. 13.

This provision applies also to cases when loans are issued on the policy, or the amount insured is decreased by way of exemption of future premiums.

Art. IX.—In utilizing assets of the Insurance Company the amount shall in no way exceed one-fifth of the total in reference to the proceedings specified below:—

1. Issuing loans without security.
2. Issuing loans to one and the same individual, or entrusting any amount of money by way of deposit to the same, or allowing a loan under his guarantee.
3. Accepting the shares or debentures of one and the same company, or issuing loans on the security of the same.
4. Accepting the same articles or issuing loans on their security.

The amount of money utilized in accordance with Clauses 2 and 3 of the preceding article can be taken together in calculation.

Art. X.—The business report of the company must contain a statement of the following particulars, and must be signed, or signed and sealed, by all the Directors and Auditors:—

1. Alterations in regulations of the company in operation at each business year, or in the terms of ordinary insurance, or other important matters.
2. Result of transactions (Form No. 1.)
3. Statistics in the case of life and fire Insurance companies (Forms Nos. 2 and 7 for the life insurance and No. 8 for the fire insurance).

Art. X.—Documents relating to the decisions connected with Inventories, Balance-sheets, Profit and Loss Accounts and Redemption of Capital Fund, payment of interest, bonus, and dividends of profit or surplus, must be prepared in conformity with forms 9 and 12.

Art. XI.—If the inventory contains any item involving a sum of over 3,000 *yen*, details must be given of each item.

Art. XII.—In the premiums in arrear mentioned in the inventory or balance sheet, the amount to be received for the business year must not be included.

Art. XIII.—Every Insurance Company is required to provide the following amount as a reserve for payment:—

1. In case there is any amount insured or a sum to be repaid in any business year, but which has not been paid out, the sum corresponding to such amount.
2. Whenever it is deemed that the necessity will arise for making repayment or clearing the amount insured, the sum corresponding to such amount.

Art. XV.—The legal reserves of the life insurance company must be classified as reserve of premiums and reserve for risks the period of which has not expired.

Art. XVI.—Whenever a life insurance company does not calculate the amount of reserves in accordance with the final scale of premium, the amount ascertained in conformity with such scale must be mentioned in the item of legal reserve specified in the balance sheet, and be reported to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. XVII.—In case premiums for risks the period of which has not expired are not calculated by a Life Insurance Company in respect to an individual contract, the amount shall not fall below one-fourth of the premiums received in the business year in which such calculations are made.

Art. XVIII.—The legal reserves of any insurance company accepting risks shall not fall short of the amount left by subtracting the sums insured and paid in respect of a contract for which premiums for the business year were received (the amount insured with respect to persons reassured being excepted), and those to be reserved for paying them on account of contracts entered into, as well as the working expenses incurred in the same business year, from the premiums received in the year (those paid to the reinsured being excluded).

Art. XIX.—In case any insurance company enters into a contract for the repayment of the whole or part of the premiums received in the event of risks being not incurred, the amount to be appropriated for such repayment shall be set apart from the premiums received in the business year, and of the remainder, if any, the calculations specified in the foregoing article shall be made. The legal reserves of a company shall not be less than the gross total of the reserves for repayment and the remainder obtained by the foresaid calculations.

Art. XX.—In case the legal reserves calculated in accordance with the two preceding Articles are found insufficient for contracts the period of which has not expired, measures must be taken by the company to increase the fund.

Art. XXII.—The statistical tables, account papers, and other documents used in computing the amount of legal reserves as the basis or standard of calculation must be preserved until the completion of similar calculations for the next period.

Art. XXI.—Any application for the voluntary dissolution of a company must always be accompanied with a statement of reasons, the decision of a general meeting, the inventory, balance sheet, and all other documents necessary for the adjustment of contracts for insurance.

Art. XXIII.—Application for amalgamation must be accompanied with a statement of reasons, the decision of a general meeting, and the regulations of the company to be organised or maintained after amalgamation, together with the documents specified in Article LXXIX. of the Insurance Law.

When no practical measures are taken within six months after obtaining official sanction the sanction in question will lose its validity.

Art. XXIV.—All the documents to be addressed to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce by the projectors of an insurance company or by the company itself must be forwarded through the local Governor of the district where its headquarters or principal offices are established.

For the aforesaid documents the stiff paper known as *Minogami* must be used except in cases where the same are printed.

Art. XXV.—In case any documents to be addressed to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce by the projectors of an insurance company or by the company itself are not prepared in Japanese, a translation must be annexed.

Art. XXVI.—In case any item in the aforesaid documents contains the value of foreign coins, the value in question must be converted into Japanese currency in accordance with the table notified by the Minister of Finance showing the relative value of Japanese and foreign coins.

Art. XXVII.—The provisions of Article XXIV. are applicable to insurance companies organised prior to the promulgation of the Insurance Law. Those of Article XIV. need not be complied with for a period of six months from the date of the operation of the said law.

Art. XXVIII.—In case the regulations of an insurance company organized prior to the operation of the Insurance Law are found to conflict with the present regulations, alterations must be made within six months from the date of the operation of the latter.

Art. XXIX.—No alteration is necessary even if the procedure with regard to the utilization of the assets of a company organised prior to the operation of the Insurance Law is contrary to restrictions imposed by Article IX. But in case the method of utilisation has been changed after the said law came into force, the provisions of Article IX. must be complied with.

Art. XXX.—In case any ordinary or limited partnership desires to undertake the business of insurance as its chief occupation, or to alter its organisation into a joint stock company, the application to that effect must be accompanied with a statement of reasons, particulars of decision, inventory, and balance sheet.

Art. XXXI.—Ordinance No. 11 of the Department of Commerce and Agriculture issued in the 32nd year of *Meiji* (1899) is rescinded. (The forms alluded to in the preceding articles are omitted).

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

According to the *Nichi Nichi* the following resolutions were passed at a meeting of the Union Educational Society recently held in Tokyo:—

1. That the system of education for national schools should be established as follows:—

(*a*) All the elementary schools now in existence shall be called national schools for the diffusion of education among the people.

(*b*) The term of instruction in these schools should be fixed for six years.

(*c*) The main branches of study should be four—moral philosophy, Japanese (reading, composition, and penmanship), arithmetic, and physical culture.

(*d*) The hours of instruction should be four a day, with the option of increasing or decreasing it by one hour.

(*e*) Schools should adopt a system of separate morning and afternoon classes.

(*f*) Each city, town, or village should adopt measures in such a way as to make it practicable to establish preparation schools above the standard of national schools for imparting middle or higher education. Graduates from the preparatory schools should be regarded as having completed the obligatory course of studies.

(*g*) The directors and teachers of national schools shall be regarded as State officials, and their stipends shall be paid out of prefectural taxes, with aids, to a certain extent, from the Treasury.

(*h*) No tuition fees shall be collected in national schools, preparatory institutions excepted.

2. Intermediate schools should be classified as ordinary and preparatory.

3. For instruction in writing in primary schools the ordinary style of composition should be adopted, abolishing the use of the particle *soro*.

4. A Central Educational Inspection Bureau should be established, with similar institutions in the various localities, the empire being divided into a number of educational sections for purposes of inspection.

CHINA NOTES.

The British naval brigade under Captain Cradock, H.M.S. *Alacrity*, was the first to enter Tientsin.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* gives a telegram dated Tsingtau, 26th June, 8.30 p.m. to the following effect:—A party has started from Tsingtau to rescue Reverend Chalfant and two ladies of the New York Presbyterian Mission, driven out from Weihsien.

A Japanese telegram from Tientsin dispatched from Chefoo on the 29th ultimo says that the native city was all burnt, and the premises of the Yokohama Specie Bank at Tientsin were burnt. A Japanese in the Yusin Yoko was reported killed, and another Japanese, Ikeda Bunzo, wounded.

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. communicate to the *N.-C. Daily News* the following telegram received by them, dated Newchwang, 29th June, 1.20 p.m.:—"We do not anticipate trouble here; business progressing favourably, no excitement in native city." We (*Japan Mail*) learn that all the foreigners there are under arms and do patrol duty every night.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 23rd ult., says:—All is quiet here and there seems no cause to apprehend trouble. The Viceroy has shown great

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friendliness and is ready to offer any protection to foreigners in case of need. There have been some few soldiers sent on to the Settlement and others are in readiness a short distance away. The forts at the mouth of the river have been well supplied with men.

The medical mission at Moukden, which has been burned, was established by the United Presbyterian Mission in 1882. The popularity of the work grew, and it was found of the greatest help in "overcoming prejudice and allaying suspicions." The staff was increased to four medical missionaries, and there were two hospitals, in addition to which dispensing has been carried on in various places. It may be imagined, then, that the mission was one of importance.

The Imperial Chinese Telegraphs, says the chief Shanghai paper, are hardly acting fairly by the public. Messages from Chefoo are taking longer in a vast number of instances, and in some considerably longer, in coming by telegraph than by steamer, and yet the Telegraph Administration conceals this from the public, and accepts payment for messages as complacently as if it could really send them through with ordinary telegraphic speed.

It is stated in Mandarin circles in Shanghai that, when the news that Admiral Seymour's Corps was retiring to Yangtsun, owing to inability to proceed further to Peking, was brought to Prince Twan at Peking, he immediately ordered Kang Yi to proceed to the Iho Ch'uan Camps with Tls. 100,000 and silks and satins to distribute to their leaders and followers. The head chief received Tls. 100 and some 50 pieces of silks and satins, the subordinate chiefs Tls. 50 and 10 pieces of silks and satins each, and the ordinary men Tls. 5 apiece.

A private letter from Tientsin dated the 27th ult. says:—"You will have heard of the exciting times we have had here for the past ten days. This forenoon our chaps and the Russians have been attacking the large arsenal. It was a fine sight to see the practice of the men from the *Terrible* with a 12-pounder, and the explosions which followed. I hear they have taken it and all is quiet again. All that now remains to be done to make Tientsin perfectly safe is to capture a fort in the city whence they have been shelling us badly; especially the fire from one or two 6-inch guns which caused much damage, and I expect they will tackle this to-morrow."

The Hon. J. Goodnow, U.S. Consul-General at Shanghai, received a message on July 1st stating that Messrs. Jamieson, Reid, and Fisher, Engineers of the Peking Syndicate, and 15 adult members of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission, had retreated from Kaifongfu for Singyan and were expected to arrive there, after an eight days' passage down the river Han. Messrs. Warren and Goodnow, the respective British and American Consuls, wired to the Viceroy of Wuchang to ask for the protection of the party on their journey down the river. The Viceroy has issued an edict ordering his people to maintain peace towards foreigners regardless of all edicts from Peking.

The *Manila Times* of June 23 says:—Ten of the companies of the 9th U. S. Infantry, under orders to sail for Taku, are now mobilised at the Nipa Barracks at Malate. Companies A and B came in on the train last night, and the last two companies are expected in this morning. In addition to the waggon train already announced to go, ten men from the U. S. Signal Corps are detailed to accompany the 9th U. S. Infantry on their expedition. Five men have been selected from each of the two companies of Signal men, and to say that they are happy at the prospect of a change of scene is putting it mildly. It is now stated that the 17th and the 12th Infantry will follow as fast as transportation can be arranged for them, and they can be relieved from their present stations, which are along the Railway between Tarlac and Dagupon.

Both men and officers of the 12th and 17th Infantry are jubilant at the prospect of seeing service in China, and officers of other regiments are vying with each other, and exerting every 'pull' available to be assigned to duty in China.

A telegram published by the *N.-C. Daily News*, dated Tsingtau, 30th June, 1.10 p.m. says:—Mr. Hildebrandt and five of his assistants were attacked last night at the railroad works near Kaomi. There was hard fighting. Many Chinese are killed and many houses burnt. The Europeans lost everything but their lives. They arrived at Tsingtau to-day. Chinese soldiers participated in the robbery. Catholic missionaries have been driven out by the mandarins. The Church erected at Yenchoufu by the Chinese in expiation of the murder of the two missionaries three years ago has been destroyed. The Magistrate at Chining demands the departure of all missionaries on the 2nd July.

The Volunteer Corps of Shanghai generally now numbers over 1,000 men, as will be seen from the following table:—

	S. V. C.
"A" Co.	130
"B" Co.	72
German Co.	80
Reserve Co.	93
Artillery	50
Light Horse	40
Naval Co.	40
Staff	10
Customs Volunteers	86
American Volunteers	66
French Volunteers	60
Japanese Volunteers	200
Portuguese Volunteers	100
Pootung Volunteers	30
Total	1,057

A letter from Ts'ung Kiang-pu in the *Shanghai Mercury*, dated June 27th, says:—The situation remains quiet notwithstanding the number of soldiers who are passing through. These soldiers move very slowly, the boats on which they come or which bring up their supplies, being very heavily laden with timber, evidently a private speculation of the owners of the boats, if not of some of the officers themselves. They do not remain here but pass slowly on. Some of them say they are going to Peking as the Emperor wishes personally to see them drilling. Our native informants tell us that a few days ago flying couriers arrived from Peking ordering all the soldiers to advance at once to the capital. They also tell us that so far from doing so they are encamped a short distance to the northward, and that many of them are selling their belongings at a great sacrifice and deserting. Soldiering may be very pleasant work for easy going people in time of peace, but it is a different matter when fighting is imminent. Other soldiers are expected soon to arrive from Nanking. There is much talk among the natives here about recent events in the north, and native friends tell us of plots formed to burn out all the foreigners. The date is set, but when it approaches we are informed that it has been postponed indefinitely. We can see no cause for alarm in the general bearing of the people toward us.

The Taku Forts affair continues a most interesting topic. New facts and new statements are continually coming out, and for this reason the letter from which the following quotations are made is interesting. First as to the appearance of the Forts, the writer says: "The Forts looked—and are—very strong, and you cannot get near enough to shell them with big ships. They are on both sides of the river, and the ground, which is made by the river, is very swampy and cut up. The first thing inside the river is the Taku Tug Company's works. The dock is a mud one, and instead of a caisson, has a mud wall, which is dug away by coolies and replaced by the same means. Higher up on the right bank is Chiku, a fishing village, and still higher up the river the Imperial Chinese Dockyard, with four Chinese destroyers lying there, very clean outwardly and with their boilers full of mud. Yet higher, on the left bank, is Tongku, where there are many wharves, Custom House, and railway to Tientsin. The other day I saw a man run down the bank we were walking on, and step on to what looked like hard, dry mud. But it was very soft indeed, and we had to pull him out—I and a coolie—for it was very nearly a quagmire, and he could not stand in it; he went down that bank blue, and came out light yellow. "On the 7th we had a most terrific storm. . . . For nearly an hour the lightning kept the sky light-blue, with an occasional dark interval. You could not see any flashes, it was one continuous flash, and the light flickered like an arc lamp will do." With regard to the bombardment the writer adds:—"I was told that the behaviour of the British and Japanese was perfect. The men fell in as soon as the fort was taken. . . . They say the *Algerine* made perfect shooting, hitting a gun-shield every time, and every time they had to get a new gun's crew in the fort. The Japanese commander was first into the first fort, and Commander Cradock second." "All the reports speak well of the British sailors. There was one man who landed to take the forts armed with a tomahawk—no rifles left—and lost his boots in a quagmire, after hiding in the engine-room of the tug all the way in. He took four forts. There was another who took three with a Mauser bullet through his leg, and then dropped. He said, 'You know *I'm* wounded——' and seemed rather proud of it."

A telegram received by the Shanghai Mandarins reports that on the 26th ultimo the Boxers and Prince Twan's troops looted the Chu-pao-Shih, or Pearls and Precious Stones' Market, and Mai Shu-Chieh, Bankers' and Jewellers and Silks Street, the two richest thoroughfares of Peking, and having pillaged these streets, set fire to and destroyed them and several others.

The Comte de Bezaure, French Consul-General, has received news via Chefoo, dated Peking 24th ult., saying that Bishop Favier and the priests, etc., were still in Peitang, all their other buildings having been burnt; the rest of the foreigners were in the British, French, and Japanese Legations, with only food for two days.

News is to hand from Newchwang to the effect that the missions at Moukden and Laoyang have been destroyed. Parties of armed Chinese are within sixty miles of Newchwang. The northern Manchurian railways are being destroyed. One Russian has been killed. The Russian consulate there is being guarded by the Taotai.

The following notes are from Shanghai papers:—According to Taku advices to the 30th June, two runners have reached there from Peking, which they left on the 24th June. They brought letters from the Legations with the following information: "We are beseiged, provisions are becoming exhausted, and the situation is desperate. The relief force should advance, and give us notice by signals where they are." The runners stated that five days before they left Peking the German Minister was murdered on the street when going to the Tsungli Yamen, and that a British officer and a number of sailors were wounded in attempting to defend them. Many Chinese troops were in the City, and the Chief of the Boxers was at the Yamen. There were about 80,000 troops, under two generals, to the westward of Peking.

A *Shanghai Mercury* telegram dated Taku June 28th, says:—The Allied forces operating from here now number: Russians and Japanese, 4,000 each, British 2,800, including 180 officers, Germans 1,300, Americans 300. There are also 330 of the First Chinese Regiment here. It is reported here that the men of this regiment were very anxious to take part in the fighting, and that they were greatly dissatisfied until instructions reached them in Weihaiwei to proceed here. The foreign fleets are represented here by vessels of Russia, England, Japan, France, Germany, America, Italy, and Austria. In addition to the wounded there are a large number of Admiral Seymour's force sick and in hospital. The Chinese torpedo destroyers captured at Taku on the 19th have been commissioned by the allied forces. The destroyer *Fame* has destroyed the fort on the river seven miles above here, which was established by Li Hung-chang. In it were found six Krupp guns with limbers, and fifty field guns. The latter were removed. In the magazine

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there were at least thirty tons of powder. This fort was abandoned on the night of the bombardment of the Taku forts. It has been discovered that both the Imperial troops and the Boxers discard their emblems for the purpose of disguising themselves on the approach of foreigners.

A telegram from Chefoo, 2nd July, says:—The Russian Admiral in Taku has received word from his Colonel at Tientsin, that he had received a letter from the Russian Minister by a native runner, stating that the foreign Ministers were to meet the Chinese officials at the Tsungli Yamên for a conference, and that the German Minister went first, and was murdered on the street by Imperial troops whilst en route. The other Ministers did not go to the conference. The German troops then burned the Tsungli Yamên. The food and ammunition at the Legations were almost exhausted. The Chinese runner left Peking on the 24th June. When he left the Chinese had mounted guns on the walls commanding the Legations, and were warning the Chinese in the neighbourhood to get out of range. After the runner had got some distance from the city, he heard heavy firing in the direction of the Legations. The Chinese Merchants Steamship Company's property in Tientsin has been transferred to American ownership.

The present much disturbed state of affairs will materially affect the arrangements which are being made for the coming triennial examinations in Nanking and other large centres. The students regard the outlook as anything but hopeful. Even should the proposed programme be carried out there will likely be a large falling off in the number of competitive students. The literati are watching with keen interest the revolutionary movement. Thousands of the students are now of the progressive type, though their views are held sacredly secret for fear of the opposition party. Though the attitude of the Viceroy is regarded by them as being anti-loyal to the Dowager Empress, they wish that he may succeed in making a distinct dividing line between the political affairs of the north and the central provinces. On the other hand there are thousands of the students who regard the rebellion as in harmony with "Tien Ming" (the Heavenly decree), and see in it the promise of a plot to rid the Celestial Empire of the hated foreigner and all his scientific and progressive plant and machinery.

The *Hongkong Daily Press*, publishes the following despatch dated Canton, 30th June:—H. E. the Viceroy Li Hung-chang says, in his reply to the petitions of the Directors of different charitable institutions and the various Committees, in which they urged him to remain in Canton in view of the present difficulties in the North, that as a Minister he is bound to protect the dominions of his sovereign under any circumstances whatever, and to act for the good of the people. As they are afraid that the numbers of soldiers in Canton are not enough for its protection, he has doubled the force by sending for the troops of General Wong Kum-fuk, of Sonyung and Onyung, to come back quickly for the protection of the people. In case he should have to leave, he will do his best for their welfare. He has given orders to the troops to keep strict watch everywhere, and as to Shameen he has also doubled the force for its protection, so as to ensure amity and friendship between China and foreign nations. Of late he has been receiving telegrams every day about the fights between the foreign soldiers and the Boxers, which greatly terrified the capital and the Imperial Palace. Being at so great a distance, he wishes from the depth of his heart that he could fly thither for the deliverance of the Imperial Government; but he cannot. His heart, he continues, is burning with so strong a desire that he has no time to eat or sleep. Knowing, as he does, the difficulty of the journey and the stretches of mountains and water between, and aware that by going alone so great a distance he cannot by himself be of help to his country; still, when he thinks that his Imperial Majesty is in imminent danger he must perforce proceed with all possible speed, to show even a little spark of loyal feeling. Though a poor old man of the age of 80, he does not mind any trouble or risk if he can stand by his country and face the danger.

The following proclamation, dated the 3rd July, has been issued by the Viceroy of the Liang Kiang, and posted on the walls of Nanking, as well as having been sent to all parts of the jurisdiction:—I, Liu, the Viceroy of the Liang Kiang, again issue this proclamation to make it known to all people within my jurisdiction that, though ruffians (Boxers) may make trouble in the North, I have done all in my power to prevent these spreading to the South. I have also repeatedly ordered all the officials under my control to take every measure for the protection of commercial affairs, as well as to look after the churches of the different religions. I have again and again wired to the officials under my control to consult with the gentry to make the best arrangement for protection. Now the public must bear in mind that the present troubles in the North are caused solely by the actions of the ruffians (Boxers) there, and were not in the least anticipated or intended by the Government. In fact, it is entirely unexpected. Natives and foreigners alike should be protected. It must be remembered that there are also Chinese in foreign countries and that therefore it is but just that foreigners here should be protected as are the Chinese in other countries. This is according to civilised rights and usage. Therefore arrangements have been made with the Consuls of the various Powers, through the Shanghai Taotai, that the lives and property of foreigners, and especially business men and missionaries, shall be protected by the local officials both in the interior and along the Yangtsze. Hereafter, no matter what may be the condition of affairs, their lives and property are to be protected at all costs. So now I notify you all that having thus explained these matters, you are not to worry about affairs, but to continue your regular business as usual. If after this any one attempts to stir up trouble they will be arrested and decapitated without leniency. Let this be obeyed.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The railway enterprises of Japan are still in a state of unmaturity, while the method of control is far from being satisfactory, remarks the *Hochi*. The frequency of accidents justifies this assertion. The regulations now in operation have proved inadequate. At present there are 53 different railways thoughout the empire, some of them still in process of construction, the total lines open to traffic, however, being no less than 40. Of these only two have had no accidents since the spring; others, including the Government railways, have shown serious negligence. Classified according to the nature of accidents the figures for the first half of this year are as follows:—

Derailments	201
Overturned	9
Collisions	44
Deaths	200
Injuries	201
Accidents caused by locomotives	85
Carriages disjoined from the train	13
Outbreaks of fire	15
Trains run on the wrong track	5
Obstacles met on the track	92
Other accidents	109

In investigating the causes of the above casualties it has been found that most of them are to be attributed, not to natural calamities or influences, but to the want of discretion on the part of engine drivers. The new regulations aim at imposing a fine of over 1,000 *yen* upon railway companies in cases due to negligence.

The foreign trade of Japan for the latter half of last month shows an excess in imports of 3,540,920 *yen*, while the excess in the export of specie amounted to 3,141,358 *yen*, approximately. Compared with the corresponding period of last year the exports on the whole have decreased by 68,648,183 *yen*. It is anticipated that a further diminution will become apparent in consequence of the recent Chinese complications. According to the investigations of the Customs Section of the Finance Department, the figures for the period under notice are as follows:—

	Latter half of June, 1900. yen.	Total from January. yen.
Exports	6,392,353	94,785,221
Imports	9,933,273	162,876,468
Excess of imports	3,540,920	68,091 247
Export of gold	3,285,295	32,496.501
Import	164,242	7,061 124
Excess of exports	3,121,053	25,435 377
Export of silver	32,745	916.012
Import	12,440	53.552
Excess of exports	20,305	862,460

The above statistics refer to the nine ports o, Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, Nagasaki Hakodatef Niigata, Moj., Shimonoseki, and Kuchinotsu.

Some time ago the Hokkaido Government Office formulated a ten years' reclamation programme and presented it to the Home Department for consideration. The programme has since been revised by the latter, with the result that the gross outlay for reclamation has been fixed at 27,340,534 *yen*, of which 3,334,328 are to be appropriated as expenses connected with land and immigrants. The Hokkaido Office is required to secure the immigration of about 1,300,000 people for ten years from the 34th to the 43rd year of *Meiji*, and to provide them with 2 million *cho* of land. The area of land to be allotted each year is fixed as follows:—

1901	524,800
1902	561,530
1903	600,080
1904	643,900
1905	687,900
1906	736,050
1907	842,710
1908	901,700
1909	964,820
Total	7,250,210

According to the latest investigations of the Hokkaido Government Office the total output of herrings this year amounted to 885,000 *koku*, an increase of 16,000 *koku* as compared with the figure for the previous year. Fishing operations, however, are not yet at an end, the Nemuro district being still engaged. It is estimated that an additional 30,000 *koku* more can be taken, so that the gross total for this year will be no less than 910,000 *koku*.

Classified according to the provinces the figures stand as follows:—

	Output for this year Koku.	Some for last year. Koku.	Increase or decrease. Koku
Oshima	53,132	78 654	25,522
Shiribeshi	362,353	384,840	22,487
Ishikari	67,005	97 700	30,695
Teshio	126,490	107,170	13,320
Kitami	246,163	184.109	62,054
Iburi	554	396	58
Nemuro	29,306	16,121	13,185
Total	885,003	868,990	16,013

Judgment has been delivered as follows by the Marine Court appointed to enquire into the loss of the *Tokyo Maru*: The certificate of Capt. J. Jones to be suspended for six months on account of the stranding of the steamer and of the drowning of some passengers; and the certificate of the Chief Officer Salmon to be suspended for twelve months. The Court considered the accident was due to want of foresight and neglect of duty on the part of both officers. They are understood to have given notice of appeal.

In the case of Kildoyle *v.* Wismer, heard in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, the plaintiff deposed that he had been the owner of the Phœnix Saw Mill until 1897, when he was joined by Mr. E. Leopold, formerly of Messrs. H. Ahrens & Co., and the mill was sold to Leopold in March 1898. In May, prior to the settlement of the account due to the plaintiff, Mr. Leopold was adjudged bankrupt by the English Court, and sentenced to imprisonment for criminal offences. The ownership of the mill was transferred to Messrs. H. Ahrens & Co., before the plamtiff could obtain payment from Mr. Leopold. The plaintiff therefore prayed the Court to order the defendants to pay the agreed price of *yen* 20,490. Defendant's answer was that a Japanese woman

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named Hosoi Nawo was the owner of the mill, and not H. Ahrens & Co., and that therefore the defendant had nothing to do with the matter. Moreover, it was provided in an agreement concluded between Mr. Kildoyle and H. Ahrens & Co. that all disputes which might arise between the parties should be settled by arbitration, which course should have been followed in the present case. The Court adjourned till September.

With regard to the war fund of 50 million *yen* specified in the Imperial Ordinance recently issued, it may be interesting to know how the money is to be supplied, and what effect its absorption will produce upon the money market. The views expressed on the subject by Mr. Yamamoto, President of the Bank of Japan, and Baron Shibusawa, President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, are as follows:—The Government will undoubtedly appropriate funds now in the hands of the Bank of Japan. The gap produced in the vaults of the Bank will be supplied by the issue of notes above the legal limit. Although the amount that will be needed as war expenses is quite uncertain, each Division may be supposed to require something like 4 million *yen* a month, while of the funds so required 30 per cent. must be supplied in specie and the remainder in notes. Admitting that an outlay of 50 million *yen* is necessary in connection with the trouble in China, the amount can not affect credit in the interior, as the diminut on in specie reserves will not exceed 15 millions. It may be feared that the over-issue of notes will lead to serious fluctuations in commodities, but as the temporary suspension of trade in yarns, matches, and marine products, for which China is the chief market, will create a brisk demand for capital for the maintenence of these branches of industry, the prices of commodities are not likely to be affected, remarks the *Hochi*.

With regard to transactions in staple imports and exports in Yokohama and Kobe during the first half of June, the following figures are given in the *Nichi Nichi*:—

Exports.	Yokohama. Yen.	Kobe. Yen.
Manufactured tea	712,963	315,654
Cotton yarns	69,189	617,338
Copper	209,204	251,320
Rice	—	101,134
Matches	—	257,078
Straw matting	—	54,161
Straw braids.....	—	22,113
Raw silk	1,046,373	—
Noshi and waste silk ...	22,618	—
Habutaye	507,524	—
Silk hankerchiefs.....	202,216	—
Total	2,770,087	2,618,798
Imports.		
Raw cotton	258,852	2,501,545
Rice	74	24,224
Sugar	260,327	98,464
Kerosene	178,000	183,259
Cotton yarns	185,497	76,700
Mousseline de laine ...	87,720	295,180
Iron, bar and rod	92,811	111,064
Wool.....	351,288	—
Peas and beans	—	84,519
Oil cake	—	366,695
Total.....	1,567,414	3,741,648

A correspondent writes:—There are in the neighbourhood of Shoji, Yamanashi-ken, a number of small ice caves, which, until about seven years ago, were quite unknown to foreigners and probably to the majority of Japanese. The smaller ones are now nearly all destroyed as the people have been digging out the ice for sale. The largest, however, has been preserved (with much trouble and expense) for the last five years by a foreigner, and is now yearly becoming more interesting. All the phenomena observed by Dr. Hans Lohmann, and remarked on in a recent issue of the *Japan Mail*, can be seen here. The temperature seldom goes above 34° to 35½ deg (about). Much damage has been done, however by the peasants of the neighbourhood. It seems a pity that the local officials do not do more to preserve these natural phenomena. We suppose they will move in the matter when too late.

As secret transactions in leaf tobacco are now carried on to a serious extent various in parts of the empire, the Central Tobacco Association has expressed the opinion that there is no alternative but to form the dealers into guilds or corporations, any member of which, if found guilty of malpractices, should be excluded from the union, and at the same time reported to the proper authorities. The officials of the above Association have been making a tour through Kwansai and Kiushiu with a view to organising such corporations. The idea has everywhere met with approval, and a general meeting of the promoters will be held in Tokyo in August or September, in order that a programme may be decided on.

THE RELIEF OF TIENTSIN.

The Taku Forts were taken, as is already known, on Sunday the 17th of June, and on Wednesday the 20th, a Russian and German force set out which did not succeed in getting much beyond the railhead, nine miles from Tientsin. Then another relief force left Tangku by train under the command of Commander Cradock, R.N., of H.M.S. *Alacrity*. This force consisted of about 600 Britishers, bluejackets, marines, and Welsh Fusiliers, 150 American marines under the command of Major Waller, who most chivalrously placed himself under Commander Cradock's orders, and some 35 Italians who joined themselves to the British force. On Wednesday night the force bivouacked at the station halfway between Tongku and Tientsin, and on Thurday night at Chunliangcheng station, 14½ miles from Tientsin. A reconnaisance on a trolly car made by two officers and four bluejackets early on Friday morning showed that the enemy were in force at the railhead, a large body of cavalry, some 2,000 in number, being under the railway embankment. The armoured truck with a 7-pounder gun on it which had been borrowed from one of the American men-of-war was placed in front of the engine, and the train with Commander Cradock's force went up to the railhead, the gun dispersing the enemy. On Friday night the force bivouacked at the railhead, the Russians and Germans, who were under the command of the Russian General Skrimsky, being some three miles ahead of it. Commander Cradock's dispositions, and the way he handled his force, are most highly spoken of.

At daylight on Saturday the 23rd the whole force moved off towards Tientsin, the mixed force of Russians and Germans being on the right, and Commander Cradock's force on the left of the line, with its left resting on the Peiho. They fought their way with little loss, the Chinese being entirely unable to withstand the British and American advance with fixed bayonets. It was found that these tactics of firing and advancing at once were far more effective than the halting to fire and then advancing. By noon on Saturday the force reached the river bank opposite Tientsin. The bluejackets promptly jumped into sampans and were first on the Tientsin Bund. It was soon found that the appeals sent to Taku from Tientsin had given a very exaggerated idea of the damage done to Tientsin and the straits to which the Settlement was reduced; though if the Russians had not gallantly held the bridge of boats as they did, the story might have been a very different one. There were few or no casualties among the Tientsin residents and very little damage was done to the British Concession. The twelve-pounder gun from H.M.S. *Terrible* was left one night at the railhead, and was dragged up to Tientsin next day on the identical carriage that was used in South Africa, and promptly silenced the big gun that was still bombarding Tientsin from the Arsenal.

THE RELIEF OF ADMIRAL SEYMOUR.

A mixed force of English and Russians left Tientsin to go to the relief of Admiral Seymour on the night of Sunday, the 24th of June. The force was commanded by Commander D. Beatty of the *Barfleur*, who had been wounded, and went with his arm in a sling.

THE DISPATCH-BEARER.

The British officer charged with the dispatches announcing the relief of Tientsin left there on Sunday morning by pony for the railhead, where he took the train. He arrived on Sunday night at Taku, and left again on Monday for Tientsin with the expeditionary force under Colonel Dorward, R.E., comprising the draft from the Hongkong Regiment, and the draft of the 1st Chinese Regiment, under Colonel Bower. They bivouacked at the railhead on Monday night and got into Tientsin, partly by tug, and partly on foot at 7 p.m. on Tuesday. Five minutes afterwards the officer with the dispatches left the Tientsin Bund in a picket boat and arrived at Taku at 5 a.m. on Wednesday. Thence H.M.S. *Aurora* took him to Chefoo, and he reached Shanghai on Saturday afternoon by the *Tungchow*.

THE TROOPS REQUIRED.

There is an opinion among the experts in the north that a large force of cavalry should be sent from India, and that it will be much more valuable than infantry.

THE "FAME" AND "WHITING."

The highest commendation is given to the work done by Lieut.-Commander Keyes of the *Fame* and his colleague on the *Whiting*. They have been indefatigable, and their capture of the four Chinese torpedo-boats on the night when the Taku forts were taken was a very brilliant piece of work. They were under fire from the forts all the time, and each of them towed a whaleboat with twelve men in it. They ran alongside the Chinese boats and boarded them in the approved style, driving the Chiuese over the side, and then towed them away.

A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

One of the captured torpedo-boats, flying the British flag, was lent to the Japanese to tow off one of their boats that had got aground, when a Russian force came on board and hauled down the British flag. Captain Keyes of the *Fame* came up and protested vigorously, and the argument was getting very hot, when Captain Warrender of the *Barfleur* came up and examined matters, and the British flag was replaced. The senior Russian naval officer cut off to the *Barfleur* next day and explained that it was all a mistake, the Russian officer having acted under the impression that one of the four torpedo-boats was to be given to the Russians.

THE CAPTURED TORPEDO-BOATS.

One of the captured boats was given to the French and taken away by them. Another was given to the Germans and accepted by them with a most graceful little ceremony. A British force was drawn up in the stern where the British flag was flying. A German force was drawn up at the bow, and they came forward and after a polite interchange of compliments the British flag was hauled down by the British sailors and the German flag hoisted by the Germans, and they parted with mutual cheers. Two of the boats are kept by the British.

THE FIRST CHINESE REGIMENT.

When the first order came that a hundred men of the Chinese Regiment at Weihaiwei were to go to the front, the men were greatly delighted, and they were correspondingly disappointed when the order was countermanded. They represented that they expected Chinese authorities to shilly-shally-like that, but not British. The order was accordingly given that half the regiment should go to the front, at which the other half were so distressed that 97 of them deserted *en bloc* at night. A new order was given that the remaining half should hold themselves in readiness to proceed to the front. We hear that the men off duty spend their time on the beach looking for the steamer that will take them to the scene of action.

GERMAN OFFICERS WOUNDED.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* has news from Tsingtao that the severely wounded German officers in Admiral Seymour's column were:—Commanders Schlieper, *Hansa*, Lieutenants von Krohn, and Lustig, *Gefion*, and Lieutenant Pfeiffer, *Hansa*.

CAPTURE OF THE FORT ON THE PEIHO.

The fort on the Peiho twelve miles above Taku was reconnoitred by Captain Keyes of the *Fame* and found to be abandoned. He according blew it up.

NEW FROM TSINGTAO.

The *Otasiastische Lloyd* issues the following extra:—

Tsingtao, 29th June, 12.20 p.m.

The Governor of Shantung, Yuan Shikai has notified the Governor of Kiaochou that he will not permit a German party to proceed to Weihsien to rescue the American missionaries.

On the 29th instant the Chinese Company and one hundred marines with two guns left Tsingtao for the town of Kiao-chou.

ARRIVALS FROM TONGSHAN.

By one of the steamers which arrived lately from Chefoo, there came a number of refugees from the North, including several employees of the Chinese Mining and Engineering Co. In the course of conversation with one of the passengers from Tongshan a representative of this paper was informed that about the beginning of June the railway and mine people went into "laager" at Mr. Jameson's compound. This place is enclosed by walls, and six abutments were built on to the wall and loopholed, each being capable of holding seven men. A little latter Lieut. Roper and 50 bluejackets from H.M.S. *Aurora* arrived for defence of the place. There was no lack of arms or ammunition for all hands, the mine people having 5,000 rounds of Mauser ammunition and rifles, and they had a time of great suspense, night and day having their arms handy. A large number of Gantonese are employed at the mines, and 150 of these were also provided with rifles, it being the general belief that they could be depended upon to remain true to the Europeans. There were 350 Chinese soldiers at Tongshan who were supposed to be there for the protection of life and property, but the Europeans

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seem to have had little faith in them, one recent arrival here saying: "We never knew the moment when they would turn on us." On Sunday fortnight, the day the forts were taken, about 4,000 Chinese troops passed Tongshan, en route for Tientsin, and at 2 p.m. that day the Europeans left for Peitaiho in an armoured train, the sides of the cars being covered with iron plates. The refugees stayed at Peitaiho four days and came on to Chefoo in the *Humber*, Messrs. Kinder and Jamieson being with them. Amongst the natives, up to the time of departure, the excitement is described as being intense, and an outbreak appeared probable at any time. A number of the Cantonese remained working at the mines, but it is believed that they, too, have left ere this. The latest news the *Tungchow* had of the C. M. & E. Co's steamer *Peiping* was that she was all right. A number of the Mining Company's employees are going up to Tongshan in one of the Company's steamers.

REFUGEES AT CHEFOO.

The following telegram was posted at the U.S. Consulate yesterday:—"30th June. The rescue steamer dispatched from Chefoo on 20th June arrived at Chefoo this morning with Dr. and Mrs. Crawford, Messrs. Bostick and family, Blalock and family, Hudson and family, Dawes and family, Tedder and family, Partch and family, Fitch and family, Miss Fairies, Miss Burnham, Miss Parks, Miss Chalfant, also 29 English and 10 Canadians. The steamer goes west again at once."

THE REBEL EMPEROR.

Special deputies of the Taotai visited the various local vernacular newspaper offices yesterday with the request that commencing from the 21st June no notice be taken hereafter of any so-called Imperial decrees which may reach Shanghai, as from that date Prince Twan had seized the supreme power at Peking and was therefore considered, in the estimation of the Viceroys and Governors south of the Yellow River, including Yuan Shih-kai, Governor of Shantung, to be a rebel. All these Viceroys and Governors will oppose Prince Twan and unite to stand by the Emperor Kuang Hsü. Treasure from the provinces for the Imperial exchequer *en route* to Peking has in consequence been stopped and ordered to be brought back to its respective provinces.

A Chinkiang dispatch states that Li Ping-hêng, the Imperial High Commissioner of Yangtze defences, arrived at that port on the 28th of June, *en route*, it is stated, for Peking overland, viâ the Grand Canal. Li Ping-hêng had only an escort of 200 picked men lent him by Viceroy Liu to protect him *en route*, but it is stated will select 3,000 more from the troops at Tsingkiangpu to take with him to the Capital. Li Ping-hêng's departure for the North is due, it is stated, to the fact that he had received four dispatches in succession calling him to Peking, and being a close ally of Kang Yi and his party of reactionists, he is very probably going up to join them. H.E. Liu K'un-yi, Viceroy of the Liangkiang provinces, has through the two district magistrates of Kiangning and Shangyuan—the two magistracies into which the city of Nanking is divided—issued the following proclamation concerning the condition of the Legations at Peking, copies of which have been posted throughout Nanking and this province—Kiangsu:—

SPECIAL PROCLAMATION.

We have been instructed by H.E. the Viceroy, Junior Guardian of the Heir-Apparent, etc., etc., to proclaim to you that, in consequence of the various unreliable rumours flying about the country concerning the safety of the Foreign Legations at Peking, H.E. had made special efforts to procure the most reliable news from the Capital, especially as to the safety of all foreigners, for State reasons. H.E. has, therefore, received reliable news by way of the Foreign telegraphs (Helampo) dated Peking 20th June, 9.45 a.m., (24th day of the 5th moon) framed in the following words:—"The Legations of the various Powers in Peking are so far safe. The rumours of their being surrounded by outlaws, etc., are false." This is the real condition of affairs in Peking with reference to the Foreign Legations, and it can thus be seen that there is as much difference between the truth and the false rumours flying about frightening people as Heaven is from Earth. Be it known to you therefore all, you gentry, merchants, literati, troops and people, that the doing of insignificant creatures like the Iho Ch'uan outlaws cannot harm the State and its foreign relations, or the stability of the Empire, and it is therefore incumbent on all of you to go on with you several occupations as usual and forbear from ceaselessly listening to floating rumours spread about to excite panics, designed really to fill the pockets of thieves and outlaws, and for your own harm. 28th June.—*N. C. Daily News.*

RECENT CHINESE DECREES.

The *N.-C. Daily News* translates the following decrees:—

June 20.

The Iho Ch'uan and people inside Peking and the vicinity, have of late, in their enmity against the Christians, opposed themselves also against foreigners. Churches have been daily burned down and Christian converts massacred. These disturbances have indeed spread now to such a degree that it is difficult either to disperse these people peaceably or to suppress them. In consequence of this, therefore, foreign troops are pouring into Taku and Tientsin, and assembling in great numbers, and fighting between China and foreign countries has now come to a head. It is impossible at the present moment to foretell what will be the end of all. Now the Viceroys and Governors of the various provinces have all received the rich bounties of the Throne, and our relations with each other have always been kind and affectionate as between kindred, and now that the empire has come to such a point it ought to be their bounden duty to do what they can to save the empire. Let them unite now upon ways and means with regard to the three important questions of selecting military officers of ability, assembling trained soldiers, and the collection of money for their upkeep; they should devise as to the best means of protecting the empire and prevent outsiders from satisfying their greed in China; and they should decide as to the methods by which Peking can be saved and prevent those in the Palace from being besieged. The Viceroys and Governors of the Yangtsze and Maritime provinces must also look to the safety of the territories—territories that have been longingly viewed by foreign nations. This is most important; and if these high officials still persist in the indifference to be up and doing they will daily endanger the safety of the Empire more and more, causing destruction unspeakable. The safety of our empire depends upon the said Viceroys and Governors alone, and it should be their duty to unite and restore peace. The situation now is most pressing and we earnestly hope to see you all obey our commands. Let this decree be sent by courier at the rate of 600 *li* a day. Haste! Haste! That all may know these our commands.

A Chinese official from Soochow gave a copy to the *N.-C. Daily News* of one of Prince Tuan's "decrees," dated the 25th of June, which arrived at Governor Lu Ch'uan-lin's yamên on the 30th idem. The contents are translated as follows:—

PEKING, 25TH JUNE.

"We are now at war with foreigners and we have fought great battles against them. The I-ho Ch'uan patriots and people combined with the Government troops have repeatedly been victorious in their battles with our foreign enemies, and we have already sent Imperial Commissioners to transmit to these patriots and Government troops the Imperial commendation and exhortation to repeat their successes on the field. Now we feel that there must be men of similar patriotism and bravery in all the provinces of the Empire. It is therefore our command to all our Viceroys and Governors to enlist such and organise them into troops as they will undoubtedly be of great use and assistance in our war with the Foreign Powers. Let this decree be sent for the information of the Empire at the rate of 600 *li* a day."

[NOTE.—This decree was sent by courier to the nearest available telegraph office and then transmitted by telegraph.

The following Proclamation has been issued by the Viceroy of the Liang Kiang, and has been sent to the City Magistrate of Shanghai to be posted throughout his district. It has also been sent to all the officials throughout the jurisdiction of the Viceroy, with orders to make it generally public:

I, Liu, the Viceroy of the Liang Kiang, issue this proclamation in order to make it clearly known to the people that of late a number of rascals have, by pretences of exercising magic, been inciting the people in the North to rebellion. They are known as "Boxing Ruffians" (Boxers). Numbers of disbanded soldiers and secret society men have joined their ranks in order to profit by the disorders. These bands will be easily crushed when the Imperial troops are sent against them. But as their numbers have become great it is feared that they may come stealthily to the southern districts and attempt to induce the people here to join them. Now you must all know that these men claim immunity from danger from fire-arms, through their arts, but it is well known to me that great numbers of them have been killed in the North by guns, so you can thus judge of the truth of their claims. The seditious language they use is closely related to that of the White Lily Society many years ago. Now many of the country people are ignorant and some of them may be induced to believe what is told them, and if they once do so they will be in their power and will be compelled to obey them as their masters. If they once do so they become outlaws, and the safety of their own persons and those of their families are things of the past. Therefore I issue this as a warning that you may not heed what they say, and may thus keep out of danger. Besides making this known to all the officials and the commanders of troops, and instructing them to arrest all suspicious characters, the public is hereby ordered to go about its regular work and not to listen to any such seditious talk. Should any suspicious character appear in the neighbourhood the matter is to be at once reported to the officials, who are either to send them away from their jurisdictions or to arrest them and investigate as to who they are. Any one giving information that will lead to the arrest of these bad characters will be rewarded. Let this be obeyed.

With reference to the local native officials' notification concerning the decision of the Viceroys and Governors south of the Yellow River, including the Governor of Shantung, not to recognise any so-called "Imperial decrees" emanating from Peking after the 20th of June last, the *N.C. Daily News* was informed by the same source that these "decrees" include those issued on the 20th of the said month a so. A careful examination of the latest "decree" shows that the I-ho Ch'uans are not styled "outlaws," such as the Empress Dowager called them—only too late in the day—but simply 'I-ho Ch'uans and people" showing that those who issued the "decree" were favourable to the "Boxer" outlaws, emphasised further by the decidedly hostile position taken towards the Foreign Powers who were stated to be "looking longingly" on the maritime and riverine provinces, etc.

REBEL DECREES ISSUED BY PRINCE TWAN.

21st June

(1) The Viceroy and Governors south of the Yellow River are hereby commanded to assemble the modern fleet and attack the foreign fleets.

(2) Prince Twan and Kang Yi are appointed Supreme Chiefs of the Ch'uan patriots.

24th June.

The Ministers of the various Powers in Peking are hereby ordered to leave the capital within 24 hours. The legations are then to be sealed up and their flagstaffs cut down.

CONCERNING DEFECTS IN JAPAN RAW SILK.

The following letter, which is self-explanatory, was addressed to the Secretary of the Silk Association of America on May 10:—

Dear Sir:—Enclosed I beg to hand you a pamphlet which has, I believe, a very important bearing on the raw silk trade with Japan, and which, I think, should be of great interest to all connected therewith. Kindly bring it before the Raw Silk Committee.

A thorough understanding and working together of all buyers in Japan is, I am convinced, absolutely necessary to reach success in this matter.

As we now stand, a firm in Japan that would attempt to subject some of the reeling skeins representing a lot to the process of soaking before winding, and that would reject a parcel on finding that it would not stand soaking, would, in all probability, be boycotted by the Guild and all sellers.

Times are, however, rapidly changing in Japan, and so, I believe, that if the Guild were approached in a friendly way by foreign buyers, supported also by the Japanese exporters, and backed by your Association, they might be induced to understand that everything which tends to improve Japan's silk production works for their own good, and can but benefit all in the end, and so they would agree to allow the soaking test.

I believe we should try to gain our ends by an earnest and friendly representation to the Guild in Japan, and by asking them to co-operate with us.

No time, moreover, should be lost; we shall soon be getting into the new season, and it would be best that the up-country reelers should be at once warned of the harm done during the season now closing. I am convinced that they have no idea of the damage they have been doing to their own trade.

F. VIVANTI.

ON THE PRINCIPAL DEFECT IN JAPAN RAW SILK OF THE SEASON 1899-1900. ITS CAUSE AND THE BEST MEANS TO REMEDY IT FOR THE FUTURE.

The quality of the Japan raw silk of the season 1899-1900, taken as a whole, being now generally admitted to have proven poor and unsatisfactory, it behooves all those interested to give any aid in their power to point out the reasons and causes that led to this unfortunate result, and to show how best to avoid a repetition of them in the future. This, the writer believes, will be considered as sufficient reason by the Silk Association of America for his addressing them on this most important subject, and for his asking their aid and co-operation in his efforts to find a remedy which, owing to his special experience in the reeling of raws, and to his long and intimate connection with the raw

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silk dealers in Japan, he believes he can clearly point out.

That the poor and generally mixed quality of the Japan silk crop of 1899-1900 was, from a broad point of view, mainly owing to careless and hurried reeling induced by the high and rapidly advancing markets that ruled during the early and middle portions of the season, and by the eagerness on the part of the Japanese reelers to "catch" those high markets with their raws, in spite of the carelessness and haste in their work which this necessitated, is now very generally admitted; but the special and technical form of carelessness in the reeling process which this haste actually took, and the nature of the principal injury which it caused to the thread, is not generally known, and cannot possibly be known, excepting to an expert intimately acquainted with the process of reeling, and one who has, in addition, made a special study of the raws, not only in their orginal state, but also in some of the various stages through which they pass in the process of throwing and manufacturing.

The writer claims to be precisely in this position, and the results of his investigations, which he now desires to submit to your Association, together with the conclusions he draws from them, are as follows, viz. :—

Defects, such as irregularity of size, mixing of colours in the same lots, etc., have been pretty frequent, but, though bad enough in their way, these defects are as nothing as compared to the principal fault that has characterized so many parcels of Japan silk this season.

This greatest of all faults has generally been described by throwsters or manufacturers as "double split end, fine ends, fuzziness and brittle thread," and the writer is convinced that all arise from one and the same cause. Now, there are many peculiar circumstances connected with lots that were thus described which have attracted the writer's attention, and which have induced him to make numerous investigations. The conclusions drawn by him are as follows :—

True double ends, or the complete and fully formed thread running double in the skein (a fault caused by the reeler carelessly attaching two complete threads on to one and the same skein on the swift instead of on two separate skeins, as she should), have certainly been found to exist at times, but not nearly so often as throwsters have claimed and have believed was the case; in most instances what were taken for double ends were really split ends, *i.e.*, the one original thread had "disintegrated in the soaking, and had divided itself into two or more threads"; plainly speaking, the soaking had dissolved the gum, and the original five or six threads of the cocoons which had gone to make up the one thread of raw had again been divided up into two more parts, the natural gum no longer holding them together.

This, therefore, is the really dangerous and important defect which has given so much trouble this season, and has so generally lowered the reputation of Japan silks.

Numerous minute and careful examinations have convinced the writer that in every case where these split ends existed, together with other effects usually accompanying them, these split ends and accompanying defects were only discoverable after the raws had been soaked for throwing, and not before, and this in spite of every winding and conditioning house test.

It is needless to add that this impossibility of discovering this great defect in the unsoaked raw is precisely what renders it the most dangerous and insidious drawback that silk can have. The very silk which, after being soaked, discloses split ends and a fuzziness and brittleness, which makes it extremely difficult to work it, will generally, in its unsoaked state, stand the strictest and severest winding tests which an inspector or a public conditioning house can subject it to, and will show excellent results.

The cause of the mischief is very simple, and is easily located by anyone who has had a practical training in the reeling of raw silks; it lies solely in the fact that the twist which the reeler should give to the raw thread around itself in the process of reeling is made far too short. This twist is the process that thoroughly compresses, kneads and welds together the five or six threads of the cocoons and forms of them one thread; it takes place when the natural gum is partly dissolved and the threads are all wet, and it is only when this twist is long enough that the single raw thread will afterwards resist sufficiently the disintegrating effects of soaking. This twist should be from two to four inches long in order thoroughly to weld the cocoon ends together; when less than two inches long it is almost certain that the quality of the raw produced will prove poor after soaking; the longer the twist the better and more compact and clean the thread becomes; the shorter the twist the more, after soaking, will the thread become fluffy, loose and liable to split.

The longer the twist, however, the greater will be the strain on the thread when the raws are being reeled, and, in consequence, the slower must the swifts go around, and the less silk can be produced in a given time; herein lies the whole secret. In order to hasten the production of silk, and to have his swifts go round as fast as possible, the Japanese reeler has had to lessen its strain on the thread, and to gain this end he has often allowed the twist to be made absurdly short. In this way he certainly has hastened the production, but at the expense of a poor and imperfectly welded thread. The reeler, moreover, had so much less hesitation in yielding to this temptation because he knew that, according to the customs of the trade in Yokohama, no inspector could soak the samples of any lot for winding test and that, therefore, the defect was sure to remain undiscovered. The tests that are now allowed by custom, both in the conditioning house and to the buyer in Japan, would disclose irregularity of size and most other defects, but silk reeled in the most injurious way of all, viz., with a short twist, and which would show its inferiority only on soaking before winding was, and still is, safe from detection. It is well to add that, even when first-rate cocoons are used, a really good silk cannot possibly be produced with a short twist, whilst with cocoons of even only medium grade quite a good silk can be turned out, provided a good long twist is given the thread in the process of reeling. The Italian reelers fully realized this years ago, and they consequently makes an excellent silk of even their second and third rate cocoons, this speaks for itself.

Having pointed out the evil and its origin and cause, the writer would now ask the Silk Association of America to take the matter up officially, and would request its members to render every assistance in combatting it and preventing its repetition in the future. To this end we would make the following suggestions, viz. :—

1. That the association, as a body, officially communicate on the subject with the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, with the Silk Exchange and Silk Guild, at Yokohama, the conditioning house officials at Yokohama, and, finally, with any of the departments of the Japanese government which interest themselves in, and, to some extent, control the raw silk industry in Japan.

2 That, through the above institutions, no efforts be spared to point out to the Japanese reelers the dangers that beset the future of the Japan silk trade if they persist in a short-sighted and suicidal policy, and to impress upon them the seriousness and danger of the special fault in the reeling which has called forth this pamphlet.

3. To use every means to get the Silk Guild of Yokohama to concede to the buyer the right of soaking some of the sample skeins used for taking reeling tests, and to admit that where it shall be clearly shown that the sample skeins will not stand a fair soaking (such as a competent throwster in America would subject them to) without becoming soft, fluffy, and more or less disintegrated, then this shall be considered a sufficient and just reason for the buyer to reject such a parcel. This soaking might also form one of the tests at the Yokohama Conditioning House.

4. To ask the Japanese direct importers (who are as much interested as ourselves in securing good, sound quality and maintaining the good reputation of Japan silks) to co-operate with us in attaining our ends.

NEW YORK, May 10, 1900. F. VIVANTI.

Mr. Vivanti's presentation of the matter led to prompt action on the part of the Raw Silk Division of the Silk Association, Mr. George L. Montgomery, chairman. A meeting of the committee was called for May 12, at which, after a discussion of the subject, the following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That in view of the increasing trouble in the Japan silks as the result of insufficient twist in the reeling, which does not show in the raw, but becomes very apparent when the silks are soaked, that the Japanese reelers of silk be urged to place a longer twist on their silks, and that buyers in Japan be permitted to use a soaking test for winding, the same to be agreed upon by the buyers and sellers, for the purpose of ascertaining this defect; and that the attention of Japanese reelers be called to the number of double ends in Japan silks, and be urged to take more care in this particular. Further

Resolved, That the secretary be instructed to send a copy of above resolutions to the Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, at Tokyo, Japan, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, the Foreign Chamber of Commerce, and the Japanese Silk Guild, at Yokohama.

CRICKET.

"THE BANKS" VERSUS "THE REST."

The Banks went down before The Rest on Saturday, only making 96 to the others' 182. The afternoon was oppressively muggy, not a breath of air stirring, and leather-hunting was consequently very tiring work. Crawford made the top score of the day, 56, which included two 4's, three 3's, and six 2's. The Banks tried seven bowlers altogether and their achievements were not particularly brilliant. For "The Rest" F. J. Lias, E. W. Maitland, and E. W. Kilby were the only trundlers. Lias took four wickets, Maitland 3, and Kilby one. Score :—

THE REST.

Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, c. Goddard, b. Pumfret ...	20
Mr. G. C. Allcock, c. Bugbird, b. H. W. Kilby...	3
Mr. E. W. Kilby, c. Pumfret, b. Goddard	28
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Bugbird, b. Pumfret.....	56
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. Scott, b. Pumfret	5
Mr. L. S. Hudson, c. Pumfret, b. Goddard	6
Mr. E. W. Maitland, st. McDonald, b. Bugbird..	26
Mr. H. S. Stewart, b. Anton.....	5
Mr. E. B. Clarke, b. Pumfret	1
Mr. A. W. Read, b. Pumfret	13
Mr. F. J. Lias, not out	2
b. 14, wides 3.....	17
	182

THE BANKS.

Mr. H. W. Kilby, c. A. W. Read, b. E. W. Maitland.....	33
Mr. S. Wheeler, run out	4
Mr. P. R. Scott, l.b.w., b. Lias.....	4
Mr. Anton, c. Duff, b. E. W. Kilby	5
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, c. Hudson, b. F. J. Lias.....	1
Mr. G. G. Brady, c. E. B. Clarke, b. E. W. Maitland.....	13
Mr. A. G. Pumfret, c. and b. Maitland	3
Mr. F. V. Deacon, run out	15
Mr. H. S. Goddard, b. Lias.....	5
Mr. N. G. Maitland, b. Lias.....	0
Mr. A. B. McDonald, not out	11
b. 1, l. b. 1	2
	96

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

Shanghai, July 6.

According to bystanders the German Emperor was most vehement in his speech. He thrice repeated the word "vengeance."

CHINA.

In the debate on China, Mr. Brodrick deprecated discussion in the present maze of uncertainty. The Government, he said, had informed Japan that it hoped that in view of her proximity she would be able to considerably supplement her contingent. There was no reason to think that any Power had discouraged Japan. The Government's greatest desire was to preserve accord among the Powers.

ASHANTI.

A later telegram despatched by Willcocks from Fumsu, under date of July 3rd, says that runners report that the Governor of the Gold Coast has left Kumasi and arrived at Ekwanta, twenty miles on the south-west. He is going to the Cape Coast. Many were killed in breaking out of Kumasi. The Governor left a detachment to garrison Kumasi. Reuter telegraphs from Fumsu that the relief force will shortly be concentrated, and that it is expected that Kumasi will be relieved in ten days.

THE ATTACK ON THE PRINCE OF WALES.

SIPIDO ACQUITTED.

Shanghai, July 8.

Sipido has been acquitted for his attempt to murder the Prince of Wales, the ground of acquittal being irresponsibility.

CHINA TO BE HELD RESPONSIBLE.

Her Majesty's Government has requested the Chinese Minister to convey to the Authorities in Peking warning that they will be held personally guilty if any injury is suffered by the Europeans in that city, and has asked that the purport of the warning be communicated to the Viceroys.

KUMASSI.

It is officially confirmed that Governor Hodgson has left Kumassi.

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JAPAN AND THE CHINA CRISIS.

Mr. Brodrick has announced that he is hourly expecting a reply to a communication made by him to Japan regarding the relief of Peking.

A later telegram says that Russia notified Japan on the 27th of June that she leaves her (Japan) full liberty of action to send troops in aid of the foreigners in Peking, especially as Japan has expressed her readiness to act in full agreement with the other Powers.

RACING.

The Princess of Wales Stakes have been won by Merry Gal, with Diamond Jubilee second, and Carman third.

"THE TIMES" ASKS A QUESTION

The Times asks why diplomatic assurances are withheld which would immediately set in motion an available Japanese army whereof 15,000 have already embarked and 30,000 more are ready to embark.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Parties of Boers are surrendering daily in the country between Winburg and Senekal, but there are isolated bodies of combatants in all directions.

BRYAN RENOMINATED.

16 TO 1 AGAIN.

The Democratic Convention at Kansas City has nominated W. J. Bryan for President on a platform which includes the unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1.

THE CHINESE SITUATION: GERMANY AND RUSSIA.

Great Britain has suggested that Germany should endeavour to induce Russia to agree to entrusting Japan with the pacification of China, but Germany has declined lest it should impair her relations with Russia.

Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, has arrived in London.

Mr. Brodrick states that Great Britain has assured Japan that the prompt despatch of a large Japanese force to Taku would be welcome, and that no European Power objected. The negotiations are still proceeding.

THE KAISER'S OFFER.

The Kaiser offers 1,000 taels reward for each European of whatever nationality rescued alive from Peking.

THE AIM OF THE POWERS.

It has been declared in St. Petersburg that the aim of the Powers is not the dismemberment of China but the restoration of tranquillity under desirable guarantees.

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, July 9.

General Buller telegraphs from Pretoria that 800 British prisoners have been put over the Natal border by order of Reitz (Secretary of State of the Transvaal). They have proceeded to Ladysmith. There are no officers among them.

General Paget drove the enemy from a strong position at Pleiferfontein on the 3rd of July, and pursued them in the direction of Bethlehem, which President Steyn has proclaimed as his capital.

The railway from Natal to Pretoria is now complete.

INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS.

The American team won eight out of the thirteen events in the Amateur Athletic Championship.

VARSITY CRICKET.

The University cricket match has been drawn

MORE INDIAN CAVALRY FOR CHINA.

Shanghai, July 9.

Two more Indian cavalry regiments and another battery of artillery have been ordered to China.

AMERICAN REINFORCEMENTS.

The Washington Government has ordered 6,254 regulars to sail for the Philippines with a view to their diversion to China if necessary.

FRENCH TROOPS.

M. Delcassè has stated in the Chamber that 4,000 French troops have sailed; that 4,000 more will be on the way before the 20th instant, and that others will follow as required.

AUSTRALIA LENDS A HAND.

The Imperial Government has accepted Victoria's offer of a naval contingent for China, and South Australia's offer of a gunboat and a protected cruiser.

BULLER.

General Buller has arrived in Pretoria.

THE KAISER.

Shanghai, July 10.

The Kaiser at Kiel went on board the flagship of the squadron of ships ordered to China and delivered farewell addresses to the officers and men.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Gen. Brabant has occupied Dormerberg and a group of kopjes near Winburg whence the Boers have been for some time harrying convoys.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, July 11.

Buller, after conferring with Field Marshal Roberts, has left Pretoria.

The Boers under Limmer are active around Rustenburg.

Mahon engaged 3,000 Boers on the 11th and 7th of July who were threatening the railway near Springs and drove them eastward to Bronkerspruit. The British casualties were 33.

Steyn and Dewet with a considerable following have gone to Fouriesburg.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

It is declared at St. Petersburg that Russia sets no limit to the number of troops Japan sends to China, but on condition that this shall in no wise constitute a mandate placing Japan in a privileged position.

GREAT BRITAIN AND CHINA.

Mr. Brodrick says that re-inforcements in men and ships are on their way to China. Her Majesty's Government is quite prepared to take any action necessitated by the situation.

PRINCE KANIN.

His Imperial Highness Prince Kanin has arrived in St. Petersburg.

FEDERATED AUSTRALIA.

The Royal Assent has been given to the Australian Federation Bill.

BOER RESOURCES.

The release of 800 Yeomanry and Derbyshire Militia is regarded as an indication of the shortness of the Boer supplies. The prisoners state that they suffered intensely from cold and starvation. The Boers appropriated their uniforms, giving them ragged clothes.

Racial bitterness is increasing at the Cape.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, July 12.

Roberts telegraphs from Pretoria that after Dewet refused to surrender, the forces of Clements and Paget attacked the Boers and captured Bethlehem on the 7th instant. The enemy retreated. Owing to the rugged nature of the country the cavalry were unable to make a wide turning movement. Clements attacked one position and Paget another. The Royal Irish gallantly carried the former, capturing a gun that was lost at Stormberg.

The official statement of losses in South Africa up the 7th instant, put the total at 30,693, exclusive of sick and wounded now in hospital.

THE U.S. AND CHINA.

The American note says that the President desires to act concurrently with the Powers to restore order and preserve the integrity of China, and to safeguard the equality of trade.

BARON HAYASHI.

Baron Hayashi has had an audience with the Queen at Windsor and has presented his credentials.

PRINCE KANIN.

The Czar has received Prince Kanin.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

CHINA.

Saigon, July 5.

The relief expedition for Peking has not yet started from Tientsin.

Prince Twan and General Kang Yi have possessed themselves of power in Peking and have surrounded the Imperial Palace. They have issued orders to the Viceroys of the Centre and the South to open hostilities against foreigners, but the Viceroys have refused, and consider Twan and Kang Yi as rebels.

JAPAN TO THE RESCUE.

Saigon, July 8.

It is alleged that at the request of the Powers, Japan will send an army of succour to China.

CHINA.

Saigon, July 9.

The French Consul at Canton telegraphs that Li Hung-chang reports that the Legations in Peking were safe on the 3rd July.

From Shanghai comes confirmation that after 18 days' resistance, the foreign Ministers, the women, the children, and the garrisons of the Legations were massacred and the Legations with the wounded and the corpses were burnt.

[NOTE.—It is remarkable that this news should have come from Shanghai. We have official intelligence from Tientsin up to the evening of the 5th, and no word is there mentioned of this disaster in Peking. Moreover the Shanghai telegram is a little too explicit. It mentions 18 days' resistance, whereas we know that the investment of the Legations did not begin until the 20th of June. Eighteen days therefore would bring the event up to the 8th of July, and of course no news so recent as that could possibly be received in Shanghai.—ED. *J.M.*]

PEKING PROBABILITIES.

Saigon, July 11.

Rumours are persistent that the Legations in Peking were safe up to the 4th instant. It is affirmed that the army of Prince Ching is protecting them against Prince Twan and the Boxers.

THE CHINA QUESTION.

Saigon, July 11.

The Chamber of Deputies has unanimously voted a credit of 14½ millions of francs for the expedition to China.

The chartered steamer *Aquitaine* has left Toulon, having on board 800 men for China.

A sharp combat took place at Tientsin on the 2nd instant. The Chinese were repulsed.

On the 3rd instant the Empress-Dowager resumed the supreme power in Peking and recommended the Yangtsze Viceroys to protect foreigners.

(RECEIVED AT THE WAR DEPARTMENT.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Tientsin, July 2.

There is no certain news from Peking. It is reported that the German Minister was killed on his way back from the Yamên, and

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that all the foreigners have taken refuge in the British Legation. Major-General Fukushima telegraphs many details which may be summarised as follows:— The total number of foreign troops now in Tientsin is 9,993 including 2,065 English, 3,700 Russians, 600 Germans, and 3,000 Japanese. The allied forces have been engaged burning down houses that interfere with the defence of the foreign concession. Generals Nieh and Sung are reported to be marching to the attack of Tientsin. The arrival of troops from Japan is anxiously expected by all nationalities. The waterworks at Tientsin have not been injured and there is a plentiful supply of water On the 2nd inst the officer commanding the Russian troops proposed a general plan for the distribution of the forces, and Admiral Seymour endorsed it. According to this programme the Russians were to occupy the left bank of the River and the Japanese the right, with the British on their left. In advancing to take up the position assigned to them the Japanese had to fight for five hours and lost one man killed and five wounded. A conference of commanding officers was subsequently held and it was decided that a general attack on the Chinese should be made, the Russians and the Germans moving on the right of the Peiho and the other troops on the left. Towards the evening of the 2nd news was received that General Ma with 10,000 troops was advancing to attack the place, and during the night much firing was heard in the direction of the Russian position. On the 3rd the fact of Ma's arrival was definitely ascertained, and it was decided to defer the Allies' attack During that day a message arrived from the Russians requesting the Japanese artillery to come to the Station and silence the four Chinese guns. The Japanese did so, but had 20 killed and wounded in the operation. The length of front assigned to the Japanese is about 1,000 metres. Several Chinese shells dropped into the Japanese camp and an ensign was killed.

The United States battle-ship *Oregon* having run on a rock opposite Wei-hai-wei, instructions were issued on the 2nd instant to the *Akitsushima* to proceed to her aid and render every possible assistance. The *Akitsushima* left Chefoo on the 3rd. She found that the *Oregon* had her starboard side stove in over an area of 25 ft by 6 ft., and that her forward magazine and coal bunkers were flooded. The *Akitsushima* worked night and day in conjunction with the *Vladimir Monomak*, the *Endymion*, and a Chinese man-of-war. On the 5th, the *Oregon* was floated off and towed to Kure, where she will be repaired

Tientsin, July 5.

Major-General Fukushima reports that in the fight on the 3rd instant, 17 men were wounded in Lieut. Sakai's company. In the 9th and 10th Companies of the 12th Regiment 7 were wounded. That evening a body of about 80 Russians fell back on the Japanese position. They said that they had been vehemently attacked.

On the 4th instant at 8 a.m., English and French troops, 100 each, and 2 companies of Japanese were told off to guard the station, which is the key of the Tientsin position. Towards evening the enemy made a resolute attack. Some 600 of them advanced to within 300 metres of the station. They retired at nightfall. Five Japanese were wounded. Apprehending that the Indian troops might weaken, a company of Japanese was sent to their assistance. The bridge of boats leading to the station being constantly exposed to a heavy fire from the enemy, it was deemed expedient to build a temporary bridge lower down. Men were told off to undertake the work, and while they were carrying it on, some of the enemy's shells, passing over the station, dropped in the vicinity of the workers. At 2 p.m. on the 5th intelligence was received from the officer commanding the British that a large body of Chinese were advancing against Tientsin from the south. The troops all occupied the positions assigned to them in such a contingency.

There is no news from Peking.

The wounded are doing well, the wounds not being serious owing to the small calibre of the Chinese rifles

Tientsin, July 6.

After the fight of the 3rd inst., the Russians carried 10 of the Japanese killed and wounded to the Russian hospital, where the wounded were treated with great kindness.

There was no fighting at the station last night, and only a shot now and again this morning.

A large number of Chinese are encamped at the N.E. and E.

The Russian pickets report that there are 12 guns in possession of the Chinese, who appear to be contemplating an attack on the Russian position.

At 4 a.m. on the 4th the Japanese engineers commenced to throw a bridge over the Peiho in a safe position.

There is no certain news from Peking, but rumour says that Yung Lu is sending provisions to the Foreign Ministers and that he retains his power.

Yu Lu is still at his *yamên* in Tientsin.

The Boxers were first induced to keep out of the City by presents of money from the people, but these payments having ceased, they now enter the streets and cause disturbances. It is said that the officials and the troops do not treat the Boxers as well as they did at first, and that a bad feeling is growing up between them.

Yesterday an English shell which burst within the fort caused a conflagration. There was a panic among the people, who fled.

The Boxers are breaking out all over Manchuria. They are smashing railways and wrecking stations, and there are signs of widespread disturbance. At present the enemy do not seem to have the heart to attack the foreign forces, and as the Allies do not purpose making any forward movement pending the arrival of reinforcements, things are quiet, only a few cannon shots being fired now and again. The Japanese troops have won the confidence of all the Allies, and everything is satisfactory.

[Received at the Naval Department.]

[The telegrams published on the 5th inst. with regard to the presence of Chinese troops in Peh-tang, the recall of Japanese marines from Tientsin, and the return of Colonel Shimamura, are contradicted. They were not official.]

The *Oregon* has left the place of her accident (Chan-shan Islands), steaming at the rate of 5 knots and heading for Kure.

The first-class cruiser *Yakumo* left Plymouth for Malta on the 7th instant.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

Shanghai, July 6.

Yuan Shi-kai has received orders, it is said, from Prince Twan to set 18,000 troops in motion and capture Nanking. But even though this statement be true, it is extremely doubtful when Yuan will obey the Prince's order.

According to a telegram received from Yuan Shi-kai, the two (?) Legations in Peking were safe up to the 30th June.

Foochow, July 6

All the French citizens employed at the shipping bureau, with the exception of five, are leaving Foochow with their families, though their contracts have still a year to run. Their departure is supposed to be due to the disturbance in North China.

London, July 6.

The Times re-affirms its previous views, and adds that any Power opposing the despatch of a large force by Japan will incur a grave responsibility. The unique purpose of all should be harmonious co-operation

The *Daily Telegraph* thinks that the mandate of civilization should be given to Japan.

The *Standard* says that if Russia attempts to turn the situation to her own selfish purposes, she should be called to account by England, Japan and the other Powers.

Shanghai, July 7.

A messenger who arrived at Chinan, having left Peking on the 3rd, reports that up to that day two of the Legations had successfully held out. In repeated attacks they had killed about 2,000 Chinese and Boxers, as well as many leaders of the latter, and the Chinese seemed to have grown weary of assailing them. The messenger said that if they possessed food and amunition they could probably resist to the end.

Chefoo, July 7.

On the 4th of July General Ma with 10,000 men and a large park of guns made his appearance in the Chinese quarter of Tientsin and succeeded in recovering possession of the arsenal which had been captured by the Allies a week previously. Ma's force encamped on the site of the former castle and proceeded to throw up entrenchments. Additional Chinese troops are said to be moving against the place from the north, and the situation is becoming more perilous. It is feared that communications with Taku may be again interrupted.

All the Japanese residents of Tientsin left Taku on the 6th instant by the *Sakura Maru*.

[The *Asahi Shumbun* publishes various telegrams of an alarming nature, but since the information received officially is tolerably full, we refrain from re-publishing this outside news.—Ed. *J.M.*]

Berlin July 7.

The *Nord Deutsche Allegemeine Zeitung* writes as follows:—"In her Far-Eastern policy Germany has hitherto worked in accord with Russia and she will continue to do so. There will not be any change in her policy towards England either. She will not treat lightly the interests of Powers like Japan and the United States, neither will she spare any effort to preserve amicable relations with the various States. But her policy is not to entrust the conduct of her enterprises in China to alien hands, or to leave to other Powers the duty of protecting her special rights and discharging her national responsibilities. Her policy is to employ all legitimate means for restoring order in the disturbed provinces of China, but she will endeavour as far as possible to prevent anything calculated to permanently disturb the foundations of the Chinese empire."

Shanghai, July 9.

The Chinese newspapers at this port publish two decrees said to have been issued in Peking on the 24th and the 27th June. The first decree praises the patriotism and courage of the Boxers and declares that these high qualities have been inspired by the

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spirits of the Imperial Ancestors. It promises that when the war is over the Boxers shall be amply rewarded and declares it to be the Imperial wish that the Boxers and the troops should work together to oppose the foreign aggressions.

The second decree is still more emphatic. It runs thus:—Since the Tou Kwang era, foreigners have always been well treated in China. They have been allowed to carry on their commerce; they have not been prevented from practising or even propagating their religion. Nevertheless during recent years they have committed agressions of our territories; have ill-treated and despoiled our people; have stolen our property and have sought to bring us to shame. Their conduct has been most evil. The result has been the destruction of churches and the killing of missionaries. Still we spared no effort to protect them and issued orders that the Legations should be guarded and the converts left unmolested. Instead of showing gratitude, they have set their forces in motion and have captured our forts by violence. Such has been their procedure. With tears we vow to heaven that rather than live in company with such disgrace it is better to commit our fate to the arbitrament of the sword. Let therefore our patriotic and loyal subjects assemble in their thousands from Chihli and Shantung and let them flock to our capital. Let our 20 provinces and 400,000,000 of subjects unite to drive out the foreign barbarians and to save the country. It will not be a difficult task. All those who come forward to bear arms or to contribute money shall have our warm approval.

Chefoo, July 10.

The garrison troops of Tsang-chow, led by General Mei, have defeated the Boxers, killing 3,000 of them, it is reported.

On the 26th instant an imperial decree was issued in Peking, appointing Prince Twan and General Kang Yi to be their generals.

On the 27th instant an imperial decree signed by the Empress-Dowager, directed that a sum of 100,000 taels each should be given to the Boxers, to the troops of Gen. Tung and to two other bodies of troops.

The above edicts were doubtless issued at the suggestion of Prince Twan.

A Shanghai telegram says that, according to trustworthy news, a messenger who arrived in Shantung brought intelligence that the two Foreign Legations in Peking were safe up to the 5th, and that the number and strength of the Boxers were gradually decreasing.

[From the "Jiji Shimpo."]

Shanghai, July 7.

It is alleged in Shanghai that Russia opposes the understanding arrived at between England and Japan with regard to the expenses involved in the China campaign—namely, that England guarantees Japan's reimbursement.

Mr. Brodrick stated in the House of Commons that, according to information received from military officers in China, it appeared that an advance to Peking was impossible without larger forces. Her Majesty's Government had asked Japan to send reinforcements, and was now awaiting her reply. Further, the Chinese Minister in London had been requested to inform the Peking Authorities that they would be held responsible if the Foreign Representatives in Peking suffered any injury.

A letter, dated July 6th, received by the Viceroy Liu in Nanking from Yuan Shi-kai, Governor of Shan-tung, says that, unless a change of *régime* takes place in Peking, it will be impossible to maintain order in Shan-tung for more than a month longer.

Another letter received by the same Viceroy from Yung Lu in Peking says that Yung had hoped to establish order and put an end to the disturbance, but things have now gone beyond the possibility of control. Even the Empress-Dowager is unable to restrain Prince Twan, who has obtained command of the situation. Yung adds that his own unaided strength can not accomplish anything, and that nothing remains but help from heaven.

Prince Ching and Wang Wen-shao are doing everything in their power to succour the Foreign Ministers, but they have not much strength and seem doomed to failure. It is alleged that Prince Ching made three attempts to rescue the Ministers, but that he was defeated on each occasion. The Court is in confusion. Prince Ching declares that those who want to kill the Foreign Representatives must begin by cutting him to pieces, and has strongly urged the Empress-Dowager to exert her influence. The tradesmen of Peking sympathise with the Representatives and are supplying food to the Legations.

The Japanese in Peking, to the number of 25, together with 300 native converts, have taken refuge in the palace of one of the princes opposite the British Legation and are there holding out.

It is stated that England has guaranteed that Japan shall be re-imbursed any outlays incurred by her in connexion with the expedition to China.

Rumour says that the German Emperor has announced a reward of 1,000 Tls. to anyone that rescues the German Residents of Peking.

A Roman-Catholic church and two French sisters have been burned by rioters in Mukden. The Bishop has ordered the remaining missionaries, 1 man and 9 women, to withdraw at once.

The Boxers have wrecked a church in Shan-tung.

In deference to the advice of Major-General Fukushima, the commanding officers in Tientsin have decided to postpone their general attack until the 15th instant, when they will have a force of 20,000 men. The enemy number 40,000.

Major-General Fukushima's groom has been killed.

The *Sakura Maru* has arrived at Taku from Chefoo, carrying a supply of drinking water for the men-of-war, which now number 5 British, 7 Russian, 3 French, 2 American, 4 German, and 5 Japanese; or 26 in all.

The Boxers having killed General Nieh's wife on the 26th June, the General was much enraged. He directed his forces to attack them, and a sharp engagement took place at Tientsin, the Boxers being aided by Tung's troops. Nieh was defeated.

The enemy show no disposition to attack Tientsin, and the allies, not having planned any immediate advance, are waiting quietly and increasing their forces.

There is no certain news from Peking, but it is believed in Tientsin that Yung Lu is sending provisions to the Legations and that his influence in the capital has not diminished.

Shanghai, July 9.

Anti-foreign edicts have been issued in rapid succession by the Peking Government. Three followed each other on the 25th, the 26th and the 27th. The gist of them is that whereas China was fulfilling her international obligations and seeking to keep the peace, foreign Powers suddenly called upon her officers to hand over the forts entrusted to their care, and on being refused, proceeded to extremities. The Chinese people are exhorted not to forget this. Instructions are given to render assistance to the Boxers; Prince Sung (?) and Chai and Kang are nominated their leaders, and a million *koku* of rice are to be given to Prince Sung to enable him to support the Boxers.

Several sensational telegrams are published with reference to sanguinary engagements at Tientsin on the 3rd and 4th, but as official despatches from Tientsin up to the 5th instant do not confirm this news, we leave it unpublished. According to the *China Gazette* nothing but a heavy downpour of rain on the 8th instant put an end to a slaughter of the Allies which had already strewn the whole neighbourhood of Tientsin with killed and wounded. Another absurd telegram says that 30,000 Russian troops, mostly Cossacks, are moving against Peking from Mongolia; yet another represents Mukden as the scene of a Russian attack; and another alleges that a number of missionaries have been massacred at Pao-ting-fu.

A detailed telegram from Tientsin asserts that on the forenoon of the 6th instant, a large force of Chinese with 12 guns advanced from the east to attack Tientsin. The English, with 3 guns from the *Terrible* and a detachment of Indian artillery, opposed this fire, and in the afternoon a column of the allies, 100 strong, attacked the Chinese and drove them off. Several of the Chinese shells fell in the settlement and MacKenzie's store was burned.

Two hundred and fifty women and children have left Tong-ku for Japan.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram to the effect that the rumour of General Nieh's advance against Tientsin was erroneous. Troops coming from Manchuria and Shanghai-kwan *viâ* Lutai were mistaken for Nieh's men. Nieh has been consistently hostile to the Boxers. A part of his force went over to the insurgents, but with the remainder he is marching to Peking to succour the Empress Dowager who has fled to the summer Palace. Nieh is Yung Lu's ally.

The same journal says that Prince Twan has made several attempts to assassinate Yung, but has failed. On the other hand, a man made his way into Twan's *Yamên* and tried to stab him, but was beheaded.

The first part of the Indian troops have reached Hongkong and are awaiting.

Shanghai, July 10.

The Peking Government, on the 29th of June, instructed its Representatives abroad by telegraph to make known the state of affairs in Peking to the Governments to which they are accredited.

According to the above telegram, the Foreign Ministers, with the exception of the German Minister, were all safe at that time.

The Peking Government on the 29th of June addressed a long telegraphic message to its Representative in Tokyo.

The siege of the Foreign Legations has been somewhat relaxed. The British Consul in Shanghai received on the 10th instant a telegram from Yuan Shikai dated at Chai-nan-fu, the 5th instant. The telegram said that the two Legations in Peking were still safe, and that the greater part of the Boxers assailing them had withdrawn.

H.M.S *Plover* has arrived at Shanghai.

The China Merchants steamers are to be transferred to the British flag, and the Company will be registered in Hongkong.

The master of the *Genkai Maru*, which arrived at Chemulpho on the 10th, says that in Tientsin the Japanese Consulate is half

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burned, the whole of the French and American Concessions are burned, and so is the Specie Bank. The only communication between Tientsin and Chefoo is for military purposes. It is said that the first ship to assist the *Oregon* was a Chinese man-of-war. There are 40 foreign refugees in the *Genkai Maru*, bound for Japan.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.)

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR'S MOVEMENTS

Report of Commander Mori, I.J.N.—On my way back to Peking I was compelled to stop at Tientsin owing to the railway's being interrupted. On the 9th of June at 9 p.m. the British Consul invited all the Consuls and all the naval officers in Tientsin to a Council. Commander Yamashita of the *Kasagi* being absent, I proceeded to the conference in company with Mr Consul Tei and Captain Nomura. The British Consul addressing the conference said that, according to a telegram just received from the British and American Representatives in Peking, the condition of that city was becoming hourly more critical. They therefore desired that the naval commanders at Taku should be requested to despatch a further force of men with all speed. Judging from this telegram, things seemed to be in a dangerous state, and in conjunction with his American colleague he, the British Consul, had invited the attendence of the other Consuls and officers to the end that they might unite in applying to the Viceroy of Chihli for materials and workmen to repair the railway, so that the work might be commenced and a special train despatched on the following morning.

The Consuls and others then prepared a joint memorial in the proposed sense, and received a favourable answer at 9 a.m. on the 10th instant. Orders were at once issued for an immediate start, and at 2.30 a.m. 50 men of the *Kasagi* were marched to the railway station. Admiral Seymour was already there with his command. He informed me that he had received a communication from the British Consul that the French, the Germans, and the Russians reported that their troops would take part in the movement; that he was now getting the necessary carriages ready; that he had come that morning from Tong-ku, and that as the Japanese were first on the field, he wished them to follow by the next train. The first train set out at 10 a.m. The second followed at 10.30, carrying our party of 50, together with 250 English, 100 Russians and 100 French. At Petsan we saw 1,000 of General Nieh's troops, and at Yang-tsung 5,000, encamped in the open and prepared to repel any attack by the Boxers. At 12.30 p.m. we found that the progress of the first train had been arrested at a point one mile beyond Yang-tsung, in consequence of a large bridge having been partially burned and repairs being required. At 2.35 p.m. the repairs were finished and we advanced 3 miles, when another broken place several yards long was found. Thenceforth such places were found at intervals of 2 or 3 miles, so that we did not reach more than 25 miles beyond Tientsin that day. Guards were posted for the night at a distance of 1,000 yards all round the train.

On the morning of the 11th a party of 50 English marines advanced to examine the state of the line. They reported that its condition was very bad in the neighbourhood of Lo-fah. The whole of this day was devoted to repairs, the men working with the engineers, and by 6.25 p.m. we reached a point 3 miles south of Lo-fah. There we saw a number of Boxers on the right of the line, and we received the order to dismount and form line on the plain. They fled without fighting, pursued for 3 miles by a company of British marines. According to the report of the marines, they overtook the Boxers and killed 30 of them, but the rest escaped under cover of darkness and the marines returned. On that evening the third train arrived from Tientsin, carrying 200 Russian troops, 50 French, and 250 English. The 12th and the 13th were devoted to repairing the line; nothing unusual happened. On the 13th, a fourth train arrived with 450 Germans and a further force of English. We halted that night near Lang-fang station. Our force then consisted of 915 English, 100 Americans, 315 Russians, 51 Japanese, 40 Italians, 25 Austrians, 450 Germans, and 158 French, a total of 2,055.

At dawn on the 14th, the first train went ahead alone and reached a point 3 miles north of Lang-fang. The second train, carrying our detachment was taking in water at Lang-fang station at 9.50 a.m., when about 300 Boxers, carrying flags with *Iho* inscribed on them, and brandishing swords and spears, advanced to within short range of the train. The English, French, Russians and our own troops, who were inside and outside the train, charged them and gave them several volleys, when they fled, pursued for 2 miles by 100 English and 200 Germans. On examination I found that 80 of the Boxers were killed on the spot or died almost immediately. There were young and old among them, their costumes were various, and they had red bands tied round their heads and hanging down behind, as well as red aprons on their bosoms. Their shoes also were tied with red. From the number of the bodies thus attired, I judged this to be the uniform of the Boxers. Unfortunately, inferior as were their weapons, they killed 4 of the Italian marines who had been on guard about 1,000 yards away from the train. We had no other casualties. At 4.20 p.m. a message arrived from Admiral Seymour saying that the detachment left behind at Lo-fah was surrounded by several hundred Boxers and in some peril. The Admiral desired us to move back to the rescue, which we gladly did. Almost immediately Admiral Seymour entered our train, and we proceeded to Lo-fah at our best speed, our force being 150 English, 100 French, 100 Russians and 51 Japanese. At 5.15 p.m. we drew near to Lo-fah. The fight was raging furiously and the English were evidently hard pressed. We began firing from the windows, and at 5.20, on arriving at the station, we left the train, and forming line, advanced into the fight. The English were on the right, the Japanese on the left, and the Russians and French in the centre. We advanced keeping up a hot fire, and the enemy throwing away their swords, fled in disorder. At 6 p.m., we received orders to desist from attacking, and we returned to our train. About 200 of the enemy were on the ground. Our casualties were only 2 wounded among the English. We took a flag and over 20 swords and spears. At 7.37 p.m. we left Lo-fah and advanced again to Lang-fang, reaching it at 8 p.m. It was proposed to send a train back to Tientsin for provisions and ammunition, but there being no water for the engine we had to spend the night carrying water, and the train could not start until 6 a.m. on the 15th. I took the opportunity to send to the Consul in Tientsin a written statement of what had occurred. This train, however, returned to us at 4 p.m. on the same day, reporting that the railway south of Yang-tsung was again injured and that communication with Tientsin was impossible; also that General Nieh, who had been guarding the station up to the 14th, had retired to the neighbourhood of Tientsin. Thus the column was cut off from its base.

On the 16th instant Admiral Seymour held a council of officers in the morning. He said that 5 days had passed since the column left Tientsin, and they had not made even half of the journey to Peking. It appeared, also, that the line to the northward was in a very bad condition, both rails and sleepers being deficient, so that no hope could be entertained of reaching Peking in a reasonable time. Moreover the state of Peking was unknown, but it was impossible not to fear that a very critical situation existed therefore it seemed better in the first place to effect the repair of the line in the rear, and then, having obtained supplies of ammunition and provisions, to set out again for Peking *viâ* Tung-chow, moving independently of the railway. All agreed to this proposal. Accordingly trains No. 1 and No. 4, which carried rails and sleepers, were sent back to Yang-tsung to commence repairs, while trains No. 2 and No. 3 moved between Lang-fang and Yang-tsung for purposes of protection. The 16th and 17th passed without incident.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

[FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN."]

Shanghai, July 2.

Prince Twan has seized the imperial power; the Emperor is dead, and the Empress-Dowager has fled. This news comes from a trustworthy source. It is not known whether the Emperor committed suicide or was killed, but his death is certain.

General Alexieff has been selected to command the squadrons of the various nationalities in Taku.

The casualties among foreigners up to the 24th of June were 600 killed and wounded.

Shêng has gone to Nanking by the *Haian*.

Captain Ota has been killed in battle.

Sŏul, July 5.

A trial trip over the new iron bridge spanning the Han River has been made successfully. The bridge is 2,060 feet long and 37 feet above the water.

Jinsen, July 8.

On the 5th instant the naval commanders at Taku held a meeting, and determined that as a state of war had not yet been proclaimed, a committee should be formed consisting of one officer from each squadron, in order that such officer may examine merchantships of his own nationality, in the presence of the committee, so as to prevent the landing of arms, ammunition, or grain.

Shanghai, July 10.

There is contradiction in the edicts published in Peking since the 25th and 26th. An edict of the 29th, emanating from the Yung Lu party declared that the Chinese Government regarded the Boxers as rebels, and that in consequence of their violent proceedings it had been necessary to ask the Foreign Representatives to withdraw, but they had not been able to do so. These facts had been conveyed to Liu Kun-yi for transmission to the Chinese Representatives in foreign countries.

(FROM THE "CHUO SHIMBUN.")

London, July 10.

Russia is assembling a large force of troops and many ships at Odessa.

Paris, July 9.

The French Government has ordered two additional ships to join the China Squadron.

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London, July 6.

It is stated that Russia opposes the idea of Japan's despatching a large force to China, and there is considerable indignation in England on account of this opposition.

Mr Brodrick stated in the House of Commons that England would welcome the sending of a large force by Japan, and that no European Power opposed the project. The matter was now under discussion. Mr. O'Connor asked whether the Powers had made any request to Japan, but the Under Secretary did not reply.

(FROM THE "TOKYO ASAHI.")

Bakan, July 11.

Russian troops are landing at Taku.

An American ship has arrived with troops.

The communications between Tientsin and Taku are not all in a satisfactory state.

From the 6th to the day (8th) of her departure from Taku the people on board the *Sakura Maru* heard the sound of artillery on shore continually.

It is alleged that according to a telegram received at the Home Department, nothing is known of the state of affairs at Tientsin since the 6th, but a British Captain at Taku has telegraphed to the British Consul at Nagasaki that 30,000 Chinese troops with long-range guns are attacking Tientsin and that the condition of the Allies is dangerous.

Ujina, July 11.

Lieut.-General Yamaguchi, Commander of the 5th Division, will go on board the *Asagao Maru*, which is to arrive to-morrow.

Yamaguchi, July 11.

The troops of 42th Regiment left for Hiroshima at 11 a.m. to-day.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, July 7th:—

	Yen.
DR.	
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	17,780,546
Amount of convertible notes issued	205,852,149
Government deposits	60,592,657
General deposits	5,532,975
Exchange liability	7,935
Total	311,767,264
CR.	
Discount notes	80,489,764
Foreign discount notes	14,696,564
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	66,709,865
Exchange liability	2,562,130
Government bonds	52,563,150
Property	2,115,246
Bullion and Specie	78,630,442
Total	319,767,264

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	208,234,506
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	74,273,395
Silver	4,000,000
Total	78,273,395
Securities:—	
Government bonds	22,044,588
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	11,874,921
Commercial notes	74,041,592
Total	129,961,111

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	1,863,282
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	2,229,358
Government deposits	—	2,271,759
General deposits	1,575,747	—

CHESS.

We regret to be obliged to defer the publication of our chess column until next week.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer	Date.
Hongkong	P M Co.	City of Peking 1	Sa July 14
Hongkong	P & O. Co.	Rohilla 2	M. July 16
America	O & O. Co.	Doric 3	Th. July 16
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert 4	Sa July 21
Hongkong	O & O Co.	Gaelic	M July 23
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. July 23
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Annam	W July 25
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th July 26
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su. July 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M July 30
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu. Aug 7

1 Left Nagasaki on the 11th inst.
2 Left Nagasaki on the 12th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 30th ult.
4 Left Hongkong on the 9th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Suttgart	Sa. July 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu. July 17
Shanghai	N Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. July 18
Europe, via S'hai	M M. Co	Tonkin	F July 20
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F July 20
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. July 23
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. July 25
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. July 25
Canada, &c.	C. P R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. July 27
Hkongong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. July 30
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W Aug 1
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W Aug 8

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, De La Lande, 6th July,—Kobe, 4th July, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kotik, Russian steamer, 299, A. Scherbinin, 6th July, —Moji, Bricks.—Walsh Hall & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 6th July,—Shanghai via ports, 30th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 6th July,—Yokkaichi, 5th July, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pundua, British steamer, 2,126, T. P. Nailer, 7th July,—Rangoon via ports, and Manila, 30th June, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, Hutton, 7th July, —London via ports, and Kobe, 5th July, General. —Cornes & Co.

Stuttgart, German steamer, 3,209, P. Grosch, 8th July,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 7th July, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Köln, German Transport, 7,500, Langreuter, 8th July, —Nagasaki, 6th July.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, C. Christiansen, 9th July,—Otaru via ports, 3rd July, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, M. J. Curnow, 9th July,—Seattle, Wash., 20th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 9th July,—Yokkaichi, 8th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1 065, K. Nakajima, 10th July,—Kobe, 8th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 10th July,—Otaru via ports, 5th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, Dupuy, 11th July,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 10th July, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 11th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 22nd June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 11th July,—Yokkaichi, 10th July, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,710, T. Murai, 11th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Freiburg German steamer, 3,971, Proesch, 11th July, Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 5th July, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Eidsvold, Norwegian steamer, 2,296, Schlyder, 11th July,—Kobe, 10th July, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Suda, 12th July, —Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Queen Adelaide, British steamer, 1,835, F. McNair, 12th July,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash, 24th June, Mails & General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

DEPARTURES.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Allegre, 6th July,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 6th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Hamina, 6th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, S. Muramatsu, 6th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumiyoe Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 6th July,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Nakajima, 6th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 6th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 7th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, T. Murai, 7th July.—Otaru, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 7th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 7th July,—Ujina, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, K. Tsuda, 8th July,—Ujina, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 9th June, Ujina, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, C. Christiansen, 9th July,—Ujina via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kotik, Russian steamer, 299, A. Scherbinin, 9th July, —Petropaulovski, General.—Walsh Hall & Co.

Stentor, British steamer, 4,308, Chas. Jackson, 10th July,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Köln, German Transport, 4,666, Langreuter, 10th July,—Nagasaki.—H. Ahrens & Co.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, M. J. Curnow, 10th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 11th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, Hutton, 11th July, —Moji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 11th July,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Royalist, British steamer, 2,024, S. Tierney, 11th July, -Moji Ballast. Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Euplectella, British Tank steamer, 2,507, E. Stott, 11th July,—Kobe, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,881 J. B. McMillan, 11th July,—Hakodate, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 12th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M S.S. Co.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,710, T. Murai, 12th July,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 12th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001 K. Nakajima, 12th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, K. Shima, 12th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports.—Mrs Mitchell, Mrs. Bartley, Mrs. Brady, Mrs. Y Bovil, Mr. S. Kitakawa, Mr. S. Takahashi, and Mr. T. Nagaoka, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. M. Itagaki, Mr K. Koriyama, and Mr. Liu Wang, in second class, 58 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Pundua*, from Madras via ports:—Mr. F. Morran, Mrs. Doctor Ross, Mrs. A. La Dow, Mr. R. E. Scott, and Mr. Clement del Rozario and servant, in cabin; 1 Japanese, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Stuttgart*, from Bremen via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. R. Sulzer, Mr. R. Graham, Mrs. Ashton, Mrs. Bourne, Mr. and Mrs. A. Voight, Mr. and Mrs. W. Theodor, Mr. and Mrs. Th. Stern,

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Mr. A. Unger, Princess Dabija, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Tresize, Mr. J. W. Copmann, Mr. S. Reich, Mr. S. Strauss, Baron and Baroness von Meyer and servant, Mr. Le Prevost, and Mr. Sievenssen, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tonkin*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Nicol, Mr. Eggery, Mr. de la Roche, Mr. Crugg, Mr. Jockoo, Mr and Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Dannenbert, Mr. Egreas, Mr. Price, 2 children and amah, Mr. Walsh and child, Mr. Schlinchting, Mr. Mr. Vogelsang and child, Mr. Scheipler, Mr. Fink, Mr. Roonetzkoff, Mr. Rice, Miss Bissett, Mr. Sloan, Mr. M. Terrill, Mr. Strenge, Mr. Salamonne, Mrs. Giacha, Mr. Machuha, Mr. Shoumat, Mr. Herrimere, Mrs. Bass and baby, and Mr. Forke, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Asano, Miss L. Meiners, Miss E. Mendelson, Miss A. Mendelson, Mr. T. B. Morse, Mr. I. Shimidzu, Mr. C. B. Tyler, Mr Walker, Mr. F. P. Fell, Mrs. F. Mendelson, Miss F. Mendelson, Mr. T. Mizutomi, Mr. T. Oguri, Miss L. Thornbrough, Mrs. H. F. Walker, Miss Walker, and Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Wardle, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. O. H. Hahn, and Mr. A. E. Wildman, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. M. Trepionck, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. W. Hancock, and Rev. D. Z. Sheffield, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Miss L. C. Annan, Mrs. C. W. Barber and child, Miss E. Smith, Mr. P. Boreler, Mr. F. A. Lepan, Mr. B. Soule, and Mrs. W. D. Webb and child, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. W. M. Naruse, Rev. G. Chapman, Mr R. Hirota, Miss Yasunaga, Mr. Th. Kershaw, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Butler, Miss Belle Butler, Mr. R. Ruegg, Mr. Moses Delbourgo, Prince A. Dolgoroukoff, Miss N. Napalkoff, Mr. Derrien, Mr. Le Guillon, Mr. E. Thomas, Mr. R. A. Dowler, Mrs. E. W. Tisdall, Miss Tisdall, Mr. H. Dann, Mr. Y. Hirose, Mr. N. H. Jaffar, Mr. E. Suzuki, and Mr. J. Chemnetz, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver:—Miss S. Alexander, Mrs. A. H. Allen, Mr. Bergan, Mrs. Bergan, Mr. H. S. Bickerton Brindley, Miss M. Bomar, Mr. L. C. Bohn, Mr. R. Bowles, Mr. J. Burns, Mr. F. A. Coleridge, Mr. W. H. Culver, Mrs. D. C. Derberg Daly, 3 children and amah, Capt. P. A. Dithiefsen, Mr. C. M. Dyce, Miss B. C. Empson and maid, Miss M. A. Empson, Mr. Y. Endo, Mr. W. S. Ennis, Mr. W. Ewald, Master Ferguson, Comte de Galembert, Comtesse de Galembert and child, Mr. J. W. Ganong, Mr. A. J. Gillott, Rev. Heber J. Hamilton, Mrs. H. J. Hamilton and child. Mr. J. Halliday, Jr., Mr. Hargreaves, Mr. F. C. Heffer, Mrs. F. C. Heffer, Mr. S. Hiraoka, Miss Holme, Mr. J. F. Holliday, Mrs. J. F. Holliday, Mr. H. J. Hunt, Mrs. H. J. Hunt, Mr. R. C. Hunt, Mrs. R. C. Hunt, Mrs. J. Keswick and child, Mr. Thos. T. Kirby, Mr H. W. Linford, Mr. G. J. L. Litton, Miss Mainguy, Mr. M. McGrath, Mr. G. McGrath, Mr. R. McDongall, Mrs. R. MacDongall, Mr. F. Midzutani, Mr. J. B. Millet, Dr. H. F. Moore, Mr. A. L. Muggeridge, Mr. M. G. Neil, Mr. J. Ohara, Dr. R. L. Price, Mr. J. H. Ranger, Rev. W. D. Reynolds, Mrs. W. D. Reynolds and 2 children, Baron Roman Rosen and valet, Baroness Rosen, Miss Rosen, Mrs. Saw, Mr. J. G. Schwabe, Miss E. C. Shaw, Mr. A. Brooke Smith, Mrs. Spence, Mr. A. P. Stokes, Mr. R. Stores, Miss Taniyama, Mr. C. S. Taylor, Mr. N. Tetlock, Mr. W. Trescher, Miss Trent, Capt. H. B. des. Voeux, R.E., Rev. Hugh Waddell, Mrs. Hugh Waddell, Miss Waddell, Miss Helen Waddell, Mr. H. F. Westmacott, Miss Westmacott, Mr. Wm. Whyte, Mr. E. Truby Williams, Mrs. E. Truby Williams, Miss Wodehouse, Mr. C. Wolde, and Mr. L. C. Wolferston, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. M. Abe, Mr. W. Aoki, Mr. B. Ashimori, Mr. von Bohl, Mr. W. Cartright, Rev. Joseph Cosand, Mrs. Joseph Cosand, Mr. Geo. K. Denny, Mr. Alberto Frank, Mr. Carl Francke, Miss Calla C. Frazier, Mr. Frank Gillett, Mrs. W. S. Jackson, Capt. T Kitakoga, Miss Masuda, Mr. Y. Matsuo, Mrs. Geo. S. McKinnon, Miss T. Mitani, Mr. W. E. Miles, Mrs. S. J. Milliken, Miss Milliken and maid, Mr. T. Minami, Mr. Rin Ninnoya, Comte de Potier, Mr. H. M. Richards, Mr. J. Selles, Mr C. Shibutani, H E. K. Takahira, Japanese Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Washington, D.C., and valet, Mrs. K. Takahira, Mr. S. Togo, Com. S. W. Very, U.S N., Miss M. Wotherspoon, Miss I. Watson, Miss Florene Woodall, Mr. F. Yamada, and Mr. Y. Yamaguchi, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Delbanco, Mrs. D. C. Remedios and child, Miss Remedios, and Mrs. Tai Tack Tong, in cabin; 1 European, and 8 Chinese, in steerage.

Per American steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. A. Anderson, Miss L. C. Annan, Mr. Paul Botelar, Lieut. D. H. Biddle, U.S.V., Mr. C. W. Barber and child, Mrs. Victor Blue and amah, Mr. R. H. Comey, Mrs. R. H. Comey, Mr. C. L. C. Dalhain, Mr. Chas. H. Farnam, Jr., Mrs. Chas. H. Farnam, Jr., Mr. J. Hermanns, Mr. W. Hancock, Mrs. H. Jewett, Mr. Fug Kropff, Mr. Li Ching Kow and servant, Mrs. Li Ching Kow and servant, Miss Li Ching Kow and servant, Mr. F. A. Lepan, Mrs. A. Moses, Mr. C. L. Ottley, Mr. B. M. Stiebel, Mrs. B. M. Stiebel, Master Harold Stiebel, Mr. Bertham Soule, Mr. Yan Yo Tsuun and servant, Mr. M. W. Trepionck, Mrs. W. D. Webb and infant Mr. A. E. Wileman, Mr. R. Wildman, Mrs. R. Wildman, child and servant, Master R. Wildman, Jr., Capt. C. Young, Mrs. Onyan Zeh, 2 daughters and servant, and Mr. F. H. Ziegfeld, in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

From.	Canada	Chicago & West.	New York & West.	Facige Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Hongkong..	1,083	—	—	499	—	1,582
Amoy	—	—	1,420	—	—	1,420
Shanghai ...	1,024	2,539	1	70	—	3,634
Nagasaki ...	—	—	—	3	—	3
Kobe.....	800	1,904	250	—	—	2,954
Yokohama..	3,994	3,493	1,098	15	—	8,600
Total...	6,901	7,936	2,769	587	—	18,193

SILK.

From.	New York.	Hartford.	Total Bales.
Hongkong & Canton	350.....	—	350
Shanghai.....	Raw 31 / Wild 200	—	231
Yokohama	227.....	—	227
Total	808.....	—	808

SILK SHIPPERS.

Following are silk shippers per T.K K. steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco, July 7:—

	Bales.
Ulysse Pila & Co.	6
Doshin Kaisha	10
Total	16

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Waste Silk for Europe, 34 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is complete stagnation in all lines.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	Per Piece
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38¼ yds. 39 inches	$2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting 9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.30 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	2.80 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	Per Yard 0.21 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	Per Yard
Flannels	$0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine, Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 52 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	Per Piece
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.20 to 11.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	Per Bale
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38 42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	$170.00 to 175.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	170.00 to 190.00
Nos. 2, 60, Plain	270.00 to 275.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	335.00 to 345.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	440.00 to 450.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	340.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	400.00 to 415.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	520.00 to 530.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	23 *yen*
Indian Broach	22
Chinese	22.50

METALS.

The market still shows great depression

	Per Picul
Round and square ½ inch and upward	6.00 to 6.50
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 7.00
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.50 to 14.00
Wire Nails, assorted	8.00 to 8.50
Tin Plates, per box	8.20 to 8.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	7.00 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

The market is weak.

American	$2.75
Russian	2.65
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

Market steady.

	Per Picul
Brown Takao	$5.00 to 5 80
Brown Manila	5.40 to 6.70
Brown Daitong	3.90 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 6.90
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 8 50
White Refined	7.80 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Quotations are at about last week's level.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	$1,040 Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	975 to 985
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	950 to 960
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	950 to 960
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	920 to 930
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	
Re-reels—No. 1	
Re-reels—No. 1½	
Re-reels—No. 2	
Re reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	
Kakedas—No. 1½	
Kakedas—No. 2	
Kakedas—No. 2½	

WASTE SILK.

Nothing doing.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Filatures, Good	
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu Best	
Noshi -Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	

TEA.

Prices are a trifle higher; otherwise the aspect of the market is unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	43 & upwards
Choice	32 to 33
Finest	30 to 31
Fine	28 to 29
Good Medium	26 to 27
Medium	24 to 25
Good Common	22 to 23
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, July 12.

Silver ¼ lower from London, no alteration in China quotations; local rates firm without change.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0 15/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0¼
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 5/16
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 3/16
— — 6 months' sight	2/0 1/16
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	254
— Private 4 months' sight	260
— — 6 months' sight	261½
America—Bank sight	49¼
— Private 4 months' sight	50¾
Germany—Bank sight	206½
— Private 4 months' sight	212
Hongkong—Bank sight	*1½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	*3½% dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 72½
— Private 10 days' sight	* 74
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	153¼
Bar Silver (London) 4th	28 1/16

* Nominal.

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BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, July 12.

Breweries are steady at *yen* 150. Grand Hotels—A few shares could possibly be placed at *yen* 240. Oriental Hotels—Offers for old shares are wanted. Langfeldts—Offers for shares are wanted. Helms are obtainable at par. Laundries have sellers at par.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108. Nagasaki Hotels, first issue, have buyers at *yen* 99.

Yebisus, new shares are obtainable at *yen* 42.50. Old shares are quoted at *yen* 108. Tokyo Ropes at *yen* 71.50, Hodogaya Breweries at *yen* 36, Sapporo Breweries at *yen* 72, Osaka Breweries at *yen* 80, and Marusans at *yen* 36.50.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	210 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 Sa
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd, ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 B.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	100 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	50 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	110 St.
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	108 Sa.
Brett & Co., Ltd 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	101 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥200	108 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40
Oriental Hotel, preference shares, ¥25	40

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, July 13.

Bretts have buyers at *yen* 9.25. Offers are wanted for Oriental Hotel shares. Helms are obtainable at par. Langfeldts have sellers at *yen* 100. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 220. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 245. Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	220 Sellers.
Grand Hotel	245 Sales.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	155 Sales.

TOKUMIYA.

BROKER IN LOAN BONDS, DEBENTURES, SHARES, AND STOCKS.

Cash and time transactions.

No. 1, KABUTOCHO, NIHONBASHI-KU, TOKYO.

TELEPHONE No. 921, NANIWA OFFICE.

MEAN PRICES OF SHARES AND STOCKS FOR DIRECT DELIVERY.

Tokyo, July 10.

	YEN.
Redemption Loan Bonds	*90.90
War Loan Bonds	*90.90
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	*93.80
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	400.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	65.00
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	167.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 12.50	94.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	65.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	65.00
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	100.50
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	30.30
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	62.50
Japan Railway, 5th issue—paid up yen 44	60.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 12.50	21 40
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	100.00
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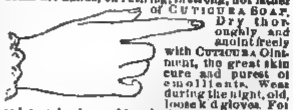

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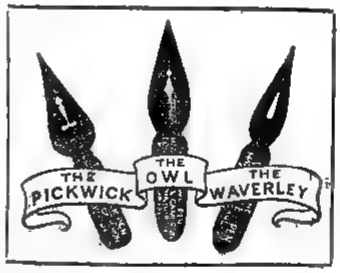

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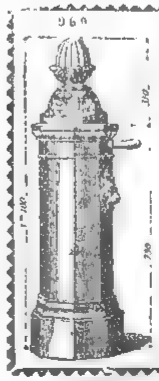

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 21ST, 1900.

DEATH.

On Monday morning, the 16th July, at No. 176, Settlement, PETER STAFFA, late Chief Engineer, N.Y.K.; born at Wiesbaden, Moravia, Austria, 29th June, 1847.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE U.S.S. *Oregon* reached Kure on Monday night.

THE news from China is not very reassuring. The Allies have captured Tientsin.

PRESIDENT KRUGER says he will continue to fight so long as his supplies hold out.

THE Kawabiraki festival of the Sumida-gawa, Tokyo, will take place on August 4th.

THE *Fukuoka Maru*, with 2,200 troops, left Moji on the 17th for Keelung, Formosa.

THE new Japanese first-class cruiser *Yakumo* (built in Germany) arrived at Malta on the 14th.

THE German transport *Köln* has left Nagasaki for Taku. She will return to Nagasaki and Yokohama with German wounded troops.

ONODERA KIKU (38), residing at Tachibana-cho, Yokohama, was attacked by cholera on the 12th inst. and to sent the hospital the same day.

THREE dead bodies were washed ashore near Nishinomiya on Sunday afternoon. They were identified as shipwrecked sailors, but no details are known.

A CHINESE stoker on board the N. P. steamer *Glenogle*, while climbing up the mast on Saturday, missed his footing and fell to the deck from the top-mast. He was killed on the spot.

AN American steamer arrived at Nagasaki on the morning of the 16th from Taku. She had on board 71 British and American passengers. One passenger died soon after leaving Taku.

AN elderly woman living in Yedobori Kitadori, Sanchome, Nishi ku, Osaka, was taken ill on the 5th inst., and died on the 9th. The authorities declared the case one of suspected plague.

MESSRS. Ikariyama, Noda, Amano, Yuasa, and Kubomura, Chiefs of the Kagacho, Isezakicho, Kotobukicho, Water Police, and Yokosuka Police Stations respectively, have been promoted to the rank of *keishi*.

IT is reported that Sun Yat Sen, the reformer who some years ago was kidnapped by the Chinese Legation in London, has arrived in Hongkong. A number of the Sun Yat Sen party were recently observed at Canton.

A TELEGRAM to the *Jiji* from Ninsen, Korea, dated July 15th, says that a Russian transport steamer, while *en route* to Port Arthur from Vladivostock, went on shore at the entrance to Fusan harbour. All the crew were saved.

ANOTHER fatal family feud is reported from the south. Five men, all members of the family of Nagata Shintaro, a lacquer dealer of Kagoshima, have been murdered, together with an old lady of 71, and two wives, aged respectively 40 and 38.

A RAILWAY engine left the rails between Hiki and Matsubara on the night of the 16th inst. It seems that some 40 yards of the permanent way had been damaged by rain and the rails were thus loosened. Railway traffic between Okusa and Hiki is interrupted for the time being.

A FISHERMAN'S fight took place off Togo-mura, Fukuoka, on the 11th inst., when 200 fishing boats belonging to Okayama Ken were found fishing in the waters of the Fukuoka men. After a fight, in which the police also engaged, 47 boats and 136 nets belonging to the poachers were captured.

THE man J. W. Reutens, alias Saunders, who was recently arrested and convicted in Shanghai on the charge of passing forged drafts on the Chartered Bank, has been also charged with the same offence in the Japanese Court and sentenced to six years' penal servitude. He will be liable to arrest if he returns to this country.

CASES of dysentery are being reported in Yokohama. The first was at Yeirakucho, where the family of Takahashi Matsugoro—the wife, eldest daughter, and a servant—were attacked on the 14th. At Miyoshicho on the same day there were four new cases. At Yoshihama-mura, Tokyo, and Odawara many cases are reported daily.

THE Rev. W. E. Griffis, whose name is known to every student of Japanese history, was married on June 28th to Miss Sarah Frances King. The ceremony took place in the First Congregational Church, Pulaski, New York. The newly united couple have marry wishes for their happiness for Mr. Griffis' friends in Japan.

ON Monday night a Japanese carpenter named Yamagata Kinjiro (39), living at Yamadacho, had a fight with a man named Muto Jiuro (24), also a carpenter by trade. Kinjiro was attacked by Jiuro's two brothers armed with carpenter's tools, and was so seriously injured that he died. The three brothers were arrested by the Kotobukicho Police.

AN explosion of fireworks occurred on the morning of the 12th inst. at the fireworks factory, Shibuya-mura, Toyotama gori, near Tokyo, belonging to Matsui Chubei. One building was destroyed. Kurita Hiro (56), Kawana Kahei (63), and Kubo Rihei (53) were badly burned by the fireworks. It seems that Kawana Kahei was pounding some coarse powders in a mortar when they exploded.

A TYPHOON swept over Formosa on the afternoon of the 5th inst. It struck Karen harbour, Taito, where 130 houses were destroyed, 345 half blown down; and 10 persons were killed. At Giran there were 430 houses damaged, and 100 partially damaged. Between Taipeh and Keelung the Rokuto tunnel was damaged and the railway interrupted. At Tamsui several rivers overflowed and a great number of junks were wrecked, several bridges being broken down.

THE funeral of the late Lieutenant Suge, who was killed in the bombardment of Tientsin, took place on the 15th at Komegahama, near Yokosuka. It was of a most impressive character, being attended by a large number of Naval officials and business-men. One company of infantry acted as the funeral escort. The gun-carriage conveying the remains of the deceased officer was drawn by some twenty bluejackets, followed by six officers from the Yokosuka Naval Headquarters, to Komegahama, where the ceremony was conducted.

THE Directors of the P. & O. Company in their one-hundred-and-nineteenth half-yearly report remark:—It may be of interest to state that during the last twenty years the Company have added to the fleet new steamers at a total cost of £8,500,000. The construction of new tonnage is necessarily accompanied by the sale of ships which cease to be profitable, and it need hardly be pointed out that the new vessels are larger and more costly than those which they have replaced. In less than 20 years the Company have sold tonnage, the original cost of which amounted to £4,183,400, and the net amount realised by the sale of these vessels was £358,300. Since the last report was issued four new 7,000 ton steamers have been contracted for with Messrs. Caird & Co., Messrs. Barclay, Curle & Co. and Messrs. A. Stephens & Son. They appear in the list under the names of the *Syria*, *Soudan*, *Somali*, and *Sicilia*.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

PEKING.

Monday, July 16.

We have endeavoured more than once to show that the situation in Peking is not so desperate by any means as the public has been led to suppose. The great danger was during the first week after the attack on the Taku Forts. It is tolerably certain that the news of that attack was the cause of the *Tsung-li Yamên's* message to the Foreign Ministers on the 19th of June. What would have happened had the Ministers obeyed the *Tsung-li Yamên's* request and left Peking, we do not like to think. To go leaving the other members of the foreign community behind would have meant the certain destruction of the latter. To take the whole community with them would have been a stupendous business, and would have exposed some eight hundred foreigners to disastrous attacks on the way to Tientsin, for certainly no reliance could have been placed on the Chinese escort. From the time, however, that the Foreign Ministers refused to follow the *Tsung-li Yamên's* suggestion, they were doubtless abandoned to their fate by Prince Twan and his confederates. That was the moment of peril. Happily the Legation Guards were able to offer a stout resistance, and, as we have already observed, their assailants, not being a disciplined force provided with artillery, probably had no heart to persist in the assault after a few sharp lessons. The crisis was passed, we imagine, before the end of June. Ammunition and provisions were the great sources of anxiety; especially ammunition, for there can be little doubt that after the first few days the Chinese servants of the Legations would find means of access to the markets. The Legations, though situated in the Tartar City, are near the principal gate into the Chinese City, whose inhabitants are thoroughly peaceful and essentially commercial folks. The stock of food, then, was probably replenished without great difficulty, but had the attack been continued persistently the little garrison's ammunition must have given out. It will be found, we think, when details are received, that the Legation guards were not required to use their rifles much. When they fired it must have been at comparatively close range and with deadly effect.

Meanwhile the moderates were doubtless beginning to recover influence. Everything seems to indicate that the Empress-Dowager was not at any time a party to these violent anti-foreign proceedings. She had to temporize with the Boxers' allies, but, being an eminently shrewd lady with long experience and a clear knowledge of the strength of foreign States, we may take it for granted that she never seriously entertained the idea of restoring her country's isolation. After the attack on the Taku Forts—a measure destined to provoke much discussion—she lost her grasp of the situation altogether for a time, and had the disaffected troops and the Boxers succeeded, during that interval, in capturing the foreign Legations and destroying the Tientsin concession, the fate of the Empress-Dowager herself would probably have been sealed. But the failure of the insurgents in Peking and Tientsin alike, and the heavy losses suffered by the brave if misguided Boxers, gradually produced an effect on the situation. Prince Ching and General Jung Lu were able to obtain a hearing; General Nieh decided, or was persuaded, to espouse the cause of the moderates, and in all likelihood the Legations ceased to be in imminent peril more than a week ago. The one difficulty in accepting this theory is the absence of direct intelligence from the Ministers themselves or from Sir Robert Hart.

Meanwhile the question on every one's life is, when can the relief of Peking be effected. Some good authorities speak of September as the earliest date. We do not share that view. Before the end of July there will be 45,000 troops of all nationalities assembled between Taku and Tientsin. There are already 35,000, assuming that the Japanese Mixed Division has landed, or is on the point of landing. It is not necessary that more than twenty thousand men should be available for the fighting line. Less would suffice, but twenty thousand would be ample. That leaves twenty-five thousand to guard the lines of communication. When the advance against Peking commences, the pressure on Tientsin and on the district between Tientsin and Taku will be relieved. Morever, additional troops will be arriving at Taku in a steady stream, so that the security of the line of communications will be constantly improving. Why, then, should there be a whole month's hesitation? We believe that if the relief column marches at all, it will be well on its way to Peking before the end of July—unless, indeed, the country has been rendered wholly impossible by flooding, a contingency which must always be taken into account.

We say "if the relief column marches at all" because it is quite within the range of possibilities that peace may be made before any necessity arises for a measure of invasion. The Chinese empire is not in arms against the world. Only a section of it is in arms. The other and more powerful section is wholly opposed to fighting, and even in the bellicose section there is a strong and influential party in favour of an amicable settlement. A road to mediation can easily be perceived. Japan herself might be induced to accept the task. The Chinese Progressists are the peace party. If through their influence the horrors of a protracted war can be avoided and a sound system of enlightened Government organized, the outlook for China will for the first time be really hopeful. That is evidently the end which Li Hung-chang, Chan Chi-tung, Liu Kun-yi, Yuan Shih-kai, Prince Ching, and Jung Lu are labouring to secure. The cries for vengeance and for the razing of Peking that have been heard in some quarters are mere expressions of momentary excitement. The Powers of the Occident and Japan will not be moved by these passionate fancies when they come to devise a settlement such as may give lasting peace to the East and open a new career of progress and prosperity for China.

TIENTSIN.

The reports sent by Japanese officers from Tientsin contain a great many details of no special interest to the general public, and are difficult to follow intelligently unless the reader has accurate topographical knowledge. It appears that all the foreign residents have left the concessions—so we read Commander Yamashita's statement—, and that the allied troops, having cleared away any Chinese dwellings which would mask their fire, are acting generally on the defensive. The concessions are situated along the Peiho; the French concession being highest up the River; the German concession, lowest down the River, and the British concession in the middle. A canal communicating with the Peiho, bisects the German Concession, and on emerging from it, runs nearly due east; in other words, trends away from the direction of the River at an angle of about 35°, so that it gradually leaves the concessions at an increasing distance, being from 1,500 to 2,000 yards distant from the French concession. Along the bank of this canal on the side of the concessions there is a mud wall, under cover of which the Chinese constantly advance to within suitable range and open fire on the concessions. They appear to have a fort outside the wall at a point opposite the French Concession, and it is from that position that they have been shelling the settlements. But the statements recently circulated to the effect that the Chinese have much heavier guns than the allies is evidently false, for the advantage was all with the allies in the artillery duel on the 6th instant. Neither do the Chinese troops make any really determined assaults. The Boxers occasionally indulge in a wild advance, but the soldiers content themselves with long-range firing, and very little serious damage is done. The news of a fight on the 4th in which the allies suffered sensibly seems to be exaggerated, and as for the Shanghai *canard* that the Concessions have been captured and the allies driven out, it is worthy of Shanghai. The British have brought up some 4.7-inch guns, and with there the Chinese artillery will doubtless be quickly silenced.

WOUNDED CHINESE AND THE ALLIES.

It is very satisfactory to learn that no military authority exists for the statement that the Russian soldiers killed the wounded Chinese with the butts of their rifles at the taking of the Taku Forts, and that the general rule in the North-China campaign is to take no prisoners but to kill indiscriminately. So long as that assertion rested on the authority of an anonymous civilian it did not possess much importance, but when it was apparently confirmed by a German officer, the public opened their eyes. Lieutenant von Krohn has now explicitly explained, however, that the words attributed to him were a misrepresentation. What he did say was that it had been necessary to kill some wounded Chinese who attempted the lives of foreign soldiers. That, of course, is a common incident of warfare, regrettable indeed but inevitable. Such things will probably happen frequently during the present campaign, for since the Chinaman shows no mercy to a wounded enemy, he does not expect any mercy to be shown to himself, and he will therefore stab or shoot everyone coming within his reach when he is down. It is a pity that a knowledge of the different mood of the allied troops towards the wounded can not be diffused among the Chinese.

Lieut. Von Krohn confirms the opinion recently attributed to him that a force of 150,000 men will be required for a march upon Peking. It is difficult to share that view. The German officer bases it on the hypothesis that the whole country is hostile to foreigners; that no assistance can be obtained from the people; that the whole line of communications will have to be strongly guarded, and that provision depots will have to be established at various points along the route. It may be doubted, however, whether the whole of the population are hostile. So long as the Boxers and the Chinese troops are in command of a village, its inhabitants are not likely to render much assistance to the foreign column, but from the moment that they are driven back, the practical instinct of the Chinaman will assert itself, as it has always done in previous campaigns. Under any circumstances, however, not much assistance can be obtained from the people in the matter of provisions, since

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the country districts in China possess few edibles suitable for the victualling of a foreign army. Nearly everything will have to be carried. But happily the river is available as far as Tung-chow; that is to say, to a point only 16 miles from Peking. With a fleet of 400 Chinese flat-bottomed boats and a force of two thousand men, the task of provisioning and supplying the column and preserving its communication could, we believe, be safely accomplished. As for the fighting column, twenty thousand would be ample. Even if we had no previous experience to guide us in this matter, the record of Admiral Seymour's march would be conclusive. If the question of rescuing the Legations and the foreign community in Peking ceased to call for solution, the allies might pause for the purpose of organizing an overwhelming army to attack in Peking. But since there are now urgent reasons for reaching that city without a day's delay, the attempt will be made, we believe, with 45,000 troops, and that it will be successful we entertain not a shadow of doubt. We say forty-five thousand, because there are already about 34,000 between Tientsin and Taku, including the Japanese Mixed Division just despatched, and in a few days the troops from India as well as Russian and other reinforcements will arrive.

Mr. Ishikawa Yasujiro, one of the editors of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, who is now at the front acting as war correspondent, writes terrible charges against the Russian soldiers. He declares that the slaughter of the wounded is the least of their crimes. They kill peaceful people without compunction; slay men and women; shoot children that cling weeping to the corpses of their murdered parents; break into shops, massacre their owners and steal the goods. The Peiho is full of dead bodies, including numerous women and children, and the Chinese have come to regard the Russians as devils. These are cruel accusations. We trust that they will be contradicted by some one in a position to speak. Mr. Ishikawa adds that the Russian loaded 300 bodies on a junk and burned them, but this is obviously a very vague kind of charge. The whole story sounds apocryphal.

Report from Vice-Admiral Togo.

This report is identical in the main with that sent by Commander Yamashita and already translated. The only additional information it contains is that the boats sent up the Peiho on the 3rd, with ammunition and provisions, returned on the 4th having completed their task. The casualties among the Japanese naval brigade in Tientsin were 10 wounded, including Sub-Lieutenant Takemitsu. There was only one case of sickness. Fourteen foreigners came back with the boats from Tientsin, and among them were 2 wounded. These were all sent on the 4th to Saseho by the *Kelung Maru*. Mr. Kato left Taku on the 3rd by river and reached Tientsin on the 4th. He proceeded by steam-launch with a Japanese guard. Commander Yamashita was directed to make arrangements so that any foreigners desiring to leave Tientsin might do so by the boats that we sent conveying provisions and ammunition; and further to intimate that, if any foreigners wished to go to Japan, they could obtain passage in the Japanese transports on making application through the officers commanding the detachments of their national troops.

In consequence of news received from the British senior naval officer that the telegraph between Chefoo and Shanghai was interrupted, arrangements were made to send the *Tatsuta* viâ Chefoo to Chemulpho, but as it was learned that only one of the two telegraphs had been injured, the ship did not go on to Chemulpho.

On the 7th, the *Tatsuta* was sent to Newchwang to assist in protecting that place.

The Red Cross S.S. *Hakuai Maru* having arrived, the purpose of her coming was made known to all the commanders.

A statement was received from the postmaster that the Taku post-office had been established in the northern fort.

On the 8th instant the *Chinchui* was despatched to assist in guarding Newchwang, and the *Kasagi* arrived in Taku.

Foreign Troops in North China.

A statement—said to have been officially compiled—showing the forces landed in North China at the date of latest advices, is published by the *Nippon*. It runs as follows:—

	Officers.	Men.	Field-guns.	Machine-guns.
British	114	2,212	15	14
Japanese	119	3,709	14	—
Russians	98	4,838	14	4
Germans	44	1,300	4	—
Americans	20	329	2	3
Italians	7	131	1	1
Austrians	10	132	—	—
French	35	790	2	—
Totals	447	13,441	52	22

Grand total, 13,888 of all ranks with 52 field-pieces and 22 machine guns. Nineteen thousand Japanese troops have probably now arrived, making an aggregate of 33,000.

Peking.

Tuesday, July 17.

The most disquieting report yet received from Peking was published yesterday by the leading Tokyo papers. It was said to have come from two sources; a messenger from Peking to Chi-nan in Shangtung, and a telegram communicated by H.E. Shêng to the Foreign Consuls in Shanghai. According to this news, the Legations were captured on the 8th instant, and the whole of the foreign community of Peking were massacred. The story is circumstantial. The soldiers of Tung and the Boxers are said to have trained artillery against the Legations, to have breached the walls, and then to have taken the buildings by storm after the defenders had fired their last round of ammunition. It will be observed that this is precisely the sequence of events which would present itself to the imagination of anyone disposed to take a gloomy view of the situation. From the moment that artillery was trained against the Legations, the breaching of their walls would be a matter of a few rounds, and their capture could not then be long deferred, unless the guards had an ample supply of ammunition. These were precisely the things that might have happened at any moment between the 28th of June and the 3rd of July But it is to be observed, that since the latter date all officially credited reports have represented a growing improvement in the state of affairs in Peking, and that the news published by the Government Departments in Tokyo on the 15th instant was of an eminently hopeful character, although Shanghai is alleged to have been already in possession of the above terrible intelligence. It is difficult to retain confidence while all these cruel rumours are circulated, but although the last story is the most circumstantial of all and the least inconsistent with the events that might be expected to occur at the most evil conjuncture, it is quite irreconcilable with the official news received almost simultaneously in Tokyo, and we therefore think that hope should not yet be abandoned.

The Disposition of the Allied Troops at Tientsin.

According to a statement sent by the *Nichi Nichi Shumbun's* special correspondent from Tientsin, the disposition of the forces there is this:—The Chinese have their centre resting on the walled city, and they have established three forts from which they constantly bombard the Concessions. The foreign troops are placed so as to form a semi-circle having its centre on the River which constitutes their line of communications. The Japanese troops occupy the extreme left of the semi-circle having on their immediate right the English, the Americans and the Germans; the Russians occupy the extreme right, beyond the River, so that upon them devolves the duty of guarding the railway station, a point of capital importance. In the left half of the semi-circle the allies have seven batteries; in the right, the Russians have six.

It would seem from this account that the artillery duel is carried on at a range of from 2 to 3 miles, and as the English naval 12-pounders are the most powerful guns hitherto employed by the Allies, the Chinese batteries have not been completely silenced, though they have been compelled to slacken their fire considerable. On the 7th instant, however, some 4.7-inch guns were brought up by the British, and doubtless practice was commenced with them on the 9th or the 10th. The Chinese can not have anything to oppose to such ordnance. The 4.7-inch guns are those used by the naval brigade at Ladysmith with such effect. The only lamentable fact is that their shells will probably destroy the Chinese walled city where hundreds of thousands of peaceful folk live huddled together so closely that the results of bombardment, or of several conflagrations bursting out simultaneously, as would certainly be the consequence of 50-pound shells, are awful to contemplate. No doubt Admiral Seymour will, as far as possible, obey the dictates of humanity by giving notice to peaceful citizens and by directing the fire of the big guns out of the line of the city. But the enemy's batteries have to be silenced at all hazard, and if they have placed them so that the city will be endangered, by artillery replying to their fire, there is no alternative.

We observe with regret that already the little rift within the lute is beginning to show itself. Paragraphs are appearing in the Japanese newspapers with reference to the proceedings of the Russian troops. The Russian soldiers seem to have fought splendidly. From all accounts the salvation of the Tientsin community is due to them primarily, and certainly they had to bear the burden and heat of the day at first. It is now said, however, that whereas they showed conspicuous activity in the early operations, they have remained comparatively quiescent since the arrival of Vice-Admiral Alexieff on the 7th instant. Another story has it that Admiral Seymour and Major-General Fukushima decided to make a combined attack on the Chinese position, but that the plan had to be abandoned owing to a refusal by the Russians to take part in it. Then again news comes from London that much friction is anticipated with regard to the command-in-chief of the allied forces. Lieut.-General Baron Yamaguchi will presently be the senior officer, and as since he will have twice as many troops under his direct orders as any other General, it will be natural that he should take command of the whole. Will all agree to that?

It is necessary to note these rumours,

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but too much importance should not be attached to them. Russia can not possibly hope to escape a great deal of suspicion or to receive more than a fraction of the credit due to her. Rightly or wrongly it is widely believed that her proceedings in Manchuria are the proximate cause of all this disturbance. It would, indeed, be idle to deny that if any intelligible reasons are to be furnished for the anti-foreign uprising in China, they must be sought in the chapter of history opened by Germany at Kiao-chou and continued by Russia in Liaotung. At the time when these events occurred, everybody marvelled at the strange and unmanly patience of the Chinese nation. We do not venture to say that England has no part in the responsibility. England did her own share of harrying and bullying in the past. We may, however, fairly claim that England's acts had been consigned to oblivion, and that they would never have provoked a national insurrection Then again, who can blame the Japanese if they recall the events of 1895, and contrast them with what took place in 1897 and 1898? Russia's actions are not likely to receive a favourable interpretation from all Japanese onlookers. None the less it may be taken as a fact that the Japanese Government approaches the Chinese problem with a sincerely honest desire to co-operate loyally with Russia, and we are fully persuaded that if difficulties arise, they will not be of Japan's making, or of Russia's either, for the matter of that.

Deductions.

Wednesday, July 18.

Certain points brought out by Commander Mori's report of the abortive attempt to reach Peking are worth particular attention. In the first place, we learn from the report that when application was made to the Viceroy of Chih-li by the Foreign Consuls for materials to repair the railway, a favourable answer was at once obtained. Thus, up to June 10th, the Chinese local Authorities were obviously well disposed. The second point is that until June 18th no evidence of open hostility was given by the Chinese troops. When passing up *en route* to Peking, Admiral Seymour's column saw 1,000 of Nieh's men at Pet-san and 5,000 of them at Yang-tsung, prepared to repel any attack by the Boxers. Further north the Boxers showed themselves twice, on the 12th and the 14th of June. They were armed with swords and spears only, and 30 of them having been shot down on the first occasion and 80 on the second, the remainder fled. No troops were associated with them in these affairs. There was a third collision on the evening of the 14th when 200 of the Boxers were killed or wounded. But at half-past two on the afternoon of the 18th, the complexion of the situation underwent a radical change The Allies then found themselves attacked by cavalry and infantry with standards on which Tung's name was blazoned, and they also found that the Boxers' flags, which had previously carried the ideographs *Iho Ch'uan* and a place-name only, were now inscribed with characters signifying "By imperial order," and with the legend "The Iho Ch'uan save the empire and destroy foreigners." In a word, from mere rebels fighting for their own hand, the Boxers had been transformed into publicly recognised allies of the imperial troops. Had anything happened in the interval to explain that change? The bombardment and capture of the Taku Forts had happened. The bombardment began at 12.40 a.m. on the 17th and the Forts were in the possession of the allies at 4.50 a.m. on the same day. Hence the first overt act of hostility on the part of the Chinese troops against Admiral Seymour's column took place some 34 hours after the fall of the Taku Forts. That is very significant. Have we any right to assume that if the Taku Forts had not been claimed and captured by the allied commanders at Taku, Admiral Seymour's column would have had to fight against Chinese regulars on the way to Peking? As to Nieh's troops, Seymour's column did not come into collision with them until the 21st of June. They made no attempt to molest it when it passed up on the 10th, and they were then regarded by the column as friends. Add the fact that the notice asking the Ministers to leave Peking was conveyed to them on the 19th of June, and we have a record which renders it difficult to doubt that the decision arrived at by the Council of Naval officers at Taku on the 16th of June brought about a radical change in the situation and was mainly responsible for the events which thereafter followed in quick succession.

The Fight on the 9th at Tientsin.

Our readers are aware that on the 14th of July the so-called "castle" at Tientsin was captured by the allied forces after a sharp struggle in which the assailants had about 1,000 men killed and wounded. By the "castle" we understand the walled city. It appears that the Chinese had their main positions there and in the Western and Eastern Arsenals. But for the purpose of bombarding the Foreign Concessions, they were in the habit of advancing to the Race Course and its environs. The latter positions as well as the Western Arsenal seem to have been within comparatively easy range, and the Chinese stationed there maintained such a destructive cannonade that the allied commanders determined to storm the places. On the 6th instant a vigorous fire was opened on them with 22 guns, two of which, British naval 12-pounders, seem to have proved very efficacious. In this artillery duel the Chinese were temporarily silenced. But only temporarily. They recommenced their cannonade from the 7th, and it was finally decided, as we have said, that they must be dislodged. For that purpose a mixed column of 2,849, consisting of Japanese (1,449), English (900), Russians (400) and Americans (100), was formed, and at 3 a.m. it advanced to the attack. Shanghai telegrams say that the column numbered 6,000, but Commander Yamashita's report gives the exact figures as we have stated them. The Russians sent only a strengthening detachment: they doubtless had to undertake the duty of guarding the Concessions in other quarters. The attacking column had 10 guns — 6 Japanese and 4 English — and was accompanied by a squadron of Japanese cavalry. The English guns are said to have been two 4.7-inch from the *Centurion* and two 4-inch from the *Algerine*. These weapons therefore were used merely as guns of position and did not go into action. The Japanese guns were 3-inch field-pieces About 4,000 of Nieh's troops opposed the advance. They had 6 guns mounted behind a parapet on the Race Course. The Japanese cavalry were ordered to out-flank the enemy's left, and the remainder of the Allies advanced on the right in three bodies. The Chinese cannonade was furious. According to the *Terrible's* men it was worse than anything they had experienced at Ladysmith But within 2 hours the Chinese guns were silenced by the English and Japanese. While the Chinese were thus engaged the Japanese cavalry adroitly moved round without exposing themselves, and charged into the thick of the enemy five times, cutting them down and shooting them so that at last they fled in confusion. The Allies advanced and captured 4 guns, the Chinese escaping into the walled city and leaving 300 dead upon the field. Their haste to get through the gate was so great that they blocked their own line of retreat. The Allies opened fire on them at this moment of confusion and inflicted heavy loss. The Japanese had 5 killed and many wounded, but the losses of the English and Russians were small. The Western Arsenal was captured at the same time with 2 guns, but the walled city and the Eastern Arsenal remained in the possession of the enemy, and were not captured until the 14th, when a joint attack was made by the whole of the allied forces, the English, the American, and the Japanese advancing on the left, the Russians, the Germans and the French on the right. This action was most bloody: the Allies had 600 casualties. Again the Japanese distinguished themselves. They bore the brunt of the fighting on the 9th, and it was by them that the Chinese position was captured on the 14th. They had 250 killed and wounded on the latter occasion.

It will have been observed that another sanguinary engagement took place on the 11th at the railway station. This was an attack by the Chinese, who were finally driven back by a Japanese charge involving very heavy loss. Everywhere the Japanese have fought splendidly. There will no longer be any hesitation about estimating their military value. Admiral Seymour, in his telegram to London, bears simple but forcible testimony to their efficiency. Apparently the Chinese had 350 killed on the 9th instant.

The Cost.

Thursday, July 19.

China will have an immense bill to pay when all this fighting is over. She will have not only to indemnify every one of the Powers by which troops are sent against her, but also to make good the losses caused by destruction of property and interruption of business, and to give compensation for the assassinations committed by her people. Japan, England and Russia seem likely to incur the largest military expenses. Probably each of them will want ten millions of pounds sterling. Turning now to Germany and France. At present Germany seems disposed to make the greater effort, but France will probably redress the balance. Italy is sending five thousand troops; America will doubtless send at least as many, and Austria will take care that she also is represented. Fifty millions sterling is the very smallest sum that China will have to pay as war indemnity. Then there are the claims of the Tientsin community. Apparently about one half of the settlement has been burned, and the destruction of other property must have been enormous. Newchwang also seems likely to suffer severely. The Peking community have lost everything, and many churches and mission stations have been wrecked and missionaries murdered. Seventy millions sterling will be about the dimensions of the bill. China will have to borrow the money. We shall see who will lend it to her. The customs dues will be one of the securities. There is still a great deal of elasticity in that source of revenue, and if the Foreign Powers agree to make the rate five per cent. in reality and not in name only, a considerable increase will be obtained. But for the service of a debt of six or seven hundred million dollars, it is hard to see how a sufficient income can

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be found in China under the existing fiscal system. The empire will have to be treated like a bunkrupt and put under a receiver.

Li Hung-chang.

It is stated that Mr. Shêng has officially informed the Consuls in Shanghai that in consequence of secret instructions received from Peking, Viceroy Li has accepted the post of Viceroy of Chih-li, and that he was to embark in the steamer *Annam* on the 17th instant at Hongkong, and to proceed direct to Tientsin. Li Hung-chang is always the refuge of the Chinese throne in time of trouble, and he has always hitherto succeeded in extricating it from its difficulties, but the present situation does not seem to offer any easy solution Had it been necessary for the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor to fly from their capital in the face of a rebellion, leaving the conduct of affairs temporarily in the hands of the insurgents, the main responsibility for what has occurred might be placed on the latter's shoulders. But nothing can extenuate the fact—if it be a fact—that the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor are remaining nominally in power week after week, while the Foreign Legations, within a stone's throw of the palace gates, are invested by a mob of rioters and imperial soldiers, seeking to take the lives of the Ministers whom the Chinese Government is bound by everything that is sacred in international obligations to protect. It is not clearly known how things have fared with the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor, but there are good reasons for thinking that they still remain at the head of the State, in appearance at all events, and among these reasons this transfer of the Viceroy Li from Canton to Chih-li is especially significant. If Li is acting under the orders of his legitimate sovereign, then the latter retains administrative power and must assume to the full all responsibilities connected with the present complications—immense responsibilities they will be, for never before had any country to stand in the dock with all the Powers of the civilized world for accusers.

The Fight on the 13th and 14th.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent in Shanghai sends an account of the fight which ended in the capture of the enemy's fortified positions at Tientsin. On the 13th instant, the allies bombarded the Chinese positions with a park of 42 guns, and then advanced to the attack with a force of 7,000 of all ranks. The burden of the attack fell on the English, the Americans and the Japanese, assisted by a small force of Austrians, a Russian contingent forming the reserve. The object was the capture of the Western Arsenal, and the troops advanced in column, supported by the fire of a field-artillery brigade and of a machine-gun battery. The enemy opposed the advance with a sharp fire of small arms and cannon. After a severe struggle lasting three hours, the Allies captured the east of the Chinese position. The Russians, the Germans and the French attacked the fort on the railway embankment, and captured it with 8 guns. They also captured a fort armed with 5 guns and blew up the magazine. The enemy's strength being 20,000 and their resistance most stubborn, the Allies could not force their way into the walled city on that day, and had to encamp for the night on the captured positions. But on the 14th they succeeded in capturing the main fortress. The Allies' casualties in killed were 100 Russians, 57 Japanese, 37 Americans and 40 English The wounded totalled 300. Captain Davis of the U.S. Navy was killed, and Colonel Lescome (?) of the U.S Army was severely, wounded, Major Butler also being wounded.

The Emperor of China to the Emperor of Japan.

Friday, July 20.

Several interesting facts are established by the important despatches which we publish elsewhere. In the first place it is evident that the Emperor of China still retains the semblance, at least, of power in Peking, and that the officials under whose advice he is acting are disposed to adopt a moderate and amicable course. In the second place, we see plainly that on July 3rd, when the Emperor's despatch was sent from Peking, the Foreign Ministers were still safe. It is impossible that His Majesty would have confined his regrets to the death of Mr. Sugiyama if Baron Nishi and the Foreign Representatives had been already done to death In the third place, if, on July 3rd, the Emperor and his advisers were ready to express profound regret for the assassination of the Japanese Chancellor, they can not have been consenting parties at that time to the attack on the Legations. This confirms the belief, more than once expressed by us, namely, that the crisis was over by the beginning of July. In the fourth place, the Chinese Emperor evidently finds no difficulty in sending messages to Chi-nan. This despatch, leaving Peking on the 3rd of July, reached Chi-nan on the 8th or 9th, was then telegraphed to the Chinese Legation in Tokyo, where it arrived on the 10th, and was delivered by the Chinese Minister to the Foreign Office on the 11th. It may reasonably be hoped, therefore, that the news said to have been received from Peking *viâ* Chi-nan up to the 9th instant was not incorrect, and that the Legations were then safe.

Finally, the reply of the Emperor of Japan shows conclusively, though no proof was needed, that this country is determined to act in concert with Occidental Powers, and that his Majesty has despatched troops to China with no other object

The Situation at Tientsin.

There has been some difficulty in following intelligently the accounts forwarded from Tientsin with regard to military operations The difficulty is caused by an extraordinary lack of information in the despatches as well as in the communications penned by correspondents. Long ago some of the men at the front should have appreciated the advisability of giving a detailed account of the nature of the enemy's fortifications and the disposition of his forces. But that has not been done. It is true that maps have been sent to Tokyo and published by the leading journals. They are, however, only rough plans, indicating the positions of the Chinese defences but telling us nothing at all about the nature of the latter. Thus, while we see upon the plan a large rectangular space marked *Tientsin-jo* (Tientsin castle), we are not told whether the so-called "castle" is the walled city of Tientsin, as whether it is a fort specially erected. The *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes a brochure compiled from independent sources, and it is there taken for granted that the "castle" and the walled city are identical. We entertain no doubt as to the correctness of that view, but we deem it remarkable that none of the correspondents has been at the trouble to elucidate a point so vital. The walled city lies on the west of the Concessions. Its wall has a length of some 5,500 yards, is about 24 feet high, and has four gates, one in the centre of each face. The roads connecting these gates are tolerably broad, but the rest of the city is intersected by narrow streets which in Europe or America would be regarded as alleys. The whole space within the walls is populated as thickly as a bee-hive, and this mass of humanity overflows so that outside the walls there is a city of scarcely smaller dimensions. A second line of defences surrounds this inner city. It measures 21,600 yards and has a wall 14 feet high. But the latter is out of repair, and presents no serious military obstacle. The enemy's line extended from the walled city to Pah-li-tai: in other words, it stretched along the back of the Concessions, which have their front on the River. It was necessary to roll back this line before attacking the city, and the extent of this operation seems to have delayed the assault on the city until the 14th, though the offensive movement commenced on the 13th. Artillery was not used for breaching the walls. The Japanese destroyed one of the gates with gun-cotton, and thus effected an entry. Anything like a resolute defence would have rendered such an operation exceedingly hazardous, and indeed the list of casualties was very heavy. But the sacrifice was well worth making. No position of any strength now remains available to the Chinese south of Peking. There are some walled towns in the great plain between that city and Tientsin, but their walls being quite out of repair, they offer no opportunity for serious defence by Chinese troops. If the date were August 20th instead of July 20th, we might now look for an almost immediate and comparatively easy advance against Peking. But unfortunately the plains are still covered with millet, from 8 to 10 feet high, through which no troops could move, and which offers excellent cover for the enemy's sharpshooters. Still, unless the Chinese have changed greatly since their war with Japan, we may conclude that the crushing defeat they have suffered at Tientsin will deprive them of all heart for further resistance. It is a great relief to learn that the walled city was not bombarded heavily, and that a general conflagration was thus avoided. Fires resulting from a bombardment in such a place must have entailed the loss of thousands of lives, including those of women and children.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

All the cotton-spinning factories, with the exception of the Naniwa, have decided to cease night work.

The King of Holland has sent a high order to the Prince Imperial. The King of Italy recently took a similar step.

The Emperor of Austria has instructed his Representative in Japan to present the highest Austrian Order to the Prince Imperial.

Baron Kitanokoji has been arrested on a charge of forging a note for 500 *yen*. Mr. Noda Shotaro, of Turkish fame, is said to be implicated in the affair.

Telegrams state that disturbances have occurred in the Amur district, and that fighting has taken place there between the Russians and the Chinese.

It is reported that an area measuring 50 acres has suddenly subsided at Tajima in Hyogo Prefecture. No theory explaining this phenomenon has been formulated.

It is reported in Foochow that Kang Yu-wei has fallen into the hands of the Chinese Go-

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vernment. He is said to have ventured into the neighbourhood of Peking to investigate the state of affairs. Not likely, we imagine.

Lieut.-General Baron Terauchi, Vice-chief of the Head-quarter Staff, has started for the seat of war. The officer enjoys a very high military reputation in Japan. He was educated in Germany.

From Kiushiu comes news of a railway accident. It occurred on the 11th instant at Akama. Twelve carriages of a goods trains were derailed and upset owing to injury done to the line by floods.

There is a report in Shanghai that the foreign community of Peking has effected its escape in the direction of Shansi by the assistance of Prince Ching, but nobody believes the story.

On the 14th instant, the N.Y.K. steamer *Genkai Maru*, while *en route* from Moji to Fusan, came into collision with the Russian Volunteer Fleet steamer *Siberia*. Neither of the vessels sustained any serious injury.

A Shanghai telegram from Chi-nan-fu in Shantung says that the troops of Yuan Shih-kai, Governor of that province, have had a conflict with the troops of General Tung at a place on the borders of Chih-li and Shantung, and that Yuan's forces gained a signal victory.

All the members of the Chinese Legation in Tokyo and of the Chinese Consulate in Nagasaki, numbering 11 individuals with 30 persons of their families, have left Nagasaki for Shanghai. It is conjectured that these officials found themselves without means of subsistence.

A considerable body of troops left Tokyo on the 18th for the seat of war. They were to embark at Yokohama. It is believed that this force took with it a siege-train destined for the attack of Peking, but it will never be necessary to breach the walls of Peking, we imagine.

It is stated that the British Consul in Kobe has received instructions to engage another body of 500 Japanese coolies and despatch them to Taku. Five hundred having been already sent, the British will soon have a transport corps of 1,000 men. The number will probably prove altogether too small.

The *Chino* states that as Mr. R. Kirby was on his way towards Tora-no-mon his pocket book was stolen. It contained 18 *yen* and some papers. Another British subject, whose transliterated name we can not decipher, had his pocket-book stolen near Yedo-bashi.

Two Japanese subjects have been arrested in Singapore on suspicion of having accepted a commission to kill Kang Yu-wei. It is alleged, however, that the two men are intimate friends of the Chinese refugee, and that there will be no difficulty in proving their innocence of the charge.

The storm of the 11th caused a disaster in Fukuoka Prefecture, also. Two coal-mines at Gotoku in the Kurata district were inundated. One is the property of the Naval Department; the other of Mr. Ishino. In the former the water has been dammed, but the latter is said to be completely flooded.

Prince Li Chung-yong, grandson of the *Tai-won-kun*, has left Japan for America, it is said. This is the young man whose destruction the Korean Government was supposed to be endeavouring to compass in consequence of the so-called confession of An and Kwŏn. A trip to America with an allowance of $400 a month is a welcome alternative.

A Sub-lieutenant of Japanese cavalry seems to have distinguished himself greatly during the fight at the Tientsin Race-Course on the 9th instant. He charged alone into the thick of the Chinese, cut down five men before he was unhorsed by a halberd-thrust in the shoulder, and killed two more when he recovered his feet. He is returned as severely wounded.

Mr. Sakatani explains that Japan's gold monometallism rests on a perfectly sound basis. It is true that there has been some diminution of the specie reserve since the spring, but it still amounts to some 80 million *yen*, and, besides, the Treasury and the Bank of Japan hold many negotiable securities which can be turned into gold at a moment's notice.

There are all kinds of rumours circulating in Shanghai. The people there believe in the massacre of the Peking community, and also say that the Southern Viceroys are unable to restrain their subordinates, who show a strong disposition to obey Prince Tuan's edicts. It is further reported that Nieh has fallen in battle. We note these rumours, but really Shanghai has lost caste as an emporium of intelligence.

Marquis Ito's conditions for the formation of a new party are said to lay special stress on the necessity of centralization, depriving the local bodies of much of the power hitherto exercised by them, conspicuously their power of choosing candidates for election. These conditions are said to be causing some difficulty and may lead to a failure of the projected re-organization.

A telegram published by the *Asahi* alleges that Nieh and Ma had no disposition to fight against foreigners, but that they received secret instructions from the Empress-Dowager, and were obliged to obey. This is from Shanghai, we need scarcely remark. At the same time, it is of course possible that Prince Twan obtained, or contrived, the issue of such instructions.

News from Chefoo dated the 9th suggests that the feeling of unrest is increasing there. Reinforcements are being marched to the forts: three Chinese are said to have been arrested carrying bombs, and some of the foreign residents have taken refuge in the consulates, other going on board ship. We doubt the correctness of these details.

That the proverbially unquiet provinces of Honan and Hupeh should remain calm at the present crisis was not to be expected. We read without surprise that at Nang-yang in Honan and at Tang-yang in Hupeh anti-Christian riots have occurred, churches have been burned and native converts injured. Christianity, it is to be feared, will suffer a terrible set-back in China as a result of the Boxer movement.

There is a rumour in Tokyo that, according to a telegram received by one of the banks, the British Government has promised to guarantee a Japanese 3 per-cent. loan of three millions sterling and to float it in London, the money being intended for war purposes. The story is plainly baseless. Her Majesty's Ministers can not possibly have taken any such step, or given any engagement as to the recouping of Japan's outlay, further than a promise that her claims shall receive just consideration in the day of settlement. One would suppose that the persons circulating such canards did not credit the public with any intelligence.

Telegraphic communication with Tientsin is becoming more and more difficult. The line between Chefoo and Saho was cut on the 11th. Consequently the only wire remaining available was that from Chemulpo *viâ* Wiju, Newchwang and Shan-hai-kwan. This line, however, always subject to interruptions, was cut at some point beyond Wiju on the 11th, so that, for the moment, Tientsin is telegraphically isolated.

The Japanese correspondents are said to have been all sent back from Tientsin by the *Higo Maru*. If that be the case, it may be assumed that no correspondents will be allowed to accompany the troops, but we greatly doubt that such a resolution can have been adopted, though in truth the falsehoods published by Shanghai journals have been flagrant enough to warrant any measure.

Seventy refugees, English and American, arrived at Nagasaki on the 16th by the steamer *Logan* from Taku. One refugee died on the voyage. The same ship brought 3 wounded soldiers, 6 marines, the Captain of the *Newark*, who had an injured leg, and 17 persons suffering from dysentery. Among the latter there were two deaths. The *Nagato Maru* also brought, on the same day, 35 English and French refugees from Taku, with 16 Chinese and 30 Japanese.

It is alleged that the Empress-Dowager is about to issue secret instructions to the Viceroy Liu Kung-yi, directing him to approach the Governments of England, America, Russia and Japan, explaining that the legitimate Government of China is powerless to suppress the insurgents who are disturbing the public peace, despoiling the people, and attacking the Foreign Legations. The Viceroy will be authorized to ask for the assistance of these four Powers. Such a step seems scarcely credible.

There is again talk of a premium being charged by the Bank of Japan for exchanging convertible notes. The specie reserve has fallen to 77 million *yen*, being thus 39 per cent. of the volume of notes in circulation, and in view of the abnormal demand for gold on account of the Chinese crisis, the Treasury is supposed to have decided on making a charge for exchange transactions. We trust that no such step will be found necessary. It would be a severe blow to public confidence in the stability of Japan's monetary system.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram saying that Nieh has been severely wounded, not killed, as the original report says. Moreover, our Tokyo contemporary alleges that the fight in which the incident occurred was between Nieh's troops and the Boxers. Everything, however, tends to show that Nieh and the Boxers are now cooperating. There has been no suggestion of their mutual hostility in any of the reports sent by Japanese officers from the front, nor do the statements elicited from Chinese prisoners indicate anything of the kind.

M. Chameau, an employee of the Peking Hotel, arrived at Tientsin on the 25th of June, having left Peking on the 19th. He gave a very gloomy picture of the state of affairs in the capital, representing that the Foreign Legations had only 3 days' provisions and that they were beleaguered by

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thirty thousand troops. The 19th of June was the day on which the *Tsung-li Yamên* conveyed to the Foreign Ministers a request that they should leave the city within 24 hours. There can not have been any question of beleaguering or starving out at that time.

The *Jiji Shimpo* adheres to its constantly expressed opinion that every effort must be made to preserve the integrity of China. The people of that empire have all the requisites for independence. Their subjection to a foreign yoke would be a stupendous undertaking. They may be compared to a household which, though possessing ample resources, is threatened with bankruptcy owing to bad management. A little tactful contrivance on the part of Foreign Powers at this juncture, would convert China into a prosperous and peaceful country, one of the world's great markets

We have not been hearing anything of the pest lately. It has been thrust out of the field of observation by the Chinese crisis. Our readers will infer that there was not much to record about it. Such is the fact. Between the 2nd and the 15th instant not one case occurred in Osaka. Since the recrudescence of the malady 46 persons in all were attacked. Of these 42 perished and 4 are under treatment. It would not do to assume that nothing more is to be apprehended. Japanese newspapers say that the carcases of rats containing bacilli are still found here and there.

Korea seems to be getting drawn into the circle of Oriental disturbance. Numbers of Boxers are said to have assembled at Taku-shan, beyond the borders of Korea, and the foreigners in that district have fled to Wiju. That, of course, need not affect Korea did she not herself contain elements of unrest. But she does contain such elements. They are said to have made their presence felt in Peh-an-do, and the people of Pyŏng-yang are escaping in apprehension to the provinces. On the other hand, 20 foreign missionaries are reported to have fled from Chinese territory to Pyŏng-yang. The Korean Government is discussing the propriety of sending a force to the border.

When the Emperor and the Empress heard that wounded German officers and soldiers were lying in the German Hospital at Yokohama, and that wounded Russian officers had arrived at Nagasaki, their Majesties are understood to have expressed much sympathy with the sufferers. The Emperor accordingly sent Captain Inouye, one of his Aides-de-Camp, and the Empress sent Miss Kitajima, a Maid of Honour, to convey messages of condolence, and her Majesty also forwarded some presents as a substantial evidence of sympathy with the wounded officers. We learn that Captain Inouye and Miss Kitajima are to visit the Hospital at Sasebo for a similar purpose. These gracious acts on the part of their Majesties can not fail to be highly appreciated.

It is said that the Minister of Finance has withdrawn his proposal for charging a fee on the exchange of paper for gold. Whatever may be necessary in the future, his Excellency does not see any occasion for the measure at present. The idea of Japanese financiers in this matter is that circumstances of an altogether exceptional nature have to be considered. The sudden demand for gold is not due to any of the ordinary incidents of commerce, but is caused by events connected with the panic in China resulting from the rebellion there. It is a question whether the neighbouring empire of Japan would not be justified in adopting some extraordinary measures to protect its stocks of gold in the face of such a conjuncture. Meanwhile, the Bank of Japan has increased its rate of interest by 1 *rin* daily.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* urges that every possible hospitality should be shown to the refugees that are flocking to Japan from China. The Nagasaki hotels are understood to be quite full of these unfortunate people, many of whom have doubtless been obliged to abandon everything, and the occasion is one calling for exceptional treatment at the hands of the Japanese. Sentiments of that kind are just what we expect from leading Japanese journals, but it is not easy to see what can be done for the refugees. The great majority of them are well-to-do folks who would resent any offer of charity. Still there must be many cases of distress, which judicious enquiry would disclose and tactful aid might alleviate. At all events the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* very practical suggestion should be carried out, namely, that innkeepers should not take advantage of the situation to extort large profits.

The *N-C. Daily News* of the 17th instant repeats the intelligence that all the Foreign Ministers in Peking have been massacred, and says that the news has been communicated to Shêng by Yuan Shih-kai. If the statement really came from that source, all hope must be abandoned, but so long as no official news is published in Japan, we can not believe the worst. It seems to us that such a catastrope would create a commotion so great that the news would travel at once to Tientsin, especially since the foreigners at the latter place are no longer segregated from the Chinese in the city. There is another story that Yuan has communicated by telegram with Shêng, saying that up to the 9th instant the Legations were safe. These conflicting stories embody much hope. There will be no mistake or uncertainty when the calamity comes, if it does come.

Russia is said to have determined upon the despatch of two further Divisions of troops to China. A Division in the Russian organization consists, we believe, of 8 battalions, so that two Divisions, with the appropriate complement of army corps troops, would mean a force from eighteen to twenty thousand of all arms. It is not stated whence these troops are to be drawn. Rumour says that Russia has sixty thousand men at or near Vladivostock, but rumour has for a long time busied itself attributing big armaments to Russia in the Far East, and events are not confirming these estimates. The most modest of the sensational writers used to tell us that Russia had at least 20,000 troops at Port Arthur. Where are they now? If such a force had been in the Liao-tung Peninsula, the Russian flag would not be represented to-day by only five or six thousand men in Chih-li.

"We can not, by joining Japan, betray the cause of all white men without fatal effect upon the cohesion of Europe and upon American opinion, and we have no reason or excuse for joining Russia in a war with Japan." Thus writes the London *Spectator*. Were any one to tell the editor of the *Spectator* that he is one of the most conspicuous examples of racial prejudice in the world, he would doubtless repel the accusation with indignation Yet it is true Never does he touch any question of international policy affecting extra-Occidental issues without betraying his perpetual anti-Oriental bias. The idea of an alliance between an Eastern and a Western State against a Western is sacreligious in his eyes. It must always be the white man against the yellow. Yet he is a prominent denouncer of the racial prejudice which, according to his view, knits the yellow peoples against the white. Is it not curious that a man of very much more than average intelligence should be unconscious of the flagrant conflict between his professions and his practice?

At 6 o'clock on the afternoon of the 18th, the Iwo-zan spur of Azuma-yama broke into violent eruption. Full particulars are not yet to hand, but it is stated that over 200 people were killed, from which we infer that the eruption resembled that of Bandai-san. Iwo-zan is in Fukushima prefecture. Azuma-yama, of which it forms a part, behaved in a similar manner some years ago, and an expert who subsequently ascended it to make investigations, lost his life. Bandai, Azuma, and Iwo may all be said to belong to the same range. It appears that the crater of eruption at Iwo-zan was the sulphur mine, and most of the casualties took place there, but there were several deaths at the hot spring of Numajiri also. A telegram from Aizu says that the ejected matter—which is spoken of as *doro-tsuchi* (mud and clay)—rolled over a distance of 3 miles, and that, at the time of the eruption and subsequently to it, the heat in the neighbourhood of the crater was so great that it could not be approached.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has a telegram from Shanghai which says that Shêng has addressed an urgent message to Yuan Shih-kai, pointing out that the result of the present crisis may be nothing less than the overthrow of the Chinese empire, and entreating Yuan to collect all available troops and march to the assistance of the Allies. Shêng recommends that should General Tung be found to be acting in concert with the Boxers, he ought to be attacked without hesitation. It is the opinion in Japan that Yuan finds himself perplexed how to act. He is supposed to be sitting on the fence like the historical Tsutsui Junkei, whose hesitation at the time of the Great Osaka struggle enriched the language with an expression for a sitter on the fence (*horagatoge-to*). Shên's message is said to have been sent from Shanghai to Chi-nan on the 16th. Perhaps it may have the effect of inducing Yuan to make up his mind.

Among the cock-and-bull stories now circulated, there is one about a letter which is said to have been indited by request of the Foreign Consuls in Tientsin. Its addressee was the Viceroy Yung Lu, and its contents, as originally dictated, were a request that the bombardment of Tientsin should not be resumed until the foreign women and children had been removed. Mr. Detring is said to have supervised the writing of the letter, which was duly forwarded. But—and here come the comical touches—the messenger was captured *en route* by a foreign official, who opened the epistle and found that it contained nothing about the women and children, but only a petition for a postponement of the bombardment until the writer together with Mr. Detring, Colonel Hanneken and their friends had left the Settlement. A tissue of nonsense, in truth. Mr. Detring is an accomplished Chinese scholar: the alleged mistake could not have occurred without his knowledge. A messenger despatched for such a purpose could not have been captured by a foreign official. The Foreign Consuls, if they had a joint request to address to the Viceroy,

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would have employed their own writers and would have signed their own names, instead of having recourse to the pen and signature of a certain Mr. Chang. These are the kind of tales manufactured for public delectation at present. And they are telegraphed too.

It is the opinion of the *Jimmin* that the best plan would be to entrust to the Japanese army the duty of attacking Peking independently. A full and distinct agreement might be made that all the arrangements subsequent to the fall of Peking should be regulated conjointly by the Powers. But the point is, according to our contemporary's view, that if the whole of the allied forces advance together and make the attack from the same quarter, the Chinese will be able to organise a much stouter defence than they could offer if they were assaulted from two directions simultaneously. That is very obvious. The only question is, what route could the Japanese take. The Shanhai-kwan road suggests itself, but an army marching from that quarter would have to cover twice the distance that separates Tientsin and Peking, and would therefore arrive in the tail of the hunt. Tientsin is the natural basis, for the river constitutes an excellent means of communication, and the railway can be repaired without much difficulty. We believe that if the task of relieving Peking were entrusted to the Japanese alone, they would accomplish it much more quickly than a mixed force of all nationalities could hope to accomplish it, but in that case the Japanese should be allowed to take the best and shortest route

NEWSPAPER SURVEILLANCE.

From an article in the *Jiji Shimpo* we infer that the Authorities have been discussing the advisability of exercising some kind of press censorship during the present crisis. It is to be hoped that no such measure will be resorted to for the obvious reason that censorship can never be thoroughly efficient —it must always err on the side of caution—, and that its result is to throw the whole responsibility of journalistic utterances on the censors. Under the existing press laws of Japan no one thinks of regarding the newspapers as in any sense representatives of official views, but from the moment that the official pen is used to strike out objectionable matter, that which remains must be supposed to have received the official imprimatur. Such a result would be fraught with mischievous consequences. It can not be denied, however, that the public has good reason to be wroth with some journals which lend their columns for the indiscriminate circulation of sensational reports, taking no thought whatever of the fact that many people are awaiting with harrowing anxiety every item of news about the fate of the foreign community in Peking, and that to spread idle reports of disaster at such a time is little short of a crime. Shanghai is the most flagrant offender. Discrimination seems to have been thrown to the winds of heaven by some of the newsmongers of that settlement.

TREATMENT OF CHINESE PRISONERS AND WOUNDED.

Apropos of the remarks of Lieut. von Krohn on the subject of the treatment of Chinese prisoners and wounded, the following from the *N.-C. Daily News* is of interest :—All prisoners taken are shot, the brutalities practised by the enemy on European wounded who fall into their hands justifying such a drastic measure.

IMPORTANT DESPATCHES.

The following telegraphic despatch was sent from Peking on July 3rd from the Emperor of China to the Emperor of Japan *via* Chi-nan :—

THE EMPEROR OF CHINA, TO HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN, GREETING !

While Our Country is on terms of intimate friendship with your Majesty's Country, the Chancellor of your Majesty's Legation was, about a month ago, attacked and done to death. Profoundly touched by this sad event, We caused steps to be taken for the arrest and punishment of the perpetrators of the crime; but the Powers suspecting that, in the prevailing conflict between Our Christian and non-Christian subjects, Our Government is supporting the non-Christians against the Christians, have attacked and occupied the forts of Taku. Thus hostilities were commenced and the situation has become more and more complicated.

In the general constellation of the world the East and the West confront each other. Your Majesty's country and ours are the only Powers that maintain the East. It is not China alone that is made the object of the ambitious gaze of the Powers that assert their strength in the West. Should China fail to hold her own, we fear that Your Majesty's country also would find the situation untenable. The interests of the two countries are therefore linked together and We venture to hope that Your Majesty will find it possible to set aside, for the present, questions of minor importance, and to make common cause with us in the maintenance of our general interests. China is at the present moment so completely occupied in conducting military operations for the suppression of the insurgents that it is impossible for her to take proper measures to avert the dangers from without, and to bring the complication to a successful termination. We are therefore constrained to rely on the support of that country which, like our own dominion, forms part of Asia.

Under these circumstances we make this communication to Your Majesty in the spirit of absolute frankness and truthfulness, and beg that Your Majesty will take such action as may be deemed adequate in your judgment to restore order and peace under your powerful guidance. We also most earhestly beg Your Majesty to favour us with a reply.

The 7th day of the sixth month of the 26th year of Kuang Hsü. (July 3rd, 1900).

The reply of the Emperor was as follows :—

THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN, TO HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF CHINA, GREETING !

Although a rumour to the effect that Sugiyama, Chancellor of our Legation in Peking, had been murdered, reached us some time ago, positive information on the subject has so far been lacking, but Your Majesty's telegram, which has just been received, confirms the fact and has been a source of profound grief to us.

Since the occurence of that sad event the insurgents in the northern part of Your Majesty's dominion have become more and more violent, and their lawless action has been unbounded. The diplomatic Representatives of the foreign nations in Peking and other members of the Legations have been surrounded and attacked by them. It is even reported that the Minister of a certain Power has been attacked and done to death, that Your Majesty's troops are powerless to rescue the Ministers of foreign nations, and are unable to repel and subjugate the insurgents. The action of the insurgents is a complete violation of the principle of international law that diplomatic officers are entitled to the highest respect, and that they are inviolable in their persons. Insult to a diplomatic Representative constitutes in itself an offence against international law. It is unnecessary to point out the grave nature of the crime when a foreign representative is done to death.

If your Majesty's Government will earnestly suppress the insurgents and rescue the foreign Representatives, their suites, and other foreigners, the situation will be simplified, and the solution of the crisis will be found relatively easy. The suppression of the insurgents and the rescue of foreign Representatives are what your Majesty owes no less to your own country than to the nations of the world; and must be accomplished as speedily as possible. Since last month the Powers have dispatched large forces to Tientsin, and Japan has likewise found it necessary to send troops. The object of this military operation is to suppress the insurgents and rescue the diplomatic Representatives and others. Beyond that the Powers have no ulterior motive. If Your Majesty's Government should lose no time in rescuing the Ministers of foreign nations from their beleaguered position, the Powers will, we trust, recognize in that action an indication of Your Majesty's sincere wish to avoid war with foreign nations, and the calamity which would otherwise befall your country will thus be mitigated.

Our Government, as is known to Your Majesty, entertain feelings of cordial friendship for your country, so that, should circumstances make it necessary, Japan will not decline to take proper action based on the feelings of mutual friendship. If your Majesty's Government therefore at once suppress the insurrection and actually rescue the foreign Representatives, Japan will be prepared to use her influence, in the eventual negotiations between Your country and foreign nations, with a view to conserve the interests of Your Empire.

It is our earnest wish that this telegraphic reply to your message should receive the serious consideration of your Majesty.

The 13th day of the 7th month of the 33rd year of *Meiji*.

FORMOSAN PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS BONDS.

Loans to be raised in this, as well as in 1899, in accordance with the Formosan Public Undertakings' Loan Law, were originally estimated as follows :—

1899	Yen 3,200,000
1900	Yen 6,400,000
Total	Yen 9,600,000

Of this the first amount has already been advanced in the form of a loan from the Formosan Bank in several instalments at 7 per cent. interest during last year. This year a temporary loan of *yen* 1,500,000 was obtained in two instalments in the same way at the same interest. Bonds raised in Formosa on the 30th ultimo to the amount of *yen* 900,000 were accepted by the same bank. As these bonds, however, can be used as security for the Bank in transactions connected with the camphor monopoly they are shortly to pass into the hands of merchants engaged in the business.

THE INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation at Yokohama send us the following additional names of subscribers to the Indian Famine Relief Fund :—

	Yen.
Amount already acknowledged	5,101.31
Japanese Churches connected with the C. M. S. Tokyo Music	17.30
A. E. Gullison	10
A Committee of Japanese, Toyohashi, Mikawa Province through H.B.M. Legation	130
Esto sol. Tercio	10
John McDonald	50
B. R. N.	10
F. Schroeder	5
Japanese Christians, Otta Chapel	7
Japanese Christians, Hokkaido	54.92
Self Denial	5
	5,400.53

The P. & O. steamers *Ballaarat* and *Carthage* have been taken up for the conveyance of Indian troops to China. Fifteen of the British India Co.'s steamers have been taken up for the same duty.

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NATURAL REFLECTIONS.

THE attitude of some Europeans towards the Chinese crisis has not escaped criticism in Japan. Especially is surprise expressed at the Emperor of GERMANY's procedure. His MAJESTY's indignation about the murder of Baron VON KETTELER was a very natural sentiment, but his immediate conclusion that war must be waged against China, and his declaration—said to have been accompanied by a display of passion—that vengeance must be exacted, seem to Japanese observers to betray some want of moral balance. The *Mainichi* asks why war should be waged against the Chinese Empire because a foreign Minister has been assassinated by rioters in the streets of its capital, and, above all, why a cry of vengeance should be raised against the Chinese Government, because its rebellious subjects have perpetrated a crime. This is not what one expects from the sovereign of a great and highly civilized Christian State, says our contemporary. The *Mainichi* contrasts such threats with Germany's competence to give effect to them. She is sending eight thousand troops to China. What can 8,000 men accomplish against the Chinese Empire? Could they hope to reach Peking, the declared objective of the *Kaiser's* expedition? Germany is a Power of stupendous military strength in Europe, but her effective capacity to deal with a question in the Far East is comparatively small, and her utterances might well be regulated by some regard for her competence to make them good.

In some respects the *Mainichi's* comments can not, we think, be gainsaid. The Emperor of GERMANY did not fully consider the dictates of dignity when he allowed himself to be betrayed into crying aloud for vengeance. He spoke in anger, and men are apt to become undignified when they do that. The German troops equally yielded to a fit of anger when they wrecked the *Tsung-li Yamên* where shelter had been given to the corpse of Baron VON KETTELER. Of course these incidents are unsightly. Still more hysterical have been the utterances of foreign newspapers which declare that Peking should be razed with the ground. The fact is that we live in an age of ferment and rhetoric. Never was there so much silliness penned as that published by European writers in connexion with the Boer war. Men who, if they paused for a moment to think, would acknowledge what all the world knows, namely, that individual rights receive fuller recognition in England than in any other country and that the liberty of the subject is more sacred there, nevertheless pursuade themselves to commiserate the Boers on the prospect of passing under the yoke of British tyranny, and incite them to struggle against that dreadful consummation. The art of appealing to passion and prejudice has been carried to such a point that if the feeling thus evoked finds occasional expression in practice, we can not be surprised.

THE CHINESE PROBLEM.

THERE is a growing feeling in Japan that the Chinese crisis will end in a division of the empire into north and south. Moreover, not a few writers advocate that result. They would leave the north to the Manchus, and organise the south under a republican form of Government. Could Europe and America be induced to endorse that programme? Could Japan be induced? Scarcely, we think. The lines of division would be liberalism and conservatism. The sway of the Manchus would be confined to the north because the north is retrogressive and anti-foreign. The republic in the south would be established on a basis of progress and cosmopolitanism. In other words, the north would be allowed to perpetuate and obey the traditions from which foreign nations have been so long endeavouring to wean China. One of two things would follow as a matter of logical necessity: either the Manchus in the north must be permitted to assassinate missionaries and violate treaty obligations at their sweet will, or else force must be used to educate them to a wholesomer frame of mind. The latter alternative would, of course, be chosen. Foreign Governments have no intention of allowing one half of China to close its doors in their face. But if a policy of progress is to be forced on the north, what would be the *raison d'être* of a discrimination between it and the south? Why should there be any division at all if there is not to be any difference in the conditions on either side of the dividing line? Statesmen have to show some practicality in dealing with practical questions. Even if it were within reach of human competence to find some means of averting the collision of interests and relations inseparable from any attempt to make an arbitrary division of the kind suggested, there would remain the universally unsatisfactory nature of such an arrangement to foreign Powers, with, perhaps, one exception. What the Powers will seek to do seems to us plain enough. They will consent to treat with the Manchu Government and to arrange terms of peace with it, on condition that the re-actionary statesmen are driven out of office; that the management of affairs is entrusted to men like Prince CHING, YUNG LU, LIU KUN-YI; and so on; that a clear programme of pro-foreign and progressive administration is formulated, and that certain indemnifications and concessions are made. We do not pretend to think that the difficulties of elaborating an agreement among the Powers are anything short of stupendous. One must be very sanguine to hope that an universally acceptable solution of such a problem can be found. But that the attempt will be of that nature appears obvious. The truth is that for several years the Powers of Europe have been shaking the Chinese wasps' nest assiduously. They imagined that the insects had lost the capacity of stinging, and that nothing would rouse them to re-assert it. There will be some hurts before the swarm is peacefully hived again.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR'S MARCH.

AN INTERVIEW WITH LIEUTENANT VON KROHN.

In compliance with a request from Lieut. von Krohn, now in the German Hospital, a representative of the *Japan Mail* has had an interview with the gallant officer concerning statements attributed to him by a local paper. Lieut. von Krohn has a bandage over his left eye, but is otherwise in good health and spirits. He speaks English well, as most German officers do, and the interview was conducted in that language.

Lieut. von Krohn first explained that he had no notion that he was being interviewed when the representative of the *Japan Herald* called upon him; he simply thought it was a friendly visit, and chatted in an informal manner as he would have done to any compatriot who had happened to call. No notes were taken at all, and consequently some serious misstatements had been made in regard to matters on which the *Japan Mail* afterwards commented.

"What is the first point which you would like to make clear?" asked the *Japan Mail* representative.

"Well, I am represented as saying the campaign of Admiral Seymour was 'a great mistake, and could only end in failure as it did, for his forces had no knowledge of the country, no maps, and only eight days' provisions, and above all very little ammunition?' Well, the impression given by that is that I was criticising the wisdom of Admiral Seymour's action. German officers are not educated like that to indulge in criticism of superior officers, and I had particularly no notion of speaking adversely of one so high above me as Admiral Seymour. I have such a high esteem for him that I could not possibly have said anything of the kind. What I meant to say was this: as events turned out, the expedition proved a mistake, but neither Admiral Seymour nor anybody else could have foreseen what was to happen. At the time he started the railway was intact and the telegraph to Peking was not interrupted. Nobody anticipated that we should find such resistance as we did. It was thought we should simply have to face the Boxers, and the expedition was planned merely to increase the garrisons of the Legations at Peking. It was only after Admiral Seymour had left that we had any idea of the amount of trouble we were likely to have. He left in the forenoon, and I with a body of Germans in the afternoon. When Admiral Seymour left the railway line was interrupted, but the telegraph wires were quite safe till about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The Admiral took in his tug some waggons with materials to repair the line. While our engine was detached for water we noticed that an attempt had been made to tear up the rails between it and the cartriages. That showed that the Boxers were active about Tientsin itself. What I said to the interviewer was that if Admiral Seymour had known, or if any of us had known at the time, what a great amount of resistance would have to be encountered and in what manner the railway would be destroyed later on, he would never have started. It would have been a great mistake to have left Tientsin, where we were all wanted. But it was impossible for the Admiral or any of us to see that, and I have not had the least idea of criticising his action. We were all agreed as to its wisdom in the circumstances as we then knew them. We joined him about 8 o'clock the same night, some 30 *li* from Tientsin, where he had stopped to mend a bridge which had been destroyed by fire. A railway building had also been burned."

"Then Admiral Seymour enjoyed the complete confidence of the Allies?"

"Certainly. We all thought very highly of him. The whole of the commanding officers coincided with his opinion. If I had not agreed with him, I should not have said so; I should have kept my opinion to myself. But in point of fact I greatly admire him, and the gallantry he showed all through the trying times we had to go through. He was everywhere with the great stick he carried, encouraging the men and directing operations with the greatest courage and ability. Captain Jellicoe also I esteem very highly. He was wounded in the chest in one of the engagements."

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"It is stated that you consider it will require 150,000 men to deal effectively with the situation. Is that so?"

"Yes. It is quite impossible to proceed on the railway, as the whole length is destroyed. You won't want so many troops to defeat the Boxers and the troops, but many thousands will be required to guard the lines of communications and keep them intact. There must be numerous depôts for provisions also. The people of the country are all hostile; you can get no help from them. A great many villages are deserted and others burnt down, so that it will be impossible to get food *en route*. Then there is the question of water. It will be very difficult to get water. That is a matter in which we suffered very much. We had to get water from the river—"Chateau Peiho" we called it. We heard that the villagers the other side of Langfang had thrown the bodies of dead animals and human beings into the wells, and thus poisoned the water. The difficulty of getting provisions and water will necessitate transport arrangements on a very large scale. The nearer you get to Peking, too, the more hostility you will find."

"What do you think of the Chinese as soldiers?"

"They shoot very well. They are especially good gunners, from what we saw of them. Of course it was not difficult work firing at our junks in the river, for they knew all the distances. With the rifle they are not so good. I have an impression that they begin firing at a great distance with the sights elevated, but that as we come nearer they forget or neglect to lower the sights, and consequently at a short range the bullets go high. At 1,200 yards we had a lot of bullets around us, but when they got nearer they mostly flew overhead. When they get near the bayonet, and hear our 'Hurrah' they don't wait, but turn and run. That's why we ought to have plenty of cavalry. I don't think very highly of their cavalry. What chiefly surprised us was the efficient way in which the troops were armed. They have rifles of the most modern pattern. In the villages we took from them we found modern rifles and a huge lot of ammunition in the houses, and when the villages were burnt we could hear the cartridges going off like fireworks."

"Were the Boxers armed like this?"

"Yes, those whom we encountered coming back. They had evidently been supplied with rifles by the officers. They do not know how to handle a rifle properly. If they had known we should have had very much greater losses. They fire more or less at random and very quickly. Still, as they get behind cover in the villages and use smokeless powder, it makes matters a little difficult for an attacking party. The first Boxers we met were only armed with long knives. Those with rifles we met on our way back to Tientsin, and they held the villages against us."

"What is their method of warfare?"

"Well, the first time we met them, when an Italian petty officer was killed, they appeared first at a distance of about 200 yards. They cried out, and then made a rush on us. Our soldiers were washing clothes near the engine at the time, and were unarmed, but the people on the trucks took up arms and beat them back. The Italian and some men were, however, surrounded, and several of them were killed by the Boxers with their knives. Sometimes they attack in very large bodies. Lieut. Colomb of the *Endymion* was attacked at Lofa by a thousand of them, who rushed on him from all sides. They were armed with knives, only a few of them having rifles of old patterns, and succeeded in killing only two English sailors. A hundred of them were killed."

"They rush right on to the rifles, after the style of the Soudanese?"

"Yes, often. They don't believe they can be killed. They have a small red pocket, with a charm inside, the Boxer sign, a red fork, and some writing which signifies that their god will save them. Here is one of them I took from a dead man."

The Lieutenant took out of his pocket-book a small red cloth case, with a yellow enclosure traced with Chinese characters and soaked with the blood of its late possessor. He proceeded:—

"I myself saw some of the Boxers running up to our men armed only with knives. They would be hit by a bullet, but would get up again and recommence running; sometimes even after three or four shots they would rise. In one body I counted no less than four wounds. One of the killed I found at a distance of only forty yards from the rifles, armed only with a knife."

"But they will lose this faith after a while, with such convincing arguments as Mauser bullets?"

"I think many have lost it already, and that others will do so very quickly when they see they are not awake again. The Boxers' movement may die out on that account."

"Is it true that the Boxers murder women and children when it is inconvenient to remove them?"

"Quite. I saw the body of a woman with a new born child, and in the river I saw a lot of bodies of women and children."

"I notice that you say you shot 20 men at the Siko forts, where you were wounded. If every officer made as good practice they must be a host in themselves."

"No, that was a mistake. I said that when one man at a gun I was observing was shot another at once took his place, and that I saw about 20 men shot at that gun. But of course I did not kill them all. I killed about three or four. Of course we were only at a distance of about 100 yards."

"As to the question of despatching the killed and wounded—what is the truth about that?"

"Well, the other gentleman who called here told me it was rumoured that the Russians killed the wounded with the butt ends of their rifles. He asked me if that was true. I told him I didn't believe it, but that I could probably tell how the rumour got about. The fact was that we had some cases where we must kill the men with the bayonet to save ourselves, and I told of such cases. I told of one case in which I was concerned. When we went to see the bodies after an engagement, there was one body lying against a tree. I did not see it, but a petty officer cried out that the man was getting on to his feet. I looked, and saw the man, who was supposed to be dead but was only wounded, standing up, and trying to strike me with his long knife. I at once struck him down with my sword, killing him. That is one case. Another was that of an English midshipman, about this size"—holding up his hand to his waist. "There was a seemingly dead man at a distance of about 5 feet from him, and he suddenly rose to stab the midshipman, when the latter shot him with his revolver. Another case was in the Siko fort, which we took. There were a lot of reeds near by, and we were searching them for Chinese. A wounded man rose and attacked one of our men, wounding him; of course he—the Chinese, I mean—was killed. I gave these cases, and said the rumour probably arose from such acts, and that the Russians at Taku had had much the same experiences. I did not say, however, that we were compelled to kill all the wounded with the bayonet. We did kill one prisoner because he refused to do some work that was ordered, and attacked the petty officer who was guarding him. That was at Siko. I never saw the soldiers kill the wounded men except in case of absolute necessity, when they had to save themselves. We haven't killed prisoners and wounded generally, and I don't believe we shall do it. Of course we killed those who tried to kill us, that is unless we were killed first. If a man was fighting against us with arms in his hands of course we shot him, but no old men or children were killed."

Speaking of another matter, Lieut. von Krohn said he did not attach much importance to the statement that the German Minister was killed on the 13th, and that the Chinese had altered the date. On the afternoon of the 16th a messenger from Peking reached the English Admiral. He had left Peking on the previous night, and he had heard nothing of the death of the Minister. Lieut. von Krohn was himself speaking to this man, and understood from him that Peking when he left was quite quiet, but that in the villages round there were massacres and disturbances. They didn't hear of the death of the German Minister until they arrived at Tientsin. The news was brought on the 28th by two runners from Peking. Lieut. von Krohn stated his opinion that when Prince Twan was deposed the Boxer movement would die out. Most of the Boxers had been misled by the chief of the anti-foreign party, who had made use of their superstition, while many thousands of others had been compelled to join the rioters under fear of death. He thought they would soon be demoralised, especially when they were undeceived as to their immortality. He believed the Generals and Prince Twan were privy to the death of the Japanese Chancellor Sugiyama and the murder of the German Minister.

The Lieutenant added a word as to the excellent understanding between all nationalities comprised in the allied forces. He said they all worked splendidly together, and there was absolutely no jealousy or racial prejudice. He had a very high opinion of the Japanese troops, both officers and men.

A visit to Captain Lanz, of the *Iltis*, who was lying in a cubicle with his leg in plaster-of-paris, and with twenty-five small wounds from shell and wood splinters, enabled our representative to get a view of a plan of the *Iltis* showing how and where she was hit. The *Iltis*, though of only 900 tons, looks a much larger ship, and consequently she was the chief target. "It was real war," said the Captain, who is an excellent specimen of the German naval officer, speaking capital English, courteous, gallant, and patient in his endurance of a very nasty wound, of which he makes light, only regarding it seriously as a possible bar to his remaining in the service. The *Iltis* was hit by 17 shells and one shrapnell. Five shells hit the aft funnel, and it was curious to trace the efforts of the Chinese gunners to plant a projectile in the boilers. Each succeeding shot, evidently from the same gun, was a few feet lower, until at last they succeeded in planting one on the lower part of the superstructure. The bridge and superstructure were hit five times, and one shot struck the hull. Parts of the rigging and the foremast were also hit. Curiously enough the *Algerine*, which was within a few yards of the *Iltis* all the time, escaped very lightly. Captain Lanz paid a tribute to the excellent work done by Capt. Stewart and his men. He was, he said, a very fine fellow, and did wonderful work. By a grim irony most of the shots which struck the *Iltis* were from German-made guns. The binocular glass which Captain Lanz was using is a curiosity. It was shattered by a fragment from a shell, and the interior is lined with scraps of the Captain's white uniform, which was torn in shreds at the same time.

FOREIGNER CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING A JAPANESE.

Mr. J. R. Meston, second engineer of the steamer *Victoria*, was recently sentenced in default to one month's imprisonment, on a charge of having assaulted a Japanese. He appealed, and the case was reopened on Wednesday morning in the Yokohama Ku Saibansho before Judge Danno.

Defendant, in answer to the Court, said he was repairing a crane when Yoshikawa, the complainant, suddenly moved it, and accused's hand was injured by the machinery. He struck Yoshikawa with his right hand, in which he was holding a spanner, but he did not strike the man with the spanner. He did not know whether Yoshikawa was injured by the blow.

Yoshikawa and Dr. Iide were examined as witnesses.

Mr. Ideura, counsel for the prisoner, applied for an adjournment, which was granted.

At noon on 28th May a serious accident occurred at Southampton Docks. A large staging erected by Messrs. Lucas and Aird for the construction of steel and concrete piles gave way with a tremendous crash just as the workmen were leaving for dinner. It was at first feared that a number of men were buried under the mass of timber and piles, but the roll was called, and it was reported that all the men were accounted for. Five of them were, however, severely injured, and were conveyed to the hospital. There were about 250 piles, each weighing over three tons, in various stages of construction, and as the whole of them collapsed the place looked a terrible wreck.

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OFFICIAL REPORTS FROM THE FRONT.

COMMANDER YAMASHITA'S REPORT.

The following report, dated Tientsin, 4th of July, has been received from Commander Yamashita of the *Kasagi*:—

The enemy appeared to have received an accession of force on the 2nd and 3rd. At 5.50 a.m. on the 4th, they opened fire on the French Settlement from the fort outside the wall on the north-east. Sagawa Hyozo, a second-class marine in the detachment guarding the Specie Bank, was wounded in the foot by a shell. The Chinese in the fort had 4 guns, and another gun joined in the bombardment from a neighbouring eminence. The main force was collected on the west and north-west of the station, which had been guarded since the preceding day by 100 men each from the Japanese, British, and French troops. In the afternoon the enemy advanced into the open to within 300 metres of the station, but fell back before the allies' hot fire One section of them took refuge in a village on the north. The Japanese had 5 wounded. In the afternoon, a party of about 40 or 50 Boxers emerged from the southern gate of Tientsin and advanced along the road by the race course. The English troops on patrol on the West opened fire on them and they dispersed. At 3.30 p.m., another body of a thousand Boxers came out of the south gate and crossed the plain towards the foreign settlement. The British opened fire on them with field pieces and they fled in disorder. The English had received two additional 12-pounders that day. Mr. Kato arrived on the 4th by river and it was decided to send the wounded back by the boat that had carried him. A message was received from the American Commanding officer that, under the circumstances, the 4th of July would not be celebrated.

Another report from the same officer, dated the 5th of July, says:—

The situation is the same as on the 4th The enemy opened fire on the station at 4.50 a.m. from the fort on the north east of the wall. The English 12-pounders replied.

The allies maintained an attitude of defence, and the enemy did not make any attack.

The river fort fired occasionally.

Many of the foreign residents left by the British tug at 9 a.m., and none now remain.

Another report from the same officer, dated the afternoon of the 5th, says:—A pupil of the College who had just returned from the Chinese city of Tientsin, informed a teacher in the College that everything was quiet in the town, that the shops were open, and that trade was proceeding. He had come out of the southern gate, and had not seen any Chinese troops or Boxers. He added that the Viceroy Yu Lu was still in his *yamên*. (There had been a report that Yu had committed suicide by swallowing gold some days previously.) Seven Companies—3,500 men—of Sung's army had arrived the day before at Tientsin under Ma. General Nieh's family, when on the way back to Anhui, had been attacked by the Boxers at Yang-liu-chin, and plundered. Nieh had immediately sent a detachment to attack them, but, being assisted by the Chi-li regulars, they beat Nieh's troops. Nieh had been so much enraged that he disbanded the detachment.

The above details, having been obtained from a young student, are not altogether credible, but they probably embody some truth.

Mr. Wang, the Chinese President of the College, fled with his family to the house of a foreigner in the settlement. One member of his family happened to be carrying a pistol for purposes of defence, but this led to the arrest of the party and their confinement in the China Merchants S.S. Company's building. On being released they proceeded to the house of their foreign friend, but found that it had been burned, and that the women of their party had disappeared. The bodies could not be found in the ruins or anywhere in the settlement. Application was made to the Japanese, and they attached 2 soldiers to Mr. Wang's party to aid the search.

In the afternoon some companies of Russian troops advanced with artillery across the plain on the north of the arsenal. Some parties of the enemy showed, but there was no fight, and both sides retired at sunset. We afterwards learned that this was a reconnaissance in force, some Chinese troops having been observed in a village on the north east.

Another report from the same officer dated the 7th says that the Chinese against whom the Russian reconnaissance had been made on the preceding day, had disappeared.

At 1.30 a.m. on the 6th, the enemy opened fire with shrapnel against the settlement and advanced to attack the station, but at dawn they retired.

Six guns seem to have been added to the enemy's park on the north-east of the wall at the railway bridge. This fort and the river fort shell the settlement incessantly. In the afternoon at 2 o'clock the Japanese, the British, and the French moved out their guns and shelled the enemy, and an artillery duel lasting 1½ hours ensued. The British 12-pounders proved remarkably powerful. Arrangements had been made for signalling the result of the shells from the Factory Tower, and, being guided by these signals, the gunners gradually obtained the range so exactly that at 3.30 p.m. the whole of the enemy's guns were silenced. At 4.30 p.m. several hundreds of Boxers, armed as usual with swords and spears, advanced to the attack. The French and Russian artillery detachment, who found themselves the object of this attack, retreated a little, and the Japanese stationed in the Mitsui store opened a hot fire from the roof at 700 metres, which dispersed the Boxers. At 9.30 p.m. the Boxers made another attack, but were again driven back by rifle fire. Commander Yamashita then led a party of the *Takasago* marines against the Boxers' position.

At 5 a.m on the 8th the enemy opened fire on the Concessions, and on 8 a.m. they mounted two new guns at a range of about 2,800 metres at the west arsenal and on the south of that point. On our side twelve Japanese mountain-guns, four English 12-pounders, six 6 pounder quick-firers and 4 Indian field-pieces, and 6 French Tonquin guns replied. Four 4.7-inch guns of the *Terrible* were in process of being mounted.

In the afternoon it was decided that the Japanese, the English and the Americans should drive the enemy from the village on the south-west of the Concessions and from the Race Course and should attack the West arsenal.

At 3 a.m. on the 9th the allied troops assembled: namely, 1,300 Japanese with 9 guns; 900 British with 4 guns; 400 Russians (a reinforcement—apparently the Russians did not directly participate); also a Japanese naval brigade of 149, consisting of detachments from the *Suma*, the *Kasagi* and the *Takasago*; and 100 Americans. It was agreed that this force should proceed along the outside of the mud wall, and attack the arsenal from the flank. The Japanese marched out of the south gate and became the right wing of the advance, having the English on their left. The Japanese drove out the Boxers in the neighbouring village and also the Chinese on the Race Course, capturing 4 guns from the latter. At 8 a.m. they stormed the arsenal, being followed by the Americans. A heavy fire was opened on the retiring enemy, and the Japanese and English guns opened fire on the houses in the vicinity of the south gate of Tientsin and on the fortress itself. A consultation then took place between the British and Japanese officers as to the advisability of retaining possession of the arsenal. At first the idea was that each should leave a force of 200 men to guard it, but as the place had lost its roof and offered no shelter, its destruction and abandonment were finally decided on.

In the forenoon, the enemy again opened fire on the Concessions.

The Japanese had one officer killed and many men killed and wounded.

Chefoo, July 14.

Commander Yamashita reports from Tientsin under date of the 10th that since the fight on that night the situation has changed, and some of the enemy's troops are breaking up. On the night of the 9th-10th the Chinese did not fire any guns, nor was anything seen of the enemy at Makia-kow who had been in the habit of attacking the station. According to a report received from the officer in command at the station, much shouting was heard among the enemy during the night, but, although fired on by a reconnaissance made in the morning, they did not reply. Prisoners captured on the occasion of the attack on the Arsenal on the 9th instant say that 2,500 of Nieh's troops are at the Race Course and in the arsenal, and that the same number are guarding Lu-tai. They also say that his whole command totals ten thousand, who are in the neighbourhood of Tientsin, but that he and his troops are on bad terms with the Boxers, and have no real inclination to fight against the foreigners. Nieh is in the camp on the west of the walled town. They added that Ma, with 6,500 men, is encamped on the left bank of the Peiho, facing the Russian troops. Neither force has guns of its own, but both are using guns obtained from the Viceroy of Chili.

This day four French mountain-guns arrived.

We received a report that the 9th Regiment of American troops and 200 marines, 1,200 in all, would come to Tientsin by the River, driving away the Boxers who are collected on a point 10 miles from the settlement. But the Americans have not yet arrived.

At 9.45 we assembled and arranged that, on the following morning, a moment should be made round the Eastern Arsenal and across the Lutai Canal to attack Ma's forces, the Russians, 1,300 strong, taking the lead, and the Japanese sending 2 companies of infantry, and a battery of artillery. We have not yet had any definite news of the movements of the English, French, and Germans.

REPORT OF MAJOR-GENERAL FUKUSHIMA.

On the 6th instant a consultation was held at the residence of Vice-Admiral Seymour. I proposed that we should bombard the fortified city, and this having been agreed to, fire was opened in the afternoon with 12 Japanese mountain guns, 6 French guns, and 2 9-pr. and 2 naval guns of the British. At first the enemy returned our fire vigorously, but by 3 p.m. their cannonade slackened and at 9 p.m. ceased altogether. The efficacy of the English naval guns was very marked. There could be no doubt that the enemy

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were greatly intimidated. At sunset the Boxers advanced against the position held by the French, and were driven back by a company of Japanese marines firing from the roof of the Mitsui building. After dusk another body of 300 Boxers advanced and were again driven back. The enemy also made repeated attacks on the station, and a company of Japanese was sent to assist in defending the bridge of boats. The garrison at the station was exposed to artillery fire day and night. The Japanese there had 6 killed and wounded on the 5th, and 1 killed and 3 wounded on the 6th, and the English and French detachments also had casualties. It will be necessary for the English, French and Japanese to attack the Chinese in front of the station two or three days hence.

Chemulpho, July 14.

Tientsin, July 7 (night). On the forenoon of the 7th a company of troops under the command of Major Sugiura proceeded to reinforce the station detachment and drove the enemy back several hundred metres by a bayonet charge. The station had been in much danger, but this operation put an end to the enemy's attack for that day, and was much applauded by the allies.

On the same morning at half-past nine General Fukushima called on Admiral Seymour. The latter said that he proposed to renew the attack in the afternoon, and inquired General Fukushima's view. The latter at once assented, and sent two batteries of mountain artillery to take up positions and open fire as on the preceding day. (*i.e.* When the allied artillery bombarded the Chinese fort from the Recreation Ground, the corner of the Mud Wall and the French Bund). At 1.30 the firing ceased. The enemy's reply was very weak as compared with the preceding day. The Japanese had no casualties. On commencing the cannonade, a squadron of cavalry was despatched to make a reconnaisance in force. The cavalry went out of the gate on the Taku Raad which the Germans were guarding, and advanced to the Race Course when they discovered the enemy and were exposed to a heavy fire. The cavalry had only two men wounded, and one, missing his way, received a lance-thrust in the foot. As the Race Course is within striking distance of the Peiho, its possession by the enemy would endanger the transport service on the River. General Fukushima therefore determined to propose the capture of the place at the council of commanding officers on the 8th.

Vice-Admiral Alexieff arrived in Tientsin on the 7th.

As the value of the Japanese troops has been demonstrated in the various fights since the 1st instant, their operations will henceforth be more strictly confined within the limits of cō-operative action. When the re-inforcements arrive, the Japanese will be in the first rank so far as relative strength is concerned. Everything has been entirely satisfactory up to the present.

The state of affairs in the Liaotung Peninsula is becoming worse. The railway has been wrecked in all directions.

Tientsin, July 11.

About a thousand Chinese with several guns attacked the railway station guarded by Japanese, English, and French troops at 2 a.m. this morning. The fight lasted 5 hours and the enemy were finally driven back by a fierce charge of the company commanded by Lieutenant Kochiyama. We had many casualties, especially owing to artillery fire. The Second Battalion of the Eleventh Regiment had 80 killed and wounded. The Sixth Company lost all its officers and its Sergeant-Major. Originally this place had been guarded by one Company of Japanese, but in view of the emergency three companies were added. The French also had been increased. They lost 60 men in four companies. The English also had many casualties. The position is one of the greatest importance to the defences, but is most difficult to guard. The allies will soon join forces to drive the enemy from this neighbourhood.

Hiroshima, July 17.

On the 9th our troops, acting in conjunction with the English, attacked the Boxers and Imperial troops at the arsenal. The squadron of cavalry and a company of the 11th Regiment routed the Boxers and killed 200 or 300 of them. The infantry battalion attacked the imperial artillery at Pah-li-tai and captured 3 quick-firing guns. We are now using these guns. At 11 a.m. we captured the arsenal, and at noon we withdrew. Our casualties were 32 killed and wounded rank and file, and Captain (the name is illegible) killed. Two cavalry Lieutenants were wounded.

Tientsin, July 9.

In order to secure the communications by the Peiho, to free the Race Course of the enemy, and to prevent the bombardment of the Settlement, the English, American, and Japanese troops, emerging from the south gate at 3 a.m. on the 9th, advanced to the attack of the Arsenal, and commenced the fighting at 5.30 a.m. By 7 o'clock the enemy had been driven back, and the allies reached Pah-li-tai. The enemy made a vigorous resistance on the west of the Race Course, but were dislodged by a rapid flanking movement. A squadron of our cavalry which had advanced by another road found its progress checked by a body of 400 Boxers. A three-company (*chiutai*) force of infantry was sent to its assistance, and the infantry and cavalry, charging, killed some 300 of their opponents, arriving at Pah-li-tai by 7 a.m., and joining the main body. The advance was then resumed, and at 8.20 a.m. the outer wall of the Arsenal was reached. The naval brigade had already arrived at that point, and the troops accordingly proceeded to attack the enemy on the south of Tientsin and to burn the houses near the Arsenal. At 11.30 a.m,, all these operations having been concluded, the troops returned to their original positions. The Chinese force at the Race Course numbered about 500. At Pah-li-tai they had 4 quick-firing guns, all of which were captured by the Japanese, as well as several hundred stand of small arms and some flags. The Japanese had one officer killed and two wounded, and 3 rank and file killed and 33 wounded. Skirmishes take place every night between the enemy and the troops guarding the settlement. Seventeen of the cavalry horses will be useless for further operations.

Tientsin, July 11 (night).

According to statements made by some of Nieh's men taken prisoners the advance army of the Chinese consists of thirty Banners (15,000), of whom 2,500 are at Lu-tai and the rest at Tientsin. The troops that opposed us on the 9th and engage in skirmishes every night with the defenders of the settlement are Nieh's men. But they are gradually losing heart and dispersing, so that the strength of the Banners has fallen from 500 to 250 or 200 each. Ma is also at Tientsin with 5,000 infantry and 1,500 cavalry, so that the whole probably muster thirteen or fourteen thousand now (allowing for desertions and casualties).

A council of commanding officers will be held to-morrow to discuss the advisability of a general attack.

The Viceroys Chang and Liu have positively refused to obey the Peking edicts, and Yuan Shih-kai has not moved.

There is no certain news from Peking.

Of the 4 quick-firers taken by the Japanese yesterday, one each was given to the English, the Americans, and the Russians.

A company of Japanese engineers is constantly engaged repairing the railway between Tong-ku and Tientsin, and 3 miles have been completely restored.

Tientsin, July 12.

According to intelligence obtained from a trustworthy source, the state of affairs in Peking is extremely perilous. The whole of the Chinese troops are bombarding the Legations with shells. The garrison are fighting desperately, but the contest is terribly unequal, and they are greatly exhausted. Their ammunition also is scarce, and the crisis is imminent. They are in danger of being all killed and they pray for speedy assistance."

Tientsin, July 14.

In the attack on the walled city of Tientsin on the 13th instant, the swampy nature of the ground opposite the south gate made it impossible to deploy troops there for a regular assault, and it became necessary for the greater part of the troops to advance in column of fours. In that formation they arrived within 200 metres of the south gate. During the advance they were exposed to a very severe fire of rifles and guns, and the casualties were exceedingly heavy. The plan had been to break open the gate and take the place by a charge, but, owing to the enemy's heavy fire, this proved impossible. Meanwhile the night fell, and each body of troops had to bivouack on its own ground, holding it tenaciously. At 4 a.m. on the 14th, a triple-company of Japanese engineers blew open the first gate, and one of the Japanese soldiers, climbing up the wall, opened the second gate from within. The enemy had retired after the engagement on the preceding night. By 7 a.m. the whole *enceinte* had been captured, but the fighting in the streets still continued. At 8.20 a.m., these street combats being practically concluded, a force was left to guard the place, and the rest of the troops were withdrawn. The allied forces engaged in this assault totalled about 4,000, namely, English, American, French, and Japanese, and they had 64 guns. The Japanese troops fought hard throughout.

On the other side of the River, the triple-company of Japanese troops guarding the station turned the enemy's attack and captured the Marine Fort as well as the Shan-hai-kwan road, taking 80 guns, of which 16 were of the newest pattern.

There are great quantities of arms and ammunition in the walled city of Tientsin, but as they are within the limits of the districts captured by the troops of the other nations, the Japanese did not appropriate any of them.

[The 80 guns taken by the Japanese seem to have been captured partly in the walled city and partly in Marine Fort.—ED. *J.M.*]

The allies' casualties in the capture of the walled city were about 500, of which 300 were Japanese.

(CONTINUATION OF COMMANDER MORI'S REPORT).

At noon on the 13th, the commanding officer, who was in No. 1 train, sent word that the injury done to the railway to the south of Yang-tsung seemed to be the work of the

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imperial troops, not of the Boxers. He therefore desired us to return for purposes of consultation. We thus understood that the situation had undergone a complete change, and we would have returned immediately, but the engine of No. 2 train was without water, and while this deficiency was being remedied, our patrols brought news, at 2 20 p.m., that a body of cavalry numbering 100, were advancing against us. Acting, then, under the orders of the officer commanding the German detachment, who was the senior present, the English troops formed up on the right of the line and the Russians and Japanese on the left, the two companies of Germans being in front on the right. In that order we advanced. But when the Russians had reached a wood 400 metres distant, they observed a force of cavalry some 500 metres in front. They opened fire at once, and the enemy retired. At the same time, a body of infantry emerged from a wood in front and another body from a wood in the left-rear of the latter. Thereupon the English troops deployed in front with the Russians and Japanese on the left and the Germans on the right. Advancing to the attack, they came into contact with the enemy, the British and Germans at a range of from 300 to 400 metres, the Russians and Japanese at a range of 300 metres. The troops facing the British were General Tung's main body. They carried flags with the ideograph "Tung" blazoned in gold on a red field, and in the intervals of these flags were banners with green borders surrounding a red field. These standards showed that we were confronted by a mixed army of regulars and Boxers. The troops on the enemy's left were General Tung's rear-guard, and the whole numbered about 2,000. Our force at the time mustered about 1,100. After 30 minutes' fighting, the enemy's van took fresh ground on a small hill to the north, and the English and Germans advancing to attack them, the Germans charged, driving them in confusion from the position. The fight on the left had meanwhile lasted for 27 minutes, and the enemy, retreating, made a long countermarch and advanced again at a point further to the west, where, being attacked by the Russians, they retired to the cover of a grove. The Russians and Japanese then advanced, but the main body of the enemy now appeared again on the field, when a company of the English, making a detour to the left, attacked them suddenly and drove them back. It was then half-past five. About 140 or 150 of the enemy had fallen, and our casualties were 7 English and Germans killed, and 2 German officers, 1 Russian officer, and over 40 English, German and Russian soldiers wounded. The Japanese had no casualties. The flags captured by us had the ideographs "imperial command" inscribed on the right corner, whereas all the Boxer flags previously taken bore merely the name *Iho* and a place-name. They had also 7 ideographs signifying "the Iho save the empire and destroy foreigners." Such a legend was now seen for the first time. It showed that the Boxers and the imperial troops were acting in combination. At 6 p.m. we left Lang-fang, and on 6.30 p.m. we reached the *rendez-vous* at La-fah, where we found Admiral Seymour. At 7 o'clock there was a council of officers. Admiral Seymour said that examination showed that the whole railway on the south had been destroyed and that no hope of repairing it could be entertained; that Tung was holding the region south of Peking and that Nieh's men were between the allies and Tientsin, the two Generals cooperating to cut off the allies. The situation having undergone such a complete change, the Admiral thought that the best plan would be to retire to Tientsin, and having formed a junction with the troops there, to resume the advance. When, however, they lost the use of the railway, the transport of their wounded would become a matter demanding serious thought. He had therefore sent scouts that afternoon to the river, and they had found 4 large junks and 5 small boats. He proposed to put the wounded in these, and make the return journey *viâ* the Peiho, the troops marching on the eastern bank so as to be in a position to deal with Nieh's forces. All agreed to this course. The order and hours of advance were then fixed: the Americans with one gun to march in the van; the English to follow, with one field piece and four machine guns; then the Austrians; then the Japanese; then the Russians; then the Germans; then the French, and finally the Italians, all on the east bank of river, the rear being brought up by one field piece and 4 Maxims. That night—18th—no incident occurred, but during the night the sound of cannon was heard from time to time in the direction of Tientsin. On the 19th, having buried our dead, and placed our 47 wounded in the boats, we left the railway in the afternoon, and commenced our return journey. At 7.30 p.m. we halted at Peh-shin-chang on a moor and the night passed quietly. At 6 a.m. on the 20th we set out again, the Japanese troops having been transferred to the western bank by order of Admiral Seymour. At 8.10 a.m. the enemy showed on the north of a village, and the Japanese troops received an order to recross the river. The enemy were then distant about 3,000 metres, and our artillery opened fire At 9.05 a.m., fighting commenced. The enemy, composed of imperial troops and Boxers, did not exceed some hundreds. At 10.20 a.m. they fled to the north-west, and we halted for a time at the evacuated village. At 10.55 a.m. the enemy again appeared at a distance of from 3,000 to 4,000 metres and opened fire. We at once replied, and by 12 40 p.m. they were driven back. We then marched to another village and halted. Before we had resumed our march the enemy, at 2.30 p.m., re-opened the attack from two directions, using rifles and artillery. The Americans and Germans attacked and drove them back, capturing their position. Our left also attacked. The Japanese occupied the ground taken by the Germans and advanced thence in company with the Americans and the English. (Here follow the names of villages among which the fighting was continued). Our attack lasted for a considerable time, but the enemy did not retreat. Therefore at 6 08 p.m., 200 English, 90 Americans and the Japanese received orders to advance and charge a village where the enemy had their chief position. The enemy were driven out of this village and from two other villages, and at 7 p.m the firing ceased. The English and Japanese burned the three villages and we all bivouacked for the night, which passed without incident.

At 6.30 a.m. on the 21st we resumed our journey. The disposition of forces was different, the Japanese, the Russians, the Germans, and the Austrians being on the west bank, and the British, the French, the Americans, and the Italians on the east bank. The Japanese formed the van on their side. At 8.20 a.m., as the Japanese were about to pass Wang Village, the enemy appeared in fighting order, with artillery, at a wood near Peh-tsang, and the Japanese, Russians, and Germans, deploying, advanced to the attack. At 11 a.m. we drove the enemy from Peh-tsang, and took possession of the place at 11.30, whence advancing at 12.49 p m, we passed Wan-kia. At about 300 metres from that place, the enemy opened fire from Nan-tsang, and we replied, firing across the river. After three hours they broke and fled. They numbered about 2,000, and had artillery, cavalry, and infantry. We pursued them vehemently, and they rallied in the neighbourhood of the Chintsu temple. We abandoned the pursuit at 6.30 p.m., and crossed from the West to the east bank to hold counsel with the commanding officer. In the meanwhile, the force on the east bank had encountered the enemy at a point 2 miles from the River near the railway, and had not succeeded in silencing their artillery until evening, when the force returned to the River and joined us. Altogether the fighting had lasted 6 hours, and there had been many casualties. The enemy were Nieh's troops, infantry, artillery, and cavalry, aggregating about 5,000 of all arms. That night we camped at Lian-tsang, and the commanding officers, after consultation, decided that we should set out at mid-night, and, marching quietly along the River, endeavour to reach Tientsin without further fighting. Accordingly, at 1 a.m. on the 22nd, we left Lian-tsang, and marched down stream for about a mile, when, on approaching Mu-rei-cha, we were fired on from the western bank. A reconnaisance under cover of the bank discovered the enemy in small force near Chintsu. We therefore showed ourselves at once, and at the sound of our shouting the enemy dispersed. After half an hour, the advance was resumed, and at 4.25 a.m. we reached the military stores at Si-ku. They are surrounded on the east, the south, and the north by a mud wall, the river being on the west. The wall is embrasured at intervals, and guns are mounted there, so that the place forms a fort. It is known among foreigners as the "Arsenal." None of the allied officers were well acquainted with this locality, and we had been advancing by the aid of map No. 314, which was in my possession. Now for the first time we discovered that there was a fort at this spot. No sooner did we appear in front of the fort than the enemy opened on us with rifles and guns. We were taken unawares, and, seeking cover under the River banks, we returned the fire. The River at this point is not more than 30 yards wide. The enemy's shots fell like hail about the boats containing the wounded, and, as their peril was imminent, we had to remove them up stream. We then opened fire with the whole of our artillery, but the distance being only 200 metres and the enemy having the advantage of a parapet, it was an extremely difficult matter to silence their fire. Fortunately 2 companies of Germans and 1 of Americans, returning up stream, crossed to the other side, and, creeping along the bank, escaladed the fort, the garrison flying in confusion. The English quickly followed into the fort and by 5.30 a.m. it was in our possession. But at 6 a.m. the enemy advanced, to the number of about 5,000, from the directions of Tientsin and of the Railway. We fought desperately, and in 30 minutes the enemy on the Tientsin side were beaten back. Those on the Railway, however, placed a number of guns in position and held their ground stubbornly. We therefore used the guns found in the fort, and by 10 o'clock succeeded in partially silencing their artillery. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the attack was renewed from the same directions, and not

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until we had fought for two hours did the enemy retire. By 4.30 p.m. the whole of the allied forces had entered the fort. At 11.50 p.m. the enemy sent several shells in our direction, but we did not reply. In this fight we had over 60 killed and wounded, 3 of the wounded being Japanese. At 4.20 a.m. on the 23rd, the enemy renewed the attack from the east and the south, and kept it up for hours, not retiring until 11 a.m. During this combat the Japanese worked some field guns and had 2 men killed. A short rest was then taken, and, on examining our reserve ammunition, the Japanese found that they had only 20 rounds per rifle, the Russians being in the same condition. We therefore opened the arsenal, and took out some new-pattern German magazine rifles, 25 of which were given to the Japanese. The enemy's attack became weaker in the afternoon. That night (23rd), a hundred English marines were sent out on patrol duty in the direction of the railway. After advancing a mile and a half, they were suddenly discovered by the enemy, and retreated, having had a Captain and 4 men killed. Evidently the enemy had surrounded the fort and were lying in wait for us to advance. During the 24th the enemy made several attacks from the east and the west, but were quickly driven back. The Arsenal was about 240 yards square and there were over 30 storehouses, containing hundreds of various kinds of field-guns, machine-guns: and tens of thousands of German and American rifles, with an ample supply of ammunition. As the allies were short of ammunition, the capture of this place was an immense advantage. Moreover, there were about 5 tons of hulled rice, which was equally necessary to us. But, on the other hand, we had lost over 200 of our people—or fully one-tenth of our total force—in killed and wounded. (Here follows a list of the casualties, but it has been already published). At a council held that night, it was decided that although, judging from what had passed, the allies could doubtless force their way to Tientsin, yet the care of the wounded would hamper them greatly. Fully 800 men would have to be told off for transporting the wounded, which would reduce the allies' fighting force to about one thousand, whereas Nieh had some 15,000 under his command. Therefore the commanders resolved to remain at the Arsenal as long as possible, and if possible to devise some means of communicating with Tientsin. Arrangements were made in that sense, and the same night two Chinese servants were sent secretly to Tientsin. At 7 a.m. on the 25th, we observed a force of foreign troops advancing northwards along the railway. We displayed all our flags and signalled to them. After a time they wheeled to the left, and at 8.10 a.m. reached the Arsenal, a Russian officer riding in front and calling out that they had come to our succour. The troops raised shout of joy, and joined hands in congratulation. At 8.40 a.m. the enemy opened fire from the west and south, but were immediately driven back by the Russian detachment of the relieving force. In the afternoon, the wounded, the provisions, the ammunition, &c., were passed over the River, and at dusk the troops all bivouacked on the opposite bank. At 3.40 a.m. the allies set out from the Arsenal, the relieving troops acting as escort. We advanced by the railway. A hundred English marines remained behind in the Arsenal, under command of the gunnery captain of the *Centurion*, and set fire to all the stores, so that by 5 a.m. the conflagration had assumed large dimensions. The allies reached Tientsin at 10.20 a.m. without further mishap.

[Report of Captain Nomura, who accompanied the Relieving Force.]

1. At 7.30 p.m. on the 24th of June, the relief force, with the exception of the Russians, assembled in the British Concession, and dispositions were made for the advance, the Captain of the *Alacrity* being in command. This force formed the Left Column the Right consisting of Russian troops only. The whole force totalled 2,000.

2. At 11.30 p.m. the force assembled in the neighbourhood of the Military Collage, each detachment in the place previously assigned to it.

3. At 12.20 a.m. on the 25th, the force marched off, and, passing through the back-gate of the Military College, proceeded by the river to the first railway bridge, where the troops passed over planks, the artillery and horses being put across with junks. At this moment the enemy opened fire on us with field-pieces from Tientsin, but their fire proved ineffectual. After crossing the River and advancing some distance along the railway, fire was again opened on the force with rifles and guns, but the troops passed the line of fire without halting. At 6.45 a.m., a small force of the enemy appeared in our front, but we easily beat them off. Arriving at the second railway bridge, the force delayed, half a battalion each being on the right and left wings and 3 lines of skirmishers in front, the first being the fighting line, and the advance being made alternately. (This explanation is not clear, but the translation is accurate. Ed. *J.M.*) About this time, artillery began to fire from a wood on the left front, and shouting was heard. This occurred twice, and we then observed that the troops on the other side of the wood were marines, and that the German flag was flying beyond the wood.

(The report continues, but it contains nothing worth translating).

(From Major-Nitahara.)

Taku, July 14.

Major Aoki requests me to send the following telegram:—"The English, American, French, and Japanese troops, before dawn yesterday, attacked the Tientsin fortress and captured it this morning The Japanese had over 200 casualties.

FIRES ON THE BLUFF.

Fire broke out at about 10.45 p.m. on July 13, in the house occupied by Captain and Mrs. Swain, No. 258 Bluff. So far as we can learn Mrs. Swain was just retiring to rest, and upon turning down the kerosene lamp in her bed-room it exploded and probably fell to the floor, the oil at once flaring up and setting fire to the draperies around. Mrs. Swain had barely time to put on a wrapper and rush from the house before it was enveloped in flames. She at once made her way to a friend's house on the Bluff, where she was accommodated for the night. Meanwhile the building, almost entirely constructed of wood, was soon blazing up like a huge bonfire, the sparks and burning embers being borne on the light southerly breeze on to the neighbouring buildings, No. 258-A, inhabited by Mr. G. W. Rogers, No. 258-C, in the rear of No. 258, and the Bluff Fire Station, next door. Parties of firemen from the Yokohama Brigade and the Bluff Police Station, with hoses and manual engines, were promptly on the scene, and with the assistance of a number of volunteers from the Royal Naval Hospital, and some of the neighbours, succeeded in preventing the fire from extending to the adjoining buildings, the residences of Mr. Rogers and Mr. Blaker. Water, of course, was scarce, but a well on the compound of Mr. Merriman's residence, No. 254, and one or two other wells were utilised for the supply of the manual engines, and by this means the fire was limited to the one building, which was, however, burnt to the ground within half an hour, with all its contents. The premises, as well as Nos. 258-A and 258-C were owned by Captain Swain, who, we may mention, was away at the time, but arrived in Yokohama by the *Kobe Maru* on Saturday. An enormous crowed of Japanese thronged the roadway around the scene of the fire during its continuance, some of them evidently bent upon loot, but the latter had little chance of indulging their propensities, and the Bluff Police were present in sufficient force to keep order. The building and contents were, we believe, insured, but we have not been able to learn what offices were interested.

A few minutes before 7 p.m. on Wednesday an alarm of fire was received at the Bluff Fire Station. The outbreak was at No. 137, Bluff, a two-storeyed wooden building occupied by Mr. J. de Cuers de Coguelin. On the arrival of a party of Fire Brigade men the house was found to be enveloped in flames. A start was immediately made with 3 small manual engines belonging to the Bluff Fire Station and the Bluff Police Brigade, water being taken from wells near and they managed to keep the fire from spreading. The house where the fire originated was, however, totally destroyed. The cause of the fire was understood to be an overturned lamp.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense, responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

THE CHINESE SITUATION.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—One of the oldest existing empires of the world is now tottering to decay and stands on the verge of ruin. She has for centuries had ample opportunities for re-organizing her political institutions, improving the physical, intellectual and moral conditions of her people—in a word, remodelling and elevating her civilization and envigorating her national strength by introducing the modern improvements tried by the European peoples. For centuries she has been in commerce with them. Yet it is a pitiable fact that she is, as a nation, no better off than a century ago, and has been worse particularly for the last five years than ever before the war with Japan. One is indeed extremely puzzled to understand how a nation, so highly intellectual and so highly moral, could fail in availing herself of the dearly bought experience of the Western nations. It was, at the end of the war, believed by many that China would wake up from her long dream and make big strides in the progress of modern civilization. Nothing but disappointment has rewarded those expectations.

The blow given her by the war was far more terrible than one can imagine. Its shock seems to have been keenly and deeply felt in all the branches of the general administration. The official public appears to pay little respect to the Emperor and the people at large care little about their own government. Their minds are only full of their pecuniary interests. Thus the defeat in the last war has deprived the Emperor of all his real power as a sovereign. He really acts at the dictation of some state; with the men of the old school in the rear. What is more, they vary in their political views and often their private interests are found conflicting and their advices or dictations to the Sovereign even on one subject consequently and unavoidably differ among themselves. The general system of the national administration has been been entirely upset. Such has of late specially been the case in the maintenance of the public peace. The Emperor of China constitutionally commands a large army; but practically is scarcely better off than a captain of a company. Somewhat like under the feudal system is the Chinese army placed directly under the command of the Sotoku, who ex-officio, have to feed and discipline a certain number of soldiers. But such soldiers, as

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a matter of fact, obey not the emperor but the direct commanders—sotoku: and unless the sotoku obey the imperial commands the army cannot be of any use, not only for the national defence but also for the maintenance of the public order. The sotoku, however, rely always on their portion of the army for their political influence and dignity. Thus they are enabled to enjoy their political liberty and free use of their military power. In general, their actions are much at their own inclinations. The necessary consequence of such unconstitutional liberty of the high authorities is the chief cause of the great lack of uniformity of movement in the imperial army of China, which was augmented by the want of discipline and the disgraceful defeat in the late Japanese war.

Whatever be the course of the present troubles in China, one thing is certain. The emperor is utterly helpless in maintaining the administration. Whether he wishes or not, it is an undeniable fact that he can not protect the foreign representatives and residents of the friendly nations within his own sovereign dominions. Can such an emperor be called a sovereign and respected as such? He is only to be pitied. His cabinet is unruly and divided in opinion. Now they legislate for certain performances; and then issue orders prohibiting the very same acts. Can such a government as his be called a legal government? His subjects pay little respect to his laws and orders but act *sui juris*. Can such subjects as his be called subjects of a sovereign? One will find it a hard task to give positive answers to these questions; but can easily express the opinion that China is in a state of anarchy. We have, however, witnessed many such parallels in the history of China. Many a time, the ruling sovereign was destroyed. Many a time, a powerful ruler sprang up from among the people and restored the old order of things. Thus the empire of China has stood powerful for tens of centuries. Here, however, one thing must be remembered. In the old times, internal commotions were never interfered in by foreign peoples. The struggles were only among the Chinese themselves; it was entirely left with them to prolong or end the strife. In the present troubles, the interested parties are not only the Chinese themselves, but almost all the first nations of the world are deeply concerned. The urgent necessity is to rescue their representatives and people, who many fear have already been massacred in Peking, which is surrounded with thousands of turbulent and disorderly soldiers. With this mission, the allied forces of Germany, England, Russia, France, the United States, Italy, Austria and Japan are now marching toward anarchical Peking. But the advance is reported to be extremely difficult. A military expert is said to have expressed his opinion that three army corps are required to make a safe march into Peking. Such an army may easily be gathered by small contributions of the allied powers; and their object may easily be attained. But, what can be done with China. Are there statesmen and patriots enough to uphold the falling empire? Hardly any. Shall it be divided among the allied Powers? It will be quite possible. Can China uphold her national entity? By a change of government this will also be quite possible. But the question remains who and what ruler can be substituted for the present emperor? There seems to be no prince or no noble who is equal to the task, which requires some extraordinary ability and a peculiar combination of general and statesman. May, for the sake of China, such a supernatural personage appear from among the hundreds of millions of the Celestial people! Such, will however, remain for ever a mere wish. Let us then proceed with some practicable expectations.

The governments herein concerned must by this late hour have surely wrought out some elaborate plans for the future of China, protecting their mutual interests and securing the general peace of the world. The diplomatic corps must be burning with humane glories. But the public are not yet privileged to know them; they are left in the transport of anxieties and expectations. This state of neither knowing nor not knowing may extend for some months; the movements of allied forces are generally not so systematic and quick as a homogenous body of soldiers under one commander, though this slowness of movement does not at all imply any difficulties in accomplishing their mission.

All the civilized nations, specially those professing Christianity, are proud of that indefatigable endeavour for promoting the human cause. Great Britain governs India, Australia, Egypt and some other parts of the world, simply because the natives there can not civilize themselves but need somebody else's benevolent assistance. So is the United States of America in Hawaii and in her other newly acquired dominions. Russia, France and other countries differ not in their Christian purposes. From these examples, it will not be difficult to understand that the main principle upon which the allied Powers base their plans for the future of China is anything but one—philanthrophy. Also the Chinese are heathen in belief, yet they are convertible and not detestable as a race. They are intelligent and moral, frugal and industrious, peaceful and civilizing. In the course of years, they will no doubt form a unit in the promotion of the modern view of civilization. Looking at China by the light of such observations, no Christian or any man of civilized sense can hesitate rendering her his whole power in restoring her order and maintaining her national entity for ever. This is not only for the sake of philanthropy but for the mutual material interest of all the Powers concerned. If China continues to be China, whatever the form of government be, not only will she be entire in her honour and her material interests, but also the nations concerned will be congratulated upon their Christian acts and benefited by future participation in the internal commerce of China, which must, after the troubles, be enjoyed at its full extent with honour and interest for China, and with such congratulations and benefit for the allied Powers. The troubles seem still growing in magnitude and consequence. If the Chinese government can not reflect upon herself now but carry her wild excitement indiscreetly to its climax the allied Powers may perhaps be compelled on account of their now necessary interests to fall heavily upon the old empire and divide the principal parts of her dominions among them, leaving China as helpless and insignificant as the Kingdom of Korea. In such a case, it will not only be the misfortune of China, but the allied Powers may also find some serious and unfortunate conflicts of interest warmly discussed before an amicable settlement can be arrived at. For a few nations at least the settlement of the present troubles in China bears a serious concern for the sake of their national honour and future prosperity, and such an importance as to call for the whole national strength to support the cause. In such an unfortunate case, if it ever be so unfortunate as to happen, some of the allied Powers may drop out of the concert and form new alliances for different purposes from the objects for which they first were allied. For the present the allied powers who are thoroughly philanthropic and Christian in their motives and purposes, such unreasonable suppositions are surely quite outside concept.on. Then let us fairly expect that the Chinese government will devote its whole power to suppress the turbulent soldiers, if necessary, by the aid of the allied forces, and that in the other, the allied Powers should prefer only reasonable demands of China. If the present government needs some external aid for its safe maintenance, render it like a Christian. If a new government—most likely republican, but most unlikely monarchical—be established, give it warm assistance from the allied powers. Let China be China, either a monarchy or a republic. Let us expect for the present that the allied Powers shall proceed with their principles of philanthropy to quash the swarm of turbulent soldiers in China and once again put China in the hands of high-principled statesmen.

Yours, etc., O.S.

RESCUE WORK IN TOKYO.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Assured of your interest in, and sympathy with, Women's Rescue and Preventive Work, I take the liberty of asking if you would kindly inform your readers that we have established a Rescue Home in Tokyo in charge of qualified Officers and are now prepared to receive girls sincerely desirous of forsaking their life of sin and returning to the path of virtue. Application can be made either to our Headquarters opposite the Shimbashi Railway Station or at any of our Barracks in Tokyo.

We have inaugurated this Home at the urgent request of many missionaries and others specially interested in this work and impressed with the present great need.

You may be aware that we have a very extended work of this character embracing nearly two hundred homes scattered through the 42 countries and colonies in which we are operating, so that with the experience acquired and the co-operation of those with a special knowledge of the peculiar circumstances connected with the system of vice here, we are full of hope to overcome the obstacles and difficulties and trust that with the divine blessing we shall be enabled to help many of the helpless and hopeless of this class.

We shall be grateful for the co-operation and assistance of all who can help us in any way in securing this end.

I beg to remain, Yours and His,

HENRY BULLARD, Colonel.

Tokyo, July 12th, 1900.

HOW FAR MAY THE ENGLAND OF TO-DAY CLAIM TO BE A CHRISTIAN COUNTRY?

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your Monthly Summary of the Religious Press, you notice an article of mine contributed to the *Nichiyo Sōshi*—one of the magazines of our Church—on the above subject. Your readers certainly would not gather from your summary of my article that I not only claim for England her title to be *still* considered a Christian nation, but that I honestly believe she never had a truer claim to the title than she has to-day. Will you oblige me by giving this quotation from my English manuscript of the article in question:

"Yet, when all is said, and every admission made to those who profess to see in England the decline of Christianity, we must assert on the other hand that, while never in any age or country has it been put to a severer test, never has it given greater proof of its vitality and inherent power; or shewn itself more capable of meeting the deepest needs and highest aspirations of people of every class, from the Queen on her throne down to the humblest son of toil."

L. B. CHOLMONDELEY.

Ushigome, July 14th, 1900.

CEMETERIES OWNED BY CHRISTIANS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir:—Will you kindly open your columns to answer the question as to the location of any cemetery that is owned in fee simple and is under strict and exclusive control by Christians in the empire of Japan.

Yours truly,

智神知

June 18, 1900.

MISSIONARIES AND THE CHINA CRISIS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—If it be true that "The proper study of mankind is man," then somebody ought to devote a little time to the *genus homo* that edits certain English papers in the open ports of Japan. New elements of logic and mental philosophy might be added to the general store of human knowledge. In ordinary times these papers represent the missionary as a half-educated, narrow-minded bigot who labours in vain to make an impression on these enlightened Eastern people. And now that a great anti-foreign crusade has arisen in China, all the trouble is laid at the feet of the missionary. Seizure of territory by foreign Governments, forced rail road and mining concessions, disturbing ancestral tombs and temples in the enlargement of Concessions for the foreigner, opium importation under protest and other forced aggressions upon the Chinaman, are things he rather likes. You see that is what he is there for, and so he has long ago realized that his wealth and resources are for the foreigner to exploit. So the Chinaman has long ago submitted peaceably to all this. But these missionaries are a continued menace to the integrity of the Empire. They come along and distribute themselves throughout the vast expanse of the country, say about 1 to 200,000 natives, and begin to translate Bibles and text-books, preach and proselyte, build schools and hospitals, with abominable foreign money instead of demanding it of the Chinaman, teach foreign languages, foreign science, foreign religion, and foreign medicine. This is too much of the foreign stuff for him, so he rises up in his wrath to put the high-handed missionary out, and of course in his unreasoning madness he makes all foreigners suffer alike. Now this is what makes certain English editors in Japan mad.

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If only the abominable missionary could be driven out and other peaceable foreigners left to their railroads and mines justice would be perfected.

Now the interesting point about all this editorial wrath is the veiled compliment passed upon these half-educated missionaries.' If a little more than 2,000 of them can stir that vast sluggish Empire to such a depth what mighty men and women they must be! Their influence is greater than they themselves ever hoped it would be. And as they do not use guns nor wear swords in their daily work, it is a striking proof that the pen is still mightier than the sword. They have managed some way to exert a tremendous influence upon those teeming millions. Surely there must be some mistake in thinking the missionaries are responsible for it all. Perhaps these editors have not read the recent placards and edicts that have been published. In these the Chinaman himself counts the missionary as only one of his many grievances. I suspect he is about right. These editors have got things mixed up in the big stir. It really concedes too much power and influence to the missionary to say that he did it all or even a greater part of it.

Yours truly,
WILL PATTILLO.

July 14, 1900.

JAPANESE SERVANTS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—May I say a word in behalf of Christian servants? Your correspondent of June 30th is more severe on them than is Mr. Peery on servants in general; since he condemned them all because one bad person known to a friend of his called himself a Christian.

My experience covers about nineteen years, during which time I have lived in several different places, and have had to do with many different servants; one has been with us all of that time, and has never given us occasion to question his claim to be a Christian man. Of those who have been employed by us many have become Christians (through no other effort on our part than an invitation to be present at the daily family Bible-reading and prayer, and an arrangement of affairs that would enable them to attend church on Sunday), and some have not. Those who did were unquestionably the more trustworthy and reliable.

It all depends, with servants as with other folks, on whether one is a Christian in reality or only in name. If the former, any servant seeking employment might easily obtain a letter from the missionary to whom he is known, and I wonder that this is not required of one calling himself a Christian.

Your correspondent also says that Missionaries are not succeeding as their predecessors did, nor as they ought and would, if they were willing to sleep on the ground instead of in their beds, &c. I confess to a preference for the latter mode of life, and fail to see how it hinders the work in which we are engaged. To my mind, the fact that there are more Europeans and Americans in this country opposing Christianity and all who teach it, accounts more for slowness of growth, than the fact that Missionaries live here very much as they would if at home. Of course, I may be mistaken, but I feel so sure of it that I, for one, would be willing to adopt the mode of life suggested, on condition that for one year (the 1st of the 20th century would be a capital one), no foreigner shall speak against any missionary whose work he does not know, any school which he has not visited, nor say to any Japanese that the Missionary is a fraud and his work a pretence—if after such a year of unparalleled opportunities, we cannot show greater results than for any preceding year, I am willing to believe the fault is with us, and try your correspondent's plans for our improvement. At present I believe a large responsibility for the slowness of growth of the Christian idea is with those who hinder "in the house of our friends,"

Yours, &c., C.

ARE JAPANESE SERVANTS GOOD OR BAD?

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The experience of the undersigned has been with regard to the above question, "There is as much human nature in some folks as there is in others, if not more."

On the one side I recall one of our attachés in the first decade who absorbed all sorts of things. His wife would usher in our visitors most politely, go to the kitchen to prepare the tea, slip around outside to the front door and swipe the guest's umbrella, leave it with her husband in the kitchen, and return all smiles to serve the tea and cakes in the guest room.

This cook, like the robber in the Third Reader who faced down Alexander the Great, "robbed (us) the rich to give to the poor" (his relatives). Each one that came was given a memento of his visit. Once we met the cook's father on the street with his head draped in the most picturesque manner with one of our best damask towels. He bowed to us with such profound politeness that we could not bring ourselves to be so rude as to demand our property. It might have hurt his feelings. After some years, on my return to the town, our old cook came to pay his respects to me, glowing with gratitude, drunk as a lord, clad in modesty and one of my wife's under-vests—I recognized the pockets. How could I report such a good-natured rascal to the police? The next cook left the house instantly without a word of explanation, never to return, when the master laid upon the kitchen table a pound of steak that he had bought himself. The master does not buy his own meat now, he knows his calling better.

We next took a handsome young man, with a high broad forehead, from a gambling house, without a reference, and by the just judgment of Heaven the next night a solid silver spoon was missing. It must have dropped in the drain! Later this cook came to call upon me in the capital, and although I was so busy reading the *Japan Mail* that I could not see him, he represented himself to a neighbour as being in our service and borrowed a silk suit that he forgot to return.

Lapsus memoriæ is a phenomenon common to genius.

The next silver spoon was missing after we had entertained as a guest a Christian student preparing for the ministry. But that is another story. He was not a servant.

On the other side, it will be found true that people respond to the treatment they receive, and, as face answereth face in the glass, so servants reflect the moods of their masters.

I have known other people's servants to turn livid with rage, and their masters on calm reflection to feel the justice of their indignation.

There was a household once (in the interior of Thibet) that drifted into anarchy while the master was absorbed in that soul-destroying dissipation, the study of Chinese ideographs. Power proceeded from below and cats, dogs, children, and servants ruled while master and mistress glided around the house like ghosts without the power to haunt.

But even in the Orient the master has some rights, the worm turned at last. There was a most elaborately ritualistic funeral under the green-wood tree and the souls of the cats were absorbed into the bosom of Buddha. The dogs under the guidance of a smiling *shafupa* were led away in the *ewigkeit*, and a golden silence was the mark of the discretion of their leader.

The children went one night supperless to their tearful pillows. The oldest servant coming into the guest room without leave, and sitting down to blather anarchy, was taken by the neck and chucked into the outer darkness with wrath too deep for words. (In the centre of a tpyhoon there is a core of deep calm). Then the imperial prerogative having been asserted, that master's conscience began to accuse him of losing a temper naturally none too sweet, and feeling that he had not been quite fair he went out to the kitchen and got down on his knees and most humbly and heartily begged his servants' pardon; when *mirabile dictu* it was not only cordially granted but he was justified in his action by the unanimous vote of the entire democracy. The air is clear after a storm of thunder and lightning, and the sunlight imprints the colour of the rainbow upon every dewy petal, and jewels seem to drop from the pendant branches.

In the sight of Heaven which side keeps best the teaching of the catechism:—"Not to covet nor desire other men's goods: But to learn and labour truly to get mine own living, and to do my duty in that state of life unto which it shall please God to call me." Is not the duty of labour binding on the master as well as on the servant? "Six days shalt thou labour."

In this country from the most ancient times the chief retainers have shared in the labours of the government of their superiors.

All sorts of helpers need a little sympathetic attention from time to time and they will govern their masters and their households well.

It does no harm to invite their confidence, and to hear what they have to say; then if you follow their advice they are flattered, and if you do not you demonstrate your superior force of character. In either case they are pleased. But if you sit on Mount Olympus and deliver fiats, the lightnings and thunderbolts of yore may play about your brow, but the effect is after all merely to frighten the weak into a state of helpless imbecility, or to stir the bile of the strong until they will see you broiling in the sulphurous fumes of the nether-most gehenna, yea glory in your tortures, before they will budge a hair's breadth.

Now it must not be supposed that a lazy man is going to write all his wisdom during the dog days for the *Mail* for nothing. No, I am not puffing a begging letter book. But I must have pay for my preaching. If there are any employers, of any complexion, pagan or Christian, who are willing to allow their hearts to be dominated by the ethical principles contained in the New Testament, they may be benefited by the service of one or the other, or both, of two persons for whom I am seeking employment.

One is a man of mature age, careful and exact in accounts, a steady attendant at Christian service, suited to a place of trust where the work is light and the salary heavy.

The other is a girl of fourteen, knows nothing of the ways of a foreign household, or of Christian doctrine, but is willing, patient, and strong.

Both belong to the *Samurai* class. Guarantees of morally antiseptic conditions must accompany applications for the girl's services. The right to reject any and all bids is without question reserved.

They both go to the best bidders, all conditions considered. Who speaks first? Address,

PARISH PRIEST.
[Lock Box 4, Sendai.]

A REPLY TO C.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your correspondent "C" would begin to "light the stick at the wrong end." He says that your correspondent of June 30th, and others holding the same views, do far more harm to the cause of conversion, by pointing out the inconsistencies of missionary life to the creeds they profess—than do the missionaries themselves by so living—and he says he for one will be quite willing to follow the suggestion made that missionaries should live for 10 years the life led by Ferdinand di Capillas and others, of having no bed but the ground, etc., etc. "provided that for the space of one year only, no foreigner shall speak against any missionary whose work he does not know, etc., etc., thereby hindering the work of conversion."

Would it not be better if "C" and the rest were to commence by living according to the examples given us in history by the lives of early Christian missionaries, or for the matter of that, in the Bible by Christ himself and his disciples, of whom it is expressly stated that "He knew not where to lay His head"—"took no thought of the morrow," etc., etc., an example certainly followed by the early missionaries—and then watch and see whether outsiders would still draw invidious comparisons to the detriment of missionary efforts! The whole matter seems to me simply one of "cause and effect." Your

CORRESPONDENT OF JUNE 30TH.

July 17th.

A. B. C. F. M. ANNUAL MEETING.

The 28th annual meeting of the Japan Mission of the "American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions" was held at Kobe from July 4th to 11th. As usual for several years past, the hospitable doors of the *Kobe Jo-gaku-in* were thrown open to the Mission, the spacious dormitories furnishing accommodation for all, the large chapel offering an excellent assembly hall, the numerous recitation rooms providing every facility for committee work, and the commodious dining hall amply supplying room for the thrice-daily congregation of the forty-two adults and twenty-three children that were present. Though all the members of the Mission were not present, the twelve Stations were represented, from Sapporo in the north to Miyazaki in the south; and the committee that had in charge the entertaining of this large company did their work in a way that is beyond praise.

At 2 p.m., July 4, the meeting was opened, Rev. A. W. Stanford, of Kobe, in the chair. Following devotional services of half an hour, the afternoon was given to organization, reports from the several standing committees, and 'thanksgiving reports" from the Stations. This last item was intended as a verbal supplement to the recently printed Annual Report. But besides being merely supplementary these reports practically gave the key-note for the whole subsequent meeting. From first to last the meeting was marked by a buoyant hopefulness and a contagious enthusiasm and a genuine earnestness and a sincere and profound unity; and these brief thanksgiving reports at the first session furnished a fine opportunity for setting an indelible seal upon the assembly

The chief drawback to the complete cheerfulness of the occasion was the undertone of sorrow, almost of anguish, in view of the fact that was apparent from the first, that because of the limited number of workers and the strenuous demands made upon us, some readjustment of forces must be made, such as would of necessity cripple established work somewhere. This sorrow became almost a sob when, at the last session, after all possible alternatives had been canvassed, it was voted to break in two the Niigata Station. This was apparently considered the best way to furnish a family to Maebashi to take the place of Mr. Albrecht, who removes to Kyoto, by invitation of the Doshisha, to become Dean of the Theological Department there. A ~~mighty~~ committee was at the same time appointed to secure as soon as possible reinforcements for Niigata as well as for other needy Stations.

During the week two papers were presented on as-

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signed topics, one by Mrs. De Forest of Sendai on Sunday School Work, and the other by Mr. Nevell of Niigata on Sabbath Observance. Both papers called out interesting discussion, and by request of the Mission the substance of the papers will probably be put into permanent form.

Among the many questions that came up for discussion, were those relating to Mission and Station finances, to taxes under the new laws, to the incorporation of a committee of the Mission as a juridical person; to various matters relating to property in Japan; to the reorganised Doshisha, especially the Theological Department and the Girls' School (Principal Hiroitsu being present and making an earnest plea in behalf of the latter); to matters concerning kindergartens, orphanages, girls' schools, book and tract publication, methods of evangelization, Bible selling and distribution, and the proposed interdenominational Christian College. In behalf of the Bible Society, Rev. H. Loomis was present and made an appeal for a more hearty cooperation of the mission in the work of that Society.

The Christian College Scheme, in the form now proposed, did not meet with great favour.

The last half hour of each morning session was set apart for devotional service, the prevailing topic for the week being "The Ideal in the Christian Life," such sub-topics as "The Ideal Love and Country" (for July 4th); "The Ideal—its Value and Necessity," "The Church's Ideal—the World for Christ," etc. These meetings formed a most refreshing interlude to the rather intense discussions of the day, and gave a deep spiritual tone to the whole day. The children were always present at these services.

The annual sermon was preached at the Union Church on Sunday morning by Rev. George Allchin of Osaka, from the text, "Looking unto Jesus," and the course of thought of this excellent discourse was in exact line with that which had been followed in the daily prayer-meetings,—Christ the Ideal.

In connection with this might be mentioned the Sunday afternoon meeting of the Christian Endeavour Society of the children of the mission. A long but most interesting and varied programme was given, of songs, recitations and choruses. The Treasurer's report showed that these children have, during the past year, contributed to the Indian Famine Relief fund over 100 *yen*, while nearly an equal sum has been divided among several of the orphanages of the country.

The 4th of July was celebrated in true American style in the midst of a profusion of bunting and flowers and music and song. The chief feature of the evening was the address by Rev. J. D. Davis, D.D., of Kyoto. This was a patriotic oration of a high order, and deserves to find in print a wider audience than the comparatively small, but thoroughly appreciative one, of that evening.

Another very pleasant event of the week was the celebration of the silver wedding of Dr. and Mrs. D. W. Learned of Kyoto, the Mission making a slight remembrance in the shape of a dozen silver spoons, on each one of which was stamped in Chinese characters the name of one of the twelve stations of the mission.

This year, as heretofore for several years, the Mission enjoyed the courteous hospitality of the Kobe Regatta and Athletic Club, in being permitted the privileges of their bathing establishment.

At the close of the meeting, after the Mission Boarding Club had expired, a second club was organized under charge of a committee who will remain in Kobe so long as necessary to care for such refugees from China as may be in need. The Girls' College dormitories and other buildings will be opened, beds provided, and everything possible done to assist these unfortunate brethren.—*Communicated.*

FROM TOKYO TO LONDON.

(480 miles by sea only)

By R. WANDERER.

The overland route to Europe via Siberia is no longer a novelty of special interest. Nevertheless a minute account of the journey by this route may prove of use to intending travellers and dispose of doubts as to its feasibility under present circumstances. There is very little doubt that in less than 3 years, possibly even during next year, the journey will, as regards the first part of the Siberian route, have greatly changed and that the long river trip on the Amur will have ceased to be necessary.

TOKYO TO NIIGATA.—Of this part of the journey it need only be noted that it can easily be performed in 2 days. Leaving Tokyo in the afternoon a stoppage for the night can be made at Kumagaya (Shimadzu—an excellent inn). Leaving again at 8 a.m. Naoyetsu is reached at 9 p.m. (inn, Ikaya.) Thence 6 hours by train brings one to Niigata (inn, Yoshikwan).

NIIGATA TO VLADIVOSTOCK.—450 miles. At present a monthly service, by the *Gosen Maru*, crosses the Japan Sea in 46 hours. A smooth sea may be expected during June and July. The *Gosen Maru*, owned by Oiye of Osaka, gross tonnage 1790 tons, 1st. class passenger accommodation 18, leaves Niigata the 4th or 5th day of each month from May to December. The steamer receives a subsidy of ¥48,000 per annum to perform the mail service, and the published time tables can be relied on. Everything possible is done on board for the comfort of foreign passengers, and the passage money, ¥26, entitles one to 3 foreign meals a day. Wines, spirits and aerated waters can be obtained on board. Travellers need not hesitate to avail themselves of this, the shortest, route to Vladivostock. The embarkation at Niigata, owing its being an open roadstead, may of course at times be difficult.

VLADIVOSTOCK.—After a short medical inspection the vessel proceeds to the inner harbour and anchors a few hundred yards from the landing stage and railway stations. Chinese sampans with the dirtiest of Chinamen crowd round and in a few minutes you land surrounded by a crowd of Koreans, Chinese, and Russian emigrants bound no one knows where. Vladivostock, built on the face of the hill along one side of the harbour, of which the other is reserved for military purposes, presents a most imposing appearance. Palatial buildings, which on closer examination prove to be only in course of construction, give it the air of a magnificent city, which one did not in the least expect. It appears that with the occupation of Port Arthur, Vladivostock has taken a new start and it is reckoned that, with means to keep it open for navigation during the winter, the port has a great future before it. Whatever the future has in store the Russians seem determined that no outside enemy shall interfere with it, the approach to the harbour is lined with forts, mostly already completed, and several new ones are going up in various directions. Numberless drotschkis (cabs), dirty but fast and driven regardless of the state of the road, which is deplorable, ply up and down, and at 20 kopecks (say 20 sen) a drive anywhere in the town for one or two persons one forgets the jinrikisha of Japan. The drivers—perhaps the scum of the Russian penal settlements—are not aggressive and take their fare without a word. The traveller must allow for a stay of from one to three days in this town. On the principal street are two hotels at which one can put up when there is room. One to the right landing stage is the Hotel "Moskva" where a charge of 2 roubles (a rouble is about equal to a *yen*) for a room is made. An extra bed can be put in at further charge of 50 kopecks, so that 2 or 3 persons can occupy one room—a plan which seems to be generally adopted in Russia. The food at this hotel is indifferent, but at the "Hotel du Pacifique," which has a theatre attached, one can dine very well à la carte if one does not happen to hit off the dinner hour from 12 to 6, or the supper hour from 8 to 12 p.m. Both hotels being full we were glad to avail ourselves of the accommodation which the *Gosen Maru* offered with food at the moderate sum of ¥2.50 a day. This account is not intended to be descriptive, so nothing more will be said of Vladivostok, the appearance of which so astonished one, except that every drotschki seemed to be occupied by smart-looking military men in the smartest of uniforms; and that there were numberless shops where everything in the way of supplies can be had. Kunst and Albers' store is perhaps unique in the East and contains in itself probably more than double the quantity of stores to be found in Yokohama. The firm also does banking, and letters of credit of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank can be presented there. Some 100 to 120 employes, German and Russian, are there to assist the stranger and the buyer in every possible way.

VLADIVOSTOK TO KHABAROSK (pronounce Habarosk) 729 versts, say 400 miles. Trains leave at 9.25 a.m. reaching Khabarosk next day at 1.36 p.m.—only one through train a day. *Luggage*: Take as much as you can in the compartment with you. The excess is charged for at the rate of 12.20 k per 40 lbs. (1 pood), fare 1st. class 17 r., food about 14 r., 2nd class 12.60 r. The 1st. class compartments holding 4 persons very comfortably open out from a passage on one side of the car; at night 4 persons can sleep in comfort. Second class compartments in the same carriage with the first are perhaps a little less luxurious, but seat 6 persons, though there is only sleeping accommodation for 4. Lavatory in carriage,—usually in an unclean condition. There is a restaurant car on the train where rather indifferent food, at 1 r. per meal, during dinner hour, is provided, otherwise one can dine *à la carte*, German beer is 1 r. a bottle. Capital red wine (Crimean) can be had and is much recommended.

On the whole the railway journey is pretty, but waits are numerous and long, and the three bells which announce the departure of the train seem unaccountably long sometimes in being sounded. The fuel used is wood which is piled up at the stations. Emigrant 4th class cars and 3rd class cars form part of the train. Between Vladivostock and Khabarosk the most important station is that of Nikolsk—a military centre whence the Ussuri railway is to meet the Port Arthur railway connecting with Stretyensk, which is now reached by the Amur and Chilka river steamers. The distance between Stretyensk and Vladivostock will be considerably lessened and 4 days should suffice to cover the journey when the railway is completed. Eight or nine days of time will thus be saved on the Trans-Siberian journey. The conductors on the train speak only Russian, but there is always some kind official or private individual to be found who will help one out. The greatest politeness is the rule and it is the correct thing to shake hands on all occasions. One should note that travelling with much luggage is expensive and troublesome. At the same time to ensure any comfort in the train and everywhere else bedding consisting of blankets, a quilt, a pillow, and coloured sheeting should be taken. Every Russian seems to travel with his bedding. In addition a wash-basin (papier-mache or enamel) is of the greatest comfort, for the lavatories are not inviting. Biscuits, jam, hirano, and whisky help one considerably. Tea of course is always on tap. A portable bath and waterbucket are a luxury.

KHABAROSK.—15 to 20 thousand inhabitants, situated at the confluence of the Ussuri and Amur rivers, is a military centre and the seat of the Government of the Primokiansky division, which comprises the whole of the Amur river basin. The Government of this vast district is presided over by a Governor General, with a Deputy Governor-General and Military Governors of Vladivostock and Plagvestchensk. The town, of a straggling appearance, is built on hills overlooking the Amur river and the prospect from the Public Gardens on the Bluff overhanging the river is magnificent. The Amur, though not very deep, is about 1½ miles broad; there is but little river traffic, and it is not to be supposed that commercially speaking this town will ever be of great value. As a centre for administrative purposes, with communication by rail with Vladivostok and by water with Blagovestchensk on the upper Amur and Nikolaesk at the mouth of the Amur, there can be no doubt as to its importance.

The railway station is a mile or so from the town. Here again drotschkis, scarce in wet weather, and luggage carts enable one to get to the hotel with one's belongings. The "Rossia Hotel" and the "London" divide the honours of accommodating the traveller, who must perforce stay the night at Khabarosk. When he reaches the former he may well wonder whether he had not better at once retrace his steps to Nippon, and if he should happen to think of the Oriental Hotel or Grand Hotel at Yokohama while he is inspecting his room at Khabarosk the chances are even that he will feel great regret. The rooms are about 10 feet by 6 and unwholesome-looking, suggesting the probability of one's making intimate acquaintance with what is thought nothing of in Russia—bugs—or more horrible creatures still. So the traveller is not recommended to go to the "Rossia Hotel," and the chances are that he will not find room at the "London House," but if he is fortunate and persuasive of manner he may be allowed to take possession of his cabin on board the up-river steamer if she is in; and then much that is unpleasant will be avoided. The bill has to be faced all the same and 9.50 r. for such an afternoon as we had, including only two dinners with beer, and carriage of our luggage from the station and to the boat, does not improve matters.

Once on the boat everything is a pleasant surprise. The up-river steamers, which perform the journey between Khabarosk and Blagovostchensk, 918¼ versts, say 575 miles, in 5 days or under favourable circumstances such as we experienced in 4 days, are large and commodious paddle boats with airy and clean cabins containing only couches, and decent saloon accommodation. Lavatories are provided, but here again, water being scarce and difficult of management, a basin is a comfort. The boats are some 200 ft. in length, of which the saloon occupies 50 ft., being some 12 ft. by 14 ft. wide. The fare for the distance is 22.96 r. first class, and a three-berth cabin for two admits of much comfort,—of course 3 fares have to be paid. Second class accomodation is also very good. Some cabins accommodate 6 persons, and a party of 3 or 4 men had better take 6 second class tickets. Two roubles a day are charged for food, tea and bread and butter in the morning, dinner at 12, consisting of 5 courses, tea in the afternoon, and supper consisting of one course in the evening. Here again one's own provisions come in useful, more particularly soups. The Russian soup is too greasy as a rule and large pieces of meat floating about in it do not encourage one's appetite, in justice, however, it should be said that all passengers complained of the food. Special dishes can always be ordered, and bread, fresh milk and eggs can be bought at every station, while the freshest of caviar can be had by the plateful for a few kopecks at several of the stations. These occur every 7 or 8 hours and are mostly Cossack stations. They present no interesting features except when one is able accidentally to witness a Cossack parade, compared with which circus-riding is not in it. The Cossacks manage their horses in a manner absolutely wonderful. To them the guarding of the Amur river banks is entrusted, and some 10 or 12 thousand of these military settlers along the North bank of the Amur do the necessary in this respect.

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The South bank of the Amur, one must remember, is Chinese, and is infested with brigands who at times give great trouble. Only one large Chinese town 25 miles below Blagovestchensk is seen during the whole journey, of which some 30 hours are through extremely pretty scenery. The Amur, with shallow, muddy water between low banks for the first 4 hours, runs through the Shighan hills which form steep and wooded-banks. On the whole the river trip is an extremely pleasant one, but the ship, crowded with passengers, many of them Paris bound, and having some dozen or so of noisy children, might under certain circumstances leave something to be desired in the way of seclusion. There is room for about 40 first class and 40 second class passengers, some hundred are lying in every part of the ship and those second class passengers who have no cabins sleep on the deck at night.

BLAGOVESTCHENSK, the most important town of the Amur river province, presents a most imposing appearance when seen over the low river banks of the Amur, which in this part, owing to its shallowness, makes navigation difficult. The steamer, which draws 4 ft., has to stop at this town, and passengers bound for Stretyensk, the present terminus of the Trans-Baikal railway system (coming from Irkutsk) are transferred to a small steamer drawing only 1½ ft., and as the river is abnormally low this year it is doubtful whether the whole of the remaining journey, 1197 versts, say 750 miles, can be done in the regulation time of 7 or 8 days without another transfer to barges, which have to be towed for the last 200 or 300 miles before the railway is reached.

The journey is not continuous and one has to spend some 2 or 3 days at Blagovestchensk. It is indeed a relief to find a comfortable hotel with large well-furnished rooms and an excellent table at fairly moderate prices, managed by a Frenchman, who converses fluently in Russian and German and who is not only anxious to please but is most active and business-like. The Grand Hotel, to which I refer, is called also the Mancini Hotel—the name of a proprietor who one is told is immensely rich and keeps this hotel for fun. It is most gratifying for the traveller that a man should have such ideas of fun. The best rooms containing two beds can be had for about 5 roubles, meals, exceedingly good and fairly well served, at 75 k., 1 r. and 1½ r. The attendance is good and perhaps more attention is here paid to cleanliness than at any place between Yokohama and Moscow. So a 3 days' rest here is not at all wearisome. Blagovestchensk has two large stores, one owned by Kunst and Albers, almost as huge as the Vladivostock store, and one a Russian house. Everything can be bought here and prices are comparatively moderate. A letter of introduction to the firm of Kunst and Albers is most useful and the bearers of such letters receive much assistance from members of the firm.

One should mention that the passenger service on the Amur river is carried on by the Amur Navigation and Trading Company, several of whose steamers were built by Armstrong and Co. This Company receives a subsidy of some 250,000 roubles from the Russian Government and carries the mails. Certain other steamers ply on the river, but they are neither well-found nor reliable, so that in one's hurry to get on one should remember that there is a great risk of getting delayed in the river, that seems already to have been the experience of some travellers by this route.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mrs. Ramsden, the wife of the U.S. Consul at Tientsin, and family has arrived at Nagasaki from Taku by the French transport *Tamaïs*. They are staying for the present with Dr. Suganuma.

It has been decided to change the colours of various Indian postage stamps. The quarter-anna stamps will be slate grey; half-anna stamps pea green; one-anna stamps crimson; two annas stamps violet; and two-and-half annas stamps blue.

The Japanese Post Office notifies that telegraph rates were raised from the 16th inst. between Japan and China *viâ* Fusan to the following: *yen* 1.28 per word instead of *yen* 1.20; and *viâ* Inchhon, Korea, 90 *sen* instead of 62 *sen*. Parcels will be received at the Japanese Post Office at Masampo, Korea, from the 1st August.

Madame Du Gasta, charged with attempting to murder M. Francois by firing a revolver at him, has been acquitted by the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho. The Court was of opinion that the prisoner was mentally affected at the time of the occurrence and temporarily bereft of reason. This was shown by the evidence given by several specialists. She was therefore acquitted under the provisions of Art. 165 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Lady Granville Gordon, who died recently, was one of the first society women to start a bonnet store. She did a thriving business in London, eventually selling her good-will for a round sum. Lord Huntley, the elder brother of Lady Granville Gordon, one of the handsomest men of the day, endeavours to improve his financial condition by writing sporting novels.

The Earl of Radnor, who died a short time ago, was a notoriously shy man. He was devoted to his wife, who is a sister of Mr. Henry Chaplin, President of the Local Government Board, and brilliant in society as a musician and conversationalist. He organized the first amateur orchestra composed of people of position. Viscount Folkestone, the late Earl of Radnor's eldest son, who is at the front in South Africa, dangerously ill with enteric fever, succeeds to the title.

The news that the famous "Castle" stamp collection has changed hands for £30,000 will excite the philatelic world. It is not, indeed, the most valuable collection that exists; the "Tapling" collection, now in the British Museum, has been valued at £60,000, and a Parisian amateur owns a collection computed to be worth a quarter of a million. But it is the best collection that has ever come into the market as a whole, and the price shows what an excellent investment stamps have proved to the people who began collecting in the early days.

A melancholy occurrence took place at Arima on Sunday morning, reports the *Kobe Herald*, one of the lady missionaries who have been compelled to leave China through the present troubles, committing suicide under distressing circumstances. Deceased, the wife of Dr. A. Macdonald Westwater, of Liaoyang, Manchuria, had been suffering from mental depression as the result of the excitement and trouble through which she had passed before leaving China; some years since she had also suffered from mental trouble. The lady had been in the mission-field for many years and her name was well known over North China. Many will regret to hear of her untimely and sad death and will sympathise with Dr. Westwater and his children in their great sorrow. The remains of the deceased were brought to Kobe and buried on Monday.

As June and July is the period for the settlement of accounts of various banks and companies in the capital, bankers are usually called upon at this time to provide a large amount of funds for the repayment of deposits. The Bank of Japan experiences, as a rule, an extraordinary increase in the demand for loans, during June, but the reverse is the case with the subordinate banks in the metropolis. This year, however, the pressure on these banks for loans was so keen as to justify ascribing the cause not only to the ordinary requirements of the financial period, but also to other important circumstances. It may be observed that the amount of loans issued by the Bank of Japan has continued to increase since the middle of June, to such an extent that towards the close of the month the figure had swelled to 114millions *yen* approximately, showing an increase of 19 millions, or 20 per cent., as compared with the end of May. The amount of loans issued and deposits and specie retained by the Tokyo Union Banks at the end of June give the following figures:—

	At end of June, 1900.—*Yen.*	At end of May, 1900.—*Yen.*
Deposits.....	90,439,921	99,413,693
Loans.....	95,503,625	113,799,439

The figures for June relating to the Tokyo Union, as compared with those of the past two years, are as follows:—

	Deposits in *yen.*	Loans in *yen.*
At end of June, 1899...	428,902	4,660,840
„ „ 1898...	2,776,507	2,494,056

The public expected to see a diminution in the amount of deposits for the past two years, but the fact was the reverse, showing the spread of a spirit of thrift on the part of the people.

AMERICAN NOTES.

Muir glacier, famous the world over and the most pronounced and striking feature of the grand scenery of Alaska, has been destroyed, or so nearly destroyed as to deprive it, no doubt, of much of its beauty. Broken and battered by the earthquake of last October, the old glacier has run out into Glacier bay and has filled up that waterway with miles upon miles of ice so thick as to impede navigation.

Half of the business section of Bloomington, Ill., including five squares of the finest business blocks of the city and the Courthouse, erected at a cost of $400,000, were destroyed by fire on June 19. The loss is variously estimated at from $1,500,000 to $2,000,000. One death also resulted from the fire. Robert Schmitt, a nineteen-year-old boy, died from the shock occasioned by the noise of the explosion of dynamite, which was used by the firemen in blowing up buildings to stay the progress of the flames.

The Kansas wheat crop this year is estimated at 100,000,000 bushels, and as there are 4,672,000 acres planted to that cereal it will represent an average of 21.18 bushels per acre. In 1866 there was an average crop of 21.40 bushels to the acre; in 1882, 22.29; in 1884, 21.47, and in 1899, 22.15 bushels per acre. Since the last-named year the average yield has fallen at times very low, in 1897 being only 3.84 bushels per acre.

An extraordinary disposition is to be made of the Carnegie Library at Pittsburg, Pa. The structure cost Mr. Carnegie $800,000 and he made it a gift to the city. It is built of stone and steel and covers a tract 392 feet in length by 148 feet in width and is three stories in height. It was erected, however, on a site near the entrance to Schenley Park, which is being cramped by other improvements. The location has, consequently, become a very undesirable one. It is now proposed to move the structure bodily to a more desirable location in the neighbourhood where it will not be cramped. The building weighs 58,000 tons and must be carried across a ravine 200 feet in width. To accomplish this it is proposed to raise the library as it stands with jack screws, place car trucks under it and move it on tracks specially constructed on a foundation of falsework. The scheme is considered perfectly feasible and Mr. Carnegie proposes to pay the cost of carrying it out.

The *Chicago Tribune* prints a summary of the census work compiled from the best obtainable information. They figures were furnished by 3000 different people in all parts of the United States. The population of twenty-five of the largest cities of the country, as given by the *Tribune*, is as follows:—

Cities—	Per Cent Gain.	1900.
Greater New York	...	3,654,590
New York	33	2,007,241
Chicago	57	1,843,678
Brooklyn	68	1,267,158
Philadelphia	15	1,200,000
St. Louis	52	687,795
Baltimore	38	600,000
Boston	24	550,507
Cincinnati	35	400,000
Buffalo	57	400,000
Cleveland	49	390,000
San Francisco	14	340,000
Pittsburg	34	325,000
Detroit	52	315,000
New Orleans	24	300,000
Washington	28	294,618
Milwaukee	43	292,000
Newark, N. J.	51	275,000
Louisville	45	232,000
Minneapolis	22	200,000
Jersey City	23	200,000
Denver	78	190,000
Rochester	35	190,000
Indianapolis	69	180,000

In numerical order the five leading States are New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, and Missouri, the last showing the most marked gain in population.

Mr. Assistant Secretary Taylor, on June 20th, rendered a decision adverse to the appeal of James Fitzharris and Joseph Mullet, from the decision of the immigration officials at New York, who held them for deportation on the ground that, having been convicted of felony in connection with the murder of Lord Cavendish and Thomas Henry Burke in Phoenix Park, Dublin, in 1882, they cannot be permitted to land in America under the immigration laws. In concluding his opinion, on which the decision is based, the Solicitor of the Treasury says:—"I do not think the heinous crime in which Fitzharris and Mullet participated and for which they were found guilty, can be justly dignified as a political offence, and therefore discriminated from the ordinary crime of assassination and murder, and I must advise you that after careful consideration of

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this case, my opinion is: First—That the crime for which Fitzharris and Mullet were convicted and sentenced was murder in the ordinary sense and cannot be classed as a political offence. Second—That Fitzharris, having only a conditional pardon, could not have been admitted even under the acts of 1895 or 1882. Third—That Mullet, even if his pardon is full and unconditional, is excluded by the act of 1891. Fourth—That the action of the Board of Inspectors denying a landing to these immigrants on the ground that they had been convicted of felony, should be sustained."

CHINA NOTES.

The Shanghai papers contain, if anything, less interesting news of events in North China than that which is given daily in this journal. It is only in occasional contributions from correspondents that any new facts of interest appear. The following notes are taken from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

A Newchwang correspondent writes:—We are deeply indebted to the Russian gunboat for the protection so thoughtfully afforded us; but we cannot disguise from ourselves that in the event of an *emeute* among the railway coolies, or a dash on the railway station (some 3 miles distant) by some of the Boxers or their soldier allies, her first duty would be to her own nationals, and we should have to choose between facing alone a rising of the roughs, or retiring with the gunboat and leaving our homes and property to be looted. With our departure or defeat, the Chinese business establishments would be wrecked, the town probably burned, and trade ruined for a year, perhaps for ever. And all this anxiety could be relieved, this loss avoided, by sending one little gunboat here. Are we not worth it? Is not our trade worth this slight attention? 40 per cent. of the tonnage is British, 45 per cent. Japanese, nearly half the imports are of American origin, and yet neither Great Britain, Japan, nor apparently the United States, will so much as wriggle a propeller in our direction. We hold meetings, we sign addresses, our Consuls write and wire for assistance, and we might as well have done nothing.

From Chinanfu comes the report that Governor Yuan has been very prompt and obliging to all foreigners, and is doing excellent work in keeping down the Boxers who swarm in this province. He has issued a proclamation offering Tls. 200 for every Boxer brought in. The country is patrolled by his excellent troops. There is but one fear; that Governor Yuan may be called away. In fact, he has been ordered, along with Li Hung-chang, to appear at Peking, but has answered that Shantung is too important a place to leave at present, but that he is ready to send some of his best military men to aid in suppressing the Boxer movement. Alas for the foreigners here, should the Governor leave; and not knowing when that may occur, it is thought wise to leave.

A riot occurred in the city of Yunnanfu on the 12th inst., in which the premises of the B.C.M. were completely destroyed and those of the C.I.M. partially so. The missionaries were compelled to take refuge in the yamên, where it is supposed they still are. Yunnanfu has for long been in a state of excitement owing to the aggressive attitude of the French.

No civilians are allowed to go ashore at Taku, but by the kindness of the Russian Admiral a party from a German ship which has arrived at Shanghai were allowed to land and have a look round. The place presents an awful scene of desolation. At Jardine, Matheson's godowns immense quantities of sugar and rice are lying on the ground utterly ruined, and the villages for miles around are ablaze. The dead Chinese on shore have all been disposed of by cremation, but many corpses were seen in the water. The Chinese have cleared completely out of the neighbourhood of Taku, and the visitors only saw three during their tour, these three wearing red bands on their arms to signify that they were in European service.

The following news has been received by Shanghai mandarins:—The Assistant Grand Secretary and Chancellor of the Peking University, Sun Chia-mai, has been murdered by Boxers and his residence pilaged. His family and retainers, numbering some 60 odd, were also massacred at the same time—26th June. There is bitter enmity between Prince Twan and Jung Lu and several attempts have been made by the former to inveigle the latter in order to assassinate him. This so enraged a confidential officer of Jung Lu's household that he determined to retaliate. On the 29th June this officer disguised himself and managed to get into Prince Twan's quarters amongst the Boxers. He then crept under Prince Twan's tent in order to stab the Prince while he slept, but was caught by the two soldiers standing guard in the tent. The officer was seized, his disguise penetrated and his head immediately taken off in front of the Prince's tent. The next morning his head was sent in a tightly sealed wooden tub "with Prince Twan's Compliments" to Jung Lu and a message warning Jung Lu to beware. Both Prince Twan and Jung Lu are now constantly on guard for fear of being taken by surprise and assassinated.

The scare amongst the Chinese at Shanghai continues. The *Pekin's* decks on her last trip were crowded with furniture and other impedimenta in a way that suggested a mammoth Pickford's van afloat. The human freight swarmed everywhere, and it required some skill and no little courage to make a passage through the clamourous throng of men, women and children. All manner of discomfort seems to go for nothing with them so long as they get away from the trouble that they fear is coming to Shanghai. On the Soochow Creek similar scenes on a smaller scale are to be witnessed every day, the big Chinese house-boats looking like so many second-hand furniture shops, and they also are carrying large numbers of passengers bound for Soochow and places in the interior.

Tientsin people say that but for the Russians there would not have been one European left alive there to tell the tale, and they all unite in expressing their gratitude to the sturdy "Rooskies."

There are thousands of dead Chinese along the river banks, and floating down the river at Tientsin. The stench is described as "simply dreadful." In many quarters starving dogs have eaten bodies in the streets.

The men of the First Chinese Regiment are credited with first-class work, both in bayonet fighting and in doing military police work.

The Gordon Hall, the refuge place at Tientsin appears to have been a favourite target for the artillery outside Tientsin, and at last accounts the famous tower was completely destroyed.

FOURTEENTH OF JULY.

Saturday last, the French National Holiday, was celebrated very quietly in Yokohama. A number of business houses and residences were decked with bunting, the tricolor of course being most conspicuous. In the afternoon sailing races were arranged for the 17 and 12 Raters of the Yokohama Yacht Club, for prizes presented by the French Residents. In the evening a number of the members of the French community dined together at the Oriental Hotel and after nine o'clock the dining saloon was cleared for dancing.

Sailing Races.

The 17-raters sailed over Course No. 6, 5¼ miles, starting at 2.30 p.m. with a time limit of 5.45 p.m. First prize presented by the French Residents, second by the Club, on Club time. The 12-raters, special class, started at 2.45 p.m. over No. 10 Course, no time allowance. First prize presented by the French Residents, second by the Club. The times and results were as follow:—

17 Raters.

	Rating.	Start.	Har. Entce. (Return.)	Finish.	Corrected Time.
Wettinge....	17	2.30.20	3.37.12	3.48.26	4.48.26
Daisy May.	17	2.30.25	3.37.45	3.49.34	3.49.34
Eclair.....	17	2.30.30	3.38.28	3.49.53	3.49.53
Devonia ...	16½	2.30.25	—	3.58.57	3.57.40
Bonito.....	16	2.30.30	—	3.54.42	3.52.08

Wettinge took first prize and two record points, *Daisy May* second prize and 1 record point.

12 Raters.

	Rating.	Start.	Finish.
Madelcine.....	4	2.50.10	did not cross the line.
Titania.....	5	2.50.10	3.41.55
Dora.....	6	2.50.10	3.43.47
Albion.....	7	2.50.30	gave up.
Thistle.....	8	—	—
Lorna Doone.....	2	—	—

Titania took first prize and 2 record points, *Dora* second prize and one point.

GERMANS AND CHINA.

We read in the last issue of *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd*:

At a meeting held by the German residents of Shanghai it was decided on account of the serious political situation to send the following telegram to His Majesty the German Emperor:—

Shanghai, July 3.

The German Merchants of Shanghai, being convinced that the rebellion in the North, the rising in Shantung, and the disturbances in the Yangtze Valley will spread, respectfully wish to draw Your Majesty's attention to the necessity of our being as well represented as the other Powers, both by military and naval forces, in order to maintain our position as second commercial Power in the East.

In reply to this the following telegram was received from His Majesty the Emperor:

Wilhelmshaven, July 4.

To the Merchants of Shanghai,

Shanghai.

Your wishes will be fulfilled to the utmost of my power.

Moltke with Bismarck already on the way.

One division ironclads and one division infantry will follow.

(Signed) Wilhelm, I.R.

It is now known that it was due to the efforts of the German admiral, supported partially by the younger English rear admiral, that the other admirals were gradually and with the utmost difficulty convinced of the necessity of the capture of the Taku forts.

There is now sufficient proof that had the bombardment been delayed a few days longer and the Chinese allowed time to get sufficient troops to man these forts, beautifully equipped and magnificently armed as they are, they would never have been captured.

Captain Lanz has received a letter from Commander Slade of the *Algerine*, in which Commander Slade specially mentions among other things that Captain Lanz was the "life and soul" of the bombardment and taking of the Taku forts.

THE SIEGE OF TIENTSIN.

The *China Gazette* of July 6th says:—By the steamer *Mathilde*, from Taku, Chefoo, and Tsingtao arrived a Shanghai resident, Mr. Nils Möller, accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. Standring, and her infant, all three of whom have been through the bombardment and siege of Tientsin and are the first non-combatants to reach the outer world. Mr. Möller gives a graphic picture of the trials in the Northern port since the memorable 17th June. Mr. Möller, who is 75 years of age, but happily still as active as a boy, went up to Tientsin from Taku by the last train on the 16th ult. for the purpose of bringing back his daughter and grandchild to Shanghai. At that time Tientsin was surrounded by many thousands of Chinese soldiers, but the railway was open, and no great alarm was felt by the inhabitants as long as the river and railway were open. Next morning, Sunday the 17th, however, on Mr. Möller and his daughter attempting to proceed by train to Taku they found the railway blocked and heard of the taking of the Taku forts. They were accompanied by 150 to 200 European ladies and children who were seeking safety in flight, as it was then known that Tientsin would be invested. There were at that time four or five thousand troops of various nationalities, Russians predominating, for the defence of Tientsin, in addition to the British and German volunteers. Colonel Wogack was in command of the Russians. Capt. Bayley, R.N., commanded the English bluejackets and marines, while Captain Bayce Kup commanded the British volunteers. A trial engine was then despatched to ascertain the amount of the damage, but returned with the report that the road was impossible. On returning to Tientsin Mr. Möller went to the Astor House, where the greater number of the intending travellers were assembled. They were in the midst of tiffin at half-past one on Sunday, in the crowded hotel, when the first gun was fired from the Chinese battery which had been erected quietly on the north side of the river. No one expected hostilities to begin so soon and everyone was more or less scared, but they soon got used to it, for the shelling by the Chinese continued during the night and on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with scarcely any intermission. The women and children were mostly sent to the Gordon Hall for safety and were huddled together there for several days. All the Chinese servants and native followers, resident and otherwise, of the Settlement quickly disappeared and the Europeans were left entirely dependent on their own resources. The Russian troops under Colonel Wogack took possession of the railway station on the north side, on which point the Chinese concentrated their fire. The German marines and volunteers took up a position at the end of the Taku Road, upon which they erected barricades of earth and rice bags, while the English marines and volunteers kept guard in the English Settlement. The French marines and volunteers similarly looked after the French Settlement. The Russians did most of the fighting. The duel between the artillery of the foreign troops and the Chinese battery, which consisted of one Long Tom and other guns, continued incessantly until Wednesday, the 20th June. On that day the British and Russians arranged to attempt to take the Chinese position by assault. A good deal of damage had been done on that day and the position was becoming so intolerable that it led the commanders of the Russian and British forces to

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make up their minds to try one desperate rush and seize the battery. Shells had fallen repeatedly into the Astor House, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the British and American Consulates, Butterfield and Swire's godown, the Chartered Bank, the Gordon Hall, and other places. In fact, all the high buildings had been struck, while many shells had fallen into the leading thoroughfares and there exploded. Fortunately the shells were too thick for the charges, and little damage was done by bursting. They say that the shells were filled in Shanghai. At the Astor House a shell went right through the wall on the Wednesday, and another struck the kitchen, scaring the occupants away but doing no greater damage. Several shells struck the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, but were not able to penetrate the walls. When the advance on the Chinese battery was made on the Wednesday the Russians had been constantly fighting for three days and nights and were tired out. Consequently they were not able to keep up with the British, who came on the scene quite fresh. The British got very quickly in front, followed by the Russians a long distance behind, so long in fact that a strong force of Chinese got in between them, practically cutting the British off from the Russians. As the result of this manœuvre, which was cleverly carried out, the British force under Captain Bayley returned, carrying 48 wounded and leaving four or five killed behind. That was in the afternoon. The attack on the battery was given up for the time, but the same evening reinforcements fortunately arrived from Taku consisting of Russians, Japanese, Germans, and two companies of Pathans from Hongkong, as well as the Welsh Fusiliers. This greatly relieved the situation, but next day a large portion of this force was despatched westward to the relief of Admiral Seymour, who was known to be in great difficulties.

Mr. Möller tells us that the force Admiral Seymour took with him consisted of from 2,000 to 2,400 men and when he came back fully a thousand were engaged in carrying in the wounded. On the return of Admiral Seymour an assault was made on the Arsenal, which was promptly captured. Seymour's force did not arrive in one body but in straggling lots. Captain Beatty of the *Orlando* was severely wounded, having no less than three bullets in him, but his lieutenant was wounded even more seriously. During the firing on Tuesday or Wednesday one of Warren's circus people was picked off by a stray shot. Mr. Moller is not sure of his name but thinks it was Mr. Pfleuger. Someone belonging to the French Consulate was also killed and a couple of Russians and one Japanese. Thus five completes the sum total of the casualties among the civilian population. A great deal of damage was done by the zeal of both the English and French volunteers, and many buildings which need not have been sacrificed were burnt down lest they should give cover to Chinese sharpshooters. The French Settlement was set on fire by the French endeavouring to burn down a high joss house which afforded a striking target for the Chinese battery. A strong wind arose just at this time, with the result that the flames swept the whole Settlement. The house of Mr. Ash was burnt to the ground, as also the houses of several well-known residents, including Hirsbrunner's store. A great mass of timber lying on the Bund for building and other purposes was destroyed in this way. Even as late as Wednesday, the 27th June, fires were raging on all sides in both Settlements and when Mr. Moller left on that day there were half a dozen extensive fires in full blaze. The forces of the various Powers acted together with the utmost harmony. In one case, however, a Sikh watchman, a British subject, belonging to the Chartered Bank, was killed by a Cossack sentry outside Colonel Wogack's house. The dead man and some of his fellow countrymen had been engaged in selling liquor to the soldiers and when challenged by the Cossack and called on to hold out his hands to be handcuffed he resisted. Mr. Moller was standing a few yards from the scene and witnessed it fully. The Sikh refusing to hold out his hands, the Cossack raised his gun and shot him dead. Another Cossack caught a second Sikh and dragged him to the sentry post in Consular Road at the corner of Victoria Road. An unpleasant impression was created by the discovery when the English Naval officers, acting upon information, searched the house of Chang Yin-mow, the big house on the Bund surmounted by a cupola which every visitor to Tientsin in recent years well knows. When the house was examined 28 Mausers and a large quantity of ammunition were found. The English Naval officer asked Chang if that was the entire stock of arms and ammunition concealed in his house, to which he answered yes. On the search being continued no less than 30 more Mausers were discovered and Chang Yin-mow was taken into custody and is now under arrest. Mr. Moller says there was a great deal of indiscriminate and not easily understood rifle firing indulged in. In his daughter's house, a bungalow, they picked up no less than 36 rifle bullets which had come across the house from the Taku Road where the German marines and Volunteers were stationed. After the first day or two people in Tientsin grew quite used to the bombardment, though most of the houses were more or less damaged and much inconvenience was felt from the want of servants and the shortage of water, the river water having been poisoned by the corpses of Chinese. The first scare soon died away, and then ladies were seen walking in the streets with the shells whistling over their heads. The ends of all the roads at which a rush might be expected from the Chinese troops were barricaded with huge mounds of bags filled with rice. On Wednesday, the 27th June, Mr. Moller determined to make another attempt to leave Tientsin, starting in the tugboat *Peiping*, from which he afterwards changed into the *Fuhwan* and afterwards again into the *Heron*, which latter towed down two lighters filled with wounded Russians and English troops and marines. The English were put on board the *Endymion* and the Russians sent on board a Russian man-of-war for conveyance to Nagasaki. They were the whole day in getting down a few miles and spent the night on each of the boats named before they reached Taku. Mr. Moller and his daughter, who as we have stated are the first to reach the outer world, corroborate what has already been written of the gallant conduct of the Russians throughout the siege.

THE CHESS-PLAYER'S MIND.

[By Harry Nelson Pillsbury.]

Perhaps the mental quality most useful to the chess player who wishes to rise to distinction in the game is concentration—the ability to isolate himself from the whole world and live for the events of the board while a match is proceeding.

And yet "concentration" does not quite suit me as expressing the quality I refer to, for concentration implies narrowing, and I am satisfied that the influence of chess broadens the mind. All the leading chess masters take such an interest in events outside their own particular world as would be expected of lawyers, for instance. Some of them take up specialities for pleasure and become experts in them. Steinitz, for instance, was deeply learned in matters pertaining to the rise, progress, and history of the Hebrew race, and that in spite of the fact that he gave his life to chess. That he has become insane is no reflection upon the game. He had illness and trouble for a long time. They same may be said of Morphy's insanity. It was not due to chess.

Tschigorin is a valued employé of the Russian Government; Lasker is now a professor of mathematics, having just received his degree from a German university. Tarrasch is a practising physician. Marozcy is Assistant City Engineer of Budapest, and so it goes. I believe that the influence of chess itself is beneficial in so training the mind that its entire power can be wielded and controlled instantly for the accomplishment of a certain purpose. It is the mistaken notion of some of the opponents of the game that it has an effect upon the mind similar to the effect which the blacksmith's constant hammering has upon the muscles of his arm. He becomes muscle-bound. He is strong, but can only use his strength in a certain manner. So far as my observation goes, nothing at all similar happens to the mind of the chess player.

I frequently play sixteen games blindfolded, and though the strain at the time is very severe, the whole matter is cast off my mind five minutes after the match is over. If you then asked me to name the opening on board No. 6, for instance, I would have to stop and think about it.

After such a match as I have described, where blindfolded I encounter sixteen opponents at once, I find it necessary to devote an hour or two to some other subject that will take my mind off chess—some mental work that is sufficient engrossing. Otherwise I would be unable to sleep.

The largest number of games ever played simultaneously by one man was seventeen,* and that by myself. That is the record, and much astonishment is expressed at times at the formidable nature of the feat. But, as a matter of fact, I believe that such feats of memory in other forms are quite common in the business world. For instance, the stockbroker carries in his head all the fluctuations which have happened in a long line of stocks during ten days. He does not need to stop to think. All the details are ready for instant use. Just so it is with the blindfold chess player.

I don't know how it is with the others, but I make matters easier for myself by systematising the games when I am playing blindfold on sixteen boards at once.

I mentally arrange the boards in four groups like this:—

I.—Board Nos.	1	5	9	13.
II.—Board Nos.	2	6	10	14.
III.—Board Nos.	3	7	11	15.
IV.—Board Nos.	4	8	12	16.

On the boards in System III., I open by playing P to Q4, and on all the other boards P to K4, followed by KKt to KB3. In almost all these blindfold games I have the move, and can generally force my opponent into my system. If he make an eccentric move that takes him out of the system I make a mental note of it.

When I am blindfolded all that is communicated to me is the move of my opponent at each board. All else I am forced to remember, but this is not so difficult as it would appear. By the time twenty moves have been made there has been some clearing of the board and a definite objective has been developed. When I turn to a new board, I say:—"Ah! No. 7, this is the board on which we have exchanged Queen," and the whole play comes back to me. Occasionally I overlook something, but not often, in a blindfold match. I keep account of the number of pieces on each board. I know if I have a knight and bishop, or two bishops, and what my opponent has, and whether or not I am a pawn ahead.

Each board and the position is remembered by me not as a picture but as a record. Each game has scores of possibilities for each move, until most of the pieces are cleared off. After making my move I must totally dismiss the board on which it was made from my mind and take up the next, which also has its scores of possibilities, and I must follow each possible variation out mentally for several moves ahead.

That is where the blindfold player suffers the greatest disadvantage. He cannot see so far ahead as if he were looking at the board. For him to see clearly three moves ahead is difficult, while the expert with the board in front of him can explore all possible paths for five moves. I play much better sometimes than at others. In the match where I, blindfold, played against seventeen opponents, I lost three of the games. Often with sixteen opponents I capture all the games.

Besides the quality which we have, for want of a better name, called concentration, there are others that are essential to the good chess player. One of these is patience, or ability to wait. We have players who are known as plungers, who see an opening and drive ahead into it without studying out all that it leads to. Such men can never become good players. The chess master must have full control of himself at all times. He must not be impatient, he must be content to mark time, as it were, till he sees the result of his opponent's attack, and he must be able to resort to meaningless moves to kill time if there was no other way of holding fast to the fortified position till the danger is over. Not all men can do this. They want to rush out and attack, and thereby they expose themselves and lose the game.

Another most useful quality is accuracy, in which Lasker excels. His foresight has not so great a range as that of Tschigorin, for instance, but so far as he sees he is infallible. Tschigorin may see five moves ahead and Lasker only three, but the latter more than evens up matters by his deadly accuracy and thoroughness.

To play, simultaneously, a number of games of chess blindfold is not so hard as at first it might appear. A man begins by playing one game in that manner. Of course, before he comes to that he has already mastered the game. After much practice with the single blindfold game he essays to play two at once and gradually extends his operations. As he progresses his mind expands. His mentality gains strength by exercise, just as the body gains strength from exercise. There is nothing so very wonderful in this blindfold play, but it is useful because it gives a striking illustration of what the mind may become with training.

The truth of the matter is that such feats seem very wonderful because most men are what you might call mental day-labourers. Only one out of ten really thinks.

The game is not, necessarily, an injuriously sedentary one. During the great matches the players, after making their moves, get up and walk about. Over on the other side you will see a group of them gather on the floor between the moves. In addition to this one gets a good deal of exercise in travelling. I know that it is as much of a physical strain as most gymnasium work to run with a heavy valise two miles across country to catch a train, as I frequently have to do on my travels. Still, to alternate the mental exercise with physical is a good thing for mind and body.

One effect of the intense mental application which a great match compels is to suspend, partially, the vital functions. When the brain is very busy it uses the blood that the other organs generally absorb, and they are compelled to idleness. Thus there sometimes results trouble with the digestion. But I do not think that this evil is greater than the lawyer suffers when he has an important case on hand, or the clerk or bookkeeper subjected to unusual strain.

Stimulants have little effect on the chess player during a great match. They have even less effect when he is in a condition of mental strain than when the strain is physical.

* Since this was written Mr. Pillsbury played in Philadelphia, May 5, twenty simultaneous games without seeing any of the boards. He won fourteen of the games, drew five, and lost one.

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The progress of chess in the United States of late has been most satisfactory to lovers of the game. The number of players and the number of clubs are increasing fast. Americans have the proper stuff in them for chess, apparently. The best players in the world at the present day are Americans, Slavs, Teutons, and Hebrews. The Latins have fallen behind in the game, somehow. I dont know anything of the Chinese or Turkish players, and though there is a chess club in Yokohama I believe that its members are Americans and Englishmen. The Slavs and Americans seem to be the players of the future.—*Westminster Budget.*

MEMORIAL TO THE THRONE.

The *Shanghai Mercury* translates the following joint memorial from the various Viceroys and Governors of the Southern provinces, as well as the Imperial High Commissioner of the Yangtsze Valley, which was sent to the Throne by wire on the 22nd June :—

The memorialists are Li Pingheng, High Commissioner of the Yangtsze, Liu Kunyi, Viceroy of the Liang Hu ; Lu Chuanlin, Governor of Kiangsu ; Wang Chihchun, Governor of Anhui ; Sung Shou, Governor of Kiangsi ; Yu Yinhu, Governor of Hupeh, and Yu Liensan, Governor of Hunan.

Telegrams from various countries show that the cruel massacres committed by the Boxers will surely call down vengeance upon China. If they are not quickly put down the Powers will certainly be angry. Advices from Japan show that if this be done quickly there is still time. We are deeply grieved at the reports that the capital is in danger. The Boxers, under the pretence of exercising magic, are inciting the people to join them in rebelling against the Government. In reality their claims are nonsense, as it is impossible to resist firearms. Practices of this sort were forbidden in the 13th year of the reign of the Emperor Cha-ching. Then if these men are really patriotic people of Chihli, how is it that their leader, Li Laichung, is a native of Shensi ? This proves that they are but seditious people, and that they ought to be suppressed. They disobeyed the Imperial orders to disperse, and have instead murdered Chinese and Foreigners outside of Peking, and forced the Imperial High Commissioner to kill the Magistrates of Laisui and Hsinching. As they pay no attention to the laws they are rebels, and therefore should be suppressed. The characters which they place on their flags, saying "Assist China to exterminate foreigners" are but pretences, such as have been used by the secret societies in different provinces in times past. If they really claim to assist the Government how is it that they disobey the Imperial orders ? Now to the north, east, south and west of Peking, for nearly a thousand *li*, there are thousands of these people, who are forcing the inhabitants to supply them with food. The people in these districts are not all Christians, yet hundreds of them have had their homes burnt, and have themselves been maltreated or killed. There is famine and drought in the districts about Peking this year, and yet the people are forced to keep these hordes. Therefore they ought to be suppressed. They have damaged and destroyed the Government telegraphs and railways to the value of several million taels. They have obstructed the transmission of Imperial decrees and memorials. They have delayed the movements of the Imperial troops, they have destroyed countless native and foreign houses outside Peking, and in many other ways they have shown that they are but robbers and should be suppressed. They are not content with having forced the country into war with the foreign Powers, but they must damage foreign property, and even kill the Chancellor of the Japanese Legation. In every respect they deserve suppression.

Now in consequence of all this Taku has been taken by the foreign Powers, thousands of foreign troops have been landed at Tientsin, on the road to the Capital, and more are pouring in daily. This shows that the danger is very pressing, so much so that the time for words is but short. It must be borne in mind that no country which is in the hands of rebels has been able to stand as a country, nor does history give us an example of a country which has been able to preserve its status when it has gone to war with several nations at the same time without just cause. The Boxers are unarmed and undisciplined, and have repeatedly been defeated by the Imperial troops, both in Shantung and Chihli. Recently they have been defeated by the foreign soldiers in Lofa and in Tientsin Settlement, and many of them killed. It will be seen that they can never stand against firearms and shells. It is impossible for such undrilled, unarmed and unled mobs to face foreign troops for a moment.

Therefore we humbly pray Your Majesties, the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor, to bear in mind the interests of the Empire, and to vigorously decide to do what is right, regardless of the unmeaning words which may be spoken by designing persons, and to immediately issue Edicts ordering the severe punishment and extinction of the Boxers, to prevent the Imperial troops from making further troubles, and to relieve the anxiety of those resident in the Legations by informing them that there is no intention of going on with these troubles. Inform them that Li Hung-chang has been ordered up to settle matters with their respective Governments, and request them to order that hostilities cease, then it will be possible to turn to the Boxers and put them down. We also pray that Imperial Edicts be sent by wire to the Ministers of China in various countries, apologising for the past troubles, and let it be known that a large gratuity will be bestowed for the murder of the Japanese official. Then issue Edicts informing the people that the Government takes all responsibility for the protection of foreign lives and property, and order the officials throughout the Empire to take stringent measures for the protection of foreign merchants and missionaries. This will appease the anger of the foreign countries. We will then be able to put affairs in the Empire upon a good footing. At present the country is on the verge of a great calamity and a few days' delay may mean the breaking up of the country, and then it will be too late. On account of this we are al. much worried and alarmed.

Presented by the joint memorialists, who are all of the same mind, with the utmost respect and submission, praying that it may receive Your August sanction without delay.

(This was sent by the memorialists to General Jung Lu, with the request that he would deliver it, and transmit the answer to the signatories.)

DESTRUCTION OF THE WEIHSIEN MISSION.

The *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent at Weihsien, writing on June 21st from the German Coal mines, says :—

On the evening of June 25th, between the hours of 8 p.m. and midnight, the American Presbyterian Mission compound at Weihsien was burned and looted. The mob began to gather at 5 p.m. The contingent consisted of two young ladies and the writer, who had made all preparations to leave the next day. As soon as the danger was noticed I sent word to the chihsien for help. Instead of at once sending a few soldiers from his own yamên to resist the increasing mob he sent off to the camp ten li distant for military aid. The aid arrived at 8.30 p.m.—too late to do more than assist in the looting of the burning buildings ! The magistrate did right to send to the camp, but made a fatal blunder—I assume that his efforts on our behalf were sincere—in not at once sending a small force to tide over the interval until more efficient help could be secured. After holding off the mob with a revolver for three hours, your correspondent could do no more and the foreign garrison retreated. There was one chance in ten of getting out alive, but that one chance was vouchsafed us, and we fled under cover of night fall across country, avoiding roads and villages, and reached this hospitable and secure retreat at midnight. Nothing was saved except the clothes we wore. I must here express our hearty appreciation of the cordial reception and hospitality we are enjoying at the hands of our German neighbours. This place is garrisoned by some sixteen stalwart men, armed and trained in martial affairs according to the well-known custom of the Fatherland. Yesterday the West Mine buildings at this place were set on fire, but the fire was extinguished, though not without considerable loss. To-day the telegraph line was cut thirty li northeast of Wehsien, but we are informed repairs are being made.

A later letter dated Tsungiao, July 4th, says :—The refugees from Weihsien mission, together with the engineers and miners from the interior, reached here in safety under an escort furnished by the Governor of Shantung. We hereby acknowledge the courtesy thus extended us by H.E. the Governor Yuan Shih-kai.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE NEW GERMAN MINISTER.

Shanghai, July 14.

Mumin, at present Minister to Luxemburg, is appointed to succeed Baron Ketteler and will sail forwith for China.

THE WEST COAST TROUBLE.

Governor Hodgson has arrived at the Cape Coast.

SOUTH AFRICA.

It is believed in Pretoria that the capture of Bethlehem improves the prospects of peace. All the members of Steyn's Government have now surrendered except Steyn himself

THE FATE OF THE LEGATIONS.

Anxiety is deepening with regard to the Legations in Peking. It is felt that if Sir Robert Hart could smuggle through a letter when the condition was desperate it should be easy for him to send tidings if the situation has improved.

BOER ACTIVITY.

Roberts telegraphs from Pretoria on the 12th that the Boers overpowered the garrison at Nitrals-nek, and captured two guns of O Battery, with nearly a squadron of the Scots Greys and 90 of the Lincolns. The fight lasted throughout the day and it is feared that the casualties are heavy. The reinforcements arrived too late.

A simultaneous attack on Derdepoort was repulsed.

Smith-Dorrien inflicted heavy loss on the enemy near Krugersdorp.

Buller repulsed the Boers at Paardekraal.

CHINA.

Sir Walter Hillier sails on Saturday to act as adviser to the military authorities in China.

JOHANNESBURG-PRETORIA RAILWAY THREATENED.

Several parties of Boers threaten the railway between Johannesburg and Pretoria, but the line is strongly guarded.

CHINA.

Shanghai, July 15.

A special German Note declares that Germany seeks no partition of China and no special advantages, but only the restoration of order. Therefore an agreement among the Powers is indispensable.

A howitzer battery has returned to Cape Town to be in readiness to embark for China.

Major-General Gaselee is to have the local rank of Lieut.-General.

Another division of two brigades from India has been ordered to prepare for China. It consists of the Black Watch, the Shropshires, the Inniskilling Fusiliers, the Scottish Rifles, the Twentieth Punjaub, the Sixth Bengal Infantry, and three field batteries.

Shanghai, July 16.

(Delayed in transmission.)

PRINCE KOTOHITO.

A court dinner in honour of Prince Kotohito has been given by the Czar and the Czaritza. The Queen of Greece was present.

A CABLE TO CHINA.

A project is on foot to lay an international cable to the base of operations in China to secure communications. America has offered the cable material constructed for the lines to the Philippines.

FEDERATED AUSTRALIA.

The Earl of Hopetoun is to be the Governor-General of Federated Australia.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The troops occupied Nitralsnek on Tuesday only. They found themselves surrounded at day-break. They did not fight the whole day. The guns with an escort of Scots Greys were in advance of the main body and were captured. A heroic resistance was made. Nearly every man was killed or wounded. The Lincolns fought splendidly until nightfull, when their ammunition was expended. It is feared that their losses were heavy. This reverse is much criticised considering the closeness of the place to Lord Robert head-quarters.

The Boers continue to hold a line of kopjes five miles north of Wonderboomdaspoort.

SUPPLEMENTARY NAVAL ESTIMATES.

London, July 15.

The supplementary naval estimates amount to £1,269,300. Italy will send about 5000 troops to China. The first contingent sails on the 18th of July.

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THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, July 17.

General Buller reports that General Lord Dundonald has captured the enemy's camp near Vilpoort.

The troops are moving up Van Reenen's Pass.

PRINCE KOTOHITO.

Shanghai, July 18.

(Delayed in Transmission.)

Prince Kotohito had a farewell audience with the Czar prior to proceeding to Moscow.

AMERICA AND CHINA.

America is arranging for the despatch of from 8,000 to 10,000 reinforcements to China.

KRUGER.

According to the latest advices, Kruger refuses to surrender till his supplies are exhausted. Clery continues desultory fighting.

KUMASSI.

Shanghai, July 19.

Wilcox has relieved Kumassi.

THE LEGATIONS.

The Chinese Ministers in London and Washington have informed the Governments of those States that the Ministers in Peking were safe on the 9th inst., and have requested that Tientsin shall not be destroyed.

THE DUKE OF YORK.

The Duke of York has been appointed Colonel of the Royal Fusiliers.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France.)

END OF THE FRENCH SESSION.

Saigon, July 13.

The Parliamentary session in Paris has terminated.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

General Voyron will command the French troops in China with Generals Baillaud and Frey as Brigadiers. Vice-Admiral Pottier will command the naval forces.

22,000 Japanese have landed at Taku

Li Hung-chang announces that the soldiers and rebels surrounding the Legations at Peking have dispersed.

CHINA.

Saigon, July 14.

The Chinese attacked Tientsin on the 4th instant. They were repulsed, but the allied forces suffered sensibly.

M. Quillon and several French missionaries have been assassinated at Mukden.

The Chinese have pillaged and burned Newchwang.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Saigon, July 15.

The Boers have beaten the Lincolnshire Regiment in the vicinity of Pretoria, killing many and taking the others prisoners.

THE REPORTED MASSACRE.

The Boxers have destroyed the six Legations in Peking, massacred all the foreigners, and killed Prince Ching, who sought to soccour the Legations.

Saigon, July 15.

(Delayed in transmission.)

FRANCE.

The national fête was celebrated in Paris and the provinces with enthusiasm.

The Longchamps Races passed without serious incident. The President was warmly cheered, and there were many cheers for the Army.

THE REPORTED MASSACRE.

The Foreign Office has not received any confirmation of the massacre of the foreigners in Peking.

CHINA.

Saigon, July 17.

(Delayed in transmission.)

The Governor of Shantung has telegraphed that the Legations were taken after a heroic resistance, and all the foreigners massacred.

Fighting continues every day at Tientsin.

Saigon, July 19.

There is no official news from Peking.

The allied troops, after a series of combats, on Thursday, the 12th and Friday the 13th, succeeded on the morning of Saturday the 14th in breaching the wall of the fortified Chinese city of Tientsin. They took possession of the town and of all the Chinese forts. The Chinese were completely routed. The allied forces had 800 killed and wounded.

(From Vice-Admiral Togo.)

THE CHINESE CRISIS

Chefoo, July 14.

According to a telegram from the captain of the *Tatsuta* at Newchwang dated the 8th, there was much excitement at that place, but nothing serious had occurred. All the foreign women and children had withdrawn and of the Japanese only 22 remained. On the night of the 7th the members of the Japanese Consulate and the Japanese residents had gone on board the *Sorachi Maru*, but the arrival of the *Tatsuta* on the 8th had reassured them and they had gone on shore again. A Russian war-vessel had landed 20 marines for the protection of the Settlement. The *Tatsuta* landed 28 men by desire of the Consuls. Two thousand troops from Mukden to guard Newchwang have arrived within 50 *li* of the place, but the rumours of church-burning and missionary-killing at Mukden rendered the coming of these troops an object of apprehension.

On the arrival of the *Hakuai Maru* the fact was notified to the various commanders and caused much satisfaction. She has already taken on board several wounded French officers and men. After she has taken the Japanese wounded on board, she will sail for Ujina.

Chefoo, July 14.

On the 12th Admiral Seymour rejoined the fleet and raised his flag in the *Centurion*.

Chefoo, July 15.

Aceording to a report received from the American flag-ship, the allied forces in Tientsin captured the whole of the Chinese forts, with one exception, on the 13th instant.

Chefoo, Juiy 14.

The *Chiuchiu*, arrived at Newchwang on the 9th, and landed 9 men to assist in guarding the Settlement. The *Tatsuta* returned to Taku on the 12th. Only 8 Japanese, including the Consul, remained. The foreigners and Chinese residents are much pleased at the presence of the *Tokyo Maru* and a Japanece man-of-war. It is reported that a collision took place near Liao-yang between the Chinese troops and the Russian.

The Russians have 2,000 men at Tong-ku station, which they consider it of capital importance to guard.

Chefoo, July 15.

Commander Mori has received a letter by secret messenger from Baron Nishi in Peking. It is dated June 29th and left Peking on the 30th, reaching Tientsin on the 12th July. It says that the situation was then very critical. The Chinese troops were surrounding the Legations and bombarding them with shrapnel day and night. The staff of the Legations and the guards were conducting the defence with vigour, but, being short of ammunition, their danger was imminent, and a general slaughter threatened. The sending of a relief force was earnestly desired.

The messenger said that the Ministers were all in the British Legations and that Tung's troops and other Chinese soldiers were attacking them daily; that they were short of provisions, and that after the 1st of July there would probably be no way of replenishing the supply.

According to a telegram sent from the Russian commander in Tientsin to the German Commodore at Taku and published by the latter, the English, American, and Japanese attacked the Chinese position from one direction, the Russians, Germans, and French from another, and at dawn on the 14th the Japanese captured the position. The Russians, Germans, and French had not been able to effect an entry. The killed and wounded on the side of the allies were 600.

On the 11th at 3 a.m. the enemy attacked Tientsin station, and advanced to within 50 metres of the allies' position. The Japanese, English, and French had a sharp fight. One Japanese company lost all its officers, and more than 70 non-commissioned officers and men were killed or wounded. The French had over 60 casualties. Several hundreds of the enemy were shot down. Thereafter until 6 a.m. the enemy confined themselves to artillery fire, and desisted altogether at 8 a.m. The English losses were comparatively small, it is said.

(From the Captain of the "Akitsushima).

Chefoo, July 14.

The Chinese traders from the south are becoming apprehensive and are likely to close their stores and return south. It is said that the local forces of Shantung are engaged quelling the Boxers.

(From Captain Narita of the "Takao.")

Shanghai, July 16.

Churches have been wrecked, it is reported, and some foreigners killed at I-chang, Hang-chow, and Hang-yang.

(Telegram Received by the Naval Department in Tokyo.)

Chefoo, July 10.

The *Higo* with 26 Japanese refugees and 2 German left Taku on the 9th and proceeded *viâ* Chefoo and Nagasaki to Saseho.

A report from Major Yamashita Chiusa relates the events at Tientsin subsequent to the 6th, but contains nothing different from the facts already reported by Major-General Fukushima. He states, however, that the British had sent for 4.7-inch guns from Taku, and were expected to open fire with them on the 7th, but they only arrived on that day, and their landing and mounting occupied some time. Their position is between the Arsenal and the Military College. One company of the *Kasagi* detachment, which had been with Admiral Seymour, was sent back to Taku on the 7th, but it was decided to keep all the other marines.

[Telegrams Received at the Foreign Office.]

Hankow, July 13.

According to a telegram from Chansha a church of the London Mission together with another church at Hang-chow in Honan have been burned and 3 missionaries murdered.

Shanghai, July 13.

It is learned from a trustworthy source that a messenger reached Chai-nan bringing news from Peking up to the 6th. The two Legations were still holding out. Five officers of Tung's army and many of his men had fallen under the foreigners' fire. The rest of his troops were afraid to go near the Legations. The foreign guards had made a night attack upon Tung's camp, and killed or wounded 100 of his men.

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Another messenger who reached the same place, having left Peking on the 7th, reported that the Chinese troops and the Boxers had almost made up their minds to use artillery against the Legations. They no longer paid any attention to the Imperial Edicts. The Foreign Representatives, the Empress-Dowager, and the Emperor were in a dangerous position.

The *North China Daily News* has a telegram that a disturbance is inevitable in Ningpo.

The Shanghai newspapers say that the insurgents threatened to attack the settlement at Wan-chow and the foreigners all made their escape by sea. Another telegram from the same place confirmed this news. An English gun-boat sent to protect the place met the vessel carrying away the refugees.

There are also rumours of disturbances in Chekiang, but nothing certain is yet known.

Shanghai, July 14.

The French Consul-General denies that there has been any trouble at Ningpo.

Chefoo, July 13.

The situation at Newchwang is becoming daily more precarious. All Japanese steamers have left the harbour and will not enter it again. With the exception of two or three Japanese subjects, all foreigners have left the Settlement. The Customs Taotai has shown great kindness towards foreigners, but he stated that his efforts to prevent the approach of a Chinese force from Mukden had proved unavailing, and he therefore recommended the Consuls to adopt measures of defence. A battalion of Russian troops from Port Arthur has arrived in the neighbourhood and will defend the place. The Chinese from Mukden, 2,000 strong, have reached Tien-chwan-tai. Two thousand men of Sung's army are also also expected from old Newchwang, according to rumour.

Shanghai, July 14.

A telegram in the *N.-C. Daily News* says that a Roman Catholic Church has been burned at Hang-chow, and a French Bishop and three fathers have been killed.

Chefoo, July 10.

A telegram from Chai-nan says that a messenger who reached that place, having left Peking on the 7th, reports that with, the exception of the German Minister, all the members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique were safe and the Boxers were gradually withdrawing.

Chefoo, July 13.

A message from Tientsin sent on the 10th says that, although there is no direct news from the Ministers in Peking, they appear to be supplied with provisions by Jung Lee. The bombarding of the foreign concessions at Tientsin continues, and the damage done to foreign property is very great. Five shells have struck the Japanese Consulate. On the 7th, it was observed that a large force of Boxers and Chinese troops had assembled at the Race Course and in the Western arsenal. On the morning of the 9th at 4 o'clock 2,500 men of the English, American, and Japanese forces, with 400 Russians, went to assist in the attack on the enemy at these places. The fight was hot for 5 hours and the enemy finally retired.

Vice-Admiral Alexieff arrived on the 7th and assumed command of the Russian troops.

Hongkong, July 15.

A hundred and twenty soldiers left Hongkong on the 14th for North China.

Shanghai, July 15.

The rumour prevailing in Shanghai that all the foreigners in Peking have been massacred is quite baseless. It is merely a supposition deduced from news published at Chi-nan-fu on the 13th. There has not been any news from Peking since then.

Paris, July 11.

The French Chamber has voted an additional sum of 1,450,000 francs for the purposes of the war.

Shanghai, July 15.

Li Hung-chang has decided to leave Canton on the 17th for Shanghai.

The apprehensions of disturbance at Ningpo are not likely to be confirmed by events.

Vienna, July 12.

The leading papers here, while regretting that European jealousies should have had the effect of deferring Japan's action, express the hope that, even apart from the question of succouring Peking, Japan will send a large force to China.

CHINA.

Chefoo 11 (Tientsin 6).

The foreign concessions at Tientsin were surrounded by the Chinese and bombarded from the 17th to the 23rd of June, and much damage was done, especially to the French Concession. About one-third of the houses in the Concessions were destroyed by fire. The foreign residents are leaving for Japan or Shanghai to escape the danger. The Japanese residents left on 4th and 5th of June. The investment of the foreign Concessions was broken on one side by the relief force that arrived from Taku on the 23rd of June, and communications by river were restored, but the Concessions are continuously subjected to a cannonade from the forts of the walled city and from that on the river where the enemy are still posted. Great numbers of Chinese troops garrison these forts. The severest cannonade took place on the 6th of July, on which day the English, French and Japanese bombarded the walled city (*vide* Major-General Fukushima's report). All official communications between the Foreign Consuls and the Chinese local authorities has ceased since the 17th of June. There is much scarcity of provisions, and recourse to the assistance of the navy and the army will probably be necessary.

[This telegram is somewhat belated. But its testimony is useful as confirming the fact demonstrated by other incidents, namely, that up to June 17th, the day of the escalade of the Taku Forts by the Allies, the relations between the Foreign and the Chinese officials were still normal, nor had there been any display of hostility on the part of the Chinese military.—Ed. *J.M.*]

Shanghai, July 16.

The *N.-C. Daily News* publishes a telegram from Wu-chang saying that two well-known governors of Hunan and Hupeh have decided to obey Prince Tuan's decrees; that an anti-foreign movement is on foot in these two provinces, and that the Viceroy Chang will probably be unable to restrain these officials. The same paper says that the Governor of Honan has decided to obey Prince Tuan. A missionary paper says that a Roman Catholic Church at Jang-yang in Hunan was wrecked on the 10th of July, and that a church at Nan-yang in Honan was subsequently destroyed. The Roman Catholic Bishop and 12 fathers are in much danger. Further, all the property of the Canada Presbyterian converts in the vicinity of Han-yang was looted on the 8th of July.

[It would appear from the above that the anti-foreign agitation is spreading to Central China. Foreign Office note.]

At the request of the Consuls in Shanghai, the Viceroy Liu has appointed Mr. F. S. Taylor, Statistical Secretary of the Maritime Customs in Shanghai, to be Inspector General of Customs temporarily.

It is said that General Nieh was killed at Pahlitai in the fight on the 9th instant.

According to a report carried to Chi-nan by a messenger who left Peking on the 9th, Li Hung-chang has been appointed Viceroy of Chili in addition to his present post, and the Legations in Peking were still holding out.

Chefoo, July 16.

According to a telegram from Newchwang dated the 13th, a Russian gun-boat and torpedo-boat had arrived from Port Arthur, and the Russian force at Ta-shih-kiau had been increased to 1,000, so that Newchwang feels more secure. But trade has almost ceased.

THE CHINESE CRISIS.

Chefoo, July 16.

Mr. Consul Tei reports from Tientsin under date of the 13th of July that on the 12th he received by messenger a letter sent from Peking by Baron Nishi on the 29th of June.

[The contents of this letter have already been published. The main point is that already, on the 29th of June, Baron Nishi speaks of the Legation Guards being threatened with shortness of ammunition.]

Chefoo, July 17.

The Allies having captured the Chinese fortified positions at Tientsin on July 14th, everything at Tientsin is now secure. The Japanese captured the naval depot.

Shanghai, July 17.

The *North China Daily News* publishes several telegrams from its Tientsin correspondent. One of these says that the Japanese troops deserve the highest praise not only for their fighting qualities but also for their organization. Their transport service is of unparalleled excellence down to the smallest detail, and it includes boats and small steamers for river service. The food of the troops is also provided most carefully. The operations undertaken by them in conjunction with the English, American, and other troops show conspicuous excellence.

Hongkong, July 17.

The transports from Calcutta with Indian troops have arrived here since the 15th. One has already gone north and the others will soon follow.

Chefoo, July 17.

According to a telegram from Mr. Consul Tei in Tientsin, dated the 15th, the allied forces, before dawn on the 13th, attacked the Tientsin walled city, but could not capture it owing to the enemy's well-sustained fire. At 4 a.m. on the 14th, the Japanese took the van, and by a bayonet charge Tientsin was captured. The Tientsin forts were attacked by the Russians and the German on the morning of the 13th, but the attack was not successful. At 11 a.m. on that day, the Japanese assaulted and took the forts.

(This message is somewhat confused.)

The Japanese took 40 guns, and the Russians, 12.

[From the "Asahi Shimbun"]

Shanghai, July 12.

The Royal Welsh Light Infantry head quarters and one company have received orders to proceed with all haste to Taku. They will probably sail on the 14th.

Li Hung-chang is not likely to carry out his plan of visiting Shanghai, as he fears that disturbances might arise in Canton if he left it.

According to a telegram from Chefoo received this morning by a Chinese official, things have become more or less quiet in Peking since the issue of the Imperial Decree

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of June 30th, which was inspired by the Jung-Lu party.

Wang, Governor of Anhui, sent a message to the Viceroy Chan Chi-tung advising an alliance with Russia, but the Viceroy did not approve the idea. (This is taken from a Chinese journal).

A Tientsin telegram to the *N.-C. Daily News*, dated the 6th instant, says that the Russians gained possession of a locomotive by strategem on the evening of the 5th. (This telegram is incomprehensible).

The Chinese in Shanghai say that Tientsin is again invested by 30,000 Chinese troops, and that communications with Taku are likely to be cut off.

Shanghai, July 13.

An imperial decree of June 21 appoints Prince Chung Commander-in-Chief *vice* Prince Sung.

Chefoo, July 13.

On the 9th instant the Chinese broke the water-works at Tientsin and made a general attack on the place.

[This can not possibly be true.—Ed. *J.M.*]

The foreigners from Newchwang have withdrawn to Chefoo.

Chefoo, July 16.

In the attack on the walled city at 3 a.m. on the 14th, the Japanese troops blew up the south gate with gun-cotton and entered. Captain Kojima was the first to enter. At 5.30 a.m. a sergeant of the 5th Company raised the Japanese flag on the citadel. The Japanese had over 250 casualties.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

Hongkong, July 18.

Li Hung-chang left this place to-day for Shanghai in the steamer *Anping*. He has been appointed Viceroy of Chihli, and entrusted with the duty of negotiating with Foreign Powers.

The *N.-C. Daily News* has a telegram saying that a church has been wrecked in Kiangsi and that several Chinese converts were killed.

(From Lieut.-General Yamaguchi, Received at the War Office.)

Chefoo, July 17.

At 7.30 a.m. on the 17th the head-quarters reached Taku safely.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

Berlin, July 18.

The new German Minister and his suite will leave Genoa for Shanghai by a German steamer on the 24th. The Minister will remain in Shanghai for the present.

Tientsin, July 14.

The messenger that brought Baron Nishi's letter states that the Legation guards are collected in the British Legation and in Prince Shu's palace. They are making every effort to economize their ammunition, and unless the enemy approach close they do not fire. They have made several attempts to capture the Chinese guns on the wall, but have been unsuccessful. Tung's troops are vigilantly guarding the south gate of Peking, and Jung Lu's troops are on the north. The eastern and western gates are held by the Imperial Guards, who are in comparatively small force. The native Christians in Prince Shu's palace are building parapets with sand-bags, using for making the bags the silk garments left by the Prince.

Foochow, July 18.

According to intelligence received from a trustworthy source the Vegetarians have risen at Ku-tien and have killed three Christian converts. Fortunately all the foreigners had left. Foochow is not feeling the effects of the disturbance much. The Viceroy of Min-che is about to send troops to Ku-tien. A Government steamer has been sent from Foochow to meet Li Hung-chang.

Soûl, July 18.

According to trustworthy information, the Boxers have advanced to Wi-ju.

[From the "Jiji Shimpo."]

Shanghai, July 13.

The Viceroy Li has ordered Liu, of Formosan fame, to lead an army of 10,000 men northward, but the purpose of the movement is unknown.

All non-combatants have been forbidden to land at Tong-ku or Tientsin.

The Russian troops have taken possession of the railway between Tong-ku and Tientsin.

Since the 7th instant Newchwang has been besieged by Boxers and Chinese troops. The lives of the foreign community are in imminent peril.

The Chinese who had fled from Shanghai to Ningpo are returning to Shanghai, the situation being perilous at Ningpo.

Thirty thousand Russian troops are marching from Manchuria against Peking, according to a declaration made by Vice-Admiral Alexieff.

Three churches in Ningpo have been burned by the insurgents.

Shanghai, July 17.

On the night of the 13th the Japanese troops blew up one of the gates of the walled city of Tientsin, and forced an entry at 1 a.m. on the morning of the 14th. The casualties on the Chinese side were innumerable. A sum of 1¼ million taels in coin was taken in the town. The streets were burned and destroyed. The casualties of the allies were 775, according to the latest investigations.

The Russians at Tien chwan-tai have been driven back upon Newchwang.

While the Russians were building fortifications at Tashih-kiau (17 miles south-east of Yinkow) on Saturday last, they were attacked by the country people and 700 of them were killed.

The *China Gazette* has a telegram from Hongkong dated the 17th July, saying that Li Hung-chang sailed from Canton that day. He is said to be going to Peking. It is uncertain whether the foreign officials in Peking are dead or alive, but Li has been appointed Viceroy of Chihli from the 16th instant, and he will not return to Canton.

(From the "Chiuo.")

Shanghai, July 13.

The six-ship squadron of England, France, and Russia left Taku on the 7th, and on that night and the following day attacked the Shan-hai-Kwan forts and captured them, according to rumour.

Viceroy Liu and Governor Wang were so incensed by the orders sent from Peking to Yuan Shi-kai to attack the Southern Viceroys, that they have determined to set up a government independently of Peking, and conferences in that sense are said to be now in progress.

The Viceroy Chang has decided to add 5,000 men to the force of 3,000 which he is sending north. The arsenal is working day and night to provide equipment.

(From the "Chugai Shogyo.")

Shanghai, July 13.

Jung Lu is doing his best to protect the Foreign Ministers, and to restore peace with Foreign Powers. He has obtained an imperial decree ordering Sung and Nieh to return to Peking with all the troops they can collect.

(From the "Nichi Nichi Shimbun.")

London, July 12.

When Baron Hayashi presented his credentials to the Queen at Windsor, her Majesty said:—"It has given me the greatest satisfaction to learn that the Emperor of Japan has voluntarily sent a military force with all expedition to deal with the crisis in China.

Chemulpho, July 13.

Great numbers of insurgents have made their appearance between Feng-hwang and Taku-shan and are organizing themselves. The state of Antung is also causing much uneasiness.

Chemulpho, July 14.

According to a statement brought by a Chinese vessel which left Chefoo on the 11th, the Russian troops guarding the station at Tientsin called for assistance in the fight on 7th, and a Japanese force, taking their place, drove back the enemy. Since then the Russians have not fought. The Japanese troops have won the confidence of all nationalities at Tientsin.

It seems that a general attack was made by the allies at Tientsin on the 8th.

The insurgents appear to be contemplating an attack upon Port Arthur, in the absence of the main body of the Russian garrison.

The state of affairs at Kiao-chow is very critical. It is said that the German troops will be withdrawn.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

Shanghai, July 18.

The Viceroy Li's son says that his father goes north because he has received an imperial message containing an expression of sincere regret for the mistaken course hitherto pursued by China, and suggesting that ambassadors be sent to the Sovereigns and Chief Magistrates of the Powers for the purpose of restoring permanent peace. But the Viceroy sees very little hope of immediately restoring peace, and will therefore proceed in the first place to Shanghai and there await the replies of the Powers.

It is now stated that Nieh was killed in a fight with Yuan Shih-kai's troops.

The fact that the Consuls have recognized the Viceroy Liu's appointment of Mr. Taylor to be acting Inspector-General of Customs shows that the Powers no longer recognise the Peking Government, and will not be disposed to place any confidence in its nominee, Li Hung-chang.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer		Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert 1	F.	July 20
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 2	M.	July 23
Canada, &c. ...	C. P. R Co.	Em. of China 3	M.	July 23
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Annam 4	W.	July 25
Hongkong	C. P R. Co.	Em. of Japan 5	Th.	July 26
America ...	T K K	Nippon Maru	Su.	July 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M	July 30
Hongkong	P & O Co.	Rosetta	M.	July 30
America	P M Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu.	Aug 7
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th.	Aug. 9
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu.	Aug 14

1 Left Kobe on the 19th inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 18th inst.
3 Left Vancouver on the 10th inst.
4 Left Shanghai on the 19th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line.	Steamer		Date.
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M.	July 23
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W.	July 25
America	O & O Co.	Gaelic	W.	July 25
Canada, &c	C P. R Co.	Em. of Japan	F.	July 27
Hongkong	N D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa.	July 28
Hkongkong	T K K.	Nippon Maru	M	July 30
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W	Aug 1
Hongkong	P M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W.	Aug 8
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa.	Aug 11

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BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, July 14th:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	17,930,058
Amount of convertible notes issued	205,201,969
Government deposits	58,667,741
General deposits	5,903,067
Exchange liability	13,703
Total	317,716,539
CR.	
Discount notes	79,813,815
Foreign discount notes	14,648,023
Loan to Government	22,000,004
General loans	66,530,841
Exchange liability	2,616,495
Government bonds	52,553,560
Property	2,129,736
Bullion and Specie	77,424,066
Total	317,716,539

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	205,561,178
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	72,874,157
Silver	4,000,000
Total	76,874,157
Securities:—	
Government bonds	20,902,422
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	11,552,548
Commercial notes	74,232,049
Total	128,687,019

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	1,399,238
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	179,024
Government deposits	—	1,924,916
General deposits	369,092	—

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 480.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Q R 5	1—B takes Q
2—B to K 3 mate	
	1—B takes B or B to B 2
2—Q to K R 5 mate	
	2 B to B 4
2—Q to Q 2 mate	
	1—P to Kt 4
2—Kt to B 5 mate	
	1—R to Kt 2
2—B takes R mate	
	1—R to B sq., or R takes Kt or B
2—B to Kt 7 mate	
	1—Kt to B 3
2—Kt to B 7 mate	
	1—Kt to B 2
2—Kt takes Kt mate	

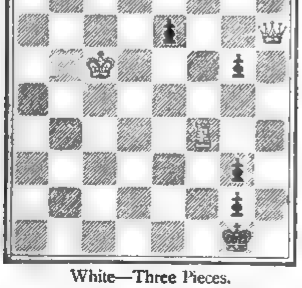
Correct solutions received from "P.A.H." and from "W.H.S."

PROBLEM No. 482.

The following problem is pretty for its utmost simplicity:—

By E. FERBER.

Black—Five Pieces.



White—Three Pieces.

White to play and mates in three moves.

GAMES 604 AND 605.

The following two games are from the Cable Chess Match between England and America.

KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—H. Jacobs. Black—S. W. Bampton.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	13 Castles	B Ksq
2 P KB4	P Q4	14 P B3	R Bsq
3 Kt KB3	PxKP	15 Q Kt3	Kt Rsq
4 KtxP	B K3	16 B K3	Kt Q4
5 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	17 Q R3	B B3
6 Q K2	P B3	18 Kt Kt6ch	PxKt
7 KtxP	KtxKt	19 PxP	BxP
8 QxKt	B K2	20 BxB	P KR3
9 P Q4	Kt Q2	21 BxP	B R5
10 B Q3	Kt B3	22 RxRch	QxR
11 Q K3	Castles	23 B Kt5	Resigns
12 P B5	B Q2		

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—C. J. Newman. Black—W. Ward.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	14 R Bsq	P B4
2 P QB4	P K3	15 PxP	QxP
3 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	16 R Ksq	KR Qsq
4 B Kt5	B K2	17 Q Kt3	Q K2
5 P K3	QKt Q2	18 KR Qsq	QR Bsq
6 Kt B3	Castles	19 RxRch	RxR
7 B Q3	P QKt3	20 R Qsq	RxRch
8 PxP	PxP	21 QxRsq	P KR3
9 Kt K5	B Kt2	22 Q Q4	Q B2
10 P B4	Kt K5	23 P KR3	P R3
11 BxB	QxB	Draw offered by Newman and accepted	
12 BxKt	PxB		
13 Castles	Kt B3		

CHESS NOTES.

In the early fifties, says Mr. Blackburne, the Sicilian was a favourite answer of Black's. Subsequently, when there came into favour the theory of "accumulating minute advantages," the "bogey," or isolated Pawn, was considered a defect, and the opening fell out of favour. Within the past few years, however, a great tendency to revive it has been manifested, and it is freely played by many of the young masters of the day—Janowski, for instance, Maroczy, and even Pillsbury. As far as one can see, its popularity is likely to extend in the future as it presents so excellent a substitute for the duller French Defence, and offers a convenient means of escape from the Ruy Lopez, or indeed any other opening affected by the first player.

The International Chess Tournament, which formed one of the features of the Paris Exposition, was brought to a close on June 20th. Lasker was announced as the winner, while the second prize fell to the young American Pillsbury. The other prizes were awarded in the order following:—Marshall and Maroczy to divide third and fourth; Burn fifth, and Tschigorin sixth. The brilliancy prizes were awarded to Mieses for his game against Janowski and to Tschigorin for his game against Mortimer. The closing score of the tourney follows:—

	Won.	Lost.
Brody	4	12
Burn	11	5
Didier	1	15
Janowski	9	7
Lasker	14½	1½
Marco	10	6
Maroczy	12	4
Marshall	12	4
Mason	4½	11½
Mieses	10	6
Mortimer	2	14
Pillsbury	12½	3½
Rosen	13	13
Schlechter	10	6
Showalter	9	7
Sterling	1	15
Tschigorin	10½	5½

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Savoia, German steamer, 1,622, Müller, 13th July,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 6th July, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Wm. E. Craven, 13th July,—New York via ports, and Shanghai, 8th July, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 14th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 13th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,591, J. Campbell, 14th July,—Otaru via ports, 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swan, 14th July,—Shanghai via ports, 7th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, John Panton, 14th July,—Cape Nome, 4th July, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, C. H.S. Tocque, 15th July,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 14th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Wm. Frakes, 15th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 14th July, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,881, G. W. Long, 15th July,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 14th July, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sirene, German ship, 1,410, B. Souermilch, 15th July,—Hamburg, 21st Feb., Salt.—Otto Reimers & Co.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yasumoto, 15th July—Kobe, 14th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 15th July,—Soya, 11th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, J. Kennedy, 14th July,—Portland, Oregon, 28th June, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Thompson, 16th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 15th July, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 16th July,—Yokkaichi, 15th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Calchas, British steamer, 4,278, Bartlett, 16th July,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 15th July, General, Butterfield & Swire.

Inverness, British steamer, 2,150, Henry Clegg, 16th July,—Portland, Oreg., 27th June, Lumber.—Middleton & Smith.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Fuji, 17th July,—Hakodate, 14th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 18th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 17th July,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shina, 18th July,—Kobe, 16th July, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,881, J. B. MacMillan, 18th July,—Hakodate, 15th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, Thos. Aitken, 18th July,—San Diego, Cal., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Silesia, German steamer, 3,138, S. Behrens, 19th July,—Tsintan, 14th July, Ballast.—C. Illies & Co.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 3,022, J. Grier, 19th July,—Liverpool via ports and 17th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 19th,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 50th June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sirius, German ship, 1,699, N. T. Behring, 19th July, New York, 20th March, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

DEPARTURES.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,364, A. E. Moses, 13th July—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,591, J. Campbell 15th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Queen Adelaide, British steamer, 1,835, F. McNair, 14th July,—Hongkong via ports, General,—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Stuttgart, German steamer, 3,209, P. Grosch, 14th July,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,827, G. Anderson, 14th July,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Eidsvold, Norwegian steamer, 2,296, Schlyder, 14th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Freiburg, German steamer, 3,971, Proesch, 15th July,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 16th July,—Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Wm. Frakes, 17th July,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Wilhelmina, Dutch steamer, 2,793 J. de Vries, 17th July,—Vladivostock, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Savoia, German steamer, 1,622, Müller, 17th July,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 17th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General,—P. M. S.S. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 17th July,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 17th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 18th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,871, J. Kennedy, 18th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 18th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Thompson, 19th July,—Victoria, B.C., and Portland, Oreg., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, Thos. Aitken, 19th July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tokomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Fuj, 19th July,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Churchill, Rev. and Mrs. Stanford, Mr. Beatty, Mr. and Mrs. Bock, Mr. Gomman, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard, Miss Averill, Rev. and Mrs. Greene, Mrs. Christiansen, Mr. Lundholm, Mrs. Deuchey and child, and Miss R. Fujiwara, in cabin. Mr. E. Leward, Mr. T. Shirai, Mrs. M. Matsuyama, and Mr. S. Narukami, in second class; 51 Japanese and 7 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Amerian steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. H. Potts, Mr. Holt, Mr. Woodcock, Mr. W. W. Campbell, wife, and 2 children, Miss C. E. Johnstone, Miss Duryee, Mr. J. Hermann, Mr. Showler, Miss Barnes, Miss Clarke, Mr. Aug. Ehlers, wife, 2 children, and nurse, Mr. McGregor Grant, Misses Drew (3), Master Drew, Mr. S. A. Verboek, and Mr. A. H. Wilzer and servant, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. W. G. Hammon, U.S.N., Mr. Leong Sho Tong, Dr. H. Ackermann, Mrs. M. A. McGinnis, Mrs. A. J. Gilmour Mr. F. M. Bechtel, Mr. Geo. Michie, Mr. R. H Bent, wife and infant, Miss Bent, Mr. J. Y. McGinnis and wife, Mr. J. H. Merriam, Rev. E. R. Fulkerson, and Dr. G. P. Smith, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Otani, Mr. Naiyo, Mr Maida, Mr. Hioko, Mr. Okuki, Mr. Takashima, Mr. Sugiaki, Mr. Kaida Mr. Ishiwaki, Mr. Matsumi, Mr. Osae, Mr. Yamamoto, Mr. Shimatanma, Mr. Nakarigo, Mr. Nineva, Mr. Osaki, Mr. Naismith, Mr. Haines, Mrs. M. Godfrey, Mr. Yamamoto, Mr. and Mrs. Cheong Fong, Capt. J. J. Cronin, Major Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Lees, Mrs. Rehling, Mrs. Waite, Mr. and Mrs. Bawer and 2 children, Mr. K. Ota, Mr. A. Berrington, Mrs. Jones and child, and Mr. E. Egawa, in cabin; 18 on deck.

Per British steamer *Glenogle*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Graves, Misses Graves (2), Miss Cartwright, Miss Cooper, Mrs. Pott, 3 children and amah, Master Pott, Miss Dodson, Miss Richmond, Mrs. Warnock, Mrs. Wodd, Miss Dr. Glenbon, Miss Humphries, Mrs. Hewell, Miss Hewell, Master Hewell, Miss Osgood, Miss McCook, Mrs. Risley, and Miss Ogdin, in cabin. For Tacoma:—Mrs. Hines, child and amah, Mrs. Forbes, Dr. Barrow, Miss Barrow, Mr. King, and Mr. Carrinton, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss M. J. Barrows and amah, Mr. Sahaf Bashi, Mrs. Sahaf Bashi, Mrs. H. R. Bowie, Mr. S. W. Cowles, Mr. D. W. Benthholdt, Mrs. D. W. Benthholdt, Mr. S. P. Greenstone, Mrs. S. P. Greenstone, Miss M. S. Hampton, Miss Hoji, Mr. Y. Yokokawa, Mr. C. W. Judson, Mr. C. H. Junker, Miss Grace W. Learned, Mr. Walter Magee, Mrs. Walter Magee, Mr. Victor Marsh, and Mr. Y. Kumamoto, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. M. O. Anderson, and Mr. Y. Sasaki, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mrs. W. B. Gillingham, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. C. Ludolf, and Mr. C. H. Miller, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. A. F. Brown, Mr. John Carroll and native servant, Mr. C. A. Davis, Capt. J. G. Green, Mr. H. F. B. Harris, Mr. F. A. Hesler, Mr. V. S. Jackson, Mr. H. N. Mickle, Mr. G. W. Van Brunt, and Mrs. F. H. Willis, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, for Sydney via ports:—Gen. and Mrs. J. H. Smith, Mrs. Whitworth, Mrs. Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. Clapperton, Mrs. H. C. Hale, Mrs. Cooper and child, Mr. W. P. Hood, Mr. H. Winch, Miss Craik, Miss Vindin, Miss Lowell, Mr. H. Hashiguchi, and Mr. L. R. Cureton, in cabin; Mr. J. H. Lynch, Mr. G. Madison, Mr. E. R. Russell, Mr. J. McKenna, Mr. J. Mc. B. Hunter, Mr. A. E. Weckstrom, Mr. and Mrs. Ishikawa, Mr. M. Sasaoka, Mr. Y. Oshima, Mr. T. Ishikame, Mr. S. Ishikame, Mr. and Mrs. Sameshima, Mrs. Yoshi Morikawa, Mrs. Uta Morikawa, Mrs. Taka Morikawa, Master S. Morikawa, Mr. Shioda, Mr. G. Kotaka, and Mr. C. Yamazaki, in second class, 67 in steerage.

Per German steamer *Stuttgart*, for Bremen via ports:—Mr. Levy, Mr. C. Olsen, Mr. W. Grautoff, Mr. F. H. de Bergny, Mr. Geo. Watt, Mr R. Lyons, Mr. Ch. W Ure, Mr. O. H Hahn, Mr. R. E. Abenheim, Mrs. and Miss Perkins. Mr. R A. Dowen, Mr. J. Seymour, Mr. and Mrs. Sievertsen, Mr. H. Keswick, Mr. L. Leinss, Mr. Alf. de Wittenberski, 25 German Naval Officers, Mr. L. Goetschell, Mr. E. Barfoot, Mr. John McDonald, Mr. A. Martin, and 34 German Marines, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hitachi Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. T. Kashumura, Mr. Frank S. Colman, Mr. K. Kishida, Mr. S. Katoh, Mrs. Blanes, Mr. S. Okuda, and Mr. K. Fujiye, in cabin; Mr. G. H. Crabtree, Mr. W. D. Carolis, Mr. K. M. Sarsappu, Mr. B. Simon, Mr. N. Toda, Mr. J. Shiraki, Mr. B. Nagasugi, Mr. Y. Yamanaka, Mr. K. Fujihuro, Mr T. Ogawa, Mr. T. Takenouchi, Mr. M. Otani, Mr. O. Kobayashi, Mr. T. Tanaka, Mr. H. Tsuyuki, Mr. M. Watanabe, and Mr. Y. Arai, in second class.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Dr. A. Ackermann, Mr. F. M. Bechtel, Mr. R. H. Bent, Mrs. R. H. Bent, and 2 children, Mr. A. Flegeltaub, Rev. F. R. Fulkerson, Mr. J. W. Gibbeson, Lt.-Com. W. G. Hannnm, U.S.N., Mrs. F. von Massow and servant, Mr. J. H. Merriam, Mr. Arthur R. Morris, Mrs. M. A. McGinnis, Mrs. J. I. McGinnis, Mrs. J. I. McGinnis, Mr. San Teh Moo, Imperia. Korean Chargé d'Affaires to Washington, D.C., Mr Hong Chong Moo, Mr. R. L. Scott, Dr. G. P. Smith, Mr. Theodor Stern, Mrs. Theodor Stern, Mr. Wm. Theodor, Mr. Leong Sho Tong, Prince Fui Wha, Mrs. John Warner, Miss Warner, and Mrs. Wilkinson, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Rear-Admiral K. Kimotsuki, I.J.N., Mr. R. Hara, Mr. T. Takase, Mr. A. T. Hellyer, and Mrs. Ito Kushibiki, in cabin; Mr. T. Nakano, Mr. Y. Nakano, Mr. Y. Misato, Mr. F. Kubota, Mr. H. Yoshioka, Mr. G. Kawara, Mr. B. Hayashi, Mr. J. Hasegawa, and Mr. N. Arita, in second class; 53 Japanese, and 37 Chinese, in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Glenogle*, for Tacoma, Wash.:

TEA.

	Canada	Chicago & West	New York & East	Pacific Coast		Total Packages.
Amoy	-	—	5,140	—	-	5,140
Shanghai ...	200	2,959	—	831	—	3,990
Kobe	781	3,902	3,892	—	—	8,575
Yokohama ...	1,758	3,244	3,649	-	-	8,651
Total ...	2,739	10,105	12,681	831		26,356

SILK.

	New York.
Hongkong	217
Shanghai	12
Yokohama	250
Total	479

Per British steamer *Argyll*, for Portland, Ore.:—

TEA.

	Chicago and West.	New York and East	Pacific Coast	Total Packages
Colombo	—	—	180	180
Kobe.	1,125	856	—	1,981
Yokohama ...	3,137	1,317	1,259	5,713
Total.....	4,262	2,173	1,439	7,874

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Stuttgart*:

	RAW. France.		Italy.		WASTE. France.	
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	16	—	—	—	—	—
Herbert Dent & Co.	—	—	13	—	—	—
Siber, Wolff & Co.	—	—	—	—	34	—

Totals—29 bales, Raw Silk; 34 bales, Waste Silk.

Following were silk shippers per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco, July 17:—

	Bales.
Herbert Dent & Co.	85
Bavier & Co.	60
Averill & Co.	45
Otto Reimers & Co.	36
Ulysse Pila & Co.	20
Doshin Kaisha	24
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	13
Total	283

Per N. P. steamer *Glenogle*:—

	Bales.
Otto Reimers & Co.	20
Kinto Gomei Shokai	230
Total	250

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The cotton market is quite dormant. Manchester advices report lower prices for gassed and higher for American doubles. This, however, has had no effect on the market in Japan. There has been a trifling enquiry for shirtings, but no real movement. Fancy woollens and cottons show very little improvement.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.30 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	2.80 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.21 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.20 to 11.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ...	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Nominal
Nos 28, 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	$170.00 to 175.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	170.00 to 190.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	270.00 to 275.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	335.00 to 345.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	440.00 to 450.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	340.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	400.00 to 415.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	520.00 to 530.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	23 *yen*
Indian Broach	22
Chinese	22.50

METALS.

The market continues in a state of depression.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward ...	6.00 to 6.50
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 7.00
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.50 to 14.00
Wire Nails, assorted	8.00 to 8.50
Tin Plates, per box	8.20 to 8.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1½ inch)	7.00 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

The market is somewhat firmer and prices show a tendency to advance.

American	$2.77
Russian	2.67
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

The principal business has been in refined, for which prices are lower.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.00 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.40 to 6.70
Brown Daitong	3.90 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 6.90
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 8.50
White Refined	7.80 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Sellers, growing anxious, have reduced quotations; and exporters are buying moderately as the market declines. Money tight among the native bankers and merchants apparently causes the pressure to sell just now. Middlemen complain that they cannot replace present sales up-country without loss.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	
Filatures—Extra, Coarse...	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	$1,010 Nominal
Filatures—No 1, Coarse...	940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine...	960 to 970
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	930 to 940
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse...	900 to 910
Common—Coarse	
Re reels—Extra	
Re-reels—No. 1	920 to 930
Re-reels—No. 1½	900 to 910
Re reels—No. 2	870 to 880
Re-reels—No 3	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	930 to 940

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Kakedas—No. 1½	900 to 910
Kakedas—No. 2	870 to 880
Kakedas—No. 2½	

WASTE SILK.

No business as yet. Some low offers have been made for new fibre; which, so far, sellers are unwilling to accept.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Filatures, Good...	
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium...	
Noshi—Shunshiu, Best	
Noshi—Shunshiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Nushi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best...	
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	

TEA.

There is no new feature in the market. The demand is fairly brisk, and prices are about the same as last quoted.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	43 & upwards
Choice	32 to 33
Finest	30 to 31
Fine	28 to 29
Good Medium...	26 to 27
Medium	24 to 25
Good Common	22 to 23
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, July 19.

No change in silver from London, and local rates all firm at yesterday's quotations.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0 $^{15}/_{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 $^{5}/_{8}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 $^{7}/_{8}$
— — 6 months' sight	2/0 $^{15}/_{16}$
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight.....	255
— Private 4 months' sight.....	261
— — 6 months' sight ...	262½
America—Bank sight	49 $^{3}/_{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight	50¼@
Germany—Bank sight.....	207
— Private 4 months' sight.....	213
Hongkong Bank sight	*1½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight...	*3½% dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight.....	* 72½
— Private 10 days' sight ...	* 74
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	153½
Bar Silver (London) 4th.....	28¼

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, July 19.

Breweries are steady at *yen* 150. Offers of Grand Hotels are wanted. Engine and Iron Works, the market is quiet: *yen* 220 nominal. Club Hotels—A few shares could possibly be placed at *yen* 80. Oriental Hotels—Offers for old shares are wanted. Langfeldts—Offers for shares are wanted. Helms are obtainable at par. Laundries have sellers at par.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108.

Yebisu Breweries—*Yen* 15 paid up are obtainable at *yen* 43. Offers for Hodogaya Breweries are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50.....	220 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100.	80 N
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12 50	500 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100.....	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 B.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	100 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50.....	50 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	110 St.
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100. .	108 Sa.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.....	101 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	108 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.....	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.
Oriental Hotel, preference shares, ¥25	40 N.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, July 19.

Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 240 cum dividend. Bretts have buyers at *yen* 9.25. Offers are wanted for Oriental Hotel shares. Helms are obtainable at par. Langfeldts have sellers at *yen* 100. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 220. Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	220 Sellers.
Grand Hotel	240 Buyers.
Club Hotel.....	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.....	100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	155 Sales.

RICE MARKET.

Fukagawa Godowns, Tokyo, July 18.

The market was steady.

Sold, Japanese rice 4,588 hyo; arrived, Japanese, 9,651 hyo; in stock, Japanese, 582,070.

Retail per *Yen*—First quality 5 sho 3 go; second, 5 sho 6 go; third, 5 sho 9 go; fourth, 6 sho 4 go; fifth, 6 sho 9 go.

FOR RED ROUGH HANDS ITCHING BURNING PALMS

FOR PAINFUL FINGER ENDS

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Bathe the affected parts with HOT WATER and CUTICURA SOAP, to remove the crusts and scales, and soften the inflamed, cracked, bleeding, or thickened cuticle. Next apply CUTICURA Ointment, the great skin cure and purest of emollients, to allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal. Lastly, take a full dose of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool and cleanse the blood, and expel HUMOUR GERMS.

This single treatment affords instant relief, permits rest and sleep and points to a speedy, permanent, and economical cure of the most torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, and scaly skin and scalp humours, rashes, and irritations, with loss of hair, when all other remedies and even the best physicians fail.

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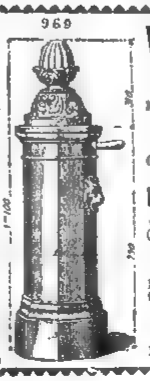

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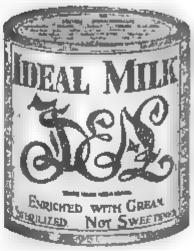

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 28TH, 1900.

BIRTH.

On the 24th inst., the wife of F. W. HILL, of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A SLIGHT eruption of Asama-yama took place on the 21st inst.

THE war continues in South Africa, the Boers carrying on guerrilla tactics.

THE *Ikai Maru* arrived at Ujina on the 19th inst., with 33 wounded men.

THERE have been several big fires in Yokohama during the past week, involving heavy losses.

A CARPENTER'S workshop at Ota, Yokohama, was destroyed by fire during the early hours of Monday morning.

SOME 436 American cavalrymen and 134 horses from Manila left Nagasaki for Taku in a transport on the 24th inst.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Nagato Maru* arrived at Nagasaki on the 23rd inst. with 83 refugees from Shanghai.

THE Yokohama Court of First Instance has acquitted M. Paul Sarda and Madame Franco.s of the charge of adultery laid against them by the latter's husband, holding that the evidence adduced was insufficient.

THE P. & O. steamer *Japan* arrived at Nagasaki on the 23rd inst. with 359 passengers from Hongkong. Some were refugees.

TRAFFIC on the Kiushu railway between Okusa and Hiki, which was interrupted by rain a few days ago, was reopened from the 25th inst.

A JAPANESE *banto* in the employ of Messrs. Tsuka & Co., Yokohama, has been charged in the local Court with misappropriating *yen* 500 belonging to the firm.

THE French warship *Vaubau* arrived at Nagasaki on the 23rd inst. with 40 Russian soldiers on board. Seventeen wounded men entered the Russian Hospital at Inasa.

DYSENTERY returns for Kanagawa Prefecture from the beginning of the outbreak this season are 439 cases, and 58 deaths. There are now 260 persons receiving medical treatment.

FOR the moment matters are quiet in China. The ancient empire has appealed to Germany, France, Japan and America for mediation.

GOLD dust has been found in the Arakawa, Tochigi Prefecture, for a distance of about 10 *ri*, the yield per day for one man being, 1 *momme* 3 *fun* to 1 *momme* 8 *fun*; 1 *momme*—58 grains troy.

IT is reported that Messrs. Becker & Co. have been commissioned to engage 3,000 army coolies to proceed to China on nine German vessels of war expected to arrive at Taku on or about 20th August.

THE Yokohama Water Works have again issued a notification to the effect that, owing to the lowering of the water in the reservoirs, the supply will be cut off until further notice between the hours of 7 p.m. and 5 a.m.

AT 2 a.m. on Saturday, at a coolie's house at Ota, a baby only two years old was burnt to death while asleep owing to the dropping of a lamp which exploded, the flames spreading over the bed where the baby was lying.

A BOILER exploded at a rice cleaning factory at Terasho-mura, Koga District, Shiga Prefecture, on the 24th inst. The engine room and chimney were shattered; 43 houses were destroyed on neighbouring farms and several men injured.

DR. CONAN DOYLE, writing in the *British Medical Journal*, says he thinks there were 10,000 to 12,000 cases of enteric fever in South Africa at one time. Six hundred patients died at Bloemfontein in one month. Dr. Doyle declares that the physicians did all they could.

THE sale by auction of the hull and engines of the Russian steamer *Ussuri*, lying stranded on Ikutsukishima, Hirado, took place in Nagasaki, on Saturday morning. There was a large company of foreigners and Japanese present, and the hull and engines were eventually knocked down to Messrs. Matsuoya & Co. for *yen* 15,000.

MR. O. HAYNEMANN, representative of Messrs. Carl Rohde & Co. No. 70, Yokohama, who was charged with infringement of the Trade-mark Regulations, in which connection one of the godowns belonging to the firm was subjected to a domiciliary search, was found not guilty and acquitted on Friday by the preliminary Judge.

REMARKABLE accounts have been published of the prosperity of the British shipbuilding yards, especially in the Sunderland districts. There, it appears, the riveters and mechanics make as much as £25 per week. With such extraordinary wages has come remarkable extravagance. Labourers' wives can be seen in fine silks and satins, while to homes where a little time ago a pot of beer was a luxury are now brought hot-house fruits and costly flowers.

THE "Shell" Transport & Trading Co.'s steamer *Strombus*, which sailed from Singapore on the 11th inst. for Yokohama direct, with a full cargo of 7,500 tons of kerosene oil in bulk, arrived on the 23rd idem, making the whole voyage in under 12 days. The steamer used liquid fuel and steamed under two boilers only.

THE Governor of Shimane Prefecture reported to the Home Department on the 18th that the flood damages in the district on the 14th were as follows:—Houses inundated above the floor, 388; inundated below the floor, 1,050; washed away, 11; damaged, 38; banks broken 117, or 5,960ft.; roads damaged 124, or 8,253ft.; bridges washed away, 83; damaged, 21; landslips, 79; men killed, 3.

A JAPANESE junk, the *Torao Maru*, belonging to Usui Yaichi, Uraga, left Tokyo on the 20th, and about 12.30 a.m. on the 21st, near Futtsu forts, came in collision with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe. The junk was capsized and three of the crew were drowned. The others were rescued by fishing boats. The damaged junk was towed to Uraga by a steam launch.

A RAILWAY accident took place early on the morning of the 22nd inst. on the Nippon Railway. The train leaving Uyeno at 5 p.m. on the 21st inst. for Awomori was near Iwanuma station, Rikuzen province, when the engine, some goods trucks, and passengers cars capsized. Thirteen passengers were injured, and some goods damaged. The cause was a pointsman's error. The train was delayed about three hours.

AT the meeting of the shareholders of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company held on June 13, Sir Thomas Sutherland, G.C.M.G., the Chairman, said that the Company now drew two-thirds of its coal supplies from India, Japan, and Australia. Alluding to the conveyance of troops and war material to the seat of war, he remarked that the mercantile marine of Great Britain might during the same period have transported double the number of troops that were now actually in South Africa.

AN appalling accident occurred at Tacoma on July 4th, when an Edison car, loaded with excursionists, was dashed down sixty feet of embankment over a bridge at the gulch, burying the passengers, among whom were many women and children, under the wreck of the car. The car turned completely over and mangled the unfortunate victims into unrecognizable shapes as the débris crashed down the steep side of the gulch over which the bridge passes. Thirty-five men, women, and children were killed, and eighteen were injured, of these latter fully one-half fatally.

MARUYAMA YASUJI and a *jinrikisha* man have been arrested by the Yokohama police for obtaining money on false pretences. Maruyama, it seems, drew up a petition soliciting subscriptions from charitable foreigners on behalf of refugees from China, to which he fraudulently attached the signature of the Rev. W. T. Austen, the Seamen's Chaplain in this port. Armed with this paper the pair visited the Bluff and for a time worked the scheme for all it was worth. They even induced a Chinaman on the Bund to subscribe a *yen*. Then a foreigner spoilt their little game by warning the police, and the men were arrested at Maruyama's house at Honmoku.

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THE EMPEROR OF CHINA'S APPEAL.

The *Japan Mail* being the only journal in the Far East that has attempted to trace the true sequence of events in China up to the establishment of a state of war, and the only journal that has insisted on the injustice of placing upon China's shoulders the responsibility of commencing belligerent operations, we take it that the *Japan Times* refers to us when, in its last issue, it speaks of "a tendency in some circles to maintain that the bombardment of the Taku forts was mainly responsible for the present difficult situation in China." It would have added to the force of the *Japan Times*' strictures had they been addressed to a quarter less vague than "some circles," for, in the absence of clearer information, we are constrained to think that our Tokyo contemporary has fallen into the familiar controversial device of setting up arguments manufactured by itself in order to make a fine display of knocking them down with its own weapons. Most certainly very few of the assertions that it attributes to "some circles" were ever advanced by us. On the contrary, one of the most important of them was explicitly excluded from our contention. We emphatically stated, more than once, that in considering the order of the allies' procedure up to the moment of the fight at Taku, we were not in any way debating the wisdom or the unwisdom of their action. "It may have been wise or it may have been rash," we wrote in our first article on the subject. "That is not the question at present. We are only considering the matter from the Chinese point of view." Yet, in the face of that most unequivocal disclaimer of any scrutiny into the wisdom of the foreign commanders' action, we find that, in our capacity of "some circles," we are the apparent addressee of nearly half a column of arguments directed to prove that "the allied naval commanders acted with foresight and judgment." When a writer is thus attacked upon grounds which he never dreamed of taking, and which he explicitly disavowed any intention of taking, he feels like the correspondent whose letters were posted in a disused pump. We don't know whether "the allied naval commanders acted with foresight and judgment." We presume that they did. At any rate we are not so recklessly presumptuous as either to endorse or to criticise their action without a distinct acquaintance with the reasons actuating them. What we have said, and what we now repeat, is that the Chinese officers and soldiers in the Taku Forts had no choice but to fight, and that, if they had failed to fight, they would have deserved to be marched out and shot by sentence of a drum-head court-martial. China, in short, did not throw her gauntlet into the face of the world; it was the other way about. For the rest, we assure the *Japan Times* that we are not among the "some circles" who have denied that "the Boxers from the beginning enjoyed the sympathies and approval of those in power at Peking." We have neither affirmed nor denied such a wholesale proposition, and, although our Tokyo contemporary calls it "an established fact proved beyond all possibility of doubt," we are obliged to say that the basis of this extremely confident declaration seems to us very slender. It must be admitted, certainly, that the Peking Government paltered with the insurrection, since although a mob of unhappy fanatics, armed with spears and swords only, could easily have been quelled if the imperial forces had acted against them, they were not quelled, but were suffered to make their way closer and closer to the capital. We want to know, however, whether the imperial troops could have been induced to act against them, and why the Chinese Government did not venture to put the obedience of the troops to such a test. We want to know, too, whether foreign students of Chinese affairs speak rightly or wrongly when they allege that the Boxer movement was directed from the outset against the Manchu dynasty as much as against foreigners, and that the Chinese Government knew it to be so directed. When we are in possession of some accurate information on these points, we may be able to share our Tokyo contemporary's convictions. But at present our frame of mind is by no means one of "cocksureness."

We can not but admire the cock-sureness of the *Japan Times*, albeit the quality is displayed at the expense of courtesy. At one moment our contemporary finds us guilty of "lamentable failure to grasp the real significance of the present anti-foreign outbreak in North-China," and at another deems our arguments "too absurd to require any serious notice." It must be pleasant to feel such confidence in the infallibility of one's own judgment. We notice, however, that the *Japan Times* appears to derive something of its self-assurance from convictions of which it is pleased to claim a monopoly, though they have been avowed over and over again by others. "Nobody," it affirms, "can maintain that any honest endeavour has ever been made by the Peking Government to crush the insurrection." We are not aware that any one has maintained anything of the kind, if by "Peking Government" be understood the men who follow the lead of Prince Twan and General Kang; the men who were certainly in power up to the end of June. But there are people—ourselves among the number—so "absurd" as to think that two parties exist in Peking; that one of them, headed by Twan and Kang, is uncompromisingly anti-foreign; that the other, headed by the Empress-Dowager, the Emperor, Prince Ching, and Jung Lu, is moderate and liberal, and that the despatch lately addressed to the Emperor of Japan emanated from the latter party. Perhaps these hypotheses betray "lamentable failure to grasp the significance" of the situation, but we are not all endowed with the keen insight of the *Japan Times*. We must be guided by our comparatively feeble lights, and they show us that Kang-hsü's despatch may possibly have been intended to indicate the existence of domestic intrigues so crippling as to paralyse his empire's capacity and place it at the mercy of the world now in arms against it. There is, we think, a chance that the Empress-Dowager, the Emperor, Prince Ching, and General Jung Lu would long ago have crushed the Boxer movement had their hands been free to do so, but that now, having recovered some measure of authority, they find it doubly difficult to deal harshly with men who are fighting side by side with the imperial troops against foreign invaders. It may be very "absurd" on our part, but we nevertheless incline to the opinion that the outbreak of warfare between China and Foreign States has added materially to the difficulties of the moderates in Peking, for, whereas the anti-foreign demonstration of the Boxers was rebellion before hostilities openly commenced, it is now patriotism. The officers commanding the allied squadrons at Taku seem to have originally shared our "absurd" views, for they employed every available means of demonstrating that their operations were directed against the Boxers and in support of the Chinese Government, their plain conviction being that, so soon as they become declared enemies of the Peking Government, the latter would be compelled to accept the Boxer's cooperation. We also adhere to the "scarcely less absurd" opinion that his Majesty Kang-hsü did not ask Japan to clasp hands with China in opposition to the Occident. We are so fatuous as to credit his Majesty and his Majesty's advisers with some measure of intelligence, and no statesmen of ordinary intelligence could gravely ask Japan to take up arms against the world. Our "absurd" opinion as to this point is confirmed by a declaration contained in the Imperial Decree of June 29th, where the ruler of China says:—"Even if China should, regardless of her own power and strength, rush into war, was it likely or reasonable that she would of her own accord elect to fight all the Powers at once? Was it probable that, granting such recklessness, she would have relied on a rebel populace to commence a war against all the Powers?" No, we do not think it was probable, though we do think that, so soon as such a war commenced, the Peking Government had no resource but to rely on its rebel population as well as on its regular troops. Therefore our "absurd" idea is that Kang-hsü's recent despatch was an appeal to Japan, not to take up arms against the world, but to use her influence in persuading Foreign Powers to desist from their attacks, and thereafter to assist China in restoring law and order.

It happens not infrequently that one party to a controversy mistakes the other's ground and thus raises an entirely irrelevant issue. But we are bound to say that the determination shown by the *Japan Times* in attributing to this journal a position which we never took, and which we have explicitly disavowed, is quite exceptional. We have asserted, and we repeat, that the course adopted by the Allies at Taku on the 16th of June rendered fighting inevitable, but we have emphatically repudiated, and we continue to repudiate, any intention of discussing the wisdom of that course. "It would be extravagant and unjust," we wrote, "to say that the responsibility of breaking the peace rests with the Chinese. A pistol was held to their head and they sought to disable the holder before he fired. That is the story." "No," retorts the *Japan Times*, "that is not the story! The story is that *the party who held the pistol has been forced to do so by reason of the imminent and frightful danger to which his relatives were exposed inside the house and he wanted to rush through the door to their rescue.*" Does the *Japan Times* really fail to see that the words we have here italicized embody precisely the issue which we definitely excluded from our original analysis? Can it not apprehend the difference, the radical difference, between the reason for holding the pistol and the fact that it was held? The Allies may have been justified in the step they took. It may have been the only wise step under the circumstances. But, having a very indistinct knowledge of the circumstances, we can not pronounce an intelligent opinion on the justice or wisdom of the step. All that we say is that hostilities were commenced by the Allies, and that the responsibility of commencing them rests with the Allies. But we say nothing whatever about the reasons that induced them to take that responsibility, and, if the *Japan Times* chooses to discuss those reasons,

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we must ask it to disabuse its mind of the fancy that we are parties to the discussion.

In another direction, also, our Tokyo contemporary makes an equally curious digression. We wrote:—"We incline to the opinion that the outbreak of warfare between China and Foreign States has added materially to the difficulties in Peking, for, whereas the anti-foreign demonstration of the Boxers was rebellion before hostilities openly commenced, it is now patriotism." By way of reply to that view the *Japan Times* devotes nearly a column to demonstrating that a state of war does not exist between China and the Foreign Powers, since no declaration of war has been made and since China has not withdrawn her Representatives from Foreign Courts. That is special pleading with a vengeance. We do not care a row of pins whether a state of war exists or does not exist according to the strict definitions of international law. It is quite enough for us that the armies and fleets of Foreign Powers are engaged in belligerent operations against ships and troops of China. Warfare is going on, and since the Boxers are now the comrades of the troops in a campaign against a common enemy, the Chinese Government has a new difficulty in directing the troops against the Boxers. Whether war has been formally declared or not, does not affect our contention in the smallest degree, and we never undertook to say that war had been formally declared.

But the *Japan Times* has now ventured upon very dangerous ground, fatally dangerous ground. The main question at issue between us and our contemporary is that we deny that the Chinese Emperor and his advisers intended in his Majesty's recent despatch to ask Japan to join them in taking up arms against the world, whereas the *Japan Times* insists that they had that intention, and characterizes our denial as "absurd." Now our point was that the despatch was probably penned at the suggestion of the moderates in Peking who do not wish for war, and that the Chinese are not so mad as to think of fighting against the whole world even with Japan for ally. Since we expressed that opinion, there has been clear and overwhelming evidence of its correctness. For not only has the Emperor of China issued edicts ridiculing the notion that such a mad idea could have been entertained by him, and distinctly announcing his desire to put down the Boxers, to protect foreigners, and to compensate them for any losses hitherto suffered by them, but he has also addressed to France, to Germany, and to America an appeal for mediation and an avowal of a wish to see peace restored. We should have thought that, in the face of these facts, the *Japan Times* would have frankly admitted the obvious error of the interpretation which it put upon Kwang-hsü's despatch to the Sovereign of Japan, and would have recognised that the despatch was merely a prayer for mediation, just as were the despatches to the Presidents of the French and the American Republics and to the Emperor William. But the *Japan Times* ignores the significance of these important subsequent events and adheres to its original interpretation of the despatch. That is surprising, but not so surprising as our contemporary's failure to see the striking inconsistency between its present and its original positions. For now, in order to show that an officially recognised state of war does not exist—though we never said that it did—the *Japan Times* alleges that the Powers have let it be definitely known that they are fighting "not with the Chinese empire but only with the disturbers of peace and their cô-operators," and then adds:—

> It is in recognition of this fact that the official relations between the agents of the Powers and the Chinese authorities outside the disturbed locality have been kept up without the least interruption, and it is in pursuance of this evidently wise policy that none of the Powers has made a declaration of war. That such is also the view taken by the moderates in Peking is rendered at least probable by the fact that, while possessing means of communication with the outside world, they have not taken any step to recall their diplomatic Representatives in the foreign capitals—a measure which the Peking statesmen must be sufficiently well informed to know to be necessary if they considered that there was war between their Empire and the other Powers. It is thus probable that the moderates in Peking are agreed with the Powers in regarding the present military operations in North China as being only directed against the Boxers and their military associates.

Yet it is these very "moderates" whom the *Japan Times* accuses of inviting Japan to aid them in fighting against the whole world! In one breath it tells its readers that the moderates in Peking recognise that the operations undertaken by the Allies in North China are directed solely against the Boxers and their military associates, and in the next it assures us that these moderates believe themselves to be at war with the whole world and invite Japan to join them in the delirious struggle. When the *Japan Times* considers these things calmly, it will agree, we think, that our views are not so very "absurd" after all. And it will further agree, we think, that the interests of humanity which it professes—doubtless with sincerity—to be anxious to promote, do not suggest the advisability of putting a harsh construction on China's words and acts, and of attributing intentions to her which, if she really entertained them, would militate seriously against the restoration of peace.

THE ATTACK ON TIENTSIN.

The accounts published by correspondents of Japanese journals show that the attack on Tientsin was a very arduous affair. The allied troops—exclusive of the Russians and the Germans, who attacked from another direction—were divided into three bodies for the purpose of the assault, and it was arranged that their advance, though necessarily made by different routes, should be adjusted so that the final attack might be delivered simultaneously. The Japanese, however, for a reason which will presently appear, found themselves ahead of the other columns, and found also that owing to the marshy nature of the ground it was impossible for them to move to the assault in open order, there being only one comparatively narrow road available. Along this road they had to advance in column, a formation which exposed them to heavy losses. The French were on the right wing, the British on the left, and the Americans formed the reserve. In spite of the exposed nature of the ground and the disadvantageous formation it necessitated, the Japanese troops moved resolutely forward until they arrived within about 400 metres of the walled city. It had been already necessary for them to bridge a stream which crossed their route, and they seem to have concluded that the enemy would have taken the precaution of destroying the bridge over the moat also, and that a temporary bridge would have to be thrown across by the engineers. The latter operation was virtually impossible during daylight, as the enemy were keeping up a hot fire from within the city. No resource offered, therefore, except to hold the ground already gained until nightfall, and in the meanwhile send back for materials to construct a bridge. That was done. It involved heavy casualties, for the Japanese troops found little cover, and during the hours of daylight that remained were exposed to a constant fusillade from the enemy. If the latter had been expert marksmen, the Japanese must have fallen back. Before daylight the engineers advanced to the edge of the moat to construct a bridge, but it was then found that the permanent bridge stood intact. A party of engineers dashed over, and, placing 25 kilograms of gun-cotton against the gate, blew it up with an explosion which was taken by the troops as the signal for assault. They charged through the gate only to find, however, that their progress was barred by another similar gate immediately beyond the first, the gates of Tientsin being constructed double after the "box-plan" formerly used in Japan also. This second obstacle caused some confusion, for a crowd of men, packed between the two gates, were exposed to rifle fire and showers of tiles from the Chinese, while the troops in the rear kept pushing forward with greater vigour the more resistance they encountered. It is not quite clear how the inner side of the second gate was reached, that is to say, whether the walls were scaled without extraneous aid or whether ladders were employed. At all events a sergeant, Fujii, belonging to Capt. Kojina's company, managed to get over the parapet and cut the bar of the gate. Thereafter the operations were simple. The troops charged in, and very soon the Japanese flag was waving over the citadel. Sergeant Fujii was assisted by two soldiers, Masuda, and another. The latter was killed and his name is not given. The three men are said to have effected an entry through the guard tower beside the gate, and to have charged into the mob of Chinese assembled within. The Chinese, probably mistaking the dimensions of the assaulting party, broke and fled, and Fujii and Masuda then turned and cut the bar of the gate. The Japanese, on entering, divided into three parties, one advancing straight up the main street, and two turning to the right and left along the walls. The French troops forming the right wing appear to have been nearly as far forward as the Japanese, but it would seem that the flank columns, namely the French and English, reached the moat at points where no bridges existed, and were consequently delayed. The Russians and Germans attacked from another quarter. The Americans, having been placed in the reserve column, were naturally the last to arrive, but they immediately assumed the duty of pursuing the fugitive Chinese, many of whom they cut off or killed. The Americans captured 200 cargo-boats and 2 small steamers. It was agreed that these craft should be employed by the Americans and the Japanese on the march to Peking. The casualties on the Japanese side were about 240 wounded and 60 killed. It is feared that many of the wounded, having been exposed to a fierce sun and having remained for hours without water, will not recover. Seven officers were killed and 8 wounded.

A DISCOVERY OF GOLD.

It is reported that a discovery of gold dust has been made on the Ara-kawa in Tochigi Prefecture. The auriferous region is said to extend 25 miles from the base of Takahara-yama to Mukaita in Nasu-gori. Application has been made for a mining concession. The returns obtained by a few days' washing are said to have been most promising.

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LI HUNG-CHANG.

Saturday, July 21.

Viceroy Li, when passing through Hongkong on the 17th instant, is said to have had an interview with the Governor, Sir Henry Blake, in which he declared that he had telegraphic advices from Peking up to the 8th instant, and that the Foreign Representatives were then safe. The Governor urged him not to leave Canton, but he replied that he had no choice but to obey the imperial command, and that he felt quite easy about the state of affairs during his absence from the south, being assured that Canton would remain tranquil. We may perhaps point out, though the fact must be obvious to our readers, that nothing could be more improbable than a deliberate deception on the Viceroy's part in the matter of Peking conditions. Li is much too astute a statesman to approach the discharge of his arduous new duties handicapped by the discredit of a deliberate act of deceit. Unquestionably he believed that the Foreign Ministers were safe on the 8th or he would not have said so. Moreover, his assertion has been confirmed by a telegram from the Viceroy Chau Chih-tung to Shêng and the Taotai of Shanghai, and the Viceroy's news relates to the state of affairs in Peking up to the 11th.

A Canton rumour has it that Kang Yi has been appointed Viceroy of the two Kuang in succession to Li Hung-chang. Kang Yi is the head and front of the anti-foreign party in Peking. It is he who, in conjunction with Prince Twan, has been instigating all the conservative doings of the *Tsung-li Yamên*. If he is really to proceed southward, it may mean that his influence in Peking is practically at an end, and that by way of compromise for his removal from the entourage of the Throne, he is to have one of the most valuable provincial posts in the empire. But it is very difficult to credit such an event. If it be worthy of credence, then the question will arise, is Kang sent south in order to repeat at Canton the role he has been playing in Peking, or is it hoped that the atmosphere of the two Kuang provinces will cure his conservatism? We are not disposed to place implicit faith in this story.

Monday, July 23.

Strange rumours are circulated in Shanghai about Viceroy Li's coming. For many years the *N.-C. Daily News* has been implacably opposed to the old statesman and has written about him in terms of the most uncomplimentary nature, not hesitating even to accuse him of having sold his country. We do not as yet know how far the rumours telegraphed to Tokyo may have emanated from the columns of our contemporary, but their purport is to represent Li as animated by exceedingly tortuous motives. It is alleged, in the first place, that Li intends to negotiate independently with the Foreign Representatives, an obvious impossibility, for unless he is duly accredited by the Chinese Government and can show that he is so accredited, foreign States will have nothing to do with him. It is further declared that, unless very resolute steps are taken with regard to him, he will put into execution a "surreptitious programme," but of course at this point the accusers take refuge in vagueness. They also add that Li wants to meet Mr. Detring, as though it were a sin that he should hold conference with a man who served him in a confidential capacity for many years. We can not decipher whether the intention is to charge Li with playing a big game for his own hand, or whether it is merely desired to suggest that he will turn to Russia for aid in his country's difficulties, as he did in 1895. At all events, Li is not a *persona grata* with Englishmen. We happen to know, as a matter of fact, that in 1885 the bourne of his ambition was to effect an alliance between China and Great Britain for the purpose of checking Russia's advance in Central Asia But in such matters England never holds out her hand unless she finds herself in the presence of accomplished facts, and in the end Li was driven into Russia's arms. When we look at Russia's position to-day and compare it with her position in 1885, we are bound to confess that England's reluctance has not conduced to British interests and that Li's confidence has not inured to Chinese advantage. Be that as it may, however, no one can wonder that Englishmen should expect Li to look for a *deus ex machinâ* in Russia at this juncture, and should show a corresponding distrust of his diplomatic intentions.

With reference to the above, the *Jiji Shimpo's* Shangai correspondent telegraphs that the China Association's Shanghai Branch wired to the Hongkong Branch urging that, in view of the state of affairs in Peking, none of the usual honours should be shown to the Viceroy when he landed in Hongkong. The cable did not arrive in time to effect anything, as Li had already received his salute of 17 guns and been escorted by a guard of honour to Government Home.

The same authority alleges that the Foreign Consuls (with the exception of the Japanese) were not likely to meet Li when he arrived in Shanghai, and that he will be carried to Taku by a British man-of-war, and there handed over to the commanders of the foreign squadrons, apparently as a hostage for the safety of the Peking community. It is impossible to believe that any such intention exists. It would effectually alienate the sympathies of the southern Viceroys, who have been hitherto acting in loyal cooperation with the Foreign Powers. Moreover, it would be futile. Hostages are worthless devices in this nineteenth century, since the idea of vicarious punishment can not be seriously entertained by any civilized Government.

Tuesday, July 24.

The foreign Cousuls have been as good as their word in Shanghai. They have taken no notice whatever of the coming of Li Hung chang. So, at least, the telegrams say. He was visited by Mr. Odagiri, the Japanese Consul, only. It now appears that the escort of 2,000 Chinese troops, spoken of in the early telegrams, was a myth. The Viceroy's guard consisted, in the first place, of 100 constables from the mixed settlement. He is said to have informed a Chinese visitor that if only the Boxers were quelled, there would be no difficulty in coming to terms with Foreign Powers. Rumour says that, in addition to telegraphing to Peking, he telegraphed on the 21st to Japan. The Shanghai folks are represented as saying that it is a matter of indifference whether the Viceroy has the commission of the Empress Dowager or has not. In fact it is plain that Li Hung-chang is regarded with the greatest distrust and dislike by the foreign community of Shanghai, and that if he finds a similar mood on the part of those with whom he expects to negotiate, his chances of success are very small. The *Chugai Shogyo's* telegrams add that it is very uncertain whether Li has any commission from Peking, and that the prosecution of his journey north will be deferred until he has held several consultations with Shêng. Meanwhile the Foreign Consuls are said to be awaiting instructions from home as to whether they shall assent to or dissent from Li's northward expedition, but truly we fail to see what the Consuls have to do with the matter. The *Asahi Shimbun's* correspondent declares that not a single respectable foreigner has called on Li in Shanghai, and that, on the whole, he has been treated like a prominent criminal. In the *Jiji Shimpo's* telegrams we find it stated that the Taotai of Shanghai issued invitations to the Foreign Consuls to attend a celebration in connexion with the Emperor's birthday and to meet Li Hung-chang, but the Consuls, one and all, made some excuse.

Friday, July 27.

It is stated by the *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent that the French Consul at that place asked Li Hung-chang to forward a telegram to M. Pichon, the French Representative in Peking. Li readily accepted the commission and promised that an answer should be obtained within five days. Shanghai is represented as being utterly sceptical about the truth of the Chinese official's statements with regard to the foreign community in Peking. It is natural that Shanghai should be sceptical since, being the great manufactory of false rumours in the Far East, the settlement has taught itself the rashness of believing anything. But even though the Chinese were as great liars as the Boers—which is the highest standard yet reached by any community of human beings—they could not fail to see the wastefulness and danger of deliberately deceiving the world in this matter. If it turns out—which we do not for one instant expect—that the Emperor of China was addressing to Japan expressions of regret for the murder of Mr. Sugiyama and to the Emperor of Germany apologies for the murder of Baron von Ketteler, and to the Presidents of France and the United States requests for mediation, while the corpses of a thousand assassinated foreigners, including those of all the Foreign Representatives, were lying in his capital, then indeed the Manchu dynasty would have to be wiped out mercilessly, and the Manchus know it. It is to us quite remarkable that such scepticism should exist among foreigners. Since the 1st of July we have never doubted that no massacre had taken place in Peking.

THE VOLCANIC ERUPTION AT IWO-ZAN.

News from Fukushima shows that the craters of the Iwo-zan eruption were the two places where sulphur is collected. These are in the immediate neighbourhood of the refining station, where about 100 persons, men and women, were employed. Only some 20 escaped 60 meeting their death and 20 being wounded. It is supposed that a son of Mr. Shibu sawa Kisaku was among the killed. The place where the eruption occurred is about 25 miles from Aizu. Last November, a premonition of danger was given by a discharge of ashes and sand which fell in some places to a depth of 4 or 5 inches. It is said that, at a distance of nearly 4 miles from the centre of the last disturbance, the fall of ejectamenta measured 2 feet deep.

According to intelligence sent by the Governor of Fukushima the ashes ejected from Iwo-zan reached to a distance of 5 miles and fell to a depth of 5 feet in some places, but caused no special injury to crops. Among 15 persons injured, 5 have died. The body of Mr. Shibusawa has not yet been found. The eruption is still going on.

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THE PEKING SITUATION.

The *China Gazette* persists in circulating rumours of the massacre of the foreign community in Peking. It now alleges that a Chinese servant who made his escape from the city on the 12th instant and fled to Newchwang, reports that on the 12th the Legations were fired, and the foreigners all butchered when attempting to quit the burning building. This intelligence is said to have been brought to Chefoo on the 22nd instant. from Newchwang by the steamer *Tung-chow*, and it is accompanied by an assurance that everyone in Newchwang believes it. If so, Newchwang may be complimented on its credulity. In the first place, he must be an extraordinarily nimble-footed Chinaman who could reach Newchwang from Peking in 8 or 9 days; and in the second, if such a massacre had taken place, it is not from the lips of a solitary fugitive who had been wandering for hundreds of miles, that we should learn it. The *China Gazette* has acted throughout this crisis with extraordinary disregard for public feeling, and has seemed to believe that the first function of a newspaper is to create alarm, excitement, and distress.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that a telegram reached Tokyo on the evening of the 22nd from Chefoo via Shanghai, to the effect that, at a meeting of Chinese Ministers held in Peking on the 17th, it was decided to take immediate steps for the arrest of the murderers of Mr. Sugiyama and the German Minister; to lose no time in providing for the protection of foreigners in connexion with the present troubles; and to order the local officials to investigate the losses suffered by foreigners. This telegram is said to have been sent by Governor Yuan Shih-kai to the Shanghai Taotai.

What everybody must be asking in this context is, has the Chinese Emperor conveyed to the Emperor of Germany any expression of regret for the murder of Baron von Ketteler. If not, we are compelled to assume that the apologetic reference to Mr. Sugiyama in the Peking despatch was merely a bid for Japanese assistance. The Emperor of Japan, in his reply, did not fail to make reference to this point. He alluded to the murder of a foreign Representative in a way that could not fail to show a sense of the incongruity of China's incomplete expressions and contradictory actions.

It is alleged that Mr. Consul Warren addressed a note to Governor Yuan asking how it happened that, if the British Minister was alive, he did not send one word of message to any of Her Majesty's officials in China. Governor Yuan replied that he was unable to give any opinion on that point. The *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent supplements this intelligence by saying that no one in Shanghai believes the statements of the Chinese officials with regard to the state of affairs in Peking. It is certainly obvious that, if those statements be true, some news must be received direct from the Foreign Representatives without delay. On the other hand, if the statements turn out to be false, the Chinese Government and its officials will stand convicted of the most shameless and insolent deception ever practised by any body of public men. Indeed, if the foreign community of Peking has been butchered and if the Chinese Authorities are not only concealing the fact but also deliberately denying it, the strongest partizan of China will find it impossible to advance any plea for her continued recognition as an independent Power. She will have forfeited her title to be ranked with civilized nations. Is it conceivable that she does not appreciate these facts?

Rumour asserts that a letter from Yuen Chang, a member of the *Tsung-li Yamên*, to his son-in-law in Chekiang, says that the Foreign Legations in Peking were safe up to the 9th instant, but that their guards did not seem likely to be able to hold out much longer.

KOREA.

The Korean Government is said to have decided to send a thousand troops from Sōul to Wiju to prevent an irruption of the Boxers. Korean news has very practical interest for Japan at present, since the Sōul Chemulpho Railway is a Japanese property, and its wrecking would be one of the first results of a disturbance.

'Tis an ill wind that blows no good for anyone. The troubles in China are said to have induced the Korean Government to withdraw its long opposition to Mr. Asano's application for mining privileges at Chik-sau. Japan's despatch of a large force to Taku and the distinction her troops have gained, we believe to have influenced the Korean monarch.

Rumour is now busy with the state of Korea. The Boxers are reported to have made an irruption across the northern border and Pyŏng-yang is considerably perturbed. In connexion with this event the Sōul Government is said to have concluded that, unaided, it can not deal with the emergency, and that America should be invited to send troops. On the other hand, the Foreign Representatives in Sōul, with one conspicuous exception, of course, are represented as wanting military assistance from Japan. The grain of truth in all this lies beyond our observation. But concerning the question of American troops, we should imagine that, however much Korea might wish for them, she would not have the smallest chance of getting them

We mentioned in a recent issue that Russia's troubles in Manchuria were much more serious than the general public had been led to suppose. In fact, the Russian Authorities seem to have wisely kept back intelligence which must have caused alarm and might have encouraged the insurgents elsewhere. But there can be no doubt that the railway-building operations in Manchuria have proved a cause of exceptional excitement to the Boxers and that there is much unrest. Russia will crush it without much difficulty, and its result will be merely to tighten her grasp upon the immense region that was virtually added to her empire when she "rented" Liaotung with its Manchurian appurtenance. But in the meanwhile the number of Russian troops available for campaigning in North China is not likely to be very large. Rumour now says that a party of Russian soldiers has been driven across the Korean border near Wiju, having lost the non-commissioned officer in command, and has retreated towards Sōul.

There seems to be a growing opinion in Tokyo that Japan ought to send troops to Korea. It is anticipated that the trouble in Manchuria will certainly be felt in Korea, and that the Powers having the largest interests in the peninsula should make preparations to meet emergencies. The Korean Government is understood to have applied to the United States for troops, but Japan is so circumstanced that she can not abandon her responsibilities to any other Power. Tokyo newspapers justly point to a fact which, strange to say, has only now attracted attention, namely, that Russia is being left a free hand to deal with Manchuria as she pleases. The St. Petersburg Government was very particular in requiring that, if Japan were allowed to send a large force to North China, it must be on the explicit understanding that all her movements would be in strict conformity with those of other Powers. But Russia herself is despatching just what forces she pleases to Manchuria, and no one has asked for any guarantee as to her line of action. Japan has undoubtedly a clear right to know what Russia intends to do in Manchuria, and to be informed as to the objects for which she proposes to employ her troops. If the Japanese Government agrees that Russia should have a free hand in Manchuria, then Russia should have no hesitation in agreeing that Japan should send troops to Korea to provide against a foreign danger. The two empires could then cōoperate, one in the peninsula, the other in Manchuria, and all danger of catastrophes would be averted. It is not suggested that Japan should take any step independently of Russia. The idea is that no objection could reasonably be urged in St. Petersburg to the projected arrangement.

This argument seems to have much importance. There has long been an idea among some Japanese statesmen that a permanent understanding might be arrived at between Japan and Russia on the lines here indicated; namely, that Japan should enjoy in Korea as much liberty of action as Russia exercised in Manchuria. But, as things are going now, Russia will get everything she wants in Manchuria and Japan will get nothing at all in Korea.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

Lieut.-General Terauchi, Vice-Chief of Staff, landed at Taku on the 17th instant and proceeded at once to Tientsin.

There is talk of establishing a direct line of telegraph between Shanghai and Taku, since the Chinese lines can not be depended on any longer.

The Foreign consuls in Shanghai are said to have issued an injunction forbidding the sale of arms to Chinese purchasers without a consular permit, and imposing a heavy fine for any violation of this veto.

A telegram from London says that there has again been a fall in the market price of Japanese securities. The five-per-cent. War Bonds are now quoted at £98 and the new four-per-cent. at £76 10s.

Governor Yuan is represented as saying that the specie captured by the Japanese in Tientsin amounted to 825,000 taels, or 1,230,000 *yen*. Nothing of this has been mentioned in the published despatches of the Japanese commanding officers.

The *Official Gazette* announces the ratification, and exchange of ratifications, of a convention relating to friendship, trade, and settlement between this empire and the Congo Free State.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a telegram to the effect that a Japanese force landed at Shanhai-kwan on the 22nd instant; that the landing was opposed by a large body of

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Chinese, and that a severe fight took place, in which the Chinese were completely routed. The bare facts alone are stated, no details being yet to hand. We can not answer for the truth of the story.

It is stated that the Red Cross Society's hospital ship *Hakuai Maru*, which left Taku on the 17th instant, had on board 162 wounded men, of whom 123 were Japanese and 39 French. There were two officers of each nationality among the wounded.

The Japanese Railway Battalion, which was organized after the war of 1894-5 and which has undergone most successful trials, started for North China on the 21st instant. The battalion was accompanied by a gang of coolies, but we can not give any numerical statement.

A telegram from Newchwang says that there are still 12,000 Russian troops in the Liao-tung Peninsula, and that several additional detachments are guarding the Manchurian Railway. A few days ago the telegraph told us that only 800 Russian troops remained at Port Arthur.

A telegram to the *Asahi* from Vladivostock, dated the 21st, says that the Siberian main line has been wrecked in the neighbourhood of Ning-ku-ton, and that traffic is suspended by Chinese soldiers and Bashi Bazouks. The telegram adds that the casualties suffered by the Russians in this affair are not yet clearly known.

H.I.H. Prince Kanin has naturally abandoned his intention of returning to Japan via Siberia, and will take the American route instead. The Prince left Moscow on the 18th instant, and will probably reach Marseilles on the 28th, leaving that place on the 24th. That will bring him back to Japan at the beginning of September.

A letter sent from Hankow to Nagasaki under date of the 17th, says that according to telegraphic news from Chefoo dated the 16th instant, the Foreign Ministers in Peking were all safe and the conservative party, headed by Tuan and Kang Yi, had lost its influence, the Court inclining to the views of Ching and Jung Lu.

United States troops numbering 42 officers, cavalry troopers 730, infantry 332, marines 221, and details 77, arrived at Nagasaki on the 24th by the S.S. *Grant* from San Francisco, and left for Taku on the 25th. So the telegraph says, at any rate, but we doubt the numbers. It will be observed that the total is over 1,300 men and 730 horses, which would be an extraordinary complement for one steamer.

Very contradictory rumours are published about the advance to Peking, some correspondents saying that it commenced on the 15th instant and others that it will be deferred until the beginning of September. We can not believe that the statement as to the 15th is correct, but it is very likely that a reconnaissance in force was made on that day in the direction of Peking. The allies would not sit idly in Tientsin without taking any steps to prevent the massing of Chinese troops in their immediate vicinity.

Shanghai announces that sixteen thousand highly trained troops which had proceeded north from the neighbourhood of Canton for the purpose, avowedly, of quelling the Boxers, have, on the contrary, joined hands with Tung's forces and have attacked Tientsin. It is added that fears are entertained that the remainder of the Chinese troops will all join the rebels. This story, we may observe, is difficult to reconcile with the reports forwarded to Tokyo by the Japanese commanders at the front. They do not speak of any attempt on the enemy's part against Tientsin; but, on the contrary, represent a state of returning tranquillity.

A great flood is reported from Kumamoto. The two rivers Shira and Tsuboi, which flow through Kumamoto, overflowed owing to the heavy rain of the 15th and 16th coming in the sequel of previous wet weather. The Authorities did everything in their power to restrain the flood, but fully one-third of the town was invaded and many animals and houses were swept away, as well as many lives lost. Details have not yet been obtained. Fortunately a bank downstream on the Shira-kawa gave way, and a rapid subsidence of the flood ensued.

The people on board the *Genkai Maru* allege that at the time (July 14th, 5 p.m.) of the collision with a Russian Volunteer-fleet steamer, supposed to be the *Siberia*, the *Genkai* was not under way, her engines having been stopped on account of a heavy fog. She was also making the necessary signals. The *Siberia*, however, advanced through the fog and did not even resort to the precaution of signalling. Moreover, after the collision she passed on without paying any attention to the *Genkai*. Happily the latter's injury was slight.

The *Chugai Shogyo* publishes a telegram from London saying that no credit is attached to the rumour that Japan, in return for sending troops to China, has been guaranteed a free hand in Korea. English public opinion believes, on the contrary, that Japan is acting in loyal obedience to the interests of humanity. In Germany there is a story that Great Britain, in order to secure Japan's cōoperation, has promised that the latter's interests shall receive special consideration in the final negotiations. But this suspicion is not to be regarded as having the endorsement of German public opinion. On the contrary, German publicists consider that the statement is merely a device to injure the concord of the Powers. In Germany there are signs of a growing resolution that, whatever line may be pursued by other Powers, Germany will resolutely oppose the break-up of the Chinese empire.

Japanese newspapers very justly comment on the apparent inconsistency shown in the utterances of the Chinese Emperor. While, on the one hand, expressing profound regret for the assassination of Mr. Sugiyama, his Majesty, on the other, allows the Foreign Legations to be perpetually besieged by a mob of fanatics who would murder every one of the Ministers could they lay hands an them. That criticism is unanswerable if it be held that the attack on the Legations continued after the 3rd of July, and that it defied the sincere efforts of the Chinese Court to put a stop to it. The latter supposition, however, is untenable, for no effort which stops short of its own overthrow and destruction can be held to have exhausted a Government's duty of protecting the Foreign Representatives accredited to its Court. The Chinese Emperor remained in power at the time of sending his despatch, and we must therefore conclude either that he was guilty of the extraordinary contradiction attributed to him by Japanese critics, or that he had already succeeded in saving the Foreign Ministers. We incline to the latter belief. It is almost impossible to conceive deception so fatuous as that which must be attributed to a Sovereign who, while tendering expressions of apology and regret for the assassination of a member of Legation staff a month previously outside the walls of the capital, was tacitly permitting a fierce and protracted effort on the part of the mob within the walls to seize and murder every member of all the Legation staffs.

It is alleged that the Japanese Authorities have decided to double the line of telegraph between Sōul and Fusan on account of the press of work on the Chemulpo-Sōul line, Chemulpo having become the depôt of intelligence arriving by despatch boats from Taku. But we do not quite see how the Sōul-Fusan line can relieve the pressure on the Sōul-Chemulpo, except for the purpose of telegrams coming from Manchuria *viâ* Wiju. According to all accounts, however, Manchuria is in such a disturbed condition that no line of telegraph passing through it can be relied on for a day. The general public is not fully informed of the events transpiring in Manchuria, but good authorities say that the state of affairs is such as to occupy a considerable share of Russia's attention. It will doubtless end in considerably tightening her grasp upon that huge region. Disorder and violent unrest in Manchuria at present can only inure to Russia's ultimate advantage.

The *Nichi Nichi Shumbun* has a very friendly and sympathetic article with reference to the troubles which have suddenly confronted Russia in Siberia. Summing up the gist of our contemporary's remarks, we find that the leading idea is to claim for Japan and Russia the equal responsibility of preserving peace in the Orient, and the equal right of exercising a certain measure of independence in their treatment of the Far-Eastern problem. This latter contention is based chiefly on geographical considerations. The propinquity of Japan and Russia to the scene of disturbance places them in an exceptional position, and absolves them from the obligation of conforming their movements strictly to the programme mutually agreed upon by other Powers. The *Nichi Nichi* refers to the leading part taken by the troops of Japan and Russia in the campaign at Tientsin, and evidently thinks that, while this cōoperation in the field has drawn Japan and Russia closer together, it has also emphasized the eminence of their roles in the present crisis.

Captain Inouye, an Aide-de-Camp of the Emperor, whose visit of sympathy to the wounded German officers in Yokohama has already been noted in these columns, paid a similar visit on behalf of His Majesty to the Russian hospital at Inasa on the 16th instant. Captain Inouye was accompanied by the Governor of Nagasaki. The Imperial message conveyed by the Aide-de-Camp was of a most gracious nature. It expressed his Majesty's sincere sympathy with the wounded, and his hopes for their speedy convalescence. The Russian Consul and the Director of the Hospital expressed their gratitude in suitable terms. In the afternoon of the same day Miss Kitajima, a Lady in Waiting to the Empress, proceeded to the Hospital as her Majesty's representative, accompanied by the Russian Consul and Madame Kostileff. The Governor of Nagasaki was present as before, and the message conveyed by Miss Kitajima was couched in terms similar to those of his Majesty's message. Miss Kitajima presented a box of cigars and a fan to each patient.

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THE IMPERIAL DESPATCHES.

WE fail to perceive that the Emperor of CHINA "put forth a transparently false and utterly untenable pretension" when he said in his despatch to the Emperor of JAPAN that "China is at the present moment so completely occupied in conducting military operations for the suppression of the insurgents that it is impossible for her to take proper measures to avert the danger from without." Where is the falsehood in such a statement? Can it be shown that the Chinese troops fired a shot or raised a hand against foreigners prior to the attack on the Taku Forts? We dismiss the paltry quibble that the Forts were the first to open fire on the Foreign vessels. Their title to priority of action rests on a matter of 70 minutes, and when a man, presenting a pistol at a friend's head, demands his watch or his life at five minutes past twelve, the responsibility for the quarrel can scarcely be put on the friend's shoulders if he attempts to disable the pistol-holder two-and-a half minutes before the time fixed for the act of spoliation. From China's standpoint—and it is our plain duty to endeavour to appreciate that standpoint—a state of war was inaugurated by the Foreign Powers, and she had no choice but to accept the gauntlet thrown in her face. But she can not—so we read the EMPEROR'S despatch—assert her full strength to oppose her foreign assailants, since she finds herself hampered by domestic troubles also. The EMPEROR does not limit the term "insurgents" used in his despatch. It may have, and very probably is intended to have, a signification wider than *Iho Ch'uan* alone. It may include the recalcitrant section of the Manchu statesmen who are virtually defying the imperial authority and crippling the strength of the Peking Government so that it can not face its foreign foes. To us the situation suggested by the despatch is that the EMPEROR and the EMPRESS DOWAGER have at length succeeded in recovering some measure of administrative control, that they earnestly desire to resume the discharge of duties interrupted by the fanatical conservatism of Prince TWAN and his cooperators; that they find it impossible to restore order so long as a state of open warfare with the outer world entitles the Boxers to stand side by side with the imperial troops against foreigners who have now become the common enemy of both; and that they appeal to the good offices of Japan to make the facts clear to Occidental Governments. There is no idea of proposing, so far as we can see, that Japan should Occident. The Emperor of CHINA certainly clasp hands with China in opposition to the does remind his imperial brother that the East and the West confront each other in the galaxy of states. But in doing so he merely echoes what is said again and again by Occidental publicists. It is with the latter that the responsibility chiefly rests of preserving the vitality of the East-and-West prejudice. They appear to be totally unable to divest themselves of the conviction that the peoples of the Orient can never sincerely sympathise and cooperate with the aims and aspirations of the peoples of the Occident. Even an enlightened and leading paper like the London *Spectator* declared, a few days ago, that an alliance between Japan and England against Russia would be sacrilegious, and the German Emperor's celebrated picture is still hanging in the world's gallery. The words of the Chinese Sovereign are therefore not only natural, but they are also true. No Occidental nation would have been subjected by Occidental nations to the indignities and aggressions that his people have suffered at Europe's hands during the past few years. Therefore we have no right, nor is there any reason, to condemn or sneer at the language he uses on this subject. Would it conduce to Japan's security, or even to her material interests, that the ambitious designs of all the Foreign Powers should be consummated against China? Of course it would not. And equally of course his Chinese Majesty is justified in reminding Japan of the fact. But if there be any desire to read his despatch justly and intelligently, we can not overlook the fact that he disclaims, by implication, any intention of supporting his non-Christian subjects against his Christian subjects. Neither can it be overlooked that he calls the *Iho Ch'uan* "insurgents." It is evident, in short, that he merely solicits Japan's good offices under circumstances which threaten to overwhelm him, and to bring disruption and destruction on his empire. "We beg that Your Majesty will take such action as may be deemed adequate in your judgment to restore order and peace under Your powerful guidance." The request is modestly and frankly preferred. It is a remarkable request. One need not be endowed with any special dramatic faculty to appreciate the striking character of this addition to the pages of history; this almost despairing appeal from the great empire of China to her little and some-time despised neighbour Japan. That such an appeal should have been wrung from the Throne of the Middle Kingdom in its sufferings is a momentous incident. It is by Japan and by Japan alone that China's salvation can be worked out. We believe that her publicists and her statesmen will not fail to appreciate the significance of this incident, or allow their judgment to be clouded by petty suspicions and hasty criticisms.

IMPERIAL PROCLAMATIONS.

THE Foreign Office in Tokyo publishes three edicts issued in Peking, two on the 17th of July and one on the 18th. They run as follows:—

I.

Peking, 17th July.

In spite of the seizure of the Taku Forts by Foreign troops, we have not failed to take measures for preserving peace, and for protecting the lives not only of the Foreign Ministers in Peking, but also of the foreign missionaries in various parts of the empire. Nevertheless a state of war still continues, and we have therefore issued orders to the Viceroys and Governors to spare nothing for the security of foreign life in accordance with our treaty obligations. The Governor of Chili and the officials in the Peking district are hereby instructed to ascertain the losses suffered by foreigners, with the exception of those killed in the military operations at Tientsin, and to report the results of their investigations to the Throne. We learn that insurgents are committing excesses in various quarters, burning houses, killing people, and stealing property. The Viceroys, Governors, and various officers are therefore ordered to set troops in motion and exterminate these insurgents.

Yu Lu having been defeated in the Tientsin campaign is hereby deprived of his office, but will remain for a time in the discharge of his duties until the Board of Punishments shall have determined a suitable penalty.

II.

(Communicated by the Customs Taotai of Chefoo to the Consuls of all nationalities.)

Peking, July 17.

The present crisis has its origin in disputes between the Christian converts and the people, and has led to the fight at Taku. Nevertheless the Emperor, appreciating the importance of foreign relations and desiring to preserve them, has made every endeavour to protect the Foreign Representatives and the subjects and citizens within the Chinese empire. His Majesty was profoundly pained by the murder of Mr Sugiyama, and to his deep regret that event was shortly followed by the assassination of the German Minister. The villains who perpetrated these deeds must be apprehended and suitably dealt with. Moreover the Viceroys and Governors must take steps to have estimates made of the losses unnecessarily incurred by foreigners with the exception of those killed in the Tientsin campaign. The Viceroys, the Governors, and the officers commanding troops must further lose no time in quelling the insurrection which threatens to spread through the country.

III.

Peking, July 18.

Yuan Shih-kai, acting as representative of the Viceroys and Governors, has earnestly petitioned that the Representatives of the Foreign Powers shall be protected. It has been a principal duty ever since the time of the Twelve Kingdoms that the lives of foreign envoys shall be sacred under all circumstances. Our soldiers and our subjects must not venture, therefore, to make any display of anger towards foreign Representatives. Measures are now being taken to apprehend and punish the evil persons who compassed the death of the German Minister, and for the past month protection has been afforded to the other Foreign Representatives, so that, happily, they are all safe.

These edicts, though they come late in the day, are very welcome. It seems not altogether unreasonable to infer that the despatch of the Emperor of JAPAN, telegraphed from Tokyo on the 13th of July, may have contributed to the issue of the edicts. If expedition was employed by the Governors the despatch could easily have been delivered in Peking on the evening of the 16th or the morning of the 17th. But, although that hypothesis may be difficult to entertain, it is known that the Minister for Foreign Affairs in Japan has been in constant communication with the Southern Viceroys, and with YUAN SHIH-KAI, and has urged them again and again to employ all efforts for the purpose of saving the lives of the Foreign Representatives and quelling the insurrection. His Excellency recommended from the outset that the Viceroys should mobilize their forces and march northwards to restore peace and order. To that excellent advice the Viceroys pleaded that, without instructions

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from their Sovereign, they could not take such a step. In reply it was pointed out to them that the EMPEROR's edicts unequivocally placed the Boxers in the category of rebels, whom, therefore, it became the duty of every loyal official to suppress whether the Throne issued or did not issue direct orders in that sense. The Viceroys still hesitated, however. They were again strongly urged when news of the capture of Tientsin reached Tokyo. It was pointed out to them that the only chance of saving their country at that juncture was that they should range themselves side by side with the foreign troops, and thus proclaim to the world that the Chinese administration was resolved to crush the rebels and fulfil the country's treaty obligations. Whether this last representation will produce the desired effect we do not know, but it can scarcely be doubted that, although the Viceroys hesitated to follow Japan's stalwart advice, they took other steps to bring influence to bear in Peking, and that to them proximately, and to Japan primarily, is due the change which seems to have come over the face of politics in the capital. Of course the imperial decrees are not altogether ingenuous. That, however, could scarcely have been expected. The Chinese-EMPEROR and the moderates have been placed in a cruel dilemma, and, if they emerge from it with some remnant of "face," we must not be too particular about the route they take to get out.

THE ASSOCIATED FISTS.

THE SOCIETY WHICH HAS CAUSED THE RIOTS AND HAS LED TO WAR IN CHINA.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL")

This Society has been wrongly named the "Boxer Society." Though pugilism and wrestling are to some extent practised, "boxing" is entirely unknown in China. It is, therefore, inadmissable to call them "Boxers." The word employed by themselves, "ch'üen" means literally "the fist," and the phrase 打拳頭, "ta ch'üen t'ou," means to practice pugilism. But the exercises they engage in, now notorious to residents in China, and which have been named "Boxer drill," bear little or no resemblance either to pugilism or to boxing. They consist of the repetition of words supposed to act as charms, violent contortions of the body, which appear to induce a state of trance, during which the subject is supposed to deliver to the by-standers occult messages respecting the progress of the movement. On resuming his normal state he is said to be quite unconscious of anything he did or said during his peculiar ecstacy.

The Association has named itself in the numerous placards it has issued by two slightly varying names which are used by it with about equal freedom—the "義合拳 i ho ch'üen," or the "義合團 i ho tuan." In each of these names the two first of the ideographs are the same and there is no doubt about their meaning. "義 i" in this connection means "volunteer," and "合 ho" means "combined," "associated": "拳 ch'üen" mean "the fist" or, as its etymology implies, the hand rolled up. "團 t'uan" means a guard or train-band. Volunteer Associated Fists or Volunteer Associated Train-bands may sound a little clumsy in western languages, but they are at any rate correct translations of the names these remarkable rebels have chosen for themselves.

The Society aims at nothing less than the expulsion of all foreigners and all things foreign from China, and the restoration of the Empire to its former position of exclusion and self sufficiency. Its animus is peculiarly strong against foreign religions, not only because the missionary pervades the whole interior of the country or because his converts are now for the first time becoming a body respectable by its numbers and thoroughly imbued with an earnest desire for foreign intercourse and innovation, but also because its leaders by a true instinct are able to divine that religion is the great transforming force which, once permitted to permeate the very springs and secret spiritual forces of the nation's life, will "make all things new." This animus again reaches its most extreme point of intensity in its opposition to the Roman Catholic missions, these being the longest established and the most numerous, and having, so far as we can learn, done more to protect and assist their converts in cases of litigation than the Protestant Missions. But these distinctions are trivial. In the significant phrase often employed in their literature, they propose to "make a clean sweep"—everything foreign is to be driven off, merchant hongs, machine shops, railways, telegraphs, guns, rifles,—everything. The Society has been spoken of as patriotic, and it is for this reason, so it is said, that it is protected by the Empress Dowager. This, however, does not hinder it from assailing the Government as it stands, and the Emperor himself with all the highest officials in the Empire are fiercely assailed in its publications. Its manifesto seems rather against individuals than against the dynasty itself. Its aim differs from that of former rebellions and all other secret societies known to us, inasmuch as it is not a crusade of "明 Ming" against "清 Ch'ing." It is favoured by the Manchus, and a prince of the blood, Prince Tuan, is said to be a member of its secret conclave. The "大刀會, ta tao hui"—Great Sword Society—has been supposed to be only another name for the same Association. It is much more likely that the Great Sword Society was altogether of a subordinate character, but with many other secret societies has been caught in the swell of the vast organization which has so suddenly and mysteriously sprung into activity. "義合拳, iho ch'üen" itself is not exactly of recent date and one of the late Edicts refers to it by name as existing during the reign of Chia Ch'ing.

Altogether the most singular feature of this strange movement is the peculiar relation to it of young children. In every district and in every town it has visited it has commenced its work among young people ranging between the ages of ten and twenty. The "drill" is always commenced by them. We have ourselves seen them practising it, and have received scores of reports of its exercise in town and village, but always when the question has been put, what kind of people are they, the reply has been "小孩子 hsiao hai tzü," small children. Until actual rioting has commenced we have never heard of grown men appearing in the movement. This has been the principal reason why it has been treated lightly by foreign observers and perhaps has had something to do with the inactivity of the Chinese officials in dealing with it. Mandarins would not arrest, and foreigners could not take seriously the doings of, very young boys and even girls until the sudden outburst of murderous and incendiary attacks proved that after all it was no mere child's play. Of course when the rebels actually appear in arms it is men and not children who do the destructive work; but until that stage is reached it appears for the most part an affair of children. It is not simply the case that children are aping in public the secret doings of their elders. They are an essential factor in the growth of the Society in every place where it makes its appearance. It is they who most readily induce the strange trance characteristic of the "drill." To them the mystic messages of the impending advent of their leaders are given. They are its plastic and docile mediums. We have never been able to quite clear up this point, but their supposed possession of supernatural powers seems to be somehow connected with the marriage ceremony. In the placards are mysterious allusions to the "Light of the Red Lamp," and the rebels, in addition to wearing red turbans and red girdles, are said to carry red lamps. There is, however, a deeper meaning than this attached to the phrase 紅燈照 hung têng chao." The "紅燈 hung têng" is an invariable adjunct of the bridal chamber; "照 Chao" means to light, to illuminate, to reveal. Early marriage is practised in China, and it is a curious fact that the marriage age exactly tallies with that of the great majority of the youths engaged in these singular exercises. It is certain that, in addition to much other mythology, the movement involves the idea of a revelation, and there is ground for supposing that the revelation is somehow or other connected with the institution of marriage, and the "紅燈照 hung têng chao" may be translated "the revelation of the bridal chamber."

The Society's method of procedure as it appears to the outside observer is as follows. In any particular place which has been so far undisturbed by their operations the rumours become more persistent and more wonderful as to the Society's doings in other districts, placards of the character which we print below begin to appear, sometimes mysteriously pasted on the walls of buildings by night, sometimes handed to individuals in a crowded market. A general state of mingled excitement, fear, and expectation is created, and especially the idea of the advent of invincible swordsmen armed with supernatural power, and teachers and leaders, is instilled into the mind of a populace superstitious in the extreme and a large portion of whom are ripe for any mischief and supremely covetous of loot. Then children varying in age from ten to twenty are seen in vacant spaces and on the corners of the streets "drilling." In addition to the revelations considered to be connected with these exercises they are supposed to render those who engage in them invulnerable alike to sword thrusts and to rifle bullets. Gradually their numbers increase, older people take part, and then for the first time definite organization is proposed. Leaders are appointed, adherents are formed into what are called "爐 lu"—hearths. These hearths are equivalent to camps. They number 500 each; and every member is sworn to obey the leaders, to sleep and take food with the rest, and to have the grain and meal necessary for his support sent from home. The next step is to commence work by firing some foreign house, railway station, mission chapel, or other obnoxious building, putting to the sword all native Christians they can find and any hapless "foreign devil" who may fall into their hands. In the performance of this part of the programme it is impossible to distinguish the rebels from the populace. Swarming in thousands, they murder, destroy, and loot till there is little left behind.

In this way, though on a comparatively small scale, the work of the society commenced more than a year ago and large numbers of Chinese Christians in the interior of Shantung were harried out of house and home, taking refuge in the foreign quarters of their mission. The murder of the Rev. Sydney Brooke, a member of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, near Ping Yin, was an incident in their campaign of ravages. The movement has grown to enormous proportions during the year. It is much to be feared the Court itself and the higher officials have connived at its destructive work; at any rate every Chinese official, civil and military, has been paralyzed before it. Within hardly more than a month, starting with the massacre of some hundreds of Roman Catholic Christians in the villages round Paotingfu, it has swept down the Lu Han railway line, driving the Belgian engineers before it. The latter made a brave stand in repeated conflicts with their assailants, killing a considerable number; four of them fell victims, and the rest of the party arrived wounded and almost naked in Tientsin. The Society has burnt and looted every station on the line, wrecked the railway, demolished the shops at Fengtai, invested Pekin, poured down on the port of Tientsin, shut up all the foreign ministers in Peking, the Japanese Chancellor of Legation has been murdered; the advance of the British Admiral with a mixed body of 2,300 foreign troops with guns, has been driven back on Tientsin; the Settlement there has been sacked, and at the moment of writing we do not know how many of the foreign residents of

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Peking or Tientsin are alive or dead, or what is the condition of the railway from Taku to Tongshan, and of the large railway works and mines there, which foreigners have been compelled to abandon.

Though very little information of a conclusive character is to be had, and there is therefore no absolute proof of its existence, everything points to the supposition that there is a very powerful Inner Council or Conclave which, working in profound secrecy, matures the plans by which the Society works. It has been hatched in Buddhist monasteries and the purlieus of the Yamêns. Priests or monks of the Buddhist faith are among the leaders, Governor Yü of Shantung; Prince Twan; Tung Fu-shiang, a much trusted Chinese general, and even the Empress Dowager herself have been boldly mentioned as members of it. This Council concocts the mysterious placards, sends forerunners who work up the bands in various districts, and has men in it of sufficient influence to bring over to its side the gentry of each district and, above all, to *silence* the officials.

The four placards of which we append translations may be taken as representative of the mysterious literature of the Society. They are the best specimens we have secured, amongst many. They have well-marked features in common, although put out in places many miles apart; and, more especially, what (for want of a better term) we may call the mythology of the movement is the same. Succiently stated it is as follows:—

"The present is a peculiar era in the history of the Empire when the interference of power from heaven is to rescue it from the clutches of all foreigners and from the defilement of all foreign innovations. This is done by sending down from heaven uncounted legions of spiritual soldiers, generally spoken of as swordsmen. These spiritual warriors being invisible, and, apart from human agency, impotent, it is necessary that they should "possess" ordinary men in order to effect their purpose. The so-called "drill" has for its object to induce "possession," and individuals so possessed become invulnerable and invincible in fight."

It may seem strange that any considerable number of people should be found capable of crediting so wild a notion. Precisely here is the difficulty which the Occidental mind finds in really understanding the Orient. Extravagant as it may sound, there is no Chinaman, high or low, friend or foe to the Society, from the Empress Dowager downward, who does not believe in the reality and power of this, so-called, possession.

We will now introduce the placards. The first is somewhat long and in the original is in verse. This detracts nothing from its serious character. In China, official proclamations are issued in versified form. It is dated the third day of the third month which, according to our western calendar, is April 2nd. This date was some time before the beginning of the Paotingfu Massacre. The translation of this and the following placards has been purposely made more literal than really good translation would allow, in order to keep up the peculiar idioms of the original, and it will strike the reader as being somewhat Biblical in its expressions. The natural utterance of eastern ideas seems much the same in all languages. It was issued in the district of Paotingfu.

TRANSLATION.

"The Chinese Empire has been celebrated for its sacred teaching. It explained heavenly truth and taught human duties, and its civilizing influence spread as an ornament over river and hill.

"But all this has been changed in an unaccountable manner. For the past five or six generations bad officials have been in trust, bureaus have been opened for the sale of offices, and only those who had money to pay for it have been allowed to hold positions in the government. The graduation of scholars has become useless, and members of the College of Literature and scholars of the Third Degree are in obscurity at home. An official position can only be obtained at the price of silver. The Emperor covets the riches of his Ministers, these again extort from the lower ranks of the mandarinate, and the lower mandarins in turn by the (necessity of their position) must extort from the people. The whole populace is sunk in wretchedness and all the officials are spoilers of their food. The condition of the Yamêns is unspeakable. In every market and in every guild nothing can be done unless money be spent. The officials must be bribed. All sorts of exactions are made. These officials are full of schemes none of which are in accordance with the three principles. Having forfeited their heaven-derived disposition they are unreasonable and unregulated. They are all alike, ill-gotten wealth is their one object. Right has disappeared from the world. There is nothing but squabbling and extortion on all hands, and law-suits are unnumbered. In the Yamêns it is of no avail to have a clear case, unless you bribe you will lose the day. There is no one to whom the aggrieved may appeal: the simple multitudes are killed with oppression and their cry goes up to heaven itself and is heard of God. Though spiritual beings and sages were sent down to teach right principles, to issue good books, and to instruct the multitude, few, alas! heeded. Who is there that understands? The evil go on their course rejoicing, while the spiritual powers are conscious that their teaching has been vain.

"Now in anger the heavenly powers are sending down multitudes of spirits to earth to make enquiry of all, both high and low. The Emperor himself, the chief offender, has had his succession cut off and is childless. The whole court, both civil and military, is in an unspeakable condition. They indulge blindly in mere amusement and disregard the widow's cry, repenting of nothing and learning nothing good.

"Greater calamities still have overtaken the nation. Foreign devils have come with their teaching and converts to Christianity, Roman Catholic and Protestant, have become numerous. These (churches) are without human relations but, being most cunning, they have attracted all the greedy and covetous as converts, and to an unlimited degree they have practised oppression until every good official has been corrupted, and, covetous of foreign wealth, has become their servant. So telegraphs and railways have been established, foreign rifles and guns have been manufactured, and machine shops have been a delight to their evil nature. Locomotives, balloons, electric lamps the foreign devils think excellent. Though these foreigners ride in sedans unbefitting their rank, China yet regards them as barbarians of whom God disapproves and is sending down spirits and genii for their destruction. The first of these powers which has already descended is the Light of the Red Lamp, and the Volunteer Associated Fists who will have a row with the devils. They will burn down the foreign buildings and restore the temples. Foreign goods of every kind they will destroy. They will extirpate the evil demons and establish right teaching the honour of the spirits and the sages—they will cause to flourish their sacred teaching. The purpose of heaven is fixed; a clean sweep is to be made. Within three years all will be accomplished. The bad will not escape the net and the goodness of God will be seen. The secrets of heaven are not to be lightly disclosed, but the days of peace to come are not unknown. At least the Yiu Mao years (1902-1903). The song of the little ones ends here in a promise of happiness to men, the joy of escape from rapine. This last word is the summary of all.

"Scholars and Gentlemen must by no means esteem this a light and idle curse and so disregard its warning."

There are two significant features about this production. It unsparingly arraigns the whole body of Chinese rulers, including the Emperor himself, and it links together by ties of cause and effect the introduction of foreign religions, foreign customs, and foreign goods with official corruption. Every foreign resident in China will thoroughly agree with the former position, but will be amazed at the latter. We do not look to be blamed for the corrupt doings of the Mandarins which we are never tired of condemning. Yet to a Chinaman who does not understand that our position is due simply to the exercise of force it is quite natural, and indeed inevitable, to assume that it is bribery which brought into China the foreigner and all his ways.

Our next specimen is also from the district of Paotingfu and was issued about the same time as the last one. It is much more minatory in character and might be called "The Ten Plagues." Its style seems peculiarly calculated to fascinate and excite the public mind. Its first clause is in the nature of an invocation. The phrase "In the presence of" is in the original "臨壇 lin tan," *lit.* "descends to the altar." The idea of the writer is that the present is a special and peculiar time for her appearance. We attach a few notes to elucidate obscure points. The placard, judging by the style of composition is probably a Buddhist production:—

TRANSLATION.

"In the presence of the revered mother the goddess of mercy.

"This year being one of rapine and swordsmen being peculiarly evil (*a*), the myriad-fold holy one (*b*) has descended to earth and the good and the evil are to receive speedy retribution. Since the multitude have ceased to believe in Buddha and are unfilial toward their parents (*c*) high heaven is despatching in its anger a million spiritual soldiers to reward the good and punish the evil. By burning incense night and day and practising filial piety an entire family may escape the bitterness of the sword. But whatever family may set their hearts to revile the gods and to neglect filial behaviour towards father and mother that family will be cut off and will fall into perdition. Should the people continue in unbelief there will follow hereafter ten unescapable sorrows. (*d.*)

First Sorrow.

Incense burning will cease throughout the Empire.

Second Sorrow.

Blood will flow and fill the streams of all the hills.

Third Sorrow.

Grain and meal will become refuse.

Fourth Sorrow.

All the living will be involved in iniquity.

Fifth Sorrow.

The roads will be without passengers.

Sixth Sorrow.

Orphans and widows will speak of their native place (*f.*)

Seventh Sorrow.

There will be none to protect from rapine.

Eighth Sorrow.

All the living will enter the Yellow Springs (*g.*)

Ninth Sorrow.

Disease and distress will afflict the people.

Tenth Sorrow.

There will be no peaceful years.

"Issued under the 'Light of the Red Lamp' at Su Chiao. If those who see this paper circulate it immediately they will escape the suffering of the sword."

Our third specimen is a hand-bill which was being distributed on market-day at a town some twenty miles north-west of Tongshan, the great mining and railway centre in North China. It

(*a*) "Swordsmen being peculiarly evil," 刀兵大凶 Tao Ping Ta Hsiung. This phrase is somewhat obscure. Compare the Bible phrase, "When I bring the sword upon a land."

(*b*) "The myriad-fold holy one." "萬聖 Wan Shêng." A title of laudation bestowed on the goddess of mercy by her worshippers.

(*c*) Mark the close association of idol-worship with filial pity.

(*d*) "Unescapable Sorrows." "難免之慈 Nan Mien Tyü Ts'ou," lit. "Most difficult to escape." It is perhaps not *necessary* to translate by the stronger term "unescapable", but the idiom is in use and is probably the sense intended.

(*e*) "Grain and Meal will become refuse," Lit. 糞土 fen t'u—"dung and earth," *i.e.*, it will be thrown about and trodden under foot.

(*f*) "Orphans and widows, &c." This is the most pathetic of all the "ten sorrows." The first question asked in China is. What is your name, and the second where do you come from? The idea is that they will be scattered far from home and to the familiar inquiry will give sad reply.

(*g*) "The Yellow Springs." A poetic and mythological expression for Hades—the place of the dead.

(*h*) "Su Ch'iao." A town near Paotingfu, not Suchow, near Shanghai.

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was handed to us by a Chinese friend into whose hand it had been thrust. "Li Po" was a famous poet of the Tang dynasty. We do not know what his name is doing here. This placard contains internal evidence of having been written by a Buddhist priest. Two of its ideographs are written in an ancient style peculiar to temple literature. Singularly enough the terms used for foreigners are not abusive.

TRANSLATION.

"The bestower of happiness the god of wealth
A circular from Li Po.

"Inasmuch as the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches have deceived the spirits and destroyed the (teachings of) the sages, and are not obedient to the law of Buddha, eighty thousand spiritual soldiers will come in the clouds to sweep out the foreigners from abroad. Express divination has been made that before long swordsmen will come rolling down and calamity will be on the army and the people. The Buddhist Volunteer Associated Train-bands are able to pacify the people and defend the Empire. Upon sight of this such persons as distribute three copies will avert calamity from one family, while those who distribute ten copies will avert calamity from a whole village. Those who having met with refuse to distribute will be liable to the punishment of decapitation.

"Unless the foreigners are subjugated there will be no rain.

"If any persons have taken poison from foreigners the following recipe is a specific against it:—

I. Dried Plums ..... 7 Mace.
II. Enonymus Bark..... 5 „
III. Liquorice Root ..... 5 „

The last placard needs no specific note. It was posted in Tongshan itself (where the writer was resident) about the 15th of June. It ascribes the want of rain to the disturbing influence of foreigners. There had been an extremely dry spring, with violent winds, and famine was in prospect for the district.

TRANSLATION.

"For the information of dear friends in each village.

"It is not generally known that the reason why there is no rain this year is that on the fourth day of the fifth month, between the hours of three and five in the afternoon, the Volunteer Associated Train bands will entreat the god of fire to descend and burn the Protestant Christian Church. The Volunteer Associated Train-bands will have swordsmen rolling in. If any one doubts this let him observe the dust-storms now blowing.

"Buddha, the Illuminated, is manifesting his sacred character to Governor Yü of Shantung, and in a dream has delivered the sacred message that on the fourth day of the fifth month no fire is to be kindled. Those who are accustomed to be in close proximity to fire must remain still for the first five days and will thus escape disaster by fire. The Volunteer Associated Train-bands on this account publish the present circular. Those who distribute many copies will save many lives, while those who distribute few will save a few."

The following are translations in prose of the Rhyme and the Motto said to be uttered in "drill" when the neophyte first places himself over the sign of the cross marked on the ground:—

Heavenward striking, heaven's gate opens,
Earthward striking, earth's gate opens,
You must study the "i ho ch'üen,"
But the leaders (teachers) have yet to arrive."
"With composed mind and sincere heart practice the "i ho ch'uen."

The Russians have just launched at St. Petersburg a second-class cruiser which will compare favourably with any British cruisers, so-called second-class. To begin with, she has a displacement of 6,630 tons, is 412 ft. 6 in. long by 55 ft. 10 in. beam, and is named the *Aurora*. She will be fitted with triple-expansion engines, supplied with steam from twenty-four Belleville boilers, driving three screws, and working up to 11,600 indicated horse-power, giving a speed of twenty knots. She will carry forty-three guns in all, but only eight of them will be six-inch. She has also four torpedo tubes.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The *Shakai Zasshi* (No. 15) publishes an interesting article on the influence exercised by foreign writers on Japanese thought. The writer shows that various authors have been quite superseded by men holding opposite views as regards the reading public of Japan. He also demonstrates how some of the greatest changes witnessed have been effected by men who derived their inspiration from English, French or German books. The following is a brief summary of the views expressed in the *Shakai Zasshi*.

1. *The Political World.* The men who took a prominent part in bringing about the revolution of 1868 were permeated with the ideas of liberty and representative government promulgated in the works of Rousseau, Bentham, Mill and Spencer. The modification of these notions by the study of the German system of government dates from the visit of Marquis (then Count) Itô to Europe for the purpose of collecting material for reference in drawing up the Japanese Constitution. Dr. Katô Hiroyuki, among others, at that time pointed out that a change from the Japanese bureaucratic government to the English system would prove too sudden and that the German form of administration offered a suitable medium for Japan's adoption. The late Viscount Inoue and Mr. Hirata Tôsuke did much to turn the attention of the public to the superiority of German Law in the matter of arrangement. Owing principally to the influence of Marquis Itô in the political world at the present time, the names of Stein and Gneist are greater in Japanese estimation than that of Mill and Spencer.

2. *Law.*—Japan began by making French Law the basis of all her reform. For some time the Hôritsu Gakkô, established by the Department of Justice, made the Code Napoleon its chief text-book, and some of the graduates from that school subsequently went to France to complete their studies. But in recent years German Law has in many quarters superseded French Law. Briefly described the present situation is as follows:—At the Imperial Universities English, French and German Law are taught. The Tôkyô Hôgakuin teaches English Law; French Law is taught at the Meiji Hôritsu Gakkô and at the Wa-Futsu Hôritsu Gakkô, and German Law at the Doitsugaku Kyôkai Gakkô. It is true to say that France, though first in the field, was subsequently superseded by England, but England is gradually being superseded by Germany.*

3. *Naval and Military Affairs.*—In naval matters Japan began by making Holland its model, but subsequently almost exclusively followed English methods. In the management of the Army she first followed the lead of France, but in recent years German influence has been paramount. In both the Rikugun Shikan Gakkô and the Rikugun Daigakkô the German language and even the German uniform predominate.

4. *Economy.*—The English Economists, Adam Smith, Mill, and Fawcett were Japan's first guides, and Free Trade principles found favour in this country for many years. But since Mr. Taguchi Ukichi has been editor of the *Keizai Zasshi* Protection has had many advocates, and the works of American and German Protectionist writers have been translated into Japanese and have found admirers. German ideas on all matters of finance and trade seem for the moment to be in the ascendent in this country.

5. *Education.*—In this province the same course seems to have been followed. English and American writers have been superseded by men like Herbart and Kern. At the present moment it is true to say that German thought predominates in educational circles.

6. *Literature.*—English thought for the most part prevails in this domain, though Mori Ogai has done a good deal to make German elements better known. The Waseda School of writers have always been distinctively English in their sympathies. The *Shigarami Sôshi*, however, is a pronouncedly pro-German organ. In the scientific study of literature German methods are necessarily followed as the most perfect the world has known.

7. *Sociology.*—Though for some time Spencer's writings on this subject were almost the sole guide, in recent years American writers have come to the front and, with the exception of a few quarters where German ideas prevail, the Americans may be said to be moulding the thoughts of young Japan on this subject. The late Dr. Toyama derived most of his ideas from American sources. Dr Katô Hiroyuki is the leading exponent of German thought on all sociological topics. The writings of Fairbanks, Vincent and other American authors are widely read and the American magazines devoted to the study of sociology are obtaining an ever widening circulation in this country. On the social aspects of the question of labour and capital England and America are consulted more than any other countries. But as regards the whole science of sociology the leaning of the Tôkyô University is all in the direction of Germany.

8. *Philosophy.*—Here too English works have to a very large extent been superseded by the writings of Germans. For every reader of Spencer, Bain, Sidgwick or Leslie Stephen, there are hundreds of readers of Kant, Hegel and Wundt. Perhaps no writer on Philosophy occupies a higher position in Japanese estimation to-day than Wundt. It cannot be said that the writings of Auguste Comte have ever been thoroughly appreciated in Japan generally, though this great man possesses a few admirers. But the Positivism of which Comte was the founder has reached Japan through German sources and its value has been fully recognised here.

9. *Christianity.*—Three parts of the Christian ideas promulgated in this country have come from America. Seven-tenths of the Japanese Evangelists are in receipt of American pecuniary help. England and Germany are but poorly represented in comparison, and even France and Russia are far behind America. As regard Christian influence, Germany certainly stands at the bottom of the list of countries that have missions in Japan. The effect of German teaching has been mostly in the direction of rationalism and what is known as heterodoxy, which in many cases has culminated in scepticism.†

10. *Medicine.*—Holland led the way, but Germany is now supreme and has no formidable rival.

The main conclusion reached by the above inquiry is that in almost every province of thought Japan is gradually becoming Germanised. Though in former days one used to hear Japan called "The England of the East," it would be more correct to speak of her now as "The Germany of the East." Although in the case of men of influence in the country who have reached the age of forty, with very few exceptions, their thoughts have been derived from English sources, in the case of the younger men who are gradually making a name for themselves, they are inspired by German ideas. It is a remarkable phenomenon that the predominance of German ideas is out of all proportion to the extent to which the German language has been studied. For every Japanese who knows German well it would be possible to find one hundred if not one thousand who know English well. And it is a fact that while the country is dotted over with English-teaching schools, it has a comparatively small number of German schools. Yet notwithstanding this, the preference for the German type of Western civilization is most marked. Neither the French language nor French thought has made itself felt to any extent in Japan. A few struggling students of the brilliant and lucid ideas of the French and the highly polished manner in which they express them are to be met with in this country, but beyond this intellectual France is a *terra incognita* to the Japanese people; and as for schools where French is taught, they may be almost counted on one's fingers. It is worthy of note that whereas in former days University graduates and others were sent to Eng-

* The yearly reports of the Tôkyô Imperial University tell a different story. According to them graduates in English Law are every year enormously in excess of graduates in German Law.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

† Perhaps the same might be said of American Unitarianism and to a certain extent of American Congregationalism; not a few of the Kumiai Church Christians have given up believing in miracles and the Divinity of Christ.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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land or America to finish their education, in recent years quite nine-tenths of these students have been sent to Germany. This means that the influence exercised by them on their return will be all pro-German.

Notwithstanding all the above facts, and many more that might be cited, continues the writer we are quoting, no well-informed and unprejudiced person maintains that Germany has monopolised all the wisdom in the world, or that she excels in every line of thought in the way that Japan's preference for her teaching would lead one to suppose to be the case. If in the early days of the *Meiji* era German and Russian books had been studied instead of English and French works, would Japan have made the progress she has? Certainly not. The models for the enlightened forms of central and local government she has adopted were derived from England. While we fully admit that in scientific knowledge of all kinds Germany stands first among Western nations, in the regions of politics, literature, religion, development of character, and social progress of various sorts she is far behind England. In Japan the character of the German student is usually inferior to that of the English student. The influence of German thought on our politicians in recent years has proved anything but beneficial. To it is to be traced that strong vein of bigoted conservatism and excessive worship of State power that exists in certain quarters, rendering reform difficult. It cannot be said that in matters of government the German system approaches any way near to the perfection of the English Constitution. This German rage cannot be regarded as anything more than an irrational fancy, the result of ignorance or short-sightedness. Who does not know that a knowledge of colloquial French is essential to any one who aims at mixing freely with the nations of Europe? And yet Japan habitually neglects the study of this language. Who does not know that the ideas of liberty, equality of rights and humanity have germinated and borne fruit most abundantly in England and America; and that these countries have led the way in a hundred social reforms of which Japan stands in urgent need? And yet English and American thought occupies a very secondary place in the minds of a large section of the educated public. The present predominance in all quarters of German thought may be traced to the Tôkyô Imperial University. The Germanisation of Japan is thus backed by officialdom. Against the adoption of German scientific methods and against following the lead of Germany in Law and Philosophy we have nothing to say, but in other lines of thought and practice the nation will do better to follow the teaching of England and America. To imitate another nation in things where it undoubtedly excels is praiseworthy enough, but to carry nation-worship to the length of adopting the very weaknesses of the object of reverence is to be deprecated.

* * *

We read in the *Shigaku Zasshi* that the historical material which for many years past has been in process of collection by the Imperial University is about to be edited and published. The volumes collected are given as 6,000 and the manuscripts as 100,000. It is stated that the publication of this material will occupy fifteen years. Five years have already elapsed since the work of collecting was commenced. The history is to come out in volumes of about 10,000 pages each, and the manuscripts in volumes of 600 pages. The printing is to be done by the Insatsu Kyoku. Illustrations are to be furnished and the whole get-up of the books will be first-class. The material will be arranged according to the eras it covers. Subscriptions for this work are now solicited; the price being 3 *yen* a volume for the history and 2 *yen* per volume for the old manuscripts.

* * *

The *Niji Seiki* (Twentieth Century) is a political monthly magazine started last February, the editor and publisher of which is Mr. Kikuchi Butoku. The writers are mostly unknown to fame, and the tone of the magazine in many parts is decidedly youthful. The prospect of war between Russia and Japan is frequently discussed and the probable results of such a contest are elaborated at considerably length in the March number of this periodical. It may be said that very special attention is being paid to Japan's foreign relations by the "Twentieth Century." Its future, however, is, we should say, very uncertain, its *raison d'être* not being at all clear.

The Medical Dictionary called the *Yakubutsu Mei-i*, issued by the Military Medical Department last year, seems to be selling rapidly. The Japanese equivalents for the Latin or German names of medicines are given in Alphabetical order. The lexicon may be used in two ways. It may be consulted by any one who knows the Japanese name of a drug and desires to learn its Latin or German equivalent, or it may be consulted by a foreigner desiring to give a Japanese druggist the Japanese name of some medicine he wishes to buy, who would then refer to the alphabetical list of Latin names. The work is for sale at Maruya's at 2 *yen* 50 *sen* per volume.

* * *

The following is the gist of what the *Tenchijin* has to say about the Crisis in China:—The anti-foreign spirit has its stronghold in the Government rather than in the hearts of the people. The Government hates foreigners because they insist on reform. Every mandarin is interested in defending practices which bring in immense gains. Nothing but a revolution can save China. She needs a new Government and in order to make this Government thoroughly efficient, it will have to be backed by foreign troops for some time to come. The advice of the *Tenchijin* to the Japanese Government is, march an army to Peking; insist on the establishment of an enlightened form of Government and on the restoration of full power to the Emperor; and keep the troops there till these reforms are carried out—a bold policy, but one that would be attended with enormous difficulties if undertaken by any single Power.

* * *

During the China-Japan war the Hakubun Kan published a magazine called the *Nichi-Shin Sensô Jikki*. They have now started a periodical called the *Tôyô Sensô Jikki*, which appears every ten days and contains in addition to the ordinary official reports, the narratives of newspaper correspondents and the like. The editing is poorly done. The material is sadly mixed up, so that the reader's mind is left in a state of confusion as to the connection of different events and the order in which they occurred. But perhaps the editors would reply to this remark that the magazine is a true picture of the perplexity of men's minds in reference to the intricacies of the great China question. The magazine publishes long accounts of the Transvaal war and thus belies its name. What we find to be most interesting in it is the account it gives of the views held by leading Japanese on the China trouble. These we epitomise as follows:—

(1) Mr. Shimada Saburô holds that the breaking up of China should be prevented and that great efforts should be made to reform her.

(2) Mr. Kawasaki Shizan, a writer who displays a minute acquaintance with Chinese affairs, maintains that the policy to pursue is for Japan to send a large army to China at once before the disaffection spreads all over the empire, to overthrow the conservatives, restore power to the Emperor, and set up a new administration under Li Hung-chang, Chang Chih-tung, Liu Kun-yi and others, insisting on radical reform in local administration.

(3) Marquis Oyama is reported to have said that the present commotion will soon subside, but that the after settlement will be a difficult affair. The participation of China by Western Powers would mean that each Power would have to maintain a large force in the territory occupied. This would be a very costly business. It is not likely that such a course will be adopted.

(4) Dr. Naitô Chisô holds that Japan should feel no reluctance in relieving Peking, as Japanese subjects are concerned in the present crisis at the capital. He thinks that even supposing Western Powers were prepared to hold themselves responsible for maintaining order in the various provinces of the empire, with the Chinese Government constituted as it is, their task would prove too much for them.

(5) Count Okuma is of opinion that the action of the Japanese Government has been too deliberate throughout; although the danger was seen a long time ago Japan only moved after other Powers had begun to take action. And even now she has not decided on a policy. To march an army to Peking to rescue her own Minister need not give rise to any suspicions on the part of other Powers. Ulterior questions should not trouble her. They can be dealt with when they arise, and with a commanding position in Peking Japan would be well situated for dealing with them. Why Japan must always follow in the wake of other Powers and never lead it is hard to discern, says Count Okuma.

(6) Prince Konoye, is reported to have said that there is a great deal of wild and irresponsible talk going on. Seize Kwang-tung, say some. Seize Fuh-kien, say others, little considering what step is to follow such action. The trouble is that Japan has no settled foreign policy such as Western Powers have.

(7) Count Soejima observes that China has no regard for the moral principles respected in other countries. Hence the present trouble. If the moral defects of the Celestials could be remedied they would make a great nation. The want of moral purpose even in leaders like Li Hung-chang is most manifest. There is no proof that the attempt to put the Heir Apparent on the throne is backed by a number of powerful statesmen, and yet the movement seems to prosper, so feeble is the opposition thereto.

(8) Count Itagaki says that the Powers must make the Central Government the object of their attack and must make China govern herself. If the Powers take to marching all over the country, attempting to quell opposition by physical force in every district, there is no saying how many years the task will require. The central Government must assert its authority and all foreign aid must be given in conjunction with this Government and not independently of it.

(9) Viscount Tani has implicit confidence in the present Japanese Government, which he thinks is showing a due amount of caution. The situation is beset with difficulties and Japan should move deliberately. There is no call for the despatch of a large army to China.

(10) Viscount Soga criticises the action of the Powers in demanding the surrender of the Taku forts as premature and holds that the precise attitude of the Chinese Government to foreign Powers is not even now clear. Hence it is too early to say that a state of war exists. If the Powers show themselves to be bent on dividing up the country and each governing in their own sphere, Japan should see that she gets something worth having. She should possess Fuh-kien, but she need not think that this territory is of much value.

(11) Baron Otori Keisuke is reported to have said that at such a time as this people have little confidence in the happy-go-lucky (*nonki*) Tôkyô Cabinet and the affable minister who represents them in Peking. Mr. Nishi is a quiet, scholarly man who might do well enough as a minister in time of peace, but who is ill-suited to deal with the situation in which he is now placed. The dilatoriness of the Japanese Government is inexcusable—"Oh that such men as the late Viscount Mutsu and Viscount Kawakami were now leading us!" Long ere this we should have had an army on the way to Peking. What the end will be it is hard to see, observes the Baron. In my belief the Powers are combining for some great object which does not appear on the surface, and I think that Japan has much to fear from this combination.

(12) Baron Shibusawa sees no profits that are likely to accrue from Japan's acquiring territory in China and thinks that if other Powers commit themselves to this policy, Japan should hold back, but insist on obtaining commercial privileges and rights instead.

Other opinions are given, but space forbids our reproducing them here.

* * *

In the last number of the *Gwaikô Jihô* there is an unfinished article on "The Establishment of Diplomatic Organs" in Japan. A short history of Japan's intercourse with foreign nations is given by the writer. This history is divided into three

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periods, namely (1) The early Bakufu age, when the distinction between Japanese and foreigners was first made clear (2) The later Bakufu period, when Japan's foreign intercourse consisted almost exclusively of intercourse with foreign residents. (3) The modern period, during which Japan has made herself known to the Western world in a very thorough manner and established close connections with Western Powers. Nothing of much importance happened during the first two periods. The movements and the liberty of foreigners were curtailed as much as possible and they were watched with suspicion. Reviewing the past twenty years, the writer we are quoting draws attention to the enormous influence exercised by the China-Japan war on Japan's relations with Western countries, observing that subsequent to that event the importance of diplomacy was fully recognised by the nation. Prior to that it was the fashion to send abroad as ministers those politicians who proved obstructive to the Government at home, irrespective of their qualifications for the offices they filled. There is considerable improvement, but still there are a large number of ministers who are not sufficiently versed in foreign languages, customs and usages to make efficient representatives in foreign lands.

* * *

In No. 160 of the *Tetsugaku Zasshi*, Dr. Inoue Tetsujirô has published an extremely long essay on the Mita System of Ethics, which we can only reproduce in bare outline. It is perhaps known to our readers that for many months past Dr Inoue has been attacking Mr. Fukuzawa's ethical stronghold. As we write, the *Jiji Shimpô* is publishing a series of articles entitled *Shûshin Yôryô Kôyen* (An Exposition of the *Shûshin Yôryô*), which are evidently designed to meet the arguments of Dr. Inoue and other assailants of the system advocated by the Mita school of thinkers. Many months ago Dr. Inoue published an article in the *Taiyô* objecting to the line taken by Mr. Fukuzawa. Subsequent to that the learned doctor treated the subject at great length on the platform at provincial and metropolitan public meetings. But this latest effort in the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* is not only the fullest, but the clearest exposition of the convictions of Dr. Inoue and his fellow-thinkers. Briefly stated these are the conclusions reached:—There is no denying that in Japanese traditional ethics too great prominence has been given to the principle of subjection to superiors. This was the result of Confucian teaching. But it may be said to be a stage of though which nations have to pass on their way to a higher level of attainment. That this principle is out of touch with the spirit of the times to-day needs no proof. Therefore Mr. Fukuzawa's denunciation of it is natural enough. But what is objected to is the exclusive use that is made of the opposite principle by the Mita school of ethical teachers. Can the principle of independence and liberty of action be allowed to predominate in a community such as we find in Japan? Would it not lead at once to a disturbance of the peace and order now established? By urging the need of subjection to the authority of others we do not mean to recommends lavish subjection, but a voluntary subjection to what is felt to be valuable for its own sake and for the sake of the benefit it confers. To set up the rule of individuals in the way proposed by the Mita school would kill patriotism and public spirit. If individuals are to act independently of each other and without regard to each other, what is called morality will cease to exist. We are confronted with the fact that the majority of people are foolish, that the wise consist of a select few. To proclaim the principle of independence as against subjection is to play into the hands of the foolish. What could be more undesirable than for a number of foolish units to set up their individual authority against the authority of their betters? In nine cases out of ten is not the principle of subjection a safer principle to follow than that of independence? With the majority self-assertion means the assertion of their own inordinate desires. Is this a course to be recommended generally? It is restraint rather than encouragement that most natures need, and it is in subjection to the authority of others that safety for such consists. To follow the principle recommended by Mr Fukuzawa faithfully would involve the banishment of all authority from the mind, a course vainly recommended and tried by certain German writers, with results that are well known. No subject can he studied without our submitting to authority to a certain extent. But we do not lose all our independence because we submit. It is plain that the principles of subjection or subordination on the one hand and independence or self-assertion on the other must be made coordinate in morality, as elsewhere, and that the exaltation of one of these to a position of prominence as is being done by Mr. Fukuzawa is fraught with danger to individuals and to society alike. . . . . Has Mr. Fukuzawa himself shown the independence which he recommends to others? Has he not subjected himself to Rousseau and other Western writers? Is not the principle he now proclaims no other than Rousseau's *Liberté, Egalité* and *Fraternité*. But where in real life is this boasted equality of men? Is not differentiation one of the leading principles on which the evolution of the physical world and the development of the finest specimens of the human race have alike depended? And is not all progress bound up with the uninterrupted working out of this principle? Any approach to equality would mean general stagnancy. . . . . To say that morality is always changing is misleading. It is only certain methods of applying ethical principles that change. The principles themselves are fixed and unchangeable. The great defect of the Mita system of ethics is its failure to make clear what should be the ultimate object of attainment with human beings. Supposing that people learn to respect themselves and act independently, what will they gain therefrom. The Utilitarian places the highest happiness of the greatest number before him and strives to attain this end. What is the end of life according to the Mita system? Money? Reputation? Power or happiness? We are not told. A system of ethics that fails to declare what is the chief purpose of obedience to the laws of morality is defective. A system of ethics that fails to lay stress on the importance of filial piety and loyalty is certainly out of sympathy with the teaching of the Imperial Rescript on Education.*

* The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* also brings forward this argument against the Mita Ethics.

THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT'S CASE.

The following decree, dated the 29th of June last, was recently received by H.E. Viceroy Liu K'un-yi, at Nanking, and a copy of it was sent by H.E. to Yü Taotai here, which we (*North China Daily News*) translate below:—

IMPERIAL DECREE.

29th June.

The fighting which has begun between China and foreign nations has been caused by a succession of unlooked for circumstances and adverse incidents everywhere, all of which were beyond the anticipation of the Government. Our Ministers in Foreign countries, being separated from their country by a succession of wide oceans, naturally are unable to give reliable versions of what has occurred in China to the Governments to which they are severally accredited, and consequently cannot speak with authority on the crisis nor on the real policy of the government. It is our intention therefore to speak now in detail on the question for the special information of the said Ministers abroad.

In the first place there sprang up in the provinces of Chih-li and Shantung a number of anarchists and rebels who settled down in the country villages and began to teach the people boxing and quarterstaff exercises, mixing with these certain devilish incantations and invocations. The local authorities concerned failed to awake to the seriousness of this movement or suppress it in its infancy, hence the people began to be excited and restless, numbers joined, and within a tenth month almost the whole country side was filled with the followers [of these anarchists], who spread up even to the very walls and precincts of Peking itself.

These anarchists with their devilish charms and incantations were looked upon by the masses as imbued with supernatural powers, the number of believers accumulating daily. Then some of them began to turn their thoughts on chaos and rebellion, and started the cry against missionaries and their converts.

In the middle of June matters suddenly came to a head; churches and mission premises were attacked, burned, and destroyed, converts were ruthlessly massacred, the entire populace of Peking were incited to rise, forming a fierce and resistless avalanche which it was utterly impossible to keep back. Previous to this we had received dispatches from the Ministers of the various Powers in Peking asking to be allowed to bring into the Capital Foreign troops to protect the Legations. The Government, who had by that time seen that matters were getting serious, willingly went beyond the limit of international law and gladly gave the required permission. The result was that some 500 Foreign troops entered Peking for that purpose. This is a clear proof of the solicitude with which the Government regards the Representatives of friendly countries. In ordinary times there had been no enmity between the members of the Legations and the general masses in Peking, but when the foreign troops came to the capital, instead of attending to the duties for which they had come, viz., guarding the Legations, they wandered about, sometimes mounting the city walls and firing their rifles, and at other times patrolling the streets so that people were repeatedly hit by the bullets fired by these Legation Guards. More than this: these soldiers were wont to ramble about beyond bounds and at times even tried to enter the Tunghua-gate of the "Forbidden City," almost by force. Had these foreign soldiers not been prevented by the Palace guards they would have succeeded in getting within the "Sacred Precincts." In consequence of all this, anger was loudly expressed by both our soldiery and the masses, there was a union of dissatisfaction at the conduct of the Foreign Legation Guards which evil-minded men and outlaws immediately took advantage of, and, the worst passions of the masses being aroused, a series of massacres and pillaging of Christians followed in defiance of all laws. The various Powers then called for additional troops into Peking who, however, were opposed half-way by the anarchists and their followers. Fighting followed and the additional troops were compelled to retire.

At this crisis the anarchists and rebel populace of the two provinces of Chihli and Shantung had already spread chaos throughout the whole territory, forming one united body, which made it impossible for the Government to treat with them. It must be, however, noted that the Government was never unwilling to send commands to the troops to vigorously suppress these anarchists and rebel populace, but, owing to their near proximity, as it were under our very elbows, it followed that, if severe repressive measures were ordered, we would not be able to protect the Legations with us and a great calamity would at once ensue. There were also fears that the rebel populace of both Chihli and Shantung would rise together at this crisis and unite in massacring all missionaries and converts within those provinces and leave none alive. We were therefore forced to hesitate and consider the situation, the one course feasible at the time being to request the Ministers at the various Legations to abandon Peking temporarily for Tientsin.

Whilst this proposition was being discussed between us, there suddenly came the news that the Minister for Germany K'ê-Tê-lin (Baron von Ketteler) had that morning, while proceeding to the Tsungli Yamên, been murdered by the anarchist enemies of the Christians. It appeared that the German Minister had the day before notified by letter the Tsungli Yamên that he was going there the next day, but that owing to constant disturbances occurring on that route the Ministers of the said Yamên refused to consent to a meeting with the said German Minister on that day. With the murder of the German Minister, the rebels found themselves caught in a dilemma from which there was no alternative save to go on in their reckless course, and as it appeared to the Government at the time that, in view of this, it would be unwise to send the various Ministers, although with strong escorts for their protection, to seek safety at Tientsin, the matter had perforce to be given up. The only course the Government could do was therefore to issue stringent orders to the troops guarding the said Legations to be all the more on the look out, to keep strict watch over their safety and prevent sudden attack on them.

At this crisis we were suddenly surprised to hear that Genera. Lo Yung-kuang, commanding our forts at Taku, had been personally addressed on the 16th June by the Foreign Officers in that vicinity, who demanded the handing over of the said forts to the Foreign fleets which, if not done by 2 o'clock the next day, would be forcibly taken possession of. Naturally, Lo Yung-kuang refused to do this. At the expiration of the time the Foreign fleets indeed began to open fire at our forts and a battle ensued for the whole day until at last our troops, unable to do more, abandoned the forts to the Foreign troops. A war had thus been commenced which was not of our beginning or choosing. For you will perceive that, even if China should, regardless of her own power and strength, rush into war, was it likely or reasonable that she would, of her own accord, elect to fight all the Powers at once? Was it probable

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that, granting such recklessness, she would have relied on a rebel populace to commence a war against all the Powers?

We sincerely trust that the Governments of the various Powers, when approached by Your Excellencies, will take the above under their serious consideration and make allowances therefor, and that the said Governments be informed of the serious dilemma in which this Government has been placed, and that we were surrounded by forces utterly beyond our control. Your Excellencies are commanded to explain all these in detail to the various Foreign Governments to which you are accredited. [Note: The characters "Wai-pu ness" are here used to signify "Foreign Governments," but the character "pu" has also the meaning of "small states" or "tribes" and is often used in connection with the Mongol and other indigenous and tributary tribes, which abound on the Northern, Northwestern, Western, South-Western, and Southern frontiers of China Proper.—Translator.]

You are to explain the true intentions of this Government in this matter, and that we have given stringent orders to our commanders of troops to protect, as usual, the various Legations to the best of their ability, and that this Government will take upon itself the responsibility of suppressing and punishing these anarchists and rebel populace.

Your Excellencies are to continue as before your duties in respect to our international relations with the various Powers, and you are warned not to keep aloof and stand by as spectators [in the present difficulties of this Government.] Let these instructions be telegraphed to the various Ministers concerned.

THE BOOKSHELF.

China: The Long-Lived Empire, by ELIZA RUHAMAH SCIDMORE; New York: The Century Co.

THIS book appears at a most opportune time, and Miss Scidmore, so well-known to dwellers in the Far East as the author of "Jinrikisha Days in Japan," and "Java: The Garden of the East," is to be congratulated on another success in a field of writing which she has made peculiarly her own. Miss Scidmore has visited China seven times within the past fifteen years. Several of the eight-and-twenty chapters of the book under review, are devoted to the capital, Peking, the objective point of rioters and relief parties at present; one to the foreign missions, whose safety has been so gravely jeoparded; one each to the cities of Tientsin, Canton, and Shanghai, and two to the Great Wall. "The Decadence of the Manchus," the alien ruling family, is the subject of another chapter, while the Dowager Empress, "Tsze Hsi An, the Great," is treated of at equal length.

While the authoress describes places and people in the same picturesque and graphic manner as in her earlier books on the Far East, and records her own impressions on many interesting points, she has also been at pains to acquaint herself with all the standard literature of the subject. Her position as sinologue was confirmed last year, when she served as one of the secretaries of the Twelfth Oriental Congress at Rome. Her present work, which throws many side-lights on the causes of the situation in China to-day, is fully illustrated from photographs and drawings, the frontispiece being a portrait of the Dowager Empress from a painting on silk.

We make but one extract, though many tempt, giving Miss Scidmore's opinion of China's latest crisis:—

"This present 'break-up of China,' a catch phrase which has lately roused Occidental interest and anxiety, is an old story, very often repeated in this oldest surviving empire of the world, an old-new subject fittingly dismissed in Colonel Yule's small foot-note thirty years ago: 'It has broken up before.'

"Such a crisis, a mere break-up or change of dynasty, is nothing new to Confucius's people, and China will continue to break up at intervals for thousands of more years to come; the Chinese remaining the one same, homogeneous, unchanging, incomprehensible people—the Chinese, only the Chinese, forever the Chinese, no matter under what alien flag they toil, by what outer people they are conquered, or benevolently protected in inalienable spheres of influence. The physical endurance and vitality of the people as a race are no more remarkable than the endurance of the nation, of the body politic known as China, the survival of the decayed, crumbling, honey-combed old empire long after it should have logically ceased to hold together or exist.

"Defying age and time and progress and the harsh impact of Western civilization, China continues, and will continue to be China—whether 'for the Chinese, only some centuries can tell. That same shibboleth of the handful of reformers to-day, 'China for the Chinese,' is thousands of years old, too, heard each time the empire was exploited by northern Tartars, each time a native dynasty arose. It is raised now, as time-honoured custom ordains, when yet another Tartar conqueror advances from the north, and vital thrusts are being dealt from the south, the east, and the west. There was a worse state prevailing when Confucius wandered from state to state, trying to rouse the rulers and people, and time may have only swung round again for another great moral teacher to rise up, scourge and lead this certainly chosen people.

"The Occident is fortunate in assisting at one of the many great downfalls, but it need not assume that this is at all the end, the absolute and final ruin, the last wreck and crash of the old empire, of its curious, four-thousand-year-old civilization, all because the present parvenu Manchu dynasty happens to fall. 'It has broken up before."

FINANCE AND FOREIGN TRADE.

At a meeting of bankers recently held in Tokyo Mr. Matsuo, Director of the Finance Bureau, stated that according to investigations completed at the end of last month the number of banks throughout the empire totalled 2,225, showing an increase of 59 as compared with the figure for the previous month. The loans issued by these banks within the year aggregated 4,421 millions of *yen*, the balance in arrear at the end of the year being 600 millions. From these facts it may be inferred that the same amount of funds was utilized in the form of loans seven times over in one year. Apart from these circumstances it is worthy of notice that the general business of the banks has correspondingly increased. Nothing can be more striking than the numercial superiority of the minor banks. Statistics show that the institutions with a capital of not more than 10,000 *yen* number 133; those with a capital below 30,000 *yen*, 242; those below 50,000 and above 30,000, 322; those below 100,000 and above 50,000, 565; those below 300,000 and above 100,000, 58; those below 500,000 and above 300,000, 120; those below 1 million and above 500,000, 120; those above 1 million, 78. These small banks are a great evil.

The banking business in Hokkaido proved extremely satisfactory during the latter half of last year. The number of banks organised is 36, of which 25 have their head offices in the North. The net profits realized during the half-year were 249,582 *yen*, and the total transactions 498,221,166 *yen*. This is more than double the amount transacted during the corresponding period of the previous year,—a fact which clearly shows the brisk circulation of money in the North. As to deposits inclusive of official funds, the figures given are no less than 71,686,566 *yen*, of which 69,754,980 were repaid. Discounted bills amounted to 20,212,328 *yen*.

With regard to the rates of interest that prevailed in Hokkaido during the latter half of last year the *Jiumin* says the maximum was reached in September at 14.9 per cent., and the minimum was experienced in October at 9.8 per cent, showing a decreasing tendency compared with the previous year. The interest on deposits was fixed in July at 6.4 per cent, but by the close of October the rate had fallen to 4.5 per cent. As to the rate of discount the maximum stood at 3.4 *sen* during August and the minimum at 2.4 *sen* in October. The above remarks are founded on an average taken for Hakodate, Otaru, Sapporo, and Esashi.

With reference to the above subject the *Kokumin* remarks that the gross total of specie exported up to the 11th instant exceeded 5½ millions of *yen*, while on the 12th a further amount of 3 millions was shipped to Hongkong and Shanghai by the steamer *China*. Of this amount 2½ millions are to be landed at the two ports mentioned, the remaining ½ million being destined for San Francisco.

Dealing with the large demand for silver caused by the Chinese trouble, the *Keizai Zasshi* remarks that the public seems to entertain the opinion that the Government may be able to utilize at this conjuncture the amount of silver collected at the time of alteration in the system of coinage. But the notion is entirely fallacious, for the silver in question was already disposed of, as may be perceived from the following table:—

	Yen.
Gross total of sales and uses made of silver	75,093,822
Details:—	
Transferred to the Mint as bullion for subsidiary coins	27,567,011
Sold in Shanghai	17,546,288
Sold in Hongkong	15,823,000
Sold to foreign banks	7,417,374
Circulated in Formosa at the market value	6,212,973
Circulated in Wei-hai-wei	197,175
Circulated in Korea	330,000

Thus nothing remains at present. One way of procuring several millions of *yen* in silver is to enforce a gold standard in Formosa and prohibit the circulation of the *yen* pieces. The Formosa bank alone possesses 2 millions as security for its paper. Formosan finance, alleges the *Keizai Zasshi*, ought to be improved by the adoption of gold monometallism just as it is enforced in Japan proper. Another process for the acquisition of silver is also to be equally recommended. The system now in operation aims at limiting paper to 5 *yen* denomination, the lower value being represented by subsidiary silver pieces. Instead of this one *yen* notes may be restored and tokens of even lower denomination issued, viz., the 50 *sen* paper formerly circulated. By this process a larger portion of subsidiary coins might be recast into one *yen* pieces for transportation to China as war expenses.

The foreign trade of Japan for the first half of this year shows a certain degree of progress in comparison with the figures for the corresponding period of last year. The following table illustrates this:—

	1st half of 1900. Yen.	1st half of 1899. Yen.
Exports	94,987,854	88,942,637
Imports	136,208,807	92,702,276
Total	258,196,661	181,644,913
Excess of imports.	68,220,953	3,759,639
Excess of specie	33,380,512	1,463,001
Imports	7,361,630	16,248,141
Excess of exports.	26,018,882	—
Excess of imports.	—	14,785,141

The excess of imports could not be avoided in view of the steady appreciation of commodities during the past few years. It is not surprising, therefore, that the excess for six months reached 64½ millions of *yen* approximately. This year there is no balance of Indemnity to replenish the vaults of the Treasury and thus the exodus of specie became inevitable, the figure of 26 millions excess of exports being ultimately reached. As to the excess of merchandize imported, the figures stand as follows:—

	Export in Yen.	Imports in Yen.	Excess of Imports.
January	15,116,976	22,282,789	7,172,812
February	14,544,001	25,017,330	10,473,328
March	16,696,032	31,945,866	14,949,833
April	13,519,949	32,814,075	19,294,626
May	20,012,936	30,125,153	10,112,213
June	15,097,954	21,316,092	6,218,138

The excess of imports has steadily grown since January until it culminated in April with 19 millions. There was a slight falling off from May owing, probably, to the depreciation in the prices of commodities, but the chief factor which swelled the volume of imports during the period under notice was raw cotton imported through purely speculative motives about March or April. The causes of augmentation of imports have now almost, if not entirely, disappeared, while the latter half of every year is characterized by an increase in the export of silk and other staples. In these circumstances the reverse of the result experienced in the first half of the year may be expected.

The *Shogyo* classifies imports and exports for the first half of the year as follows:—

EXPORTS.

	1st half, 1200. Yen.	1st half. 1899. Yen.
Refined manufactures	18,790,804	17,087,220
Crude manufactures	41,518,827	37,725,554
Unwrought merchandise	18,406,621	22,626,996
Others	16,269,592	11,502,867

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Imports.		
Materials	80,815,965	48,336,845
Articles of luxury	25,788,629	11,127,480
Necessaries	17,551,137	10,203,447
Others	39,053,076	23,034,504

This year a considerable increase is noticeable in the export of refined manufactures, while in crude manufactures more or less diminution is shown. As to imports materials have considerably increased, as a result of progress in all branches of industry. In the item of luxuries the increase of some 15 millions of *yen* shows a steady improvement in the standard of living. This is the tendency of the age, and can not be artificially discouraged. Foreign trade for this year shows on the whole marked progress in the export of *habutae*, silk and silk textiles, matches, porcelain, yarn, coal, copper, and other commodities. The import of raw cotton yarns, wool, rails, iron, machinery, and other materials for manufacture has correspondingly increased, but this can not be considered a source of anxiety. The same remark holds good with regard to the increased importation of rice and other cereals from abroad, inasmuch as the rice crop in Japan last year was less successful than that of the year before. In short, the abnormal excess of imports this year is simply the result of the extraordinary development of the country's industry and commerce.

The *Osaka Asahi* gives the following figures of staple imports and exports dealt with at the Osaka Custom House during last month :—

Country.	Exports in Yen.	Imports in Yen.
Austria	—	175,706
British India	58,102	—
China	8,285,614	7,330,286
Korea	33,282,829	29,372,013
France	—	161,584
Germany	—	5,748,636
England	—	196,190
Hongkong	5,642,835	—
Philippine Archipelago	4,742,348	28,920
Other countries.	—	2,178,243

As to Kobe the figures are as follows :—

		June, 1900. Yen.	In. or dec. in comparison with corresponding period last year. Yen.
Merchandise	exports	6,372,272	* 263,862
	imports	9,933,602	† 879,657
Total		16,306,575	† 615,792
Specie..	exports	3,848,705	*3,600,570
	imports	241,334	†3,100,219

* Indicates increase ; † Decrease.

In investigating the value of the staples of import and export the following result is obtained :—

Exports.	Yen.	Imports.	Yen.
M'factured tea.	731,662	Beans & peas	331,112
Rice	184,697	Rice	58,359
Copper	422,012	Kerosene	262,498
Cotton yarns	2,356,573	Sugar	220,542
Matches	382,330	Raw Cotton.	2,890,881
Straw matting.	158,500	Cotton yarns	191,468
Straw braids	57,533	Oil cake	577,983

TOKYO RICE EXCHANGE.

A general meeting of the Rice Exchange was held at 3 p.m. on the 15th instant when the following report of transactions for the first half of this year was presented and passed :—

	Yen.
Gross amount of receipts	158,804
Outlays	85,388
Profit during the current term	75,416
Brought over from the previous account.	48
Total	73,464
Distributed :—	
For reserve (5 per cent)	3,700
For special reserve (1 per cent.)	750
Reserve against depreciation of appreciable bonds on hand	2,300
Rewards (9 per cent)	6,700
Dividends (at the of 30 per cent. per annum)	60,000
Carried to next account	14

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

According to the *Kokumin*, the foreign trade of Japan for the first half of this month shows an excess in imports of a little over 1½ millions of *yen*, while the excess in the export of gold has reached 3,690,000 *yen*, and shows a further tendency to increase. The details are as follows :—

	1st half of 1900. *Yen.*	Total from January. *Yen.*
Exports	6,674,620	99,619,593
Imports	8,239,066	171,388,172
Excess of imports.	1,564,446	71,768,575
Export of gold	3,755,092	36,252,593
Imports	57,608	7,118,733
Excess of exports..	3,697,484	29,133,860
Export of silver	31,052	947,064
Imports	202,139	504,441
Excess of imports.	171,087	442,626

Exports and imports for Yokohama and seven other ports :—

	Exports in *Yen.*	Imports in *Yen.*
Yokohama	2,545,500	3,907,500
Kobe	2,720,881	3,053,008
Osaka	460,692	635,325
Nagasaki	377,424	408,145
Hakodate	75,630	77,022
Niigata	6,970	43
Moji	168,861	17,670
Shimonoseki	248,662	140,143
Total	6,674,620	8,239,066

Export and import of gold for Yokohama and three other ports :—

	Export in *Yen.*	Import in *Yen.*
Yokohama	1,413,493	—
Kobe	2,291,900	48,005
Osaka	—	5,996
Nagasaki	49,700	3,080
Total	2,755,092	57,081

Export and import of silver for Yokohama and three other ports :—

	Export in *Yen.*	Import in *Yen.*
Yokohama	1,406	689
Kobe	5,562	2,000
Osaka	21,000	—
Nagasaki	3,084	450
Total	31,052	3,139

GRAND HOTEL LIMITED.

The half-yearly meeting of the Grand Hotel Limited, was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Hotel. Dr. Hall presided, and there were also present Messrs. C. K. M. Martin, R. Howie, A. M. Knapp, M. Kaufmann, B. C. Howard, L. Wolf, and E. W. Haskell.

The CHAIRMAN said the only matters to lay before the meeting were the report and accounts, which were as follows :—

The Profit and Loss Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the half-year ended June 30th, 1900, accompany this report.

The net profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from December 31st, 1899, and after providing for genera. expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, bonus to Manager, &c., amounts to Yen 57,788.00, which it is proposed to apply as follows :

In payment of a dividend of 10 per cent for the half-year	"	25,000.00
For Depreciation	"	12,254.86
Carried forward to new account	"	20,533.14

Of the considerable balance carried forward, consisting wholly of liquid assets (Wines, Provisions, Cigars, General Expenses in stock, and cash after cancellation of Sundry Debtors and Creditors,) a large part is reserved to defray the expense of providing increased accommodation for guests in the dining-room and on the front verandah

Mr. Mitchell McDonald having resigned his seat as a Director, Mr. E. Knaff, of the firm of Ulysse Pila & Co., Yokohama, was appointed by the Board to fill the casual vacancy.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 26th day of July, when warrants will be issued.

C. H. H. HALL
MARSHALL MARTIN, } Directors.

Yokohama, 11th July, 1900.

THE GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH, 1900.

LIABILITIES.

	Yen.
Capital 2,500 Shares at yen 100	250,000.00
Debentures	10,000.00
Bills payable	12,841.29
Kurumaya Security Fund	200.00
	273,041 29
Balance Profit	57,788.00
	330,829.29

ASSETS.

	Yen.
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	35,886.41
Cash in hand	584.25
Fire Insurance Value	2,921.69
Ground (Estimated Value, Oct., 1897, yen 85,000)	60,000.00
Buildings (Estimated Value, Oct., 1897, yen 53,000)	58,014.63
Electric Light Plant	13,830.61
Steam Launch	7,162.27
Wines in Stock	6,184.06
Provisions in Stock	1,859.10
Cigars in Stock	1,766.87
General Expenses in Stock	838.10
Bills receivable	7,333.89
	330,829 29

Dr.,			Yen.
To General Expenses			30,922.36
" Fire Insurance			5,725.58
" Directors' and Auditor's fees			1,185.61
" Bonus to Manager			500.00
" Balance, Profit		Y.57,788.00	
to be dealt with as under :—			
Dividend	Y.25,000.00		
Steam Launch written off	162.27		
Buildings written off	7,000.00		
Furniture written off	4,261,98		
Electric Light ... written off	830.61		
Carried forward to new Account	20,533.17	57,788.00	58,788.00
			Y.92,121.55

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—JUNE 30TH, 1900.

Cr,	Yen.
By Balance brought forward from 31st Dec. 1899	23,382.84
By Working account	67,139.50
" Rent Account	1,131.00
" Share Transfer fees	20.00
" Share Warrant fees	50
" Sale of old Material	439.78
" Interest	7.93
	92,121.55

Yokohama, July 1, 1900. By Balance ... 20,533.14

Yokohama, 30th June, 1900.

MARSHALL MARTIN,
B. C. HOWARD, } Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

F. J. HALL, Auditor.

Yokohama, 11th July, 1900.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and account.

Mr. HOWIE called attention to the paragraph stating that of the considerable balance carried forward, a large part was reserved to defray the expense of providing increased accommodation for guests in the dining room and on the front verandah. He did not quite understand that He imagined the cost of the addition to the dining room would be a small matter, and also to extend the verandah.

The CHAIRMAN said the total cost of improvements was not yet known to the Board. In order to diminish the expense of part, it was proposed to use material that was taken from the site of the present annex. It was expected that that would decrease the cost, which, even as originally projected, was not large. The expected outlay would exhaust the major portion of the cash they were carrying forward and that was the reason why a larger dividend was not declared.

Mr. HOWIE—I presume the cash carried forward is not a large amount.

The CHAIRMAN—It is 6,900 *yen*. Of that as originally projected about 4,000 *yen* will be consumed in the extension of dining room and flooring of the front verandah.

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Mr. HOWIE asked what was the "*Kurumaya* security fund, 200 *yen*."

The CHAIRMAN—That is a fund of 200 *yen* which the *kurumaya* are required to deposit as a guarantee of good conduct. Up till recently that money has simply been kept in the Secretary's drawer as cash unaccounted for. It was thought best for safety that it should be included in the account current of the hotel and accounted for on the books in this way.

The CHAIRMAN then put the motion to the meeting, and it was carried.

A DIRECTOR.

Mr. HASKELL asked if Mr. Knaff were qualified as a director.

The CHAIRMAN said he was not at the present time. It was not necessary until he actually joined the board.

This was all the business.

BIG FIRES IN YOKOHAMA.

Considerable sensation was caused on Saturday evening about 7 o'clock by an outbreak of fire on the Creekside Yokohama. The building attacked was No 116, a large brick godown roofed with corrugated iron, and divided into three compartments. It was stored with cotton, sugar, &c., and was occupied by Sun Ho Chan and Wing Yee Woh. The progress of the fire was remarkable. Within a few minutes of the first appearance of smoke dense volumes were pouring out of the windows and roof, and the flames were mounting high into the air. In half an hour the fire had attained such a mastery that it appeared likely, with the southerly breeze, that all the surrounding property might share in the destruction. Fortunately, however, this disaster was averted by the efforts of the brigade men, who were promptly on the spot and worked magnificently. Superintendent Morgin received the alarm a few minutes past seven, and with the men of the Brigade, two hose reels, a stand pipe, and the steamer got with all speed to the scene of the conflagration. Water was obtained from the hydrants, and the steamer, with several manual engines from the Police Brigade, were quickly at work. Altogether eight streams of water were directed on the burning building and the surrounding property. It was soon evident that nothing could save the godown, but by dint of hard effort the neighbouring premises were kept intact, though the exterior of Peterson's engine works and the French bakery were a good deal scorched. The danger was the greater as many of the houses near were of very poor construction. The fire was fairly under control by eight o'clock, though far into the night the embers were blazing sufficiently to light up the whole street. The godown and its contents were entirely destroyed, the loss, which is covered by insurance, being said to amount to over 200,000 *yen*. The cause is unknown.

If any further fires occur in China Town, Yokohama, a searching inquiry will be necessary by local insurance offices. At 2.15 on Wednesday morning Superintendent Morgin received an alarm from the Police Station of a fire in this delectable and suspicious quarter. With the Satsumacho Brigade men and the steamer a start was promptly made. On arrival at the scene it was found that a 2-storied wooden building, brick faced, on Lot No. 148, occupied by Sing Cheong and several others was enveloped in flames. There was a fairly plentiful supply of water but on account of the houses being poorly built, and closely huddled together, the buildings were destroyed. One was divided into three compartments, another into two, and the third into two. The origin of the fire is unknown.

A false alarm of fire on the Bluff was raised shortly after noon the same day.

Mr. Iwasaki Koyata, son of Baron Iwasaki Yanosuke, who is to study in England, with Mr. Matsukata Shonosuke, Secretary to the Japanese Legation, London, and also Mr. Hayashi Utanosuke, son of Baron Hayashi, will leave Japan by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Wakasa Maru* on the 28th inst.

CRICKET.

MR. STEWART'S SIDE *v.* MR. CRAWFORD'S SIDE.

A match between these teams was played on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Stewart's team compiled only 66, while the other side made 154, thus scoring an easy win. Score:—

Mr. E. Kilby, b. G. Braess	26
Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, c. J. E. Moss, b. G. Braess	2
Mr. H. C. Pollitt, c. Plover, b. G. Braess	8
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, b. Abbey	0
Mr. G. C. Allcock, b. Abbey	5
Mr. A. J. Pumfrett, b. G. Braess	0
Mr. A. Scott, c. Crawford, b. G. Braess	0
Mr. H. A. Stewart, c. Read, b. Abbey	8
Mr O. Strome, not out	0
Mr. W. S. Moss, c. Hudson, b. Abbey	0
Mr. F. Pollard, b. Abbey	2
Extras	5
	66

MR. CRAWFORD'S TEAM.

Mr. W. Browning, b. Kilby	5
Mr. L. S. Hudson, b. Kilby	1
Mr. W. Braess, c. Strome, b. Kilby	13
Mr. H. Kilby l.b.w. b. Pumfret	24
Mr. P. B. Clarke, c. Scott, b. Kilby	41
Mr. J. E. Moss, b. Stewart	5
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Allcock, b. Bugbird	34
Mr. Gower, b. Kilby	0
Mr. A. O. Read, b. Kilby	5
Mr. C. E. Libeaud, b. Kilby	0
Mr. F. H. Abbey, b. Kilby	0
Mr. W Goddard, not out	8
Extrass	18
	154

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

MR. CRAWFORD'S.

	Balls	Runs	Maidens	Wickets.
P. B. Clarke	48	18	0	0
C. E. Libeaud	24	16	0	0
G. Braess	48	15	4	5
F. Abbey	32	12	1	5

MR. STEWART'S.

E. W. Kilby	84	30	2	8
F. H. Bugbird	76	37	2	1
A. J. Pumfrett	60	53	—	1
W. S. Moss	6	2	—	—

Kilby accomplished the hat trick, and he bowlde one wide.

SAILING RACES.

On Saturday afternoon the 39-raters and 21-raters of the Yokohama Yacht Club raced for the Hamburg-America P. A. G. Cup and the Asagao Cup respectively and second prizes presented by the Club. The big yachts went over No. 3 Course, 10 miles, the start being at 2.30 p.m. The 21 raters started at 2.15 p.m. over the same course. The results of the races were as follow:—

39 RATERS,

	Finish.	Arb. allce.	Cor. Time.
Haidee	4.49.37	5.25	4.44.12
Kingfisher	4.42.18	3.45	4.42.22
Mary	4.41.45	—	4.41.35
Maid Marion	—	2.45	—
Spray	4.45.20	9.15	4.36.05
Wanderer	5.05.00	15m.	4.50.00

Spray takes first prize and two record points; *Kingfisher* second prize, and *Mary* receives one record point.

21 RATERS.

	Finish.	Cor. Club. Time.	Cor. Arb. Time.
Kodesu	4.48.44	4.47.08	4.48.34
Yugao	4.54.08	4.52.32	4.49.33
Abunai	4.58.50	4.55.28	4.58.50
Nandeska	4.52.50	4.49.31	4.50.43
Sodeska	4.59.14	4.55.52	4.56.39
Vixen	4.56.36	4.53.14	4.33.06
Stella	4.52.04	4.52.04	4.50.05

Kodesu takes first prize and two record points *Nandeska* second prize, with one record point to *Abunai*.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Temp. Air Max	Min	Temp. of Lake.	State of Weather	Remarks in General.
Sunday, 15th	72°	68°	74°	Fine	—
Monday, 16th	73°	68°	74°	Fine	—
Tuesday, 17th	71°	64°	74°	Rain	—
Wednesday, 18th	64°	62°	74°	Rain	—
Thursday, 19th	68°	66°	74°	Showers	—
Friday, 20th	69°	64°	74°	Overcast	—
Saturday, 21st	71°	67°	74°	Fine	Cloudless.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A coloured man named Ned, employed by Messrs. Bavier & Co., has been arrested in Yokohama for beating a Chinaman named Si Jin-Kee on the 13th inst. in the godown of the firm.

We print in this issue an article on "the Associated Fists" from the pen of the Rev. G. T. Cadlin, of the Methodist New Connection, who has spent over 22 years in Tientsin or its neighbourhood, and is well known as the author of a hand-book on "Chinese Fiction" and cognate subjects. In 1893 Mr. Candlin was sent to Chicago as a delegate to the World's Parliament of Religions.

Vernacular papers state that the Department of Agriculture and Commerce has resolved to spend half a million *yen* in three yearly installments in investigating agricultural questions, the work to be commenced from next year. The subjects of investigation will be the amount and nature of cultivable land, agricultural methods, number and status of labourers, financial condition, &c.

The following is the number of persons dying in Tokyo by hunger or violence, from January 1st to June 30th:—

	Hunger.	Drowning.	Railway accidents.
January	4	8	1
February	4	6	3
March	11	5	3
April	10	13	5
May	4	21	5
June	5	13	1
Total	38	66	18

The foreign trade of Osaka has been seriously affected by the insurrection in China. According to the *Osaka Asahi* the figures for the past two months stand as follows:—

		Exports in *yen*.	Imports in *yen*.
South China	Duing May	139,898	62,615
	During June	58.553	43,483
North China	During May	83,166	64,065
	During June	23,442	18,365

No serious change occurred up to the middle of last month, but towards the close of the month an extraordinary reduction became apparent, and it may be anticipated that the troubles will bring about a further depression of trade in the manufacturing city.

The twentieth century, which will begin on Tuesday, January 1, 1901, will have 24 leap years, the greatest number possible, says the *Gem*. February will have five Sundays three times—1920, 1984, and 1976. The earliest possible date on which Easter can occur is March 22. The last time it occurred on that date was 1818. The latest date that Easter can occur is April 25. It will occur but once in the coming century on that date—1943. The middle day of the century will be January 1, 1951. There will be 380 eclipses during the coming century. In 1935 there will be seven eclipses. There will be eight solar eclipses visible in the United States—1918, 1923, 1925, 1945, 1954, 1979, 1984, 1994.

It is known, says the *Tokyo Asahi*, that the Standard Oil Company of America, recognising the possibilities of the kerosene wells in Niigata, has been engaged in the purchase of shares in the mining companies and also of property in the district so that a considerable area in the kerosene districts, has fallen into their hands. The manager of the Yokohama branch of the company recently organised a company under the name of the Taiheiyo Sekiyu Gomei Kaisha, with a capital of 100,000 *yen*, the principal object of the new corporation being to refine oil produced in districts belonging to the Standard Oil Company as well as that purchased in other parts of Niigata. Naoyetsu was selected as the headquarters of the company. The utmost efforts are now being made to consummate the scheme under the superintendence of Mr. Edwin Dunn.

The cruiser *Yakumo*, which was built for the Imperial Japanese Navy by the Vulcan Works, at Stettin, during the last days of May passed

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through the various firing and speed trials, which took place on the Baltic and were executed in the presence and under the supervision of Officers of the Imperial Navy, who were highly satisfied with the results. The average speed obtained during four runs was, under natural draught nearly 19½ knots, and under forced draught exceeded 21 knots. A special feature shown by the trials was the very small consumption of coal in proportion to the power and speed developed, and the remarkably low air pressure during the trials under force draught. The vessel is now on her way to Japan and she will no doubt form a very valuable addition to the Imperial Navy.

A gunner named Parnett, in the Royal Artillery, made a daring attempt to desert by jumping from a train running at high speed between Pembroke Dock and Tenby recently. He injured his arm so badly that he was forced to give himself up at Tenby to get medical assistance.

The *North China Daily News* of the 20th inst. writes:—It will be learnt with deep regret that the rumour that Mr. John Birch, of John Birch & Co., Ld., had been drowned, is confirmed. The raft on which he was travelling down the Yellow River from Lanchou was wrecked or broke up on the 24th of June last, and Mr. Birch was drowned, and all his kit lost. Captain Watts-Jones, who was with him, reached Ninghsia safety.

A sharp fight occurred at Shinjuku, Tokyo, on the 24th instant, between sixteen boys, divided into two sides, Boxers and Allied troops, the lads being armed with bamboos and sticks. One of the boys on the latter side, named Okawa Tomoji, aged twelve, had a spear head at the end of his bamboo and with this weapon pierced the throat of a boy named Iida Kinzo, aged sixteen, inflicting a wound which proved fatal. Tomoji was arrested by the police and taken to the station at once.

Much interest has been excited by the Cambridge Mathematical Tripos this year. The most remarkable feature about the list is the smallness of its number, only sixty-three men figuring. Usually there are about 100. The wranglers number sixteen only, one-half of the ordinary number. A notable feature is the position of Balak Ram, a native of the Punjaub, as fourth wrangler. A countryman of his was one of the two senior wranglers last year. An Australian stands thirteenth wrangler. As a rule Australians at Cambridge are more noted for athletics than for work. The position of eighth wrangler was attained by the first lady on the list.

According to *Central African Commerce*, a service of motor cars is to be established in the French Soudan in connection with the railway which is now being built in that region. M. Dubois has been granted a monopoly of transport between Bafulabe (the starting point of the second section of the railway) and Bamako (the eventual terminus on the Upper Niger). The type of car to be used is the "Dietrich," which weighs four tons, travels ten and a half miles an hour, and costs £60. Travellers by the cars will pay 6d. per mile, and merchandise so much per ton, according to its nature.

Mr. J. C. Stevens sold in England, on 20th ult., two specimens of the egg of the great auk. The more important of these is an unrecorded egg from a French collection, and is described as the finest specimen known of a special type of marking. Bidding commenced at 150 guineas, and at 315 guineas the egg became the property of Mr. Gardiner, naturalist, Oxford street. The second egg of the great auk was purchased for a few shillings at an auction in Kent and resold at Stevens's on April 24, 1894; on the 20th it realised 180 guineas, Mr. Gardiner being also the purchaser.

The annual meeting of the Japan Society was held at 20, Hanover-square on 13th June. Professor Anderson occupied the chair, and there was a fair attendance of members. Mr. Charles Holme, Secretary, reported that during the past year the Society had lost ten members by death and thirty-seven by resignation—a total of forty-seven. Against this eighty-two ordinary members and thirty-six corresponding members had been elected, making a total of 118. The membership of the Society now was 639 ordinary members, 269 corresponding members, and thirty hon. members, making a total of 938. The Chairman briefly commented upon the satisfactory nature of the report. He said that the Society, in its financial position, was improving every year.

Mechanics from Chatham Dockyard have been working overtime on the first-class cruiser *Argonaut*, in order to complete her for her departure for China at the earliest moment.

The Council of Missions Coöperating with the *Nihon Kirisuto Kyokai*, or "Church of Christ in Japan," is composed of all the Missionaries of seven Missions, mostly of the Reformed and Presbyterian denominations of Great Britain and the United States, who are engaged in promoting the educational and evangelistic interests of the Church of Christ in Japan; which latter is entirely independent of the Council or the Missions, save as a few individual members of the Council are also ecclesiastically connected with the above Church. The Council is one of Conference, and not of legislative force.

The latest reports from New York published in the *Shogyo* show that the total supply of silk for the world on the 1st April last reached 1½ million kilogrammes approximately, the amount being double that at the corresponding period of the previous year. Below are comparative figures for the past five years:—

Year.	Kilogrammes.	Year.	Kilogrammes.
1900...	1,149,693	1899...	573,916
1898...	1,173,178	1897...	1,384,582
1896...	2,432,224		

Classified according to nationalities, the actual stock on the 1st April last stood as follows:—

	1900. Kilogrammes.	1899. Kilogrammes.
Europe	281,532	235,495
Japan	182,521	42,688
China	685,640	295,732

The *Jiji* publishes the statistics of the Practical Training Section of the Commercial College in Yokohama, in regard to the silk trade for the week ending 30th June. Following are the figures:

	Filatures. Bales.	Hanks. Bales.	Kakeda. Bales.	Total. Bales.
Total for the previous week	2,806	462	108	3,376
Brought over	—	—	—	—
Arrivals	1,043	136	—	1,179
Sales and direct exports	165	—	—	165
Reshipments	326	—	—	326
Stock at the end of the week	3,358	598	108	4,068

The amount shipped by foreign vessels is as follows:—American ships, 146 bales; French, 40; German, 50; other ships, 10; total 206. It is added that the stock on the 1st of July totalled 1,675 bales.

The *Kokumin* represents Baron Kaneko as making a speech in which he represented Japanese tea as no longer finding a brisk sale in America. Leaf must be put on the market at lower rates, and this may be accomplished by the use of labour-saving machinery. A scheme in this sense has already been submitted to the local producers in Shizuoka, who have received it with hearty approval. One Takabayashi Kenzo, of Saitama Prefecture, has, after 19 years' struggle with difficulties and hardships, succeeded in inventing a machine for which his friend Matsushita has obtained a patent and established a factory in Hori-nouchi, Tokyo, with a view to tea manufacture. The machine saves much time and labour. In Matsushita's factory is another machine invented by one Mochizuki Hatsutaro, which is used in the preliminary process of manufacture. The leaf, however, can be remanufactured, as is done in Yokohama, by means of Harasaki's invention, which is now highly appreciated. By the use of these and other machines the process of manufacture can be carried on at a cheaper cost. There are now good prospects of extending the market in America, especially as in view of the troubles in China competition from that country is greatly lessened.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense, responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

RESCUE WORK IN TOKYO.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I see in your columns an appeal from the Salvation Army for funds to establish a Rescue Home for Women.

Mr. Bullard writes as if no such home existed in Tokyo, and speaks of "Many Missionaries" being impressed with the need of such a home. Is it possible that Mr. Bullard has never heard of the Home under the management of Mrs. Large known as the Florence Crittenden Home? If any one knows of a girl whom they wish to rescue they cannot do better than put her under Mrs. Large. I may say for their encouragement that a girl whom I took two and a half years ago from the Yoshiwara is now a trusted servant. During nearly two years she was under Mrs. Large, and there were of course many faults to be conquered. One cannot expect the effects of such a life to pass away at once, but Mrs. Large's patience has had its reward, and I cannot say how grateful I am that I had such a place to which I could send the girl.

Though sympathizing with the Salvation Army's aims, I object to their writing as if they were about to supply a much needed want, and I deprecate the multiplication of such agencies, when the work is better done by one Home strongly supported.

Yours truly, ENGLISH MISSIONARY.

Ushigome, Tokyo, July 19th, 1900.

CHRISTIAN ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The Rev. L. B. Cholmondeley complains in your columns of being misrepresented in the last Monthly Summary of the Religious Press. If he had taken the pains to read with a little more care, the short summary of his article given he would have found the opinion for which he contends stated in the clearest manner. He says that he maintains the view that England is still Christian and that she is more Christian than she has ever been. That is precisely what the Summary of which he complains states, and I venture to think makes even more emphatic than the short quotation from his English M. S. cited by Mr. Cholmondeley in his letter to you. Here are the words used by me: "The chief reasons Mr. Cholmondeley gives for his opinion are that new Churches are being built *every year to accommodate the ever-growing population*, that existing Churches are well attended, that the worship conducted in them is characterised by great devotion, that men of distinguished talent form the episcopate, that scores of ministers have turned their backs on the highest worldly honours in order to pursue their sacred calling, that the Bible is still considered the Book of Books, that there is *an ever-growing* demand for Christian literature, *that foreign missions are more prosperous than they have ever been*, and last, but not least, that in all works of a benevolent character *the Christian Church invariably takes the lead*." The italics have now been added by me to show that special notice is taken of the opinion that England is more Christian than she has ever been—an opinion that is sufficiently pronounced and optimistic to call for special notice in an impartial representation of the views of the writer in question. I do not think that the majority of the readers of the "Summaries of the Religious Press" are as dense as Mr. Cholmondeley seems to suppose.

I am, yours, &c.,

THE WRITER OF THE SUMMARY.

July 20th, 1900.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—England is to-day without doubt the most Christian country in the world. We have heard the prophetic utterances about the holy gospel of the mailed fist, and now it seems that it is to be practised in these parts, in response to the poetic prayer that appeared recently in the *Japan Mail*—a swift answer. This is the sort of doctrine and practice that we read about in the Old Testament and other old time histories, and in its time and place was very good. "The Law was our school-master, to bring us to Christ." Now England is a notch higher than all that, and every single word that has been asserted so eloquently by the Rev. Mr. Cholmondeley is quite true; but I would venture to ask him, and I would appeal to the subjects of the greatest Empire on earth, to ask their own consciences in the sight of Heaven, whether they are quite satisfied with the quality and the quantity of the Christianity of the Empire.

One side of the shield is gold, pure, true, and brilliant, but what of the other?

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Let us ask an old man in South Africa, "Brother Paul, what is your opinion of the Christianity of the British Empire?" He is good at quoting texts. Would he say "The meek shall inherit the earth?"

What about those millions starving in India?" Has the heart of the Empire for the last year been set on the text, "It is more blessed to give than to receive?" Now it may be said that no one has a right to speak out in this matter, being the citizen of another country. But the rest of the world has been taxed to pay for the famine in India, and "taxation without representation is robbery." I have been taxed by a conscience, somewhat Christian, that I have not been able to entirely silence, and I say that the neglect of the British Empire to provide for its own household is stamped in Holy Scripture as being "worse than infidel." I have been tempted by my avaricious pains at parting with cold cash that ought to go to buy bread for my own. I call it "The absent minded beggar empire," because its heart has been so set on crushing Kruger for the benefit of Rhodes, that it could not hear the bitter cry of starving India. Read the XXV Chapter of Saint Matthew's Gospel from the 31st verse on, and know that it is by the practical ethics of the corporal works of mercy that we are all to be judged, men and nations. God pity the poor now, but God pity the rich then.

As a priest of God with power to bind and lose, I lay it on the conscience of the clergy of the Empire who through generations of noble ancestry, supported by the labour of the poor, have as a sacred trust the care of the helpless wards of a nominally Christian country, as you value your soul's salvation do not dare to let another soul in India or anywhere else under the cross starve.

Take every coin from the Bank of England, lease Saint Paul's Cathedral to the Jews for a junk-shop, and hire out Westminster Abbey for a dime museum, pawn the Crown Jewels if necessary, but feed those poor people of India.

If you do not, there are other Christian nations ready to fight you for the chance. Christ has other champions. If Saint George cannot slay the dragon of covetousness, Saint Michael can and will.

Let Rudyard Kipling chant the "Recessional." Put Lord Kitchener in command, and as he has used his demoniacal energy to slay men, let him now save men's lives and put at his elbow a priest who knows in his heart that Christ is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, to press home upon the heart of even that proud Lucifer, that unless he does his duty he shall be infallibly damned. When all this has been done the heart of the Christian nations shall turn again to what is after all the most Christian nation on earth, and who knows whether the Declaration of Independence may not be reconsidered? At least we shall have peace on earth to men of good will.

Yours sincerely, HENRY S. JEFFERYS.

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Since my arrival in this country recently I have followed with interest your editorials on the China question. I cannot say, however, that I am able to agree in your estimate of the acts, motives, or attitude of the Empress Dowager at the present juncture; may I therefore ask your permission to state what I believe to be an hypothesis that better explains the present situation in China—an hypothesis truly, as all opinions on the matter at this time must be, but one that, in my judgment, accords with all the facts of the case as now known to us. I shall state it as follows:—

(I.)—The Empress Dowager has shown for the past two years by her acts, her friendships, and her appointments what her real mind, heart, and policy on foreign questions, and on reform, is. To foreigners it has been apparent adherence to the treaties, but really deep covert opposition.

(II.)—The taking of the Taku forts, from her point of view, confirmed her in her evil estimate of foreigners, she of course not seeing her own acts as foreigners saw them, hence she acts solely on her own view of herself—simply an aggrieved potentate, convinced more that ever that she is right in her judgment and has the right on her side.

(III.)—She of course, according to her well-known custom and duplicity, uses the young Emperor as a puppet to make a proposal to the Emperor of Japan and issue other mandates such as that to Liu 'Kun-i, all simply because it suits her purpose to maintain an appearance at home of injured innocence, and abroad of helplessness against irresponsible rebels in her own capital.

(IV.)—The Princeling Tuan (for he is not a real or full prince), may have been over-zealous, or have gone too far in his views or acts, either for the success of her game, or even the safety of her authority and life, but

V.—The very essence of the present position is in this, that she likes and wants to see the several classes of people collected in that English Legation harried, soldiers, missionaries, and ambassadors, and so allows the game to proceed—half because she is really fool enough to think it may win in the end, and half as retahation for the injury done her by the taking of the Taku Forts, but, in any case, all done, not by her direct act, but by lawless irresponsible rebels forsooth, whom she makes the young Emperor say, as a loophole in case of failure, he or she is powerless to put down or restrain—powerless to put down in her own city indeed, while she is attacking Russia in Siberia and the allies at Tientsin!

I hope neither the equally astute Japanese, nor any of the foreign Governments, will allow dust—such thin, poor dust—to be thrown in their eyes, even when done in good diplomatic form, thrown, I say, by a woman that, for over thirty years, has maintained a singular reputation for unscrupulous ambition, unbridled wilfulness, and murderous cruelty.

Apologising for so trespassing on your space, and enclosing my card.

I am, Sir, Yours, &c.,

"AN OLD CHINA HAND."

22nd July, 1900.

THE COUNCIL OF COOPERATING MISSIONS.

Karuizawa, July 23rd, 1900.

The Twenty-third Annual Meeting of the Council of Missions cooperating with the *Nihon Kirisuto Kyokai*, or Church of Christ in Japan, closed its sessions at 1 p. m. to-day. It began its sessions at 10 a.m. on the 19th inst. in the Union Chapel at this place. The Vice-President, Rev. Thos C. Winn, conducted the religious exercises, and the President, Rev. Dr. J. B. Hail, of Osaka, preached a very helpful sermon on the Apostle Paul's words in Phil. 3.14,15. "*I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*" This goal he made the knowledge of Christ, not as his disciples not Paul himself first knew him as a man, but in a spiritual likeness to Christ; which the speaker placed in self-denial or sacrifice, in suffering, and in following Christ in all things. The result would be the knowing of Christ in the power of his resurrection being made possessors of the same mind and Spirit of Christ. He pointed out some of the benefits resulting from a knowledge of, and conformity to, Christ in Society, in the world to-day; such as the fatherhood of God, afflictions sanctified; woman honoured and exalted; marriage hallowed; orphanages, asylums, refuges founded; warfare humanized, &c. He closed his discourse by several lessons; not to be satisfied with a half-developed Christian manhood; not to shrink from suffering, but that Christ may be fully taken up into our lives and so reproduced in the world.

Following the sermon, the Council was called to order by Dr. Hail and, in the absence of the stated Clerk, Revs Haworth and Gerhart were elected Secretaries *pro tem.* The number of members of Council are much less than usual, possibly owing to the General Missionary Conference to be held Oct. 24th to the 30th this year in Tokyo. The business of the Council, besides the reading and adoption of the Annual Report, this year compiled by a lady, Miss Mary Deyo of Uyeda, Shinshiu, was the hearing and adoption of several Committees' reports on publication, on ministerial aid, on the need of mission reinforcements, on closer co-operation, &c. The annual report, of unusual interest, occupied the best part of two sessions in its reading, discussion, and final adoption. The Treasurer's Report showed an expenditure, chiefly on publications, of 1,008 *yen*, leaving a deficit of 125 *yen*. The expense of the Council is assessed on the seven missions represented at the pro rata rate this year of six *yen* a member, with a prospect of reduction in the future to 5 or 4 *yen* a year, as heretofore.

The Statistical Committee's report taken from the five Presbyterial reports of the Church of Christ in Japan showed a total membership of 10,798; 700 having joined during the year, contributing 26,634 *yen*, or *yen* 2.47 per member.

The Publications Committee on Sunday School literature reported that, in union with the American Methodist Episcopal, the American Board, and the Baptist Union Missions, 5,000 leaflets, 2,000 quarterlies, and 800 monthlies had been published.

The following table, compiled with much care on the part of the Committee, may be of interest in showing the relative attention paid to educational and evangelistic work on the part of the Missions composing the Council.

Evangelistic Work:—No. of Japanese Ministers employed by the Missions 34, salaries of same, *yen* 9,415; Evangelists, 113, salaries of same *yen* 22,519; Bible Women 151, salaries not given; Guaranteed by Boards for Evangelistic Work 39,179, Missionaries 150; Stations where Missionaries live 36; Outstations 160. Proportion of all the Missionary women engaged in evangelistic work one-third; of the Men four-fifth.

Educational Work:—Theological Schools 2; Students 18; Bible Women 119; Boys' Academies 3; Students 322; Girls' Boarding Schools 11; Pupils 721; Day School (nearly all E. and W. J. Mission) 13; Pupils 1,159; Guaranteed by Boards *yen* 37,873. Foreign teachers, men 11, women 22; Japanese teachers, men 85, women 79.

Rev. Messrs. Loomis and Snyder, on behalf of the Circulation of the Scriptures by house to house visitation, by sale in stores, cars, &c., gave many interesting items connected with the importance of this kind of volunteer colporteur work.

A most enjoyable feature of this session of the Council was the presence of several of the members who had but recently returned from attending the great Ecumenical Council held in New York. At a general meeting held of an evening largely attended by all the missionaries and other residents of the place, a most interesting and instructive account was given by the Revs. Thos. MacNair, A. Peeke, and Rev. Dr. Sheffield, President of the Tongchow College, North China, who, though not a refugee, is stranded here on his way out to China by the untoward events now taking place in the former field of his labour.

These addresses, varied in their character, were highly appreciated. Rev. Dr. Sheffield also consented to address the Council and the public again at 8 p.m. on the general conditions of affairs in China, of which he seems peculiarly qualified to speak. The Sabbath Services in both the Union and the Episcopal Church Chapels were uniformly well attended and conducted. At 10 a.m. service yesterday, the Union Chapel, seating probably 150 persons, was filled and greatly interested in a forceful presentation of the power of the preaching of the facts of the Gospel, and not our theories of the same based on Paul's declaration 1 Cor 1 18, "*The word of the cross is to them that are perishing foolishness; but unto us which are being saved it is the power of God.*" This sermon was by the Rev. E. S. Booth, Pastor of the Union Church, Yokohama.

At 4 p.m. the Communion was participated in by members of the Council and the Union Church congregation, Rev. E. R. Miller preaching an earnest sermon and Revs. Brokaw and McIlwaine administering the elements. Very interesting week-night, Sabbath, and Sunday School services have also been held for the Japanese, who are largely the servants or associates of the Missionary families, or workers here. Daily meetings for prayer for the divine protection and intervention in the affairs of China at this crisis have been and are to be held. A number of missionaries from China add interest to these meetings.

"The Transformation of China."

Karuizawa, July 24th, 1900.

The theme of Dr Sheffield's address at the Council of Missions at Karuizawa last evening was a magnificent effort worthy of the greatness of the subject, and of its present commanding importance. He treated of the spiritual, social, and political transformations of China, dealing almost exclusively with facts. He spoke of Chinese conservatism and yet of the wonderful fact of 2,000 missionaries penetrating and living among them with the very considerable confidence of the people and of the *literati*. He spoke of the medical, educational, and literary influences exerted, also of the social and political. He spoke of the effects of the last four wars on China, and of the present reform movements. He exposed the fallacy of the position won by the Burlingame Embassy and the correctness of Sir Harry Parkes' theory of Chinese administration. He alluded to the practical abandonment by the press and the U.S. Government, of the treaty rights the U.S. Government itself secured for the protection of Chinese converts, of whom there are at least 200,000. Of the future of China he deplored anything looking towards destruction of its unity; a declaration of a policy of reform, and protection with the open door would secure peace in a very short time. On the other hand, perpetual war would arise at the forced separation of a people of so great conservatism and patriotism, when it comes to robbing them of their homes and their soil. They know of the syndicates and millions of dollars to buy up their mines, which they thus come to think possess great importance. The Boxer movement is not anti-Christian merely; it is anti-foreign, foreign goods, dealers in the same, and anything having the character *Yang* in it is hated. No man of that name can enter their number. His statements concerning the Empress Dowager, the Emperor, and all the chief men of China were very instructive, and his address such as would make one wish every person in this Empire could hear it. It would show to carping critics and sceptics the really great and commanding influence of such representatives of Christianity and of civilization. Its political bearings also are such that it would well pay China, Japan, England, and America to secure such advocacy.

Resolutions Regarding the late Mrs. L. H. Pierson.

Whereas in the unerring providence of the great Head of the Church, He has been pleased to call away by death at Yokohama, Nov. 28, 1899, one of the foremost of the Missionary Women workers of the world, a representative of the Woman's Union Missionary Board Society of America, and a member of the Council:

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Resolved that as the Council of Co-operating Missions we hereby express our sympathy with the Mission and the Society with which our esteemed fellow-labourer was so long and so devotedly connected.

Also that we desire to express our sense of gratitude to the Lord of the harvest for having commissioned and sustained so long in her unsparing labours so admirably equipped, and so eminently successful a labourer in educational and evangelist work, in both which respects she was preeminently blest.

Resolved that in Mrs. Pierson's catholicity of spirit, and her ardent devotion to her Lord and Saviour, as well as her loving sympathy with all classes of the people, we find an inspiration to seek the same conformity to Christ, and a like devotion to the salvation of the souls of our fellow men.

Resolved further that we express our thanks at the important services Mrs. Pierson's labours have rendered to the Church of Christ in Japan, in training teachers, Bible women, and Pastor's Wives, and in direct evangelistic work in a large part of the field occupied by members of this Council. We crave earnestly also the blessing of God upon her successor in the care of this important work, and upon the multitude of those who have directly and indirectly been brought under her predecessor's instruction and influence.

MR. E. FOXWELL ON JAPAN.

A "HAPPY" PEOPLE.

"Happy Japan, garden of glitter," is evidently, in the opinion of Mr. E. Foxwell, late of the Imperial University, Tokyo, the main impression in the average Britisher's mind of this most progressive of Asiatic countries. It is an impression derived at the theatre, and has its foundation in fact. The uppermost note in Mr. Foxwell's fascinating lecture, given in the Guildhall recently, was the happiness of the Japanese, and the series of enchanting lantern slides with which the discourse was illustrated brought home the aptness of Harry Greenbank's alliterative "garden of glitter." But many other sides of Japanese life were dwelt on by Mr. Foxwell, who strongly urged his audience to spend their vacation in Japan. It was difficult to imagine, he said, what a totally different world one found there. The total expense of a month's holiday in Japan, including the passage out and back, would be from £100 to £150. The lecturer advised would-be students of Japan to read Prof. Chamberlain's "Things Japanese" and Mr. W. E. Griffis's "The Mikado's Empire."

Prof. Alex. Macalister, F. R. S., presided. He introduced the speaker as a Cambridge man who had now been resident for some time in the interesting country about which he was going to speak. They welcomed him back and were glad to have him in their midst again. [Applause.] Japan was to them a place of great interest. It had always been associated with mystery, as readers of "Gulliver's Travels" would realise. They would learn far more about Japan from Mr. Foxwell than Dean Swift ever knew.

Mr. Foxwell said the reason he wished to speak about Japan was not simply the childish desire to speak about what he had just seen, but something more. Countless books had been written about Japan during the last 30 years in every language, but as regards his own country he was certain that English people had scarcely any idea of Japan, and had formed a totally incorrect picture of the Japanese people. They knew something about the scenery, but not about the character of the people. He wished to make protest against the incorrect idea that most people had, and he might possibly be able to give a few hints as to what he believed to be the real character of the inhabitants. Why had people mistaken ideas about Japan and the Japanese? If they looked at the books written on Japan they saw nine-tenths were written by very young women, almost school-girls, or else by very young men who had just escaped from severe parental restraint. [Laughter.] The young women described, almost solely, tea-pots and paper lanterns [laughter], and the young men saw nothing but geisha [Renewed laughter.] If they added that together it gave them a very inadequate idea of Japan. One very great writer visited Japan eleven years ago, Mr. Rudyard Kipling, and had given us a most interesting account of his visit in "From Sea to Sea." It was very picturesque, but very incorrect, for Mr. Kipling was there only a short time and put down hardly anything that was told him. He (Mr. Foxwell) had lived in Japan four years, and had known all kinds of people, from Marquis Ito, the man next to the Emperor, down to the very lowest—a very large number of the latter. [Laughter.] Talking of the babies, Mr. Foxwell said they were always good-tempered. They were carried about all day strapped to the back either of the mother or the sisters or brothers. The brothers were especially good in this respect. Having the baby on their backs did not interfere in the least with their games, and they played hop-scotch with their burdens as vigorously as without. [Laughter.] Owing to their up-bringing one rarely saw a fractious Japanese baby, and he had never seen a grown-up Japanese out of temper. He always had a serene face, giving you the idea of a person at a picnic. [Laughter.] From their birth to the time of their death they appeared to be perfectly happy. Superficial observers accordingly said they were a nation of children and could not be taken seriously. But that was not the case. A motto which had been taught the Japanese for centuries was "It is only by looking at things lightly that you can become energetic." This was almost the opposite of the English idea. The Japanese were very much in earnest, although they always assumed this air of having no burden on their minds. The Englishman, as a rule, looked anxious, perhaps gloomy, when he was earnest. The Japanese was just the opposite. Some people also said the Japanese were only a nation of artists, as if by way of reproach, because the insinuation was that a nation of artists was a nation of effeminate people. He was afraid that idea had grown up in England. Art, like the Japanese had produced, could not be obtained but by very sterling qualities in the inhabitants. It required centuries of plain living, hard thinking, and honesty in work. They must concentrate their senses of sight and touch. Any person who went to Japan with the notion that because the Japanese were a nation of artists they were an effeminate people would find the notion rudely shattered. He would find people with essentially fighting blood in their veins, who had done almost nothing but fight for 2,000 years. A Japanese was first and foremost a fighting man. They would find the whole population very tough in constitution and much better able to "rough it" than the ordinary people of this country. They could spend successive days with very little food, walking over most difficult country and exposed to the worst of weathers. People said, too, they were not a business nation. He was afraid that was true at present, though there were some business men who had made very large fortunes. The reason for their being unbusiness like was that 30 years ago no one was allowed to be business-like in Japan. Until the revolution, when the present Emperor was put on the throne, business was the lowest thing anybody could do. The business men came next to the real outcasts. A motto of Confucius, which was systematically taught in Japan till 30 or 40 years ago, was "Have not!! Be!" Fifty years ago a man who had property would try to conceal the fact, because it was considered a low thing. They admired people who could fight and had a certain amount of learning, and were devoted to some feudal lord, but they did not admire wealth in any way. They could hardly expect people brought up on such a motto to become business-like "all of a sudden." Among the coolies there was a proverb "You must never have in your pocket any of yesterday's money" [laughter]—and the coolies acted up to this motto very conscientiously. [Laughter.] They earned a great deal of money and had nothing. Incidentally Mr. Foxwell alluded to a Japanese school-boy's essay on the character of the English. It was a very favourable criticism, but concluded with a sly hit at the English Imperialistic instinct. "You give us your country," said the Englishman to other nations "and we give you our testimony" (Testament). [Loud laughter.] Hastily reviewing the present *régime* in Japan the speaker said everything had been started afresh since 1868, when the present emperor was put on the throne. Three years after that date the feudal system was abolished. By that system the country was governed by 270 feudal noblemen. They established an Army and Navy on European lines, which could not be done without a great deal of hard work. In 1870 they established a system of compulsory education and a totally new kind of education. Instead of teaching the old Chinese fables they provided millions of new books containing modern scientific thought. Ships had to be ordered and paid for, as well as weapons for the Army, railways had had to be made, the mercantile marine founded, hundreds of factories built. All the old Oriental customs and traditions had to be swept away, and they had to introduce new codes of law founded chiefly on French and German models. All the police of the country had to be taught how to adjust themselves to the new state of things and how to behave towards foreigners. If they considered the task the Japanese nation had performed in the last thirty years he thought they would see that children could not do it. Very clever and strong men were required to do it. Japan was not a rich country compared with this. Most people said it had about a fifth of our wealth. Yet he thought there must be twice the amount of happiness, judging by people's faces. They knew how to use material wealth to produce a great deal of happiness. There was very little gout or drunkenness, and no poor-law. The poorest Japanese would be ashamed to have his relatives supported at the public expense. There was no ordinary well-to-do middle class such as they found in other countries. In urging his hearers at the close of his lecture to go to Japan, Mr. Foxwell said they could not imagine what a totally different world they would find by going there for a month.

Some slides, showing the surpassing loveliness of Japanese scenery, the magnificence of Japanese architecture, and the attractiveness of Japanese geisha, were projected from a lantern. The Chairman thanked Mr. Foxwell for the great intellectual treat he had given and the audience's hearty clapping proved how much they appreciated what the speaker had said. The proceeds of the lecture were in aid of the War Fund.—*Cambridge University Journal.*

AMERICAN NOTES.

Admiral Remey, at Cavite, has cabled the U.S. Navy Department an urgent request for more officers. He wants three Commanders, four Lieutenant-Commanders, ten Lieutenants, twenty cadets and a fleet paymaster. There are now fifty-two Americans vessels in commission in Asiatic waters, and there is extreme need of a large force of officers.

Mrs. Dewey, wife of Admiral Dewey, has purchased an island, known as Big Fish Island, at Chester, Nova Scotia, one of the most charming and picturesque spots on the Nova Scotian coast, and a place largely patronized by wealthy Americans during the summer. The island is a third of a mile long and an eighth of a mile wide and is one of many that dot Chester basin. It is Mrs. Dewey's intention to erect a handsome summer residence on the island.

The *Northwestern Miller* says of the spring-wheat crop situation:—"The most conservative view does not give hope for the crop exceeding 60 per cent. of that raised in Minnesota and the Dakotas last year. Conditions are worse in Manitoba. It is now in many mouths that North Dakota will not raise more than enough for bread and seed. The three states will probably not raise over 125,000,000 bushels, and the more popular estimate is 115,000,000 to 110,000,000 bushels."

The amount of arid lands which lie in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Colorado is estimated to be at least 500,000,000 of acres. This is rendered useless by the need of water, but the reclamation of this land would add billions of dollars to the wealth of the country. In many sections of Colorado and other states in which irrigation is used the best farming lands in the country are those which were formerly worthless and are now artificially watered.

Brunswick, Maine, a town of about 7,000 inhabitants, is thought to be the first municipality in the United States to undertake forest planting on a large scale, or what is practically the old world institution of a town forest. The town owns a tract of about 1,000 acres, and at a recent meeting of the council $1,000 was appropriated to improve this land by planting it in white pine. Town forests are common in Europe, and often furnish a large part of the municipal revenue. The division of forestry of the United States Department of Agriculture will assist in the work in Brunswick.

Commenting on the work done in the recent session of Congress, the Philadelphia *Telegraph* says:—Of the 12,152 bills introduced in the two houses, 1,215, or just one-tenth, have been passed, but of these only 285 were public acts, the remaining 930 being private acts of one sort and other, chiefly pension bills. Congress has become, in fact, a huge pension agency, run in rivalry to, or rather in partnership with, the army of pension sharks who infest the lobbies during the sessions. If a tithe of the time devoted to pension claims which should all be disposed of under general laws had been given to the public business, an excuse would have been lacking for the neglect to consider numerous measures affecting the interests of the country at large which have been pushed aside, on the pretence that there was no time to take them up in the session just closed.

The New York *World* has an amusing note on the recent big pearl "robbery" in London. It says:—London was startled this week by what appeared to be a sensational theft from the Carlton Hotel of Princess Radziwill's $300,000 necklace of pearls, but the sequel was still more sensational. Although the Princess invoked the aid of Scotland Yard and gave a most circumstantial account of her loss, detectives discovered that while the pearls were really gone, they had not been stolen, but had been pledged by the Princess herself. The missing pearls had been given to her by an aristocratic young admirer, who had "annexed" them from his mother's jewel safe, substituting a facsimile mock set for them. The loss had been discovered by his mother, and he had implored the return of the gems. The princess consented, but when the time came to deliver them she declared that they had been stolen. There are many princesses of the name of Radziwill. This one is a daughter of a Viennese nobleman, young, handsome and gay.

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Mail advices from Kingston, Jamaica, dated June 15th, contain the following particulars of the catastrophe which befel the river steamer *Mabel* and three other boats recently, when they were swept over the Tumatumari falls, in the Demarara river, British Guiana. It appears that the *Mabel* left Potaro landing, in the gold-bearing district, for the landing at the head of the Tumatuman falls, with three boats in tow. There were 120 passengers altogether. When the boats were within 200 yards of the Tumatumari landing it was found that the current was likely to carry them beyond it. A line thrown to the shore fell short, and Captain Decamp, a passenger on the steamer, volunteered to swim ashore with it. The passengers then became alarmed and many of them jumped overboard. Some, it is said, got in the way of Captain Decamp, who only escaped being drowned by catching hold of a tree. All hope of saving the boats was now past. Amid the heart-rending screams of the passengers they were swiftly swept to the cataract. As soon as they reached the rapids two of the boats were smashed against the rocks and sank. The rope holding the third boat to the steamer broke and the craft shot through the rapid safely, her occupants being none the worse for their terrible voyage. The steamer, as soon as she got in the rapids, blew up and went under. The cries of the passengers at this time were most awful. The angry waters carried many of them to their doom, their bodies being dashed with great violence against the sharp coral rocks. Fully one-half of those on the boats were lost, among the victims being Dr. G. C. Taylor, an Englishman, who was making a tour of the West Indies, and J. B. Tays, an American gold miner, who had been prospecting on the Potaro and Minehaha rivers.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR'S PRAISE.

"ZEAL, PATIENCE, COURAGE, AND CHEERFULNESS."

The following is the full text of the notification which was issued by Admiral Seymour, "to be read as soon as may be to all concerned in the late operations, and to all ships' companies in North China":—

Tientsin, 3rd July, 1900.

I desire to express to the officers, seamen, and marines comprising the late expeditionary force towards Peking my high sense of satisfaction with their general conduct therein, during a time which comprised much discomfort, hard work, and want of food and water, with little rest and decided anxiety, in addition to the dangers of war.

"The above were encountered with a zeal, patience, courage, and cheerfulness worthy of the noble service to which we belong. Similar trials may be before us, but will, I know, be borne as the above were.

"At the same time I wish to express to the officers and men lately employed in the defence of Tientsin, and to those engaged in the operations about Taku, including the capture of those forts, my thorough satisfaction with all concerned.

"The defence of Tientsin has been carried out with much risk and fatigue constantly harassing those employed, but met with the true Naval spirit.

"The capture of the Taku forts was a brilliant affair, well planned and well carried out; success, as not unusually, crowned very gallant and daring efforts. I congratulate all concerned therein.

"It is my pleasing duty, and that of the Rear-Admiral in my absence, to convey the above to their Lordships at the Admiralty, and it will be known generally in England.

"To me, personally, the fine conduct of those belonging to the British China Squadron is a matter of special pride and pleasure, and I have no misgivings but that, whatever is before us, we shall if possible do better rather than otherwise, and uphold the traditions of the British navy.

CHINA NOTES.

Moukden is said to be in a state of anarchy and the Governor General besieged in his Yamên. Many people think this is simply a report intended to excuse his failure to protect the missions.

H.M.S. *Bayfleur* is reported to have had the heaviest losses amongst the British fleet, some of her men now suffering from terrible injuries. The work of the ship itself is impeded by the number of men killed and wounded.

A report is current in the North that it will be impossible for troops to advance to the relief of Peking before the 1st of September, owing to the state of the roads. The enemy have cut the river banks and flooded the roads and made marching impossible.

One of the refugees, Mrs. Franklin, who has arrived at Shanghai from Tientsin, has had most unfortunate experiences. She was wrecked some time ago in the N.Y.K. *Tokio Maru*. She had only been married three months, and when the notice came for foreigners to leave, her house was in flames ten minutes after she had left it.

There is a good deal of recruiting for the Chinese army going on daily in the neighbourhood of the Kianguan Arsenal. The would-be soldiers are given a pole with heavy stones, about 56 lbs., each, at either end, and only those who lift this above their heads are eligible for the ranks.

Among the numerous victims of bad luck in Tientsin is Mr. Warren of Circus fame; he has lost all his horses and most of his gear and has not given one single performance. Curiously enough this is the fourth time in his nomadic life he has been shelled in revolutions or war; twice in Brazil, once in Manila.

The Bank House (agent's private residence) shares with the Tientsin hotel the honour of having the biggest smash up of the whole British Concession at Tientsin. Three rooms in one case, were blown into one; the reason is the same in both buildings, flimsy, shoddy work by a Chinese jerry-builder. The way the houses have, on the whole, stood up to 3" and 4·7" shell fire is in the highest degree creditable to the builders.

The Japanese Volunteer Company on Shanghai has in it the promise of a great success. Strong in numbers it is fortunate in having in its ranks a number of trained men, and more fortunate in being under the command of a professional soldier. We expect to find this company amongst the smartest and most useful units in the corps as soon as it has had a little time for drill and firing exercise.

By the C. N. S. *Wuchang*, which has arrived at Shanghai from Newchwang, news comes that the only Europeans there now are those whose business detains them. There is hardly enough beancake in stock to load the vessels in port, and in another fortnight the port will be virtually closed. The coolies employed in the Newchwang bean mills are mostly Cantonese, and they are leaving in great numbers. From one factory alone 220 coolies cleared out at once, and others are daily leaving.

The Missions Etrangères have received the news of the murder at Moukden on the 3rd instant of Monseigneur Guillon, Bishop of Eumênie, Fathers Emonet, Corbel, Bourgeois, and Veuillemot, and two Sisters of Providence. Some of the Sisters were saved by Russian troops. All the native Christians in Moukden have been murdered. The Roman Catholic Mission establishment at Newchwang, in the city, which is some eleven miles from the treaty port of Yingtze commonly called Newchwang, has been burned.

The people of Tientsin speak in glowing terms of the bravery of Mr. James Watts, son of the pilot at Taku. This young gentleman, with three Cossacks, set out from Tientsin to Taku to report the state of affairs, and the little party were several times fired upon, having to take shelter in the reed-beds along the river. They got through safely and Mr. Watts piloted the Welsh Fusiliers and the Hongkong Regiment back to Tientsin. Mr. Watts has since been made a sub-lieutenant of the Tientsin volunteers.

Messrs. Bush Bros., of Newchwang, write to the following effect:—News has come from Moukden to the effect that Roman Catholic Cathedral has been destroyed by Boxers, and Mgr. Guillon, French Bishop, two priests, and sisters murdered. No danger at present; business progressing favourably, and will continue to do so. A party of thirty Cossacks, including gentlemen of Imperial Chinese Railway, Mr. Bank Schmidt, and Mr. H. F. Bush, have started on horseback for Hsinyang to the rescue of Misses C. and E. Nielson, and Rev. C. and Mrs. Oleson, who are supposed to be surrounded by Boxers.

That England's midshipmen are just as plucky as in days gone by was shown during the operations of Admiral Seymour's column. One juvenile wearer of the "patch," belonging to H.M.S. *Aurora*, in one engagement was in the thick of the fire carrying messages to and fro when a Boxer fired at him at 10 yards range. The rifle ball passed through the youngster's helmet, clipping the top of his ear. He at once drew his revolver and shot his opponent in the throat, killing him. The lad is not much more than 14 years of age. Another gallant middy, named Donaldson, of the *Barfleur*, was engaged in dispatch work during the fight and he was shot through the legs. There were hopes that he would recover at first, but eventually he succumbed to his wounds.

The principal Chinese merchants at Ningpo have engaged 40 extra police and 300 soldiers, at their own expense, to act as guards over their property. The Ningpo Taotai is punishing, in a very drastic manner, all natives who are showing signs of hostility towards foreigners, and it is thought that the "swish" of the executioner's sword will have a good effect upon those ruffians who have been anticipating the sacking of European houses and the slaughter of their inmates.

With regard to the reported invasion of Ningpo by Taichow men in quest of the heads of the French Bishop and the prefect, the *N.-C. Daily News* is informed that the authorities got hold of nine of the malcontents. Five of their number were strangled in the cage—cangue—and the others were glad to make their escape.

After the relief column reached Admiral Seymour at Hsikou, two of the men who had been with Admiral Seymour were discussing their past fights: "Well, poor George is gone." A casual passer-by who belonged to the relieving force joined in with "What George, mates?" "George Spiller of the ——" "Why, that's my brother."

An American marine at Tientsin was in a company which was called up to support another, very hard pressed. When he took his new position on the fighting line, the first thing he saw was the corpse of his own brother, and he was soon afterwards told that another brother had also been shot dead. On reaching Tientsin, however, he found things not quite so bad, as the second man was only severely wounded; he is likely to recover.

In the attack on the Taku forts the cool courage of Commander Craddock of the *Alacrity*, who led, or was one of the leaders of the British landing party, was very noticeable. While the men were scurrying along under-shell, he coolly tramped along the top of the embankment—a prominent mark for every gunner and marksman in the fort. He and a Japanese scrambled up the scarp together, and the two gallant rivals simultaneously hoisted their colours, but as luck would have it the "Jack" was tiny, the "Rising Sun" large, and consequently the British flag was over-shadowed.

The Germans at Hankow have sent the following telegram to H. M. the Emperor:—In spite of the crisis now being most serious there is no German man-of-war in the Yangtze as none can be spared in the north. German interests, therefore, have to rely exclusively upon foreign protection. In view of the great German interests which are rapidly increasing the German merchants of Hankow most humbly beg Your Majesty to command an effective protection for the valley of the Yangtze. Hankow, 6th July 1900, 7.39 p.m." The following answer was received at Hankow:—"Grunenwald, German Consul, Hankow, China. Tell German merchants in reply to their cable there will be protection for Valley of Yangtze after arrival of 9 warships now on way to China.

WILHELM, I. R.

"Kopervirk, July 11th, 12.55 p.m."

We do not feel certain, wrote the *Spectator* a week or two ago as most Anglo-Chinese do, that any force of Europeans however small can beat any force of Chinamen however large. That assumption is always made, even by Ambassadors, who think themselves safe in the swarming capital because they control eight hundred marines, but it may turn out to be unfounded. The failure of fighting power is not in the Chinese themselves. The Court of Pekin is in action the most imbecile in the world, but it may find a Wallenstein nevertheless who will not steal his soldiers' powder, and then Europe will have a new problem to solve. Everybody remembers the victory of Japan, and everybody forgets the sudden, noiseless, and final extinction of Kashgar, a State defended by whole tribes of the bravest and fiercest Mussulmans in the world

A correspondent writes to the *N.-C. Daily News*:—"It is hoped that there will be no repetition of the history of much of the treaty-making in China, and it is firmly believed that no proposal to negotiate should be listened to until the allied flags are planted on the walls of Peking. If, fortunately, our Ministers and countrymen in Peking have not been massacred, it is the duty of their Governments to go there and with drawn swords to enquire why they have not been treated as became their positions; and if massacred then the guilty should be found and those swords swiftly used upon them. No corner of this earth should be dark enough to hide the guilty savages, and there should be no peace until every insult to our flags and countrymen has been avenged. Away with Li Hung-chang and the old gang who have governed China to misrule and pillage the industrial classes of the Empire. No more of that." Commenting on this the *N.-C. Daily News* remarks:—We believe that there are very few of our readers who will not agree with every word of the above. There may be here and there some one in Shanghai who will bow down to Li Hung-chang in gratitude for contracts or concessions given in the past or hoped in the future; but we trust that every one else here,

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official or layman, will treat him with the contemptuous neglect that is his proper portion.

One of the junior officers who has been very much in evidence during the last three weeks, is Lt. Keyes of H.M.S. *Fame* (t.-b.d.). The sister-ship, the *Whiting*, was unlucky enough to get a shot in one of her boilers during the operations against the Taku forts, and has had to do the work of two. Mr. Keyes' first feat was the capture of the four Chinese torpedo-boat destroyers, up at the Taku dock; this he did single handed, by which I mean, by the sole resource of his own ship. He managed it by surprise, and by a boarding party, much in the old cutting-out style of the Napoleonic war. No loss of life. He had previously made friends with the Taku pilots and had learned quickly from them the various marks of the fair way and the little vagaries of the Bar. The result was that he never waited for a pilot, but came skimming over the Bar at all times when it was possible. After the forts were taken he brought squads of 250 men ashore, until the British complement was finished, after which he gave the Russians some friendly help in the same way. His last feat has been the opening up and pushing forward of river communication. The capture and blowing up of the old fort at Hsinch'êng by dynamite has already been referred to—the charge was so huge that it nearly blew the blowers off the planet—but since then he has advanced matters so much that there is water-transit from Taku to Chânhiangch'êng, say 14 miles from Tientsin, and 5 miles inside of railhead.

There is still a strong anti-foreign feeling at Yunnan fu. A tract, supposed to be written by a Hanlin of the city vilifying foreigners in general and Roman Catholics in particular, has been circulated from house to house. The author says, in his preface, that Heaven has given him a pound of gold which he intends to use for the benefit of his fellow countrymen. The best way of doing this is by opening their eyes to the ill deeds of foreigners. With the intention of hampering foreigners, a semi-official proclamation has been issued, ordering persons not to sell property to foreigners without first getting the consent of the neighbours and afterwards of the officials. An amusing incident occurred not far from here, some time ago. A member of the community was travelling in a district that had never before been visited by a foreigner. At one village, where he stayed the night, he was welcomed with unusual cordiality. Vegetables were brought for his use, and beans for his horse. The traveller was much pleased with his reception, but next morning, on starting to leave, found that his camera and washbasin were missing. The inn in which he had stayed was searched, but to no effect. The village elder begged that the matter might not be taken to the mandarin, saying that he would do his best to find the stolen articles. The traveller went on his journey never expecting to recover his goods, but to his surprise, some days after, he was met by a deputation from the village with the stolen property. On a certain day the village elder gave out that he would prepare a cauldron of boiling oil into which each of the villagers must dip his hand, but before the trial by ordeal took place, the property was secretly restored by the thief.

The following is the translation of a placard found on Sunday posted up in Hongkew.—Kuan, the god of war, sends down a message from the cloud of incense where his darkened face is, and says that the Boxers have become genii, that in the Kengtze year (1900), there shall arise sword soldiers (Boxers) thoughout the land, and bring great woe, 10 per cent. of the people shall perish; and one of his great mercy tells how this woe can be averted. Circulate one sheet, and you yourself will be saved, circulate two sheets, and your whole family will be saved But if one should see these sheets and not circulate them or let them he about, then he will but stir up the great anger of the gods, and add more woes which the good can escape but the wicked cannot. If you do not believe, wait till the 7th and 8th moons, when an innumerable number of men will perish at cock-crowing, and between 1 and 3 in the morning, when the judgment of men shall take place. Heaven will send down ten plagues:—

1.—Unrest throughout the Empire.
2.—Shantung province will be swept clean.
3.—In Hunan and Hupeh there will be incessant floods.
4.—In Szechuan they will burn beacons.
5.—In Kiangnan there will be great disturbances.
6.—Chihli, the majority of the people will perish.
7.—There will be clothes with nobody to wear them.

If you keep these words secret, then there will be three other plagues which, it is feared, will make it impossible for you ever to enter heaven. From 7 to 11 p.m. is the hour of life. It is fixed for the 19th day of the 6th moon (15th July) to turn your forces to the south-east and burn incense so as to escape the great woe of fire.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

CHINESE INVASION OF SIBERIA.

Shanghai, July 20.

The attack of the Chinese on Blagowestchensk was entirely unexpected and produced an immense sensation in St. Petersburg. The Chinese simultaneously stopped the Russian steamers ascending the Amur, and erected batteries along the river.

THE TRANSVAAL.

Roberts telegraphed from Pretoria on the 16th that the enemy attacked Pole-Carew's left, but were repulsed by the Irish Fusiliers and the Colonials. The enemy lost 69. The British have 7 killed, 29 wounded, and 23 missing.

Hamilton has advanced to Homachroad unopposed.

1,500 Boers with five guns managed to break Hunter's and Rundle's cordon between Bethlehem and Ficksburg and are proceeding towards Lindley.

The first batch of Boer prisoners have been sent to Colombo.

THE SIBERIAN AFFAIR.

Later.

Serious alarm is felt in St. Petersburg about the safety of the engineers and troops in Siberia. They are most of them concentrated at Charvin and Blagowestchensk. Both places are almost invested and are in a critical condition.

SOUTH AFRICA.

An official telegram from the Transvaal says that Woolmarans has been arrested at Hatherley. He had a quantity of arms and 6,000 bars of gold concealed in a house.

1,500 Free Staters by forced marches reached halfway to Lindley on the 17th. Broadwood's and Hutton's cavalry are pursuing them hotly.

RUSSIA AND THE AMUR.

Shanghai, July 21.

Russia has declared the frontier portions of the Amur District in a State of War, and is taking large military measures.

FRANCE AND THE CHINESE CRISIS.

M. Delcassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs in France, has issued a circular proposing an agreement for joint action by the Powers in China.

THE COMMAND OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN CHINA.

It is reported that General Grenfell will command the British force in China.

THE MILITARY FORCE FOR CHINA.

Later.

It is stated that the Powers have agreed to contribute 40,000 men each for service in China.

M. DELCASSÉ'S CIRCULAR.

The circular of M. Delcassé suggests the advisability of an agreement between the Powers to prevent the export of arms to China.

A REQUIEM.

A solemn requiem is to be held in St. Paul's Cathedral on the 23rd of July for those massacred in Peking.

Shanghai, July 22.

The House of Lords have read for the first time a bill prohibiting the exportation of munitions of War to China.

Mr. Brodrick stated in the House that the officers have been directed to communicate direct with Mr Consul Pelham Warren in case of emergencies in Shanghai Mr Warren has full powers to take the necessary action.

RACING IN ENGLAND.

Shanghai, July 22.

The Eclipse Stakes was won by "Diamond Jubilee," "Chevening" running second and "Shopos" third.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Methuen has occupied Heckpoort unopposed.

Hamilton and Mahon continue to march along the country to the north of the Delagoa Railway.

Hunter is reconnoitering the position of the Free-staters between Bethlehem and Ficksburg

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, July 23.

Roberts telegraphs from Pretoria under date of the 21st, that the Third Brigade encountered Dewet's escaped force on the 19th near Lindley. The enemy were repulsed and broke into two parties. The casualties were slight.

THE PROPOSED REQUIEM.

The requiem in St. Paul's has been postponed owing to uncertainty as to the fate of the people in Peking.

SHOOTING IN ENGLAND

The Queen's Prizeman is Private Ward of the First Devons, with a record score of 341.

THE CHINESE EMPEROR'S APPEALS.

Shanghai, July 23.

The Emperor of China has telegraphed to President Loubet, Emperor William, and President McKinley asking for their benevolent assistance in terminating the present situation, and expressing regret to the Emperor of Germany for the murder of Baron Von Ketteler by the rebels, whom he promises to punish.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Lord Roberts telegraphs from Pretoria under date of the 22nd that the enemy's surrounded force made a determined attempt to destroy the railroad 13 miles east of Heidelberg, but the garrison, consisting of two companies of the Dublins, some engineers and Yeomanry, skilfully repulsed the attack. There is no news from Broadwood and Hunter. The Boers wrecked a train between Krugersdorp and Potchefstrom conveying two officers and 21 sick.

THE POWERS AND CHINA.

Shanghai, July 24, 10 p.m.

(Received in Tokyo at 1.30 a.m. on the 25th).

All the Powers, having been informed of the Chinese Imperial Decree, have replied demanding to be placed in immediate communication with the Ministers in Peking. Meanwhile the assurances of their safety are accepted with reservations.

PRESS CENSORSHIP IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The Times criticises the censorship in South Africa as rendering the operations unintelligible. The lists of casualties are frequently the only indications of fighting or of the whereabouts of the forces.

A PROBABLE GENERAL ELECTION.

A belief is growing that there will be a general election before November.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, July 25.

The railway and telegraph were cut on Saturday northward of Honingspruit. A supply train and 200 Highlanders were captured.

A large force of the enemy is moving on Honingspruit, and there is communication with Pretoria only *vâ* Natal.

Broadwood engaged a commando of 2,000

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with 4 guns at Pahnietsfontein on the 19th, Steyn and both the Dewets were with the commando. Darkness prevented pursuit.

Roberts telegraphing yesterday says that Methuen dispersed the enemy with heavy loss at Oliphant's Nek on Saturday, relieving Rastenburg and joining hands with Baden-Powell

The British encountered the enemy near Bethlehem and were forced to retire with the loss of an officer and 9 men.

CHINA.

President McKinley has offered the Chinese Minister to mediate on certain conditions which are not published.

The Maharajah of Gwalior has offered a hospital-ship, costing 20 lakhs, for the China campaign. The offer has been accepted.

(Telegram Received at the Legation of France.)

FRENCH NAVAL REVIEW.

Saigon, July 19.

The President of the French Republic, the President of the Council of Ministers, the Minister of Marine, and the Presidents of the two Chambers have gone to Cherbourg to attend the review of the squadrons assembled from the Mediterraneau and the north.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

Li Hung-chang has quitted Canton, going to Peking.

CHINA APPEALS TO FRANCE.

Saigon, July 22.

The Chinese Minister in Paris has communicated to M. Delcassé a telegram from the Emperor of China asking for the mediation of His Excellency M. Loubet. The telegram was forwarded yesterday by the Governor of Shantung and does not speak of the Foreign Ministers in Peking. M. Delcassé replied that His Excellency M. Loubet would send his answer to the French Legation in Peking when the certainty was established that M. Pichon, Minister of France in Peking, is living.

Saigon, July 23

The French Government will not consider the request for mediation made by the Emperor of China before obtaining guarantees, notably the entire liberty of the Ministers in Peking, the punishment of Prince Twan, and measures of repression against the Boxers. Until then the military action will continue. The Governor of Shantung affirms that the Ministers were safe and sound on the 20th of July.

(From the French Consul-General in Tientsin.)

Chefoo, July 21.

The allied forces entered Tientsin on the morning of the 14th instant and order was immediately re-established. The attack took place on the 13th, and the resistance of the Chinese was very vigorous. The bombardment had lasted nearly a month, from the 17th of June to the 14th of July. The energy and the bravery of the Japanese troops and of the officers of all ranks, two of whom were the first to enter the place, and who fought in concert with the French, merited the praise of all. It is said at Tientsin that the Ministers and the foreigners in Peking were safe up to the 7th of July, but there was no positive news. A force of 30,000 men being judged indispensable for undertaking the march on Peking, measures of organization are being taken and the expedition will commence.

CHINA.

Saigon, July 24.

The news from China given by the journals continues to be contradictory, but it seems nevertheless to confirm the Chinese Government's desire for peace.

Saigon, July 26.

No despatch from the Ministers in Peking has arrived in Europe.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

CHINA.

Chefoo, July 19.

Yuan Shih-kai, in reply to an inquiry from the German Consul at Chefoo, said that, according to intelligence brought by a messenger who left Peking on the 11th, the Legations were still holding out, and that he, Yuan, did not believe the story of the massacre of foreigners in Peking.

Hongkong, July 19.

Li Hung-chang, in the course of an interview with the Governor of Hongkong on the 18th instant, said that he had received the Empress-Dowager's edict from Peking, dated the 8th instant, appointing him Viceroy of Chihli, and desiring him to proceed to Peking for the purpose of dealing with the conjuncture.

In Canton it is stated that Kang Yi has been appointed Viceroy of the two Kwang.

Vladivostock, July 16.

On the 16th of July the Russian troops came into collision with the Chinese troops at Saharia, and the Amur route is blocked.

Shanghai, July 20.

The Viceroy Chang has telegraphed to His Excellency Shên and to the Taotai of Shanghai that, according to a letter received by him, the Viceroy, from Peking, dated the 11th instant, the Legations were safe up to that day. The Viceroy added that this intelligence had come to him from a trustworthy source.

CHINESE MATTERS.

Shanghai, July 20.

According to a telegram from Shan-tung dated the 20th instant, Yuan Shih-kai declares, on trustworthy authority, that the Foreign Ministers in Peking are safe, and that they are now protected by the Chinese Government.

Hongkong, July 20.

On the 19th two transports, with about 700 Indian troops on board, left this place for the north.

Amoy, July 20.

For some days back placards issued by the Boxers, inciting the people against foreigners, have been posted in Amoy and its neighbourhood. There is at present no sign of disturbance, but the foreign residents all feel uneasy. The Customs Taotai has issued a proclamation with reference to these placards.

Sôul, July 19.

According to a telegram received by the War Department in Sôul from the officer commanding in Ham-gyŏng-do, the Korean troops have killed two "red insurgents" (presumably Boxers). They had crossed the frontier and made their appearance at Kapsan, and were evidently engaged on a mission of espionage. In order to prevent further incursion of Chinese insurgents, the officer had sent troops to Samsu.

This is probably the origin of the rumour circulated yesterday that the Boxers had crossed the border at Wiju.

Shanghai, July 21.

Li Hung-chang arrived in Shanghai to-day.

It is stated on good authority that the Viceroys Liu and Chan and Superintendent-General Tsêng have memorialized the Throne urging that the duty of leading troops northward to quell the insurgents be entrusted to Viceroy Li and Governor Yuan.

Hangkow, July 21.

Viceroy Chan has received from Yuan Shih-kai a telegram to the effect that he, Yuan, had forwarded to Shanghai a telegram sent by the United States Minister in Peking through the *Tsungli Yamên* under date July 18th.

Shanghai, July 21.

According to an Imperial Decree dated the 18th sent by Yuan Shih-kai to Shanghai, the Foreign Representatives in Peking are receiving full protection, and, with the exception of the German Minister, are all well. This Decree was published in answer to the memorial sent in by the Southern Viceroys and Yuan Shih-kai urging the imperative necessity of protecting the Foreign Representatives.

Paris, July 20.

The Emperor of China has conveyed to the Foreign Office in Paris through the Chinese Representative in that city, a request to the President to take the part of mediator for the restoration of peace.

Shanghai, July 21.

Superintendent-General Shêng has just received the following telegram from Governor Yuan:—A messenger who left Peking on the 13th of July has arrived in Shan-tung. He reports that the Legation and the Western Cathedral are still safe and that the Boxers are fighting among themselves.

PEKING.

London, July 17.

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, speaking in the House of Commons, said that the Government had no certain news from Peking, but he could scarcely hope that the rumour of a massacre in that city was altogether false.

"THE TIMES" ON JAPAN.

The Times says that the Japanese troops must be relied on for the fighting at Tientsin, and that in the movement against Peking the fighting column should be composed of Japanese, and the troops for the lines of communication should be Europeans and Americans. The minor newspapers are all agreed that full reprisals must be made for China's acts.

MORE HOPEFUL NEWS.

Shanghai, July 22.

The following message has been received from Chun-king:—"It is certain that the Viceroy of Szechuan is working in concert with the Viceroys Liu Kun-yi and Chang Chih-tung, and that he has issued a manifesto in that sense. The local officials at Chun-king are making every effort to protect foreigners.

Chefoo, July 23.

According to intelligence brought by a man from Ning-hai-chan, the people in that district are practising the rites of the *I-ho Ch'uan*. It is also stated that anti-foreign feeling is developing in the neighbourhood of Wei-hai-wei.

Hongkong, July 22.

The acting Viceroy of the two Kwang says that the Foreign Legations and the foreigners in Peking were safe and receiving succour up to the 18th instant.

Foochow, July 22.

As reported by telegram on the 10th, the commander of the troops in this district started for Chekiang with a detachment of 1,200 men, to attack the Boxers. He passed through Chekiang on the 21st, and proceeded northward.

AMOY.

Amoy, July 24.

The local authorities at Amoy are said to be taking measures to raise an additional force of 2,000 men for the defence of the place.

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(Received at the Naval Department.)

The *Yakumo* left Malta for Port Said on the 19th instant.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Taku, July 16.

At a council of naval officers held to-day at Taku it was decided that the duty of repairing and guarding the railway between Taku and Tientsin should be entrusted entirely to the Russians, pending the despatch of troops.

THE "YAKUMO."

The *Yakumo* arrived at Port Said on the 22nd instant and left on the 23rd.

(Received at the War Office.)

Ujina, July 21.

The *Hakuai Maru* arrived here at 5 a.m. She had on board 3 wounded officers and 118 wounded rank and file, as well as 2 dysentry patients. Seven of the wounded were marines. She had also 2 wounded French officers and 37 rank and file, under the charge of a Captain. Many of the wounds are severe.

(From the Officer in command of the remaining portion of the Fifth Division.)

Hiroshima, July 21.

The following telegram has been received from Major-General Fukushima :—"In the fight on the 13th, Major Hattori, Captain Yoshizawa, Lieutenant Nakamura and Sub-Lieutenant Shoi were killed.

Another telegram from the same source, dated July 17th at Tientsin, says :—"Since the fight on the 14th when Tientsin was captured, the Government troops have retreated, the Boxers dispersed, and everything is quiet. No more firing is heard. Only a small body of Chinese troops remains at Yang-tsung. Our troops have behaved perfectly, observing the strict rules of civilized warfare and protecting the Chinese inhabitants. The Chinese people are consequently much pleased with our troops, and many are placing themselves under our protection. There is at present no Chinese Government in Tientsin. Therefore the English, Russian and Japanese have appointed one officer each to form a civil administration. The Japanese commissioner is Lieut.-Colonel Aoki; the English, Lieut.-Colonel Gratteau (?) and the Russian, Colonel Wogack.

There is no certain news from Peking.

The railway between Tong-ku and Tientsin will be open in a few days.

The Indian troops of England are to begin to arrive from the 25th instant.

There has been little rain this year, and the millet is not high, so that things are favourable for an advance.

There is a report that Nieh has committed suicide.

(From Major-General Fukushima.)

Tientsin, July 20.

Tranquillity is being daily restored in the city of Tientsin, and the inhabitants are becoming friendly. It appears that there in a body of the enemy in the neighbourhood of Yang-tsung.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

THE INDIAN CONTINGENT.

Hongkong, July 25.

Five transports have arrived from India and two have proceeded north. The troops (1,500) in the other three are re-inforcements for Hongkong.

A DUTCH FLEET.

Three Dutch men-of-war have arrived and two have gone north.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

Berlin, July 24.

The Chinese Minister in Germany has presented to the German Minister of Foreign Affairs a telegram from the Emperor of China to the Emperor of Germany, dated at Peking July 19th. The despatch was handed to the German Foreign Minister on the 21st. In the telegram the Emperor of China expressed the profoundest regret for the murder of Baron von Ketteler. His Majesty also explained the troubled state of affairs in China, and added :—There is only one bridge of escape from these difficulties with Foreign Powers, namely to appeal to the assistance of Your Majesty, and I earnestly hope that your Majesty will take measures to preserve the friendly relations between China and the Powers and to restore the peace that formerly prevailed."

The German Government, on the 24th instant, made the following verbal reply :—"The German Minister of Foreign Affairs has received the communication from the Chinese Representative purporting to be a telegram addressed by the Emperor of China to the Emperor of Germany. Until the German Minister has been clearly informed whether the Foreign Ministers and the other foreigners in Peking are alive or dead; until some decision has been arrived at as to the penalty to be inflicted for the murder of the German Representative; and until full guarantees are given that China's future conduct shall be in accord with the principles of international law and the dictates of civilized morality, he can not present the Chinese Emperor's despatch to the German Emperor."

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

Shanghai, July 20.

Two hundred Russians have been killed at Kaiping (in the north of the Liaotung Peninsula). Troops have been sent to the place.

It is reported that a church has been destroyed at Kin-chou in Shan-tung, and that Dr. Lewis, his servant, and 3 Chinese have been killed in Chi-nan.

The Consuls of Russia, Belgium, and France, as well as Mr. Odagiri of Japan, will meet Li Hung-chang. The other Consuls will show no knowledge of his coming. The latter course seems to be approved by public opinion in Shanghai.

Shanghai, July 21.

Li Hung-chang arrived here to-day and proceeded to the official residence in the Bubbling Well Road, escorted by 2,000 troops.

A cipher telegram is alleged to have been received from the United States Minister in Peking, saying that he was living amid a storm of bullets and balls in the British Legation. The telegram bore no date. It was deciphered in Washington and is supposed to have been dispatched from Peking on the 26th of June.

Moji, July 21.

According to statements made by the wounded who have returned from the front, fighting at Tientsin on the 13th was very severe. Major Hattori was killed and Lt.-Col. Aoki wounded. There were many other casualties. Major Yeguchi led the right wing, and Major Murayama and Col. Awaya the left. Eight treble-companies of infantry and one company of engineers advanced against the front, and, fighting desperately, succeeded in capturing the city in advance of any other troops.

London, July 24.

The British Consul in Tientsin received on the 21st instant a letter from Sir Claude Macdonald. The writer asks earnestly for assistance. He says that they have provisions for about 2 weeks longer, but that the guards are so few that they can not possibly hold out long. Already 44 have been killed and about double that number wounded.

THE COST OF THE WAR.

The British Government has submitted to Parliament a supplementary estimate of £11,509,000 for war expenses.

TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH.

Shanghai, July 25.

The American, Italian, and Japanese Consuls have addressed telegrams to their Ministers in Peking through Li Hung-chang by way of trial.

VERY LIKE A THREAT.

Li Hung-chang is said to have stated to a certain Consul that if the allied forces make dispositions to march against Peking, the Foreign Ministers may be murdered.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

Shanghai, July 21.

It is reported that the China Merchants' S. S Company will transfer its Yangtsze steamers to Japan. Probably the Mitsui Company will take them.

All the English newspapers in this port attack Li Hung-chang, say that he can not be regarded as an accredited envoy, and declare that peace is impossible until the flags of the Powers float over Peking.

(From the "Chugai Shogyo.")

Shanghai, July 20.

As soon as Prince Twan, Kang Yi, and Tung heard of the fall of Tientsin, they despatched a large force of troops to the West of Tientsin.

The scouts of the allies report that the Chinese are preparing to re-attack Tientsin, and full preparations have been made to receive them. The collision is expected on the 21st or 22nd.

Mr. Kato is said to have despatched a messenger to Peking on the 15th, to open communications with Baron Nishi and to tell him that an army of succour had arrived.

The Governor (Tang) of Shansi has led his troops towards Peking, to meet the Empress-Dowager, who is about to remove the capital elsewhere.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

Chemulpho, July 24.

A Chinese force of 2,000 men approached Heilah on the 11th, and its commanding officer ordered the Russian force to withdraw from Chinese territory. A fight ensued. Another engagement occurred at the same place on the 14th, and ended in the defeat of the Russians, who had to retire.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su. July 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 1	M July 30
Hongkong	P. & O. Co	Rosetta 2	M July 30
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Weimar	Sa. Aug. 4
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro 3	Tu Aug. 7
Hongkong	M M Co.	Ernest Simons	W Aug. 8
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th Aug. 9
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M Aug. 13
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. Aug 14
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Aug 16
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th Aug 16

1 Left Hongkong on the 21st inst
2 Left Nagasaki on the 26th inst
3 Left San Francisco on the 19th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line.	Steamer	Date.
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa. July 28
Hkongong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M July 30
America	T. K. K.	H kong Maru	W Aug 1
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M Co.	Annam	F. Aug. 3
Hongkong	P & O Co.	Rosetta	W. Aug. 8
Hongkong	P. M Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W Aug 8
America	P. M Co.	China	Sa. Aug 11
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em of Ind a	M. Aug 13
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Aug 15
Canada, &c.	C P R Co	Em of China	F. Aug 17
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa Aug 18

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CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 481.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to Kt 5	1—R takes Q
2—Kt to B 6 mate	
	1—R to R sq. ch
2—Q takes R mate	
	1—P takes Kt
2—Q to K R 8 mate	
	1—K to K 4
2—Q to Q 5 mate	
	1—B moves (K B4)
2—Q to K 4 mate	
	1—Kt (R5) takes B
2—Kt to B 3 mate	

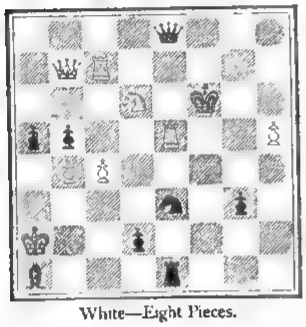
Correct solutions received from "W.H.S."

PROBLEM No. 483.

By V. SCHIFFER.

From Wiener Schachzeitung

Black—Nine Pieces.



White—Eight Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 606.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

The following is the pretty game between Rosen and Maroczy played in the recent Paris Tourney :—

White—Rosen.		Black—Maroczy.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P QB4	32 B B2	R Ksq
2 Kt KB3	P K3	33 Kt Bsq	R(Kt2) B2
3 P Q4	PxP	34 P QKt3	K Kt2
4 KtxP	Kt KB3	35 B Q3	P K5
5 B Q3	Kt B3	36 B K2	R B4
6 KtxKt	KtPxKt	37 R Kt3	Kt K4
7 Castles	P Q4	38 P QR3	K B3
8 Kt B3	B Kt5	39 PKt4	PxP
9 PxP	BPxP	40 RPxP	B to R5
10 Kt K2	Castles	41 P R3	R QBsq
11 B KKt5	B Kt2	42 B Kt4	KtxB
12 Kt Kt3	B K2	43 PxKt	R K4
13 K Ksq	R Ksq	44 R(Kt3) K3	B B7
14 P QB3	Kt Q2	45 K R2	R K2
15 Q K5	P Kt3	46 R(Ksq) K2	B R5
16 BxB	RxB	47 R B2ch	K Kt4
17 Q R6	P K4	48 Kt K2	R(K2) QB2
18 R-K3	Q KBsq	49 Kt B4	RxP
19 Q R4	P B3	50 Kt K6ch	KxP
20 QR Ksq	Kt B4	51 R B4ch	K R4
21 B B2	Kt K3	52 P Kt3	P Kt4
22 Kt K2	R Bsq	53 RxR	RxR
23 B Kt3	Kt B4	54 R B5	P R3
24 B B2	R Kt2	55 RxP	B Kt6
25 P KB3	Kt Q2	56 R QB5	RxR
26 Q B2	Q B4	57 KtxR	P K6
27 R Kt3	P QR4	58 K Ktsq	B B5
28 QxQ	KtxQ	59 Kt Q7	K Kt5
29 PxP	PxP	60 Kt K5ch	KxP
30 R Kt5	Kt Q2	Resigns	
31 B R4	B B3		

GAME No. 607.

The following interesting varitation of the Ruy Lopez occurred in the first round, Janowski winning very cleverly by sacrificing a Pawn.

White—Marco.		Black—Janowsky.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	25 BxB	KtxB
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	26 K Kt2	Kt K3
3 B Kt5	Kt B3	27 K Kt3	P Kt4
4 Castles	KtxP	28 K Kt4	K Kt2
5 P Q4	B K2	29 P R4	P R4ch
6 Q K2	Kt Q3	30 K Kt3	PxPch
7 BxKt	Kt PxB	31 KxP	K R3
8 PxP	Kt Kt2	32 R KKt1	P Q6
9 Kt B3	Castles	33 Kt B3	Kt Q5
10 R K1	R K1	34 R Kt3	Kt B4ch
11 B K3	P Q4	35 K R3	KtxR
12 QR Q1	B Q2	36 PxKt	P Q7
13 Kt QR4	Q B1	37 K Kt2	R Q6
14 P QKt3	B KKt5	28 Kt Q1	RxKtP
15 Q R6	KtQ1	39 K B2	R(Kt6) R6
16 QxQ	RxQ	40 K K2	R K3
17 BxP	R R1	41 P B4	RxKtP
18 B K3	Kt K3	42 Kt K3	R R6
19 P KR3	BxKt	43 P R4	P KB3
20 PxB	KRQ1	44 KxP	PxP
21 P B3	P QB4	45 P B5	R Q3ch
22 R R1	P Q5	46 K K2	R QKt3
23 B Q2	R R3	Resigns.	
24 P QB4	B Kt4		

Marco played right enough till 28 K Kt4, which lost him two moves. He did not see Black's 28..... K Kt2, followed by 29...P R4ch. His game went to the bad afterwards, as soon as Black got his Knight into play, winning the exchange by force. This is a fine game with an instructive ending.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, July 21st :—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders...	18,111,893
Amount of convertible notes issued ...	205,928,816
Government deposits	54,397,209
General deposits	7,911,396
Exchange liability	11,433
Total	316,360,720

CR.	
Discount notes	79,125,959
Foreign discount notes	14,445,879
Loan to Government	20,000,000
General loans	66,426,874
Exchange liability	2,850,873
Government bonds	52,502,563
Property	2,129,853
Bullion and Specie	76,878,737
Total	316,360,720

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	205,370,043
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	71,918,686
Silver	4,000,000
Total	75,918,686
Securities :—	
Government bonds	21,866,588
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	11,471,156
Commercial notes	74,113,612
Total	129,451,357

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve :—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	955,471
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	103,969
Government deposits...	—	4,270,532
General deposits...	...2,008,329	—

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,933, A. W. S. Thomson, 20th July,—London via ports and Kobe, 18th July, General.—Cornes & Co.

Koenig Albert, German steamer, 6,590, O. Cueppers, 20th July,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 19th July, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J. McKenzie, 19th July,—London via ports and Kobe 18th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Logan, U.S. Army Transport, 3,653, Stinson, 20th July,—Taku via Nagasaki, 17th July.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 20th July,—Hakodate via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 21st July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 21st July,—Kobe, 19th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 21st July,—Yokkaichi, 20th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,950, W. A. Evans, 22rd July,—London via ports, and Kobe, 21st July, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 22nd July,—Vancouver, B.C., 10th July, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 22nd July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Savoia, German steamer, 1,622, S. Behrens, 23rd July,—Kobe, 21st Ballast.—C. Illies & Co.

Halcatia, German steamer, 2,361, Banler, 23rd July,—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai, 18th July, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Strombus, British tank steamer, 3,928, Hocken, 23rd July,—Batoum via Singapore, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Thyra, Norwegian steamer, 2,419, Edwardsen, 23rd July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 22nd July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Annam, French steamer, 2,331, Poydenot, 24th July,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 23rd July, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Gache British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 24th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 15th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Moyune, British steamer, 3,016, R. Couradi, 25th July—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 24th July, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Tientsin, British steamer, 1,250, F. C. Armistead, 25th July,—Hongkong, 18th July, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 25th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Erzherzog Franz Ferdinand, Austrian steamer, 3,860, G. Morovich, 25th July.—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong, 20th July, Mails and General.—Browne & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 26th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 25th July, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Banca, British steamer 3,793, G. W. Babot, 26th July,—Antwerp and London via ports, and Kobe, 25th July, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 26th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 20th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, Dupuy-Fromy, 20th July,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 20th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Silesia, German steamer, 3,138, Mueller, 20th July,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Kubo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Shibuya, 21st July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 22nd July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gerard C. Tobey, American barque, 1,390, I. F. Shurtleff, 21st July,—Port Townsend, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Logan, U.S. Army Transport, 3,653, Stinson, 21st July,—San Francisco.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,881, G. W. Long, 21st July,—Seattle, Wash., Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Inverness, British steamer, 2,150, Henry Clegg, 21st July,—Kobe, Lumber.—Middleton & Smith.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, J. Nagao, 21nd July,—Taku via Moji.—Red Cross Society.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 23rd July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 23rd July, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 23rd July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Wm. E. Craven, 23rd July,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 23rd July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Calchas, British steamer, 4,278, Bartlett, 24th July,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 3,022, J. Grier, 24th July,—Liverpool via ports General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 24th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumiuye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Yamamoto, 24th July,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, C. H. S. Tocque, 25th July,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 25th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Summoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Yamamoto, 25th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thyra, Norwegian steamer, 2,419, Edwardsen, 26th July,—Portland, Oregon, via ports, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 26th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *Koenig Albert*, from Europe via ports :—Mr. A. Bianchi, Mrs. F. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Goetz, Mr. and Mrs. Rosen Lougnet, Miss R. Runge, Mr. F. Bornemann, Mr. F. Guiterez, Dr. Blance, Mrs. Richard, Miss Meloin, Miss Frazier, Capt. James, Mr. C. Benemyi, Mr. O. Lindner, Misses March, Mr. Haase, Mr. F. Trost, Misses Miclasson, O. Buchheister, Mr. G. Hoyoo, Mr. and Mrs. Tenner, Mr. Grautoff, Mr. G. Roeper, Mr. Pravieux, Mr. Lüders, Mr. Dickens, Mr. K. Kulm, Mr. W. Unre, Mr. E. Reynell, Mr. Coye, Mr. E. Johnson, Miss B. Nauce, Rev. B. Ridgely, Master Howell, Mr. P. Lehmann, Mr. P. Evans, Miss T. Voss, Miss Scheppelmann, Mrs. Susemihl, Mr. L. Barisoff, Mr. F. Oradoff, Mr. T. Saito, 1 Chinese Lady, Dr. H. Wainright, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Hamilton, and Mrs. Faley and children, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C. :—Colonel Collard, Mr. Robt. Christie, Colonel Fraser, Mr. J. C. Hemment, Mr. J. D. Hutchison, Mr. J. Hirooka, Mr. J. Ieda, Mr. Kamio, Mr. K. Kitamura, Mr. Geo. Lynch, Mr. P. F. Matzinger, Mr. H. Manley, Mrs. C. E. Morse, Mr. Buntaro Matsui, Mr. Masunosuke Yokota, Mr. J. N. Matheson, Miss F. Maskell, Rev. H. K. and Mrs. McGinnis, Rev. Sydney J. Peake, Mr. J. M. Patterson, Mr. J. H. Radier, Miss L. Rigby, Miss Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore, Mr. and Mrs. H. Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. R. Saxon, Mr. H. Tamura, Mr. L. M. Thomas, Mr. R. Tower, Mr. Leonard S. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Wildman, Bishop F. W. Warne, Mr. W. P. Wise, Bishop and Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Mr. M. Yamada, Miss Tetsu Yasui, Mr. F. Zaulauf, Mr. Miall, and Mr. C. Hose, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports :—Mr. H. Bruening, Mr. K. Okuno, Mr. W. Hutton Potts, Mr. R. A. Cuiree, Rev. Sydney Peake, Mr. G. W. Ellis, Mr. P. Dutkewich, Mr. Chan Moo, Mr. Choi Man, Mr. G. Roeper, Lieut. E. P. Balch, N.S.V., Mr. J. T. Beckner, Mr. Pohanovsky, Dr. G. M. Harston, Mr. E. Sherwin, Rev. Geo. Wallace, Mr. J. Matheson, Miss Rustonjee, Mrs. Rustonjee and servant, Miss Rustonjee, Miss Rustonjee, and Miss Aldred, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Annam*, from Marseilles via ports :—Miss Rosa Sauter, Lieut. Lusteig, Mrs. E. F. Berchal and child, Mr. Ishida, Mrs. Ishida and 3 children, Mr. W. F. Cary, Mrs. Juliette and child, Miss Blanche, Mr. Michelot, Mrs. Donnenberg, Mrs. Murray and baby, Mr. A. Madella, Mr. and Mrs. Maigre and child, Rev. C. S. Lemoine, Rev. J. Guerin, and Mr. K. Takayama, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports .—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Lehman, Mrs. F. Fuller, Rev. H. Woodward, Mr. R. E. Abenheim, Mr. P. P. Dease, Mr. and Mrs. Bland, infant and amah, Mr. K. Crossley, Miss Elliott, Mr. E. J. Ezra, Mr. Arinobu Shigu, and Miss Andrews, in cabin. For Honolulu :—Mr. J. W. Brown, in cabin. For San Francisco :—Mr. A. Gomez da Silva, Miss Bellisle, Com. F. P. Gilmore, U.S.N., Mr. J. M. Dickenson, Mr. O. S. Kelly, Mr. Chu Kin How, Mr. F. C. Carter, Mr. Emile Malaise, Rev. R. H. Consterdine, Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Pruitt and 1 children, Mrs. Chin Yet Gue, Master E. T. Williams, Jr., Mr. A. C. Winsor, Mr. C. J. Lindsay, Miss M. Ward, Dr. John Fryer, Mr. W. B. Field, Mr. Roger Lyons, and Mr. W. Tortich, in cabin.

Per Austrian steamer *Erz Franz Ferdinand*, from Hongkong :—Dr. G. Kempty, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mrs. Powell, Misses Powell (2), Miss Cheney, Miss Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Robb and 2 children, Mr. G. A. Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Crawford, Miss Ray, Mrs. Caldwell and 2 children, Miss Waters, Mr. Butchars, Mr. Conscience, Mrs. McKeil, nurse and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan, Mrs. G. Davies, Mrs. Caldwell and maid, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Rich, Miss M. Rich, Lieut. W. D. Connabi, Mr. and Mrs. Magee, Mr. Gunn, Miss Alling, Miss Wilson, Miss Dudley, Miss Sands, Mr. and Mrs. Sale, Mr. Bunge, Mrs. Armistead and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Brockman and 2 children, Mrs. Bowen and 2 children, Mr. S. S. Jerald, Mr. Mesa, and Rev. E. McBurney, in cabin ; Mr. and Mr. G. W. Lanzford, Mr. Malcolm, 1 Japanese, and 1 British seaman, in second class. In Transit :—Mr. A. J. Gazar de la France, Mr. Cuthtershire, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews and child, Mr. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Dilleur, Miss Shand, Miss Burdiers, Dr. and Mrs. Cochrode and 3 children, Dr. T. L. Brander, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hudson, Count Butler, Mr. M. G. Secret, Miss Gates, Miss M. King, Mrs. C. P. Adams, Master McMichael, Miss Fitch, Mr. G. Titch, Mr. and Mrs. Sullvage, Mr. A. J. How, Mr. W. B. Wood, Mr. Baddeley, Miss Haines and child, Rev. Moody, Dr. Landsborough, Mr. J. D. Watson, Miss Horner, Miss Davidson, Miss E. Jones, Miss R. Simpson, Miss Cutler, Mr. Seymour, Miss Seymour, Mr. Pole Carew, Mr. K. Nango, Mr. S. Weiss, Rev. and Mrs. Graham and child, Mr. E. A. Greffishes, Rev. and Mrs. Meech, Misses Meech (2), Mrs. Seymour's maid, Miss Seymour's nurse, and Miss Cutler's maid, in cabin ; 10 in second class : 230 Chinese, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong via ports : -Mrs. C. A. Adams, Mr. M. O. Anderson, Miss Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Boeck, Mrs. H. R. Bowie, Mr. J. Carroll, Mr. C. A. Davis, Mr. Hugh Gunn, Mrs. W. B. Gillingham, Mr. H. F. R. Harris, Mr. W. S. Gray, Capt. J. C. Green, Dr. F. W. Hesler, Mr. V. S. Jackerson, Mrs. R. H. Reigh, Mr. G. H. Ludoff, Mr. H. N. Mickle, Mr. C. H. Miller, Mr. F. B. Morse, Mr. and Mrs. W. Magee, Mrs. Chas. Thorn, Mr. G. W. van Brunt,and L. N. Willis, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tonkin*, for Marseilles via ports :—Mr. Gordon Smith and intepreter, Mr. C. Bauer, Mr. Reich, Mr. T. C. Stafford, Mr. Wodward, Princess Dabija, Mr. Popoff, Miss Anna Oleolodlcoff, Miss Martha Borssoff, Mrs. Kah, Mr. G. Weillshott, Mr. and Mrs. A. Ehers aed 2 children, Mrs. and Miss L. B. Walsh, Mr. and Master Walsh, Mrs. J. Price, Miss Elsie Price, Miss May Price, Mr. T. Turnier, Mrs. Poulgaire, Mr. Francis Batisla, Mr. J. MacArthur, Mr. Tsui Tisk Cheong, Mrs. Domballe, Mr. J. M. Gleason, Mr. Konishi, Mr. Henry du R. Phelon, Mr. P. Boell, Mr. Degny, Mr. H. Nagao, Mr. Y. Imai, and Mr. S. Yamada, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports :—Mrs. A. Wright and son, Mr. J. S. Haines, Mrs. Ho, Mrs. Loo Lee Man, Mrs. Loo Yne She and two children, Mrs. Loo Wai Tong and two children, Mr. R. Masujima, and Mr. H. E. Reynell, in cabin ; 12 Chinese and 2 infants, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu —Mr. J. W. Brown, Mr. W. H. Cawthra, Mrs. W. H. Cawthra, Mr. F. G. Carter, Rev. R. H. Consterdine, Mr. S. W. Cowles, Miss M. J. Cunningham, Mr. Chas. C. Derby, Mr. J. M. Dickenson, Mr. C. Duff, Mr. W. B. Field, Dr. Jno. Fryer, Com. F. P. Gilmore, U.S.N., Mrs. Chin Yet Gue, Mr. Chu Kin How, Mr. C. W. Judson, Mr. O. S. Kelly, Mr. N. Kimura, Mr. C. J. Lindsay, Mr. Roger Lyons, Mr. Geo. Michie, Mr. Emile Malaise, Mr. C. W. Pruitt, Mrs. C. W. Pruitt, Miss Ida Pruitt, Master John Pruitt, Master Robert Pruitt, Mr. Ord Preston, Dr. Curt Rossler, Mr. A. Gomez da Silva, Mr. Harry Sopper, Mr. W. Toritch, Mr. G. C. Worth, Mrs. G. C. Worth and child, Master Chas. W. Worth, Jr., Master William C. Worth, Miss M. Ward, Mr. A. C. Winsor, and Master E. W. Williams, Jr., in cabin.

EXPECTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Sado Maru*, from London via ports —Dr. Keijiro Ogata, Dr. Yotaro Matsuyama, Mr. Yasuji Otsuka, Dr. Genshi Seo, Dr. Kiozi Kinbuchi, Mr. J. Macbeth, and Mr. T. Sadleir, in cabin.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Empress of China*, Capt. R. Archibald, reports :—Left Vancouver at 5 p.m. on July 9th in very fine weather and reached Victoria at 11 p.m. the same day. Leaving Victoria at 0.39 a.m. on July 10th she experienced light and moderate winds and pleasant weather until Sunday, the 15th when the Aleutian Islands were sighted and kept in sight all the afternoon. At 11.15 Amatignak was passed at a distance of 12 miles. From here the ship had variable winds, light to moderate in force, and smooth seas until on July 21st, when the coast of Japan was sighted, Kinkazan being passed at 11.28 p.m. On July 22nd Inuboye passed at 11 a.m. Neshima rounded at 2.30 p.m. and the ship arrived at Quarantine ground at 5.45 p.m. and on receiving pratique to her buoy. Very little mist has been experienced and the weather throughout has been fine and temperate. The steamer *Athenian* of the same Company was passed on the night of July 11th bound in from Cape Nome and St. Michaels.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Capt. Wm. Finch, reports :—Left Hongkong on July 14th ; left Macao the same day; left Amoy on July 16th ; left Shanghai on July 18th ; left Nagasaki on July 21st, left Kobe on July 23rd, and arrived at Yokohama on July 24th. Fine clear weather and smooth seas throughout passage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

More movement in cotton yarns, which are going up in sympathy with home markets. Grey shirtings absolutely lifeless, and dealers are making excuses for not taking delivery.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.30 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	2.80 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.21 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	$0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.35 to 0.50
Mousselne de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.20 to 11.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ...	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	$170.00 to 175.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	170.00 to 190.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	270.00 to 275.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	335.00 to 345.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	440.00 to 450.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	340.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	400.00 to 415.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	520.00 to 530.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	23 *yen*
Indian Broach	22
Chinese	22.50

METALS.

Absolutely nothing doing.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward ..	6.00 to 6.50
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 7.00
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.50 to 14.00
Wire Nails, assorted	8.00 to 8.50
Tin Plates, per box	8.20 to 8.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (¾ to 1½ inch)	7.00 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

The market is steady.

American	$2.77
Russian	2.67
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

Market steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.00 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.40 to 6.70
Brown Daitong	3.90 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 6.90
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 8.50
White Refined	7.80 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A fair business has been done both for Europe and America. Full-size filatures have experienced the most decline. Small transactions in Kakedas. The size of first arrivals is rather full, but further deliveries will probably show an improvement. Settlements from the 1st to 25th July have been 2,065 piculs. The present stock is 6,205 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	$1,000 Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse...	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine...	940 to 960
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	870
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	930
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse...	
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	890
Re-reels—No. 1	885
Re-reels—No. 1½	875
Re-reels—No. 2	850
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	910
Kakedas—No. 1½	880
Kakedas—No. 2	850
Kakedas—No. 2½	810

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WASTE SILK.

Nothing done as yet.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	Nominal
Noshi—Filatures, Good	
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	

TEA.

The demand has been brisk, with a gradual advance in prices. Present supplies show a marked depreciation in both leaf and cup. Medium and lower grades are fully *yen* 6.00 per picul higher than last year, and considerably above the point warranted by latest advices from consuming markets. Fine and choice grades very scarce.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	37 & upwards
Choice	35 to 36
Finest	33 to 34
Fine	31 to 32
Good Medium	29 to 30
Medium	27 to 28
Good Common	25 to 26
Common	23 to 24

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, July 26.

Silver ¾ lower from London without local rates being affected; quotations for the outgoing mail per steamer *Empress of Japan* being as under.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¾
— — Bills on demand	2/0 13/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 5/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255
— Private 4 months' sight	261
— — 6 months' sight	262½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50¼@1
Germany—Bank sight	207
— Private 4 months' sight	213
Hongkong—Bank sight	*1½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	*3½% dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 72½
— Private 10 days' sight	* 74
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	153½
Bar Silver (London)	27¾

* Nominal.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, July 26.

Grand Hotels changed hands to-day at *yen* 240 cum dividend. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 220. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Offers are wanted for Oriental Hotel shares. Langfeldts have sellers at par. Bretts have buyers at *yen* 9.25.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108. Bretts & Co. debentures are obtainable at *yen* 100.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works	220 Sellers.
Grand Hotel	240 Sales.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	155 Sales.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, July 26.

Breweries are steady at *yen* 150. Engine and Iron Works are obtainable at *yen* 220 Grand Hotels—A few shares can be placed at *yen* 240. Langfeldts—Offers for shares are wanted. Helms are obtainable at par. Laundries have sellers at par.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108.

Offers for Hodogaya Breweries are wanted.

A few H. & S. Banks can be had locally at 300 per cent. premium.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	220 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 N.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12 50	500 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 B.

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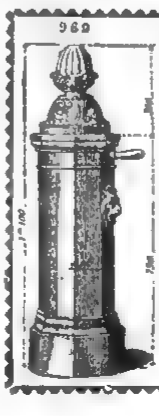
Helm Bros., ¥50	50 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	110 St.
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	108 Sa.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	101 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	108 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.
Oriental Hotel, preference shares, ¥25	40 N.

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.30, 8.55, 9.35, 10.05, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1.30, 2, 2.36, 3.10, 3.55, 4.33, 5.15, 5.33, 6.20, 7.21, 8, 9.13, 10, 10.50, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMBASHI 4.50, 5.45, 6.50, 7.55, 8.30, 8.45, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25 a.m.; 12, 1.10, 1.40, 2.25, 3, 3.25, 4, 4.35, 5.10, 5.25, 6.30, 7, 7.35, 8.20, 9.20, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.



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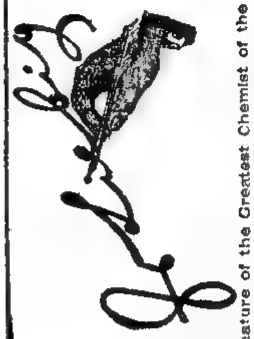

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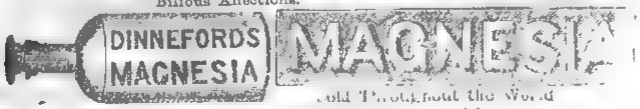

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH, 1900.

BIRTH.

On the 1st instant, at 214 Yamatecho, Old Bluff Settlement, Yokohama, the wife of E. W. MAITLAND, of a daughter, still-born.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

KING HUMBERT of Italy has been assassinated at Monza by an anarchist.

THE Duke of Coburg (Prince Alfred of England) has died suddenly in Germany.

GENERAL PRINSLOO and 4,000 Boers, as well as several other Boer leaders and their commandos have surrendered during the week.

THE presentation of the highest order of Korea to the Crown Prince will take place in September next on the Prince's return from Nikko.

MARTIAL law has been declared at Cape Nome, Alaska. Conditions there among the gold-seekers are desperate. An epidemic of small-pox is also threatened.

THE contributions towards a monument to the inventor of the *jinrikisha* now amount to 30,000 *yen*. The site will be in the vicinity of Sakamoto-cho, Shitaya, Tokyo.

CAPTAIN WALSH, of the U. S. revenue cutter *McCulloch*, became insane at sea and tried to commit suicide some time in July. He has been confined ashore at Port Townsend.

SHORTLY after half-past 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning fire broke out at Suyeyoshicho Itchome, Yokohama, and six houses were burnt down. The cause of the outbreak is unknown.

ASCENTS of Mount Fuji this year commenced from July 26th as usual. It is reported that on the first day there were about 700 visitors to the mountain, the second day 800, and the third day 900.

A TELEGRAM to the *Jiji Shimpo*, dated Niigata, July 27th, states that two village headmen have been arrested for malpractices in connection with emigration schemes. A clerk committed suicide.

AT 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning an ex-police man named Kozawa, aged 24, employed by the Kwaiso Kaisha, Yokohama, fell into the harbour alongside the N.Y.K. steamer *Kanagawa Maru* and was drowned.

THE Chief of the Hokkaido Administration reported to the Home Department on the 30th ult. that the Rakyuzan, Kunishiri district, Chishima province, was emitting threatening sounds, which were heard for 5 *ri* round.

THE patients suffering from infectious diseases at the Komagome Disinfecting Hospital, Tokyo, are at present 87 in number,—49 typhus, 34 dysentery, and 4 diphtheria. This is half the number at the corresponding date last year.

NEWS is gradually filtering in from Peking. There have been many casualties among the foreigners and half of the women are in hospital. The Chinese stopped firing on the 16th July. A general advance to Peking should have begun by now.

THE Chinese Minister in London, Sir Lo Feng-Luh, has promised to write an article for the *Positivist Review* on "Comte and Confucius." This comparative study of the two great philosophers of the East and West should be of unique interest.

MR. JOHN H. GEAR, Senator for Iowa, died at Washington on July 17. Senator Gear was in his 75th year, having been born at New York in 1825. His term in the United States Senate, where he supported the Republican party, would have expired in 1901.

A GARDEN party, attended by about one hundred members of the staff of the Yokohama Specie Bank, was held at the Shotoyen, Sakawa, on the 28th inst., in honour of the return of the staffs of the branch offices at Newchwang and Tientsin, who escaped disaster in the recent troubles.

MANY of the refugees who recently arrived at Nagasaki from North China are now endeavouring to return: but the different Consuls have given out the information that at the present time no civilian will be allowed to land at Taku. Exception is made in regard to Chefoo.

ON Friday night a fire broke out at a matting maker's house at No. 31, Tobe Nichome, Yokohama, resulting in the destruction of 32 houses and one shed. Besides these, 12 houses were partially destroyed. The flames were completely put under control at 1.30 a.m.

A STATEMENT prepared by the Adjutant General shows that the total strength of the United States army in the Philippines on June 30 last was 63,426 officers and men. Of that number 31,821 are regulars and 31,605 volunteers, distributed among the different arms as follows:—Infantry, 54,368 officers and men; cavalry, 3,492; artillery, 2,261, and staff corps, 3,276. The total strength given also includes 1310 officers and men of the Nineth Infantry, since transferred to China.

THE inventory of the personal estate of the late Vice-President, Mr. Garret A. Hobart, has been filed with the Surrogate at Paterson, N.J. It appraises the late Vice-President's wealth at $2,628,441. Mr. Hobart held bonds in twenty-six corporations and stock in over 100.

SHORTLY before 7.30 o'clock on Monday evening, the Yokohama Fire Brigade were called to the house of Mr. A. Shaikally, No. 157, China Town. It was found that a kerosene lamp had exploded and set fire to a wooden partition. A few buckets of water soon put out the flames, very little damage being done.

A FATAL accident of a somewhat extraordinary character recently took place at the East Point Sugar Refinery, Hongkong. A coolie was in charge of a boiling pan when a piece of wood dropped in. It was at once thrown up by the machinery, and, catching the coolie somewhere on the body, killed him on the spot.

THE appeal brought by James Reid Meston, 2nd Engineer of the British steamer *Victoria*, against a sentence of one month's imprisonment for striking a coolie, which was delivered in his absence, came up again in the Chiho Saibansho, Yokohama, and after hearing further evidence, the Court sentenced the man to a week's detention.

ABOUT half-past 9 o'clock on Monday night, a *jinrikisha* coolie named Shina entered into a dispute with another coolie named Karahashi, at a lodging house in Miyoshicho Shichome, Yokohama, and losing control of his temper struck his antagonist a fatal blow on the head with a *soroban*. The man was arrested by the Kotobukicho police.

THE *Kobe Herald* states that Messrs. A. A. Vantine & Co. have received a wire from their New York office, stating that the civil judgment for $160,000, obtained by Charles W. Colton of the Colton Export and Import Co., from James I. Raymond, President of A. A. Vantine & Co., has been reversed, with costs, by the New York State Court of Appeals.

THE British second class cruiser *Arethusa*, Captain Startin, arrived in Yokohama shortly before noon on Monday from Esquimalt and proceeded on Wednesday for Shanghai. The *Arethusa* belongs to the *Amphion* and *Leander* class, and is of 4,300 tons. She was built by Napier at Glasgow in 1882, and carries ten 6-in. quick firers and a number of smaller pieces, her speed being put at 16.6 knots.

THE number of deserters from the American transports while at Nagasaki increases with the arrival of each ship. The majority of the men are not Americans, but of foreign nationality, and the task of providing for them when in financial difficulties then falls to their different Consuls. It is reported that steps are to be taken by the U.S. Quartermaster Department to adopt measures whereby desertion from the transports will be made more difficult.

WE have received from the Catholic Mission at Yokohama an intimation which we translate as under:—The Catholic Mission of Yokohama has just received official information of the death of the Reverends Bourgeois, Viand, Leguerel, Aguus, and Bayard, all put to death by Chinese soldiers in Manchuria. Adding to these five new victims the two already notified, Mgr. Guillou and Mgr. Emonet, the number of Catholic Missionaries put to death in Manchuria is seven.

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KING HUMBERT.

The telegraph brings intelligence of the assassination of King Humbert at Monza. The King was in his fifty-seventh year. He had ruled well and wisely, and had won a place in the hearts of his subjects. What is to be said about the shocking tragedy that now closes his career? Nothing except to express profound sympathy with the nation thus thrown into mourning. The world does not change. It produces its fanatics to-day just as it has done since history began to be written.

Humbert Rénier Charles Emmanuel Jean Marie Ferdinand Eugène, who succeeded to the Throne of Italy under the title of Humbert I., was the eldest son of the late King Victor Emmanuel II., and of Adelaide, Archduchess of Austria, and was born at Turin on March 14th, 1844. He attended his father during the early part of the war of Italian Independence, and, though then too young to take an active part in the struggle, he was able to obtain an insight very early in life into political and military affairs. He was still more more closely connected with the work of the unification of Italy, and in particular took part in the task of reorganising the ancient Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. In July, 1862, he visited Naples and Palermo, where he shared in the popularity of Garibaldi. On war threatening between Prussia and Austria, Prince Humbert was despatched to Paris to ascertain the sentiments of the French Government in reference to the alliance between Italy and Prussia, and in this delicate matter he showed considerable gifts of tact and statesmanship. The alliance was formed, and when hostilities actually supervened the Prince took the field and obtained command of a division of General Cialdini's Army with the title of Lieut.-General. He was present at the disastrous battle of Castozza, fought on June 23rd, 1866, when the Italians were defeated. In this engagement the Prince, it is said, performed prodigies of valour. During the two eventful years that followed, at the end of which the stability of the House of Savoy was assured, Prince Humbert led a busy and exciting life, being in close touch with the events which were then agitating the whole of Italy and indeed a large part of the Continent of Europe. On April 22nd, 1868, the Prince married at Turin his cousin Marguerrite Marie Thérèse Jeanne of Savoy, daughter of Duke Ferdinand of Genoa, brother of Victor Emmanuel. The Princess was a most beautiful and accomplished lady, an artist, and fond of physical exercise; being among other things a mountaineer of great courage and endurance. A son was born to them at Naples in November 11th, 1869, who received the names of Victor Emmanuel Ferdinand Marie Januarius, and the title of Prince of Naples. In 1870, after the occupation of Rome by the Italian troops, the Prince and Princess took up their residence in the Eternal City. Humbert succeeded to the throne on the death of his father on Jan 9th, 1878. As he was entering Naples on November 17th of the same year, an attempt was made to assassinate him, a man named Giovanni Passanante approaching the royal carriage and attempting to kill the King with a poniard. His Majesty escaped with a slight scratch, but Signor Cairoli, the Prince Minister, who was with him, was badly wounded. Passanente was condemned to death, but the King, with his usual magnanimity, commuted the sentence to penal servitude for life. Another attempt was made on his Majesty's life some two years ago, when the King displayed remarkable coolness and courage, remarking that such events were only incidents of the trade of a King. Indeed, like most of the Princes of Savoy, personal pluck has always been one of his chief characteristics. As a monarch his constant effort was to reign in strict accordance with the principles of the Italian Constitution, but in the somewhat chaotic state of Italian politics the hand of a strong man has often been required, and probably the occasions have been many when the King's personal influence has saved the situation. Though personally of a kindly disposition he could on occasion show himself decisive and peremptory, and the sternness with which the revolt in Milan some time ago was put down showed that no trifling with the authority of the Throne was to be allowed. It is curious that the King met his fate so near the scene of that outbreak The King and Queen celebrated their silver wedding at Rome in 1893. His Majesty was a Knight of the Garter, a Chevalier of the Order of the Black Eagle, of the Austrian Order of the Golden Fleece, &c. &c.

An article which appeared in a recent issue of the *Saturday Review* contained some passages of interest at the present moment as forecasting the possibility of serious trouble in Italy and describing the state of political affairs in the Kingdom. After dealing with the circumstances leading up to the dissolution, the writer said:

> The vast majority of the people desire peace and quiet; they ask for a smooth ordering of affairs which will save them as much as possible from the bother of going to the polls and exercising a privilege which many of them would willingly part with for ever for a five lire note. They desire to pursue agriculture, commerce, and industry without further increase of taxes already unbearable, and he who lives among them hears at present but one dominant exclamation: "A plague of all parties and all parliaments" Italians, little knowing how faint is the interest which their political life arouses abroad, believe on the contrary that all nations are gloating over their parliamentary dishonour, and this has helped to sicken them entirely of the representative institutions to which they are by nature so little adapted and inclined. Englishmen have some difficulty in understanding why their own form of government which suits them so well should breed in other nations anarchy and disaster. As De Maistre has wisely and wittily said: "*Vous voyez la théorie invariable des Anglais, que partout où il n'y a pas une chambre des pairs et des communes . . il ne peut y avoir que tyrans et esclaves.*" The English Constitution is less the handiwork of men than the product of time hence its strength The Italian Constitution, on the other hand, is the manifest manufacture of man, carefully reasoned, fully deliberated, deftly codified, and designed to meet every emergency; hence failure to meet any emergency; as indeed would be the case with ourselves, if after centuries of a tempered despotism, we were suddenly presented with the elaborate and cumbrous Constitution which only use enables us to handle to our present advantage, an advantage even so by no means unmixed.
>
> There is but one man in Italy who can save the country. people are saying it more openly than ever in the last few days that man is the King himself. If Humbert I., King as he is styled "by the Grace of God and the will of the people," were but to put his trust in God and pay heed to the will of the people, he would keep Parliament waiting and quietly assume the management of affairs himself. "*Vogliamo Re Umberto assoluto!*—we want King Humbert and Humbert as an absolute monarch," said a seasoned politician to us, and there is evidence sufficient that any exercise of power by him would be acclaimed on all sides with enthusiasm and respect. But King Humbert has constitutionalism on the brain, and while to the fore in matters social and military, he takes every opportunity of effacing himself politically. Just now his people are crying out for a proclamation from him condemnatory of obstructionist methods, but he keeps silence. The newspapers are recalling the conduct of his father in 1849. In that year Victor Emmanuel dissolved the Sub-Alpine Parliament which had "become impossible," and in a proclamation dated from Moncalieri he rated the Deputies in good set terms. "What fruit," he cried, "have my words obtained? Acts inimical to the Crown, the senseless hostility of the Opposition, and attacks upon the prerogatives which are secured to me by law. I have indeed the right severely to call the Chamber to account for its recent action. I have undertaken to save the nation from the tyranny of parties, whatever be the name, the policy, or the rank of the men who compose them. My promise, my oath, I have fulfilled in dissolving a Parliament which has become impossible." Brave and stirring words! Will his son and successor speak out while the nation is still eager to hear? We doubt it. The House of Savoy has come none too cleanly into its present heritage, and moral timidity is ever the outcome of ill-gotten gains.
>
> Of course the King will have to speak his speech when he convokes his new deputies. That, however, is speech of a very formal kind, but on the present occasion it might lead to surprising consequences. People are asking with considerable anxiety: when will the obstruction of the new Extremists begin? May it not begin at the very beginning of the session, may they not attempt to drown even the King's speech by the favourite expedient of noise? It is almost to be hoped that they may prove so impolitic. Physical pluck and a certain military peremptoriness have ever been characteristics of the House of Savoy, and the fear of the Constitution in King Humbert would be likely to give way under such insolence to a smart command to his stately Carabineers. It would be a great opportunity and might help to confirm his dynasty on the throne for a further considerable period of time.
>
> There is yet another possible escape from the difficulty, and that is the very Constituent Assembly for which the Extreme Left has been clamouring. The case for such an Assembly is eloquently stated by Achille Fazzari in a candid and common-sense article in the *Nuova Antologia* of 16 May. The mere fact that a Constituent Assembly would be a new feature might bring some 70 per cent. of the electors to the poll instead of the inadequate percentage which now records its vote for the Deputies. Such Assembly, we are convinced, would be nine-tenths for the King. It might give him another great opportunity. If Leo XIII. were but to abrogate in its favour the ordinance of Pius IX. "*nè eletti, nè elettori*," such an Assembly might even herald the much-needed reconciliation between Church and State. Just as the best Englishmen are good Churchmen, so honour, honesty, disinterestedness in Italy are rather to be sought among professing Italian Churchmen, now excluded by their convictions from active political life. There is no "Centre" party in the Italian Chamber, and the want of its restraining influence has given immunity to the lawlessness and presumption of insolent factions, and left the ground free for those who delight in anarchy. But as in France, so in Italy, we still have to wait for the courageous Liberal who shall dare to invoke the moral influence of the Church in healing the moral sores of his country.

It goes without saying that messages of condolence were despatched by the Emperor and Empress of Japan to the Italian Court in connexion with the death of King Humbert. The Japanese Court goes into mourning for 21 days.

The *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Chuo Shimbun* publish articles expressing strong sympathy with the Italian nation, and lamenting the death of the King of Italy under such circumstances, especially at a time when his kingdom has other troubles to deal with in the Far East

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, in an article with a deep black edging, refers in terms of strong sympathy to the lamentable death of the King of Italy. It finds that Japan and Italy have much in common, that Italy established a special claim on Japan's gratitude by standing aloof from the Liaotung alliance in 1894-5, though one of her European allies was included in it; that the friendship of the two countries has always been exceptionally warm, and that Italy will certainly be found on Japan's side in the settlement of the Chinese question.

FAREWELL BANQUET TO DR. BAELZ.

The President, Vice-President and leading members of the Japanese Red Cross Society, including Marchioness Nabeshima, Marchioness Saigo, Marchioness Oyama, and Viscountess Tana, gave a farewell banquet to Dr. Baelz on Friday at the Imperial Hotel. Dr. Baelz is about to proceed to Europe on leave, but we are happy to say that it is his intention to return to Japan next year.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Aug. 28.

Among the many items of news circulated at this crisis, one is that Mr. Fergusson, formerly a Christian Missionary and now in the employ of Taotai Shêng, is doing everything in his power to create bad blood between England and America. He must have a long arm to succeed.

A member of Li Hung-chang's entourage is said to have alleged that the Foreign Ministers are on their way from Peking to Tientsin under the escort of General Song. But the statement receives little credence.

The *Asahi* say that Admiral Alexieff is returning to Port Arthur, in order to see that the defences of the Liao-tung peninsula are in a proper condition, but that his intention is to come back to Tientsin in time for the advance to Peking.

The *Nichi Nichi's* information is that Russia intends to send to Manchuria 5 brigades of infantry, 15 batteries of artillery, 1 battalion of engineers, and 1 railway battalion. A part of this force has already been forwarded by the Siberian railway. It is certainly curious to observe what complete freedom of action Russia enjoys in her dealings with China. She demands guarantees from Japan when the latter thinks of sending a force to relieve Peking, but no one seems to think of seeking guarantees from St. Petersburg when thirty or forty thousand Russian troops move towards Manchuria.

Lieut.-General Terauchi is to return to Japan for some unexplained reason. He was to leave Taku by the *Chitose* on the 26th. We do not suppose that there was originally any intention of General Terauchi's remaining in North-China.

Mr. Matsushima, correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* at Saseho, says that the latest news, received by messenger from Peking, represents the guards of the Foreign Legations as making counter attacks on the Chinese, apparently with the object of breaking through. The beleaguered folk are supposed to have derived encouragement from the belief that succour is near, and from the fact that the Chinese no longer make assaults.

It was to be expected that a new "Cassini Convention" would emerge from the present complications. The *Chiugai Shogyo* publishes a rumour that Russia has concluded a four-article treaty with China, but what the articles are, no one knows. The negotiator of the treaty on China's behalf is said to be the Chinese Minister in St. Petersburg.

Mr. A. B. Mitford, in a letter addressed to *The Times* of June 22nd, advocates the removal of the Chinese Capital to Nanking or some other equally accessible city. The letter is worth perusal though the arguments it contains are not likely to commend themselves to Chinese minds, and one does not easily see how the Court could be compelled to live at Nanking if it preferred Peking. The carrying out of such suggestions would go perilously near to rendering Chinese independence illusory.

Monday, Aug. 30.

There is a rumour that the Empress-Dowager has fled to Kiu-lung. This much-abused lady has done a great deal of imaginary travelling lately. Probably she has remained quietly in Peking all the time.

General Guldakoff, Governor-General of Eastern Siberia, is said to be superintending military preparations at Vladivostock, where it is expected that he will be presently joined by Admiral Alexieff, for the purpose of holding a conference. It is stated that orders have been given to lay torpedoes at Nicolaiefsk, but this report requires confirmation.

It is stated that the laying of a cable from Taku to Chefoo has been commenced by the Great Northern Company. The distance is 104 miles, and as the usual rate of laying is 2 miles per hour, the work ought to be completed in 97 hours. But much will depend, of course, on the state of the weather and the nature of the sea-bottom.

According to the *Jiji Shimpo* the outlay of specie in connexion with the present expedition to China will be comparatively small. Everything required by the troops, except vegetables, will be sent from Japan, and there will be no occasion to go outside the ranks of the Army for transport coolies or artificers, as the organization has been so much improved since the war of 1894-5 there these wants are supplied direct.

We read in the *Shogyo Shimpo* that a party of 2,000 insurgents entered Amoy on the 20th instant, and that for a moment the town was thrown into a state of perturbation The insurgents, however, were scared when they discovered that a proclamation existed offering a reward of 10 taels for the capture of a Boxer. They dispersed without attempting any outrage, and it was not found necessary to land any marines from the Japanese and American vessels lying in the harbour.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a London telegram which says that France has decided to send a force of 15,000 to China. These troops are to be drafted from the armies in France and in Algeria, and it is expected that they will be ready to start by the 10th of next month.

A Shanghai telegram says that according to a statement made by an Italian priest who recently arrived in Hongkong from Hunan, an Italian bishop and three fathers have been assassinated in that province and the Church has been burned. Also that the padre at Kwang-shang had been killed.

Russia is said to have issued orders for mobilization to all the districts in Siberia, and also to two districts in Russia proper.

The fact that the Japanese Consul in Shanghai has had more than one interview with Viceroy Li whereas the other Consuls have turned their backs on the old statesman, is said to be creating some suspicion of Japan's action. That is inevitable. Japan is pretty sure to be suspected whatever she does. Her best plan is to go her way and trust to time to vindicate her.

We entirely agree with the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Kokumin Shimbun* that the point of cardinal importance is an immediate move of foreign troops against Peking. Every day's delay will be misinterpreted by the Chinese, and if this anti-foreign movement spreads widely throughout China, the task of over-coming it may be stupendous. There are plainly some indications that a change has come over the state of political affairs in Peking, but there are no indications that it is a radical change, or that a mood of unconditional surrender has taken the place of the defiant mood recently witnessed. Indeed, there is good reason to doubt whether the Chinese Government is not still labouring under the impression that some kind of successes have been obtained by its troops at Tientsin. The despatch of the Viceroy of Chihli abounds with misrepresentations which must certainly create that impression. We do not for an instant suppose that the Chinese Government has any intention of measuring its strength against the world. But it may imagine, and very likely does imagine, that the issue of the struggle at Tientsin has been to inspire the Allies with a wholesome desire to avoid the difficulties and sacrifices involved in an advance against Peking, and that by utilizing that reluctance as well as the advantage conferred by holding about 1,000 foreigners hostages in Peking, comparatively easy terms may be obtained. That delusion must be dispelled. The Chinese problem has to be settled now once and for all, and nothing like a really satisfactory settlement is possible unless the allies are in possession of Peking. We have not the smallest hesitation is saying that twenty thousand Japanese troops would force their way to Peking if they were free to undertake the task.

Further disquieting intelligence comes from Chih-li. At the capital, Pao-ting, there has been a wholesale massacre of Chinese converts—2,000 it is said—and a foreign medical missionary is reported to have been among the victims. From Ping-yang also comes intelligence of the burning of native Christian houses, and it is further reported that General Li, who recently left Shantung with a force of 1,000 men for Peking, is directing his soldiers to destroy all Christian converts *en route*, which order has resulted in the death of a French father and of a large number of Chinese.

It is evident that England means to take strong measures for the protection of the Yang-tsze Valley. No less than eleven British vessels are said to be assembled at Woosung and Shanghai—the *Centurion*, the *Bonaventure*, the *Dido*, the *Isis* and the *Undaunted* at Woosung, and the *Daphne*, the *Hart*, the *Whiting*, the *Surprise*, the *Woodcock* and the *Alacrity* at Shanghai. Admiral Seymour himself is at Shanghai, and people naturally conjecture that his own presence and the assembly of such a force has some exceptional meaning.

Sir Claude MacDonald's Letter.

In addition to the information already telegraphed as forming part of Sir Claude MacDonald's letter of the 4th instant, it is now reported that the letter contained the following:—"At the moment of writing this letter, we have just killed and eaten a pony. The British Legation Guards are holding about 40 yards of the wall between the American and Russian Legations and the street of the Tartar City, but the Chinese are constantly bombarding us from the surrounding district so that our position is extremely perilous. We have ample provisions for a fortnight or more, and although the Chinese are apparently brave, there can be no doubt that they shrink from the idea of rushing a position held by a number of foreigners fight-

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ing for their lives. If they attacked with genuine resolution, we could not hold out for more than four or five days."

It will be observed that Sir Claude does not say anything about ammunition; a strange omission, if we assume that lack of that essential was beginning to trouble the Allies seriously. We note that the Japanese Consul in Shanghai, Mr. Odagiri, received from Governor Yuan a message stating that in an imperial edict published in Peking on the 24th instant, the Foreign Ministers were declared to be all safe, with the exception of the German Minister.

The news that he had received the above telegram was published by Mr. Odagiri on the 27th; that is to say, 3 days after the issue of the alleged edict in Peking. But there is here an element of uncertainty. The Imperial edict was, of course, dated according to the Chinese calendar. Now the 24th of the 6th month in that calendar corresponds with the 19th of July in the Gregorian. If we assume that Governor Yuan did not convert the Chinese date and that Mr. Odagiri also failed to make the conversion, the matter presents no difficulty, for a decree issued in Peking on the 19th could easily have reached Chi-nan by the 26th or 27th. At all events, it is plain that communication with Peking can be effected officially within the space of a few days. The Powers will not consent to be played with much longer by the Chinese Government. Unless direct communication is at once opened with the foreign community in Peking, it will be quite plain that they are deliberately held as hostages by the Chinese Authorities.

Tuesday, Aug. 31.

Disquieting reports continue to come from Chekiang. Rioters have committed great outrages there. They are said to be the Vegetarian Sect, and the object of their hostility is not foreigners but rather the Government.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that since the news of Baron Von Ketteler's murder reached Berlin, the Chinese residing in that city have been constantly assaulted, and it has been found necessary that the Chinese students should quit the city and that the members of the Chinese Legation should be guarded when they go abroad The police are said to be exerting themselves to the utmost to put an end to this state of affairs.

It is alleged that the Chinese Government has not made any reply to a memorial addressed to it by Li Hung-chang, Governor Yuan, and Taotai Shêng, urging the adoption of pacific measures. Whether this silence is significant, and if so, what its significance may be, no one seems prepared to say, but inasmuch as the Throne has virtually declared itself at one with a similar memorial from Liu Kun-yi, we do not see that any sinister inference need be drawn from the failure to answer Li Hung-chang.

It now transpires that the *China Gazette* was responsible for the extraordinary version of the imperial edict of the 24th instant. The Shanghai journal published the news as coming from a "trustworthy" source in Nanking. Our readers remember, of course, the version to which we allude. It represented the Emperor of China as saying that no advantage could be derived from killing the Ministers; that the better plan would be to keep them as hostages, and that Li Hung-chang had been appointed Viceroy of Chi-li in order to carry on the war. None of these things were in the edict.

Dysentery is said to have made its appearance among the troops at Tientsin. On the 18th instant there were 420 patients, and more than one half of them were Japanese. This disproportion is attributed to the inferior quality of the food supplied to the Japanese soldiers, and to the wretched nature of the buildings occupied by them. But, under any circumstances, a campaign in North China in mid-summer must be a terribly trying affair. Experience in Japan shows that, whatever may be the cause, the Japanese are much more vulnerable to dysentery than Europeans or Americans.

The Attack on Tientsin.

It is not easy to obtain any definite information with regard to the forces engaged in assaulting the walled city of Tientsin on the 13th and 14th instant. The closest approximation we can find is the following:—

	Infantry.	Artillery.
Japanese...	2,200...	2 Batteries with 12 mountain guns.
Russian ...	2,000	
English ...	1,000...	4 mountain guns & 4 Maxims.
French ...	800...	4 mountain guns.
American..	800	
German ...	200	
Totals...	7,000...	20 mountain guns & 4 Maxims.

The returns with regard to the artillery are obviously incomplete, as they do not assign any guns to the Russians and Germans. The Russians and Germans, however, did not take part in the attack on the south, and consequently the number of troops actually engaged in the latter did not exceed 4,800. The Chinese are said to have numbered 8,000; namely 4,000 under Nieh and 4,000 under Ma.

The approximate casualties were

Japanese.....	400,	or nearly 20 per cent.
Russian	200,	10 per cent.
French	160,	20 per cent.
English and American	130,	nearly 8 per cent.

The heavy losses of the Japanese and the French were owing to the fact that they had to advance to the attack over ground affording very little cover, and that they had to hold a position within close range of the walls during several hours. A Japanese staff officer is represented as saying that, difficult as the southern face was, it presented greater facilities than any other face and had therefore to be chosen. It would appear, also, that the reserve-ammunition corps had not been fully organized, owing to the difficulty of procuring transport animals. Thus the two batteries of Japanese artillery took into action only 1,600 rounds, and of these they had expended 1,500 by 11 a.m, the remaining 100 being held for an emergency. Not until late in the afternoon did they obtain a fresh supply. The infantry had 120 rounds per man, and they expended the whole of this in the forenoon, nor did the reserve supply arrive before 1 p.m. This expenditure of ammunition on the part of the infantry is exceptionally heavy, and shows how hotly they must have been engaged

The spoils taken appear to have been:—

100 cargo boats and 2 small steamers.
1 million taels in sycee.
A quantity of provisions.
2 9-cent. guns; 3 7-cent.; 1 47-mill. quick-firer; 74 guns of sorts.

Troops for China.

It is stated that France is about to send 20,000 troops to China. The great difficulty experienced by European Powers in dealing with a Far Eastern State is well illustrated by the incidents of the war. The fighting may be said to have commenced definitely on the 16th of June, yet none of the Powers, excepting Japan, Russia, and England, can be said to have done more than put detachments into the field thus far. The bulk of the German and French troops can not arrive before the second half of September, and, unless the foreign flags are already floating over Peking by that time, it is only too probable that the whole Chinese Empire will be in a ferment.

Wednesday, Sept. 1.

Mr. Fergusson, Taotai Shêng's adviser, is said to have left Shanghai for Japan.

The Chinese troops in Manchuria are said to be assembling at Halapin and assuming the offensive against the Russians.

There is a rumour that the reconnaissance in force by 7,000 of the Allies, which moved out of Tientsin a few days ago, has had a collision with some 30,000 Chinese troops at a point 4 miles north-west of Tientsin. No particulars are given, but we suspect that this is an exaggerated version of the telegram published elsewhere.

The *Chiuo* publishes an interview between Mr. Odagiri, the Japanese Consul, and the Viceroy. The former asked Li why he did not proceed north at once to assist the Government and restore peace. Li replied that he had to await instructions from the Throne; that, however necessary it might be to ask for peace, the time seemed still premature, and that he himself was very unfavourably situated for negotiating.

Mr. Hoshi Toru, writing in the columns of the *Jimmin*, chides his countrymen for being engrossed by military notions. They are so occupied, he thinks, with idea of gaining glory in the field that they fail to see other and much more vital issues. Mr. Hoshi is vague as to the nature of those issues, but one can easily gather that he suspects the Powers of directing keen and paramount attention to their respective interests, and that he is apprehensive lest his country should become absorbed in the expedition to Peking only. We infer that he would have Japan stretch out a strong hand towards her own sphere of influence as Russia is doing in Manchuria, England in the Yangtsze Valley, and France in the south, and that he regards Korea also as a field where trouble should be expected. He writes bitterly about Germany and thinks that she is neglecting her work in Shan-tung for the sake of an expedition to Peking, though she has no longer a Minister to save.

It is curious to observe that the *Nippon* takes precisely the opposite view. It congratulates its countrymen upon having emerged from the time when exploits of arms counted for more in their sight than international policy. They no longer allow themselves to be carried away by news of victories and descriptions of military feats, but they look deeper and consider the political effects and causes of such happenings. The *Nippon* indulges in one of its wonted sarcasms. It notes how conveniently the so-called obligations of humanity can be interpreted by Foreign Powers. In olden times they all united to force their will upon Japan in the interests of humanity, and now they cry out that it is Japan's duty to do the fighting for them in the same interests.

It is stated that no less than twelve missionaries at Kü-chow in Chekiang have been murdered and that the insurgents have completely gained the upper hand, seizing the town itself. We sincerely trust that this rumour may prove to be a great exaggeration. The tale of China's crimes is growing

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so long that no punishment short of dismemberment will be considered sufficient.

Another report has it that Li's troops, on their march through Chili, have murdered two missionaries and 2,000 Christian converts, and burned some churches. Li, it will be remembered, set out from Shan-tung and was supposed to be in favour of assisting foreigners. The place where these atrocities are said to have been committed is King-chow in Ho-hien-fu.

The Advance to Peking.

The general opinion seems to be that the advance towards Peking will commence during the first week in August. The whole of the Fifth Division of the Japanese Army will be in the field in a few days more, and there is no reason to suppose that any further delay will then take place. We have always believed that Peking would be reached by about the 20th of August—assuming that the expedition takes place at all—and we have also believed that from thirty to forty thousand troops would amply suffice. The only fear was that difficulties might arise with regard to the parts assigned to the various columns. To us it appeared that the wisest and most efficacious plan would be to assign the fighting line to the Japanese, who will have a fully organized Division and can therefore work independently, while the troops of the other Powers guard the communications. The same idea was subsequently advanced by *The Times* in London, and the indications now are that it is also the opinion of the officers directing operations. As to the theory that a hundred thousand troops, or a hundred and fifty thousand, would be needed for the operation, it certainly seems to have been an exaggeration. Assuming that the forward movement commences on the 10th instant—though we expect it somewhat earlier,—and noting that the distance to be covered is about 90 miles, the troops might be expected to reach Peking at some time between the 20th and the 25th. A good deal will depend on the floods: they may cause great delay. But, apart from these exceptional factors, the expedition ought to be accomplished by the 25th at latest.

Peking.

An imperial edict, issued in Peking on the 19th of July, contained these words:—

> In the wars of the Twelve States it was laid down that persons surrendering should not be killed or foreign envoys injured. Therefore the Foreign Representatives should be safely protected. All Viceroys and Governors, in accordance with this principle, must seek peace by succouring the Various Ministers. Nevertheless military preparations against the Powers must not be neglected. Any neglect of them will be at the peril of those responsible.

It is difficult to reconcile this with the despatch said to have been sent from Peking by Lt. Col. Shiba on the 22nd instant, asserting that the Legations were still subjected to attack, and that, unless help arrived within a week, their fate would be sealed. But we are strongly disposed to think that there has been some mistake about the date of Lt.-Col. Shiba's despatch. Our readers will have observed that, whereas that officer's despatch was received in Tientsin on the 25th of July, namely, three days after it had been penned, a despatch from Baron Nishi, received on the same day, was dated the 19th. Further Baron Nishi spoke of the Chinese having ceased firing on the 17th, and shown a disposition to parley. These facts appear to warrant us in assuming that Lieut.-Col. Shiba's despatch was sent from Peking on or before the 17th, and that some confusion about the date has occurred. The situation seems to be this, that throughout the whole of the first half of July the Legations continued to be the object of more or less desultory attacks, but that, from about the 17th instant, the moderates obtained the upper hand in State councils, and that thereafter the attempts against the Legations ceased. On the other hand, the Chinese Government is most anxious to conceal the fact that the Legations were kept in peril for such a long time, especially as there have been many casualties among the guards and several among the civilians, as well as among the staffs of the Legations. The Government's hope had been to keep foreign Powers in ignorance of these events until some preliminaries to a peaceful settlement could be arranged. In the meanwhile, it would have claimed the credit of having protected the Legations against a furious populace, and would have taken full advantage not only of the satisfaction felt by foreigners at the escape of their nationals, but also of the suggestion that, although the lives of the Ministers had hitherto been saved, it would be impossible to guarantee them should a military advance be made against Peking. Finding, however, that, the foreign public refuses to believe in the safety of the Ministers without direct communications from them, the Chinese are now reluctantly allowing such communications to pass. After the first ten days of imminent peril we have not once wavered in our belief that the Ministers are safe, nor can we now comprehend the scepticism exhibited in many quarters. But, with regard to the conduct of the Chinese Government, we fear that it must be called altogether evasive and shuffling.

Thursday, Sept. 2.

A message received by the Austro-Hungarian Consul in Chefoo says that the Imperial troops are now fighting with the Boxers in Peking. What "now" means we can not tell, for this interesting message bears no date.

The letter from Baron Nishi, dated the 19th of July in Peking, which reached Mr. Consul Tei in Tientsin on the 25th, is said to have been carried to the latter place by a messenger whom Mr. Tei had despatched from Tientsin. Baron Nishi's messenger and Mr. Tei's messenger met half way and exchanged the letters they were commissioned to carry. It is at all events evident that communication with Peking is becoming comparatively easy. At first sight it may seem strange that a letter should take six days between that city and Tientsin, but the distance by the direct road is from 80 to 90 miles; a letter has to be carried by the same messenger throughout; he probably chooses by-ways and circuitous routes, and it is necessary for him to avoid all semblance of haste. Under such circumstances, six days is not bad time.

A despatch from the German Secretary of Legation in Peking, dated the 21st of July and received in Shanghai on the 30th, says that the two German officials who were wounded at Baron von Ketteler's assassination are doing well. We can not identify the originals of the transliterated names. One, which is telegraphed as "altz," may be Baron von der Goltz, Chinese Secretary of the Legation. The other name is given as "cordes," which bears no resemblance to the name of any member of the Legation staff, so far as we know. It is strange that no message has been received describing the incidents of the German Minister's death. Have such messages been suppressed by the Chinese Authorities? The only fact bearing upon an event so shocking in itself, and likely to produce such shocking results, is that related by a Chinese, as reported in a recent issue of this journal, namely that on the evening of the 13th of July one of the Boxers was captured and imprisoned in the German Legation, and that a large party of the insurgents entered Peking that night. Our readers have probably observed that our conjecture as to the murder's not having taken place before June 20th, was correct.

The same letter says that all the other members of the Legation staffs were well up to date (21st July); that the German Legation had been greatly injured by shells but was still holding out, and that 10 of the German marines had been killed and 12 wounded. It will be seen that this news conflicts with the statements received some time ago to the effect that all the foreign residents had assembled in the British Legation, the other Legations being destroyed. Apparently only the Austro-Hungarian, the Italian and the Belgian have been completely destroyed, and the French Legation partially.

The Secretary adds that the Chinese troops ceased firing on the Legations from the 16th ult. Intelligence from another source, said to be trustworthy, alleges that Baron von Ketteler's corpse was sent to the Legation by the Chinese Authorities. This last item of intelligence is highly important as proving the falseness of the previous rumour that the German Guards marched to the *Tsung-li Yamên*, took the Minister's body thence, and wrecked the *Yamên*. That error of meeting violence by violence was apparently not committed.

According to a report carried by the steamer *Sikh* to Chemulpho, ten thousand British-Indian troops have reached Taku, and a mixed column consisting of 6,000 Japanese under Major-General Fukushima and 4,000 English under Brigadier-General Cassel was to start from Tientsin towards Peking on the 29th of July. This statement requires confirmation, though it is generally reported. We learn, however, by a telegram from Chefoo, dated 30th of July, that a reconnaissance made by the Allies showed the Chinese troops to be at Yang-tsung, to the number of 6,500, where they were busily entrenching themselves. It is not at all improbable that a column was despatched from Tientsin to disperse these troops.

The peace of the Yang-tsze Valley has been at length disturbed. News from Chung-ing, dated July 28th, says that riots occurred at Kou-chow, Sung-king and Wan-kiang, that churches were attacked, and that about 100 native converts were maltreated and plundered. The message adds, however, that troops sent from Ching-tu succeeded in quelling the disturbance.

The Foreign Consuls in Shanghai are holding meetings to discuss with Admiral Seymour measures for the effective protection of the Settlement.

The *Asahi's* Chefoo correspondent sends a specially urgent message to say that, in consequence of the capture of the Arsenal at Tientsin, the Emperor of China made overtures of peace to the Foreign Representatives on the 18th instant. It is strange that no news to that effect has been given in the despatches received from the Legations subsequent to that date. No one can fail to remark, however, that whereas Tientsin fell on the 14th of July, the Chinese troops in Peking ceased to fire on the Legations from

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the 16th. The two incidents may have an intimate connexion.

The *Yomiuri* states that 32 Japanese soldiers have been missing since the capture of the walled city of Tientsin. Our contemporary seems to consider it more or less a reflection on the discipline of the army that such an incident should occur, and undoubtedly the stricture is correct if the men have absented themselves voluntarily. But the probability is, we imagine, that they fell into the hands of the Chinese.

Count Okuma is credited with having enunciated the following plan for settling the the Chinese complication :—(1) That Prince Twan and all his anti-foreign colleagues should be punished and that full apologies should be made to Western Powers; (2) that the Emperor should be restored to full authority, and that a Cabinet should be organized with genuinely progressive statesmen; (3) that, for the purpose of paying indemnities, China should raise a loan of from five hundred to six hundred million taels, the debt to be secured by the customs dues, which the Foreign Powers should agree to raise to 10 per cent.; and (4) that *likin* should be altogether abolished. No other definite programme has been formulated, and we have only the authority of the *Nippon* for attributing this to Count Okuma.

No Quarter.

Unless the persons whose testimony has been publicly given up to the present are singularly mistaken or strangely mendacious, some terrible barbarities have been perpetrated in China. The scenes after the taking of the Taku Forts have already been roughly described, but there seems to be a general wish to minimize the atrocities which then took place. News has also leaked out from various quarters to the effect that after the taking of the walled city of Tientsin, the Cossacks, the Indian troops, and the Wei-hai-wei Chinese behaved much as troops used to behave in the days when the civilian population of a place were treated as enemies after its capture, and when Generals considered that in order to rouse the animal passions essential for stout fighting, it was necessary to deliver over the inhabitants and goods of a captured city to the sack. In this case also it would appear that newspaper correspondents are desirous of glossing matters over, or that the military censors have drawn their pens through unpleasantly precise paragraphs, for although our own information as to these excesses comes from sources which we can not suspect of error, the newspaper accounts are remarkably reticent. We observe, however, that Mr. Ingram, chief-officer of the *Hsinchi*, has made to the *North-China Daily News* the following brief statement about the things that happened at the capture of Tientsin on the 14th of July :—

> As usual "no quarter" was the Russian motto, and some painful things are told of the way in which neither sex nor age was spared by their bayonets.

If a newspaper has any duty at all to discharge, it is the duty of exposing such occurences as the above. Only the execration of the civilized world will put an end to them. What is the use of calling the Chinese "savages" and "barbarians" because they are besieging the Legations in Peking, and because they make no discrimination as to sex, age, civilian, or military when an enemy falls into their hands? Are we not teaching them to-day by our own conduct that theirs is the proper rule of warfare since we follow it ourselves in fighting against them? Hereafter when things return to their normal condition and when we hear, as perhaps we may, that a missionary station has been captured by rioters and all its inmates massacred, let us refrain from using opprobrious epithets about the Chinese, and let us rather recognise in them faithful pupils of the instruction practically given to them by the disciplined troops of Europe.

China's Intentions.

It might have been anticipated that the general body of the public would not reason very closely about the affair of the Taku Forts. The man in the street was pretty sure to say, "the Chinese struck the first blow and must take the consequences" And the man in the street has expressed himself in just that sense. He is under no obligation to think carefully. He pays his penny to a newspaper which is expected to do the thinking for him. Does the newspaper perform its part of the bargain? Here is a specimen. The *Hongkong Daily Press* says:—

> If the Peking Government had really desired to avoid war, the commandant of the Taku forts would have been instructed to hand them over to the Allied Forces, simply becauses it would have been a proof of their *bona fides* in desiring to preserve peace and to work with them in securing the safety of the foreigners in Peking.

By whom could the commandant of the Taku Forts have been instructed? That is just the question. The only person qualified to give such an order, the only person from whom he would have been justified in taking it, was the Viceroy of Chili. But by no human possibility could the Viceroy of Chili have conveyed any such instructions to the commandant. There was not time. The thing was out of the question. The commandant, on his own responsibility, had to decide whether he would surrender the forts or retain them. If he had decided to surrender them, he would have merited only one fate, to be marched out and shot as a traitor. He simply had to fight. There was no room for choice. What is the use of talking of the Peking Government? The Peking Government knew nothing of the affair, and could not know anything of it, until the news reached the capital that the Forts had been captured. And observe the manner of shifting the responsibility to Chinese shoulders: the Peking Government should have handed over the Forts "simply because it would have been a proof of their *bonâ-fides* in desiring to preserve peace and to work with the allied forces in securing the safety of the foreigners in Peking." What about the demand for the surrender of the Forts? Was that a proof of a *bonâ-fide* desire to preserve peace? This placid disregard of the most elementary principles of justice in discussing questions that concern China, is really superb.

Of course there is the plea that the Chinese were taking steps of a menacing character before the demand for the surrender of the forts was preferred. They were laying torpedoes and they were marching re-inforcements into the Forts. So it is said, at any rate, but there is no evidence that any torpedoes were laid. Granted, however, that the Chinese were doing these things. Would not the simple course have been to call on them to desist? Had the commandant of the Forts been informed that any attempt to strengthen his garrison or to torpedo the river would be counted by the Allies as an act of hostilities and would be treated as such, it would have been perfectly within his competence to desist from either operation pending instructions from the Viceroy. But he was curtly told to surrender the Forts or to fight. And because he did his duty as a soldier, his Government, who knew nothing whatever of what was going on, is accused of having declared war against the world! There is nothing equally comical in history.

Friday, Aug. 3.

The Peking Legations.

No reasonable person can doubt any longer that the foreign community of Peking have escaped—temporarily at all events—the fate that lately seemed impending. We need not detail the evidence that has come to hand from various sources; evidence whose cumulative effect is completely convincing. We ourselves have been firmly confident since the beginning of July that the catastrophe of a general massacre had not occurred, but the public in general did not appear to share our faith. And now it is necessary to consider another contingency namely, whether the march of an allied force against Peking may not endanger the lives of the foreign community once more. It is remarkable that an exactly analogous contingency had to be considered in 1860, when Sir Harry Parkes, Mr. Loch, and several other foreigners were prisoners in the hands of the Chinese, and when the latter repeatedly threatened to kill them unless the British and French commanders desisted from attacking the city. The threat was never carried out. Judging from that precedent and from the known character of the Chinese, we do not think that grave fears need be entertained on the present occasion. It is evident that the Chinese Authorities have entertained the notion of using the Foreign Representatives as hostages to secure terms from the Powers. But the Chinese must now be well aware that the massacre of the Foreign Ministers would seal the fate of the Manchu dynasty. In the face of such an outrage it would be impossible to stay the hands of all the Powers, even though some were content to be moderate. Whatever may be said about the Chinaman's affection for his own civilization and his prejudice against new-fangled men and things, he is an eminently sensible, matter-of-fact person, and since he knows that the murder of the foreign community of Peking would be doubly heinous now that the Government has been able to assert its power of protection, he will probably hold his hand. It seems scarcely necessary to discuss the contingency that the Authorities may not be able to check the riotous population of the city. The population of Peking is not riotous in any sense. In no part of China could a foreigner count on more complete immunity from insult than in Peking before these troubles broke out. So far as we know, the Boxers, coming from Shan-tung, were the only real source of danger, and the Boxers can easily be dealt with if the Authorities are so disposed

With regard to the statement that the Foreign Legation staffs and the foreign residents have moved to the Peh tang Cathedral, we deem it very apocryphal. The Cathedral, though a strongly constructed edifice, is ill-suited for purposes of defence, and does not offer accommodation nearly as spacious as that to be found in the British Legation.

The Emperor of Germany's Speeches.

The verbatim report of the Emperor of Germany's speech delivered on the 9th of July at Keil, scarcely seems to us to justify the sensational telegram sent by Reuter. Here are his Majesty's words :—

"Yours is the first naval division of armoured

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ships which I send abroad. Remember you will have to fight a cunning foe, provided with modern weapons, to avenge the German blood which has flowed. But spare the women and children. I shall not rest until China is subdued and all the bloody deeds are avenged. You will fight together with the troops of various nationalities. See that you maintain good comradeship with them."

Some newspapers allege that the Emperor used the words "I shall not rest until China is forced upon her knees," but that is obviously a harmless and not unnatural expression. "Subdued" and "forced upon her knees" may be interchanged without much effect. It would certainly have been more dignified had his Majesty avoided the two references to "vengeance," but there is no denying that the telegraphic epitome of the speech exaggerated its spirit. It is not improbable that we shall find the same to be the case with regard to the last speech. That his Majesty should have advised the troops to make no prisoners and give no quarter is scarcely credible.

THE FORWARD MOVEMENT ON PEKING.

It is stated that the Japanese troops have driven the Chinese from Yang-tsun and captured that place. We pointed out a few days ago that some such movement was likely to precede the general advance against Peking. Yang-tsun, as will be seen from the map that we published on the 2nd instant, is 23 miles from Tientsin. It is the point where the railway crosses the Peiho. Admiral Seymour's column had an engagement with the Boxers and the Chinese there on the retreat from the attempt to re-inforce Peking. Recent intelligence showed that the Chinese, to the number of six or seven thousand, were entrenching themselves at Yang-tsun, evidently with the object of barring the Allies' advance to Peking. But we do not think that any very serious resistance is to be hereafter anticipated on the part of the Chinese. Their habit has always been to make one stout fight, and, if they were beaten, to accept the inevitable. There can be no doubt that they suffered very heavy losses in the Tientsin campaign. They fought well there, and they have probably been now convinced that the situation is hopeless.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

Li Hung-chang's treatment in Shanghai illustrates what we have often written about the relations between foreigners and China, namely, that, as a general rule, not the smallest deference is shown to Chinese susceptibilities. The Chinese nation might be composed of Hottentots or criminals for all the consideration it receives at the hands of foreign writers. Whatever may be the opinion of individual foreigners about Li, he is one of the greatest dignitaries in the Chinese empire, and he is going north avowedly in obedience to commands from the Throne and with the object of endeavouring to compose the present difficulties. Yet Shanghai, both private and official, seems to have behaved toward him with studied rudeness, and the Shanghai press has spoken of him in a manner that can not fail to rouse the burning indignation of the large section of the Chinese nation which believes in Li and pays deference to his position. That is the trouble, however. No one appears to give the Chinese credit for being capable of any feelings of indignation. The general assumption seems to be that they may be insulted and abused to any extent without conferring on them any right to retort. There can not be any doubt that if a British official, say, holding such a position as Li holds and apparently accredited with such powers, were to be similarly treated in any foreign city, the British nation would be justly roused. Besides, whatever prejudices may exist against Li, he has certainly taken an enlightened view of the present crisis, and has worked in concert with the Yang-tsze Viceroys for the preservation of peace and the security of foreign life and property. Would it be strange if Chan Chih-tung, Liu Kun-yi, Shên and Yuan, who have stood in line with Li as opponents of this anti-foreign movement, were to change their attitude in view of the rudenesses of which Li has been the victim?

Even the London *Times* is eminently hostile to Li. In an article published on June 20th, it says:—

> The most significant news from China to-day is the announcement made by our Shanghai Correspondent and confirmed from other sources that Li Hung-chang, who at present holds the office of Viceroy of the Kuang provinces, has received an urgent summons to the capital. The fact that a dignitary of his importance proposes to start from Canton so early as Friday shows that his orders must have been very pressing indeed. Li is the Chinese statesman who for a period extending over some thirty years has again and again been called in by the authorities at Peking to save them, so far as possible, from the consequences of their fatuous arrogance towards the European Powers. His aid has seldom been invoked in vain. He is, if possible, below the average of his brother Mandarins in falsehood and in corruption, but though his ignorance of the true meaning of Western civilization is in many respects profound, it is at least less gross and palpable than that of his rivals and colleagues. He has realized, at any rate, that China with all her millions of men and all her wealth is utterly incapable of armed resistance to the weakest of Western States. He is free from the illusions to which the Dowager Empress and the Manchu Court party give way when they talk of resisting invasion. He relies on other weapons for baffling the outer barbarians, and it must be owned with shame that he has not relied upon them without success. In meaner arts of Oriental diplomacy Li Hung-chang enjoys a bad pre-eminence. Falsehood, evasion, double-dealing, and intrigue are his familiar tools, and of all of them he has repeatedly proved himself a master. By means of them he has won some substantial successes for his Government, and, what more that Government have prized even, he has repeatedly "saved their face" by cunningly disguising some merited humiliation in a way which deprived it of its significance in the eyes of the people. It is impossible, with our present information, to draw any certain inference from the hasty summons of the wily old Chinaman to Peking. The policy of the Palace, which has led to such disastrous results, has been in the main the policy of his Manchu rivals, and we may, perhaps, hope that he has been sent for to reverse it and to advise the Palace how to escape from a situation that may become pregnant with disaster to some of its most illustrious inmates. Unhappily his journey to Peking admits of a less satisfactory interpretation. It is still far from clear that the Dowager Empress and her favourite counsellors realize the dangers they have brought upon their heads. The native Press at Shanghai reports, it is true, that the Manchu General Tung-fuh-siang has been arrested and the Viceroy of Chih-li delivered up to the Board of Punishments. But even if this story is correct, it only shows that the officials in question have failed to carry out the policy of the Court, and not necessarily that this policy has been abandoned. Another Shanghai message, it will be seen, contains the somewhat ominous report that fresh troops have been ordered from Shan-tung to Peking, together with a *démenti* which may or may not be intended to delude the Europeans. It is quite conceivable that the departure of Li Hung-chang for the north may be due to the protests of the less foolish or the less desperate of the Court officials, before the Palace takes some step which would be irreparable. If this is the case he may or may not succeed in dissuading the rulers of the country from the fatal course they contemplate.

Nevertheless, strong as these views are, they embody the saving clause that Li understands the weakness of his country *vis-à-vis* foreign nations, and that his ignorance of Western civilization is less profound than that of his brother Mandarins. The fact is that Li has from first to last been the one Chinaman faithful to progressive ideas. He has suffered for his faith, yet he still retains it. And the recognition that foreigners extend to his constancy is this!

Mr. Sasa Tomofusa, the well-known politician, has had an interview with Viceroy Li, which is reported in the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo*. The Viceroy stated that he earnestly desired to proceed to Tientsin and have an interview with the Foreign Ministers. He was not in a position to state definitely whether the Empress-Dowager was acting in concert with Prince Twan. It would be impossible for China either to pay an indemnity or to surrender any part of her territory. He guaranteed the safety of the Foreign Ministers

Mr. Sasa is not likely to make any mistake about the statements of the Viceroy. It becomes, therefore, a matter of curious conjecture what proposals for a settlement of the trouble his Excellency intends to carry to the conference of Ministers. There can no longer be much doubt that the Chinese Government is holding the Foreign Representatives and the foreign community in Peking as hostages, and it hopes to exchange them against some exhibition of foreign forbearance. Unquestionably something can be momentarily made of such a card, but that it will tell terribly against China in the long run, the astute old Viceroy must see as clearly as it can be seen.

According to the *Chiugai Shogyo's* Shanghai correspondent, Viceroy Li has telegraphed an important representation to the Peking Government, urging that the Foreign Representatives should be sent under escort to Tientsin, and that if they are unwilling to take the risks of the journey, a safe place should be found for them in Peking. The Viceroy warned the Throne that if any of the Foreign Representatives be injured, the difficulty of making peace will be greatly augmented

It is rumoured that Viceroy Chang will come from Nanking to Shanghai to confer with Viceroy Li as to the best means of restoring peace.

According to Mr. Sasa Tomofusa's account of his interview with Li Hung-chang in Shanghai, the old Viceroy appears to have some definite plan of procedure, but will not talk of it. The death of General Nieh seems to have caused him great concern, as he relied on that officer for the necessary military assistance. Since his arrival in Shanghai Li has been in constant communication with Chi-nan and Pao-ting, the capitals of Shan-tung and Chih-li He conveys the impression of being greatly dejected. A telegram says that he has sent back his guards from Shanghai and that he is not unlikely to pay a visit to Liu Kun-yi at Nanking.

FORMOSA.

The revenues of Formosa for the current year and for next year are stated by the *Jiji Shimpo* to be as follows:—

	This year. Yen.	Next year. Yen
National Taxes	13,001,577	14,498,598
Local Taxes	1,600,000	1,800,000
Total.....	14,601,577	16,298,598

The principal sources of revenue are camphor 4,592,310 *yen*; opium, 4,287,888 *yen*, and salt 723,708 *yen*. In view of this development of income, it is proposed to increase the expenditure on railways from 2½ million *yen* to 4¼ millions, and the expenditure on land surveys from 600,000 *yen* to 700,000. The line between Takao and Tainan will be opened for traffic in October.

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THE FIGHT ON THE 13th AND 14th INST. AT TIENTSIN.

We publish in our correspondence columns a letter from "Yen-no-shita no Chikaramochi," and since we extend to the letter this courtesy, we may be permitted to say a few words by way of reply.

Our correspondent's purpose is to correct some remarks of ours which he appears to think are calculated to detract from the honour won by the Japanese troops in the assault on the walled city of Tientsin. The first of these remarks referred to the fact that the Japanese troops having reached a point 200 or 300 metres from the city, were obliged to halt, as they had no materials for reconstructing the moat-bridge which they supposed to have been broken. The Japanese gallantly held their ground until darkness. Our comment was "if the Chinese had been expert marksmen, the Japanese must have fallen back. "Yen-no-shita no Chikaramochi" is indignant at the implied suggestion that "the Japanese held their position owing to the inferiority of the Chinese fire." That is a very forced construction. There is no doubt that had not the Japanese been full of pluck, they could not have held such a position. But it is equally certain that neither the Japanese troops, nor any troops in the world, could have held for several hours a position with very little cover some 200 yards from the lines of a perfectly protected enemy had the enemy been skilled riflemen. We give the Japanese soldiers all the credit they deserve, but we do not consider them capable of achieving the impossible, and every one acquainted with the power of the modern rifle must know that troops only very partially protected can not live for many minutes within 200 yards of skilled marksmen.

The second point to which our correspondent takes vehement exception is our surmise that the difficulties of the ground delayed the march of the flank columns (English and French), and that the Japanese were thus assisted to get ahead. We do not understand our correspondent. He appears to be anxious to claim that the Japanese went ahead owing to their superior verve and gallantry—else why should he cavil at our suggestion?—but, at the same time, he tells us that the Japanese took the lead because the task of reducing the walled city had been previously assigned to them by a military council, in which case there could have been no question of first or second among the attacking columns. So far as we can gather from published accounts, the Japanese had the advantage of moving along the main road—the road leading direct to the gate—whereas the wing columns had to move over swampy ground. The Japanese also were greatly inconvenienced by the necessity of having to advance with a narrow front, since the road alone was good for marching, and they lost heavily in consequence. Still they had the advantage of the road. "Yen-no-shita no Chikaramoch." appears to think that we suspect the Allies of having marched blindly ahead on the chance of finding a bridge, and he interprets us as alleging that since the English and French happened to emerge at points where there was no bridge, they were delayed. He must think us exceedingly silly. What we suggested was that the troops whose line of march was directed on the bridge would naturally be in a position to cross it before the troops who, emerging at points to the right and left, had subsequently to converge on the bridge. He is good enough to recommend that we should refrain from "speculating and indulging in guess work," and that we should "keep overselves strictly to the facts." Of course we are grateful for such valuable advice, but it seems to us that "Yen-no-shuta no Chikaramochi's" precepts would have more force if he practised them himself. For the only offensive "speculation" in this matter comes from himself. He asks," what would have been the consequences if, instead of Japanese, the French troops charged at the gate * * * and found the second gate intact yet? Probably they lacked ladders and would have experienced some ugly disasters. Then the curses on the Japanese failure to blow up the two gates instead of one, through which the Allies were to effect an entry! It makes us shudder to think of that." Now what are we to understand from this fabric of "speculation and guess-work"? The Japanese troops, having blown up the outer gate, charged through it, and, finding, to their surprise, an inner gate still intact, nevertheless effected an entry owing to a brilliantly gallant exploit on the part of their leading files. Does our correspondent intend to suggest that if French troops had found themselves in a similar position they would have met with disaster, and would have attributed the blame to the Japanese for failing to blow up both gates? If that is not the intention of his words, then they have no intelligible intention; and if that is their intention, then they are wantonly insulting. Every one of us is prepared to acknowledge the high fighting qualities of the Japanese troops, and it is amusing that we, who before the first blow was struck in 1894, confidently affirmed the existence of those qualities, should now be vigorously attacked on a false charge of attempting to belittle them. But, whatever be the measure of our appreciation, we must tell our correspondent that the unreasoning disposition he shows to gird at everything like impartial comment his readiness to discover disparagement where not the slightest intention to disparage exists, and his unequivocal hints that European troops would not have acquitted themselves as well under similar circumstances, are not calculated to encourage the enthusiastic applause for which he seems to crave.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

The Korean local authorities seem to have behaved very well to the six Japanese refugees whose goods were stolen by Chinese insurgents in Antung. The lost property was recovered by Korean efforts, and the Emperor of Korea sent a Chamberlain to inform the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires of the fact.

All the talk recently heard about Korea's applying to the United States or to Japan for troops to preserve order in the event of a Boxer rising, is now declared to be entirely baseless

Another party of five Japanese have escaped to Wiju after encountering severe treatment at the hands of the Chinese in Antung.

A telegram from Chemulpho, dated the 30th, says that the *Isanagi Maru* had just arrived with 5 Japanese subjects, 7 Russian soldiers, and 8 missionaries who had escaped across the Korean border to Wiju and thence made their way *viâ* Chinnampho. The other refugees, 43 in number, consisting of Russian soldiers and railway employés, were expected to arrive immediately. According to the statement of the Japanese, they were collecting lumber on the upper waters of the Yalu when some 500 Chinese, blowing trumpets, attacked them, despoiled them of all their goods, and would have killed them had they not been succoured by some of the Chinese who, during the war of 1894-5, had been prisoners in Japanese hands and remembered the kind treatment then extended to them.

Mr. Asano is now pretty certain to obtain his long-sought mining concession at Chiksan in Korea Rumour attributes the final complaisance of the Sōul Government to various causes, but the important point is that the concession is on the verge of being granted.

The *Swatow Maru*, at the time of running ashore on the Korean coast, had on board 300 men belonging to the Telegraph Corps, and 40 horses. They were all saved. Hopes of floating the vessel have not been abandoned.

From Korea it is reported that a party of Japanese and 3 Koreans, who visited Antung on business connected with the purchase of timber, were attacked by the Chinese, and barely escaped to Wi-ju. It is further stated that among the 50 Russian soldiers who retreated across the border to Wi-ju, some are suffering from horrible wounds, one man having had his eye torn out.

The Emperor of Korea seems to be taking a worthy course. He is said to have issued instructions to local officials, especially those of Pyŏng-yang, that all foreigners escaping to Korea from the attacks of Chinese insurgents shall be protected and assisted.

Some of the Japanese journals circulate a rumour of a very cock-and-bull complexion to the effect that Russia has twice approached Japan with a proposal to partition Korea, and has twice been rejected. The first of these offers is said to have been made through Mr. Hayashi, Japan's Representative in Sōul; the second, direct to Marquis Ito. We can not detect the grain of truth in this tale, but it would surprise the world to find Russia dealing in such crudities.

The *Jiumin* urges that the present occasion should be seized to bring about a definite understanding between Japan, Russia, and England. Of course Japan and Russia bulk largest in our contemporary's vista, but it does not by any means leave England out of the reckoning. Briefly stated, the outlines of the settlement it suggests are: Manchuria for Russia, Korea for Japan, and the Yang-tsze Valley for England, not as territorial acquisitions, it will be well understood, but as spheres of influence. The Liberal organ declares that Japan has no objection to Russia's presence in Manchuria; on the contrary, she would welcome the civilized development of that vast region. But she can not consent to be effaced in Korea. Our contemporary thinks that the mutual distrust of these three Powers is crippling the efficiency of the forces in the field and delaying the march to Peking. We do not share that view.

Mr. Taniguchi, the chief of the 10 Japanese recently assaulted in Antung, reports that he was on the Yalu River engaged in lumber-collecting operations when a trumpet was blown, apparently by way of signal, at the Customs station on the opposite bank at Peh-ho-tung, about 3 *ri* below Wiju. Immediately some four or five hundred Chinese soldiers assembled, and getting into eight boats, surrounded the Japanese. The Chinese were armed with swords, spears and revolvers. They carried off eight of the

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Japanese, leaving two, and by threats and ill-treatment compelled them to give up some 500 *yen* and all their goods. It appeared to have been their original intention to murder the Japanese in a cruel manner, but one of the Chinese soldiers, who had been a prisoner in Japanese hands during the war of 1894-5, interfered on behalf of the party and succeeded in inducing his comrades to let them go free. This incident, however insignificant in its dimensions, is worthy of the attention of Europeans whose rule in fighting with the Chinese is "no quarter and no prisoners." Like begets like.

THE LATE DUKE OF COBURG.

Alfred Alexander William Ernest Albert, Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, better known to the English public under his title of Duke of Edinburgh, was the second son of Queen Victoria and was born at Windsor Castle Aug. 6th, 1844. He entered the Navy in 1858, as a naval cadet, joining the screw steam-frigate *Euryalus*, 51 guns. He afterwards served in the *St. George* on various foreign stations. In 1862 he was offered but refused the Crown of Greece. He took his seat in the House of Lords on his creation as Duke of Edinburgh in 1866, and early in 1867 was appointed to the command of the cruiser *Galatea*. He travelled very extensively, visiting almost every country in the world. In New South Wales in 1868, an attempt was made on his life by an Irishman named O'Farrell, but the Prince was only slightly wounded in the back by a pistol shot. The Prince subsequently visited Japan and was received by the Emperor. In 1874 he married the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrovna, daughter of Alexander II. of Russia, the wedding being celebrated with great pomp at St. Petersburg. In 1882 he was promoted to the rank of Vice-Admiral, and he was afterwards in command of the Mediterranean Squadron. On the death of the late Duke of Saxe-Coburg in 1893 the Duke succeeded him, thus becoming a Prince of the German Empire. He, however, spent a portion of each year in England, keeping up his establishment at Clarence House, and retaining the annuity of £10,000 given him in 1873, though he voluntarily relinquished the annuity of £15,000 granted him in 1866. The retention of the former grant was the occasion of a rather acrimonous debate in the House of Commons, in which the Liberal leaders, then in power, were opposed by a majority of the rank-and-file, and had to call on the Opposition to get the vote passed.

"THE "SATSUMA MARU."

The *Satsuma Maru*, which left Ujina on the morning of the 27th for North China with detachments of the railway corps and the field hospital corps, went ashore near Quelpart. The first accounts of the disaster do not suggest a total loss, but subsequent news speaks of the ship as having sunk. It does not appear, however, that there was any loss of life. The *Saikyo Maru* proceeded immediately to the scene of the disaster. The *Satsuma Maru* is a steamer of 1,930 tons. She belongs to the fleet of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

The *Satsuma Maru* does not appear to have sustained any serious damage from her recent accident. It is stated that her own pumps sufficed to get rid of the water she had made, and that she has proceeded to Nagasaki. There were no casualties among the men she carried.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The climate at present is everything that the farmers could desire, and an excellent rice-crop is predicted.

The Asahi-gawa in Akita Prefecture has overflowed and inundated 600 houses. Happily no lives were lost.

A new company is to be formed to carry on the Ota Railway which recently fell into difficulties. The new company will be called the "Mito Tetsudo Kaisha."

Yokohama's record of contagious diseases for July is not favourable. There were 3 cases of cholera, 76 of dysentery, 5 of diptheria, 9 of typhoid and 2 of scarlet fever.

The first-class cruiser *Azuma* left France for Japan on the 28st of July, and the first-class line-of-battle-ship *Asahi* left Lord Armstrong and Company's on the 31st ultimo.

The Emperor and Empress have despatched chamberlains to make inquiries for the wounded in the fighting at Tientsin on the 13th and 14th of July, who are now under treatment at Hiroshima.

The dispute between Japanese and foreign silk-men in Yokohama has been adjusted by an agreement concluded between Mr. Abegg, representing the foreign side, and Mr. Ono, the Japanese.

Mr. Kishihata, one of the principal officials of the First National Bank's Osaka Branch, is said to have lost 200,000 *yen* of the Bank's money by operations on change. He has been arrested.

Two cases of most virulent cholera are reported from Onsen-gori in Ehime Prefecture. Both the patients died immediately. This is said to have happened on the afternoon of the 26th, certainly the hottest day experienced during the present summer.

Since the eruption of Mount Iwo several police-constables and coolies have been searching for the bodies of the dead among the debris, but as Professor Inouye considers that the mountain is in a dangerous state and may erupt again at any moment, the whole party have withdrawn in haste.

The Legislative Council at Vancouver has recommended that the poll-tax upon Chinese immigrants coming *viâ* Canada shall be 500 dollars, and that the measure shall be extended to Japanese also. It is wonderful to observe these restrictive measures, and to compare them with the attitude of foreigners in the East.

In our issue of the 28th instant we quoted a despatch received by the Naval Department in Tokyo to the effect that "many instances had been witnessed of foreign soldiers breaking into the people's houses and plundering." The Naval Department has communicated with us stating this assertion is incorrect.

From October next permission will be given for the private manufacture of post-cards. They must be of the same dimensions and paper as the official cards, and must carry a 1½ *sen* stamp. Return cards, however, will not be allowed. There will be no objection to pictures or drawings on the back, but the face must carry only the address and the stamp.

It is stated that the water-supply of Yokohama is proving quite insufficient for the needs of the place. The Authorities have found it necessary to limit the time during which water is procurable, and the consequence is that much disputing and even severe fighting takes place among the folks seeking access to the pipes. It is in consideration of this state of affairs that works are now in progress to double the supply.

There can be no doubt that the British Government undertook to guarantee Japan's expenses in connexion with the campaign in North-China, but it is well to note that Japan had decided to despatch a Division of twenty thousand men before this guarantee was given. The guarantee was offered on the 8th of July and the embarkment of the Japanese troops commenced on the 6th. There is thus no connexion between the despatch of the Fifth Division and the giving of the guarantee.

The Authorities seems to have come to the conclusion that nothing more is to be apprehended from the pest at present. They have ordered that the various disinfecting stations shall be closed. If it should turn out that this confidence is well founded, the Japanese are to be heartily congratulated on their success in dealing with their terrible visitor. No other country has succeeded in checking the invasion of the plague so radically.

Following on the two cases of cholera recently reported from a provincial district (Shizuoka), a case is now stated to have occurred in Yokohama. A girl of 20 was attacked by the disease at No. 3 Horai-cho, on the 30th of July at 6 p.m., and succumbed on the following morning. There is probably no reason to be alarmed by these incidents. They occur regularly every year during the hot season, and are merely of a sporadic character.

Prince Kanin received a royal welcome in Rome. A State banquet was given in his honour at the Quirinal. The King took in Madame Oyama, and Prince Kanin had the honour of conducting the Queen. His Imperial Highness received the highest Order of the Kingdom, and Prince Iwakura and Mr. Oyama were also decorated. The Prince travelled incognito in Italy, but King Humbert insisted on making sumptuous arrangements for his sojourn and in defraying all his expenses.

The *Chuo* and the *Asahi* say that Formosa's finances are beginning to develop flourishing conditions. Originally a ten-year programme of public works was laid down for the island, on the basis of an annual revenue of nine million *yen*. But the revenue for the 34th year—April 1901 to March 1902—is now estimated at 25,800,000 *yen*, and in view of this prosperous state of affairs the Governor-General has decided that the 10 year programme may be reduced to 5 years. Dr. Goto, the head of the Civil Government, recently visited Tokyo to obtain sanction for this change, and has gone back, having effected his purpose.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent represents the Emperor of China as saying, in his decree of the 24th instant:—"To kill the Foreign Ministers would not be advantageous. But to release them would also be unwise. The best plan is to detain them as hostages. Li Hung-chang's delay in coming to Peking is therefore to be blamed, for since Yu Lu does not understand the art of war, we have appointed Li Hung-chang to be Viceroy of Chih-li in order that he may carry on the cam-

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paign against foreigners." It will be seen, however, from a translation which we publish elsewhere, that the decree did not contain any such language.

The Japanese Government has justly decided to increase by 90 *sen* a ton the monthly price paid for chartered steamers of 1,500 tons and upwards. At first the figure adopted in the 1894-5 war was taken, namely, 4.50 *yen* per ton. But it is obvious that the appreciation of commodities which has taken place during the past 5 years renders some modification of that figure necessary, and the Finance Department has accordingly agreed to an increase of 90 *sen*, bringing the monthly payment to 5.40 *yen* per ton.

The first batch of Japanese emigrants to New Caledonia left in 1892 to work the nickel mines, but, owing to subsequent depreciation of the metal, the enterprise was soon abandoned. It appears now that the improved price of nickel in the market has led to a fresh demand for immigrants, and application has been made to the Kissa Kaisha to supply 800 in two batches of 200 and 600 respectively. Of these 150 have already been sent, and 650 will leave in October. The French Government, on being approached by the Japanese, has replied, it is said, that these immigrants shall receive the same treatment as white labourers.

We fear that no doubt can be entertained about the death of Mr. John Birch by drowning on June 24th, while passing down the Yellow River by raft *en route* for Peking. Mr. Birch could not have reached Peking safely at that time, but it is not likely that he would have persisted in the attempt when the state of affairs became known to him. It is a lamentable affair. Mr. Birch was a representative of the best type of English merchant; a man of indomitable energy bold enterprise, high ideals, and charming personality. His loss is to be sincerely mourned, and we desire to express sincere sympathy with his bereaved widow and children.

The prospects of the new political party are now said to be very favourable. Its organization will be preceded, according to rumour, by the disintegration of all existing parties. Even the Progressists are expected to break up, a large and influential section of them passing over to the new camp. What is to be done for an opposition, we wonder. There could be nothing more dangerous for a country than to pass under the control of a party so strong as to be able to defy its opponents. So long as Marquis Ito stands at the head of the new party, dangers from that source would probably be chimerical, but Marquis Ito knows well that a strong opposition is the first essential of sound administration in a constitutionally governed country.

The Minister of Finance has decided unfavourably to the appeal of the American Trading Company. The broad facts of this case are these:—In the early part of the year, the company imported a sample cask of whisky and submitted it for inspection at the Customs. It was passed as whisky, thus becoming liable to a duty of 40 per cent. *ad valorem*. Then, on the 27th of April, the company made another importation of 400 barrels, which also were passed by the Customs as whisky. But on the 15th of May, a third consignment of 750 barrels having arrived by the *Nippon Maru*, was declared by the Customs to be alcohol, thus incurring a duty of 250 per cent. *ad valorem*. The Company appealed against this decision, the appeal alleging that the three lots of liquor had been of exactly the same kind, and had been shipped by a thoroughly trustworthy firm. The Customs' experts, however, had analysed the liquor, and they forwarded their analysis to the Finance Department, which decided that the stuff was diluted alcohol, and that, if imported, it must pay 250 per cent. *ad valorem*.

INSOLVENCY.

Failures to meet promissory notes increase day by day, remarks the *Keizai Zasshi*. The various banks in the metropolis have been obliged to exercise unusual caution in this respect. The number of insolvents for the first half of this year, as compared with the figure for the corresponding period of last year, stands as follows:—

	1900. Insolvents.	1900. Amount in Yen	1899. Do.	1899 Do.
January	50	10,423	19	3,238
February	43	13,660	16	6,005
March	63	17,774	13	1,860
April	93	23,600	7	1,238
May	164	49,297	12	2,619
June	128	53,373	11	2,575
Total	541	165,127	78	17,536

Statistics since the 28th year of *Meiji* are as follows:—

	Notes.	yen.
1895	18	2,270
1896	35	8,123
1897	101	62,553
1898	146	68,891
1899	334	85,769

"BON-SAI."

We take the following from *The Times*:—

SALE OF JAPANESE PLANTS.—Messrs. Robinson and Fisher sold on Tuesday and Wednesday a collection of curiously trained Japanese "floral and arboreal plants," the 300 lots producing a total of about £2,000. The highest prices were paid for specimens of what is known in Japan as the "Chabo Hiba" or small fir, of which the botanical name is *Thuya obtuza nana*. The finest plant of all was described as coming from "the renowned gardens of the Gambei family," its height being 3½ft., and width 6½ ft., whilst the age was given as "about 350 years." This plant realized 90 guineas (Sparks); another specimen of the same, but about half the size, the age stated to be "over 250 years," sold for £35 (Lucas). Both these were the green variety, of which there were many other specimens, which sold at prices ranging from 20 guineas to 36 guineas. Specimens of the golden variety sold at prices which varied from 20 guineas to 29 guineas each.

The "Gambei family" is a fine invention. It was never heard of in Japan. *Apropos* of the highest price—90 guineas—we may mention that there is in Count Okuma's collection of *Bonsai*, a pine tree about 2 feet high and 3 feet spread of bough, which cost over £130.

LETTER FROM A FRENCH OFFICER.

We translate the following extract from a letter written by a wounded French officer who has arrived in Nagasaki from Taku:—

Nagasaki, July 18.

When I left Taku, the evening of the 13th, July, the situation was still grave at Tientsin. A powerfully armed fort (of which the Allies had not been able to make themselves master owing to the lack of heavy artillery) was bombarding our concession almost incessantly. Frequent engagements were taking place between our troops and the Chinese. The last evening but one previous to my departure the latter arrived to within 150 metres of the French camp. They had come according to some by a subterranean passenge; according to others they had planned their attack to profit by a great storm that was raging. They were repulsed, but they inflicted on us tolerably severe losses—10 killed and 60 to 80 wounded.

On my arrival at Nagasaki I learned that the fort which was working us so much harm had been taken on the 14th. People will therefore be able to breathe more freely at Tientsin.

The Chinese were much better armed than people supposed; we were extremely surprised to find in the Tientsin forts so considerable an armament: guns of heavy and medium calibre, field batteries, and a collossal provision of munitions war. It was thought that there were only two or three guns in the Taku forts capable of commanding the river; as a matter of fact there were thirty. If it had been known that these forts were so well armed it is probable that the attack would not have been attempted. However, the taking of them was very necessary to assure the revictualing of the detachments which had been landed.

From Peking, as you know by the papers, the news is contradictory. At the time of my departure the Admirals had had no news since the 4th July, and this was from a Chinese source. At that date the Ministers were still alive.

I went to Chefoo twice at an interval of a mouth between each visit, the second time on the 8th July. The Governor, who resides at Tsinan-fu, at first appeared to favour the Europeans. But on my second visit I learned that his friendly disposition had been modified. According to a telegram from a Chinese priest he was to have issued a proclamation to the Boxers directing them to unite in the prefectures and subprefectures where they could find arms and to commence hostilities on the eastern side.

Many residents have quitted Chefoo. The Chinese merchants have also left in pretty large numbers, after emptying their shops. On my last passing through this port the population was very arrogant, and the market was much less abundantly supplied than usual. The Vice-Consul did not appear to entertain fears, but it is evident that if an *emeute* occurs it will break out unexpectedly. There are in the roads a Japanese ship and a guardship, who are there permanently.

If, as the papers say, the plain between Tientsin and Peking has been inundated, when will it be possible to begin the march on the capital? It is of the greatest importance to arrive at Peking as quickly as possible not only in order to save the residents, if there is still time for that, but also because of the moral effect the taking of the city would produce. I believe that several Viceroys or Governors are hesitating as to what course to pursue, and are waiting to see which way the wind blows. If we were at Peking they would perhaps adopt a definite line of action against the Central Government and the Boxers. If, on the contrary, as is to be feared, the occupation of Peking is too long delayed, they will not perhaps believe in our ultimate success, and will not be sufficiently strong to arrest the insurrection.

WAR EXPENSES.

According to the latest investigations published in the *Niroku*, the expenses incurred by the Japanese Government in connection with the recent Chinese complications have amounted to seven million *yen* approximately. Of this three millions have been already defrayed from the Treasury, the remainder being reserved for the chartering of private ships and other subsequent expenses. The greater portion of these three millions was absorbed by the army, the ratio of expenses between the army and the navy being as 9 to 1. The Japanese troops in China are amply supplied with silver, but they fail to make use of it in the deserted towns and villages where they are mostly stationed.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Temp. Max	Temp. Min	Temp. Air	Temp. of Lake.	State of Weather.	Remarks in General
Sunday, 21st	72°	66°	...	75°	...Fine	—
Monday, 22nd.....	72°	67°	...	75°	...Fine	—
Tuesday, 23rd	71°	64°	...	75°	...Fine	—
Wednesday, 24th.	79°	67°	...	75°	...Fine .....Shower at night.	
Thursday, 25th....	80°	70°	...	75°	...Fine	—
Friday, 26th.....	79°	68°	...	76°	...Fine	—
Saturday, 27th....	78°	68°	...	77°	...Showers...	—

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THE EMPEROR WILLIAM'S EXHORTATION.

WE have much admiration for the German EMPEROR. His great abilities, their extraordinarily wide range, his power of industry, and his profound love of his country, mark him as one of the foremost men of the nine-teenth century, if not of all centuries. One feels that Germany is likely to go far under such leadership, and, although Germany has not shown herself friendly to England of late, Englishmen do not under-rate the high qualities of the German nation. But we can not pretend to sympathise with the strangely intemperate utterances of His Majesty when addressing the troops bound for China. His cry for vengeance after receiving news of the death of Baron VON KETTELER was not worthy of him, though some excuse might be found in the passion momentarily provoked by such shocking intelligence. And now, what is to be said of his exhortation to his soldiers that their fighting in China should be of such a nature as to make the Chinese afraid to look askance at a German subject for the next thousand years? In the first place, the German EMPEROR should know very well that whatever exercise of bravery and soldierly qualities is required by any emergency, German troops may be confidently expected to display. It is scarcely against Chinese troops that the highest efficiency of the Germans will be shown, nevertheless the behaviour of the *Iltis* at the bombardment of Taku, and the conduct of German officers during the Tientsin campaign as well as on Admiral SEYMOUR'S expedition, won universal applause. There is no occasion to apply the spur of passion to such officers and such men. In the second place, what interpretation are the troops to put upon his Majesty's words? What steps can they take to inspire the Chinese with a thousand-year terror? They will fight as well as any troops can fight while the enemy opposes them. But so, we trust, will English troops. What is to follow? How is this perennial terror to be established? It is a dangerous thing for a Sovereign to plant such purposes in the breasts of soldiers. Exhortations of the kind might have passed muster in mediæval days, but they are very much out of tune with modern civilization, and when we remember that they are addressed to Germans going to fight against Chinese, they seem strangely deficient in proportion as well as in dignity.

Since this paragraph was in type, the telegraph brings news that His Majesty told his troops to give no quarter and take no prisoners. It is impossible to comment on such expressions without exceeding the limits of legitimate criticism.

The *Jiumin* states that the Hokkaido Colliery and Railway Company has, with a view to the extension of its business, determined to establish a coke factory, for which 153,200 *yen* will be set aside. A general meeting for this purpose is to be held on the 12th of next month, when a proposal will also be made as to admitting foreign shareholders.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The *Rikugô Zasshi* (No. 234) propounds the oft-discussed but still unsettled question of the attitude of the Japanese mind to religion. It thinks that the success of Buddhism in the past is a proof that originally the Japanese were very susceptible to religious influence, but it goes on to say that candour compels it to admit that at the present time to the ordinary educated Japanese religion, in the ordinary sense of the term, has no interest whatever. But the answer to the question "Are the Japanese religious?" depends entirely on the meaning attached to the word religion. Leaving forms out of the discussion as irrelevant, "What is heart religion?" asks the *Rikugô*, and replies "It is devotion." That is, it is the giving up of one's heart to some special cause or interest outside oneself, extreme attachment to a person or a thing. It may exist towards nature's many marvels or it may exist between persons related to each other in some special way, when it receives such names as loyalty, filial piety, and friendship. There is nothing in the whole annals of history that awakens a more ready and a more thorough response in the Japanese mind than acts of devotion, as is known by all who are well acquainted with the Japanese stage. This admiration for those who sacrifice their own comforts and deny themselves in all manner of ways for the sake of others is as strong to-day in the hearts of the Japanese people as it has ever been. No character could be more popular than is the *otokodate*, the champion of the weak against the strong, and this personage is as fine an example of unselfish devotion as is to be found anywhere. Can it be said that a nation which appreciates so keenly acts of devotion and is so ready to undertake them is indifferent to religion? Religion is high-class devotion. Without this devotion religion is a mere name or form without any reality. Whether the Japanese will ever concern themselves much about the forms of religion is a question of no moment as long as we have such unmistakable evidence of the existence of the feeling that forms the true source of all real religion. To try and induce Japanese to adopt the outward and ever changing forms of religion seems us to be a useless task. Just as the gold dust sparkles in the sun and thus reveals its superiority to the thousands of grains of ordinary sand by which it is surrounded, so amid all the mean elements of Japanese human nature does this imperishable devotion make its presence felt. It is best to allow this flower to bloom in its own way. It has a beauty of its own that to touch is to mar. . . The argument that the Japanese are not religious because they have little respect for the outward forms of existing creeds is superficial in the extreme and can only be held by those who have not explored the depths of Japanese human nature, concludes the *Rikugô Zasshi*.

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The *Rikugô Zasshi* comments adversely on the excitement in Buddhist circles over the Mission to Siam. It ventures to assert that this fuss over his remains is contrary to the teaching of Shaka Muni and a proof of the decline of real devotion to the religion which he founded. Like the Crusades of old it proceeds from mistaken notions, from attaching more importance to shadow than to reality. Just as Christian faith was at a very low ebb when the crusaders set out on their expeditions to the Holy Land for the sake of reclaiming it from the hands of the Mahommedans, so is Japanese Buddhist faith to-day when, in the absence of real faith and zeal for the cause they espouse, the leaders of sects excite themselves over a few useless relics. If Buddhism aspires to figure as a civilised form of belief at the close of the nineteenth century, it must abandon such childish folly. It is difficult for Buddhism to hold its own against modern teaching and the spirit of the times. Anyhow its adherents are daily decreasing. Such movements as the Siam mission affair will disgust a number of fairly educated waverers and make enemies of them. . . . . We are opposed, continues the *Rikugô*, to erecting monuments of any kind in honour of great men, as they will always be remembered by what they have done. There is no fear that such men as Shaka Muni will ever be forgotten. How can the fame of men like him be increased by preserving their bones? Lesser personages might depend on such methods of perpetuating their memory. But not so Shaka. He will live in the hearts of men to all time.

In commemoration of the thirteenth anniversary of its establishment, the *Taiyô* has just published a special edition, consisting of more than 350 pages. An attempt is made to give a sketch of the tendency of thought during the nineteenth century. The treatment of religious development during this period has been undertaken by Dr. Inoue Enryô, and the following is the gist of what he has to say:—The two facts worthy of special notice connected with the history of religion in the nineteenth century are (1) The influence of what we may call material civilization and progress on religion; and (2) the loftiness and comprehensiveness of religious conceptions. (1) There is no denying that science has done religion good service in demonstrating beyond all manner of doubt that some of its traditional theories were false. In former centuries the opponents of religion relied principally on the logic of words in attacking it. But in this century religious superstitions have been exploded by means of proved facts. Some people are of opinion that religion has suffered from the process to which it has been subjected. But such is not my opinion. Only the dross has been removed, the real gold has been untouched. (2) As a result of study and wide comparison it is now seen that religion is not confined to any one sect or to any one quarter of the world, but that, in different forms, it exists everywhere. In former centuries Europeans thought Christianity to be the only religion in the world worthy of the name. Scholars now recognise the claims of other forms of faith to their attention. Breadth of view has led to more generalisation, resulting in philosophic conceptions of the nature of true religion which surpass in sublimity the current notions of former centuries. . . . Coming to religion in Japan, during all the later years of the Tokugawa era it was in a dormant state, exercising little or no influence on the middle and upper classes, and even in the Meiji era, though here and there a religious spirit is to be seen, the change for the better has been very slight. The progress of thought would seem to indicate that, whatever religion is adopted in the future, it will be of a cosmopolitan type. Local creeds are on the wane. It is perhaps too early to expect the evolution of a universal form of faith that shall suit all religious minds irrespective of nationality. Investigation needs to be made more thorough before this can come about, but it is the goal to which religious thought is tending. The expectation that governments will help forward the realisation of this desirable end seems to me to be a vain one. Is not the trend of opinion everywhere in the direction of separating religion from politics as much as possible?

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The *Shakai Zasshi* (No. 15) contains an article by Dr. Katô Hiroyuki entitled *Iwayuru Shûkyô no Shôrai* ("On what is termed 'the Future of Religion'"). Dr. Katô tells us that he has read with care the discussions of various scholars on the religion of the future, but that they have not impressed him in the least. They appear to him to be mere whimsical speculations. Dr. Katô then proceeds to state his well-known views on the subject of religion, which may be compressed into a very few words. Religion exists for the ignorant, the young, the uncivilised. With all progressive minds the doctrine of heaven and hell, a rewarding God and a punishing devil, is a hindrance to rapid development, and the sooner it is got rid of the better. Superstitious belief is decreasing with the advance of knowledge. Neither Christian nor Buddhist supernaturalism can hold its own against the aggressions of science and modern philosophy, founded on science. Hence the dream that a second Christ or a second Shaka Muni will arise and give the world a new creed will never be realised. Neither Christ nor Shaka Muni would be received now as they were received when they appeared among men. . . . . Religion will

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always be needed in the world, because there will always be millions of human beings that are not sufficiently enlightened to do without it. But for the purpose which it serves existing religion is good enough. The one object that religion sets before it is to give comfort to man. This comfort depends on the faith of the individual who accepts the creed, and not at all on the rational basis of that creed. People get the comfort of their belief notwithstanding the fact that in many cases there is absolutely no ground whatever for such a belief. What people religiously inclined want is a religion that gives comfort. Whether it is rational or not does not concern them in the least. The fact is that the more superstitious the forms of belief the stronger is the faith of those accepting them. It is true to say that the adherents of all Protestant sects are more earnest believers than the Unitarians and that the Roman Catholics are as a rule more steadfast than Protestants. The attempt to rationalise religion, then, may be said to have failed. The mass of the people who demand a religion do not wish it to be rationalised. They are quite ready to believe the impossible (*Credo, quia impossibile*). . . . It is quite certain that neither science nor philosophy can satisfy this human craving for comfort. It is true to say that the progress of knowledge, instead of giving solace to man, increases his anxiety. If once a man allows his desire for comfort to interfere with his desire for *knowledge and for truth* his career as an investigator is spoilt. The development of many a promising mind has been dwarfed by the predominance of this love of comfort. Various Buddhist sects have professed to teach that a certain kind of knowledge would bring comfort. The Zenshû specially holds this doctrine. But on examination it is found that the term *Chishiki* (knowledge) as used by these religious teachers consists merely of the self-knowledge that is the result of meditation, and has nothing in common with those branches of knowledge that have transformed the face of the world. What real good have Buddhism and Brahmanism done to India all the years they have been propagated there? It comes to this, then, that the greatest benefactors of the human race have not been the men who have made the search for grounds of comfort the primary object of their lives. . . . To reconstruct religion on the lines of modern science or philosophy is an impossible task. For those who will have it religion does very well as it is, whether it be Buddhism or Christianity. The more dogmatic it is the better it pleases. The searchers after comfort prefer to leave reason and commit their souls into the hands of those who profess to be able to guide them to the land of peace. For a new religion then there is no need, and even if one were needed, to me, says Dr. Kato, the idea of manufacturing it would appear to be utterly absurd.

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The *Tôkyô Maishû Shinshi** (No. 878) contains an abstract from the Rev. Henry Loomis' Table of Protestant Mission Statistics for this year. The following figures are given by this Kumiai Church organ. The number of Societies sending Missionaries to Japan is 33. The sects represented are 23. The number of male missionaries is 247, the number of female 260. Including the wives of married missionaries the total reaches 727. The number of Churches is 440. 3,149 persons received baptism during the year. The number of Church members is 41,808, of ordained native pastors 319, and of Divinity students 113. The total amount subscribed during the year was 94,275 *yen* 78 *sen*†. The leading churches are five in number: (1) The Presbyterians; (2) The Congregationalists (3) the Episcopalians; (4) the Methodists, and (5) the Baptists. Given according to their number of adherents in the above order they stand as follows (1) 10,031; (3) 6,956; (4) 3,726; (5) 1,885. The church which shows the largest increase during the year is the Episcopalian, next stand the Presbyterians, next the Methodists, next the Congregationalists, and next the Baptists. Graded according to money subscribed the following is the order (1) Congregationalists; (2) Presbyterians; (3) Methodists; (4) Episcopalians (5) Baptists. According to the numbers of churches established they rank during the year as follows:—(1) Episcopalians, (2) Methodists, (3) Congregationalists, (4) Presbyterians, and (5) Baptists. As regards the number of pastors ordained during the year they stand in the following order (1) Presbyterians, (2) Episcopalians, (3) Congregationalists, (4) Methodists, (5) Baptists.

There is one defect in these statistics, says the *Tôkyô Maishû Shinshi*; which is that the year which the statistics cover is not the same in the case of all the missions. For instance, the statistics concerning the Congregationalists date from the end of 1898, while with other missions they date from April or June, 1899, or even from December, 1899. Thus the period covered differs by many months, if not by a whole year. But, notwithstanding this imperfection, the report is a great boon, and the thanks of all the missions concerned are due to its compiler.

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Writing in the above-quoted magazine on "Organization in the Kumiai Churches," the Rev. H. Kozaki expresses himself in the following terms. The various sects, over twenty in number, are all striving to be first in the work of evangelisation. Which sect will come out best in the end it is impossible to say. It is not getting converts, but keeping them, that will decide the contest. When asked who had the power to unite the Chinese empire, Mencius replied, "He who dislikes killing." In the Christian Church to-day the most urgent of all duties is the preservation of Christian life, the nourishment and training of those who have come into the fold of Christ. Churches may be compared to receptacles that have no bottom, what is placed in them falls out at once; or to railway stations where there is nothing but coming and going. The training of converts is far harder work than evangelisation. Many churches are like an army that has officers, but no men. Some of the Methodist Churches have an influx of 40 or 50 persons at a time, but after a few months more than half of these converts have disappeared. In our Kumiai churches the number of Christians who come and go we know not where is very large. We make much of the principle of independence of action and object to put any kind of restraint on the liberty of fellow-professors. We believe in allowing churches to develop in as free and untrammelled a manner as possible. And as a church we have reaped many benefits from our respect for this principle. But it is possible to carry it too far. We must not allow ourselves to grow careless as to what becomes of the members of our churches. We need to cultivate more business habits among us. Records of all kinds should be kept; so that anyone who wishes to know may find out exactly what has happened in any given church. . . . More attention should be given to Christian worship as distinct from listening to preaching. Worship should be regarded as more important than hearing sermons. More attention should be given to the development of the emotional side of Christian human nature, by cultivating a taste for music and the like.

Considering the fundamental principles of the leading sects, we may say that with the Presbyterians their respect for articles of faith is the leading principle. The Episcopalians make much of outward forms, while they allow little liberty in Theological belief and practice. The Methodists are distinguished for their belief in the rotation system for pastors, though the Japanese Methodists have appealed to America to consent to the abolition of the system here. We Congregationalists pride ourselves on our love of liberty, and on our respect for character. This results in our being the only sect that is never free from heresy and commotion (*Yuye ni itan sôdô wa tsune ni kono ha ni miru tokoro nari*). To me, concludes Mr. Kosaki, it seems that whole-hearted loyalty to Christ should be our fundamental principle and this should lead us to harmonise faith, thought, and ceremony. If there are any among us who have no regard for such a principle, I have no sympathy with them.

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The *Fukuin Shimpô*, commenting on the China troubles, says that the assertion that Christianity is the chief cause of the disturbances is true, and adds that the only remedy is for Eastern countries to become Christian. According to this authority Christianity has two missions; one being to destroy, and the other to save. The writer of the article we are quoting seems to approve of the gospel and gunboat method in vogue in the neighbouring Continent, and thinks that no Eastern country will escape from the consequences of rejection of the Christian religion.

The *Fukuin Shimpô* states that mission work in Korea has been very successful. The attitude of the Korean Government to the movement seems, however, to be uncertain. The general feeling among Korean Christians is that in case of persecution they would not be protected by their own authorities and hence they are anxious to obtain foreign protection. This reliance on the foreigner in time of distress on the part of Christians has led non-Christian Koreans to profess to belong to the Church for the sake of the worldly advantages accruing therefrom. This, says the *Fukuin Shimpô*, is the only drawback connected with Christian work in Korea, which otherwise is in a most flourishing state.

* * *

The Roman Catholic organ, the *Koye*, states that both in England and America the tendency of the age as far as Protestants are concerned is towards Rome or towards Scepticism. This is specially the case in the United States. The rapid growth of the Roman Catholic Church in that country is phenomenal, says the *Koye*. According to recent statistics there are in the United States 10,129,677 Roman Catholics. In New York alone there are 825,000. These figures are largely in excess of the number of adherents belonging to the Protestant Episcopal Church, which stands first among Protestant Sects as regards numbers; are many times more than that of the Presbyterians, to say nothing of the Methodists, the Baptists, and other sects. Of the 70,000 troops lately engaged in reducing the Philippine Islands it is said that about 30,000 were Roman Catholics. The Protestant Chaplains accompanying the troops were in receipt of Government pay, but not so the Roman Catholics. They were supported by the contributions of members of their own church. This shows what a hold our religion has on the minds of American believers.

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The *Jizen Shugi* is a newspaper published three times a month which devotes itself to the discussion of charity and kindred subjects. It publishes articles discussing ethical subjects and stories relating to acts of charity; and gives reports bearing on works of benevolence of all kinds. It has reached its 67th number.

L'Abbé Francois Ligneul's latest work is entitled *Fujin no akaki kokoro*, and is a history of the lives and thoughts of Sisters of Charity. In the preface M. Ligneul points out that, sacred as are [the duties of the mother and worthy of admiration as are the women who discharge those duties well, the world's needs call for a supply of unmarried women who shall be free to devote their lives to the relief of distress and to comforting the afflicted. There may be some who put on the veil because they are afraid to face the responsibilities and the trials inseparable from married life, that is, who are actuated by cowardice rather than by courage. These are not the highest type of sisters. The highest motive for abstaining from marriage is a desire to devote body and soul to the service of God. The little volume just issued covers 232 small-sized pages and gives a minute account of the manner in which nuns devote themselves to their work. On page 75 we find a pious sister expressing herself thus, *Moshi mirai no sekai ni byônin ga arimasenu naraba, nanda ka watakushi ni mono tarinai yôna kokochi shimashô.* "If there should be no sick people in the next world, I shall feel somehow as though there is something wanting." This represents the sentiments

* In the last Summary this Magazine was inadvertently written *Tôkyô Maishû Shimpô*.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† How much of this was given by foreigners is not stated.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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of thousands of devoted women whose lives are passed in alleviating human suffering

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A very long and well-written article appears in No. 160 of the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* on "Religion and Civilisation." We can do no more than furnish an outline of the views of the writer, Mr. Kyôzawa Manno, B.A. He confines his discussion to two points. He asks (1) Does civilisation destroy religion? (2) Does religion change as civilisation advances? His answer to the first question is in the negative. His answer to the second is partly in the positive and partly in the negative. (1) Because some forms of religion such as nature worship, polytheism, and the like have quite disappeared in certain civilised countries, we cannot argue that civilisation has destroyed religion. What has happened is that the more corrupt forms of religion have been replaced by a higher type. This is the case of a civilised religion replacing what we may call an uncivilised religion. Scientific progress is always considered to be inseparably connected with modern civilisation, if not one of the most important elements thereof. Has not science proved to be a destructive agent as far as religion is concerned? What science has destroyed are the outworks of the religious citadel. The fortress itself remains untouched and must always so remain. Religion has to do with regions of thought which science has no means of reaching. Her domain and that of religion are quite separate. Certain doctrines of religion, certain religious forms and customs, not a few religious notions, have undoubtedly been shown to be unworthy of holding a high place in our estimation. But these were not by any means the essence of religion. It is a question whether it is allowable to separate religion from civilisation even for purposes of discussion, as by so many writers it is regarded as one of the chief elements of civilisation. If it be so considered, then its destruction is out of the question, but its modification by the various influences brought to bear upon it is a fact which calls for our earnest attention.

(2) Coming to the changes which religion undergoes as time advances, it is important to observe first that these changes do not extend to the vital and essential parts of religion. The fundamentals of religion can never change. The changes which it is alleged religion is undergoing are confined to what may be termed its ethical side. Ethical notions do certainly change from age to age and the teaching of religion is made to conform to these changes. But in our opinion this ethical readjustment of religious doctrines need not involve any alteration of any of the first principles of a creed. To us it seems that religion and ethics occupy different hemispheres and there is no reason why they should interfere with each other. To say that the very fundamentals of a religion must be made to conform to some modern ethical standard is to rob religion of that exalted rank which *per se* it is entitled to hold. The knowledge of our forefathers was very limited and hence in many respects their explanations of the phenomena of nature were wrong. These we can set right. But, after this has been done, the essential truths of religion remain intact.

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In a recent number of the *Shakai Zasshi*, in an article entitled "Christian Civilisation and the East," the policy adopted by Germany, Russia, and France in China is earnestly discussed. The writer commences by calling attention to the fact that Occidentals consider that their religion and their civilisation are superior to anything that exists in the Eastern world, and that they claim the right of teaching their religion whenever they please. If objection is made to receiving the creed and this leads to a disturbance violence is at once threatened by Western Powers. Thus the Gospel is ever backed by physical force. This method of propagandism resembles that of the ancient Mohammedans. With Russia, Germany, and France religion has been made a pretext for occupying territory. The Occidental assumption of superiority of creed regarded from a Japanese point of view is unwarrantable arrogance. There is no saying, however, that Japan may not suffer from the consequences of the Occidental policy referred to above unless she can make herself strong enough to act in defiance of it. It is curious that in an age when in Europe there is the strongest antipathy to the idea of allowing spiritual rulers to control civil affairs, or to allow religious disabilities of any kind to interfere with the enjoyment of the fullest political rights, in the East an exactly opposite policy seems to be pursued by Western Powers. . . . The so-called civilising mission undertaken by Western nations has hitherto ended in the loss of independence by the countries reached by it. India, Egypt, Hawaii, the Philippines, Annam, South Africa are all cases in point. Japan has no sympathy with the methods followed by Western Powers in the East, and she must prepare herself to make a stand against them.

THE KOREAN AND SIBERIAN TRADE.

Mr. Yamagata, Director of the Shipping Superintendence Bureau, recently returned to Japan from his official tour of inspection along the northern coast of Korea and Vladivostock. In an interview with a representative of the *Shogyo* he said Fusan may be regarded as a Japanese town, since no Japanese on entering the port, could be struck with any sense of strangeness. Fusan, in fact, is the emporium of the little empire. It has special facilities for the conveyance of goods from the interior by the river Tatang, the mouth of which takes three days and nights to reach. Rice and other cereals in particular are transported by this stream, in spite of the fact that the waves are occasionally so high as to endanger small boats. Sailing down the river is equally dangerous, and not unfrequently the port of Masampo is chosen for peaceful navigation. Prospects are entertained that Masampo will be a prosperous town if means of communication can be better developed. Of course there is no doubt as to the possibility of a complete change in Fusan on the completion of the railway to Soul. It is only a few miles from Shoho, and the laying of an electric railway will considerably improve the condition of the surrounding districts. At present Masampo is a poor small village. The Japanese settlement lies about a *ri* from it, within clearly defined limited. Among the Japanese institutions the most important are the Consulate and the Post Office. Close to them a Russian Consulate is now in process of construction.

Wonsan contains a large number of native merchants whose houses and style of living are on a greater scale than those to be seen in Fusan or elsewhere. The town presents an appearance of considerable wealth. As to the maritime service from Fusan to Masampo, Mr. Yamagata observes that a steamer of some 100 tons plies every other day, while two vessels are placed on the service between Fusan and Wonsan. These ships are all owned by Japanese. From Wonsan to Josei and Hokusei ply three steamers registered in the name of Koreans, the same being required to call at unopened ports. The special productions of this port of Korea are the fish known as *Meta*, and these form a large proportion of the cargo. Korea has also an abundant production of peas, beans, and rice. Japan contributes little to the empire in respect of these commodities. Of late however, matches and kerosene have found their way into Korea, but although the export of these articles has steadily increased, yet so far as the coastwise trade is concerned nothing strikes one as warranting any great anticipations for the future.

With regard to Vladivostock Mr. Yamagata remarked that it has now become a fine port with a long jetty enabling vessels of 5,000 to 6,000 tons to come alongside without difficulty. Nevertheless whether Vladivostock will become a more prosperous harbour than Port Arthur on the completion of the East China railways, is an open question. Even in winter the port is open, thanks to the ice-breakers. Last year the Volunteer fleet, together with German vessels, 31 in all, could safely enter the port. Vessels now undertaking the voyage from Nagasaki, with occasional calls at Fusan, are seven, but the number is to be increased to sixteen when the East China Railway is completed. It is reported that three American ships with flour entered the port last year.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Extra copies of the Map published in this issue can be had at the *Japan Mail* Office at 20 *sen* each.

The French war-vessel *Descartes* arrived at Nagasaki on the 31st ult. with 63 sick troops. Four were for treatment at Nagasaki Hospital and 59 were put on board the French mail steamer for home.

On the 18th July the death took place at Tonkin of General Borgnis-Desbordes, Commandèr-in-Chief of the French forces in Indo-China. The immediate cause of death was failure of the heart, following on a successful operation on the liver. The General was 60 years of age and was appointed to his post in February last year.

The Hongkong Jockey Club, finding that the disturbances in North China will stop the supply of Chinese Griffins for the spring races, have decided to import Australian ponies, which have been offered to the Club at $250 each, under the following conditions:—"All ponies to be broken to saddle, 4 to 6 years old, minimum height 13 hand 2 inches, maximum 14 hands 2 inches, none but geldings to be sent."

The 32 and 39 Raters of the Y.Y.C. engaged in a race to Uraga on Saturday afternoon for a Cup presented by the German Residents and a second prize presented by the Club. The starters were *Mary*, *Daimyo*, *Spray*, *Haidée*, and *Wanderer*, and they got away on fairly level terms at about 1.45 p.m., with a good whole-sail breeze. The Commodore's schooner *Yamato-damashii* and the *Golden Hind* accompanied the competitors on the cruise, but were not in the race. The yachts returned to Yokohama between 5 and 6 p.m. on Sunday, after an enjoyable cruise. We have been unable to obtain the official record of the race to Uraga, but we understand that *Mary* won first prize and *Haidée* second.

The following are the details of the official career of Dr. Mumm von Schwarzenstein, the new German Minister to China. He joined the Foreign Diplomatic Service (after having passed the examination in law and taken the degree) in 1885; he was appointed attaché to the German Embassy in Paris in 1887; Secretary to the Embassy in Washington from 1888 till 1892. In 1893 he was Secretary to the Legation at Bucharest. In 1894 on leave. From 1895 to 1899 clerk (Privy Councillor of Legation) in the Foreign Office, Berlin, Political Department; 1899, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Luxembourg, and during this appointment for six months chargé d'affaires at Washington.

The *Keizai Zasshi* warmly approves the criticisms of the Bank of Japan made by the *Shogyo Sekai*, which attributes the frequent over-issue of notes to the following causes:—(1) The insignificance of taxation upon issue above legal limit. (2) Excessive liberty granted to the Bank of Japan in dealing with other banks in the metropolis. A remedy proposed by the writer is, that the rates of interest should never be allowed to crystallise, but should be fixed each day and notified at the beginning of business hours, and that such sudden alterations as a rise of two *rin* should be altogether abandoned. Of course there is no necessity for altering the scale of interest every day, but the Bank's operations in causing abnormal fluctuations in the rates are to be condemned.

The Times deeply deplores the perilous situation of its "very able correspondent" in Peking. Dr. George Ernest Morrison is an Australian. His native town, Geelong, is some forty miles south of Melbourne, and he spent last Christmas there on a flying visit, resuming his post in Peking at the beginning of February. But he has emerged unscathed through so many perilous adventures during the thirty-eight years that he has spent on this planet that the chances are all in favour of his escape. When only twenty-one he led the *Melbourne Age* exploring expedition into New Guinea, where he received a spear in his side, the head of which remained in his anatomy until he

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came to Edinburgh to complete his medical studies. Other expeditions were his solitary tramp of two thousand miles from end to end of Australia, and his cruise of the Pacific in a Queensland Kanaka-recruiting schooner as a common sailor. Forty years ago Mr. Bowlby, *The Times* correspondent in China, was murdered. He was captured along with Loch and Sir Harry Parkes.

The trade return of the Finance Department for June gives the following figures :—

	Exports in *yen*.	Imports in *yen*
United States.....	3,563,198	6,444,049
England.....	246,009	6,233,553
China.....	3,196,211	2,316,571
Hongkong.....	3,351,219	475,694
Germany	377,448	1,930,267
France	814,871	1,006,312
British India	603,085	474,633
Korea.....	462,711	494,366
Belgium.....	25,982	803,409
Asiatic Russia	426,641	169,076
Other countries	1,160,239	1,194,965
Total	14,732,620	21,542,900

The steamer *Sakura Maru* of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, commanded by Capt. W. Woodus Greene, bound from Taku to Moji, fell in with the steamer *Too-nan* making signals of distress. She was disabled through the loss of her propeller. The *Sakura Maru* arrived alongside of her at 2.30 a.m. on the 29th inst., and, despite the the rough, choppy sea, had her tow line on board at 3.30 and started towing her to Moji, where she arrived at 7 p.m. the same day all well. The *Too-nan* is a steamer of 2000 tons, owned by the China Merchants Steam Navigation Co., but under the American flag since the commencement of the trouble in China. She was bound from Shanghai to Moji and was disabled only a few hours when the *Sakura Maru* took her in tow.

A Chinese gentleman, connected with the Yokohama Branch of the Russo-Chinese Bank, who lately returned from Shanghai, says factories of all descriptions have suspended operations, on account of the sudden depreciation of cotton yarns and the extravagant rise in the rate of interest. Internal trade is at a standstill, and the labourers deprived of employment now number 200,000. Half of them have gone to Ningpo, where the cost of living is considerably lower than in Shanghai. Some of the well-to-do families have also removed to that town for refuge. The most striking feature in connection with the present crisis is the exchange of silver for gold effected by the Chinese, which has amounted to no less than 23 millions of *yen*. The exchange rate at the one time was 600 *ryo* of silver for 100 *momme* of gold. But, the panic having gradually subsided, the value of Japanese gold pieces has fallen to 360 *ryo*, pure gold being quoted at 400. There are, however, prospects of a revival of trade in the near future. It is supposed that the manufactories in Shanghai will be in a position to resume work from September next.

The announcement, contained in a telegram received at the French Legation in Tokyo, that General Négrier has been re-instated in his position as a member of the High Council of War, probably means that his advice is required by the Council in connection with the despatch of French forces to China. It would not be surprising if he were sent out in command of the expedition. General Négrier rendered distinguished service in the Franco-German war and in Algeria and when he arrived in Tonking in 1884 in command of one of the brigades, composed mainly of the Foreign Legion and Algerian, troops, he had already earned the *soubriquet* of "Fighting Négrier." In the attack on Bachninh in March, 1884, he commanded a brigade of 7,000 men which was designed to cut off the retreat of the Chinese army, 25,000 strong, from Bachninh, while General Briere de Lisle advanced on the citadel from Hanoi. The attempt to cut off the retreat of the Chinese failed, but General Négrier pursued them to the Chinese border at Langson, where severe fighting took place. General Négrier was severely wounded and the French force, then under the command of a Colonel of Chasseurs d'Afrique, suffered a reverse and had to retreat to Bachninh, with the Chinese hanging on their rear. Later on the General rendered good service in the pacification of the country. A year or so ago he fell into disgrace with the Minister of War owing to his refusal to carry out certain instructions in connection with the Dreyfus affair, and was removed from the High Council of War.

The liberal section of the Tokyo Municipal Assembly has decided to form a club to the advance the interests of the party and to counterbalance the operations of the Tokyo City Club. With this in view the following regulations have been drawn up :—

Art. I.—The club has for its object the promotion of the interests of Tokyo *Shi*, and the maintenance of relations with the members of the Municipal Assembly, without any connection with a political party or association.

Art. II.—The club shall be designated the "Shikwai Club," and be composed of such of the members of the Municipal Assembly as are interested in the institution. The members of the Fukwai Club, however, may be admitted as *kaku-in* or guests.

Art. III.—The Club shall appoint three Managers or Directors to superintend all its affairs, the period of service being fixed for one year.

Art. IV.—The expenses of the club shall be borne by the members.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense, responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

MIYE PREFECTURE OFFICALS INTERVIEWED.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Mr Yamazaki and the writer, accompanied by the Reform Association's lawyer, Mr. Iwasaki, called on the Chief of Police and the Attorney General or Crown Procurator of Miye Prefecture on the 17th inst., and held a long consultation with them *in re* the recent disturbance at Kambe-machi. We had expected to meet the Governor also but he was absent, although we found that his attitude in regard to the subject was well known to the Chief. Mr. Yamazaki made a brief statement of the facts and entered a protest against the action of the State Police Department in ordering the *Mainichi* of Tokyo to erase an account of the disturbance on the ground that it was incorrect. The Chief said that the action was taken on the report sent in by the police at Kambe, and that he had not made any investigation hence was not in a position to decide which side was correct. "Then you have no right to order an erasure until you know what you are doing, as that report was sent to the *Mainichi* by those who were concerned and is correct," was the retort. To this the Chief had nothing to say. Next we asked why the local chief at Kambe returned the girl's report of cessation of business and sent her back to the brothel after he had already received the same and had escorted her and those concerned in the case to the station?

The Chief did not know. "But you ought to know, for you have taken the responsibility to say that our account was untrue, and you are the head of the Police of this Ken. Either the police at Kambe were wrong in receiving the report at first in which case their mistake cannot legally be made to rest on the poor girl, or they were wrong in retracting their position or action, in which case the girl is being illegally detained by the order of the police. What have you to say?"

To this the Chief replied that he thought that the reason why the local chief finally took the position he did was because that had he not not done so there would have been serious trouble, the keepers would have resorted to force in a more determined manner than they did and that the result would have been a serious disturbance of the peace, hence the action of the Chief was beyond doubt in the interests of peace, for in no other way could peace have been restored. "Then in rights the girl may be due her freedom, but in order that the brothel keepers may not be given reason to create a disturbance by hiring rowdies to damage those assisting these unfortunates, you think the local chief was finally practically forced to send the girl back, even after having given her her freedom?" "That, in my opinion, was the case." "Do you support such a position, provided it be true?" "Yes." "Then we understand that in order that no disturbance occur, a certain class of people must be deprived of their natural rights, irrespective of the justice of the matter." "That is the case. The police are compelled to keep order, and these girls must labour until their debts, (as made up by the keepers) are paid, otherwise a legalized business would be destroyed, and as a result the police would not be able to control the situation, as the keepers could secure the assistance of a sufficient number of roughs to cause serious trouble." "But does not that show weakness on the part of the police?" "May be so, but it cannot be helped."

"Then the police can use their discretion in receiving a girl's report in spite of the fact that the Prefectural rule plainly states that a prostitute may send in her report over her own signature?" (The rules of Miye Ken were altered last year, and the signature of the keeper is not required by law, although the keepers have made a set of rules of their own by which signature is required and the police have been following that rather than a State regulation.) "Yes, the police are the judges in the matter. If there is sufficient reason to support the contention that the girl's debt is paid, the police will endeavour to see that the girl gets off, otherwise her report will not be received." Here our lawyer, unable to contain himself any longer in the presence of such an illegal harangue from a man in such a responsible position, definitely explained some things that the Chief had apparently never thought of before. He finally admitted that we were certainly apparently right, and that the police could be handled if we thought their action illegal. "It is illegal and suspicious as well," was our reply, but what can the girl do when she cannot meet any one for a moment alone and as long as she is compelled to remain in the brothel; she can do nothing." As a matter of fact the girl was forced to write a letter made up by the procurer to Mr. Yamazaki several days ago, in which she erases the power of attorney held by the Reform Association, thus putting an end to our efforts for her. A letter from her to her brother, smuggled out, gives the true status of affairs, but nothing can be done for her as with the police and the rowdies both in possession of the girl, we are powerless. We left the Chief, and made a short call on the *Kenjisei*, Attorney General for the Prefecture. After a short account of the matter had been given, he replied that he was cognizant of the affair, and stopped Mr. Yamazaki, and ordered him to listen while he expounded the case as it appeared to him. He said that he could not understand how the Reform Association, while pretending to be working for the elevation of morals, could be engaged in assisting people to break their contracts. The Supreme Court has decided that the contracts between brothel keepers and prostitutes are null and void on the ground that they provide for immoral acts. The prostitutes have no right to cease their trade until the debt is paid back. That is the understanding, and any attempt to go to the contrary of this was immoral. Should the girls be able to cease work at will, the keepers would be ruined, and as their business is perfectly legal, very naturally there would be trouble. And then, with a frown intended to settle us finally, he ordered us to be careful what we did! Let us keep in mind the party who made these remarks. He is not a brothel keeper, not a procurer, although what his future hopes are of course I cannot tell, but he is the representative of the Crown in the courts of Miye Prefecture. Finding that we were not satisfied, he made an appointment to meet our lawyer at the court the following day. "But why not appeal to the Minister of Home Affairs?" some one may say. That is said easier than done. We have learned long since that no amount of pleading, begging, and nagging will avail, and there is reason why such should be the case, and to go to the Home Department in a legal form is not done in a day. But, fortunately, the rejection of our *Sogan* by the Governor of Shizuoka Ken has opened the way to the Home Department, where our amended *Sogan* now awaits an answer, which must be given within a stipulated time. Will Marquis Saigo support this system of human slavery? Many of us believe that he will not.

Yours, &c., U. G. MURPHY.

Nagoya, July 19th, 1900.

THE FIGHT OF THE 13TH AND 14TH INST. AT TIENTSIN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In view of the victory won by the Allies at Tientsin, at a heavy cost, on the 13th and 14th inst., I read with considerable interest your remarks about it in your issue of the 25th inst. You write, "If the latter (Chinese) had been expert marksmen, the Japanese must have fallen back." This implies that the Japanese could hold their position owing to the inferiority of Chinese fire—a statement which is directly opposed to the real fact. The *Jiji's* correspondent, whose letter is declared to be based on the remarks made by the regimental Commander Awaya, as will be seen from its translation appearing in the *Herald* of the 25th, tells us that the Chinese opened well directed fire and that he (Commander)

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did nevertheless hold his position lest, if he retired, it would be construed by the Chinese as a defeat, and will make them more bold. Just then an order came from Major-general Fukushima to hold the place tenaciously. Elsewhere I read that the Japanese were potted one after another and the commander ordered the 12th Company to divert the Chinese fire. From all these accounts which appear in the Japanese papers and therefore open to your quotation, it would appear certain that, only through the dint of resolution and fearlessness of death, the Japanese were enabled to hold their position. This is the principal reason why even the French Consul at Tientsin wires praising the bravery and energy shown by our men. To hold a ground within 200 to 300 metres of energetic fire is in itself a feat, showing an amount of coolness and bulldog tenacity. Again you write, "the Japanese, however, for a reason which will presently appear, found themselves ahead of the other columns." You believe, Sir, the Japanese were enabled to get ahead of their allies owing to some circumstances not within the control of the Allies. In proof of this contention, you quote, "but it would seem that the flank columns, namely the French and English, reached the moat at points where no bridges existed, and were consequently delayed." This is a very nice way of putting things, to say the least of it. The Allies, whether Japanese, English, or French knew that there existed a bridge, and it is absurd to contend that the commanders took their men where no bridge existed, to cross the stream. For during the engagement on the 13th instant, the existence of a bridge was discovered and the French and Japanese conjointly captured it in the face of the deadly fire. Could it be possible that the commanders forgot the existence of the bridge next day? No such thing can happen. The simple truth is that the Japanese were prepared to do their duty and moved with astonishing celerity, because the task of reducing the walled city fell on them as a result of the war council, held by the Commanders of the Allies at the Japanese headquarters. We, Japanese, are satisfied very much that our officers and men acquitted themselves of their onerous duty, in spite of the heavy losses. What would have been the consequences, if, instead of Japanese, the French troops charged at the gate, as previously arranged, and found the 2nd gate intact yet? Probably they lacked ladders and would have experienced some ugly disasters. Then, the curses on the Japanese failure to blow up the two gates, instead of one, through which the Allies were to effect an entry! It makes us shudder to think of that. Any one who reads your statement feels that it was the bad Chinese fire and pusillanimity that enabled the Japanese to fight. It is unjust to the Allies, especially the French and Japanese, who fought side by side on the 13th inst., and sustained between the two losses equally large, on that day. Instead of speculating and of indulging in guess work, if you kept yourself strictly to the facts, as reported in the papers, which have enterprise to send correspondents to the front, every body shall have been satisfied.

Apologizing for trespassing on your space, I remain, Yours etc.

YEN-NO-SHITA-NO-CHIKARAMOCHI.

Tokyo, July 26th, 1900.

ONE WORD MORE ON "CHRISTIAN ENGLAND."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The writer of your Monthly Summary of the Religious Press has gone to unnecessary trouble, it seems to me, in answering Mr. Cholmondeley's note. As he says, the majority of his readers are not "as dense as Mr. Cholmondeley seems to suppose." To me, at least, the Summary seemed a very fair and lucid statement of the exact opinion that Mr. C. afterwards insisted was his.

For one reason, however, I am glad that the matter was not allowed to rest just where Mr. C. left it. Possibly some faithful Buddhists read your paper; without doubt many Westerners who have little faith in Christ, do. Of the latter class some are kept in unbelief—or think they are—by the glaring inconsistency between what Christ and the Apostles taught, and what Christian religious officials sometimes appear to think is a sufficiently good form of Christianity. To such I should think Mr. Cholmondeley's views, if they attach any importance to his official position, would be very far indeed from helpful, and so it seems desirable that the fact should be once more declared, that it is not necessary for a man to shut his eyes to plain facts in order to believe in Christ.

The writer of the Summary hints that Mr. C. was so rash as to find fault with the summary of his article before he had carefully read it. Appearances are certainly that way; and, unfortunately, that is not the worst of the matter. For a little reflection will show, it seems to me, an equal lack of consideration on Mr. C's part in penning his original article, not so much in the treatment of his theme as in the choice of it.

Who ever heard of Buddhists, as such, opposing England? It is Christianity with which they find fault. Now, Mr. C.'s reply may make a very good showing for England, but how about its bearing upon Christian truth? Englishmen are generally credited with a good share of national self-complacence, and certainly they have as good a right to indulge that sentiment as men of any nation on earth. But does not Mr. C. carry matters a little too far when he seeks (as apparently he does) to commend his religion to the Japanese on the ground that even Englishmen still believe in it?

Mr. C. would no doubt admit that some Englishmen are not Christians, and that many Christians are not Englishmen. Then, when he set out to answer the Buddhists, did he seek to prove the superiority of his ground as an Englishman, or as a Christian,—which?

Buddhists point to the teachings of the Lord Jesus and the Apostles, recorded in the Scriptures, and then to the laws and public acts of England and other "Christian" countries, and say that England is not a Christian country. Now if in reply to this objection a Christian simply maintains that England *is* a Christian country, what conclusion must the Buddhist come to?

In the sense that a great many professing Christians live there, England is no doubt a Christian country; but surely an intelligent Buddhist would not deny that. On the other hand, what some Buddhists do deny, is that Englishmen are as a rule manifestly subject to the Scriptures and apparently thorough believers in Christ; and that the Government's policy either is or ever has been,—or indeed could possibly be, humanly speaking,—guided by Christian principles, though a certain admixture of Christian influence most, probably, they would admit. Now, how can any man who does reverence the Lord be so fatuous as to dispute this point? Surely, in that sense, there is not now, nor has there ever been, a Christian country or a Christian government. A Christian ought, in loyalty to Christ, not only to admit this, but to insist strongly upon it. If he has given sufficient heed to the Scriptures to be able to show how this fact ought to strengthen rather than weaken, faith in Christ, so much the better. But at any rate he would do well to abstain from an appearance of trying to make out that black is white.

I am, &c., C.M.B.

Tokyo, July 25th, 1900.

CHRISTIAN ENGLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—To people who are not Britishers, and who can look and judge of the actions of England without national bias or partiality, the question must naturally obtrude itself at the present time as it has done to your correspondent:—Where is the Christianity of England?

Here we have the fact that at the time when there are 60 millions starving in a country from which England has drawn incalculable wealth, and incalculable aggrandisement, and from which she still continues to immensely benefit herself, she can regardless of that bitter cry of hunger, be spending the money which could feed that starving people in spilling the blood of fellow Christians in South Africa. But I would set aside the question of starving Indians, and I would also set aside the right or justice of the thunderings of war which we hear all round us; and I would ask, why talk about Christianity now?

Has not the world seen England bolster up Turkey; not only by fighting the Crimean War, but by compelling the setting aside of the Treaty of San Stefano and substituting in its stead the "Treaty of Berlin," and then entering into the "Anglo-Turkish Convention."

Did not the world hear in 1895 of a slaughter of Christians, such as which history has no record, and all Christian Europe not crowding into Turkey, as they are crowding into China now; but calmly and unconcernedly looking on.

Did not the world see England who had made herself absolutely responsible for the safety of those Christians, on whose necks she had in 1878 rivetted the yoke of Turkey which the sword of Russia had broken, never so much as lift up a finger to save, when those Christians were slaughtered by hundreds of thousands in 1895, and even before and after.

Surely Europe has given evidence enough that there is no Christianity in her midst. Surely it cannot be said for England that she can lay any claim to being a Christian country at all.

Yours truly, PLAIN FACT.

July 26th, 1900.

Wrestling matches take place from the 5th inst at Nagashima-cho, Yokohama, and will be attended by the Champions Hachijin and Hidenoumi.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY.

The annual meeting of persons interested in the Yokohama General Cemetery was held at the Chamber of Commerce rooms, No. 14, Bund, on Monday afternoon. Mr. R. G. E. Forster, H.B.M.'s Acting Consul presided, and there were also present Messrs. G. Allcock, J. H. Brooke, H. Grauert, N. F. Smith, B. Gillett (Secretary), E. M. Janion, J. Dodds and H. J. Sharp.

REPORT.

The last annual meeting for receiving the Report and yearly statement of account, of the Yokohama General Cemetery, was held on the 30th May, 1898, since when several questions of importance in connection with the Cemetery have been under the consideration of the Committee, and until these were decided, it was deemed advisable by the Committee to postpone the annual meeting, which would, in the ordinary course, have taken place about the month of May 1899, until they were in a position to give the result of their deliberations on the several matters which had been occupying their attention. This must be the explanation why it is that the annual report and Treasurer's Statement of Account for the year 1898 is submitted, together with that for 1899 annexed to this report. One of the questions which the Committee had under their consideration was the position in which the control of the Cemetery would be placed, subsequent to the 17th July, 1899, the date when the Revised Treaties with the Japanese was to come into force. Happily this has now been arranged, and the Cemetery Committee have been registered as a Juridical person in accordance with Japanese law, by which the Cemetery continues under the care and management of a Committee, to be elected year by year from the foreign residents of Yokohama as heretofore. Before leaving this subject, the Committee desire to tender their best thanks to His Excellency Mr. Asada, late Governor of Kanagawa Ken, for the interest which he has shown, and the trouble which he has taken, in placing the position of the Yokohama foreign community before the Japanese authorities in connection with this matter, thereby considerably facilitating the action of the Committee in bringing the matter to a satisfactory issue.

Another question which occupied the attention of the Committee was the best means for securing a certain portion of the accumulated Cemetery money for the permanent sustentation of the present Cemetery. It will be remembered that a special meeting of the foreign community was held in connection with this subject on the 9th March, 1899, at which meeting a Resolution was unanimously passed, authorising the setting apart out of the Cemetery funds *yen* 9,000, which should be invested in the name of Trustees, the interest on said sum to be devoted toward the permanent keeping in order of the present Cemetery. The standing Committee of the Cemetery, consisting of Messrs. James Dodds, H. Grauert, Rev. E. C. Irwine, N. F. Smith, and B. Gillett, were appointed Trustees at said meeting, and, in accordance with the Resolution abovenamed, the sum of *yen* 9,000 has been withdrawn from the general Cemetery funds, and placed by the aforesaid Trustees on fixed deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at five per cent. interest, in the name of the "Yokohama General Cemetery Trust Fund" under a deed of Trust, legally drawn up, and under which the interest only on the said *yen* 9,000 "shall be available, and shall from time to time be exclusively applied to the maintenance and preservation of the grounds now set apart, and used and known as the Yokohama General Cemetery." With regard to the ordinary working of the Cemetery the Committee have but little to report calling for special attention on the part of the community.

The interments numbered 52 in 1898 and 44 in 1899, as against 53 in 1897 and 62 in 1896.

The Interments were made up of	In 1898	who were	In 1899
	29	British	17
	10	American	9
	4	French	1
	1	German	4
	1	Austrian	2
	1	Swiss	1
	3	Portuguese	4
	1	Mexican	0
	0	Swedish	1
	0	Spanish	1
	0	Russian	1
	3	Indian	0
	0	Unclassifiable interments	3
In 1898	52	In 1899	44

The smaller number of interments in 1899 as compared with 1898 is explained by the fact that in 1898 interments from amongst visitors who were temporarily staying in Yokohama and seamen from the ships in the harbour numbered 29 in 1898 and 20 only in 1899. As far as regards the number of Interments from the *bona-fide* Yokohama residents, they were about the same, viz. 23 in 1898 and 24 in 1899.

The Japanese authorities estimate the number of foreign residents in Yokohama, at the end of the

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years 1898 and 1899, were about the same viz., 2,400 (exclusive of Chinese). Dealing with these figures as being correct, and using them in connection with the number of interments from the foreign residents, we arrive at a death rate for Yokohama of 9.583 per mille in 1898; 10 per mille in 1899, as against 10 per mille in 1897; and 10 per mille in 1896.

With these observations, and begging the attention of the foreign community of Yokohama to the Treasurer's statement of account for the years 1898 and 1899, annexed to this Report, the present Committee, consisting of Messrs. Dodds, H. Granert, Rev. E. C. Irwine, N. E. Smith and B. Gillett, tender their resignations.

IN ACCOUNT WITH B. GILLETT, HON. TREASURER, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1898.

Dr.	¥	¥
To M. Jarmain for salary, 12 mos....		142 00
„ Labour account, 12 months	346.15	488.15
„ Repairs	45.18	
„ Stone walls, steps, &c.	258.20	303 38
„ Laying out ground, relaying paths, making up banks, turfing graves, &c.....		59.72
„ Cost of tools, &c.....		8.84
„ Books, stationery, advertisements, &c.		7.75
„ Postages and sundries		3.60
„ Fire Insurance premium on buildings *yen* 1,200		12.50
		¥ 883.94
To amount at fixed deposit with the H. & S. Bank at 5% interest	8,900.00	
To balance in the hands of Treasurer on 31 Dec. 1898	52.50	8,952.50
		9,836.44

Cr.	¥	¥
By balance brought down from previous account 31 December, 1897		8,078.44
By Interment fees 12 months.....	¥855	
By fees for enclosing Graves, erecting Stones, &c.....	501	
By fees for Certificates	2	
By fees for Exhuming		1,358.00
		9.436.44
By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for 12 months Interest on ¥8,000. 5 per cent.		400.00
		¥9,836.44
Jan. 1st 1899—By balance brought down.....		¥8,952.50

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 1st January, 1899.

B. GILLETT,
Honorary Treasurer.

I have examined this account, together with the Vouchers relating thereto, and found the same correct.

THOS. S. FORREST.

IN ACCOUNT WITH B. GILLETT, HON. TREASURER, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DEC., 1899.

Dr.	¥	¥
To M. Jarmain for salary 12 mos...147.00		
„ Labour account, 12 mos.....342.50		489.50
„ Repairs		98.88
„ Laying out ground, turfing graves		2.78
„ Cost of tools		6.57
„ Books, stationery, and advertisements	6.60	
„ Trust deed expenses, copying...	10.00	16.60
„ Postages and sundries.....		4.25
„ Fire Insurance premium on buildings *yen* 12.00		12.50
„ Rent of room for Public Meeting		5.00
		¥366.08
To amount placed in the hands of Trustees in accordance with the resolution passed at a General Meeting held in Keil's Building, 9th March, 1899 ...		9,000.00
		¥9,636.08
To balance in the hands of the Treasurer on the 31st Dec., 1899, carried forward to the credit of new account.....		369.64
		¥10,005.72

Cr.	¥	¥
By Balance brought down from previous account 31st Dec., 1898.....		8,952.50
„ Interment fees, 12 mos. 615.00		
„ Fees for erecting stones and enclosing graves 323.00		
„ Fees for exhuming 25 00		
„ Fees for certificates		963.00
		¥9,915.50
By amount received from H. & S. Bank for interest on *yen* 8,900 on fixed deposit from 31st Dec., 1898, to 15th March, 1899, 74 days and 5% for annum		90.22
1900		¥10,005.72
January 1.		
By Balance brought down	¥	369.64

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 1st January, 1900.

B. GILLETT, Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined this account, together with the vouchers relating thereto, and found the same correct.

A. R. RIDDLE.

Messrs. Jas. Dodds, H. Grauert, N. F. Smith, Rev. E. C. Irwine, and B. Gillett, Trustees of the Yokohama General Cemetery Trust fund of *yen* 9,000, the interest on which sum is to be devoted annually to the permanent keeping up of the Yokohama General Cemetery, in accordance with the resolutions passed at a General Meeting of the Foreign Community of Yokohama held on 9th March, 1899.

Dr.		¥
March 15th, 1899.		
To amount placed on fixed deposit with the H. & S. Bank. 5% interest for account of the Yokohama General Cemetery Trust fund		9,000.00
Cr.		
By Amount received from the Treasurer of the Yokohama General Cemetery		9,000.00

E. & O. E.

B. GILLETT,
Hon. Sec. of the Yokohama General Cemetery Trust Fund.

I hereby certify to having seen the H. & S. Bank fixed deposit note for *yen* 9,000, all in order.

A. R. RIDDLE.

Yokohama, 13th June, 1900.

The CHAIRMAN said the accounts and report were most satisfactory, and he thought the smallness of the meeting could not be taken as any criterion of the satisfaction and esteem with which the community regarded the Committee. The cemetery was one of the most admirably managed institutions in Yokohama, and it was a source of pleasure to him to be able to say in public what he had frequently said and felt in private, that he had great admiration for the way in which the cemetery was kept. He thought the hearty thanks of the community were due to the Committee and more especially to Mr, Gillett, on whom fell the majority of the work. (Hear hear.)

Mr. GILLETT, in reply, expressed his sense of what the Chairman had said. He had done this work for so many years past that it was more, or less a labour of love. As he was not able to do much for the community of Yokohama generally he was very glad to be able to serve it in this respect. (Hear hear.)

Mr. ALLCOCK added a word as to the care and ability with which Mr. Gillett had carried out the work of the cemetery for so many years past. He had done it well, and nobody could have done it better.

On the proposition of Mr. ALLCOCK seconded by Mr. BROOKE, the report and accounts were passed.

COMMITTEE.

The next business was the election of a committee.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought he was only voicing the opinion of the community when he expressed the hope that the gentlemen who at present carried out the duties would consent to remain in office.

Mr. GILLETT said before electing the committee he desired on behalf of the Committee, and himself, and he thought the whole foreign community of Yokohama, to propose that a vote of regret should be passed at the sad news received a short time ago of the sad death of Mr. Jack Fraser. Mr. Fraser was connected with the Cemetery Committee for many years, and his urbanity and kindliness of disposition won him not only the affection of his colleagues on the Cemetery Committee but of all those connected with every good work in which he was engaged. From his long experience in Yokohama—and he had had a long experience—he was able and ready to give advice or assistance on any matter that was placed before him. He (Mr Gillett) would propose that the meeting pass a vote of regret and express its sympathy with his surviving widow and her fatherless children. (Hear, hear.) In consequence of the death of Mr. Fraser there was a vacancy on the Committee. It had long been felt that it was desirable that there should be a representative of the French community and he (Mr. Gillett) had an interview with Mr. Pravieux, a highly respected member of this community, who had kindly stated that if elected he should be pleased to serve.

On the proposition of Mr. H. J. SHARP, seconded by Mr. JANION, the retiring Committee was re-elected, with the addition of Mr. Pravieux.

The vote of regret was also passed unanimously.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and also to the Chamber of Commerce for the loan of the room.

YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS. LIMITED.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Limited, was held at Keil's Building on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. A. Woolley occupied the chair. In opening the meeting he remarked that being without a regular Chairman it had fallen to him to preside, and that he would perform the office as well as he could. He suggested that the minutes of the last general meeting of July 2nd, 1899, and of the extraordinary meeting of May 21st, 1900, being rather lengthy, be taken as read.

Mr. KNAPP said he was quite willing that the minutes of the last general meeting be taken as read, but moved that those of the extraordinary meeting be read.

The CHAIRMAN complied with the request.

At the conclusion of the reading of the minutes, which were somewhat lengthy, Mr. KNAPP moved that all that portion of the record subsequent to the vote by show of hands be expunged. He made this motion because he thought all the actions subsequent to the declaration of vote by show of hands were absolutely illegal and if allowed to remain on the record of the company would establish an exceedingly dangerous precedent. The claim of Mr. Lowder that he was entitled to vote in a double capacity was clearly not admissible. It came under the question of interpretation of Rule 63, but he contended that no interpretation of that rule could possibly be allowed to vitiate Rule 61, which formed the basis of votes of shareholders. If such an interpretation were allowed it would be possible for anyone to so arrange shares that he could vote for everyone of them. He would move that all the minutes of the meeting of May 21st subsequent to the declaration of vote by show of hands be expunged.

The CHAIRMAN said he had listened to Mr. Knapp's remarks with great interest and attention, but it seemed to him that what they were called upon to do was to state whether the record was correct. He did not think they were called upon to decide on its legality. There was no one round that table who was competent to decide that question. They had only to decide whether it was a correct record of what had passed, and if any shareholders thought the proceedings were illegal and likely to bring bad fruit later on it was for them to take further steps. Unless Mr. Knapp challenged the accuracy of the minutes, therefore, he would ask for a proposition that they be passed.

Mr. KNAPP said that according to the rules of Parliamentary practice it was entirely competent for the Company to approve or disapprove of the record of the previous meeting, and that was his authority for it. The Company retained all powers which it did not specially delegate in its articles of association. He was perfectly willing to defer the matter to a meeting specially called for the purpose. He did not wish the question to pass without a protest against the nature of the recent proceedings.

The CHAIRMAN—Under the circumstances I must ask the meeting to pass this statement if it

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thinks that this statement is correct. There is nothing in the articles of association to authorise me to expunge it. Unless you wish to question the correctness of the record itself I must rule that the minutes be passed.

A motion confirming the minutes was accordingly passed, a note being made of Mr. Knapp's observations.

REPORT.

The CHAIRMAN then presented the report and accounts as follows:—

The Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st May last accompanies this Report.

The net profits for that period, including the Sum of Y.5,791.51 brought forward from last year, after writing off for depreciation of buildings, plant, and machinery, and making provision for bad debts and payment of Directors' and Auditors' fees, amount to ¥44,899.64

from which amount the following payment has been made:—

On the 31st January, 1900, an interim dividend of 10 *yen* per share	13,000.00
Leaving a balance to credit of Profit and Loss Account of.....	¥31,899.64
The Directors now propose to declare a final dividend for the year of ¥10 per share, which will absorb	13,000.00
To give a Bonus to employees of	1,039.00
And to carry forward to new account.....	17,860.64
	¥31,899.64

The Company's business has been well maintained during the period under review, and having regard to the increased Custom Duties, and higher cost of labour and material in all branches, it will be observed with satisfaction that the results compare, not unfavourably, with those of the preceding year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS—Messrs. J. F. Lowder and F. S. James have resigned their seats, and do not seek re-election.

In the place of Mr F. S. James the Directors invited Mr. B. C. Howard to join the Board, and as an additional member (the Board having fallen to a number below that necessary for the working of the Company), Mr. B. Gillett. Their election will require confirmation.

There still remain two vacancies brought about by the resignation of Mr. J. F. Lowder and Mr. Jas. Walter, the latter having ceased to be a member of the Board owing to his term of leave of absence having expired. To supply these vacancies notices in writing have been filed nominating Mr. B. C. Bernard and Mr. J. Dodds. These gentlemen have consented to act, if elected at the forthcoming General Meeting.

AUDITORS.—Mr. F. J. Hall and Mr. C. H. Fearon retire in accordance with the Articles of Association, but offer themselves for reelection.

J. JOHNSTONE, ALF. WOOLLEY, } Directors.

Yokohama, 21st June, 1900.

LIABILITIES.

	Yen.
Capital, 1,300 Shares of Y.50 each.....	65,000.00
Capital Reduction Account	65,000.00
Sundry Creditors	5,202.32
	135,202.32
Balance, Profit and Loss Account	31,899.64
	167,101 96

ASSETS.

	Yen.
Property	20,810.32
Plant	42,004.88
Steam Launches	10,044.00
Salvage Gear.....	1,484.00
Stock as per Inventory.....	56,262.20
Sundry Debtors.....	1,894.83
Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.	33,348.98
Cash in hand.....	1,252.75
	167,101.96

To Interim Dividend ¥10 per Share paid.	13,000.00
„ Property Account, Depreciation of Buildings 5 per cent...	1,095.28
„ Salvage Gear, Depreciation and loss on sale of pumps	802.30
„ Plant, Machinery, etc. Depreciation 5 per cent.....	2,210.77
„ Fire Insurance.....	1,335.35
„ Wages and Working Expenses.....	106,229.58
„ Rent	1,467.50
„ Directors' and Auditors' fees.....	1,300.00
Yen.	
„ Balance 31,899.64	
To be dealt with as follows:	
Dividend ¥10 Yen per Share... 13,000.00	
Bonus to Employees 1,039.00	
Carried forward to new account 17,860.64	31 899.64 13,899.64
	159,340.42

1899.
June 1.
By Balance..... 6,791.51

1900.
May 31.
By Gross Earnings 152,222.39
„ Interest..... 279.52
„ Transfer 47.00
159,340.42

1900.
June 1.
By Balance 17,860.64

ALF. WOOLLEY, J. JOHNSTONE } Directors.

We have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the books and vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

C. H. FEARON, F. J. HALL } Auditors.

Yokohama, July 23rd, 1900.

In commenting on the report, the CHAIRMAN said the revenue of the company was well maintained and net results had not been unsatisfactory if regard were had to higher customs dues and the increased cost of labour and materials in every direction. The gross revenue had declined by 7,700 *yen* as compared with last year, the wages and working expenses were less by 1,000 *yen*, and the net profits less by 1,800 *yen*. They had carried forward the very substantial sum of 17,860 *yen* in view of the very cloudy horizon in matters political and commercial as well as in regard to the stringency of the money market. Of course, in the event of things again assuming a nominal aspect in a few months that sum, or the bulk of it, would be available for dividend, but considering the circumstances he thought the directors were pursuing a wise policy in carrying forward so large an amount. As they would see, the property of the company was valued at 20,810 *yen*, and he considered that asset was fully up to the value placed upon it. Their land consisted of 1175 *tsubo*, which were valued in 1898 at 62,000 *yen*; he could not say what they were worth now, but certainly not less than the estimate. The plant remained much the same as it was at this time last year, and was fully and efficiently maintained. The item of *yen* 10,044 for steam launches was amply covered by the four steam launches owned by the company. The stock had been carefully gone through by the managing director, Mr. Johnstone, and by Mr. Tresize, and he (the Chairman) had personally gone through the various godowns and stores and selected a number of items here and there to check them. He had found everything in most satisfactory order. With reference to the balance to profit and loss account, they would observe that it was more than represented by the cash at the Chartered Bank. He thought the shareholders might be congratulated on being in a very strong position, a fact that was greatly due to the efforts of the late Chairman, Mr. J. F. Lowder, of the Managing Director, Mr. Johnstone, and of the Manager, Mr. Tresize. He proposed that the report and accounts be passed.

Mr. KNAPP seconded and the proposition was carried.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS.

The next business was the election of directors.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the confirmation of the election of Mr. B. C. Howard and Mr. B. Gillett, and this being seconded by Mr. GIUSSANI, was carried. The Chairman explained that it was desired to have a full board, as four directors were required to make a quorum, and unless there was a full board it was sometimes rather difficult to get that number.

On the motion of Mr. GIUSSANI, seconded by Mr. COLOMB, Mr. B. C. Bernard and Mr. J. Dodds were elected in the place of Mr. Lowder and Mr. James Walter.

On the motion of Mr. KNAPP, seconded by Mr. GILLETT, Messrs. Hall and Fearon were re-elected auditors at a yearly remuneration of 100 *yen* each.

The meeting then terminated.

THE GERMAN OCCUPATION OF KIAO-CHOU AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION IN SHANTUNG.

(TRANSLATED FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

In the *Allgemeine Missions-Zeitschrift*, of which Dr. G. Warneck, professor in the University at Halle, is Editor-in-chief, there recently appeared an article on the above subject from the pen of Dr. Warneck, which has attracted considerable attention and is of more than passing interest at the present time. Dr. Warneck is generally recognized as one of the best authorities in Europe on all important missionary questions, and his books are read in all parts of the world.

After referring, in the article under consideration, to a former article (in 1898) entitled "Politics and Missions in China," in wh ch he had pointed out that, in justifying the occupation of Kiao-chou, the necessity of protecting the Catholic Missions played a very prominent part, the writer says he raised the question, at that time, whether the occupation of Kiao-chou, on the part of Germany, would really be of practical service to this Mission. The writer then goes on to say that according to an official statement made by the German Secretary of State, February 8, 1898, in the Reichstag, Bishop Anzer, who was then in Germany, had declared that the occupation of Kiao-chou was a vital necessity (Lebensfrage) for the continuation of this Chinese Mission." What are the facts to-day? For some length of time repeated complaints have come in about the constant increase of persecutions of Christians in Shantung. All these reports come from Catholic sources. In the Catholic *Koelnische Volkszeitung* of August 16th, 1899, for instance, it is said that, "without doubt a persecution has broken out in Shantung, against the Christians there, the like of which has not been witnessed for the past 30 years. The lives of the German missionaries are in constant danger, while the Christians are oppressed, robbed, and murdered before their eyes; the sad days of Christian persecution in ancient times have returned; the missionaries in China find themselves in a most deplorable situation."

Bishop Anzer has fully endorsed this complaint in a lengthy report in the same paper from South Shantung, January 26, 1900, at the close of which he says, "thus the whole missionary work, in the central and western part of the Mission, with about 30,000 Christians, has been destroyed." This elegy should, perhaps, not be taken literally—it seems that even political circles are beginning to conceive a correct view of the rhetorical hyberbole of Catholic missionary reports. However, this much is proved by these reports, that—with all the power of German protection in the interest of this mission, and enforced compensation for the murdered missionaries consisting of a heavy amount of money not only in behalf of the Shantung mission but for missions in other parts of China,—it has not proved advantageous to the mission.

In the communication of Bishop Anzer he undertakes to inquire into the causes that have led to this renewed persecution of the Catholics since the occupation of Kiao-chou. He says, "It is not true that our mission-work has produced this deep-seated hatred among the people. The very opposite is the case. Before the occupation of Kiaochou this Mission enjoyed the best kind of reputation among the people and in Government circles. The Mandarins have not seldom openly acknowledged the appreciation of our Mission, and the Imperial Government in Peking added its testimony of approval, officially, by conferring a button of high rank. All this changed after the occupation of Kiao-chou. The Catholic Mission in South Shantung can look back over a history of 20 years. True, in this long period we frequently had to report of disturbances and persecutions. However, it must be noted that, before the occupation of Kiaochou, these occurences showed a very different character from those which we had to endure since the occupation. Before these disturbances were, even when serious, only of a local nature, and very soon subsided. Moreover, they only occurred where new stations were opened, or new churches were organized,

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and where foreigners were still unknown. After churches were once formed, Christians and non-Christians usually lived peaceably side by side. The missionaries were loved by the Christians, respected by the heathens, and frequently on very friendly terms with the mandarins. Even the murdering of the two missionaries, Nies and Henle, was only an individual act of revenge on the part of the leader of a sect, who believed the missionaries had preferred charges against him; and the unfriendly attitude of the governor toward the Mission encouraged him in carrying out his murderous deed."

I now ask, says Dr. Warneck, how is this to be reconciled with the representation of the state of the Catholic Mission before the occupation of Kiao-chou, when the same Bishop positively declared that the occupation of Kiao-chou was a vital necessity for the Mission. If Count von Buelow had had the present description of the state of the Catholic Mission before him in 1897 and 1898, could he have used this as a justification for the occupation of Kiao-chou? Something must again have occurred, behind the curtain, which induced this diplomatic Bishop to change front. But let us hear him further;—"How then, after the occupation of Kiao-chou, the persecution developed the following report (in the *Koelnische Zeit Volkszeitung*) will show. They were no longer local outbreaks against the hated foreigners but a deliberate course of persecution, protected by the officials, against the whole Mission with the ultimate object in view of destroying Christianity. This alone shows that the cause for these disturbances which have shaken the very foundation of our Mission are not to be looked for in the Mission but in a very different quarter. The first and most important cause of these recent persecutions was, as stated above, the occupation of Kiao-chou. This greatly wounded the Chinese national pride. The boldness with which the German troops planted the German flag in place of the Dragon flag, on the heights of Tsintau, had, at first, a stupefying effect on the Chinese. The Government felt as though the ground was giving way under its feet. The Mandarins were, as Taotai Ping said to me, *miliau*—as though they had lost their senses, "we knew not what to do." For this reason the Government thought it best to do all it could to avoid friction. Unfriendly Mandarins were removed, and only such as were known to be "strictly" friendly to Europeans were appointed. Missionaries and Christians were all well treated. At that time some travellers, who passed through South Shantung, obtained some very erroneous impressions with regard to the real condition of things and the sentiment among the Chinese. That a reaction would follow was obvious. For the wound was by no means healed. Port Arthur, Weihawei, and the humiliating newspaper propositions as to how China was to be divided followed and had their effect.

While the common people give themselves little concern about the political developments, the educated classes and especially the Mandarins felt the disgrace very keenly, and they began to think of the day of revenge. . . . And what has all this to do with the Mission? Very much! To the uneducated Chinaman all foreigners constitute a solid whole: "The foreign devils." And as missionaries are, in many instances, the only foreigners they ever get to see, they make them, and their Christians, as it were, responsible for everything that may occur in connection with foreigners,—as 'devils of the second rank.' Such was the case with regard to the occupation of Kiao-chou, and such is the case whenever a Chinaman receives a boxing from a European. As to what the educated Chinese, and the Mandarins, think, I have it direct from Governor Yuen of Shantung. He said, "Because some missionaries were killed the Germans came, took Kiao-chou, and everything that followed is from the same cause." "*You* called the Germans," said the Governor to me, "were there no German missionaries and their Christians in Shantung, Kiao-chou, Port Arthur, &c., would not have come into foreign hands. You are the cause of all this." Therefore Li Hung chang, with whom I have been acquainted for many years, and who certainly belongs to that class of men who understand the sense of their people thoroughly, also said to me, in an interview on the 3rd of September last year, that he was not at all surprised that everything goes topsy-turvy in South Shantung. "South Shantung," said he, "gave the cause for the occupation of Kiao-chou, which is a fact the people are gradually beginning to understand, and this is creating a bitter feeling against the Mission and the Christians there; disturbances are but natural consequences." What reply the Bishop made to these accusations against himself and against the Catholic Mission, he does not state in this report. In Germany the Catholics boasted, and their leading paper, the *Germania*, said (Dec. 29, 1897, and also Jan. 6, 1898), "Our first and strongest legal title to Kiao-chou is the atonement for the murder of missionaries and the protection of the Missions which stand under the German protectorate." "We have always emphasized that Germany's procedure, on the ground of her protectorate over the Catholic Missions, is the real legal basis for her action in Eastern Asia." In a somewhat mystified form the *Koelnische Volkszeitung* (March 10, 1898), said, "In the whole Kiao-chou affair the Catholic Bishop was in the position to render great and valuable service to his fatherland. The time will come, perhaps, when it will seem proper to speak more fully on this subject." So far this has not been done, and very likely nothing more will be said on this subject. This much is beyond all doubt. The Bishop enlisted the German power, and, to speak with the *Germania*, "gave the first and strongest legal title to the occupation of Kiao-chou." Now his Mission is suffering the consequences. And what conclusions does he draw from these consequences? One would have supposed that he regretted the fatal alliance of his Mission with politics, but, far from it, he demands the continued assistance of Germany's power, and is angry with her because she does not continually exert her power as soon as something happens to Catholic Christians in Shangtung. The whole tenor of his report makes the impression that it contains a complaint against the German Imperial Government. Something like this: Germany is under obligation to the Catholic Mission for the possession of Kiao-chou; in consequence of this the Mission is now suffering; if Germany will not exert her power in behalf of this Mission in consideration of the political service this Mission has rendered her, then,—well, then she will appear exceedingly ungrateful!

ON A SACRED MOUNTAIN.

WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL," BY R. B. PEERY

Time—12.30 a.m., August 3rd, 1899.

Place—A Japanese hotel on the shore of Lake Chuzenji.

We were awakened from sound sleep induced by a long walk on the previous day by the noise and hubbub of a big hotel in commotion. The guests were laughing and shouting to each other, as they ate their midnight meal; the servants were hurrying to and fro, carrying pretty trays with dainty bowls of fish and rice, and some hardy people were taking an early bath in the cool waters of the lake just underneath our window, where they were grunting and plunging like a school of sea lions. Our little party at once caught the excitement of the occasion, and was up and shouting with the rest of them. Soon the procession was ready to start, when, armed with lanterns, we set out to climb the sacred mountain of Nantaisan. It is 8,250 feet high; but as our hotel stood 4,000 feet above the sea we had an ascent of only a little more than 4,000 feet before us.

Thinking it might be more interesting to make the ascent at night in a large company than to make it alone by day, we went with a party of two hundred pilgrims, who were going up the mountain to worship. All the pilgrims were dressed in white, and to join their party it was necessary that we put on white outer garments over our dark clothes—for the priests who keep guard at the gate of the mountain would not let us pass otherwise. Some of our number hesitated about wearing the white robe, thinking it might be supposed that we too were religious pilgrims, going to worship at a heathen shrine, but these objections were soon overcome, and we donned the white robes, and set out as noisy and jubilant as any one in the procession. At the beginning of the tramp we had to pass through the temple grounds and deliver our tickets to the priests, who then admitted us to the mountain path. The ascent began at once, and was exceedingly steep. Indeed, I have found no mountain so steep as Nantaizan, after having climbed nearly all the high mountains of Japan.

Our party fell into line one after the other, making a row of lanterns up the mountain side almost half a mile long. The pilgrims kept time as they walked, two hundred big mouths shouting in unison, "Rak'kan sho—jo," "Rak'kan—sho—jo." This seemed to be a prayer to the god of the mountain, but just what it meant none of them could tell me. The effect was very weird, in the black darkness, with nothing visible but lanterns, and the ghostly forms near us.

So steep was the mountain that we could walk only a little while until forced to stop and rest. We Americans flattered ourselves that we were better climbers than the wiry little Japanese; but often that night we wished they would stop to rest before they did. There were two or three tea-houses on the mountain side, and we stopped at each of them for a long rest, and bought bad water at two cents a glass, to dampen our dry throats.

As we gradually went up the mountain the temperature lowered quite perceptibly. It is very hot in August, but we were now reaching cool altitudes. While climbing the exertion was sufficient to keep us warm, but when we sat down to rest a chilly sensation soon crept over us.

Seldom have I worked so hard as I did to get to the top of that mountain. Beating rains had washed the earth from the roots of the trees, which entangled one's feet, and made progress difficult. At times we came to great rocks that had to be ascended by holding on to chains fastened to the trees above. Our strength was taxed sorely; but we persevered for three long hours, and finally reached the summit just at four o'clock.

The ridge of the mountain was very narrow, barely affording room to stand on. There was a small temple with an idol, and some candles burning before it. A rough hut, in which two priests temporarily resided, stood at the side. That I might see how much of this labour had been undergone for the sake of religion and how much for a lark, I watched the pilgrims closely as they came up to summit. Nearly every man went up to the temple, threw down a few coppers, clapped his hands, bowed his head, and glibly muttered his vain repetitions. But only a few seconds sufficed to discharge these religious, and the rest of the time was spent in sight-seeing.

It was yet dark when we reached the summit, and biting cold. A heavy fog enveloped the mountain, which chilled us to the marrow. But we had not been there long when gray lines began to streak the eastern horizon, and the darkness of night was folded up as a curtain and withdrawn. Unfortunately, the fog was so thick as to obscure the view of the sunrise, a which we were much disappointed. A few minutes later the white curtain gradually lifted, and we had a magnificent view of the valley below, with a silver stream winding away into the far distance, and beautiful green mountains framing in the picture on either side. The placid waters of Lake Chuzenji lay still and tranquil four thousand feet below us, and looked to be under our very feet—so steep is the mountain. I have seldom gazed on a prettier scene than this. Indeed, Chuzenji and vicinity, as a whole, is the finest bit of nature I know.

It was so cold on the mountain that we stayed only until six o'clock, and then made a rapid and uneventful descent to our hotel, on the shore of the lake. A most delicious breakfast of mountain trout awaited us, and with our ravenous appetites we thought it a repast fit for gods.

I shall never forget this climb up Nantaizan at night, with the two hundred white-robed pilgrims, and their weird chant, "Rak-kan sho-jo."

CHINA NOTES.

As the British troops led into the native city of Tientsin the Japanese cheered them very heartily. In the fighting about this place the Japanese lost over 700 in killed and wounded. The shell fire was very heavy and a naval officer remarked that the Boers were not "in it" with the Chinese for sending in shells.

H.M.S. *Dido*, a twin-screw second-class cruiser, ordered from the Mediterranean station, in view of the trouble in China, arrived at Woosung on July 21st. She is a vessel of 5,600 tons displacement, carries 11 guns, and has an indicated horse-power of 8,000. Captain Philip F. Tillard is in charge of the *Dido*, and with him are Commander Seymour E. Erskine, Lieutenants G. A. C. Ward (G.), F. O. Creagh-Osborne (N.), C. H. McMullin, A. C. Gotto, and G. E. W. Manley (R.M.L.I.).

The *N.-C. Daily News* learns that H. E. Shêng informed the Consular Body on July 23rd that a telegram received by him from H. E. Yuan Shih-kai, dated Chinanfu, 23rd July, stated that Yung Lu had

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found on the 18th at Peking a messenger coming from the British Legation; that he had sent the messenger back with condolences to the Ministers on their sufferings and promises to supply them with food; and that subsequently a messenger from the Tsung-li Yamên was sent to the British Legation to concert with the Ministers their safe conduct to Tientsin.

The *N.-C. Daily News'* Tientsin correspondent says that he was told by a Chinese official that the antiquated useless old fort, which has just been taken with so much difficulty and loss, had during the last year been secretly modernised, armed, and stored, with a view to the present crisis. There are too many proofs of Chinese military efficiency and preparation to think them casual. The British Intelligence Department naturally knew nothing about it. Proofs multiply that the present attack on foreigners has been preparing for nearly two years. The very trustworthy correspondent in the interior to whom we have already referred, and who is far from the actual scene of strife, says that for several months past the present attack on foreigners was arranged, and the Boxers encouraged to take the initiative. Tung Fu-hsiang is said to have worked out the "Imperial Will" and made all the arrangements with the Boxers, etc. At all events, the Boxers would never have dared draw blood in the face of absolute and determined opposition from Peking.

A letter said to have been written on the 9th July, by a President of one of the Minor Boards in Peking to a relative in Shanghai arrived there on the 21st July, having come by Imperial overland courier post. "..... .The legations that are left are still uncaptured, but owing to the daily fight has been constantly going on, of late, there are now reported to be only 300 odd persons left in the legations. Should the foreign relief force arrive here early there may be still a chance of saving the residue now left. If there be any more delay I am very much afraid that there will be none left to receive the relieving force" It is most significant, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that not a word is said in the letter—which is a *bonâ fide* one—about any so-called "Government" troops helping the legation people in their deadly fight with the savage Kansu troops and Boxers. The Chinese officials wish foreigners to believe that Jung Lu and Prince Ching have been opposing the Boxers and Tung, and helping the legations, but there is not a word in the above letter to confirm this statement.

Mr. Ingram, chief officer of the *Hsinchi*, which has arrived at Shanghai, says when he left Taku the right hand bank of the river from Taku to Tientsin was completely devastated, the villages being all burnt and inhabitants killed or fled. "The scene presented by the Railway Station at Tientsin," Mr. Ingram said, "fairly beggars description. I never could have thought to have witnessed such a wreck and ruin. Walls, roofs, cars, gear of all sorts are knocked to pieces and I got some pieces of locomotive, knocked off by the shells of the enemy. The Russians have carted a lot of cushions, etc., away. It will take years to replace the station. Pieces of shell, shrapnel, and shot of all kinds lie around thickly." In the grave-yard at the back of the Tientsin Railway Station were thousands of dead Chinese, all killed by lyddite, and a naval officer late from Africa said its effect on the Boers was nothing to what it had been on the Chinese. In the native city, families were found sitting in their houses, all killed by lyddite fumes. They appeared to have seen there was no escape, so accepted the inevitable. A British sailor went up to a Chinese who was leaning against a wall holding his rifle. As the sailor approached, he found the man to be quite dead. He, too, had succumbed to lyddite fumes. His rifle, a fine single-shot Winchester, has been brought to Shanghai. The river at Tientsin was, at latest advices, was filled with corpses, and the authorities were about to open the pontoon so as to let the ghastly obstruction pass down stream.

I grieve to say, writes a correspondent of the principal Shanghai morning paper, that there was fierce indignation among the Tientsin residents over the scurvy treatment of their wives and children during the exodus. Other nationalities had their ladies at once taken off to their war-ships and treated with all the generous consideration their misfortune demanded, but the British were transhipped and retranshipped into a rat-ridden, cockroachy ship, with execrable food, and an utter and abominable absence of sanitary requirements. No officer came to see them, and, until a strong protest was sent in, no arrangements were made for their dispatch elsewhere. It was first intended to send them holus bolus, willing or unwilling, to Hongkong, but this was later on modified into a place which enabled those bound for Shanghai to go there viâ the *Hsuncki*, and those for Japan viâ the *Hailoong* to Nagasaki. Moreover, some blankets and mattresses were collected from the fleet. The causes of it all were (1) bad communication, (2) undermanning and overwork of the fleet. When the refugees left Tientsin, the base-officer didn't know they were coming; to get them off his hand was his prime consideration, so they were bundled on board of the *Shengking* and sent to the Bar. Here also they were not expected, so they were tumbled into the *Hai'oong*, nearly 180 in a vessel that could hardly take 30. The sore point was the absolute ignoring of their presence by the authorities, and the apparent indifference manifested to real distress.

The Burma-Chinese frontier is reported to be quiet, no hostile bands having appeared. It is not known what has occurred in Yunnan, no news having yet leaked through to Bhamo.

The U.S. Consul-General at Shanghai, Mr. Goodnow received from H.E. Shêng on July 27th a telegram which Shêng received on the 19th ult., stating that all the foreigners remaining at Paotingfu have been murdered, and the foreign premises burnt.

A ghastly accident occurred on the 28th ultimo at the Torpedo shed, opposite the White Fort, Foochow. On orders received from the officials, those in charge were preparing torpedos to be ready for laying in case they might be required, and coming to one with the screw tightly rusted in, a hammer was used, with the result (the thing being charged) that thirty of the bystanders were killed and many wounded. The explosion was heard for miles round.

The Committee of the China Association sent the following telegram to the Hongkong Committee.—"Understanding that the Governor is giving a guard of honour to Viceroy Li Hung-chang, would urge you, considering the situation at Peking, to protest against any official mark of cordiality being extended to this representative." The Hongkong Committee replied as follows.—"Too late—mischief done—received this morning early, seventeen guns, full guard, streets lined with troops."

The *North China Daily News* devotes a leading article to the task of explaining away Shanghai's rudeness towards Li Hung-chang. Our contemporary argues that the great Viceroy should have remained in Canton, where he was wanted, and not have come up to disturb the arrangements of the Viceroys of the Yangtsze regions. The leading Shanghai journal seems rather to rejoice at the chagrin of the old Viceroy because of the scurvy reception accorded him.

A telegram arrived in Shanghai on July 27th from the Rev. Evan Morgan at Hsianfu, addressed to the Rev. Timothy Richard saying:—Shansi native Christians massacred. Further murder five foreigners. Can nothing be done? Wire prospects peace? Does Consul advise staying?" Mr. Morgan and the Rev. F. Madeley, who is with him, have been advised to come down to the coast at once, and H.E. Chang Chih-tung has promised to protect them as far as he can *en route*.

The Foochow correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes:—According to the Chinese, the flood with which we were visited at the end of last month was the biggest known for fifty years and there was nobody in a position, to contradict them. The foreign residents record a flood in 1877, when the height to which the water rose was marked on the stone entrance to a hong on the bund. This record was broken on the 30th ultimo., the water having risen a good twelve inches higher. The consequences of this inundation were most serious. Accounts continue to reach us of the damage done, villages swept away, of the falling of undermined houses on the inmates, and of the wrecking of all sorts of boats, many more than at first reported. Both the massive bridges were broken in places, rendering them impassable. The loss of life reported is appalling, and the numbers rendered homeless and penniless is distressing to hear of. And added to the foregoing list of casualties is the damage done to the growing rice crops, a good deal of which was already in the ear. In several localities it is said to be absolutely ruined. The foreign community, on learning of this and the general distress promptly started a "Flood Relief Fund," and $5,000 were subscribed

Wiring from Tientsin on July 15th, the *North China Daily News'* correspondent said —Loot! Loot! Loot! is the order of to-day—and an exceptionally rich opportunity. Tientsin native city, with its population of more than a million, is being steadily despoiled. The treasuries and yamêns, with their large quantities of silver ingots, have been broken open, officers and men struggling with civilians for possession of the treasure. It needed but a few hours for the taking of thousands of pounds' worth of silver, in addition to which many private dwellings were shorn of their valuables. The chief difficulty is the carrying away of the stuff. This looting started on the fourteenth, and continued to-day, when the authorities confiscated, for the benefit of the soldiers, everything that had been brought into the Settlements by civilians.

Words are hard to find to describe the awful state of affairs in the city. Thousands of corpses blister in the streets under the terrible sun, and the hot air is laden with noisome odours. A great part of the city is still burning, and the great glare of the conflagration throws a lurid light on the surrounding country when darkness falls.

There is a remarkable change in the behaviour of the natives towards Europeans. During the past few days they have become positively obsequious.

A correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury* writing from Tientsin on July 19 says—The native city presents an awful sight. Silver (sycee) thrown by fugitives in their haste to quit the doomed place is being picked up all round, and terror struck natives who remain on the scene never show themselves out of doors without little flags to show that they "blong foreign side." Poor fellows, they have seen so much bloodshed that it is little wonder they try many expedients to keep the dreaded ——— from riddling their bodies.

Mr. W. W. Rockhill has been appointed U.S. Commissioner to China, with diplomatic privileges and immunities. Mr. Rockhill will sail from San Francisco on the 3rd August. Mr. Rockhill is well known here, says the *Shanghai Mercury*, having for many years been First Secretary of the Legation in Peking during the incumbency of Col. Denby as U.S. Minister. Mr. Rockhill's trip through Thibet and the published results of his explorations added greatly to his reputation. Since leaving China Mr. Rockhill has been employed by the State Department in various capacities. Lately he was U.S. Minister to Greece, and at the time of his appointment to China was Chief of the Bureau of American Republics. Mr. Rockhill's thorough knowledge of the Chinese language and people, and his valuable experience in diplomacy will stand him in good stead in the present trying situation.

Writing on the 27th July, the *Shanghai Mercury* said:—

The most serious fact which we deduce from the last communication of our Tientsin correspondent, which brings news up to the 19th, is the apparent imminence of a severe and widespread famine. The crops in the province of Chih-li are stated to be an absolute failure, whilst the gravity of the position is very naturally accentuated by the non-arrival of the usual supplies of tribute rice from the South. Even in the absence of warlike operations, the climatic conditions reported to have prevailed in the North would probably have occasioned a great dearth of food and much consequent suffering, but the position has evidently been greatly aggravated not merely by the normal effects of warfare but also by the complete stoppage of the usual means of communication between the middle and northern provinces. We gather from our correspondent's remarks that the poorer classes of natives are in a desperate condition, and although the Allied Powers certainly have their hands full in other directions it seems imperative in the interests of humanity that arrangements should be made as speedily as possible for the transportation of heavy supplies of food stuffs to the North. The measures which are being made for the restoration of order at the northern port will no doubt before long have the desired effect, but in the opinion of those most competent to judge it is likely that years will elapse before the Tientsin trade will recover from the effects of the destruction of the native city, and the dispersal of its inhabitants. The tribute paid by our correspondent to the value of the services rendered by General Fukushima, in command of the Japanese forces, is no doubt richly deserved and we have much pleasure in placing it upon record.

For some time past most disquieting reports have been current regarding the fate of the European missionaries stationed at Paotingfu, in the province of Chih-li, and it is with the profoundest regret that we have received to-day, from Consular sources, confirmation of the sad news. It is now stated that the

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whole of the foreigners resident either permanently or temporarily in that city have been, together with numbers of native converts, massacred by the Chinese, and that the mission buildings have been entirely destroyed. We further learn from Chinese official sources, that very little hope is entertained regarding the safety of the European missionaries, some sixty in number, stationed in Taiyuenfu, and its vicinity, the grounds of apprehension being very materially increased by the well-known anti-foreign attitude of Yu Hsien, the Governor of the province, who was only lately transferred there from Shantung, where it is notorious that he fostered and encouraged the growth and progress of the Boxer movement.

We take the following from the *Shanghai Mercury*:—

Translation of extract from a letter written by a Chinese official at Peking to his family:—

The Government had first the intention of suppressing the Boxer movement, but princes and ministers in the Imperial Council, having unbounded confidence in them, favoured the Boxers in every possible way.

On the 13th of May, General Tung Fuhsiang, during an audience, brought about a complete change in the policy of the government. He offered to fight the foreigners.

Kangyi and Chao Shuchiao were delegated to treat with the Boxers.

On the 13th of June, the European Church east of the city (the Tartar city) was burnt down. On the evening of June 14th immense crowds gathered in the "Ha-ta-men" street and in that (Sir Robert Hart's) which passes the Austrian Legation.

The Boxers, supported by the riff-raff of the capital made a horrible noise till late into the night. Shots were fired from the Austrian Legation, killing a few of the rioters. The writer, living close by the Austrian Legation, could readily follow the course of events. The Boxers, having lost some of their men, were somewhat discouraged, but thought they had not drilled sufficiently, hence they waited for reinforcements of more experienced men.

On the 16th of June, a number of large Chinese shops, outside the "Chienmen" (or gate of the Chinese city) were on fire.

On the evening of June 16th the German Ambassador with his Interpreter started to proceed to the Tsungli Yamen in a sedan chair. When they had reached the "Tungtanpa-lep" (the Eastern Memorial arch) on the "Hata-men" street, a revolver, carried by one of the gentlemen, went off by accident. The soldiers in the Belgian Legation, supposing that the firing came from the Chinese soldiery, shut the gate, and began to fire, which the Chinese soldiers returned. During this cross fire the German Minister was hit in his sedan chair; this led to a complete rupture with the foreign Powers. The Government thought that there was nothing more to save, and concluded to send the Kansu troops to attack the Legations.

On June 20th at 4 p.m. the Kansu troops opened fire with rifles and artillery, from Sir Robert Hart's street and the "Chang-an" Memorial arch (or portico), attacking the Austrian detachment. The fighting lasted the whole night.

On June 21st the writer noticed soldiers belonging to the Kansu troops sitting at garret windows of neighbouring houses, firing into the Austrian Legation. Seeking to avoid getting hurt by the firing from the Austrian Legation, the writer fled to Legation Street. Between one and three o'clock in the afternoon the aggressors stormed or destroyed the Austrian Legation and set it on fire. The same evening the Chinese Bank east of the Austrian Legation was destroyed by fire.

The *Nagasaki Press* has had an interview with the Rev. Timothy Richard, the well known China missionary, which we reproduce below:—

The Rev. Timothy Richard stated that Li Hung-chang had been coldly received by the foreign Consuls in Shanghai. No preparations were made for the reception of the aged Viceroy and the feelings of the Consular body were displayed when they furnished an escort composed of a body of Sikh police, armed with rifles with fixed bayonets. Marked hostility towards Li would no doubt have been shown by the whole of the Consuls, but it is the generally conceived opinion that the safety of Shanghai at the present time depends on the whim of the Chinese, for were the Chinese troops in the neighbourhood ordered by Peking or other high officials to attack the town, the results would be appalling, for the City and the foreigners are absolutely at the mercy of these troops. The handful of volunteers and the few war-vessels, the latter being scattered along the river, would be powerless to avert the sacking of Shanghai and the massacre of the foreigners. The Chinese troops in the vicinity of Shanghai are well armed and possess heavy artillery, mostly Krupp guns. Owing to the carrying capacity of the latter, the town could be easily destroyed with but little loss to the attacking force. Mr. Richard thinks that the condition of Shanghai is a most precarious one and calls for the urgent dispatch of a large foreign force, if a similar calamity to that of Peking is to be averted. His pessimistic view of the situation is strengthened by the news published in our Saturday's issue that Viceroy Chan Chih-tung would not be able to restrain his troops much longer as they were getting out of hand. When the latter occurs, it will be the signal for a general uprising in the whole of the Yangtsze valley, from the mouth of the river to the farthest up-river port, the consequences of which it is fearful to contemplate.

Mr. Richard is well acquainted with Viceroy Li and in the past has had many a tussle with the crafty statesman. He saw Li in Shanghai on the present occasion and noted how well the aged Viceroy looked. His mental energies are unimpaired and he remains to-day, in spite of his great age, the most interesting personality in the empire and in all probability the ablest man. When questioned as to the fate of the foreigners in Peking, Li said he has received authentic news that they were safe and were receiving the protection of the Chinese Government. He was of opinion, however, that the march on to the capital by the Allies would be the signal for the massacre of the foreigners, who were virtually prisoners in the hands of the rebel Prince Twan.

Mr. Richard believes the anti-foreign movement will spread all over the empire, as the Peking authorities have assiduously circulated proclamations stating that the foreign Powers are seeking to partition the country. This has had the effect of cementing the Manchus and the Chinese, who now present a solid front against further foreign aggression.

Mr. Richard states that the Powers should at once issue counter proclamations, that they do not desire the partition of China, but seek only the punishment of those Manchu officials who are responsible for the present troubles. He thinks that by this means the southern Chinese would be alienated from the Manchu faction, and the condition of affairs would be easier of solution.

A correspondent is sending the *North China Daily News* some voluminous notes entitled "Tientsin Under Siege," from which we make some extracts without comment:—

July 10.

About 5 o'clock the enemy opened fire with a v gour that was bad proof of demoralisation or fear. This time it was our gun emplacements they went for and one of the very best gunners in the British Navy told me he would have been proud to shoot so well. The shell now comes low down and is bound to hit something if fired into the Settlement; the astounding thing is its failure to take life. When it invades a room fortune has it that the room is empty, if it crashes into the road or walls, those near are not hit. I suppose the cubic contents and superficial area of a man are an infinitesimal fraction of the volume and area of the shell's field of action, and this explains it. At any rate only one civilian life has yet been taken by shell fire, and I should say not more than 23 or 30 sailors or soldiers. This is a striking commentary on the "Times" statement that at Ladysmith each life by shell fire cost the Boers £5,000.

July 12.

A most interesting passenger *viâ* the *Lanchow* today was a sweet little Chinese field gun (six-pounder), by Krupp of Essen, a personal present from the gallant Fukushima to Admiral Seymour. It was one of the four so cleverly taken on Monday, July 9th, by the Japanese.

July 13.

I mentioned yesterday that the feature of the attack was a superb explosion at 6.30—heard 40 miles off, as well as if it were near. This may have been due to Chinese mistake but as it followed a chance shot of our 4in. q.f. on Meadows Road we like to think it was due to the latter. It was the huge store of brown prismatic powder, manufactured for the big Krupp guns of position, localised half way between the East arsenal and Hsikou. Every man in Tientsin rushed out to see what damage the shell had done, for it was exactly as if a shell had struck the house. Glass fell everywhere, and windows and doors were blown in on all sides. A superb phenomenon rose on the blue summer skies namely, a pillar of smoke; it suggested the thing which guided Israel in the Exodus and was sublime in its impressiveness. A long, writhing tail, on the slant, twisted itself into a perpendicular column and then spread out into a glorious convoluted canopy.

July 14.

The women caught with Boxer documents on them were to-day shot on the Bund.

I took the chance of a run in French town to-day: its appearance is indescribable, wreck, ruin, death and pestilence are all brought vividly before the mind. The compound of the Cossacks is littered with bodies of dead horses, dead cows, with evil smells: the guns, possibly now short of ammunition, grimly look down each thoroughfare, and seem to threaten that worse is still to come. The Consulate and most of the houses have suffered far worse than ours, and the ghastly remains of fire are seen in many places. I thought our case had enough, but that of our neighbours is infinitely worse. The reactionaries in Peking will surely have a heavy bill to pay for all this avoidable suffering and loss. I met the brother of Huang, the Customs Taotai, to-day, and learned that the reported suicide of the Taotai is not true. It originated in the knowledge that the Boxers cherish a particular odium against him from his liberal views.

The evening search party, in consequence of information received from Mr. Chang Yen-mao, visited a godown and found cases of rifles, thousands of them, and of rounds of ammunition—a very valuable find for contingent troubles as our supply was not laid in for a month's siege.

I have just come down from one of our towers, and beyond huge and numerous fires in the city, I can see no evidence of war in any form. These fires are difficult to defend, except on the ground of urgent military necessity; unfortunately, national characteristics seem to be the chief factor in deciding this necessity. Our people told the fleeing Chinese to return to their houses as they have no intention of injuring them, but when this advice was followed the poor wretches fell on to the bayonets of the—and the ——, who promptly began to burn as well as slay. After a time, the people fled universally, though whither they went was a puzzle, and looting became general. The capture must have been unexpected, for large quantities of sycee were found lying exposed in many of the houses and hongs. Valuable silks, articles of clothing, curios, were brought away in large quantities, but with amazing inequality to the finders. One sailor was seen struggling with a useless, old, eight-day clock, while his messmates were on boxes of silver. This will doubtless go on for two or three days, but, of course, with ever-decreasing success in spoil.

I hear that a native was last night caught red-handed in the act of trying to fire the Tientsin Club (General Hospital); he was in foreign clothes, and was instantly reported, taken to the edge of the river, and shot dead into the stream. This is probably another version of the story that the Barfleurs' Barracks were again attempted and the man caught and shot

Writing of the action of July 9th, in which over 1,000 Japanese infantry, and some 1,000 British and Russians guns and cavalry, made an attempt to clear the Western Plain of the Chinese and arrest their outflanking movement, which threatened the river communication of the Allies, the *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent said:—It was essentially the Japanese day—Japanese method, discipline, courage, and initiative, and victory. General Fukushima handled his men like an old campaigner, and gave the onlookers one of the prettiest battle choramas ever seen. His main force, on the extreme left, deployed away to the south of the Race Course, while his secondary advanced towards the villages near the burned residences of Messrs. Detring and Dickinson. These latter, after a stiff rifle duel, expelled the enemy who tried to clear off to their own right, only, of course, to fall into the main body of the Japanese waiting for them and now outflanking them. They turned tail and bolted towards the Hai Kuang Sze Elgin Joss-house, but now Fukushima had his horsemen ready for them. They rode and re-rode up and down, cutting the braves to pieces and accounting for 250. The advance was now general; the whole foreign force swinging on, the Russians on the right as a pivot, wheeled over the plain driving everything before them. The Japanese were just in their glory, laughing and going on with their curious little trot, they captured Krupp field-pieces, and rushed the arsenal at the Hai Kuang Sze, driving the enemy like sheep. None of us felt the least doubt that, had they pushed on, they could have got the South Gate and possibly the City. The other troops were in support and did all that could be done, but, as fortune would have it, the enemy fell to the Islanders. The casualties were very small, less than 80 in all, and only ten of these killed. It was really a most dashing bit of war and impressed everyone who saw it with a sense of the potency and military virtues of the chief actors. The only fault that I have the impertinence to find with the Japanese soldier is his extreme visibility; his white flat hat, his black (or white) coat, and white pants make him prominent when lying on the grey soil of Chihli. Put him into khaki and you will increase his resisting power indefinitely. One day last week, going up to the front from the rear, I saw a Japanese Company at a distance of one mile; the Hongkong regiment I failed to see at 400 yards; both were lying forward against a bank of mud. Without any pretence to invidiousness I must express the general sentiment up here that in organisation, equipment, kit, discipline, the Japanese have nothing to learn from anybody, but much to teach. They have thought out everything and arranged it to perfection, and they alone have had no muddle. Steam

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lighters and shallow vessels adapted for Taku Bar, sampans, coolies, land search-lights, etc., etc., all are there as if an invasion of the Peiho were a normal task.

News has been received in Shanghai by the local mandarins from the North, stating that a large number of Southerners, holding offices posts in Peking, many of very high rank, have succeeded, after innumerable difficulties, in escaping from the capital for their homes south of the Yellow river. The Boxer leaders are said to have made quite large sums of money from the refugees, by issuing passes across the Boxer lines guaranteeing immunity from trouble and delay as far south as Ch'angchou city, on the Chihli-Shantung borders, beyond which their authority ceases, being under the jurisdiction of the pro-foreign Viceroys and Governors. The prices demanded for these passes vary according to the standing and wealth of the applicant, viz. · Tls. 5 to Tls. 2.000. Each pass or passport is worded in the usual style of such documents in China, only that it is headed by the name of the Boxer Chief who issues the passport, while the paper is also filled on the borders and covers with various mystic signs. Accompanying each passport is a red cotton cloth bag to hold the paper, to prevent the document from being frayed, and from rough usage *en route*. It is believed that this exodus from Peking was actuated by the reckless atrocities of the Boxers and Prince Twan and Tung Fuhsiang's troops, and the receipt of news of the relentless enmity of the Russian and certain other troops against all Chinese at Tientsin and Taku. According to news so far to hand, received by the local mandarins, refugees from Peking with their passports got through Chihli province unmolested by Boxers, but that that as soon as they got into Shantung they met Li Ping-hêng's advanced troops en route for Peking, at whose hands some of the refugees received rough handling, whilst others were robbed of their all. As other troops proceed north refugees to the south, it is feared, will find great difficulty in travelling peaceably.

Mr. C. Kinloch Cook, in an article in the *Morning Post*, writes:—Strange as it may seem, the present position of affairs in China is in no small measure the result of diplomatic errors. A grave mistake was made when the Dowager-Empress seized the throne in 1898, and issued the famous edict announcing that the Emperor had resigned his position and handed over the Government of China to her. Had the Treaty Powers followed the usual order of things and refused to treat with a Pretender all might have been well, but the diplomatists at Peking acquiesced in the situation, and accepted without a murmur the authority of a woman whose every action was *ultra vires*, and who is not by birth a member of the Royal House of China. Nor did matters stop there. The accredited representatives of foreign nations allowed their wives to pay what has been ever since regarded in Peking as an official visit to the Dowager-Empress, thereby recognising her claim to social supremacy as against the right of the Emperor's wife. Surely if the wives of the Ambassadors decided to call on the Pretender, it might have been possible to have done so after first paying their respects to the Empress, instead of ignoring her existence altogether. It is scarcely surprising that the Dowager-Empress plumed herself on the success of the *coup d'état*, and determined at all hazards to maintain the ground she had so easily gained. Accordingly, in January of this year, she decided that the son of Prince Twan should succeed the present Emperor, thus repeating the tactics she had pursued with regard to Kwang Su, and virtually ignoring him as a factor in Chinese affairs. Still, no outward or visible sign of objection was raised by the Diplomatic Body, and now the representatives of the Treaty Powers are required by the Pretender to transact their business with Prince Twan, who has replaced Prince Ching as President of the Tsung-li Yamen. How long is this policy of yielding to continue and will the appointment of Prince Twan be accepted in the same passive manner as that in which the Foreign Powers received the nomination of Yüan Shi-kai to the Governorship of Shantung.

The *Rossija*, a St. Petersburg journal, attacks the Empress-Dowager in the following unmeasure terms:—The Powers interested in China must concentrate all their attention upon the Empress-Dowager. This personage has unlawfully taken the power into her own hands. This open robbery has been neither sanctioned nor recognised by any European Power. Consequently all the interested Powers can declare her to be a usurper and thus depose her. If the Empress-Dowager will not consent to this course, then she must be removed from China by force. The small detachments of troops must be replaced by forces by whose aid Europe can become master of Peking, and thereby be in a position to dictate its will both to the Chinese Government and to the Empress-Dowager. So long as this Imperial usurper remains hidden away in any corner of China, so long will she be surrounded continually by bands of robbers.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, July 28th:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	18,260,871
Amount of convertible notes issued	208,518,275
Government deposits	53,473,616
General deposits	5,862,323
Exchange liability	29,950
Total	316,145,035
Cr.	
Discount notes	80,550,160
Foreign discount notes	13,860,381
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	65,669,471
Exchange liability	2,808,277
Government bonds	52,502,563
Property	2.131,240
Bullion and Specie	76,622,941
Total	316,145,035

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	206,828,711
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	71,403,222
Silver	4,000,000
Total	75,403,222
Securities:—	
Government bonds	24,017,421
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	11,362,748
Commercial notes	74,045,320
Total	131,425,489

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	515,464
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	757,403
Government deposits	—	923,593
General deposits	—	2,049,043

THE NAGASAKI HOTEL, LIMITED.

The half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., was held on Friday, 27th July, at the Hotel. Mr. E. A. Measor occupied the chair, and there were also present, says the *Nagasaki Press*, Messrs. A. L. Jordan, C. E. Boeddinghaus, A. B. Glover, T. A. Glover, J. M. Dow, D. F. Robertson, P. J. Buckland, and R. F. Inman (Secretary).

The Chairman having asked that the report should be taken as read, said the most noticeable feature in the accounts was an increase of *yen* 9,423.07 in the receipts over the corresponding period of last year. They showed a slight decrease from those of the previous six months, but the latter half of the year was always a better season for the hotel. The working stock had been reduced by *yen* 8,724.56 and this reduction was not only a desirable one, because it released a certain amount of unremunerative capital, but also because among the stock disposed of were a number of bulky casks, for which there was no room in the hotel, and to accommodate which they had been obliged to rent an outside godown. This godown, for which *yen* 100 per month had been paid, had now been vacated. The Directors thought the best means of disposing of the proceeds of these sales would be to repay some of their second debentures, and, a legal opinion having been obtained, it was found that it would be necessary in the first place to obtain the unanimous consent of the holders of the first debentures. As it was evident that some opposition would be met with to the proposed scheme, the matter was allowed to drop, and the money would be invested to the best advantage in some sound securities. Whatever action the Directors might take would be reported at the next meeting. A large building like the hotel was of course not maintained for nothing, and sundry minor repairs had been effected from time to time. A rather extensive overhaul had been necessary in the case of the electric light engines, the cost of which would come into the next accounts, and as they considered the defects found were entirely due to the manner in which the machinery had been set up, the Directors intended to make a claim on the contractors.

As regarded future prospects, there was a great influx of visitors and the hotel had been full for a considerable time, the month of July showing an improvement of *yen* 3,000 over any previous record. If this state of things continued, they would be enabled to show a satisfactory return. The large number of guests had thrown much additional work on the staff, but he was pleased to say that it had been equal to the emergency.

The Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

Mr. Buckland seconded.

The Chairman said he had accepted the Directors' invitation to join the Board, it being considered advisable to have four directors.

Mr. J. M. Dow proposed that Mr. E. A. Measor's election be confirmed.

Mr T. A. Glover seconded.

This was all the business, and the meeting terminated.

Working Account from January 1st to 30th June, 1900.

Dr.	Yen.
To General Expenses, including Wines and Stores	40,566,20
Balance, being Profit carried forward to Profit and Loss Account	10,490.30
	51,056.58
Cr.	Yen.
By Gross Receipts	51,056.58
	51,056.58

Profit and Loss Account.

Dr.	Yen.
To Interest paid Jan. 1st, 1900, on 1st Issue Debentures	5,950.00
Interest paid Jan. 1st, 1900, on 2nd Issue Debentures	3,255.00
Fire Insurance	1,160.33
Rent	251.14
Directors' Fees	375.00
Auditor's Fee	150.00
Balance	3,046.38
	14,187.85
Cr.	
By Balance from Dec 31st, 1899	3,697.47
Profit on Working Account	10,490.38
	14,187.85

Liabilities.

To Capital	130,000.00
Debentures, 1st Issue	170,000.00
" 2nd Issue	93,000.00
Sundry Creditors	4,532.03
Profit and Loss	3,046.38
	400,578.41

Assets.

By Ground	54,250,00
Building	193,082.35
Furniture	75,586.72
Electric Light Plant	28,487.16
Refrigerating Plant	4,407.88
Stock on Hand	23,521.86
Fire Insurance	1,141.36
Rent Account	342.43
Sundry Debtors	3,222.70
Cash in Hand	375.00
Holme, Ringer & Co., Current account including interest to date Y.153.05	11,563,62
Holme, Ringer & Co., Deposit account.	4,597.30
	Y. 400,578.41

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuters' Special Service.)

WAR EXPENSES.

Shanghai, July 26.

It is understood that the House of Commons will be asked to vote a further sum of £11,500,000 on account of the war in the Transvaal.

THE NAVAL RESERVE.

The House of Commons has read a second time the bill creating a naval reserve of 15,000 men of twelve years' service.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

The *Times'* St. Petersburg correspondent, announces that the Russian War Minister, Prince Kouropatkine, will probably be sent out to command the Russian forces in China, and presumably he would command the whole of the allied troops.

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SOUTH AFRICA.

The Boers in force have crossed the railway southward of Serfontein.

Official returns show that the Boers captured seven officers and 272 men during the past week.

THE U.S. AND CHINA.

President McKinley, replying to the telegram of the Emperor of China, said he was willing to mediate for an amicable settlement of all questions, provided that the Chinese Government proves the safety of the Diplomatic Corps in Peking and co-operates with the Allies in restoring order.

BRITISH COLONIES,

Shanghai, July 27.

An amendment to the Colonial vote has been rejected in the House of Commons by 201 votes to 52.

SOUTH AFRICAN REBELS.

Mr. Chamberlain is vigorously defending the proposal for the disfranchisement of all rebels in South Africa.

FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF THE TRANSVAAL.

It is believed that the Boers will settle down in view of the intention of the British Government to give them self-government similar to that enjoyed by other British Colonies.

CONTRABAND SMUGGLING.

Great excitement has been caused in Lourenzo Marques by the discovery that quantities of corned beef and other contraband is being smuggled into the Transvaal. Several arrests have been made in connection with this affair.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

Later

Communications with Pretoria have been restored.

General French has captured a good many prisoners.

General Broadwood is closely following Dewet and has captured five waggons. He is now at Vredefort awaiting Little, who has been ordered to join him.

General Baden-Powell reports from Majato Pass that 450 of his men have driven 1,000 Boers from a very strong position, inflicting considerable loss.

Reuter's Agent, telegraphing from Bronkerspruit, reports that on the 24th inst. the general British advance eastward was progressing. French with two Brigades is working to the south; Pole-Carew is in the centre, and Hamilton and Mahon on the north. They arrived at Bronkerspruit practically unopposed and it is expected that the general advance to Middleburg will be uncontested, as the Boers are evacuating all their positions and are reported to be moving towards Lydenburg.

POLITICAL RUMOURS.

Shanghai, July 28.

At the annual dinner of the Royal College of Surgeons, Lord Rosebery referred to the rumours of dissolution

Lord Salisbury disavowed any knowledge of the matter.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

A French decree prohibits the export of arms to China or contiguous countries.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

Later.

Field-Marshal Lord Roberts wires from Balmoral, under date of the 25th instant, that yesterday (24th) General Alderson attacked the enemy. On French turning the Boers' left they fled, French and Hutton pursuing.

According to the same despatch, General Hunter attacked the Boer position south of Bethlehem on the 23rd and 24th, but the attack failed, the casualties among the British being 50: but on the 25th Hunter gained the key of the enemy's position.

BRITISH TROOPS FOR CHINA.

The P. & O. steamer *Rome* has taken 11 officers and 270 men to China, the men being mainly Artillerymen.

AUSTRALIA TO HELP IN CHINA.

The Colony of New South Wales has resolved to despatch a military force to serve with the Imperial forces in China.

ASHANTI.

Major Willcocks has captured the Ashanti war-camp at Kokofu and has been promoted Colonel.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, July 29.

Lord Roberts wires from Pretoria that French was in sight of Middleburg at dusk on the 25th instant. The enemy were retreating in disorder.

Hunter has occupied Fouriesburg. Mrs. Steyn is there. The brother of Dewet has surrendered at Kroonstadt

THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

Mr. Wyndham, in speaking on the Army estimates, proposed to leave 45,000 men in South Africa.

The vote includes £35,000 for barracks at Khartoum and £1,500 for barracks at Mauritius.

CHINA.

President McKinley has rejected the suggestion, believed to emanate from Li Hung-chang, to defer the march on Peking in return for the delivery of the Ministers

THE PASSIONATE KAISER.

The Emperor William, in his farewell to three transports which have left Bremerhaven with troops for China, exhorted the men to so fight that a Chinaman would never dare even to look askance at a German for a thousand years to come.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, July 29, 10 55 p.m.

At nightfall torrents of rain prevented French from pursuing the Boers, who were seen from the hills retreating in disorder. The troops had a terrible night. There is great mortality among the draught animals.

Lord Roberts reports that the troops are closing round the Boers in the hills about Bethlehem The road to Harrismith alone is open, and that is difficult for the passage of their waggons and guns

The Government has decided to adopt one working dress for all branches of the Army, permitting of the accumulation of reserves of clothing.

ITALY AND CHINA.

Shanghai, July 30.

Italy has forbidden the export of arms to China.

AMERICA LOSING HOPE.

The American Government has ceased to believe in the genuineness of Mr. Conger's despatch of the 18th inst.

CHINA BLUE-BOOK.

A China Blue-book has been published covering events since the murder of Mr. Brookes. It shows that Great Britain mostly took the lead in proposing effective action, urged Japan to send troops, and finally accepted financial responsibility therefore because the international negotiations, of which there had already been a considerable amount, would involve delay. It also contains the text of an appeal made by the Emperor of China on the 3rd to the Queen, similar to the appeals made to other rulers. Lord Salisbury in urging the Japanese to send reinforcements, said that the object of the operation was to save the Legations and that ulterior questions would be left for future consideration.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Gen. French has occupied Middelburg. General Clery has reached Sugarsbushspruit, 10 miles east of Heidelberg.

PRINCE KANIN.

Prince Kotohito has sailed from Marseilles on his way home owing to the situation in China.

THE U. S. AND CHINA.

PLAIN SPEAKING.

Mr. Wu Ting-fang, Chinese Minister to Washington, when handing to Mr. Secretary Hay at the State Department, the Edict of the 24th, saying that the Ministers are safe and that they are supplied with food, insisted that the American Government was bound to accept the official declaration of the Chinese Government, which thereby incurred a serious responsibility towards the world.

The State Department urged that the failure to allow the Ministers to communicate with their Governments creates a suspicion that something has happened in Peking which China desires to conceal until she has made terms with the Powers.

ASSASSINATION OF THE KING OF ITALY.

Shanghai, July 31.

King Humbert was assassinated at Monza (a town in Lombardy to the North of Milan) on the 29th inst

THE KAISER'S CHINA SPEECH.

SENSATION AND CRITICISM IN GERMANY.

A sensation has been caused in Germany by the Emperor's farewell speech to the transports on Friday. He counselled that no quarter be given and no prisoners taken.

It appears that Count von Bülow tried to suppress this passage, but the newspapers fore-stalled him. Some of the papers protest against the un-Christian counsel, others explain the movement (?) literally.

GENERAL NÉGRIER.

General Négrier has been re-instated as a member of the French Supreme Council of War.

KING HUMBERT'S DEATH.

King Humbert was entering his carriage after the distribution of prizes at the athletic competitions at Monza, when a man named Bressi fired three shots from a revolver at him piercing the King's heart. His Majesty died a few moments later.

Bressi was arrested.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Reuter's Agent telegraphs from Cape Town, under date of the 30th July, that Commandant Prinsloo, with 5,000 Boers, has surrendered unconditionally at Fouriesburg.

The Boers from Middelburg are now trekking towards Machadodorp. General Pole-Carew, with the Guards, has arrived at Brugspruit.

Gen. Buller reports that Vlaklaagte station was twice attacked during the night of the 26th July. The enemy were repulsed. The casualties in various engagements from the 21st to the 24th July were Sir Walter Bartelott, of the Sussex Volunteers, and 10 men killed; and 12 officers and 67 men wounded. The majority belong to the Cameron Highlanders

A later telegram says that Generals Hunter, Clements, Paget, Rundle, Bruce, and Hamilton met at Fouriesburg on the 25th

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July, having, after three days' fighting, forced different Neks of a circular and almost inaccessible mountain chain. The key of the worst Nek was occupied at night during a dense mist. The Boers were expelled at dawn. They took refuge in the ravines, whence it was almost impossible to extricate the wagons. General Prinsloo, finding his position desperate, proposed an armistice. It was refused. Then various conditions were proposed and likewise refused. Surrender followed.

THE CHINESE SITUATION.

ENGLAND AND JAPAN.

Shanghai, Aug. 1.

The House of Commons has authorised Sir Michael Hicks-Beach to borrow 13 millions in the shape of a war loan or treasury bonds. Sir Michael explained that no liability had been incurred towards Japan. The offer made by the British Government had depended upon Japan sending more men at an earlier time than she did. Sir Michael believed that three millions would cover the cost of the operations in China. He declared that Great Britain's policy in regard to that country did not aim at territorial expansion.

MANCHURIA.

Russian reports say that Manchuria is in a state of rebellion. The Russians have been repulsed to the southward of Mukden.

KING HUMBERT'S ASSASSINATION

It is believed that the murder of King Humbert was the outcome of an Anarchist plot threatening four Sovereigns. King Humbert had been forewarned, but refused to increase his guards.

DEATH OF THE DUKE OF COBURG.

A later telegram says that the Duke of Coburg has died of apoplexy at the Castle of Rosenau. It transpired that he had cancer in the tongue.

THE RELIEF OF THE PEKING LEGATIONS.

The Times insists on the immediate despatch of an expedition to Peking for relief purposes, ignoring petty jealousies about the chief command.

(Telegrams Received at the Legation of France.)

CHINA.

Saigon, July 17.

The Powers continue to exchange views on the subject of China. The march to Peking will commence on the 1st of August. According to Chinese intelligence, the Foreign Ministers will be conducted under escort to Tientsin.

Saigon, July 23.

Li Hung-chang is still at Shanghai, and he continues to affirm that the Ministers in Peking are living.

CHINA NEWS.

Saigon, July 29.

The Chinese Legation in Paris has received an edict of the Emperor of China dated 24th July, which contains these words:—"We are furnishing to the Legations fruits and provisions as evidence of the interest we take in them."

GENERAL NEGRIER.

Saigon, July 30.

General Négrier has been re-instated in his functions as a member of the High Council of War.

THE SHAH.

The Shah of Persia has arrived in Paris to visit the Exposition.

KING HUMBERT.

Saigon, July 30.

King Humbert was assassinated yesterday evening at Monza. Three shots were fired at him from a revolver. The assassin, named Angelo, was wounded and arrested. The King died at 10 o'clock that evening.

KING HUMBERT.

Saigon, Aug. 1.

King Humbert was returning by carriage from a gymnastic meeting when he was assassinated. Bressi has declared himself an Anarchist. He came from the United States.

THE LEGATIONS.

The Chinese ceased their attacks on the Peking Legations on the 21st of July.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

THE ASSASSINATION OF KING HUMBERT.

Rome, July 30.

The King of Italy after attending the distribution of prizes on the 29th of July at the athletic sports in Monza, was about to enter his carriage at 10.45 p.m. when a man fired 3 shots from a revolver, one of which reached his heart. He died at 11.30 the same night. The malefactor was seized immediately.

AUSTRIA AND JAPAN.

Vienna, July 30.

The leading newspapers of this city, commenting on the Japanese Emperor's reply to the despatch of the Emperor of China, applaud highly the enlightened and dignified policy it displays.

CHINESE CRISIS.

Sōul, July 26.

The following telegram has been received from Mr. Shinjo, a student-interpreter at Pyŏng-yang:—"According to a report from Japanese police in Wiju the crew of a junk belonging to Mr. Tamiguchi of Chemulpho, namely 7 Japanese and 3 Koreans, were seized by Chinese insurgents in Antung and robbed of their goods after being most cruelly treated. The junk was laden with timber."

Shanghai, July 26.

The *Mercury* of the 25th instant contains the following:—"Two lady missionaries belonging to the China Inland mission in Shansi have been murdered. Since this event nothing has been heard from the 16 foreign missionaries in Ta-yuen, the capital of Shansi, and much anxiety is felt about their fate."

Shanghai, July 28.

The chief points of the imperial edict issued on the 24th instant, as already reported by telegraph, are these:—"We have perused the memorial addressed to Us by Liu Kun-yi, and We approve of the project that the rebels should be subdued and peace restored if a suitable opportunity offers. It was not Our desire that trouble with Foreign States should be created without proper justification. In order to discharge the heavy responsibility devolving on Us, We have caused the following steps to be taken:—On the one hand, We have sought the mediation of Foreign Powers; on the other, we have issued frequent instructions to the Viceroys and Governors that they should protect the lives of the Foreign Representatives, of the missionaries, and of foreign merchants. We have thus maintained a plain attitude of non-collusion (the word used is the general equivalent for "neutrality"), and We hold views not differing from those of Liu Kun-yi and Our other subjects. Moreover, in order to show Our amicable sentiments, We have caused provisions to be supplied to the Foreign Ministers, and, with the exception of the German Minister, all the Foreign Representatives are safe. Therefore you are instructed to communicate to the Consuls that Our earnest desire is that your relations with them should be conducted on a basis of magnanimity and confidence, and that, with the object of carrying out Our policy, you should consult intimately with them. Do not listen to idle rumours or allow yourselves to be influenced by them."

Sōul, July 28.

A telegram from Pyŏng-yang says that the districts along the waters of the Yalu are disturbed. Three Japanese subjects, engaged in felling timber, were attacked and robbed of the lumber, but they escaped safely to Wi-ju. There are said to be 150 Chinese troops in Antung.

Shanghai, July 28.

According to the Chinese journals, the Ka-lao-hui are making disturbances at Nan-ling and Tung-ling in Anhui. The local officials are said to have sent a body of cavalry to quell them. It is further stated that a conflict between the insurgents and the native Christians is imminent at Suh-sung in the same province, and that, the troops immediately available not being sufficient to check the disturbance, the officials are applying for re-inforcements.

According to trustworthy intelligence, Liu Kun-yi, Chan Chih-tung, and others recently addressed a memorial to the Throne, urging that, as a proof of the Government's sincerity, the Foreign Representatives should be safely escorted from Peking and put on board ship for Shanghai.

With regard to the disturbance at Pao-ting, it appears that the number of the Boxers is not large and that they are newly enrolled, but their violence is extreme. They have burned the churches outside the north and south gates, and put every one of the Chinese converts to death, as well as a foreign medical missionary.

Chefoo, July 28.

A letter from the British Minister in Peking dated the 8th of July and received at Tientsin on the 21st instant, says:—"Since the 20th of June we have been surrounded by Chinese troops and continually under fire. We are holding about 40 yards of the south wall between the American Legation and the Tartar city as well as the Russian and British Legations and Prince Shu's residence (this last is guarded by the Japanese). The French German and other Legations are outside our line of defence. The enemy have burned the Customs buildings and are encamped there. They have built parapets which completely environ our lines. They are active but cowardly: They have 4 or 5 Canet guns, and two quick-firers, a 3-inch and a 1-inch. The guns they are chiefly using against us are a 9-pr. and a 13-pr. Our losses up to the present have been 44 killed and about twice as many wounded. We have provisions for about a fortnight longer, but have already been obliged to have recourse to horse-flesh. If the Chinese do not attack us vehemently we can hold out for some days longer—10 days for example,—but if they put real spirit into their assaults, 4 or 5 days will be the limit of our resistance. If a general massacre is to be prevented, not an hour must be lost. Even if the Chinese Government is still in power, it is doing nothing whatever to succour us."

Consul Tei, in Tientsin, received a message from the Japanese Minister in Peking on the 25th instant, saying:—"We are resisting attacks from the Chinese who completely surround us. The majority of the Chinese troops that are attacking us belong to General Tung's force. The Japanese marines and volunteers under Lieut.-Colonel Shiba are working well. A messenger just come from

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Tientsin says that the Fifth Japanese Division will arrive at Peking with the other troops at the end of the month. We can probably hold out until then but it will be no easy matter. Since the day before yesterday (17th July) the Chinese troops have ceased firing, and the officials seem disposed to open negotiations with us. Up to to-day we have had 8 killed and 8 wounded, but the wounds are not serious. There have been many slight hurts."

A Chinese formerly employed in the German Legation in Peking arrived in Tientsin on the 20th and reported that on the 23rd of June he left the German Legation and remained until July 7th in the Chinese city. On the 13th of June the German Minister seized one of the Boxers, and the same night a body of 400 or 500 Boxers entered the Tartar City by the Sung-won gate. The German Minister was killed on the 20th. At the time when this Chinaman left Peking the troops of Tung and Yung Lu with the Boxers were investing the Foreign Legations. They had mounted guns on the wall of the city and bombarded the Legations six times.

Newchwang, July 27.

On the 25th instant the Chinese troops attacked the Russians at Yun-gak-chin, but were beaten back and after retiring into the town, were attacked by the Russians who took the town on the 26th. A force of 200 Russians arrived suddenly from Neu-kia-tong and attacked the Chinese camp outside the south gate of Newchwang. About 120 Chinese resisted for a time and then retreated outside Newchwang After an engagement of 2 hours, the Russians returned to Neu-kia-tong. Each side had some casualties. Newchwang having been imperilled by this fight, the Consuls—including the Russian Consul—lodged an objection with the commanding officer. On the same day 7,000 Chinese attacked 4,000 Russians at Ta-shih-kian, and the fight lasted all day. The Chinese were once driven back, but the issue was doubtful

Tientsin, July 28.

The Viceroy of Chih-li and the Customs Taotai have a large force of troops under the command of General Lü, who has been appointed to succeed General Nieh, who was killed in the fight on the 13th instant. The Tientsin Taotai, the Salt Commissioner and the Governor of Tientsin have retreated to Tsing, and are holding that place with a strong body of troops. The trained army of Tientsin has taken up a position at Peh-tsan, for the purpose of opposing the advance of the Allies, and is fortifying it. The Russian reconnaisance which left Tientsin on the 27th, came into contact with fully 5,000 of these troops at Peh-tsan. It is estimated that about 22,500 Chinese troops are in the neighbourhood of Tientsin.

Tientsin, July 29.

The British Minister in Peking has sent the following letter to the British Consul in Tientsin, dated at Peking on the 21st :—"The Chinese Government is now listening to Sir Robert Hart's advice. A proposal to escort the foreign community to Tientsin has been rejected. Speedy aid is earnestly desired."

Shanghai, July 31.

The officers of the *Tenrin-gaiya Maru* report that 12 additional guns have been mounted on the parapet some miles downstream from Nanking, and that new forts have been built at Kiu-kiang. Also a number of guns have been mounted on the walls of An-king.

General Li has arrived in Peking, according to trustworthy information.

Sôul, July 31.

A report received from Wi-ju puts the number of Chinese troops in Antung at 200. Moreover, Militia-men are quartered in each house. The boats of the Antung Customs are at Taku-shan, with Chinese troops on board. The number of Chinese troops at Ta-tung is 500, and at Taku-shan 5,000.

The following has been placed at our disposal by H.B.M. Chargé d'Affaires in Tokyo :—

Captain Strouts, Student Interpreter David Oliphant, and Student Intereprter E. Warren have been killed in Peking, and Capt. Halliday has been wounded.

Hongkong, Aug. 1.

A transport with 190 Indian troops arrived here from Calcutta and has proceeded north.

Shanghai, Aug. 1.

According to a telegram just received by the *N.-C. Daily News* fifty missionaries have been assassinated in Shansi ; the Christian converts have been subjected to most cruel treatment, and eleven Missionaries have started by Si-an for the coast. This news was despatched from Si-an on the 28th of July.

There are now 19 foreign men-of-war at Shanghai and Woosung. Considerable alarm seems to be felt by the Chinese residents, and many of them have left for the interior.

Kang-chou, Aug. 1.

The Governor of Si an in Kü chow, with his family and nine missionaries, have been assassinated in his yamên, according to accounts received from refugees.

(Received at the Naval Department.)

Tientsin, July 19.

(Here follows a copy of a long despatch addressed by the Viceroy of Chihli to the Emperor and the Empress-Dowager. It retails a long series of victories gained by the Chinese in the fighting around Tientsin, and asks the Throne's approval of a plan formed by the generals for driving the foreign forces out of Tientsin and recapturing the Taku Forts. Their Majesties graciously direct that these measures shall be carried out)

(From Lt.-Col. Yamashita in Tientsin dated July 16.)

The disposition of the allied forces after the capture of Tientsin is as follows :—(Here the Lt.-Colonel inserts a plan, showing that the four quarters of the walled city were placed under the charge of the Japanese, English, Americans, and French, respectively, the Russians and German guarding the forts on the opposite side of the river). On the 15th instant (the day after the fight) it was found that many Chinese soldiers and Boxers were hiding in the houses of the citizens and committing depredations. Efficient steps were taken to restore order, and by the 16th the people began to recover confidence and return to their houses. In almost every house throughout the quarter occupied by the Japanese, the rising-sun flag was shown, and the citizens, old and young, men and women, carried small flags when they went abroad, thus inviting the protection of the Japanese. The spectacle presented by thousands of these flags waving from the houses resembled a great festival in Japan. All that witnessed the sight appreciated the glory won by his Majesty the Emperor of Japan. Many instances have been witnessed of foreign soldiers breaking into the people's houses and plundering. The above incidents have contributed to demonstrate the orderly conduct of the Japanese troops and to win for them hearty approval. The Japanese and English captured a river steamer and a number of junks laden with salt.

July 17.

According to Taotai Shêng's interpretation of a telegram from Governor Yuan, the two Foreign Legations were safe up to the 6th inst. Five of Tung's officers and many of his men having been killed, the others became timid of approaching, and, the foreign guards attacking them at night, killed or wounded more than 100.

According to a messenger who left Peking on the 7th, and arrived at Chi-nan, the Chinese troops had made up their minds to bring a large force of artillery against the Legations. They had ceased to pay any attention to imperial edicts, and the Foreign Ministers, the Emperor, and the Empress-Dowager were in a most precarious situation.

[It will doubtless be observed that these two telegrams reached Tokyo many days ago.—Ed. *J. M.*]

(From Lieut.-General Fukushima, Received at the War Office.)

PEKING.

Tientsin, July 25.

A report received from Lieut.-Col. Shiba in Peking, dated July 22nd, says :—"The Foreign Legations were completely besieged from June 13th, and from the 20th were continually attacked, day and night, by many thousands of Chinese troops. A line joining the Legations was taken as that of defence. (This is obscure). Lieut.-Col. Shiba was put in command of the whole of the Japanese and Italian guards, and with contingents of the Russians, French and Austrians, undertook the defence of Prince Shu's mansion. He is at present holding a small place within the enclosure. The Japanese under arms are 11 marines and 14 volunteers. Each has still 25 rounds of ammunition left. There are provisions for about 6 days more. There are about 15,000 Chinese troops together with some imperial guards. Unless a relieving force comes within a week, I fear that we cannot hold out. Captain Ando, Mr. Kojima, a diplomatic official, and 6 others have been killed, and Mr. Secretary Narabara and 6 others have been severely wounded. Over 30 others have received slight wounds but are all back to duty. Sixty foreigners have been killed."

THE CHINESE CRISIS.

Tientsin, July 25.

Things are quiet in Tientsin. The Russians and Japanese fired on one another by mistake at Pe-tong, but the error was discovered immediately. A Russian reconnaissance found 5000 Chinese troops at Peh-tsang. According to another report from the British and the Russians, the enemy have sunk boats in the Peiho at Peh-tsang. There are no Chinese at Yang-liu-tsing. About 2,000 Boxers are at Tung-tien-tsz, but they need not be feared. At Siau-teng also the enemy are not present. Lieut -Colonel Aoki has recovered sufficiently to resume his duties.

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

Shanghai, July 26.

It is said that Viceroy Chan, apprehending a Boxer outbreak, has asked all the foreigners within his district to withdraw.

Vice-Admiral Seymour has arrived at Shanghai in the *Alacrity*, leaving the *Centurion* at Woosung.

Shanghai, July 30.

The *China Gazette* has a telegram from Chi-nan that Tung's troops accompanied by the Boxers, are moving south to attack Yuan-shih-kai, and that a fight is going on at Tei-chou. Yuan's force is 8,000 strong, and he has lost 3 officers.

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CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 482.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to B 8	1—Moves K's P
2—Q to Q R 7 ch	2—K moves
3—R K R 8 mate	
	1—Moves Kt's P
2—Q to Kt's sq ch	2—K to R 7
3—R to K R 8 mate	

Correct solution received from "W H.S."

PROBLEM No. 484.

By E. C. ST. MAURICE.

First Prize Two-er.

Canadian Chess-Association Tourney.

Black—Five Pieces.

White—Eight Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 608.

Game played at the Brooklyn Chess Club between Messrs. Selover and Howell. Taken with notes from the *Illustrated London News*:—

THE CHARLICK COUNTER GAMBIT.

White—Mr. S.	Black—Mr. H.)
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 4!

This novelty, several times referred to of late, always leads to an interesting game.

3—P takes K P!	3—P to Q 5
4—Kt to K B 3	
4—	4—Kt to Q B 3
5—P to Q R 3	5—B to K Kt 5
6—Q Kt to Q 2	

B to K B 4 seems better now, as the attack on the centre Pawn is sure to come.

6—	6—K Kt to K 2
7—P to Q Kt 4	7—Kt to Kt 3
8—B to Kt 2	8—K Kt takes P
9—P to Kt 5	9—Q to K 2!

Very neat indeed. If P takes Kt there is mate by Kt to Q 6, which might easily be overlooked.

10—Q to B 2	10—B takes Kt
11—Kt P takes B	11—Kt to R 4
12—B takes P	12—Q Kt takes P!

Good again. If Kt takes Kt the reply is Kt takes B P ch, and then Kt takes B. The game should be followed closely from this point.

13—B takes Kt	13—Q takes B
14—R to R 2	14—Kt takes P
15—Q to R 4	15—Q to B 6
16—P to Kt 6 dis ch	16—P to B 3
17—P to K 3	17—B to Kt 5
18—B to Kt 2	18—Castles (K R)
19—Castles	19—P takes P
20—Q to Kt 3	20—Kt to Kt 4
21—R to Kt 2	21—Q takes Q
22—Kt takes Q	22—B to B 6
23—R to B 2	23—R to R 6
24—R to Kt sq	24—R to Q sq
25—B to B	25—B to B 3
26—B takes Kt	26—P takes B
27—R to B 7	27—R to Kt sq
28—Kt to Q 2	28—B to B 6
29—Kt to K 4	29—P to Kt 5
30—R to Q	

White played for the catch R takes P, and if R takes R, there is a mate. White is met in masterly fashion at every point, and the game is finely played all through by the winner.

30—	30—P to B 4
31—Kt to Q 6	31—R to R 8
32—R takes R	32—B takes R
33—Kt takes B P	33—P to Kt 6
34—Kt to K 7 ch	34—K to B sq
35—Kt to Q 5	35—R to Q sq
36—P to K 4	36—R takes Kt
37—P takes R	37—P to Kt 7

White resigns.

GAME No. 609.

PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

White—Pillsbury. Black—Marshall.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	16 K Kt3	QxB
2 Kt KB3	Kt KB3	17 KxB	R K7
3 P Q4	P Q4	18 K k3	Kt Q2
4 KPxP	PxP	19 R Bsq	P KR4
5 B B4	B Kt5ch	20 Q B2	Kt B4
6 P B3	Q K2ch	21 P Kt3	P KKt4
7 B K2	PxP	22 P Kt4	RxKt
8 PxP	B QB4	23 QxQ	RxQ
9 Castles	Castles	24 R B3	P B4
10 P B4	R Ksq	25 K K12	BPxP
11 B Q3	B KKt5	26 KtxP	R Q7ch
12 B Kt2	Kt K5	27 K Kt3	RxB
13 QKt Q2	KtxP	28 P KR3	R KBsq
14 RxKt	BxRch	29 PxP	KR B7
15 KxB	Q K6ch	30 Resigns	

13—Q Kt to Q 2 is the losing move. 13- Kt to B 3 leaves White a good game, and the sacrifice is impossible since the B at Q 3 remains defended by the Queen. The moves following Black's 13.....Kt takes P are forced, and White could no longer save the game. 21—B to Q4 has been tried afterwards; but Black wins with 21.....R takes Kt. How thoroughly Marshall grasped the situation is shown by the fact that he preferred, at his eighteenth move, the sounder and speedier continuation of Kt to Q 2 to the tempting move of P to K R 4 which would have won the Queen.

Referring to the above, the Paris correspondent of the *Westminster Budget* says:—

Paris, June 8.

Yesterday was a field day. When the envelope containing the drawing of the eleventh round was opened two important pairs were disclosed—Tchigorin v. Janowsky and Pillsbury v. Marshall. I have never met a young player who has so much confidence in himself as Marshall. He wanted to back himself to draw with Pillsbury, the latter having the first move, and to beat him in replaying the draw, he having the first move. He did better, however, and beat Pillsbury, as will be seen from the game above. There was intense excitement in the rooms after Pillsbury's resignation. Chess-playing members streamed into the arena, shaking hands and complimenting the young American. Some of them who did not know Marshall by sight shook hands effusively with Pillsbury.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Weimar 1	Sa. Aug. 4
America	P M Co.	Rio de Janeiro 2	Tu. Aug. 7
Hongkong...	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons 3	W. Aug 8
Hongkong..... ...	P. M. Co.	China	Th. Aug 9
Hongkong..... ...	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. Aug. 13
Canada, &c.....	C P. R. Co.	Em of India	M. Aug. 13
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 4	Tu. Aug 14
Hongkong..... .	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Aug 16
Hongkong.	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. Aug 16
America . .	T K K	America Maru	W. Aug. 22
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. Aug. 25

1 Left Nagasaki on the 1st inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 19th ult.
3 Left Shanghai on the 3rd inst.
4 Left an Francisco on the 26th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong..	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Aug. 8
Hongkong..... ..	P M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. Aug. 8
Hongkong..... ..	N. D Lloyd	Weima	Sa. Aug. 11
America	P M Co.	China	Sa. Aug. 11
Hongkong.....	C P R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Aug. 13
Hongkong.....	O. & O Co.	Coptic	W. Aug 15
Europe, via S'hai	M M Co.	Ernest Simons	F. Aug. 17
Canada, &c.	C P R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Aug. 17
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Aug 18
Hkongong.....	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Aug. 23
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Aug. 28

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Richmond Castle, British steamer, 2,297, R. Clancharty, 27th July,—New York via ports, and Shanghai, 22nd July, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 27th July,—Yokkaichi, 26th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Eva, German steamer, 2,083, C. Peterson, 28th July,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 20th July, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Sumitomoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 28th July,—Yokkaichi, 27th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 28th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 10th July, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 29th July,—Otaru via ports, 23rd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 29th July,—Kobe, 27th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 29th July,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 28th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kiaodstan, British steamer, 1,929, Todd, 29th July,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 27th July, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, S. Kawamuro, 30th July,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 28th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobi, German Transport, 4,666, Langreuter, 30th July,—Taku.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,181, E. W. Haswell, 30th July,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe, 29th July Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Kamoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 30th July,—Otaru via ports, 25th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J. McKenzie, 30th July,—Yokosuka, 30th July, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 30th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 29th July, Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Arethusa (10), British cruiser, 4,300, Capt. James Startin, 30th July,—Esquimalt, B.C.

Sumimoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Yamamoto, 31st July,—Yokkaichi, 30th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,856, W Thompsen, 31st July,—London via ports, and Kobe, 31st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, German steamer, 3,038, Hansen, 1st Aug.,—New York via ports, and Shanghai, 27th July, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Sumiuoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 1st Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 31st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Honma, 2nd Aug.,—Hakodate, 30th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rhipeus, Dutch steamer, 1,958, C. E. Day, 2nd Aug.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 1st Aug., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,992, T. Peters, 2nd Aug.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 1st Aug., General—Butterfield & Swire.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, R. G. Lowden, 2nd Aug.,—Hongkong via Guam, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,201, H. Takeda, 2nd Aug.,—Kobe, 31st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J. McKenzie, 27th July.—Yokosuka, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Gen. A. Lee, 27th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Holsatia, German steamer, 2,361, Bahler, 27th July,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Koenig Albert, German steamer, 6,590, O. Cueppers, 28th July,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,950, W. A. Evans, 28th July,—Moji via Kobe, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 28th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,881, J. B. McMillan, 28th July,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 28th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shiganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Y, Mura, 28th July,—Hakodate via Ogmohama, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, H. Takeda, 28th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,933, A. W. S. Thomson, 29th July,—Moji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Moyune, British steamer, 3,016, R. Conradi, 29th July,—Hankow via Woosung, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Tientsin, British steamer, 1,250, F C. Armistead, 29th July,—Kobe, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sumimoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 29th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Erzherzog Franz Ferdinand Austrian steamer, 3,860, G. Morovich, 29th July,—Trieste via ports, General.—Browne & Co.

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Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 30th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yasumoto, 30th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strombus, British tank steamer, 3,928, Hocken, 31st July,—Nagasaki via Kobe, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Clan Mackenzie, British ship, 1,509, P. MacMahon, 1st Aug.,—Port Townsend, Ballast.—T. M. Lafin.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 1st Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 1st Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Arethusa (10), British cruiser, 4,300, Captain James Startin, 1st Aug.,—Shangha..

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 1st Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kurdistan, British steamer, 1,929, Todd, 2nd Aug.,—Otaru, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Bianca, British steamer, 3,793, G. W. Babot, 2nd Aug.,—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 2nd Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S. Kawamuro, 2nd Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. E. S. Alfred, Mrs. C. E. Alfred, Rev. J. G. Cleveland, Mrs. J. G. Cleveland and 4 children, Mr. A. Dutilleul, Mr. A. Witzig, Mrs. N. J. Fowler, Mr. Sampei Hirano, Mr. N. Inuzuka, Mr. T. Nose, Mr. Van Osten, Mrs. J. A. Van Osten, Mr. K. Watanabe, Mr. Kashiwabara, Mr. Sun Cheong, Dr. J. D. Jones, Mr. J. C. Brown, and Mr. J. J. Shute, in cabin. In Transit.—Capt. L. Hintze, Miss Mary E. Woods, Nav. Cadet. R. A. Abernethy, Nav. Cadet. C. L. Arnold, Surgeon A. R. Alfred, Mrs. J. M. Burroughs, Ensign J. T. Babcock, Lieut. C. B. Brittain, Lieut. W. H. G. Bullard, Nav. Cadet. F. D. Berrian, Nav. Cadet. B. T. Bulmer, Lieut. R. K. Crante, Lieut. Com. J. C. Colwell, Engineer W. P. Cronan, Nav. Cadet. J. H. Comfort, Nav. Cadet. H. Ellis, Nav. Cadet C. S. Freeman, Lieut. Com. J. C. Tremont, Com. C. T. Forse, Lieut.-Com. R. H. Gratt, Lieut. W. A. Gill, Com. Perry Garst, Ensign D. C. Haurahan, Miss L. R. Hart, Lieut. H. M. P. Huse, Lieut. R. D. Hasbrouck, Lieut.-Com. W. F. Halsey, Nav. Cadet. J. F. Hellwig, Nav. Cadet. W. N. Jeffery, Mrs. T. T. Jackson, Lieut. J. J. Knapp, Mr. A. S. Mihara, Nav. Cadet. R. T. Menner, Com. J. S. Ogden, Lieut. H. B. Price, Lieut. T. W. Ryan Nav. Cadet. G. W. Steele, Nav. Constr. T. F. Ruhm, Mrs. H. Rodriguez, Mrs. M. C. Raysor, Mr. Fing Shoa Kee, Lieut. C. S. Stanworsh, Nav. Cadet. C. R. Tram, Nav. Cadet. W. V. Tomb, Lieut. R. H. Townley, Mr. J. S. Van Buren, Nav. Cadet. E. E. Wright, and Nav. Cadet. S. Woods, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Wilkinson, Miss Mitchell, Miss Slade, Mr. and Mrs. Justice Power, Mr. E. A. Douglas, Mrs. Ah Sam, and Mr. A. H. King, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, from Melbourne via ports.—Mr. E. L. Vail, Mr. L. Vail, Mr. and Mrs. Rippingille, Mr. Webber, Lieut.-Col B. Cruther, Mr. and Miss Dierck, Mr. L. Vail, Mr. and Mrs. Butter, Lieut.-Col. Southland Mr. Dierck, and Mr. O. Takahashi, in cabin; Mr. W. Bailey, Mr. Jensen, Mrs. M. Kuwahara, Mr. R. Honjo, Mr. S. Kawasaki, Mr. J. Tanaka, Mr. Y. Tanaka, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Hitaka, Mr. J. Kernan, Mr. Bryden, Mr. S. Tsurumi, in second class, 32 Japanese, 4 Europeans, and 1 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong via ports.—Mr. Y. Tanuma, Mr. A. L. Shier and family, Mr. E. Cellener and servant, Mrs. Gulland, Dr. De Vol and wife, Mrs. Mills, Mrs. Decker, Miss Decker, Rev. G. E. Albrecht, Rev. W. A. Main and family, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Eckley, Mr. Lo Nai Cheong, Mr. Lou King San, Mr. T. Richard, Mr. J. Whiteside, Mr. A. H. Heath, Mrs. A. B. Hoff, Miss Cooley, Mr. J. Briggs, Mr. H. P. Hoit, Mrs. Wilson, and Dr. H. Welpton, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Miss Blanche Simon, Miss Ross Seligson, Mr. C. H. Denman and family, Mrs. M. S. Putnam, Com. A. P. Nazio, U.S.N., Mrs. L. Destler, Mrs. McCleur and 3 children, Mrs. B. S. McAllister, Mr. D. W. Malcolm and family, His Ex. Bootowsk, Mr. G. Yamasaka, Miss Taylor, Mrs. Partch and infant, Mr H. Glade, Mr. S. H. Perkins, Mrs. M. J. Stratford, Lieut. J. Putnam, U.S.N., Mr. J. W. Barnes, Mr. B. Howard, Mrs. Fitzgibbon and child, Mr. Leslie and Wife, Mr. Semenoff, Mr. Kister, Mr. R. W. Bender, Miss Forster, and Dr. J. E. Skinner and family, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sado Maru*, from London via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Funamoto, Mr. Kato, and Miss Oima Kato, in cabin; 20 Japanese, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, C.B.—Mrs. C. P. Adams, Mr. M. P. Andrews, Mrs. Andrews and child, Mr. J. Auchterlonie, Mr. Baddeley, Miss Barber, Dr. J. L. Brander, Miss Burdick, Countess von Bulter, Miss Buzzell Mr. Ugo Cahen, Mrs. Ugo Cahen, Mr. Pole Carew, Mr. T. E. Cheessman, Mr. M. Christoferson, Com. H. Clarke, R.N., Mr. R. H. Comey, Mr. R. H. Comey, Dr. Cochrane, Mrs. Cochrane and 3 children, Mrs. Cummings, child and nurse, Miss Cutler and maid, Mr. J. Craig, Mr. T. G. Davis, Miss Davidson, Mr. John Endicott, R.N., Mr. F. P. Evans, Rev. G. H. Ewing, Mrs. G. H. Ewing and child, Miss Helen Ewing, Master Raymond Ewing, Mr. G. Fitch, Miss A. Fitch, Mr. F. E. Fletcher, Mr. A. B. Fontaine, Mrs. A. B. Fontaine, Mr. Furlonge, Mrs. Furlonge, Viscount K. Fujinami, Mr. S. Fujita, Miss Gates, Rev. J. M. Graham, Mrs. J. M. Graham and child, Mr. E. A. Griffiths, Mr. S. Hiramatsu, Miss C. E. Hawes, Mr. A. J. Howe, Miss M. Horner, Mr. T. J. Hudson, Mrs. T. J. Hudson and child, Miss E. Jones, Miss King, Mr. Y. Kinoshita, Miss A. Kirkland, Mr. A. Lazard, Dr. D. Landesborongh, Mr. Jonathan Lees, Mrs. Jonathan Lees, Mr. R. Lomax, Capt. Ritter von Lommer, Dr. Daisy Melin, Mr. S. Matsumoto, Mrs. Meakin, Miss Meakin, Rev. Meech, Mrs. Meech, Miss Meech, Miss Meech, Mr. A. J. Gazar de la Meuse, Master McMichae, Rev. C. N. Moody, Mr. John Naismith, Mr. T. Nagura, Mr. K. Nanjo, Mr. S. Niyama, Mr. Nuttall, Mrs. Nuttall, Miss Pandrab, Mr. H. A. Ramsden, Mrs. H. A. Ramsden, Miss Rhind, Mrs. Seymour and maid, Miss Seymour and maid, Miss B. Scott, Miss M. Scott, Mr. H. Sillem, Mrs. Sillem, Mr. G. Sierich, Miss A. Simpson, Miss Sopper, Mr. F. R. Southern, Mr. A. W. Stewart, Mr. R. J. Stephens, Miss Terry, Mr. J. P. Watson, Mr. Meiss, Mr. T. Wilson, Mr. Brewster Wood, Miss Wood, Mr. L. Wolfe, Mrs. L. Wolfe, Mr. A. F. Woodhead, and Mrs. A. F. Woodhead, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Koenig Albert*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Voigt, Miss Voss, Mrs. Susemichl, Mr. and Mrs. Laxton, Mr. Lefroy and servant, Mr. J. R. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. H. Klingen, Mr. J. E. Kern, Mr. A. D. Jerauld, Mr. H. T. Paul, Mr. R. Forshaw, Mr. E. Cambefort, Mr. Th. Runge, Mr. F. G. Bardens, Mr. F. Muhlhausen, Mr. R. Schmidt Scharff, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. J. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Longuet, Mr. K. Nakagawa, Berginspector Korfer, Mrs. Tenner, Mr. C. Brandt, Dr. and Mrs. W. Berthold, Bergassessor G. Cremer, Mr. J. Boshard, Mr. T. Niwa, Mr. F. Kiode, Mr. K. Kihara, Mr. A. B. Clifford, Mrs. J. C. Forbes, and Mr. Wone Choi, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakasa Maru* for London via ports. Mr. K. Tsutsuki, Mrs. Matsukata, Mr. K. Iwasaki, Mr. T. Iwasaki, Mr. M. Hayashi, Com. K. Iwamoto, Consul and Mrs. Hisamidzu and child, Mrs. Andrews, 2 children and nurse, Mrs. Ito Sasaki Mr. Y. Takanashi, Mr. T. Miyabara, and Mr. I Nakagawa, in cabin; Mr. S. Takenouchi, Miss Itsu Yamada, Mr. S. Tsuruda, Mr. J. Mori, Mr. K. Suzuki, Mr. S. Kaminari, Mr. I. Sakakibara, Mr. N. Oba, Mr. K. Uyeda, and Mr. S. Koyama, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. R. A. Abernethy, U.S.N.C., Surgeon A. B. Alfred, U.S.N., Mr. C. L. Arnold, U.S.N.C., Mr. T. Asano, Mrs. A. E. Ashton, Eng. J. T. Babcock, U.S.N., Mr. F. D. Barrien, U.S.N.C., Lt. C. B. Brittain, U.S.N., Mr. L. W. H. G. Bullard, Mr. B. T. Bulmer, U.S.N.C., Mr. J. S. Van Buren, Mrs. J. M. Burroughs, Lt.-Com. J. C. Colwell, U.S.N., Mr. J. H. Comfort, U.S.N.C., Lt. Robert K. Crank, U.S.N., Ensign W. P. Cronan, U.S.N., Mr H. Ellis, U.S.N.C., Com. C. T. Forse, U.S.N., Mr. C. S. Freeman, U.C.N.C., Lt.-Com. J. C. Freemont, U.S.N., Com. Roger H. Galt, U.S.N., Com. Perry Garst, U.S.N., Lt. Wm. A. Gill, U.S.N., Ensign D. C. Haurahan, U.S.N., Miss L. B. Hart, Lt. R. D. Hasbronck, U.S.N., Lt.-Com. W. F. Halsey, U.S.N., Mr. J. T. Helwig, U.S.N.C., Capt. L. Hintze, U.S.N., Miss Gladys Howard, Mr. Y. Hodzumi, Lt. Marry M. P. Huse, U.S.N., Mrs. T. T. Jackson, Mr. Wm. Jeffers, U.S.N., Mr. Ting Shao Kee, Lt. J. J. Knapp, U.S.N., Dr. C. D. Lloyd, U.S.A., Mr. H. Maxwell. Mr. R. T. Menner, U.S.N.C., Com. J. S. Ogden, U.S.N., Major Geo. H. Penrose, U.S.N., Lt. H. B. Price, U.S.N., Mrs. M. C. Raysor, Mrs. H. Rodriguez, Mr. T. F. Rham, U.S.N.C., Lt. T. W. Ryan, U.S.N., Mr. F. S. Sale, Mr. J. A. G. Shipley, Lt. Chas. S. Stanworth, U.S.N., Mr G. W. Steel, U.S.N.C., Mr. W. V. Tomb, U.S.N.C., Mr. R. H. Townley, Mr. C. C. Train, U.S.N.C., Mr. S. Woods, U.S.N.C., Miss Mary E. Woods, and Mr. L. E. Wright, U.S.N.C., in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Following were silk shippers per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco, July 25:—

	Bales.
Otto Reimers & Co.	15

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The import trade is still characterised by almost complete stagnation in every department

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirting—8⅓lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.30 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	2.80 to 5.00
	PER YARD
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.21 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y.0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.20 to 11.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ...	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	Y.170.00 to 175.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	170.00 to 190.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	270.00 to 275.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	335.00 to 345.00
Nos. 2, 100, Plain	440.00 to 450.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	340.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	400.00 to 415.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	520.00 to 530.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	23 *yen*
Indian Broach	22
Chinese	22.50

METALS.

Market still quiet and no sales reported.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward ...	Y.6.00 to 6.50
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 7.00
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.50 to 14.00
Wire Nails, assorted	8.00 to 8.50
Tin Plates, per box	8.20 to 8.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1¼ inch)	7.00 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

Market firm.

American	$2.80
Russian	2.75
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

A good demand for refined at slightly better prices.

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	Y 5.20 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.60 to 6.90
Brown Daitong	4.20 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined	7.90 to 9.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A good deal of business as the market declines. Holders are less inclined to go on at the reduction, but it looks as if *force majeure* would compel them to keep current.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine		
Filatures—Extra, Coarse...		
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	Y.980	Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse...	870 to	880
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine...	920 to	930
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	850 to	860
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	890 to	900
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse...	830 to	840
Common—Coarse		
Re-reels—Extra	870 to	880
Re-reels—No. 1	860 to	865
Re-reels—No 1½	840 to	850
Re-reels—No. 2	820 to	830
Re reels—No. 3		
Kakedas—Extra		
Kakedas—No. 1	870 to	880
Kakedas—No. 1½	840 to	850
Kakedas—No. 2	810 to	820
Kakedas—No. 2½	780 to	790

WASTE SILK.

The market has been opened by some purchases of good filature Kibiso at 110 *yen*, but there is not much demand at present, buyers in Europe waiting for still lower prices.

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QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	
Noshi—Filatures, Good	
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	

TEA.

Buying continues freely. The quality is rather inferior, but supplies are equal to demand.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	39 & upwards
Choice	37 to 38
Finest	35 to 36
Fine	33 to 34
Good Medium	31 to 32
Medium	29 to 30
Good Common	27 to 28
Common	25 to 26

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, August 2.

Rates keep steady with silver from London $\frac{1}{16}$ lower and no change in China sterling quotations.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0$\frac{5}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{5}{8}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{7}{8}$
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255
— Private 4 months' sight	261
— — 6 months' sight	262½
America—Bank sight	49$\frac{7}{8}$
— Private 4 months' sight	50¾@1
Germany—Bank sight	207
— Private 4 months' sight	213
Hongkong—Bank sight	* 1% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	* 3% dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 72
— Private 10 days' sight	* 74
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	28$\frac{7}{16}$

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 2.

Engine and Iron Works are obtainable at *yen* 220 cum dividend. Grand Hotels—A few shares can be placed at *yen* 230. Club Hotels—a few shares can possibly be placed at *yen* 80. Oriental Hotels—Offers for old shares are wanted. Langfeldts—Offers for shares are wanted. Helms are obtainable at par. Laundries have sellers at par. Breweries can be had at *yen* 150.

Y. U. Club debentures can be had at *yen* 108

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	220 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 E.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 N.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd ¥100	150 Sa
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 B
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 B
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	100 S
Helm Bros., ¥50	50 S
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	108 Sa
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	108 Sa
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	101 Sa
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	108 Sa
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	40 Sa
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12 50	500 N

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, August 2.

Grand Hotels changed hands at *yen* 230. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 220. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Offers are wanted for Oriental Hotel shares. Langfeldts have sellers at par. Bretts have buyers at *yen* 9.25.

Y. U. Club debentures changed hands at *yen* 107. Bretts & Co. debentures are obtainable at par.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works	220 Sellers.
Grand Hotel	230 Sales.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co	100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	155 Sales.

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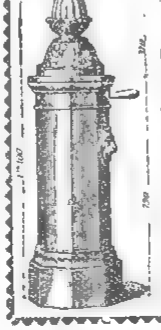

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RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.30, 8.55, 9.35, 10.05, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1 30, 2, 2.36, 3.10, 3.55, 4.33, 5.15, 5.33, 6.20, 7.21, 8, 9.13, 10, 10.50, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—4.50, 5.45, 6.50, 7.55, 8.30, 8.45, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25 a.m.; 12, 1.10, 1 40, 2.25, 3, 3.25, 4, 4.35, 5.10, 5.25, 6.30, 7, 7.35, 8.20, 9.20, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.

UYENO AND KARUIZAWA

Leave		Arrive	
Uyeno	6.00 a.m.	Karuizawa	12.05 p.m.
Uyeno	8.30 a.m.	Karuizawa	3.05 p.m.
Uyeno	12.00 p.m.	Karuizawa	6.05 p.m.
Uyeno	1.40 p.m.	Karuizawa	9.05 p.m.
Karuizawa	6.20 a.m.	Uyeno	1 00 p.m.
Karuizawa	9.20 a.m.	Uyeno	3.45 p.m.
Karuizawa	12.20 p.m.	Uyeno	7.00 p.m.
Karuizawa	3.20 p.m.	Uyeno	9.35 p.m.

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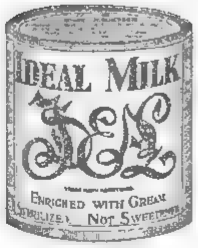

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA."

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 11TH, 1900.

BIRTHS.

On the 4th inst. at 1,400, Nakamura, Yokohama, the wife of E. W. RAY of a Daughter.

At No. 157-B, Bluff, the wife of AUG. EHLERS, Shanghai, of a son.

DEATH.

On Wednesday morning at 6 o'clock, Mrs. EMILE MEIER, née Zappe.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

KING HUMBERT was buried on the 9th inst.

THE Boers are surrendering in large numbers.

THE Allies have set out on their advance to Peking. The Legations are holding out bravely.

MR. KURINO, Japanese Minister to France, is about to return to Japan on leave. He will travel via America.

PRINCES Kanin, Iwakura, and their suite will arrive from Europe at the end of this month or early in September.

A SECTION of the Government Railway Teshio line from Wasamu, ten miles in length, was opened on the 5th inst.

THE Japanese first-class cruiser *Yakumo* arrived at Colombo on the 6th inst., and is expected to reach Japan on or about 22nd inst.

PLAGUE is spreading in Australia. Cases are recorded at Brisbane, Rockhampton, Adelaide, Perth, Sydney, Cairns, Townsville and Melbourne.

THE *soshi* actor Kawakami Otojiro is said to have played before the Prince of Wales on the 27th June. His Royal Highness afterwards received the fortunate mime, and presented him with £200.

A COLLISION occurred on the Hoshu Railway on the 4th inst. at Gotoji, Fukuoka. Five passengers cars were overturned and one passenger was slightly injured.

PEDRO PATERNO, late President of the Filipino Congress, who has been imprisoned for a long time in Manila, has been released on taking the oath of allegiance.

SEVENTY-SIX Chinese students belonging to the Saisei Gakko, with seven teachers, left Tokyo on the 28th ult. for Katase. They will stay there three weeks to learn swimming.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Suwato Maru* arrived at Kobe on the 7th inst. from Ujina, and entered Kawasaki Dockyard for repairs. The work on her will occupy about three weeks.

A TELEGRAM from Taipeh, Formosa, dated 4th inst., says that 300 prisoners recently attempted to escape from Tainan jail. They were prevented, and several were wounded in the struggle.

MR. JOHNSON of Ohio, U.S.A., employée of the Experimental Farm of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, recently returned from America, and has presented some curious Hawaiian plants to the Household Department.

MR. OSHIMA JIRO, Manager of the Taipeh Branch Office of the Yokohama-Formosan Trading Company, and staff left for Japan by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Taichu Maru* on the 5th inst., the branch being now closed.

THE *Nagasaki Press* is informed that it is the intention of the Russian Volunteer Fleet authorities to run their steamships *Nyni Novgorod* and *Tamboo* as regular mail boats between Nagasaki, Port Arthur, and Vladivostock in the near future.

THE water polo match between the young men of the Kwazoku and officers of the Household Department took place at the Hama Detached Palace on the 5th inst. The players numbered 350. Mr. Kataoka, Chamberlain, presented each of the winners with a handkerchief.

THE Russian chartered steamer *Linda*, with 17 sick men, arrived at Nagasaki on the 2nd inst from Port Arthur. The same steamer's crew said that they had passed a Russian transport with over one thousand troops for Shankai-kwan. There are now 16,000 troops stationed at Port Arthur.

THE Meiji Shorei-kai, Yokohama, of which Mr Otani Kahei is the president, have sent a message of condolence to the wounded in the German Hospital, with a present of a box of new tea. Similar courtesies have been extended to the Foreign and Japanese wounded at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

THE *China Mail* of July 24 has an elaborate story of a recent visit to the waters of the Colony of Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the well-known Chinese "reformer"; but closes the article by wondering where Sun now may be. At present this gentleman is staying in Yokohama, where he has been domiciled for some time.

WE learn from recent American exchanges that the Rev. A. A. Bennett and the Rev. J. L. Dearing, both of the Baptist Theological Seminary, Yokohama, have received the degree of *D.D.* from their Universities, the former from Brown Univ., Providence, R.I., and the latter from Colby Univ., Waterville, Me.

THE *Haverhill Evening Gazette* of July 7, contains news of the sudden death of the Mr. W. T. Carleton, whom many will remember as a resident of Tokyo and Yokohama. Mr. Carleton, who was born in 1867, came to Japan in 1897 as the agent of the Western Electric Company of New York, and he returned to his native country on June 30th of this year. Death was due to shock following an operation for appendicitis. He leaves a widow and one little son.

A TOBACCO dealer named Kato Tomekichi, living at Shimo Akazuka Shinmachi, Toyotamagori, near Tokyo, has lost, or been robbed of, 113 10-*yen* notes and 20 5-*yen* notes which he was carrying in a bag, between Kawagoye and Iidamachi Station, on the 4th inst. He is supposed to have been the victim of a pick pocket.

A JAPANESE sailor, while under the influence of drink, shot himself with a revolver on Iseyama, Yokohama, about half-past three o'clock on Thursday afternoon. An empty brandy bottle was found near the body, but there were no other means of identifying the man. The corpse was taken to the city office, and afterwards buried, pending inquiries.

ANOTHER small party of English military officers arrived in Shanghai on July 19, after an adventurous journey overland from Burmah, accompanied by a number of Sepoy followers. They are Surg. Major Manifold, Captains Davies and Ryder. They were six months on the journey and are now on their way to the front to take part in the operations in North China.

THE Bishop of Kyoto, who was of the class of '80 at Yale, has been visiting in New Haven, where he is remembered as Sidney Partridge. His brother, William Ordway Partridge, the sculptor of note, designed the Shakespeare statue in Lincoln park, Chicago. The bishop arrived in New York on commencement morning, just in time to join his class at Yale.

THE British War Office issued on July 9th another casualty list from South Africa, showing that during the week ending July 7 there were killed, wounded or captured 15 officers and 180 men; accidental deaths, 2 men; died of disease, 4 officers and 149 men; invalided home, 72 officers and 1,306 men. The total casualties as a result of the war were 48,188 officers and men.

THE *Kawabiraki*, or opening of the Sumida River, took place on Saturday evening with the usual festivities. There were thousands of boats with illuminated lanterns in the stretch of river near the Ryogoku-bashi, and fireworks were let off from floating platforms. A good many firms, with an eye to the main chance, made use of the occasion to display illuminated advertisements of their wares, cigarettes and liquors for the most part, while the sharping inn-keepers on the river banks must have made a small fortune out of the enormous prices charged to sight-seers.

Two Japanese, named Kawayanagi and Kogatana were drinking together in a house in Tomachi, Nagasaki. The conversation drifted to the present trouble in China, and aided by *saké*, both men waxed indignant over the outrages being committed by the Chinese. Kawayanagi came to the conclusion, says the *Nagasaki Press*, that it was the duty of every able-bodied resident of Japanese to immediately volunteer his services for China. This last burst of eloquence caused Kogatana to draw a huge revolver from the sleeve of his dress. Waving the weapon above his head, he exclaimed that he would be the first to volunteer and that with his revolver he would kill every Chinese in China. At this juncture the weapon was accidentally discharged, and the ball passed through the cheek of Kawayanagi. Kogatana quietly slipped away from Nagasaki to avoid arrest and Kawayanagi is in hospital.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

PEKING AND THE ADVANCE.

Saturday, Aug. 4.

It is now alleged that four of the Peking Legations have escaped destruction, namely, the English, the American, the German, and the Russian. That is very probable in part. The Russian and the American Legations face each other directly at opposite sides of the street, and from the despatches of Sir Claude MacDonald it would appear that connections have been preserved between them and the British Legation. The German Legation, however, lies directly opposite the Legations of Spain and Japan, and if the two latter have been destroyed, it is difficult to understand how the former can have escaped.

According to some accounts the column for the attack of Peking consists of

British	2,300
American	1,600
Austrian	58
Italian	53
Japanese	12,000
Russian	4,500
Total	20,511

These numbers are, of course, independent of the troops for guarding the lines of communication. Our calculation has always been that the advance might be undertaken with a column twenty thousand strong, inasmuch as fresh troops will be constantly arriving to fill up casualties and to guard the lengthening line of communications. We had hoped, however, that the force would be less mixed. Six nationalities in a body of only 20,500 men can not be called an ideal organization.

All kinds of rumours are circulated about squabbles among the commanding officers at the front. That is inevitable—we mean the rumours, not the squabbles. There have generally been differences of opinion even in a homogenous force of one nationality. The point is that in such a force little is heard by the outside public about varying views since all are ultimately merged in the authority of the commander-in-chief, whereas any divergence of programme among officers commanding forces such as those that compose the North-China relief-column is at once bruited abroad. Nothing is less likely, however, than that any serious differences will occur in the field—that is to say, differences capable of interrupting the military operations. As to the talk of some Powers' being reluctant to enter Peking, of the English Generals being unwilling to advance and so on, we have only to observe that it emanates from Shanghai.

Mr. Ogawa, special correspondent of the Tokyo *Asahi* in Tientsin, telegraphs that news from Peking dated the 23rd of July and received in Tientsin on the 27th, represents the Japanese and French Legations as having been burned, and says that, apart from casualties among the guards, the foreigners in the city have suffered little The message also says that only a small body of Tung's troops and a few Boxers are now in the city. The chief of the Boxers, Chang, has been in Tung-chow since the capture of Tientsin by the Allies. In Tsai-yi-cheng there are 1,500 infantry and 500 cavalry, and in Yang-tsun, 15,000 of all arms. Elsewhere, according to this message, there are no imperial troops prepared to resist the advance of the Allies.

The press has exhibited some impatience with regard to the movements of the allied forces. Gentlemen sitting in editorial offices have been ready to conclude that the relief column should have commenced its advance towards Peking several days ago. Similar impatience has been shown again and again with regard to the proceedings of British generals in South Africa. One would imagine that the editor of a newspaper had some omniscient faculty of knowing all men's business much better than they know it themselves. One thing is certain, namely, that every responsible officer in the allied forces at Tientsin has been working day and night to expedite the advance. It has been no picnic for these men. In sweltering heat and amid all sorts of difficulties they have been toiling without rest to succour their countrymen and countrywomen in Peking, and it is not only a cruel injustice but also a deliberate insult to them to suspect that they have been indolent or perfunctory. If the advance to Peking is commenced during the first week in August, it will be one of the smartest pieces of soldiering on record. Let us not forget that barely six weeks have elapsed since the idea that such an expedition might be necessary was first entertained. Had not Japan and Russia been comparatively near at hand, and had not England, despite her pre-occupation in South Africa, been remarkably competent from a military and naval point of view, the relief of Peking would still be months distant. It is by Russia, England and Japan that the situation has been saved. The world should remember that. Russia, above all, may claim the credit of having saved Tientsin. We do not see how the place could possibly have escaped destruction had not Russia's troops been despatched with admirable celerity from Port Arthur, and had they not fought with tenacious courage of a high order. There is no room for criticism in a military sense, so far as we can see. On the contrary, a situation of immense danger has been ably and promptly dealt with, and instead of having to mourn an appalling massacre of our countrymen and countrywomen in Tientsin, we have the satisfaction of knowing that they escaped almost without injury. The occupation of Port Arthur may have been, probably was, one of the determining causes of this outbreak, but the possession of the place by Russia has proved of incalculable value to foreigners at a serious crisis.

The Peking expedition, on the other hand, seems likely to stand to Japan's credit. The Japanese have won much praise throughout this campaign. Their fine bravery and the admirable quality of the officers have long been recognised, but it would really have been too much for the most sanguine to expect that they should distinguish themselves so conspicuously in a competitive campaign with the forces of Europe and America. However, the time to speak of these things has not fully come, and will not come until the advance to Peking has been completed. But what we may confidently say is that had not Japan taken the field, the move towards Peking could not have been commenced for weeks to come, and it is more than doubtful whether Tientsin would not be still in the hands of the Chinese. Russia saved the foreign community of Tientsin and Japan will save that of Peking.

DYSENTERY AT TIENTSIN.

It is reported that there are 412 cases of dysentery in Tientsin, and that the majority of them are Japanese. Tientsin must be a trying place for troops at present. It is all but intolerable in mid-summer for foreigners even when they are surrounded by provisions for mitigating the great heat. What then must it be for soldiers who have to be content with quarters that a foreign resident would not dream of inhabiting, who have no appliances for lessening the effects of the heat, and who are without even an adequate supply of pure water? Fancy trying to sleep without mosquito nets in such a place! And to all these discomforts has to be added the fact that hundreds of decaying corpses render the air pestilential.

The *Kagoshima Maru* and the *Ikai Maru* passed Bakan on the 1st instant *en route* for Ujina. They had on board a quantity of sycee taken at Tientsin and 40 wounded men. According to the statements of their officers, there remained in Tientsin 200 wounded men who were to be brought back to Japan before the advance to Peking commenced.

It is stated that the transport coolies engaged in Japan for the British and German forces in North China are to be obtained through the emigration societies. If these men are employed as "military carriers (*gumbu*) their pay must be a *yen* and a half daily and arrangements have to be made for payments to their families in the event of death. That is the law. To observe it where Foreign Powers are the employers is evidently difficult, and the alternative is to drop the term "military carrier" and place the matter on the basis of emigration.

The *Chugai Shogyo* publishes intelligence from Shanghai to the effect that so soon as the news of the fall of Tientsin reached Peking, the greater part of the Boxers who were engaged in the attack on the Legations, abandoned that enterprise and withdrew for the purpose of concerting measures to recover Tientsin. The Government ordered General Jung Lu to send troops for the protection of Legations. It is impossible to tell how much truth this statement embodies, or how much of it is a Shanghai conjecture.

A London telegram forwarded by the direct service represent Sir Claude MacDonald as stating that there has been an armistice since the 16th of July, and this message has been interpreted by some journals in the sense that a formal agreement to desist from hostilities was concluded between the Foreign Ministers and the Chinese on that date. We do not think that such a view is tenable. What happened, apparently, was that the insurgent Chinese, whose attack had been for several days of a desultory, half-hearted character, lost hope on receipt of the news that Tientsin had fallen, and the Moderates thus obtained such an access of power that they were able to put an end to the firing on the Legations. It is pretty evident that after their first ebullition of fury the Boxers and rebellious troops—or, perhaps we should call them, Prince Twan's braves—made no resolute attempt to rush the Legations but confined themselves to rifle and gun fire; a form of attack which does not become really dangerous until famine comes to its aid There has not been, we imagine, anything in the nature of a formal armistice. If the word was used in Sir Claude MacDonald's telegram, he employed it merely in the sense that fighting had ceased. At all events, the Foreign Ministers not being in communication with their national commanders in the field, could not give any pledge with regard to the latter's action. By and by, no doubt, when the Allies are nearing Peking, great pressure will be brought to bear on the Foreign Representatives to induce them to check the advance.

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That was what was done in 1860. Sir Harry Parkes was required to write a despatch asking Lord Elgin to stay the attack on Peking. He did so, but, with one of his usual clever ideas, pointed out to the Chinese that unless the despatch were signed by Loch also it would not carry any weight, and Loch appended to his signature a sentence in Hindustani urging an immediate attack. It appears to us that the Chinese Government will make every effort at the critical moment to save the lives of the Foreign Ministers.

Mr. Ishikawa Yasujiro, chief working editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, who is now in Tientsin, continues to contribute to the *Mainichi* indignant accounts of atrocities perpetrated by certain troops at Taku and Tientsin. Doubtless we shall hear more of these things when the letters of foreign correspondents are published in the home papers.

Dr. Morrison, *The Times'* correspondent in Peking, has at length been able to telegraph to the great journal. Probably his message is the longest ever sent across the wires to a newspaper. Mr Thompson, *The Times* correspondent in one of the South American States, despatched a telegram that cost £700. That was before the days of press rates. Dr. Morrison's message is said to have consisted of several thousands of words. Probably the transmission will have cost £500. Only *The Times* can achieve such feats. London has already read the telegram, no doubt. It is, we imagine, not only the longest but also the most interesting communication ever made by wire to a newspaper.

Shanghai has tapped the telegram—which is said to be dated July 21st—to the extent of discovering that Dr. Morrison speaks of provisions for two weeks being still available. But there is no longer any cause for uneasiness on the score of provisions, we should think. Two or three days of access to the city would amply suffice to procure fresh stores. The ammunition is the question.

An Important Communication from Peking.

Monday, Aug. 6.

A letter from Mr. Sugi, the special correspondent of the *Jiji Shimpo* in Peking, sent by messenger to Tientsin and thence by the quickest route to Tokyo, is the first intelligence received journalistically from the foreign community in Peking. The letter, which is dated in Peking July 22nd, says:—

On the 19th of June, the Chinese Government, having been informed that the Allied commanders had demanded the surrender of the Taku Forts and declared their intention of taking the Forts by force if the surrender was refused, concluded that this amounted to a declaration of war by the Foreign Powers and therefore addressed to the Foreign Representatives a demand that they should leave Peking within 24 hours. The Representatives asked for a delay of 48 hours, and proposed to have an interview with the Tsung-li Yamên on the 20th. The German Minister proceeded first to the interview and was killed *en route*, whereupon the other Ministers abandoned their intention of going to the Yamên and decided to remain in Peking, which decision was communicated to the Tsung-li Yamên at once. The latter replied that it would be better for the Ministers to remain. Nevertheless, at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of that day, the Chinese troops opened fire on the Legations, and fighting commenced. We are now fighting not with the Boxers but with the Chinese troops—principally those of Tung. Since the attack of the Boxers on the 13th of June until today (22nd of July) the foreign troops have been obliged to retreat in some degree, but happily the English, French, Russian, and German Legations are still held. The Japanese Legation, being within the defensive lines of the German and the French, was considered safe, and our people consequently took up a position in the house of Prince Shû, opposite the British Legation, which they are guarding resolutely. (From this it appears that the occupation of Prince Shû's residence by the Japanese was not in consequence of the destruction of the Japanese Legation, but was a strategical measure, doubtless intended to prevent the Chinese from gaining a position opposite the main gate of the British Legation and distant by only the width of the street.—Ed. *J.M.*) The relief force will probably arrive by the end of the month and we shall be saved. The Japanese have had 8 killed and 6 severely wounded, among the killed being Captain Ando and Messrs. Kojima and Nakamura of the volunteers. Nishigori and Oka, as well as myself (these are all correspondents of the *Jiji*) are safe. On the 18th, the Chinese having lost the Arsenal at Tientsin and being thus deprived of ammunition, opened negotiations and fighting has now ceased.

It appears that the Chinaman who carried the above letter left Peking on the 23rd and having passed 4 nights *en route*, reached, Tientsin on the 27th. He was accidentally met in the environs of the latter city by the correspondent of the *Jiumun*, to whom he presented a closely written letter, so dirty as to be almost illegible. It was addressed to the British Consul and proved to be from Dr. Morrison, *The Times'* correspondent. He had ten letters woven into his straw hat so as to be quite invisible, and one of these was the letter from Mr Sugi, quoted above. The man said that he had been several times examined by Chinese soldiers, and had escaped with much difficulty. He passed the second night in Tsai-yi-cheng, where he found 2,500 infantry and 500 cavalry, but he avoided Yang tsun as he heard that there were 10,000 troops there.

We may be permitted to call attention to the fact that this letter explicitly confirms the theory originally advanced by us, namely, that the action taken by the allied commanders at Taku on the 16th of June was the direct cause of hostilities between the Chinese troops and foreigners. Up to the 20th of June, the Boxers alone had shown themselves in the field, and the Boxers alone had assumed an openly hostile attitude towards foreigners. They may have had the sympathy, even the covert assistance, of some of the Chinese troops, but there was nothing like undisguised hostility on the part of the latter towards foreigners. On the 19th of June, however, the Government in Peking received intelligence of the fact that the commanders at Taku had demanded the surrender of the Forts, and that an engagement had ensued. There could be only one interpretation; namely, that the Foreign Powers had commenced hostilities. Therefore the *Tsung-li Yamên* demanded the withdrawal of the Foreign Representatives, assigning the Taku affair as the direct reason of the demand. Then followed the murder of the German Minister on the 20th—the day which we assigned as the earliest possible date of that event—and on the same afternoon Chinese troops attacked the Legations. It is now abundantly plain that, in all reasonable probability, the Foreign Legations would never have been attacked by Chinese soldiers had not the Taku Forts been bombarded by foreign vessels, and we think that, reasoning on the same lines, and taking due cognisance of the dates, as was done in these columns some weeks ago, Admiral Seymour's column also would have had only the Boxers to contend against and could have reached Peking easily had not the Taku affair taken place.

On the 20th of June, discussing the news of the Taku bombardment, we pointed out that, in all probability, Tientsin would immediately become the object of vigorous Chinese attack, which was exactly what happened, and we also wrote:—

Peking's position is shockingly perilous. Not one of the Foreign Representatives has been able to withdraw from the capital. The outbreak of war found them all with their flags flying and without any expectation of seeing themselves besieged and cut off from all communication with the outer world. They can not attempt to leave Peking. Every yard of the 80 miles between the capital and Tientsin would be fraught with danger. On the other hand, to remain shut up in their Legations in the midst of a hostile city until succour can reach them from the coast, is an alternative not to be contemplated without the gravest apprehensions. Naturally the whole of the Corps Diplomatique as well as the members of the Customs Service and the other foreign residents will assemble in one place. It will probably be the British Legation, which is at once the most spacious and the strongest of all. The buildings, standing in a large enclosure surrounded by high walls, are virtually safe against incendiarism, and the place could be held by a few hundreds of resolute men against an army of Chinese. But if the latter use artillery, they can of course crush any defensive resources available to the garrison. There is no parallel case in history; no instance of the Representatives of all the great Powers being shut up in an enemy's capital, imprisoned in their Legations and threatened at every moment with assassination and incendiarism.

It appeared to us that these things would be the inevitable outcome of the action taken by the commanders of the allied forces at Taku on the 16th and 17th of June. If events have accurately verified our forecast, we draw attention to the fact because our deductions have been publicly denied as unwarrantable, and because it is desirable that contemporary history at least should be correctly written.

A Remarkable Act.

From a letter addressed to the *Japan Times* by a European correspondent with the troops in China, we take the following account of the capture of Tientsin:—

The assault was made at 4 a.m. on the 14th inst. The assaulting party was composed of Japanese Infantry with British marines and blue-jackets and American Infantry immediately in support. The gate of the city here is protected by a very strong "keep" or fort guarding the gate. As the wall of the city stands some 50 or 60 feet high, scaling the wall was practically impossible and the only entrance left was through this keep to the strong iron gate in the wall. To get to this keep a small bridge had to be crossed and an open space amounting to about 400 yards absolutely devoid of cover. The Chinese on the wall, having suspected an attack, recommenced firing on the advancing party. A party of Japanese sappers advanced to the gate of the "keep" and laid the gun-cotton necessary for blowing it up. This was a most brave and desperate undertaking and was most successfully accomplished. Three times the fuse was cut by the Chinese bullets and three times the sappers came on undaunted, and re-lit the fuse. A fourth time the Chinese cut it, when one of the sappers, knowing what an unfruitful sacrifice of life it would mean if the gate of the "keep" could not be destroyed, heroically and deliberately set fire to the powder with a match and was blown to bits by the explosion! This act will long stand in the annals of civilized nations as one of the bravest and most noble sacrifices on record. It was on the same lines as the blowing up of one of the gates of the walled city of Kinchow in the war of 1894, but in this case it was not only a sacrifice for the saving of his own countrymen but also to the English, American, and French troops engaged, and it is to be hoped that this most brave and heroic act will be acknowledged by all the Powers who had troops engaged that day. This gate being destroyed, the attacking party rushed in, but found the big inner gate that guarded the entrance through the wall to the city barred. Here another instance of the pluck and extreme bravery which

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characterizes the Japanese troops was displayed. One of them actually climbed over the large gate in the face of heavy fire from the houses inside and opened it to let his comrades through. The Chinese, disheartened at the tenacity with which the attacking force held to their positions and forced their way, retreated about the time that the allied forces entered the city. The Russians a few hours later got in at the North Gate and the city was taken. With the exception of a little street fighting everything was quiet. The Japanese marched through the city, leaving guards as they marched through.

We can not withhold our tribute of admiration for this splendid act of heroism. There is scarcely any peril that a man will not brave so long as he retains a hope of escape, however faint. But deliberate self-destruction, above all such destruction as being shattered to fragments by 250 kilograms of gun-cotton, is a feat that surpasses the conception of ordinary individuals. We have long known the Japanese to be capable of such things. During the Satsuma rebellion of 1877 there were several instances of wounded *Samurai* who carried a bamboo filled with powder into the ranks of the imperial troops, and exploded the powder, shattering themselves, of course, but causing considerable execution among their enemies also. In the war of 1894-5 also there was a case somewhat analogous to that related by the correspondent of the *Japan Times*. A soldier put a barrel of powder on his back and applied a match to it after he had made his way into the enemy's position. He was shattered, of course, but his country heard nothing of him, for he fired the powder inopportunely and it failed to inflict an injury on the enemy's fortification. Probably many of our readers when on a visit to Nikko have inadvertently employed a man who showed similar readiness to commit self-sacrifice. It was in the Aizu campaign of 1867. He offered to wheel a cart-load of gun-powder into the castle and apply a match to it as he passed through the gate. He was a common labourer then and he is a common labourer still. It is easy to understand why Japanese troops win fights.

The Treasure taken in Tientsin.

The *Nippon* insists that it is very far from the truth to say that the treasure taken at Tientsin was only 1¼ million taels. Tientsin having been the half-way house for all taxes in transit from the south to Peking and also the site of a mint, there were great quantities not only of sycee but also of gold and silver bars. This specie, our contemporary asserts, is kept in stores so strong that they can not be opened without using gun-cotton. The probability is that some twenty millions of taels will be found, the greater part of which fell into the hands of the Japanese. The *Nippon's* correspondent says that the stores have not yet been opened, and that the money hitherto spoken of is quite independent.

Lieut.-General Terauchi's Report.

According to the *Jiji Shimpo*, Lieut.-General Terauchi's report to the Cabinet insists on the uselessness of sending more troops to China at present. When the Lieut.-General left Tientsin there were nearly forty thousand troops of all nationalities assembled there, and in his opinion such a force was ample for advancing to Peking and compassing any other objects contemplated by the Allies. Unless, therefore, some marked change takes place in the complexion of affairs, it is improbable that Japan will make any large addition to her troops in North-China.

From Shanghai comes a strange telegram. A Chinese is said to have fired with a revolver at Mr. Kier, somewhere in the neighbourhood of the Bubbling Well Road. The bullet struck a copy of Beresford's work on China carried in Mr. Kier's pocket, and expended itself upon the book, doing no injury to Mr. Kier. The Chinaman escaped.

It is generally reported that China has applied to Great Britain for an armistice and has renewed her request to the United States for intervention.

The Taotai of Shanghai is said to have asked that the foreign war-ships should leave the river, but his request was of course refused. This tale sounds very incredible.

Chin Pau-ching, formerly Governor of Hunan, who, being among the intimate friends and supporters of Kang Yu-wei, lost his official post at the time of the latter's disgrace, has just died.

The *Chiugai Shogyo* says that Sir Lo Fêng-lo, Chinese Minister in London, approached the British Government with a request for mediation, but received no reply.

As confirming the news that the reactionary party in Peking is recovering its influence, a statement comes that Luh Chuen-lin, formerly Governor of Kuang-si, has been made a member of the Board of War.

It appears to be quite true that an exodus of foreign residents from Chun-king is about to take place. The British Consul's example in advising his nationals to take their departure has been followed by the Consuls of the United States and Japan.

The accidental collision between Russian and Japanese troops at Pe tsan is said to have been an affair of scouts. Two parties of scouts encountered each other in the grey of the morning and opened fire. One man on each side is said to have been hit.

According to a telegram from Nanking, Admiral Seymour has asked the Viceroy Li to disarm the forts at Woosung and Kiang-yan, and to put a stop for the present to the manufacture of arms and munitions of war. This story is very improbable.

According to a telegram received by the *Asahi*, Lt.-Colonel Shiba and Dr. Morrison have both been wounded. They were inspecting the Japanese line of defences when a bullet grazed the Lieut.-Colonel's body and passed through Dr. Morrison's thigh. The hurts are not serious.

The losses of the Allies in the attack on Tientsin are now given as :—

Japanese killed and wounded	442
German	170
English	107
American	100
Russian	200
Total	1017

Newspaper advices represent the state of affairs in Peking as again bad. The arrival of General Li is said to have placed his troops at the disposal of the conservatives, with the result that Hsu Ching-cheng (formerly Minister to Russia) and Yuen Chang, anti-Boxer members of the *Tsung-li Yamên*, have been beheaded and a proposal is on foot to impeach the southern Viceroys. These stories have, as yet, no official basis.

The fight on the 30th of July, when the Russian troops assaulted and captured Fou-chung, an important frontier town, seems to have been very bloody, so far as the Chinese were concerned. A thousand were killed and a "countless" number wounded. There was a heavy street fight, and we can therefore imagine the scenes that occurred. One half of the town was burned, and the report says that the greater part of the killed and wounded were non-combatants.

The conference between Admiral Seymour and Viceroy Liu at Nanking is said to have been satisfactory, but details are not known. It may be presumed that the British Admiral informed the Viceroy of England's determination to preserve peace in the Yangtsze Valley, and of her readiness to supply troops to act in concert with the Viceroy's forces if necessary.

It would appear from a reconnaissance made by the Japanese forces on the 30th of July that the Chinese have not retreated from the neighbourhood of Tientsin. Seven thousand infantry and a thousand cavalry were found at Pe-tsung, which is only 4 miles north of Tientsin. It was also ascertained that the Chinese, by cutting the embankments of the Peiho, had submerged a considerable section of country.

Shanghai retains its magnificent scepticism about the safety of the British Ministers in Peking. It really appears as though Shanghai supposed that the various despatches received from the Ministers were fabricated by the Chinese Authorities in some semi-miraculous manner. Shanghai is splendid. The amount of credulity that it demands for its own canards is equalled only by its estimate of other folks' mendacity.

It is stated that among the various proclamations and manifestoes issued by Li Hung-chang on resuming the Viceroyalty of Chihli—only nominally resuming so far—there is one which speaks of his having ruled Chihli for 20 years so that he came to regard the people of that province as his children, and that he is animated by the same feeling on returning to administer their affairs. He then proceeds to declare that the Boxers are enemies of China, and exhorts the people of Chihli not to give them any assistance whatever.

All the Japanese leading journals, with the exception of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, publish a telegram from Chefoo to the effect that a column of 35,000 men, consisting of 20,000 Japanese, 10,000 British and 5,000 Americans had started for Peking, the troops of the other nationalities remaining at Tientsin. The *Nichi Nichi* denies the story *in toto*. It alleges that a *reconnaissance* may have been sent, but nothing more. We entirely agree with the *Nichi Nichi*. It is our belief that the relief expedition can not set out before the 10th at soonest, and, if it succeeds in getting off at that time, the responsible officers will deserve to be highly complimented.

There is a report that the three Southern Viceroys, Li, Liu, and Chang, disgusted with the state of affairs in Peking and with the hopelessness of getting their advice adopted, are thinking of retiring altogether from public life. That would be a very great misfortune. Another report says that the Foreign Consuls, hearing of this rumour about the Viceroys' retirement, have found opportunities to urge them strongly against such a course, and to point out that, even though the Peking Government attempted to remove them, their duty to their country would require them to remain at their posts and to exert all their influence in the cause of peace and progress.

It is very difficult to obtain a clear idea of the situation in Peking during the closing

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days of July. Several accounts agree that the attack on the Legations ceased altogether from the 16th or the 17th, but Baron Nishi's letter, dated the 22nd, speaks of the Japanese having only 5 days' provisions, and of the troops' ammunition being reduced to 25 rounds, and altogether his tone is despondent. He adds that the Japanese had lost 35 in killed and wounded, and that only 25 remained at duty. That is a heavy record. It indicates that the Japanese suffered more than any other nationality, though Baron Nishi speaks of the total killed among the other nationalities being 60 and the wounded being numerous. Altogether it seems probable that the casualties among the guards have aggregated 50 per cent. of their number.

There appears to be considerable discontent among the Japanese engaged to act as transport coolies. A company was immediately formed in Kobe, calling itself the Anglo-Japanese Company (*Nichi-Ei-Gumi*). It undertook to provide for the men. The British had agreed to pay 2 *yen per diem*, on condition that the men found their own provisions. But it is alleged that the Company takes 1.35 *yen* of that amount as the cost of food, so that only 65 *sen* remains to the men. Naturally there is great discontent. It is further stated that some interesting results have appeared from the comparative work of these Japanese coolies and the Indian troops. The Indians go on steadily without intermission, except for meals, but their movements are slow and deliberate. The Japanese, on the other hand, work hard and quickly while they are at it, but require to rest at intervals. It is claimed that, at the end of the day, the quantity of accomplishment is markedly in favour of the Japanese.

This is what appeared in the *Chicago Record* of July 13th :—

The Czar has received with great emotion the dreadful details of the catastrophe at Peking in a cablegram from Admiral Alexyeff at Port Arthur, confirming the horrible details of the assassination of M. de Giers, the Russian envoy. He was dragged through the streets by Boxers, insulted, beaten, tortured, thrown into a kettle, and boiled to death. The remains were thrown to the dogs.

Mme. de Giers suffered a fate worse than death. She was beaten and tortured with sharp sticks until life was extinct. The legation officials were tortured fiendishly until death ended their sufferings. M. de Giers and the legation officials resisted desperately and killed many of the attacking mob.

In the midst of the tortures the envoy is said to have heroically proclaimed his faith in Christianity. He was encouraged by his wife, who so soon shared his martyrdom.

The announcement of this intelligence to the relatives of the Russian martyrs in China was accompanied by heartrending scenes. Count Lamsdorf received the friends of the murdered ones at the Foreign Office and unfolded the tragic story.

The scenes of frenzied terror and grief that followed were unspeakable. The building of the Foreign Office was besieged by an excited throng and the whole of St. Petersburg was full of lamentation. Immediately upon the receipt of Admiral Alexyeff's dispatch the Czar ordered the Cabinet and Council of State to go into session.

Some of the London papers are little better. A telegram published in the *Daily Mail* of July 13th, from its Shanghai correspondent, who gives official authority for the story, says :—

"The two remaining legations, the British and Russian, were attacked in force on the evening of July 6, Prince Tuan being in command. The attackers were divided. Prince Tuan commanded the centre, the right wing was led by the Prince Tsai Yin and the left by Prince Yin Lin. The reserves were under Prince Tsin Yu. The attack commenced with artillery fighting, which was severe and lasted until 7 o'clock in the morning, by which time both legations were destroyed and all the foreigners were dead, while the streets around the legations were full of the dead bodies of both foreigners and Chinese. Upon hearing of the attack Prince Ching and General Wang Wen Sha went with troops to the assistance of the foreigners, but they were outnumbered and defeated. Both Prince Ching and General Wang Wen Sha were killed. Several foreigners are said to have escaped through the gates, one with a heavy sword wound in his head. Prince Tuan, in celebration of the victory, distributed 100,000 taels and huge quantities of rice to the Boxers."

Now both these accounts are given as more than rumours. Details such as could only, if true, have been obtained from witnesses of the scene described are given, not as suppositions, but as ascertained facts. Yet, as subsequent events showed, there was not at that time the smallest foundation for any of these abominable lies. The liberty of the press has been scandalously abused since the era of yellow journals and "progressive" half-penny papers began. Will there be a reaction? It would not be surprising if the 20th century should see a considerable limitation of the "right of free discussion," which is now in many instances an euphemism for the free dissemination of lies.

The British Guarantee.

Tuesday, Aug. 7.

When the British Blue Book reaches Japan, we shall know the facts about the proposal made by England with regard to guaranteeing Japan's expenses in the War. In the meanwhile, however, it is evident that the telegraphic epitome forwarded to Tokyo has been very misleading. It conveys the impression that Great Britain made a conditional proposal to Japan, in the sense that, if the latter would consent to despatch a certain force at a certain time, the former would guarantee the outlay, and that, Japan being unwilling to comply, the guarantee did not hold good. Such a version is obviously incorrect. Japan's decision to send a Division of troops was formally taken on June 25th, though not publicly announced until July 6th, when the troops began to embark. The English Government's offer of a guarantee was made on July 8th. We are not in a position to describe the exact terms of the offer, but these dates indicate clearly that Japan's military operations, on their present basis, are entirely independent of any financial guarantee from England. It will surprise us, indeed, to learn that any such guarantee was offered in the crude manner suggested by the telegrams. It is quite conceivable that Her Majesty's Government should offer to promise that British influence would be employed in the peace negotiation to secure for Japan full indemnification of outlays, but the latter could scarcely regard it as a compliment, or as a very tactful procedure, that England should offer to act as Japan's banker for the purposes of this campaign. Japan has her own interests to consider and her own duty to perform in China, and the condition of her finances as well as her international credit do not call for any foreign sponsorship. She can obtain money in the open market if she wants it, without getting an European Power to back her bills, and she understands the character of credit too well, we imagine, to have recourse to such a fatal device. It will therefore be found, we are persuaded, that the telegraphic accounts of this affair have been clumsily and thoughtlessly compiled.

Four missionaries are said to have been killed at Han-kow. No particulars are given.

According to a telegram published by the *China Gazette*, the Chinese have resumed their attack upon Tientsin, apparently with the intention of preventing the advance of the allies to Peking. The Russians are said to have had an engagement with five thousand Chinese in the neighbourhood of Si-ku, and to have driven them off.

The foreigner whose life was attempted at Shanghai is now reported to be Mr. Craig, chief-engineer of the *En-wao* (?), and it is further stated that his assailant was a soldier of Li Hung-chang's body-guard.

The officers of the *Ise Maru*, which has just returned from Newchwang, say that there is great uneasiness at that place. The whole of the foreign community has withdrawn, three hundred of them going to Chefoo.

Telegrams from Chefoo indicate that the allied column has not yet left Tientsin for Peking, and that the 10th will probably be the day of its departure. We have frequently insisted that an earlier date than the 10th could scarcely be expected.

The engagement between Russian troops and the Chinese at Halapin is said to have been very severe, and, although the Chinese were driven back, they are advancing in strength to attempt the recovery of the lost ground. Communication by the Amur is still stopped.

There is a rumour that the Peking Government has issued orders for the arrest of Li Hung-chang, Chan Chi-tung, and Liu Kun-yi. The story is scarcely credible. It is founded on the supposed attitude assumed by General Li Ping-hang since his arrival in Peking.

A very gloomy account of the difficulties of marching from Tientsin to Peking is given by Mr. Hiramizu Saburo, Japanese Consul in Singapore, who is now on a visit to Tokyo He says that while the rainy season lasts it is quite impossible for troops to make any progress, and that, even supposing there was no opposition to be encountered, 5 miles a day would be a good rate of advance since, owing to the great heat, the marching hours are limited to those between day-break and 7 a.m. The whole plain, he says, is under water, and, when the floods subside, the mud is knee deep. We do not think that things are quite so bad as Mr. Hiramizu's description would imply.

Telegrams to the Foreign Office say that two Imperial decrees were issued in Peking on the 3rd of August. The first, after explaining that disputes between native Christians and Chinese subjects have led to a state of war, goes on to declare that the protection of the Foreign Representatives is a duty devolving on the Chinese Government, and that since the disturbances in Peking can not be easily quelled so as to secure for the Legations immunity from attack, it becomes advisable to send the Foreign Representatives to Tientsin. Preparations must therefore be made for their safe conduct, and General Jung Lu and other high officers and officials are required to guard the route, dealing peremptorily with any persons who attempt to assault the Ministers. If the Foreign Representatives, before leaving Peking, desire to communicate with their Governments, the *Tsung-li Yamên* will undertake to forward the despatches provided that they are not in cipher.

The second decree says that, although a state of war exists between China and Foreign Powers, missionaries and merchants have no connexion with the trouble, and should therefore receive the protection of Chinese officers and officials. The main

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body of the Chinese troops being now assembled in Peking and its neighbourhood, the officers in command are enjoined to circulate and enforce this order for the protection of missionaries. Christian converts, however, are Chinese subjects, and as these are making troubles with the *I-ho Ch'uan* and fighting with the imperial troops, building forts for that purpose and altogether behaving like insurgents, steps should be taken to subdue them. But with regard to those who abandon their opposition, give up their forts, and submit themselves to authority, they should be protected, as was done by General Sung. Should any of them pursue their foes and commit murders and depredations, they must be severely dealt with

These decrees, it will be observed, show a good spirit in the main, but the reference made to Christian converts in the second decree argues ill for these unfortunates There are always two sides to every story It can not be doubted that there was some fault on the side of the converts, but, so far as the world knows, their attitude since the beginning of this trouble has been purely defensive. They appear now to be taking measures in some parts of China to protect themselves, since they see plainly that no protection will be afforded by the Government's troops. But the decree of the 3rd instant practically declares their defensive preparations to be rebellion. It will be observed, too, that neither of the decrees contains a word of condemnation of the Boxers. In fact, although these documents indicate a desire to comply with the principles of civilized warfare, they do not contradict the theory that the arrival of General Li in Peking has inspired the Government with fresh courage. One encouraging fact, however, is apparent from the first decree, namely, that Jung Lu still retains power.

The *New York Herald* has joined the chorus of anti-Orientalists It endorses the idea that, if China came under Japanese control, the West would be menaced by a terrible spectre in the form of the yellow race, and it thinks that Russia deserves the thanks of humanity for everything she does to avert that danger. It is a pity that none of the victims of this yellow-skinned bogey ever undertakes to tell us how its menace is to be carried into practice. Is it going to drive all Occidentals out of its territories and close its markets to the West? Is it going to amass an immense army for the invasion of Europe? Does it intend, at the same time, to construct a fleet that will give it the command of the seas and enable it to shatter all the navies of Occidental Powers? Is that the kind of programme we have to expect from Japan? Is that the ambition by which her acts for the past 30 years suggest that she is inspired? Ridiculous chimeras, born of unreasoning racial prejudice and nurtured by sensational hysteria!

Wednesday, Aug. 8.

The three southern Viceroys are said to have abandoned their intention of resigning, in deference to the advice of the Foreign Consuls.

On the other hand, there is a rumour, not unworthy of credence, that the Chinese Government has signified its desire to abandon the conflict, and has again sought the mediation of Great Britain and the United States to restore peace.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a telegram that Won Chi-chung, Governor of An hui, and Viceroy Chan Chi-tung have each sent a force of troops northward. The soldiers already assembled in the neighbourhood of Peking are said to aggregate 70 banners (35,000 men).

Another story about Li, also published by the *Shogyo*, is that he addressed a telegram to the Russian Government expressing gratitude for Russia's desire to preserve the integrity of the Chinese empire, but saying that he could not approve of the annexation of Manchuria. The Russian Government is supposed to have replied that it has not the smallest intention of annexing Manchuria.

According to a telegram published by Tokyo journals the conservative party in Peking, headed by Prince Twan, has recovered power, and very resolute measures are being taken for the defence of the city in the event of the Allies' advancing. Troops are being collected for that purpose from all parts of the empire. The strengthening of the conservatives is attributed to the arrival of General Li Ping-han. It is of course added that the situation of the Foreign Representatives has again become perilous. The Court, according to other telegrams, will fly to the old capital of S.-an in the event of the allied forces making their way to Peking.

A telegram to the *Shogyo Shimpo* from Shanghai says that the advent of the German troops is anticipated with great dread. The language addressed to the troops by the Emperor is taken as an indication that they will behave with the utmost violence, and a rumour has gone abroad that, inasmuch as they are not likely to arrive until after the disturbance in the north has been settled, southern China will be the field of their operations. It is indeed alleged that their commanding officer has received secret instructions in that sense. These alarms were to be expected. The Emperor's words to the troops, as reported by telegram, are very disquieting. We do not think, however, that there is the slightest fear of German troops going into a campaign with the deliberate intention of giving no quarter and taking no prisoners. It is impossible to imagine the Germans pursuing such a programme

Viceroy Li is now said to be in favour of an advance against Peking by the Allies. The idea attributed to him is that no smaller measure will suffice to achieve complete administrative reconstruction. He is further credited with saying that, even though the Allies advance against Peking, they have no chance of catching the Empress Dowager, the Emperor, and Prince Twan unless they close the Southern and Western gates. We can not conjecture how much or how little truth there may be in this latest version of the old Viceroy's views, but, if it be at all correct, he has evidently abandoned hope of saving the situation by peaceful means. And indeed Li's lingering in Shanghai is not an encouraging feature. He can not accomplish anything by remaining there, so far as we can see Thus far his journey north has been a fiasco. He would have done much better to remain in Canton

Thursday, Aug. 9.

Governor Ting of Szechuan is said to have set out northward with a force of 3,000 men. Among his officers is a Japanese named Captain Idagawa.

A telegram from Dr. Morrison to *The Times*, dated the 21st of July, says that there had been heavy casualties at the various Legations; no less than 138 wounded at the British Legation. Altogether there were 180 in hospital. No want of provisions had yet been experienced, nor had the guards lost heart in any degree, but relief was nevertheless earnestly awaited.

Rumour has it that the two Ministers Heu Ching-cheng and Yuen Chang, whose arrest was announced a few days ago, were executed outside the South Gate of Peking in a most inhuman manner. Some accounts say that they were cut in two; others, that they were disembowelled. But all agree that the execution was sanctioned by the Empress Dowager, and that it was intended as a warning to officials who showed a disposition to dissent from the view of the reactionaries Kang Yi and Li Ping-han.

Li Hung-chang is said to have informed the Foreign Consuls that it was the intention of himself and the two Viceroys Liu and Chang to adhere strictly to their promise of defending foreign life and property, and that foreigners might feel quite confident. It is alleged that the attitude of hostility shown by foreigners in Shanghai to Viceroy Li has undergone considerable change, and that they are now disposed to sympathise with him. Meanwhile an understanding has been arrived at between Admiral Seymour and Viceroy Chang that British naval forces will cöoperate to preserve peace in the Yangtze Valley, and the result is that public confidence has been restored

The most contradictory reports are published with regard to the movements of the Allies at Tientsin. Some allege that they have already commenced the advance to Peking; that they have had over a thousand casualties, and so on. Others affirm that vigorous preparations are being made for the advance, and that it will commence on the 15th or 16th. We have never expected that the relieving column could be ready before the 10th, and we attach no importance to the story that it set out on the 2nd or 3rd. There has undoubtedly been a reconnaissance—probably there have been two or three—, and movements of that kind, which are necessary preliminaries to a general advance, have been misconstrued by onlookers.

It is alleged that the Chinese Government has ordered the arrest of Governor Yuan, and that Taotoi Shêng, fearing a similar fate, has solicited the protection of the Foreign Consuls in Shanghai These statements have not yet been officially confirmed, but, should they prove to be true, their gravity can scarcely be overestimated. Yuan and Shêng have acted loyally towards foreigners and discharged their duties well as responsible officials since the trouble commenced Shêng's conduct is the more admirable, seeing that in former years he was the victim of much of that virulent abuse which some Shanghai newspapers do not hesitate to pour upon the heads of Chinese officials. The arrest of these two men would be an open declaration on the part of the Chinese Government that no official will be tolerated who shows friendliness towards foreigners, and would be a strong incentive to the anti-foreign elements in Shan tung and the Yang-tsze Valley.

There seems to be no doubt that the allied forces attacked the Chinese at Pe-tsang on the 5th instant, and that they suffered heavily in dislodging the enemy. The brunt of the fighting fell on the Russians and the Japanese The former are said to have had 600 killed and wounded, the latter 400, while the British casualties were 60. These figures are not official; indeed, no official account of

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such an operation has been received, but that is not surprising, inasmuch as the latest news from Major-General Fukushima, received up to the time of writing (Wednesday morning) is dated at Tientsin, the 2nd instant. The Chinese loss is put at 2,000 They were driven from their position and retreated rapidly up the Peiho, the Allies pursuing. It is stated that the Japanese losses were chiefly incurred owing to their getting into a cross-fire. Pe-tsang is about 8½ miles north of Tientsin. The Chinese troops were known to have concentrated there, and to have thrown up fortifications, sinking junks to block the passage of the Peiho. This expulsion was an essential preliminary to the advance towards Peking. We may call attention to the fact that the participation of the Russians in this attack is scarcely consistent with the rumour that they oppose an advance to Peking.

This affair has been construed by the Chinese as a victory for their arms, and the *North-China Daily News* had a paragraph on the 6th saying that the Japanese had been defeated at Pe tsang. Our contemporary may remember how many statements about bogus Chinese victories found their way into its columns in the early part of the 1894-5 war. The Chinese never gained the semblance of a victory in that war, yet they were freely credited with several signal successes at the outset.

Friday, Aug. 10.

It is reported by telegram that the Russians have captured the walled city of Newchwang.

It is stated that the cable between Taku and Tientsin will very soon be in working order. Only 50 miles remain to be laid

The Lu-Han railway works have been entirely suspended, it is said, and all the foreign engineers have withdrawn to Hankow.

The Emperor of Korea is said to have forwarded from Chemulpho 1,000 bags of rice; 3,000 bags of flour, and 23 boxes of tobacco to the allied forces at Tientsin.

There is a report, *viâ* Nan-king, that the Foreign Representatives left Peking on the 5th instant, escorted by Jung Lu's troops, but no reliance can be placed on the story.

Rumours continue to be persistently circulated that the Emperor and the Empress Dowager have fled from Peking. Their destination is said to be Kiu-lung, but as to that there is evidently much uncertainty.

The previous statement of casualties in the engagement at Pe-tsang on the 5th instant is confirmed, but the figures are greatly exaggerated. They are, Russians, 600; Japanese 400, and British 120, a total of 1,120 killed and wounded, which is probably twice the true figure.

Baron Nishi has addressed a letter to Major Aoki in Tientsin. The letter is dated August 1st. It says that the Chinese showed signs of renewing the attack on the Legations, and that the latter had only a week's provisions and were getting very short of ammunition.

Some reports allege that, even though the allied forces meet with stubborn resistance at Yang-tsun and Lang-fang, they will be able to reach Peking by the 20th instant. The 20th is the earliest date to which we have looked forward, but we are inclined to think that the 25th will be nearer the truth.

If the Court has left Peking, the situation of the Legations becomes almost desperate. It may be that the prospect has induced the Foreign Representatives to place themselves under the escort of either Yuan Shi-kai or Jung Lu, rather than remain in a city which, after the Court's departure, will be without any authority making for the preservation of law.

The White Lotus Society seems to have taken advantage of the confusion in Peking to attempt a *coup*, but the Authorities, obtaining information of its doings, arrested 70 of the ringleaders and beheaded them. This society has purely revolutionary aims. It seeks to overthrow the dynasty and usurp the administrative power. Evidently the Chinese Government finds no difficulty in dealing with an organization which it is really desirous of suppressing.

Incompleteness of commissariat arrangements and difficulties about the supreme command seem to have delayed the setting out of the relief force from Tientsin. It is stated that only the Russians and the Japanese have their transport services in full working order. That is very probable. At the same time, there appears to be some doubt whether a sufficient force is yet available to guard the lines of communication.

If all the reports sent across the wires be correct, the Peking Government has issued several orders to its generals, requiring them to proceed at once to recapture Tientsin and the Taku Forts. In obedience to these instructions a large body of troops, variously estimated at from 15,000 to 30,000, are said to be advancing towards Tientsin. General Kung Yi is commander-in-chief and Li Ping-han is second in command. The imperial force is assisted by 30,000 Boxers under Chan. The latter are said to have advanced as far as Tsai-yi-cheng.

Another report says that Viceroy Chan Chih-tung has issued a proclamation of great importance. His Excellency declares that he has used every endeavour to prevent the movement of the allied forces against Peking, but that he has been unsuccessful. The capture of Peking by foreign troops would endanger the integrity of the empire, and in the presence of such a contingency no loyal Chinese subject could refrain from taking up arms to defend his country. The Viceroy therefore calls upon all to prepare to give their lives for the preservation of the empire.

The *Official Gazette* contains an announcement that money and articles for the troops at the front will be received by the *Jippei-bu* in the War Department. Neither money nor articles will be received if destined for an individual or a special corps: every thing must be for general division. Neither will a document declaring a monetary donation be received unless the amount is at least one *yen*, which sum may, however, be made up by contributions from several persons provided that they forward the amount collectively. No arrangements seem to have been yet made for opening branch offices of the *Jippei-bu* in Kyoto, Osaka, Nagoya, and other provincial towns.

Of course the Southern Viceroys are placed in a most difficult position from the moment that the advance against Peking commences. Whether they agree with the acts of the Government or condemn them, it is the Government from which they hold their commissions, and it is the Government which represents China. The Viceroys remained practically neutral during the war between Japan and China, their theory being, apparently, that, so long as the campaign was confined to distant places like Liaotung, Shinking, and Shantung, they were justified in standing aloof. But had the Japanese attempted to move against Peking the Southern Viceroys could scarcely have remained passive spectators of the drama. It is very conceivable, therefore, that they may see themselves compelled to fight so soon as the advance of the Allies against Peking is assured. Possibly that contingency prompted the measures which Admiral Seymour is now said to be taking for the defence of Shanghai.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a telegram to the effect that the commanding officers in Shanghai have come to the conclusion that the native city must be seized and held in order to insure the successful defence of the foreign settlements. We trust that the necessity for such a step may not prove imperative. It would surely create a very bad impression, and might even lead to an outbreak of war in the Yangtsze Valley, just as the decision to take possession of the Taku Forts inaugurated hostilities in Chihli. Of course that contingency must be quite evident to Admiral Seymour, and we are therefore disposed to doubt the correctness of the report. The *Shogyo*, however, is very circumstantial. It alleges that Admiral Seymour resolved to send for the Hongkong garrison to undertake the task of capturing and garrisoning the city; and that Viceroy Liu addressed a strong remonstrance to him, urging that if the contemplated step were taken it would surely drive the whole of central and southern China into the arms of the Boxers and defeat the endeavours hitherto made by the Viceroys to preserve tranquillity. Despite this remonstrance, the British Admiral is said to have adhered to his resolve. It is further stated that Japanese and French troops will take part in garrisoning the place.

The women and children of the foreign communities in Peking appear to be assembled in the British Legation, but the Ministers are keeping their flags flying over such of the Legations as have not been destroyed. It would also seem that the guards, at an early stage of the proceedings, succeeded in capturing some Chinese guns and mounting them on the wall commanding the Legations, but of course the ammunition obtained with the guns was probably a very small supply. On the 17th of July, when the fighting ceased, the Empress-Dowager is said to have sent 300 or 400 water-melons as a present to the Ministers. It is reported that some of Tung's troops, who had accepted a commission to make purchases for the Legations, were put to a cruel death The French Legation is said to have been destroyed by mines, and in order to guard against such a catastrophe the defenders of the British Legation dug a trench around the Legation buildings, 20 feet deep and 3 feet wide. A messenger from Peking alleges that for some time the foreigners have been living on horse-flesh and barley, the ladies and children being fed on rice gruel. He added that they had provisions for about 2 months from July 22nd; that the gates of the city were in the hands of the Boxers, and that the walls were held by imperial troops.

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STRONG LANGUAGE AND STRANGE CONCLUSIONS.

We observe that the European war correspondent of the *Japan Times*, in an interesting letter about the "Fall of Tientsin," refers to the Chinese attack of the foreign settlement as "the most cold-blooded orgie of deliberate murder ever known in modern history." This remarkably vigorous assertion is thus justified :—

> Here was a huge city of about a million people, strongly fortified, with a foreign settlement of perhaps a thousand, right under the guns of the fortifications, and day after day shells were poured into the houses, until there is probably not one in the place without its gaping breaches through and through. The fiends set about methodically to shoot us all to pieces in our helplessness. Imagine all the cannon of Portsmouth devoted to the task of reducing Southampton to ruin and massacring every soul there, and a country-side filled with eager assassins to cut off all escape. Or imagine the Tower of London to suddenly begin belching forth bombshells on the houses and streets all around make the Tower a thousand times its present size, and the defenceless victims a thousand times smaller in numbers and strength than London, and you may faintly grasp the situation.

All that sounds very terrible. To be sure, it would be more appropriate if "the most cold-blooded orgie of deliberate murder ever known in modern history" had been attended by any bloodshed. But inasmuch as not so much as one death of a foreign civilian resulted from the operations described in such picturesque language, it really does seem that the writer is a little hysterical. Passing by that view of the case, however, observe what the same correspondent tells us in the same letter about the Chinese city of a million inhabitants :—

> The city was set on fire in several places by the lyddite shells the day before, and big conflagrations were still in progress.

So then the only difference between the performance of the Chinese and the performance of the Allies was that the former threw shell into a place inhabited by a thousand civilian foreigners and failed to kill anyone, whereas the latter threw lyddite shell into a city inhabited by a million Chinese civilians and succeeded in killing a great many. If the act of the Chinese is to be called "the most cold-blooded orgie of deliberate murder ever known in modern history," what adjectives remain to describe the act of the Allies? Of course the invectives hurled against the Chinese were prompted by passion, not by judgment. What happened at Tientsin was merely a replica of what happened in South Africa —notably at Kimberley, at Ladysmith, and at Mafeking. The settlement at Tientsin was held by foreign troops. Its bombardment was just as legitimate as that of Kimberley or of Mafeking or of Ladysmith. Let us not forget, too, that we ourselves have taught the Chinese to regard far greater outrages as legitimate. It was our habit in former years to send men-of-war and gun-boats to shell defenceless Chinese towns and villages by way of punishing the Chinese empire for breaches of international faith. How are such acts to be exempted from the category of "cold-blooded orgies of deliberate murder?" So long as our practice is so glaringly inconsistent with the sermons we preach, we are more likely to be ridiculed than respected.

The same correspondent, in the peroration of another denunciation of Chinese methods of warfare, says :—

> In order that you in Japan may have no chance to misunderstand, I will tell you in cold hard print; the understanding was that, if the enemy should capture the place, each husband and father must devote his last cartridges to his own wife and children. Must. No word of possible alternative. Can you realise it? We can realize it, and most shocking it is. Our hearts went out to those unhappy ladies and children in Tientsin, as they go out now to the children and ladies in Peking. But would it not have been wise if many of the Chinese had employed their last cartridges similarly? Certainly it would, unless all the accounts we have received are strangely misleading.

We observe also that the same correspondent attacks the British Consul in Tientsin and Admiral Seymour. The British Consul is accused of having pooh-poohed the warnings given by the Chinese in Tientsin; it is added that "his repeated indignant rebukes of the 'alarmists' were of the sort that lure the trustful to their death," and he is charged with having deserted his post when the danger came and with having "run away to look after his private family affairs." Admiral Seymour is declared to have "started out for Peking with a small force and small supplies when it was easy to see the inadequacy of it if he had not been blind like the Consul," and this list of accusations concludes with the words :—"The lightheartedness optimism which understated the danger in those days was nothing short of criminal. It caused the deaths of many who would have been alive now, but for the British official habit of invariably pooh-poohing the advice and warnings of those who know." It is scarcely possible to use too strong terms in condemning such writing. The glib, irresponsible, anonymous correspondent's wisdom that follows the event is one of the most contemptible displays of the era, especially when it is exercised at the expense of a brave and competent man like Admiral Symour and a conscientious official like Her Majesty's Consul at Tientsin. In the present instance the correspondent's charges are clearly rebutted by his own statement :—"The siege of the foreign concessions of Tientsin began on the 18th of June, immediately after the capture of the Taku Forts at the mouth of the river by the allied forces." Exactly. Had not that attack been made, had not the surrender of the Forts been demanded in a manner that left their garrison no alternative but to resist, in all human probability the only enemy found in Admiral Seymour's path would have been the Boxers, whom he could easily have brushed aside, and the bombardment of Tientsin would never have taken place. Of course the glib correspondent, writing on the 14th of July, finds no difficulty in formulating what ought to have been foreseen in the beginning of June, and on the strength of his superior knowledge does not hesitate to accuse the British Consul of something like murder and something still more like cowardice, and Admiral Seymour of flagrant incompetence.

SALVATION ARMY IN THE YOSHIWARA.

A detachment of the Salvation Army, headed by Mr. Yabuki Kotaro, recently took the Tokyo Yoshiwara for the field of a campaign. Armed with many copies of the *Voice of the Time*, these enthusiastic reformers made their way to the resorts of frail virtue and preached against the iniquity of vice. They proclaimed that any unfortunate desiring to free herself from the trammels of a life of shame would find in them active assistants; that they promised to contrive her liberation, and that her application would be received and acted upon at the headquarters of the Salvation Army near Shimbashi. Then they distributed copies of the *Voice of the Time*. This invasion was strongly resented by the employés of the various houses of pleasure. Thirty or forty of them formed an organization, and when the Salvation Army's detachment, numbering 14, made its appearance again in the Yoshiwara on the 5th instant, it was vigorously attacked, and three or four of its members received ugly wounds. The police hastened to the place, but did not immediately succeed in arresting any of the rioters. We trust they will be apprehended and severely punished, but we think, at the same time, that it would be wise on the part of the Salvationists to adopt less radically militant methods. The Tokyo newspapers state that they have declined to lodge any complaint. Doubtless that forbearance shows a fine spirit, but it scarcely consorts with the resolution that prompted the campaign.

BLOOD-GUILTINESS.

Having often expressed frank admiration of the courage of the Boers and of the massive tenacity of purpose shown by President Kruger, we have no fear that we shall be accused of bias when we say that from the alpha to the omega of history as hitherto written, no two men have ever incurred such blood-guiltiness as President Kruger and President Steyn. That they should fight to the bitter end, fight as long as a man or a cartridge remains, is an honour to them, though it were a greater honour did they themselves share the perils and privations equally with the burghers. It is not that we lay to their charge. It is that from the beginning to the end of this war they have deceived their ignorant nationals, and deluded them into fighting, by an unending series of stupendously lying bulletins. It has been lie, lie, lie from beginning to end. By lies they induced the burghers to take the field, by lies they persuaded them to keep there, and by lies they are now betraying them into fighting when every vestige of hope has really disappeared. These men have compassed the lives of thousands of their fellows by a system of foul falsehood. Blood-guiltiness profound, unpardonable, is theirs. May the day never come when English statesmen will seek to avert defeat by such devices. Better for a nation to be trampled in the dust than raised to fame by rulers like Kruger and Steyn.

THE LATE MR. NARABARA.

Tokyo newspapers publish most eulogistic notices of the late Mr. Narabara, whose death from wounds in Peking has just been announced. Mr Narabara was a man of very exceptional accomplishments, his knowledge of the Chinese language being particularly remarkable. He spent 8 years in China, returning in 1890, after having enjoyed the tuition of some highly distinguished scholars. Subsequently he passed from 3 to 4 years at Edinburgh University, studying law. It will be remembered that he accompanied Baron Ito to Chefoo in 1895, for the purpose of exchanging the ratification of the Bakan Treaty. The year before last he married Marquis Saigo's daughter, Miss Masa, who is now in Peking with three children, one of them a baby born last May. Mr. Narabara was only 40 years of age. His loss to the country is profoundly recognised and the greatest sympathy is expressed with his young widow.

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INTERNATIONAL POLITICS.

The *Jiumin* (Liberal organ) has a powerful article on the Far-Eastern Question. It contends that whereas England and America are now openly pledged to a programme of non-partition in China, Russia, though nominally of the same political complexion, really desires partition and will strive for it. France, through the mouth of M. Delcassé, has announced sentiments similar to those of England and America. But France will ultimately go with Russia; that may be taken for granted. There remains Germany. She also has made self-denying disavowals. But her desire to keep in Russia's good graces is so strong that she is not unlikely to be found at last in the same camp with the latter. Hence the situation resolves itself into the United States and Great Britain on one side against Russia, France, and Germany on the other. With whom will Japan throw in her lot? Unquestionably with the non-partition side. But there is a provision essential to Japan's vigorous action; she must have some guarantee about Korea. Even if she has to stake her national existence in the struggle, she is bound to work for a free hand in Korea. Let that be assured and she will be prepared to send out any force that the non-partition Powers consider necessary. We make on comments on this article.

FORMOSA.

There is a report that a serious collision occurred between foreigners and Formosan insurgents on the 5th instant at Pi-nan. Several lives are said to have been lost, but there is complete absence of details.

The attempt made by over 200 prisoners to break jail at Tai-nan, in Formosa, is said to have been prompted by the hope of contriving the escape of five of the bandits' ringleaders, who had been apprehended on July 18th and condemned to death on August 1st. The fellow-prisoners and former subordinates of these men were incited by them to undertake the desperate enterprise. The fight between the prisoners, the wardens, and gendarmes lasted 2 hours. At the outset, before the wardens and gendarmes had time to assemble in any force, the prisoners managed to get possession of some weapons and were thus enabled to make a desperate resistance.

THE OLD STORY.

The Kuwana (Ise) Exchange is in trouble. It has fallen a victim to that too common incident of Japanese business, dishonesty on the part of trusted directors. The defaulter is Mr. Murakami, who made away with 25,000 *yen* belonging to the Exchange, and tried to recoup his losses by speculation. The worst of the matter is that several others are said to have been implicated with him.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TROOPS AT TIENTSIN.

A general order issued by Lieut.-General Yamaguchi to the troops under his command at Tientsin suggests that the pleasant relations which existed originally between the soldiers of various nationalities have of late been disturbed. The General reminds his men that their reputation depends as much on their conduct when in camp as on their bravery in the field.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

The recently appointed Korean Representative at the Japanese Court has been sentenced to five years' transportation—a quaint transformation.

It is stated that the members of the Ming faction have formed a large party led by themselves, which clamours for Cabinet reconstruction.

It was announced that Mr. Yu Kwihwan had been appointed on the 2nd instant to represent Korea at the Japanese Court. But Korean politics are kaleidoscopic. The latest intelligence is that Messrs. Yu Kwihwan and Kwŏn Chaiyŏng have been impeached, and that the former's appointment has been quashed.

This railway is said to be now very prosperous. It is held by 14 Japanese, Baron Shibusawa being their chief. These promoters put up a sum of 720,000 *yen*, and obtained from the Treasury a loan of 1,800,000 *yen*. The line did not pay well at first owing to the want of a bridge over the Han River, but, after the completion of the bridge on June 27th, a marked change took place in the receipts. They rose suddenly from an average of 6.27 *yen* per mile daily to 20 *yen*, and even during the recent heavy rains, which greatly interrupted traffic, the gross earnings did not fall below 15 *yen* a mile. It is stated that the Company has expended a sum of 20,000 *yen* on the construction of a state carriage for the use of the imperial family.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The *Shinano Maru* (6,083 tons), which was built in England to order of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, arrived at Kobe on the 3rd instant.

There has been the usual interchange of condolences and acknowledgments between the Emperor of Japan and the Queen of England in connexion with the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

On the 2nd instant the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs issued instructions to the various Local Officials that emigration to British America and to the United States is to be suspended for the present.

The Fine Arts Museum to celebrate the wedding of the Prince Imperial will be erected in the Hibiya Park, it is said. This fact makes it doubly regrettable that the fine old pines on the east of the Imperial Hotel were destroyed instead of being moved into the Park.

There was a great scene when the relics of Buddha arrived in Tokyo from Siam *viâ* Kyoto. The relics are to be kept, apparently, in the Hongwan temple at Asakusa. Many thousands of people assembled at Shimbashi to welcome the sacred objects, and hundreds of priests are said to have been present in full canonicals.

The torpedo-destroyer *Niji* has become a total wreck. On the 30th ultimo she went ashore on a sunken rock off the Shan-tung promontory. H.M.S. *Peacock*, the *Akitsushima*, and the *Higo Maru* all went to her assistance, but owing to unfavourable weather nothing useful could be effected, and the ship finally broke up. A telegram from her commanding officer in that sense has been received by the Naval Department in Tokyo. There were no casualties to life or limb. The *Niji* was a new boat of the very best and latest type. She was built at Yarrow, her cost being 800,000 *yen*, and she arrived in Japan last year.

A train going southward, which left Shizuoka at 6 a.m. on the 3rd instant, was derailed at 7.35 p.m. at a point within a short distance of Takatsuki. One person was killed and 2 were injured. The train consisted of eleven passenger cars, eleven luggage waggons, and a brake-van. Only the brake-van and three of the waggons left the line. The rails were quickly repaired.

The *Nippon's* war correspondent says that very marked friendship exists between the Japanese and the English in the field. They supply each other's wants and are mutually helpful in every way. The Indian soldiers have become familiar with the term "Japanese," and show the greatest good will, and the Wei-hai-wei regiments speak of the Japanese as "Nippon Daijin."

A despatch from the Governor-General of Formosa states that 230 prisoners made a resolute attempt to escape from jail at Tainan on the 2nd instant, at 2.30 p.m. Two jailors were killed and 8 wounded. Thirty of the prisoners were killed and 19 wounded. Five escaped. These prisoners were rebels who had violated their pledge to keep the peace, and had consequently been condemned to imprisonment for life

Telegrams published in Tokyo say that the French Exhibition is a great success. The throng of visitors increases daily. On the 3rd instant there were 600,000. The telegram adds that, in consequence of the part taken in the present war by the Japanese, Japan's exhibits have begun to attract greater attention. Mr. Izuka Ihei, whose store is named the Giyokuho-do, has had the honour of receiving one of the autograph letters addressed by the President to the Judges. It is further stated that there is a prospect of the Czar's visiting the Exhibition.

We are not surprised to learn by telegram that Great Britain protested strongly against the acquittal of Sipido, and that Belgium failed to reply. The protest was inevitable, and the Belgians, who are among the greatest jurisconsults of Europe, could not possibly stultify themselves by attempting to defend such a traversy of justice. Many Belgians are probably now thinking how much they must be prepared to bear of responsibility for the assassination of King Humbert and the attempted assassination of the Shah of Persia. The verdict of the Belgian jury that tried Sipido was an open declaration of immunity for regicides.

There has lately been talk, as our readers are aware, of abolishing the Conventional Tariff and leaving Japan a free hand to fix her own customs dues. The Tokyo *Asahi* has been conspicuous in advocating this change. Its ground is that any increase of duties now made by Japan would be, not from protective motives, but obviously for purposes of revenue, in other words, to recoup her outlays in connexion with the expedition to China. We read now in Tokyo journals, but we do not vouch for the accuracy of the statement, that the Japanese Government, having availed itself of the present opportunity to approach the various Powers with reference to the tariff question, has obtained the

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consent of them all, Great Britain and Germany excepted. It is not anticipated, however, that if Great Britain is openly asked, she will make any serious objection, considering that she was recently prepared to guarantee Japan's war expenses, and of course, if England comes in, Germany is not likely to remain the sole dissentient.

We read in the *Hochi Shimbun* a statement that the transactions of the Standard Oil Company in Yechigo are giving rise to a considerable degree of uneasiness in that locality. It is not, so far as we can gather, that the people have any objection to the development of foreign enterprise, but that they repose no confidence in the Japanese agent whom the Company is employing for the purposes of its business. We refrain from mentioning names or from reproducing the particulars of the charges preferred by the *Hochi*, but it does not seem right to pass over the matter in silence.

The same newspaper alleges that Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company are organizing an association to be called the "Rising Sun Oil Company," with a capital of a quarter of a million sterling, and that, although the company will take over the business of selling the oils of Russia and Borneo in Japan, its chief dealings will be in Echigo oil.

THE SILK CROP.

The *Keizai Zasshi* gives the following particulars of the silk crop this year:—According to the latest investigations of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce the silk industry this year shows an increase of about 11 per cent. as regards the rearing of worms and about 6 per cent. in the output of cocoons. The silk crop last year attained unprecedented success, and it is difficult to conceive an equally satisfactory result for this year. Still, even allowing that the output will not exceed that of last year, the amount will not fall short of 1,810,000 *koku*. It is impossible, however, to predict the market value of the crop. Probably the prosperity experienced last year will not be attained, in spite of the possibility of trade reviving later on. At present transactions in silk are almost at a standstill, but the slightest turn of events might restore prosperity. The agricultural vicissitudes of America have hitherto affected the world's markets, but as the estimates for this year in connection with wheat and other cereals stand at 41 millions bushels, no anxiety need be entertained as to serious commercial depression. On the contrary there are sure signs of a revival of trade in general. Why should silk alone not prosper? England, too, though her trade was somewhat impaired by the African war, is now in a position to direct her attention to the improvement of commerce, and in other countries of Europe there are no apparent symptoms of distress. The Indian famine alone may be counted as one of the sources of depression, but as India has nothing whatever to with the silk trade, nothing need be feared from her calamities. In short, Japan may rest assured of at least moderate success for the silk industry this year.

The *Shogyo* takes a gloomier view of the prospect. It gives the comparative figures up to July for the past three years as follows:—

	1900. Bales.	1899. Bales.	1898. Bales.
Arrivals	13,790	16,379	9,641
Preliminary sales	4,548	9,475	6,543
Actual sales	3,305	7,525	5,486
Rejected	812	522	727
Stock	10,320	6,474	8,570

Thus the arrivals for this year have considerably decreased as compared with last year, while the amount of preliminary sales does not exceed 4 548 bales—a figure which is not only extremely insignificant in comparison with last year, but also stands in striking contrast even with the figure for the year before last, which was characterized by unexampled depression. Similar unfavourable inferences are to be drawn in regard to actual sales and rejections, as may be perceived from the following figures:—

	1900. Per cent.	1899. Per cent.	1898. Per cent.
Actual sales	72.68	79.41	83.84
Rejections	17.91	5.51	11.11

Although the direct cause of the fall in the value of silk is attributable to general depression of trade, the abnormal enhancement of interest on advances made by wholesale merchants in Yokohama on stocks in the producing districts must have largely contributed to the present situation. It is reported that the daily interest on these advances was lately raised to 3-8 *sen*.

At any rate, the silk trade this year does not seem to offer any prospect of success. The economic conditions of Europe and America are far from being satisfactory at present, though orders still are being received from abroad by the foreign firms in Yokohama to no small extent. The comparative insignificance of transactions is simply due to the unwillingness of Japanese to part with stocks at exceptionally low rates, the result being that foreigners have suspended their purchases in view of the possibility of still further depreciation. The amount of silk exported from June 1st up to July 24th this year, as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of the past two years, is as follows:—

	1900. Bales.	1899. Bales.	1898. Bales.
Export by foreign merchants	2,800	4,062	2,334
Direct export of native merchants	1,760	2,302	1,062

Thus the trade shows a tendency to increase in comparison with the year before last. Nevertheless, a greater portion of the stock exported last year at abnormally high quotations is still retained by merchants abroad, without passing into the hands of consumers, and this appears to be the main cause of the depression, which is likely to continue for some time to come. The native merchants ought to take a clear view of these circumstances, adds our contemporary.

FINANCE.

Owing to the development of the Chinese complications the greater portion of Government deposits held by the Bank of Japan have been appropriated as war expenses or in the management of internal finances, as may be clearly perceived from the frequent issue by the Bank of notes above the legal limit. The demand for funds arising from the expansion of domestic industry could by no means have necessitated the over-issue of notes to such a serious extent. The Bank's report for the week before last gives the following figures:—

	July 17th. Yen.	June 30th. Yen.
Amount of issue above the legal limit	9,961,111	7,502,573
Specie reserves	78,272,393	80,136,677

Although the abnormal issue of notes above the legal limit may be chiefly due to the diminution in the amount of specie reserves, yet the direct cause of the measure must be ascribed to the necessity of transporting large quantities of specie to China, apart from the exodus of gold in connection with the excess in imports. The most striking feature, however, is the sudden decrease in loans and discounts, apparently caused by the general depression of trade. Below are the figures:—

	July 7th. Yen.	June 30th. Yen.
Discounted bills	80,489,764	96,048,993
Loans issued	66,709,865	68,939,223

As to Government deposits the amount had decreased by over two millions of *yen*, while the general deposits had increased by one million approximately. These facts are sufficient to prove the pernicious effect of the Chinese insurrection upon the money market in Japan.

JAPAN'S TRADE WITH CHINA.

A pamphlet published by the *Kokumin* contains the following particulars of Japanese trade with China:—The Japanese trade with South China is chiefly conducted through Hongkong, and therefore the figures in the various tables enumerated below are to be understood as representing the volume of trade from which transactions relating to Hongkong are excluded. According to the returns of the Finance Department the exports and imports in connection with China during the 32nd year of *Meiji* totalled 68,944,764 *yen*, representing 16 per cent. of the aggregate foreign trade of Japan—431,897,260 *yen*. During the year mentioned, exports to China amounted to 40,257,034 *yen*, representing 19 per cent. of the total export trade of Japan—211,495,334, whereas imports from China aggregated 28,687,730 *yen*, or over 13 per cent. of the total imports from abroad, valued at 220,401,925 *yen*. The export of specie to China during the year under notice totalled 1,812,064 *yen*, or 16 per cent. of the gross amount of exports to abroad, which stood at 11,178,247 *yen*. As to the import the amount reached 8,262,363, indicating 41 per cent. of the gross total, 20,163,500. Following are figures concerning the staples exported to China last year:—

		Value in *yen*.
Raw Silk	2 catties.	20
Noshi and waste silk	106,499 "	80,406
Habutae	5,680 *tan*.	113,597
Kai Silk	31 "	200
Silk handkerchiefs	7,724 doz.	24,403
Cotton yarns	83,654,113 catties.	22,911,553
Cotton fabrics	—	1,070,979
Rugs	3,617 pieces.	8,017
Matches	7,483,605 cases.	2,020,055
Matting	—	4,161
Porcelain and earthenwares	—	112,688
Lacquer wares	—	41,675
Straw braids	2,802 bundles.	485
Umbrellas	1,330,401	479,418
Manufactured tea	1,134,266 catties.	73,080
Rice	1,478 piculs.	9,388
Dried cuttlefish	913,847 catties.	174,737
Kombu (laminaria Japonica)	44,268,582 "	909,191
Fish oil	6,420 "	448
Mushrooms (*Shitake*)	328,366 "	188,783
Camphor	18,216 "	9,863
Crude and wrought copper	1,089,166 "	430,420
Coal	949,051 tons.	5,406,894
Vegetable wax	170,380 catties.	25,533

As to imports from China the figures stand at follows:—

Raw cotton	251,478 piculs.	4,517,271
Shirtings and chintzes	1,057 yards.	114
Wool	3,475,113 catties.	810,616
Iron and steel	7,708,370 "	146,466
Brown and white sugars	670,469 piculs.	2,880,335
Rice	60,322 "	231,625
Peas and beans	2,365,234 "	6,666,097
Oil cakes	2,616,505 "	6,047,237
Leaf tobacco	1,789,232 catties.	222,809
Cigars	6,500 pieces.	239

AN IMPORTANT REVELATION.

The following extract from a letter dated Tientsin from a gentleman who has a thorough knowledge of the Chinese written language, and whose statements may be implicity relied on, has been placed at the disposal of the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

"I have made several excursions to the city yamêns searching for documents to see what relations the Boxers had to the Government. My first day's finding was small, but it was very important. I found in the Viceroy's yamên a receipt given by the Tientsin prefect to the Viceroy for 600 bags best white flour supplied to the officer commanding the Boxers, also several receipts for money given to the relatives of Boxers killed in action, and to wounded Boxers, Tls. 100 and Tls. 30, respectively. There were Boxer cards presented by hundreds of Boxer Societies to the Viceroy, there were also lists of Boxers in different villages, giving their names and ages, also lists of arms and ammunition supplied to them, so really, as far as I have been able to find, the Viceroy's yamên has been the headquarters of the Boxers in Tientsin."

As Yü Lu, the ex-Viceroy of Tientsin, has always been known to be friendly to foreigners, it cannot be doubted, says the Shanghai journal, that in this matter he was acting under the direct orders of the Government of the Empress Dowager. No doubt farther incriminating revelations will follow.

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RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

ATTEMPTS are being made to foster the disagreement anticipated from the first between the allied Powers. Of course the trouble is alleged to be between Russia and England. Admiral SEYMOUR's visit to the Viceroy at Nanking has given rise to rumours that Great Britain is acting independently of the other Powers, to which statement is added the charge that she shows a general disposition to disagree with other nationalities; while from British sources emanates a rumour that Russia considers it unnecessary to advance against Peking, since there can be no hope of saving the Ministers unless they are protected by the Chinese Government, and if they are thus protected, there is no occasion to attempt their rescue by force. These stories are very subtly conceived. They are just the kind of talk that might have been expected, and it was perhaps in anticipation of something of the kind that the British Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs made his recent emphatic statement, declaring it to be the resolve of England that China shall not be partitioned; that she shall be governed by Chinese for the Chinese; that, if necessary, British troops will co-operate with those of the Viceroys to preserve order in the Yang-tsze Valley, and that Shanghai shall be defended at all hazards. In the face of that announcement it is quite impossible to suppose that any underhand negotiations can have taken place between Admiral SEYMOUR and Viceroy CHANG. Admiral SEYMOUR doubtless informed the Viceroy of Her Majesty's Government's policy, and, having assured himself that the Viceroy is genuinely desirous of preserving order, he returned to Shanghai, where he is carrying out the latter part of the programme by mounting guns and adopting vigorous measures for defence. The Russians themselves can scarcely believe the story they have circulated, and we are very confident that it is not believed in Russian official circles. On the other hand, as we have said, newsmongers, apparently English, accuse Russia of being opposed to a Peking expedition on the ground of fruitlessness. The subtlety of this statement lies in the fact that Russia has been from the first suspected of repeating the tactics pursued by her openly in 1895 and covertly, it is alleged, during the past few years; the tactics of assisting the Chinese Government in such a manner as to place it under heavy obligations. It is very plain that, if Russia has any ambitious ends in the Far East, she can find in the present crisis an opportunity of promoting them, for she, and she alone, is in a position so to hamper the action of the Allies as to obtain breathing-time for China and ultimately bring about negotiations tending to save the Peking Government from the worst consequences of its misdeeds. The main step in such a design would be to refuse to take part *in the* Peking expedition, and a specious reason for doing so offers itself in the fact that only by the Chinese Government's good offices can the Ministers and the community in Peking be saved. That is precisely what the Chinese Government appears to be desirous of establishing. It wants to exchange its protection of the Foreign Ministers against immunity for the capital from attack, and since success in that respect would completely restore its "face" and enable it to emerge almost triumphantly from the complication, it would owe an immense debt of gratitude to any one of the Western Powers willing to assist in bringing about such a result. We can see, therefore, that these newly circulated rumours are subtly conceived. Each Power accuses the other of underhand procedure, the Russian party hinting that England is taking advantage of the situation to gain an increased hold upon the Yangtsze Valley, and the British party contending that Russia is utilizing the crisis for her own selfish ends. We have no doubt that the Governments of the two countries will know how to protect their relations against disturbance from such sources. But to the Russian newsmongers we desire to point out that their country has been left an entirely free hand in Manchuria. England has not questioned the loyalty of St. Petersburg's intentions towards that vast tract of Chinese territory, though Russian troops are being massed there in large numbers. That very practical evidence of England's confidence and good-will ought to supply food for reflection to the mischief-makers who pretend to think that the visit of a British Admiral to a Chinese Viceroy indicates underhand proceedings. It will be very hard to steer through all these sunken rocks without running the ship aground, but the public will not forget that difficulties were always anticipated, or lose heart because idle rumour has done just what it might have been expected to do. The value of Russian assistance in North China has been very great up to the present, and we have no right to assume that the Government in St. Petersburg does not honestly desire a mutually satisfactory general understanding.

MR. STEAD.

THAT incorrigible mischief-maker Mr. STEAD, whose judgment is about on a par with his tact, observes in the last number of the *Review of Reviews* that, if the Japanese are allowed to take part in the capture of Peking, scenes like those witnessed at Port Arthur will again be exhibited. It gives Mr. STEAD great concern to think that barbarians like the Japanese should be used against barbarians like the Chinese. It is opposing wickedness with wickedness, a manifestly shocking procedure from the point of view of Christianity. Mr. STEAD is very unfortunate. Could he have refrained temporarily from this outburst of racial prejudice and religious bigotry, he might have avoided the crushing rejoinder that recent events have furnished. The drift of his international proclivities is well-known—so well-known that some people have been kind enough to suspect him of being in the pay of a certain Power. That, of course, is neither here nor there. Folks who seek the mainspring of all human actions in money effect nothing except to furnish a gauge of their own covetousness. But Mr. STEAD undoubtedly has an international bias, and he displays it in the most unequivocal manner. One of the chief purposes of his life is to establish friendship between England and a nation which many of us have stupidly learned to regard as a hereditary enemy. Mr. STEAD would gladly see that nation entrusted with the task of capturing Peking. He has always extolled the civilizing effects of its territorial expansion in Asia. And he would gladly see Japan's troops relegated to a subordinate place as unqualified to stand in the ranks of Christendom. In fact, he says so openly. Poor Mr. STEAD! It is not often that pet doctrines are so completely shattered by facts. By this time he is a sadder, though we fear not a wiser man. By this time he knows how the "barbarian" Japanese have conducted themselves in China, and how the soldiers of Christian nations have conducted themselves. He will probably deny it all as a foul libel. He will probably show just as great reluctance to accept any evidence against a Christian nation as he showed readiness to accept any evidence whatever against the Japanese at Port Arthur. But he is in a "tight place."

In connexion with this subject we observe that a local contemporary, referring to the Port Arthur affair, says:—"It was alleged that, infuriated by mutilations which had been practised on some of the Japanese slain, the troops shot non-combatants, wherever they could find them, without regard to age or sex, until the population was well-nigh annihilated." Yes, that was certainly alleged, but our contemporary must be well aware that the allegations were subsequently proved to be gross exaggerations. There certainly were great and lamentable excesses committed at Port Arthur, but it is false to say that there was no discrimination of sex. Not one solitary proof could be given that women had been deliberately killed, and there can be no doubt that many of the so-called "civilians" whose bodies were seen by foreign newspaper correspondents, had originally served as soldiers and had exchanged their uniforms for civilian costume. There was no such thing as deliberate killing of women and children at Port Arthur, and we must not forget that throughout the whole course of the campaign prior to Port Arthur, as well as throughout the whole campaign subsequent to it, the Japanese soldiers carefully refrained from violence against non-combatants. The excesses at Port Arthur were the outcome of momentary fury caused by shocking barbarities previously committed by the Chinese. Is there any similar excuse for the things that are said to have happened at Taku, at Tientsin, and at various intervening villages?

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GREAT BRITAIN'S POLICY IN CHINA.

NOTHING could be more unequivocal than Mr. BRODRICK's declaration in the House of Commons as to the policy of the British Government in China. To relieve the Legations, to vindicate the sanctity of the envoys, to exact an indemnity, but to oppose the partition of the empire, on the ground that China must be governed by Chinese for the Chinese—that is a programme which admits of no query whatever. The Chinese now know exactly what is before them, and the sooner they lower their arms the better for themselves. It is not possible to predict exactly what form the vindication of the envoys' sanctity will take: probably an imposing ceremony of apology. But the great points are that there will be no dismemberment of the ancient empire, and that its government will be organized on the basis of Chinese administering affairs in Chinese interests. Doubts may be entertained as to the personality of the Government, but we venture to predict that if the Chinese themselves do not set aside the EMPRESS-DOWAGER, Great Britain will not do so. It will be understood, of course, that we are not contemplating any British action independently of the other Powers, but that we are merely commenting on the situation as it presents itself to us by the light of Mr. BRODRICK's remarks. England, we think, will not make any attempt to deprive the EMPRESS-DOWAGER of political power. The administrative titles of those from whom the Chinese representatives in the negotiations hold their credentials will be continuously recognised. Probably the only condition attached will be the removal of all reactionary statesmen in favour of those that have shown themselves liberal and progressive.

ORDINANCE No. 29 OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

The following Ordinance is published in the *Official Gazette*:—Any person desiring to tender for the work connected with the construction of breakwaters at the beach at Kanomachi, set apart for the use of the Kobe Custom House, must secure the following additional qualifications besides those specified in Article LXIX of the Law of Accounts:—

1. In the case of individuals, certificates of having been in the trade during the past two years and the payment of direct national tax to the amount of five *yen* per annum.

2. In the case of commercial companies, the possession of capital to the extent of over 300,000 *yen* in the form of paid-up shares or debentures.

Any person tendering for more than 200,000 *yen* must be possessed of the following qualification:—

1. In the case of individuals, certificate of having been in the trade for the past two years and the payment of direct national tax to the amount of 15 *yen* a year.

2. In the case of commercial companies, the possession of capital to the value of over 150,000 *yen* in the form of paid-up shares, or of debentures.

3 The possession of substantial evidence showing that a single contract involving more than 10,000 *yen* has been satisfactorily fulfilled in regard to the supply of articles or the execution of work similar in nature to that which is to be submitted to tender.

REGULATION OF RELIGIONS.

The *Official Gazette* publishes alterations in Ordinance No. 6 of the Home Department issued in the 31st year of *Meiji*. They are to be enforced from the 5th August. We give below some of the important changes made:

Art. III.—Any judicial person formed for the maintenance of a Shinto shrine or a Buddhist temple, the propagation of religions professed, or the performance of religious rites, must obtain permission of the local Governor in case he desires to receive public contributions or contract loans.

Art. IV.—The above provision applies to corporations with similar aims.

Art. V.—Application for permission to receive contributions or negotiate loans must contain the following particulars:—(1) Object, method, amount, limit, and period of inviting subscription. (2) Rate of interest and method of redemption in the case of loans, together with the items specified above.

Art. VI.—No alteration in the above items can be made unless permission is obtained by forwarding a statement of reasons.

Art. VII.—In case any person who has obtained official permission for receiving contributions or contracting loans desires to secure the services of another to act on his behalf, he must obtain the permission of the local Governor of the district in which subscriptions are to be invited, by forwarding a petition showing the name, address, age, and occupation of the persons specified.

Art. VIII.—Violation of Article I., IV., or VII., shall render the person in charge liable to a fine not exceeding 20 *yen* in the case of Shinto Shrines or Buddhist temples or of juridical persons. In other cases the penalty shall be imposed upon the actual offender. (Article IV. of the original regulations is revised as above).

Art. X.—With regard to persons who have taken measures to secure subscriptions prior to the operation of this Ordinance, but who have not yet completed their arrangements the Ordinance shall be applied to that portion of the arrangements which remain unfinished.

ORDINANCE No. 39 OF THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

Rules relating to the organisation of juridical persons having for their object the propagation of religions or the performance of religious rites have been established as follows:—

Art. I.—In case any person desires to acquire the status of a juridical person for an association or other corporate body the object of which is to propagate religion or perform religious rites, he, as the projector, must present a document containing the following items, in addition to the regulations of the association or the procedure connected with the receipt of contributions:—

1. Denomination of religion or of its sect or branch.
2. Method of propagation and form of ritual.
3. Qualifications of propagandists and methods of their election.
4. Relations between believers and juridical persons.
5. Number of believers as well as persons to be admitted for membership.
6. In the case of an association possessing temples, churches, cathedrals, or preaching places used for religious purposes, their name and location, as well as the date on which official sanction was obtained for their organisation.

Art. II.—In case the aforesaid juridical person makes an alteration in the items specified in Paragraphs 1 and 4 of the preceding article, the fact must be immediately reported.

Art. III.—In case a juridical person as specified in Article I. desires to make an alteration in the items specified in Paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of the said article, he must obtain official sanction.

Violation of the aforesaid provisions may be attended with the withdrawal of permission for organisation in accordance with Article LXXI. of the Civil Code.

Art. IV.—In forwarding documents as prescribed by this Ordinance, a note from the superintendent must be annexed in the case of persons belonging to a Shinto or Buddhist Sect.

NOTIFICATION No. 296 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

Paragraph 9 relating to reduction in charges for the exclusive use of carriages or goods trucks, as advertised in the *Official Gazette* No 1833, issued on August 8th of the 22nd year of *Meiji* (1889), has been revised, the revision, coming into force from the 1st of August, 1900:—

With regard to private individuals or companies who have occasion to place on the rail great quantities of goods, a reduction shall be made at the rates specified below:—

Note.—Although the Tokaido and Hokuriku lines may be taken together for purposes of calculation, those belonging to the Shinyetsu and the southern and northern sections of the O-U railway must not be reckoned in conjunction with other lines.

TOKAIDO AND HOKURIKU RAILWAYS.

Freight.

Above	10,000 *yen*	and below	20,000 *yen*			1/100
„	20,000 „	„	30,000	„		2/100
„	30,000 „	„	40,000	„		3/100
„	40,000 „	„	50,000	„		4/100
„	50,000 „	„	—	„		5/100

Shinyetsu line and the southern and northern section of the On railway.

Above	5,000 *yen*	and below	8,000 *yen*			3/100
„	8,000 „	„	10,000	„		4/100
„	10,000 „	„	—	„		5/100

INDUSTRIES IN HOKKAIDO.

Hokkaido abounds in vegetable products, and this has proved a great advantage to persons engaged in sericulture, remarks the *Jiumin*. It is possible to decrease the expenses of production, and the profit to be realized is comparatively large, but strange to say the silk industry has never attained a high degree of development in the North in spite of the climate being eminently suitable. Last year's statistics show that the number of families engaged in sericulture totalled 2,074 and the output of cocoons 2,000 *koku*. Compared with five years ago the figures have increased by only 624 and 634 respectively. The popular mind is now inclined towards the promotion of the industry, in view of the adaptibility of other provinces, such as Ishikari, Oshima, and Shiribeshi.

As to rapeseed oil, the quantities sent from the various cities and prefectures in the interior are very insignificant, the gross total during the 31st year of *Meiji* not exceeding 3,400 *koku*. These were chiefly used for lighting and manufacturing purposes. In Hokkaido there is only one oil factory in Otaru carried on on a large scale, and possessing a number of steam engines. A scheme is now on foot to set up a large plant in order to supply Aomori and other north-eastern prefectures, instead of limiting operations to the island as hitherto.

Glass manufacture has only recently been started in Hakodate and Sapporo, and is yet in a state of immaturity. During May last rather extensive plans were formulated in Sapporo by persons interested in the enterprise, and it is estimated that the demand for glass wares will exceed a million *yen* every year.

SUGAR REFINERY IN FORMOSA.

A scheme is on foot to establish a large sugar refinery in Tainan, Formosa, with a capital of 500,000 *yen*. It is said that the institution is to receive a subsidy of 12,000 *yen*, for the present, from the Formosa Government Office, and 200,000 *yen* of the capital is to be called up during this year. Next year the subsidy will be increased to 30,000 *yen*, or 6 per cent. of the capital. Rumour says that similar factories will rapidly spring up, but no protection will be afforded by the Government.

The *Kokumin* alleges that the scheme was originally contemplated by the Mitsui family, with the assistance of the houses of Mori and Soma, and other influential millionaires, who appear disposed to increase the capital to one million *yen*. A certain Formosan merchant in Takao is reported to have taken up shares to the amount of 50,000 *yen*. As to the aids or subsidy from the Formosan Government Office, a perfect understanding is said to have been arrived at between the parties concerned.

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IMPERIAL ORDINANCE NO. 300.

The following Ordinance has recently been published in the *Official Gazette* —

Art. I.—In case the condition of land, houses, or structures of any kind, existing in the neighbourhood of rivers or streams, is deemed detrimental to the state of the river or stream, the Governor of a city or prefecture may adopt measures for the alteration or removal of the same, or direct the owner to undertake the work.

Art. II.—In case sand, bamboo, or trees existing in the vicinity of rivers are considered detrimental, the Governor of a city or prefecture may direct the owner thereof to remove the same.

Art. III.—The local Governor, if he deems it necessary, may enter the adjoining land or erect sign posts thereon.

Art. IV.—Any person desiring to undertake the following works must obtain sanction of the local Governor :—

1. Construction, alteration, or removal of structures or buildings other than houses standing on the land contiguous to rivers or streams.

2. Excavations or alterations in the vicinity of rivers or streams.

3. Construction, alternation, or removal of houses on the land behind the embankments, or the planting or cutting of trees or bamboos.

Art. V.—The owners of land close to rivers are required to allow the same to be used as a tow path The necessary restrictions in connection with this provision shall be determined by the local Governors.

Art. VI.—The owners of land along the embankments are not allowed to impede the course of rain water flowing from the embankments, or to adopt any contrivance to secure the flow of water towards the same.

Art. VII.—In case damages are incurred in connection with the provisions of Articles I., II., III., or V., suitable compensation shall be made by the city or prefecture.

Art. VIII.—In case the local Governor undertakes to adopt measures in accordance with Article I. or Article III., notice must be given to the owner or tenant at least five days previously.

Art. IX.—With regard to the items specified below, as well as to the alteration or abolition of the same, the sanction of the Home Minister is necessary :—

1. Adoption of measures as provided for in [illegible] Article, [illegible] speaking, is the excessive land tax levied by the native princes but that in some provinces taxation had been readjusted, equalized, and nationalized, and that as a result the peasants are enabled in the years of plenty to provide against the lean years, and that in these provinces famines now seldom occur. It might be in the interests of humanity if England were to be more despotic and say to all the princes of India "We will take all power out of your hands and adjust matters to our liking whether you wish it or not," but if such a proceeding should cause an insurrection would England be applauded as being more Christian than she is in not being too hasty to reform a submissive subject nation? England is too much in need of reform herself to be consistently impetuous in forcing reform on others.

Being an American, I was not in a position to know all about English public opinion, but to my mind nothing seemed surer than that English public opinion would have forced the Government to intervene on behalf of Armenia and there seemed to be indications that the British Government was feeling the way towards intervention when Mr. Cleveland startled the world, shook English confidence in United States' assistance, or at least in her moral support, and cruelly blasted the last and only hopes that Armenians had of help from earthly powers, by his fearless defiance of England over the Venezuela question.

I am not discussing the Venezuela boundary dispute nor the ex-President's motives in thus twisting the British lion's tail, but it is certain that many American missionaries in Asia Minor were anxiously looking to the United States to strengthen the arms of England in putting a stop to the massacres and were amazed to see it doing the very thing that paralyzed the movement in England for intervention. Surely the plain fact is that the United States has no small share in the ignominy that rests upon the nations enlightened by Christian teaching for their cruel neglect of Armenia.

When I think of the opium forced upon China by England and France at the mouth of the cannon, of the insults, wrongs, and robberies which Russia, Germany, and France have perpetrated upon China, of the Chinese-exclusion laws of the United States and Canada, and their treatment of the "heathen Chinese" within their gates, I don't feel like having much to say about Christian nations, and I feel as if I hardly know where I am at on the map which shows heathen nations; but still I try to stick to plain facts and give even the devil his due,

Yours Sincerely, SUFFERER—FROM HEAT.

July 30th, 1900.

LANGFELDT AND CO. LIMITED.

A half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of this Company was held on Friday afternoon at No 73. Mr. J. F. Lowder presided, and there were also present Messrs. C. Weinberger, W R Bennett, and C. B. Bernard.

THE REPORT

The report was as follows :—

The statement of Assets and Liabilities, and the Profit and Loss Account for the half-year ended the 30th June, 1900, accompany this Report.

The profit for the half-year, after providing for general expenses, and Directors and Auditor's fees, including the amount carried forward from last half-year, amounts to : ¥20.806.59

Of which there has been written off on account of losses at Manila the sum of. Yen. 12,000.00

leaving balance of..... 8,806.59

which it is proposed to deal with as follow : —

To pay a dividend of *yen* 5 per share for the half-year, free of income tax, which will absorb 7.500.00

And to carry forward to a new account 1,306.59

8,800.59

J. F. LOWDER
C. WEINBERGER
C. B. BERNARD
} Directors.

Yokohama, July 25th, 1900.

LANGFELDT AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 30TH JUNE, 1900.

ASSETS.	Yen.
Merchandise in Stock	92,248 46
Plant, Fixtures and Furniture	3.393.65
Sundry Debtors.....	27.933.04
Fire Insurance Policies.....	257.70
Cash	2,474.20
Steam Launch "Dart"	6,700.36
Manila Branch	4.390.77
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	29,496.69
	166,894.96

LIABILITIES.	
Capital 1,500 Shares $100	150,000.00
Sundry Creditors	8,088.37
Balance Profit [illegible]	8,806.59

result on the asset side was an increase of nearly 6,000 *yen* over the last half year. Coming to the profit and loss account it was satisfactory to see that there had been an increase in the gross profit on trade of 8,500 *yen* as compared with the previous half-year. But for the fact that they had to pay off for losses sustained in Manila the large sum of 12,000 *yen* they would have had a very much larger sum available for division. Indeed, but for these losses there would have been a profit of about 14 per cent. for the whole year, 3 per cent. for the first half-year, and 11 per cent. for the second. On the whole he thought they might congratulate themselves on the result of the half-year's working.

Mr. BENNETT said he personally was very well satisfied. He proposed the adoption of the report and confirmation of the dividend proposals.

Mr. WEINBERGER seconded, and the motion was passed.

The meeting then terminated.

LOOTING AT TIENTSIN.

The *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent at Tientsin writes :—The question of the hour is loot. When the city was taken on the 14th, it must have been utterly unexpected by the inhabitants, for the banks, bullion, and silk shops had all their stock exposed, it soon became a question of help yourself to whatever you please, otherwise the flames or natives will have it. Large quantities of silver were seized and brought in both by officers and men of all nationalities; the civilians got wind of it, and knowing, by the help of servants, the right places, they began to do great things. The Provost-Marshal, with great promptitude, interfered and raided several houses where he knew bullion had been stored. In one case, a particularly happy Nemesis overtook the spoilers. Some American wounded were sent to the hotel where they and their loot were; these wounded were refused admission, thereupon the Provost Marshal and the American Colonel went down forced the house and confiscated a very large number of silver shoes—a carful. This led to several domiciliary visits, and one arrest, also to orders (1) forbidding civilians to [illegible] guard the settlement [illegible] to the best possible advantage. So far as the untrained and poorly armed Boxers were concerned, we were prepared to meet and repel any number of them, but there was every reason to believe and expect that the imperial troops would soon unite with them in an attack against us (we had their own word for that), and then the defence of the settlement seemed hopeless.

Tientsin settlement is composed of three concessions, French, English, and German, lying along the river for about three miles and having a depth of about one mile. The French concession is nearest the native city, the immense suburbs of which adjoin it, then come the British and German concession, in the order named. The banks of the river, above, below, and opposite the settlement were lined with native villages, and they also covered the plain behind the settlement, while there were many Chinese houses and shops in our midst, especially in the French Concession, a whole section of which consisted of tea houses, theatres, and huts.

It was a huge territory to defend, especially with only fourteen hundred troops, but many of the street ends were barricaded and machine guns placed in the most commanding positions, so that the enemy must suffer heavy loss even if successful in an attack. The railway station was on the opposite side of the river, which is crossed by a pontoon bridge, and this important position had to be held at any cost, since the possession of it by the Chinese would give them the key to the settlement and put an end to the possibility of using the line for transportation purposes. The innumerable streets which end on the river front and back on the plain had all to be protected, since by any one of them the Boxers or troops might find entrance to the settlement, and that would prove speedily fatal, so that only a thin line of defence could be formed with the small number of men to command, while it was necessary to use many for patrol purposes about the streets. The American Board Mission compound, in which our house is situated, is at the back of the French Concession, directly in touch with the Chinese suburbs of the native city and surrounded by groups of Chinese houses, and in case of a determined attack we could not hope to remain there—indeed the line of defence was far below us, and the only safety of residents at that end of town would be in leaving their homes and seeking a place within the lines and in the British Concession. The younger citizens had nearly all joined volunteer corps, while a "Home Guard" had been formed among the older residents, the object of which was to aid the women and children in getting to Gordon Hall (the public building in the British Concession), for it was agreed that in case of a general alarm all residents should assemble there, and if the worst came to the worst it was there that we would make a final stand and fight to

[illegible] ...oil by 0.03 *m.*, common salt by 0.11 *m.*, and fat by 0.12 *m.* The amount of albumens for each person decreased by 0.60 *m.*, fat by 0.25 *m.*, and carbohydrates by 1.34 *m.* as compared with the previous year.

BODY-WEIGHT.—The average body-weight of 14,000 persons taken in March and 15,271 persons taken in September, of cadets, petty officers, and men was 15,630 *momme*, being an increase of 120 *m.* as compared with 15,510 *m.* of the previous year, and also being an increase of 520 *m.*, over what has been the average body-weight 15,110 *m.* of each person during the last thirteen years. Thus it shows an increase of 40 *m.* even compared with the average weight 15,590 *m.* of the year 1896, which was the highest average since the year 1884, when an estimate of the body-weight was first made.

The general statistics are interesting to those who take a special interest in such matters, but we have no space to quote them at length, and a summary would convey false impressions.

IN BESIEGED TIENTSIN.

A MISSIONARY'S EXPERIENCES.

The following letter, which gives a better description of occurences in Tientsin than any we have yet read, should be perused with interest :—

Yokohama, July 30th, 1900.

Dear Mr. ——:—My previous reports kept you informed as to the progress of the Boxer uprising to June 13th, since which time all the world has found an interest in the movement, eight nations have poured troops into Tientsin, its residents have narrowly escaped general massacre, heavy battles have been fought, and the daily papers in every land and language have given prominence to news from North China. But owing to the prompt destruction of railway and telegraph lines, the news published up to this time has been disjointed and conflicting, an ounce of truth to a pound of news being a fair average in the accounts. I shall therefore supplement my former reports with an account up to July 1st, on which date I withdrew from the scene of action, all non-combatants having been ordered to leave. I can offer but a brief and imperfect record of events and will deal only with facts that came within my own knowledge and observation regarding the relief expedition to Peking, the taking of the Taku Forts, and the bombardment and relief of Tientsin.

It will be remembered that about four hundred mixed troops had been sent to Peking to guard the legations, after several railway stations had been burned

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the end. We had in our compound a guard of fifty-five blue-jackets, who came there not particularly to protect our property, but because we were able to offer them quarters; but we had a greater feeling of security on their account, as we were sure of having more time to escape in case of a sudden attack by the Boxers. Thus everything that could be devised for the safety of the settlement had been arranged for, even to the use of every able-bodied man, but there was still cause of alarm, unless more reinforcements were to arrive.

Up to Thursday, June 14th, we had, every day, greater cause for alarm, and the volunteers joined with the regulars in a thorough patrol of the settlement during the night. On the evening of that day the Boxers began operations, and from a commanding position we watched them at their work of destruction. Three chapels inside the city were fired, and, as the inflammable Chinese shops and houses there are packed closely together, a great deal of native property suffered from the flames as well. This wanton destruction, bringing want and suffering to hundreds of their own people, brought us more than ever to realize the fiendish spirit animating these angry mobs. For many days previous I had seen the approaching danger and insisted upon the departure of my family for Japan, but there were others—alas too many—who were wilfully blind and over-confident in the troops sent to protect us, forgetting the millions with whom we had to deal, the naturally savage instinct of the Chinese, and the new element of fanaticism that was now moving the masses to unheard-of violence. On Friday all seemed quiet, but again the Boxers gathered with the darkness and, emboldened by the deeds of the night before, came in a mass to the railway station, planning to cross the pontoon bridge, loot and destroy the houses, and massacre the inhabitants. But, as had been predicted, they were easily repulsed. The Cossacks, who had taken charge of this point of the defence, opened upon them at close range with a terrific rifle fire and shots from the field guns. Poor deluded men—armed with banners and spears, confident of the spiritual protection in which they had been taught to believe—they advanced boldly to the very muzzles of the guns that were mowing them down like grass before the scythe, and before they were undeceived hundreds lay torn and bleeding on the ground. In their retreat they carried away most of their dead and wounded, only about a dozen having been left. These bodies presented a ghastly sight when we visited them next day. The field gun shells had taken away whole heads, or left only a circle of skull, and the wounds on the body were too horrible to be described. It was a terrible lesson—and a lesson wasted. For some time I had been spending nearly the whole of every night on the streets or on a high tower near by, in order that I might have early warning of any attack and get the ladies and Chinese refugees out of the compound and to a place of safety with the least possible loss of time.

Friday night was wholly spent on the tower, and it was a night long to be remembered. With field glasses we could see the Boxers gather outside the city walls, and then began a terrible scene of destruction. Again and again they would gather round a group of buildings and apply their torches, and soon the sky was one red glow from the thousands of burning houses and shops in the suburbs. Why they should thus destroy the property of their own people we could not understand, but it was probably that they might satisfy their passion for looting and murder. All night long we watched this terrible work, expecting them to turn upon the settlement at any and every moment, but it was not until the first streaks of dawn appeared, at four o'clock, that we had serious cause for alarm. I was watching the movements of the mob and saw them suddenly gather in one mass, wave their torches high in the air, hesitate for a moment—then with a terrible yell they made a mad rush for the settlement. They were no longer human beings, they were bloodthirsty savages, drunk with the sight of fire and blood.

Rushing down from the tower I alarmed the guard and roused our ladies and children. Our marines hurried out to meet the mob, while I took our ladies down into the British Concession, left them in the house of a friend, and returned. Had the Boxers continued the rush they began they must have found entrance to the settlement, despite the guard at the end of the road, but fortunately, at a distance of about six hundred yards from our house they separated and began setting fires again, while our marines were picking them off, one by one. By this time miles of houses were in flames, and the sight was grand and terrible. Daylight was now come and the Boxers retreated to the city, where they were joined by those who had been repulsed at the railway station. During Saturday morning there was a general exodus of Chinese from the settlement, even the oldest and most trusted servants leaving their employers, and by noon there were only a few Christian servants left, and these, with the refugees who had come in, were the only Chinese among us—with the exception of hidden foes. If we had any confidence in our safety the Chinese had not, and their only desire was to flee from the foreigners, who were soon to be massacred as they firmly believed. The members of the other missions near us mostly all left their compounds and sought safety in the British Concession, but we decided to remain for the time being.

That afternoon the steamer agent informed me that the steamer by which I had engaged passage for my wife, and which was to leave on the following Monday, had been ordered to sail at once, and as there was a military train going down I insisted that my wife should leave without delay, which she did, packing a few things and leaving at only twenty minutes' notice. It was a relief to have my family off and in safety, and I was then able to give my whole attention to the ladies still remaining and the refugees in our charge. These poor people had been coming in from the country for many days, bringing the most harrowing tales of suffering and persecution. They had seen their homes burned, their families killed, had been hunted like wild beasts; and those who reached us were few indeed compared with the thousands that met with torture and death. With me was the Rev. G. D. Wilder, the only male representative of the American Board Mission left in Tientsin. His wife and mother had left with my wife for Shanghai. There remained two of the mission ladies and all the Chinese refugees for us to care for, and it was mainly on their account that we were anxious—two hundred people to be moved in case of danger.

Saturday night was quiet, but the native city was one huge glare of red lanterns, which we took to be the signal for a general uprising. It had been rumoured that the Allies were to take the forts at the mouth of the river, but we hoped that this was not so, as it seemed that such a step must ensure a general massacre—as it very nearly did. It was, however, actually planned and carried out. At a meeting of the admirals in the afternoon a demand for the surrender of the forts was written. This paper Admiral Kempff declined to sign or sanction—much to his credit, for I believe this to have been a tactical blunder, exposing the lives of over two thousand American and European residents in Tientsin, Peking, and other parts of the interior, to immediate danger. The reply from the Chinese was what might have been expected—a volley of shel, which was fired at about one o'clock on Sunday morning. Then followed a terrific bombardment which lasted until long after daylight, when the explosion of a Chinese magazine enabled the land forces to rush in and take the forts one by one. In this engagement only the small gunboats could take part, the shallow water forcing the larger ships to lie at a distance of sixteen miles, and as the forts cover an immense area on both sides of the river, and were armed with no less than eighty heavy guns, it is little short of miraculous that every one of the gun-boats was not speedily sunk, as they would have been had it not been for an error of the Chinese in allowing for the change of tide when sighting their guns. This, however, could not have been foreseen, and the success attained does not lessen the error of the attempt. In good hands these forts might well have defied the entire fleet of war-ships. The ship on which my wife had taken passage had not been allowed to leave, and during that terrible engagement Mrs. Gammon was in the midst of the din and flying shells—on a ship which we afterwards learned was loaded with dynamite. The U.S. *Monocacy*, which had on board the foreign residents of Taku, was struck by one shell, but fortunately no one was injured.

Meanwhile we had heard of the bombardment, in Tientsin, and wondered what the result would be. At noon over one hundred and fifty women and children were at the station trying to leave for Taku, but they were too late, for during the morning the Boxers (probably aided by the imperial troops this time) had wrecked the railway for miles, destroying bridges, tearing up the rails, and with infinite labour pulling up the ties and burning them. We were now as effectively cut off from the world and from assistance as the people in Peking. At three o'clock that afternoon, June 17th, we were startled by the explosion of a large shell over our compound, followed by the heavy boom of the gun which fired it. This was followed by others in rapid succession, but as they were all exploding high above the settlement and doing no damage, we were not seriously alarmed, although as we afterwards learned the residents had hurried their ladies and children to the Gordon Hall at the first shot, where they were jammed into dark and musty cellars. We quickly saw that the bombardment thus begun was soon to be a serious matter, for the Chinese were not long in shortening their range and bringing their demoralizing shells into our midst. For three days this went on almost constantly, day and night, and then for many days after we were shelled for five hours a day on an average. The Boxers made another rush on our end of the town, but were driven back by our marines and a party of French blue-jackets, who then decided to show the Chinese that two can play at the game of fire, by burning all the suburbs and the villages back of the settlement, as well as all the Chinese shops and houses in the French concession. This proved to be an additional danger, however, for the blackened walls and ruins offered excellent shelter for the Chinese sharp-shooters, who could move about among them freely and yet unseen, and they were quick to take advantage of the opportunity, for on Monday bullets began to fly around us thick and fast and seemingly at close range. Our marines rushed up the road to hunt these would-be murderers down but had gone scarcely a hundred yards before two of them were shot down, one to die almost instantly.

Soon our compound became a perfect hotbed. Our Chinese neighbours, whose houses surrounded our wall, people who had long known us and to whom we had often shown kindness and given aid, had loopholed their houses and prepared their roofs, probably weeks before, and had armed themselves that they might take part in the massacre of foreigners when the time came—another fact that shows how long and carefully this had been planned. During Monday forenoon we were assailed by a shower of bullets whenever we put our heads outside, and there was a constant spatter of lead against the houses as well as through the windows. The marines tried in vain to locate our hidden foes, but, being unable to do so, they decided that they must vacate the premises and join the line of defence further down, and we were forced to follow their example. With about two hundred refugees to conduct down town, among whom were many women and children and some who were ill and had to be carried, it did not seem possible to move out under that hot fire without losing some of our number, but we marched out, Mr. Wilder and I covering the head and rear of the procession (this to protect the natives from the foreign troops, who were ready to fire upon any Chinese seen in the streets.) By a back gate we reached the French Concession proper, and although our neighbour enemies kept up a steady fire, and the bullets came uncomfortably close, they proved bad marksmen and none of us received a wound. Our refuge was in Jardine, Matheson and Co's compound, where the agent, Mr. Cousins, had invited us to stay, a place quite as secure as the Gordon Hall, where most of the residents had gone. Mr. Cousins shared his house with us, and in the big godowns were stowed, not uncomfortably, five hundred and twenty Chinese Christian refugees.

The French Concession was entirely deserted, except by the French and Russian outposts, and it presented a scene of waste and desolation such as I had never before witnessed. The hungry fire was licking up house after house and shop after shop, taking not only the Chinese buildings within and about that end of the town, but whole rows of foreign houses as well. The bodies of Chinese and dogs were lying here and there and the streets were littered with trunks, boxes, silks, strings of cash, toys, and all sorts of merchandise thrown about by the soldiers, who had looted houses, shops, and temples before they were burned. Some of the foreign houses had been fired by Chinese shells, but many of them caught from the burning Chinese property. Soon after reaching Mr. Cousins compound we were all called into active service, every rifle being of value for several days. The Boxers had filled all the opposite side of the river, and, as it was important that they should be driven back before dark, we erected a barricade of hides and from behind it poured lead over the river from our repeating Winchesters. Many of us disliked the thought of taking human life, especially as we were citizens and not soldiers, but the thought of our helpless women and children and their certain fate if these fiends forced their way among us, spurred us on, and soon the Boxers were forced to take cover in the houses. Under cover of our fire a party of British blue-jackets then crossed the river and set fire to the villages and the Boxers were soon driven out by smoke and heat, some to escape to the rear and some to be shot down.

All this time the forts in the native city were shelling us frightfully, with shrapnel and segment, and these were exploding everywhere. Of the great mass of people at the Gordon Hall I know but little, save that they suffered every possible inconvenience. Canned meats were brought in from the looted shops by the men, but there were no stoves, so that nothing could be cooked, and poor little infants had to be fed with cold milk. In hours of quiet the ladies slept on chairs, on the platform, on the stairs, in the halls, and on the floors of various rooms, but during the hours of shelling they were packed in dark cellars, where they passed hours of misery. A few were hysterical, and one or two nearly died from heart failure, but as a rule they bore the trouble well. Wines and champagne were more common than water, and people who had never tasted either were drinking them with every meal.

To all this was added the terror of the shrieking and exploding shells, for the Hall is a prominent mark and was repeatedly fired upon, though fortunately its stone walls offered fair resistance, and as most

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of the shots struck the tower no one was injured. With scanty clothing and little bedding, with none of the conveniences of home, with an unbroken diet of cold canned meats and crackers and with such crowded accommodations, it is easy to imagine what the ladies suffered during the many days they were confined to the Hall. At Mr. Cousins' we were more pleasantly situated. In the godowns were hundreds of bags of rice, so that our five hundred refugees were well fed, and the Methodist ladies and ourselves had the use of the house and office buildings. After the worst of the bombardment we were able to go to our houses at dawn or dark, when the sharpshooters had least chance of hitting us, to bring away such stores of provisions as we had, so that in a few days we had good board if nothing else. For the ladies there was a small cellar, about 10 ft. by 10 ft. and six feet high, around the sides of which were piled boxes of soap, offering absolute protection. It may seem remarkable that, although the settlement was bombarded for so many days, only five citizens were killed, but we were able to protect ourselves to a great extent. We soon found that even the heaviest shells exploded in passing through one wall, their contents and fragments being blown scatteringly over the room they entered, but not passing through a second wall. Therefore, by remaining on a lower floor, and with a wall between us and the direction of the shells, we were reasonably safe, but this applied only to brick houses, which fortunately predominated. On the street we were entirely exposed, and it is marvellous that "narrow escapes" could go on indefinitely, day after day, as they did.

The injury to property was very great. The estimated damage to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, from shells alone, was $30,000, the British Consulate was almost wrecked, the large buildings on the bund were left only ragged piles of brick, and there was probably not one house or building that did not suffer to some extent from the heavy gun fire. In our own compound the damage was far from slight. Chimneys and sections of roof were blown away, rooms torn up, shells had pierced the walls and, exploding, blown plastering and brick about, or, failing to explode, had fallen upon beds or on the floor, the ground had been torn up, and was littered with fragments of shell and shrapnel, as well as rifle bullets, which had struck the houses and fallen. In the house beyond mine a shell had exploded under a bed and thrown everything into dire confusion. Its force was so great that chair legs were sticking in the ceiling, while all the furniture was in ruin. What took place in our own houses happened everywhere the same. With so many fires about us and that heavy bombardment going on constantly, we naturally said goodbye to our houses when we left them, and we could take out little from them, but day after day we found them still standing and at some risk brought away little necessities, some bedding and clothing.

The beginning of the bombardment on Sunday was the first fruit of the taking of the Taku forts, and on Monday night came the second, when General Nieh's troops made a determined and long attack on the railway station, held by the Cossacks, who, as everyone must acknowledge, were our salvation. In the terrific battle which followed they lost no less than one hundred killed, but the Chinese lost, probably, five or six hundred. With all their courage the Cossacks were finally forced to send for aid, and were reinforced by the British, with whom they finally repulsed the Chinese. It had been a critical time, and only a dispensation of Providence blinded the eyes of the Chinese to the fact that an attack made on two points simultaneously must have been successful. For three days more our fate hung in the balance, with all the favour (save the all-important favour of God) on the side of the Chinese. Matters looked so serious that men had been appointed to shoot the women and children when it came to a final stand. Women's faces were white and men's were grave—there seemed little hope. The imperial troops numbered at least five thousand and we knew that were they to attack from the open plain, or get over the river in a body, assisted by the innumerable Boxers, we could not stand against them. But happily they did neither. Perhaps they were disheartened by the stubborn resistance they had met with at the hands of the Cossacks, or, perhaps, they thought they had plenty of time, anyway they entrenched themselves in a long line across the river and poured a perfect rain of bullets into the settlement, day and night—so thick, indeed, that one might pick up five hundred of these little pellets in a space of twenty yards on any street. Many people received wounds from these stray bullets and in our own party one refugee was killed and two were wounded, and Mr. Cousins received a wound in the leg. One of the shrapnel burst in the godown, where three hundred refugees were sitting, killed one instantly and wounded another. Had this shell burst lower down, at least fifty would have been killed. On one occasion when we were all in the sitting room, a large shell came through the wall on the verandah and burst, filling the walls with its contents and fragments, covering the floor with mortar and brick and blowing out the windows; yet no one was hurt. Escapes of this kind were innumerable—and it was certainly trying to one's nerves.

But in spite of hundreds of bursting shells and showers of stray bullets, our greatest danger came from hidden riflemen, who seemed to be in a thousand different buildings in the settlement, especially on the godowns. From many points we were repeatedly shot at as we walked the streets on duty, and only the that these Boxer sympathizers were untrained in the use of arms prevented an immense loss of life among us. Again and again parties of us surrounded and searched suspected places, and natives who were thus captured were at once executed by the British soldiers. One coolie, an old employee of the China Merchant's S.S. Co., fired a revolver point blank at a citizen as he passed, but fortunately missed his mark, and was captured, to be executed on the following morning. The interpreter who had accompanied the Belgian engineers (who escaped from Pao Ting Pu) and who deserted them to cast his lot with the Boxers, was caught in the settlement, dressed in foreign clothing. He was thoroughly educated, speaking English and French fluently. At his trial he confessed his guilt, and with tied hands faced the six rifles of his executioners calmly, dying without a groan and with a smile on his face. His body was dropped into the river. After the first week the number of these hidden shooters was diminished by so many prompt executions, but they were still at it to some extent up to the very day I left. Certainly they caused us much anxiety, their bullets in many cases coming close enough for us to feel the swish. It was trying enough to have shells shrieking and bursting about us and bullets straying in showers into our midst, but to feel that from windows and roofs in every part of the settlement we were being repeatedly and individually shot at as we walked the streets, was very wearing. The defence lines were skirmishing all the time, and wounded men began to fill the houses set aside as hospitals, which gave employment to our ladies, for thousands of bandages had to be cut and rolled, and as the white straw hats of the British sailors made excellent targets for the Chinese, the ladies made them hat-covers, besides doing a thousand other things that only ladies *can* do, for the comfort of our men.

And here, too, let me record the excellent work done by the native Christian refugees under our charge. For a time the excitement ran so high, and there was evidently so much treachery in our midst, that some of the foreigners demanded that all Chinese should be driven from the settlement, which meant sending them to certain death at the hands of the Boxers but after the siege, many who had most strongly opposed our sheltering and protecting them, were saying, "What *could* we have done without them?" Their first work was to barricade the whole settlement, especially the line of water front, about two miles, which had to be held by our men and was open to a deadly fire from the enemy on the opposite bank. For this purpose huge bales of hides, camel's wool, etc., were used, with which the godowns were fortunately stocked, and the thousands of bales necessary were carted from the godowns and piled into position by our refugee preachers, teachers, and helpers, who were unaccustomed to heavy labour and who did their work while under fire, freely offering their services, working day and night until the stupendous task was completed, with blistered hands and aching backs. Their efforts saved the lives of many soldiers, besides placing the settlement in a much more secure position. They carried water, ammunition, and provisions; they dug graves, performed every kind of heavy labour, and more than earned their protection as well as unstinted praise. Two of them volunteered to attempt passing the enemy's lines, to carry news of our serious situation to the admirals at Taku, and one got back after having been thrown in the river for dead. I do not know the fate of the other. Fifty of them, under Mr. Wilder and me, carried loads of ammunition for the British 12-pounder, and dragged the gun from place to place, and although we were on two occasions under heavy fire from the enemy, directly in the open, once when shelling the arsenal and again when shelling the fort in the city, these men behaved splendidly. Even when shells passed so close to our heads as to barely graze the wall by our side, and when bullets sang all around us, these country refugees did not display any unusual alarm, but followed our instructions calmly. Men with no regard for mission work, and who had contempt for every Chinese, had to admit that these refugees had been to us an untold blessing. The native women were also busy after the first few days. They did the hospital washing, picked over coarse camel's wool until it was soft and fine, and stuffed pillows for our wounded, and did many things that we could not have found time for. One poor old woman was struck down in our midst by a piece of shell and died instantly.

Of course the Chinese were all demoralized at first, especially the women, and many of them sat huddled together, with ash-white faces, groaning at every fresh burst of shell, sick with fright. We were situated directly in the line of fire, and hundreds of shells passed over the compound with that terrible screech that follows them, while bullets were as thick as swarms of flies, breaking the windows, filling the wood-work, and dancing on the ground. Some of our poor Chinese sat for three days in one position, half dead with fright, and too sick to eat, but after the terrific bombardment of the first three days they found work to do and it made new creatures of them. By a strange fatality the shells killed many natives who had taken refuge in some of the larger Chinese houses and shops (of which a few had remained standing) but this was mainly due to the thin walls of mud and wood they were behind, while we had heavy walls of brick and stone. At first we looked for relief from Taku hourly, for we thought the admirals would hasten troops to our assistance when they knew we were being bombarded, but day after day passed with no signs of the column that was to free us from danger.

Meanwhile the men were fighting night and day, and were fast becoming exhausted, while the supply of ammunition threatened to give out. We looked anxiously from the towers of the Hall, but the Chinese spied us there and with their powerful Mannlicher rifles made every prominent position too warm for comfort. The Russian dead were lying for days unburied near the cemetery, for a hot shell fire in that locality made it impossible to go there except to lay the fallen soldiers quickly down. The cemetery wall was perforated with shells. There were horrible sights everywhere. The river was fairly choked with corpses, forty bodies having been taken out from the point where our drinking water was pumped. The pontoon bridge had at least one hundred and fifty bodies piled against it by the current, many of them headless and otherwise mutilated—the work of the Boxers—who massacred all the Cantonese they could find, as they too were considered "foreigners" by the Northern people. The air was putrid—the water foul. All in among the ruins of the villages were thousands of bodies, rapidly decaying in the hot sun, and both sides of the river were lined with the dead. This was the ghastliest sight of all, for thousands of half wild Chinese dogs had gathered and were feasting upon these awful remains—words cannot picture such a fearful scene. I have neither power nor desire to describe the terrible things that took place all about us—that I will leave to the Press, if the facts are ever known.

After many days of suspense there came a period of quiet on the 23rd—the whiz of bullets ceased, the Chinese withdrew to a distance—and then, coming up the opposite bank we saw our relief column, the glorious Stars and Stripes and the British flag in front, and further down, the Russian. Oh how we cheered them, and what a burden seemed lifted from our minds. It seems that the British and Americans had advanced almost to Tientsin the day before, but had been driven back twelve miles by the hot fire of the Chinese troops—then the Russians reinforced them and they fought their way to us, destroying all villages on the way. Word had reached us that Admiral Seymour's column had reached a point nine miles above Tientsin, where they were entrenched and asking for relief. At midnight the next day fifteen hundred of our relief column marched out to escort them in, which they did on the 25th, but it was a sorrowful procession that we met when they arrived, for they brought with them two hundred and twenty-three wounded men, and had left eighty brave soldiers buried on the road behind them. It was my intention to relate the experiences of this column, but as it will doubtless be published and as this report is already longer than I expected to make it I need not detail how they fought and worked their way to within twenty miles of Peking, how the road they so laboriously built was destroyed behind them, how they were even forced to eat the flesh of mules and donkeys and drink water that was foul, how, after killing hundreds of Boxers, they found themselves attacked by the imperial troops *after* the taking of Taku Forts, how they fought a retreat from daylight to dark for many days, how they took a fort at last after a hard fight and then found it to be an immense government arsenal, containing at least $6,000,000 worth of army stores, how our relief became their relief, and how they finally destroyed the arsenal and its contents and returned to Tientsin. They had a terrible experience, and one that I hope to see fully written up.

During the week which followed the arrival of our relief, many battles were fought and the shelling of the settlement continued irregularly. One large shell came through the wall of the largest hospital, travelled up one of the wards and fell without exploding—a narrow escape for the wounded. I can imagine no more thrilling spectacle than the soldiers of eight great nations fighting side by side for a common cause. This experience has shown me that brave men are not confined to any nationality for all have acted with courage and fortitude. It has been said, and with some truth, as we have reason to believe,

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that the population of many villages have been wholly exterminated by the Cossacks, and that wounded Chinese and prisoners have been put to death. It is terrible to think of women and children being killed, and we are thankful that our men have not been charged with this work, although they have all found it necessary to execute all who were captured from the ranks of the enemy. To offset this cruelty on the part of the Cossacks, however, we have to remember that they were dealing to the Chinese their own style of warfare. The Chinese see power only in the wholesale destruction of life and property—they do not understand, nor do they appreciate, mercy. Little as we can approve of the killing of women and children, we do know that a terrible lesson administered now will end the possibility of any further trouble of this nature. Many times our soldiers who fell wounded on the field were inhumanly treated and literally hacked to pieces by the Chinese, and Cossacks were shot down from villages they might otherwise have passed in peace. On every hand the brutal nature and treachery of the Chinese were revealed, and it is little wonder that our men, especially the Cossacks, who suffered most, were infuriated, and that, coming from a wild life in Manchuria, they did not restrain their desire to punish their brutal murderers even to the extinction of their families. This does not excuse the general slaughter that took place, but it gives a reason for it. It was unfortunate, too, that the Cossacks looted foreign property in Tientsin settlement, in some cases wantonly destroying what they did not want, but we all remember that they fought against terrible odds, that had they fallen back when losing so heavily, no man, woman, child or building would have remained in the settlement—we can forgive the loss of our property.

On June 30th, the river route being freed of the enemy, all non-combatants were ordered away and lighters were towed down the river to Taku upon which citizens could leave. Fifty Chinese soldiers of the English Wei-hai-wei regiment were on the lighter with me to a point half-way down the river, but we saw no sign of the enemy, and after nine hours I reached Taku safely from where I went to our flagship, Admiral Kempff giving me a cordial reception and generous entertainment until the next day, when he obtained for me passage to Nagasaki on a Japanese transport. The scene along the river as I came down was dismal. For sixty miles along both banks, the villages had been reduced to ashes by our troops and the ground was strewn with corpses, while the water too was covered with floating bodies, and they were lying thickly on the river banks, where the dogs were feasting upon them—a most sickening spectacle.

I can not close this report without honourable mention of our colporteurs. In the most troublous times, previous to the actual outbreak, they never expressed hesitation or fear in any one instance, but were only too anxious to travel and work, even when they knew their lives to be in danger. I fear many, if not all, have lost their lives, together with thousands of other native Christians. The sudden breaking-off of communication between Peking and Tientsin rendered it impossible for me to do more than forward them money and advice by native courier, and if any now survive I can do nothing for them. Peace is at least partly restored, and they will naturally remain in hiding until they are sure of safety. It is doubtful, however, if more than two or three could have passed safely through the terrible and general slaughter that has taken place.

As to the future outlook, I think it is encouraging, though there are probably few who will agree with me thus early. To me it seems that all the old barriers are now to be swept away—though at a terrible cost—and the "open door" established in every province, city, and town. The anti-foreign reaction of to-day will, through its own excessive violence, lead to the opening of this exclusive empire to foreign education, invention and ideas, the establishment of schools, working of mines, and building of railways, while all its vast territory will form one continuous, hopeful, fruitful mission field. The blood of the thousands that has been shed for the sake of Christian truth, has not been shed in vain—the ruins of churches and chapels mark only a new and better era and the real beginning of a Christian Empire. We cannot but feel sad that so many have lost their lives, but "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform," and already it is apparent that only a great movement like that of the present could bring about the reformation which the Emperor tried in vain to accomplish. By might and by power the chains of evil are being broken and cast aside and then will follow the quiet, peaceful work of the Spirit upon the hearts of Chinese; the selfish and corrupt official will no longer have darkened and superstitious minds to influence for the furtherance of his own evil designs, and out of chaos will come order, justice will follow the injustice of the past, and righteousness will prevail. Many take a less hopeful view of the situation: some think that Christian work will be impossible for several years to come, except perhaps in the ports, but to me it seem that the people will be glad to welcome peace again and return to their former occupations, particularly under a new rule of justice and honesty.

It must be remembered that tens of thousands have been forced into the ranks of the Boxers against their desire and judgment. To save their own lives and property they have taken the lives and destroyed the property of others, and countenanced a thing in which they did not believe. Let those who believe the foreigner, especially the missionary, to be the cause of all this trouble read the proclamations of the Boxers, in which they charge the foreigner with causing the rottenness of the Government and the corruptness of the officials as a whole—this, despite the fact that they are encouraged, aided, and supported by the very officials they thus accuse of evil and injustice, and are termed "Patriots" in Imperial Edicts. In one proclamation they say, in part, "They (the foreigners) have attracted all the greedy and covetous as converts, and to an unlimited degree they have practised oppression until every good official has became corrupted, and, covetous of wealth, has become their servant. So telegraphs and railways have become established, foreign rifles and guns have been manufactured, and machine shops have been a delight to their evil nature. Locomotives, balloons, and electric lamps the foreign devils think excellent." Thus the Boxers build up arguments against the foreigner. What stronger appeal could they make to the people than that which places the blame for official corruption, which they thus openly acknowledge, at the door of the foreigner? Is not the root of their discontent then, this very state of corruption and injustice under which they live? "Religion" is not their only ground for uprising, although it offers a convenient excuse, but they complain of the railway, the school, the electric light, the newspaper, and the telegraph. The movement is, as I have pointed out before, anti-foreign rather than anti-Christian. We do not accuse the doctor who cuts the boil and thus causes pain and sheds blood of being the origin of the trouble, nor can the missionary be now blamed for what has taken place. Progress all over the world is inevitable and the nation that lingers behind in the march must die a natural death or suffer the consequences. The missionary and the merchant have brought the remedy, not the disease. I trust that by winter all Christian work may be resumed, although it may be confined to the ports and their vicinity for some time. Our own work, I believe, will be the first to recover from the blow and the first to re-establish itself in the interior.

I desire to add, for the benefit of those who have held some faith in the Chinese Government, even up to the present, and refused to believe that the officials encouraged the work of the Boxers, that after the Viceroy had fled from Tientsin and his yamen was searched, official papers were found which contained the names of the Boxer leaders, their strength, etc, and a record of the arms and provisions that had been issued to them from the Public Stores. Also, a copy of a letter to the Throne, advising that the Boxers be placed upon the Pay. Roll of the Army. This information speaks for itself. Another letter, from the official at Pao-ting-fu, very old, mentioned that the foreign property at Pao-ting-fu had been destroyed and the foreigners killed. This information reached me only to-day, and it ends all possible hope for our Pao-ting-fu friends. It is very terrible.

I remain, sincerely yours,

CHARLES F. GAMMON.

CHINA NOTES.

There is a consensus of opinion that the enormous stores of munitions and war materials found at Hsiku and other places were materially due to characteristic dishonesty of the officials. The liberal Imperial expenditure was exceeded owing to the undisguised friendship of the indentors for the purchasers. It is pointed out as significant that the undestroyed and valuable stores of ammunition and arms at Hsiku were a week at the disposal of the enemy and yet were undisturbed.

The Austro-Hungarian Government are sending out two more men-of-war to China, the *Aspern* and *Kaiserin Elizabeth*. Admiral Count Monte-Cuculi, I.A.-H.N., is coming out to command the squadron. The *Aspern* is a torpedo cruiser of 2,400 tons and 20 knots' speed, built at Pola in 1899, carrying 8 4.7 in. quick firers and 12 1.8 in. guns. The *Kaiserin Elizabeth*, which has been in these waters before, is a 2nd class cruiser of 4,064 tons and 19 knots' speed, built at Pola in 1890. She carries 19 guns and has a complement of 450.

The following has been received by Japanese at Shanghai from Newchwang:—"The Russians attacked Chinese troops Hsungao, Amur territory, on the 25th inst., and captured the place. The defence of the Chinese was most stubborn and the casualties on both sides heavy. On the same date 8,000 Chinese troops attacked the Russians at Tashihch'iao, this side of Liaoyang, and were still fighting when news was dispatched the next day. On the 26th instant Chinese troops bombarded and attacked the Russian encampment outside the south-gate of Yingkow (the foreign Settlement of Newchwang), but the result was undecisive as both sides retreated to their own camps later on."

The *N. C. Daily News* is informed that H. E. Li Hung-chang has addressed a memorial to the Throne stating that his efforts as a peacemaker can have no success until the Throne really devotes its energies to the repression of the Boxers, the release of the Ministers, the protection of Christians throughout China, and the suppression of Li Ping-hêng. The following questions were recently submitted in writing to H. E. Li, on behalf of a home paper, and the following answers returned, also in writing:—

Q. What are your Excellency's views on the American attitude towards China during the present crisis?

A. H.E. is very gratified at the amicable attitude shown by America.

Q. Does your Excellency think that an amicable settlement of the situation in the North can be arranged? Whom do you rely upon chiefly to bring it about?

A. Amicable settlement is possible.

Q. Is it still Your Excellency's intention to proceed to Peking?

A. The heat affects H.E. very much. This delays his northward intentions for the time being.

Q. Can Your Excellency give an opinion as to the safety of the Legations, His Majesty the Emperor, and Her Majesty the Empress Dowager.

A. Our Empress Dowager and the Emperor are safe. The Legations are safe.

A correspondent, writing to the *Shanghai Mercury* from Chefoo, on 23rd July, says:—On the 6th and 7th of July, one week after the missionaries had been forced to withdraw to the coast, the premises of the English Baptist Mission at Ch'ing Choufu, Shantung, were looted. On the 5th of July, the local magistrate at the instance of the city gentry published the Boxer Edict from Peking stating that all Foreign property was liable to confiscation. The next day under the auspices of the foot-pads of the local yamên, the premises were looted, the houses however not being destroyed. A few days before the magistrate had taken the property in custody from the Foreigners ostensibly for the purpose of protecting it. Shortly afterwards he authorised the looting, reporting that he was acting under orders of his superiors and that he needed the property for use as barracks and military stores. The Prefect is decrepit from age, and neither he nor the small force of Governor Yuan Shih K'ai's soldiers in the vicinity did anything to prevent the outrage. A fine native chapel, a theological Institute, a Boys' School, a Girls' School, were denuded, and probably hardest of all to replace the far-famed Whitenight Museum was robbed of its varied and valuable collections which annually attracted more than 100,000 visitors. The women, adherents of the Mission two miles from the city were killed a few days later, and more than twenty families of Christians in the adjacent districts have been looted. The Roman Catholic Mission in Ch'ing Choufu has also been looted in like fashion. Ch'ing Choufu is only 40 miles from Wei Hien, the large American Presbyterian Mission lately burned by the Boxer sympathizers.

A Missionary correspondent writes to the *Shanghai Mercury*:—I am very thankful for the sound common-sense attitude your paper takes toward us. It is absurd for Mr. David Christie Murray and men like him, who know nothing, or next to nothing of the religious convictions of the Chinese to talk as he does about "the adored and venerable religion." The fact is, the people themselves have no deep religious convictions, and the Chinese are the most tolerant of people towards different religions. Even the higher classes of Chinese did not know and were not able to appreciate the aggressive force of Christianity till the "Reform movement" of Kwang-Hsü opened their eyes! It was then the conservatives in the capital began to understand something of the strength of the Foreign literature that had for years past been published and propagated throughout the country, especially looking at this in connection with the works or writings of men like Chang Chi-tung, K'ang Yi-wei, and others, all running on similar lines. It was then they discovered in the person of the young Emperor Kwang-Hsu, that the forces of political and social reform were a ready within the Palace! It was then they feared for their personal and political power, the hopes of their hitherto easy gains were beginning to be clouded with fog, and they became desperate. It was not religious convic-

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tion only so far as it will bring them in revenue. Revenue is what they want to preserve intact, and they would like to do this apart from the help of the foreigner if possible,, but if not, "then let us use the foreigner," only keep him in a subordinate place, let him be our slave, not our equal, use him, cheat him, deceive him, flatter him when there is fear of him, only let him always be our slave." This idea, this rooted idea in the governing mind of the Empire, was exploded when the reform movement burst in their palaces like a thunderbolt! Then they became desperate. "The Boxers, and all and any helps must be enlisted on our side to save our government and our dynasty from ruin and death." Hence the present situation! Religious conviction, I reiterate, has nothing to with it whatever.

An Edict issued on the 19th July, states that:—"According to the Confucian doctrine ("Spring and Autumn") telling Us that no passer-by shall be killed, We are protecting all the Ministers with great care and they are all safe. We now order the various Viceroys and Governors to negotiate with the Powers for peace and let them know that their Ministers are being protected. You (the Viceroys and Governors) must defend Our land with the utmost care and if you fail the blame shall be upon you, and upon you only."

A private telegram from Tientsin, dated the 28th July, placed at the disposal of the *Shanghai Mercury*, states that a Chinese messenger specially engaged by Mr. Drew, the Commissioner of Customs, in an attempt to open communication with Sir Robert Hart in Peking, proceeded to the Capital, but returned without succeeding in establishing communication with the Inspector-General. The messenger reports that most of the Chinese city has been burned down, and that the superstructure on the Chienming Gate had been partly destroyed. The telegram adds that it was reported amongst the natives that all the European residents in Peking had been removed to the Imperial City. This latter statement does not tally with the reports from European sources. In connection with the failure of this attempt to establish communication with the Inspector-General of the Customs, M. le Comte de Bezaure is still without a reply to his message to M. Pichon, and in response to his remonstrances H. E. Li Hung chang makes all sorts of excuses. The question, says the *Mercury*, naturally arises as to whether the Chinese authorities are really honest in their alleged attempts to open communication with the Ministers, or as to whether they are wilfully and purposely obstructing the efforts which are made with so much persistence by the foreign Governments to obtain authenticated messages from their representatives at the Capital.

The *Echo de Chine* says that it knows on good authority that the railway between Peking and Paotingfu has been repaired sufficiently to allow the treasures from the Imperial Palace to be removed on trucks hand-propelled on their way to the inaccessible spot in the West where the dynasty's remains intend to take refuge. "Meanwhile they parley, they discuss, they send telegrams to which no answer can be got, and the Chinese gains time and postpones the fatal reckoning—but the guilty are escaping."

News has reached Shanghai of disturbances in southern Chehkiang, where local bands of robbers destroyed the telegraph lines between Lanchee and Chinghu. H.B.M. Consul-General has received the following telegram, dated Hangchow, the 28th ult.:—"Father Wittib, R.C., reports massacre of nine members of the C.I.M at Chuchow, four being those from Chiangshan. Sub-Prefect also said to have been killed and six yamen employees. Outrage said to have been by Chehkiang trainbands."

The Rev. W. E. Godson, of the C.M.S., passed through some hard experiences in Wonghgan district in the middle of July. He was proceeding from Haimên to Lugiao in a small Chinese boat, and when about ten li from the former place fell into the hands of a band of armed robbers, who rushed at him with cries of "A foreign man! Kill him! Seize him!" He found it impossible to get away and saw that resistance would have been worse than useless. They knocked him about a little, tied a rope round his neck and left arm, and let him off. He found that the robbers believed him to be Monsieur Lepers, and they told him plainly that unless he could prove that he was not a Roman Catholic, they would take off his head without further ceremony. Finally, some members of the C.I.M. came to his rescue and he was released.

In response to a remonstrance addressed to the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung regarding the report published in the *N.-C. Daily News* a few days ago that he had said that he could not control his troops for more than ten days, Sheng has received a wire from the Viceroy denying this. He said that ever since the trouble began he had taken extra precautions for the protection of foreigners, and that the Governors of Hunan and Hupeh are co-operating loyally with him. He instances that in Hunan whenever missionaries pass through the territory they are escorted by mounted guards. The troubles in Shasi and Shensi are beyond his control, but the missionaries and engineers from Shensi who were attacked near Nanyang assured him (Chang) personally on their arrival in Hankow that while in his provinces they had been well looked after. The Viceroy adds that much of the trouble arises from the stories published in the papers, foreign and Chinese, with no foundation. The news complained of was an instance of this. The Viceroy takes steps to let the people know the truth, and he requests Sheng to do the same in Shanghai, and to ask the Consuls to work with him to prevent the dissemination of these false reports.

A correspondent writes to the *N.-C. Daily News* that an unfavourable change has taken place in the spirit and demeanour of the people of Foochow. The people in the native city, in some of the suburbs, and in some of the large towns up the main river, are becoming daily more excited and more threatening in their attitude towards the native Christians and missionaries. Nearly every night crowds surge along by the Liang-an Hospital for Women and Children, threatening to burn it. So serious did matters seem, in fact, that most of the patients have left and the hospital is closed. The same is true of the South Gate Hospital, within the city, and doubtless of others; the threats are directed, first against the native Christians, churches, and schools, and then against the missionaries. Placards were being secretly posted, ostensibly by Boxers, exhorting their fellows in that city to keep up their courage, because hundreds of other members of their Society were on their way to help extermmate the missionaries and native Christians. But probably the most danger to Foochow and vicinity is from the Vegetarians, so-called, whose frightful massacre of nearly a dozen English missionaries and children near Kuchêng, 1st August, 1895, is still fresh in memory.

Capt. Warrender and a Russian officer, accompanied by Chang Yen-mao and others, have visited Pehtang and called on the Chinese officer in command there. They were informed that he had Peking advices of the 16th July as follows:—

(1) That attack on the Legations was continuous, and, as a result, that half of the garrison had been killed or wounded.

(2) That food and ammunition were very low.

(3) That the attackers were within 600 yards, but dared come no closer; every attempt had been repulsed.

(4) That the Boxers were absolute masters of the city, and were still cooperating with the troops; the Government quite powerless.

A correspondent says the Ying Kuan of Pehtang made a most naive and pathetic request that he should not be attacked. He knew that if attacked he would be beaten, if fired on, he would, to save his head in Peking, have to return the fire, but he had no heart for it, etc., etc. This is extremely probable.

Dr. Morrison, the Peking correspondent of the *Times*, sends a long and most reassuring message under date the 21st ult. All the Legations, particularly the Japanese, had a large number of killed and wounded, but the wounded—of whom there were 138 in the British Legation, 182 having passed through hospital altogether—were doing well. There was sufficient food, and while the vigilance of the defenders was not relaxed, they were waiting contentedly for relief. Among the killed in the British Legation were three officers of the guard and two students, Messrs. Oliphant and H. Warren.

The Wesleyan Mission has news of the firing at Tangnanfu, about 100 miles north of Hankow, of the new hospital there, which cost £2,000, and the private houses connected with it; also of the looting of their mission at Liangchouwan, a station in Hupeh near the Honan border. No loss of life is so far reported.

THE FIGHTING NEAR NEWCHWANG.

Messrs. Bush Brothers send the *Shanghai Mercury* the following from Newchwang, dated 26th July: At 11 a.m. yesterday the Russians approached Hseung Tao, some 160 li from this port and to the South of Kaichow, where 2000 Chinese soldiers were garrisoned; they sent in a Russian officer to demand the surrender of the place and this officer was seized and beheaded by the Chinese, whereupon the Russians attacked and took the town. A report to this effect was sent to the Russian Consul and reached him last night, and it was feared that some of the Chinese who had escaped were making their way to the port. At 7.30 a.m. to-day the community were startled by the sound of heavy firing about 2 miles distant and shortly after news was brought in that some 600 Russians with 5 field pieces had approached the South East stockade and had sent in a Chinaman under a white flag to demand the surrender of the troops; no answer being forthcoming, they opened fire on the stockade. The Chinese fled towards the city and the Russians advanced, pouring volley after volley into the barracks situated to the South of the Taotai's Yamen, and, some return being made by the native soldiers, commenced shelling the native city in the vicinity of the native yamen.

The Russians drew off at about 11 a.m. having 4 men wounded, and having killed 7 natives and wounded 12 more. The affair was an outrage on the part of the Russians from start to finish; the soldiers in the stockade were General Hu's men, lent to the Taotai for the purpose of keeping order in the town, and had occupied the stockade ever since the Japanese war. During the whole of the time since disturbances first commenced the Taotai, with their assistance and that of his own bodyguard, has kept the town in perfect order, and to fire on them without provocation was an unjustifiable act.

The Treaty Consuls interviewed Mr. Ostroverkhow (the Russian Consul), who stated that he had not been notified and strongly protested against the action of the Russian military authorities.

Trade has been stopped for the time, but the merchants will doubtless resume business in a day or two.

Newchwang, 27th July.

At Tah-shin-chian, on the Eastern Chinese railway, 15 miles from here, an engagement took place a few days ago between 3,000 Russian troops and 4,000 or 5,000 Boxers and Chinese troops, on which the latter were defeated with considerable loss.

The Russians have also occupied Kaichow and bombarded Hsiuogyao; both towns are on the line towards Port Arthur. This has been found expedient, as passing trains were frequently fired upon.

Yesterday, 26th, a party of 200 Russian regulars with several scores of mounted Cossacks and assisted by several field and machine guns, opened a fusillade on a stockade situated about two miles to the South of the Custom house. Previous to this the Russian commander had sent a Chinese into the stockade bearing a white flag. After waiting 40 minutes for a reply and none forthcoming, the field guns opened fire with shrapnel, which burst beautifully inside the stockade. The occupants, some 70 Chinese soldiers, responded with such weapons as they possessed, but in a very short time they were seen streaming out in the direction of the city walls, where another stand was made and a machine gun added to their strength.

Firing continued incessantly for three hours and then the Chinese retired into the city and the Russians withdrew. Dr. Daly, who was with the Russian colonel commanding the force from the commencement, gives the casualties at two Russians wounded and five Chinese killed and six wounded. Dr. Daly, who assisted the Russian doctors in succouring the wounded, was under a hot fire for some time and at one period had to lie down while the bullets were whizzing around in close proximity.

As the Chinese had retired into the city and were joined by loafers and unemployed it was thought that looting would be resorted to. To prevent this Commandant Bowra called out the entire volunteer force, who remained on duty during the rest of the day and throughout the night and materially asssisted in preventing an outbreak.

When the firing commenced several hundred cargo boats put out to sea, many of them carrying refugees. The population is reduced to about one-fifth, shops are closed, and business is at a standstill, The various steam beancake mills have ceased work and thousands of coolies are thrown out of employment.

Newchwang, July, 28.

The Kaichow railway station on the Eastern Chinese Railway was burnt by the Boxers the day before yesterday. The Chinese have commenced to barricade the native city here against foreigners and have acquired two more quickfirers. The Boxers have issued another set of placards notifying their intention of destroying the Roman Catholic Church here, which was only completed this year and is a fine large structure with a lofty spire. Some heavy cannonading was heard yesterday afternoon from the eastward. It appears the Chinese troops and boxers from Kaichow were bent upon the destruction of the line near Tahshihchiao and were opposed by the Russian regulars.

The fighting lasted for several hours, the Chinese retreating to Kaichow with nightfall. The Russian sentries have been doubled at the barricades and the local volunteers are are keeping a sharp lookout at those entrusted to their care. All shops and business places in the city are now closed. It is estimated that there are 4,500 Russian troops within a radius of 20 miles from the port. One merchant steamer only remains in harbour, the *Chungking*.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

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MISS SCIDMORE'S NEW BOOK.

One rises from a perusal of "China, the Long-lived Empire," with a profound admiration for the writer's indomitable pluck and never-tiring energy, and with a determination to render her at the first opportunity sincere thanks for having provided a thoroughly entertaining and illuminating book. If only other visitors to China who have felt compelled to place their impressions of the Middle Kingdom on record, had had but half Miss Scidmore's powers of observation, assimilation, insight into national character, and gift of literary expression, the task of "reading-up" latter day China at the present moment would be considerably lightened.

Of course books on China are legion, and in many tongues, embracing nearly all that is to be written about the country and its people, but, as Miss Scidmore says in her Preface, "No one can cover the whole field, give the only key, or utter the last word; and during seven visits to China in the last fifteen years, the mystery of its people and the enigma of its future have only increased. It is such an impossible country that one labours vainly to show it to others." The authoress therefore uniquely devotes herself to giving "another individual experience and point of view." She has succeeded admirably; placing before the eyes of the reader's imagination a series of pen pictures of China immediately before the Boxer disturbances rudely broke upon a startled outside world which enable one to realise something of the life and the sights, miseries and tragedies of the great Yellow Empire. Landing at Taku, Miss Scidmore visited Tientsin, Shanhaikwan, Peking,—to which she devotes many chapters describing its history, showplaces, social and political conditions—then penetrated Mongolia as far as the Great Wall, an architectural achievement which greatly impressed her; then returned to modern civilization, went south to Shanghai; on to Hangchow and thereafter ascended the Yangtsze for a thousand miles or so, and the volume concludes with a chapter on Canton and China New Year.

Throughout the book one obtains vivid impressions of the discomforts that attend the traveller in China once the steamship is left that takes him to the Treaty ports; and of the "hostility of the people combined with a certain fraternity and equality: the close shouldering and elbowing of the filthy crowds whose solid, bovine stare, continued for hours, unpleasantly mesmerizes one; the inevitable wrangling, haggling, and bribing before one can get in or out of any showplace, and the awful Chinese voice." Scattered here and there about its pages, however, are happier phrases than those just quoted, and on the whole we gather Miss Scidmore enjoyed herself in China, the very discomforts eventually distilling their own compensation; while the magnificence of the architectural remains of other dynasties and better times, and the wonders of the scenery here and there made up for the degradation and squalor of the present day cities and villages. In terse, telling phrases she describes the "concession-hunting" that took place, first at Tientsin prior to the Japan-China war; and after that at Peking, when "a clever Frenchman laid a miniature track and ran a miniature engine and cars in the palace grounds at Peking for the amusement of the Empress Dowager and the boy Emperor; and others sent gilded steam-launches as playthings for the palace folks": when "every night was gay with great dinners at the foreign hotel on the river-bank at Tientsin, and mandarin minions from the Viceroy's Yamên rode to and fro in sedan-chairs, and made the garden and river-bank gay with the lanterns of their rank." Talking of Peking, apart from the delightful life led by Legation folks, Miss Scidmore says—"With a tropic summer heat and deluge rains in that same season, with zero winters without snow, the streets either ankle-deep in dust or more profound sloughs of noisome mud, Peking offers more variety and incidental physical discomfort and the generally offensive than any other world's capital; yet it has a fascination and interest different from them all." The feelings of the diplomatic circle regarding the place is thus summed up:—"The diplomats in exile lead a narrow, busy life among themselves, occupied with their social amusements and feuds, often well satisfied with Peking after their first months of disgust, resentment, and home-sickness, and even becoming sensitive to any criticism or disparagement of the place."

Though a loyal daughter of the Great Republic, Miss Scidmore cannot refrain from a few slight hits at her country's short-sightedness in the matter of the Consular and Diplomatic services. Thus we find her writing, "The picked diplomats of all Europe are sent to Peking, lodged sumptuously, paid high salaries, and sustained by the certainty of promotions and rewards after a useful term at Peking—all but the American Minister, who is crowded in small rented premises, is paid about a fourth as much as the other envoys, and, coming untrained to his career, has the cheerful certainty of being put out of office as soon as he has learned his business and another President is elected, his stay at Peking on a meagre salary a sufficient incident in itself, leading to nothing farther officially. The United States does not maintain student interpreters at Peking, and the Legation has so far drafted its interpreters from the mission boards." Again, at Shanghai, she is forced to remark:—"The American consulate occupies the upper floors of a business block in the side street of the British Settlement—ousted from the suitable compound it once occupied in the American Settlement, when the landlord raised the rent. A rural Missouri congressman, as well informed on Shanghai, or European life and conditions in the East as a Shanghai compradore might be concerning Missouri facts, ran his pencil through the item in consular appropriations, and the American flag was hauled down and raised over cheaper quarters outside the American settlement." While a cognate subject, an equally burning sore with travelled Americans, is touched lightly upon in the following:—"Imperial, free, modern, and enlightened Hongkong gives the American citizen cause to consider when he finds himself landing and leaving without having encountered the custom-house. There is none, yet the colony prospers."

Miss Scidmore has not a very high regard for the gilded Chinese youth of Shanghai, whom she declares "have adopted and adapted all western vices and modes of dissipation." "Containing all of domestic and imported depravity, these young Chinese of the merchant and compradore class, longest in contact with foreign ways, well entitle Shanghai to its repute in their world as the fastest and wickedest place in China." To the European and American community the authoress is more complimentary, "Shanghai is a home of Eastern luxury at least, and Shanghai society, taken too seriously by those who constitute it to be treated lightly in any by-chapter, is busy, brilliant, extravagant and all-absorbing to its votaries, and is keyed to the pitch and tone and time of the social centres of the greatest velocity in the western world."

The description of the famous bore of Hangchow and house-boat life on the Yangtsze will be found peculiarly interesting, as is also the chapter on Canton. We conclude our review with the book's closing sentence:—

China is very old, very tired, sick. It craves rest and peace—anything for peace; peace at any price. It does not want to be dragged out into the fierce white light and the contests of the new century. But how can it prevent it? Will it rouse itself from its long paralysis and benumbed opium sleep, or will it be rudely awakened, broken up this time, on the wheel of progress?

MESSAGE FROM BARON NISHI.

Mr. M. Odagiri, Consul-General for Japan, sends the following to the *A.-C. Daily News*:—The following message written in cipher, from the Japanese Minister in Peking, reached Tientsin at 9 p.m. on the 25th July:—"We continue to defend ourselves against the incessant attack of the Chinese soldiers, mostly under the command of Tung Fuhsiang.

"Our Marines and Volunteers have been acting very bravely under the command of Major Shiba, Military Attaché of the Legation. A special messenger just arrived from Tientsin has brought here the news of the arrival of the fifth Division of the Japanese Army at the end of this month; we will be able to hold out until that time, although it is by no means an easy task. The Chinese soldiers have stopped firing against us since the 17th inst., that is to say, the day before yesterday.

"Our casualties so far are as follows:—

Killed	Kojima, Attaché.
	Ando, Captain.
	Nakamura, Volunteer.
	Machino, Marine.
	Kamada, do
	Isotani, do
	Takada, do
	Unknown, do
Wounded	Narahara, Secretary.
	Noguchi, Student.
	Kasanagi, Marine.
	Mita, do
	Tochigi, do
	Agasawara, do
	Shimizu, do
	Unknown, do

And many others slightly wounded."

CHINA'S APPEAL TO THE CZAR.

Some weeks ago the rebel Government of China using the name of the Emperor, addressed an appeal to the Czar; this was when the Japanese first commenced to land in force at Taku. Finding that appeal ineffectual, Twan and the Empress Dowager in the name of the Emperor, says the *China Gazette*, addressed another communication couched in a half defiant, half frightened tone to the Russian ruler explaining China's ideas of how hostilities have broken out between the two countries, and putting the blame upon the Native Christians and the Russian commanders. It reads:—

We, the Emperor of China, respect fully express Our best wishes to the Czar of Russia. Lately our people had quarrels with Christians and during the trouble rioters caused disturbances in various places and thus put the situation of our Empire into a very critical state. Therefore We have written this letter to your Majesty and caused it to be telegraphed to Our Minister Yan Yu in St. Petersburg to convey to your Majesty's eyes. Though at Tientsin battles were recently fought, yet not at the other open ports of Chihli. We have issued decrees and warned Viceroys and Governors to protect your merchants and residents there and they are safe. Your Majesty's legation in Peking fortunately has been protected by Us and is still safe and none of its occupants harmed. Along the provinces of the Amur and in Kirin provinces, bordering on your Majesty's dominion, troubles have arisen, and yesterday our generals in these districts sent telegraphic reports that at Fulan district rioters with railway coolies made disturbances and the Russian troops fled to the Southern and Northern roads of Ta Lin by night. Since then Our generals have sent their troops to protect your Majesty's troops to beyond the borders. On the other hand I received a cable from the Amur stating that there again your troops came into our possessions and so Namisar, the commander taking ships with troops went to check them and fought with them with the result that many were killed and wounded on both sides. However, those generals being responsible for the defence of districts and foreign troops invading their terri-

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tories n this manner. fighting was inevitable. But the Chinese Empire never fights willingly with other nations. We have already ordered our generals only to defend Our territories not to go over the frontier into Your Majesty's territory to fight. We hope Your Majesty will also give orders to your people to do the same. We shall be grateful, if Your Majesty will keep your people in and not allow them to repeat what has happened at Tientsin, and if, according to Our former letter your Majesty with solve the present difficult problem Our one desire is to live in peace and amity with your Majesty for ever.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTERS' SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE ADVANCE ON PEKING.

(Delayed in transmission.)

Shanghai, August 2.

Mr. St. John Brodrick, speaking in the House of Commons, said that General Gaselee telegraphs from Tientsin that he anticipates an immediate advance towards Peking and hopes that there will be co-operation among the Allies.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

The total casualties officially reported from South Africa, exclusive of those now in hospital, is 36,559.

Field Marshal Lord Roberts has ordered General Hunter to resume hostilities and at the same time to warn Commandant Prinsloo that he holds him responsible for every gun unsurrendered.

THE KINGDOM OF ITALY.

The Prince of Naples takes the names of King Victor Emmanuel the Third, on ascending the Throne of Italy.

PEKING HOPES FOR RELIEF.

A message from Mr. Conger, U.S. Minister to China, under date of the 21st July, confirms the message of Sir Claude MacDonald of the same date, and adds that ammunition is failing and expresses hopes for speedy relief.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Later.

Lord Roberts telegraphs that 1,200 more Boers have surrendered to General Hunter

Commandants Potgeiter and Joubert have surrendered to General Hamilton, who expects that the prisoners number 4,000.

General Olivier and five guns with a number of Burghers have escaped to Harrismith.

A supply train escorted by a detachment of the Shropshires has been derailed on the Potchefstrom branch of the Transvaal line. Thirteen were killed and 39 injured. An enquiry has been ordered.

THE DUKE OF COBURG.

Shanghai, August 3.

The Prince of Wales, representing the Queen, will go to Coburg to attend the funeral of his brother, the late Duke, on Friday.

KASHGAR.

The Russian Consul at Kashgar telegraphs that the situation is very alarming. Owing to false reports of Russian military movements the Mohammedans are excited against the Chinese.

WEST AUSTRALIA AND FEDERATION.

The result of the referendum in West Australia is a majority of 36,113 in favour of federation.

THE CHINESE IN SIBERIA.

Russian despatches from Siberia show that the Chinese troops are harassing the Russians wherever possible. The Chinese are advancing on Charbin from all directions.

SOUTH AFRICA

The continuance of the war in South Africa is causing untold misery among the poorer class of Boers. Kruger's influence is waning, but he continues to disseminate fantastic bulletins to encourage the fighters.

The Boers have evacuated Machadsdorp. The fact that they have completed the telegraph between Lydenberg and Nelspruit seems to point to an intention to prolong resistance at Lydenberg.

ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF THE SHAH.

Shanghai, Aug. 3.

A workman jumped upon the step of the Shah's carriage while the latter was driving in Paris, pointing a revolver at His Majesty The Grand Vizier pushed the would-be assassin aside. The man has been arrested.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

General Rundle's capture of Fouriesberg was a brilliant episode He marched 40 miles in 28 hours, rushing the narrow gorges with fixed bayonets at the double. The scouts galloped ahead and seized the town, releasing and arming at the same time 200 prisoners, and then held the town until the troops arrived

MORE INDIAN TROOPS FOR CHINA.

A third native Indian Brigade has been ordered to China.

BRITISH POLICY IN CHINA.

Mr. St. John Brodrick, speaking in the House of Commons, said that the Chinese policy of the British Government is to co operate with the Powers to effect the speedy relief of the Legations and to vindicate the sanctity of the Envoys The British will exact an indemnity but oppose any partition of the Middle Kingdon The Government of China must be by Chinese for Chinese. He hoped that the present troubles would be a lesson, teaching that caution and patience is necessary in developing China. Great Britain would never be a party to Indianizing China. It would defend Shanghai, however, at any cost, and would use British forces in co-operation with the Viceroys of the Yangtze in maintaining order.

THE ACQUITTAL OF SIPIDO.

Mr. Balfour, speaking in the House of Commons, said that Great Britain strongly protested against the acquittal of Sipido, but that Belgium made no reply.

THE ASHANTI WAR.

Major Beddoes has totally routed the Ashantis at Dompoasi. Beddoes had three Lieutenants and 25 men wounded

THE GOODWOOD CUP.

The race for the Goodwood Cup has resulted as follows:—

Mazagon	1
Strongbow	2
Jolly Tar	3

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, August 5.

Seven hundred more Boers have surrendered

Generals Hunter and Ian Hamilton have gone to Rustenburg to bring away General Baden-Powell and the garrison, who are virtually besieged there.

General Kitchener has gone to Rhenostre to conduct the operations against Dewet.

MORE SURRENDERS.

Shanghai, August 6.

After the capture of Fouriesburg, 4,000 burghers with nine guns surrendered.

The Boers have derailed a train to the south of Kroonstad, killing several.

THE LATE KING HUMBERT.

The funeral of the late King Humbert takes place at the Pantheon on the 9th inst. King Victor Emmanuel has issued a vigorous proclamation in which he promises to protect the Constitution with a strong hand.

THE LATE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA.

The funeral of the late Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha was solemn and impressive. The Queen's wreath bore the simple inscription, "From a sorrowing mother."

SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

Field Marshal Lord Roberts reports that Olivier repudiated the recent surrender and is now on the road between Harrismith and Newmarket. General Rundle is following him

AFFRONT TO AN AMERICAN CONSUL.

Shanghai, August 6.

The Boers derailed and burned near Honingspruit a train conveying the American Consul, to stop him from going to Pretoria. The train was flying the Stars and Stripes. The Boers took no prisoners.

EXPLOSIVES—OR DISINFECTANTS!

A large quantity of explosives destined for the Boers have been discovered at Delagoa Bay, owing to a fire among the cargo. The stuff was manifested as disinfectants.

WELL DESERVED BANISHMENT.

Many residents of Pretoria have been banished for long periods for ill-treating British prisoners during the war.

INDIAN TROOPS FOR CHINA.

Shanghai, Aug. 8.

The Fourth Indian Brigade has been ordered to China. Moreover the Fifth Hyderabad Infantry goes to garrison Hongkong.

SOUTH AFRICA.

A British force from Standerton surprised Commandant Delary's laager on the Vrede road, and dispersed the enemy with considerable loss

Ian Hamilton is now operating to relieve Rustenberg, where the position is seemingly more difficult than was previously realised.

GREAT BRITAIN, RUSSIA, AND CHINA.

Telegrams from Shanghai published semi-officially at St. Petersburg accuse the British of underhand negotiations with the Viceroy of Nanking and of a general inclination to disagree with other nationalities.

THE AUSTRALIAN CONTINGENT FOR CHINA.

Shanghai, August 8.

The Colony of Victoria has sent to China 200 men; New South Wales 300; South Australia sends the gunboat *Protector*. The expense is shared by the Imperial Government and the Colonies.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Raiding parties infest the Kroonstadt district

Fresh but unsuccessful attempts have been made by the Boers to blow up with dynamite the Pretoria railway and in consequence trains have ceased running.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

KING HUMBERT.

Saigon, August 3.

Many persons returning from America with Bressi have been arrested. It is believed that the assassination of King Humbert was the result of a plot.

PEKING.

Assurance is given from Shanghai that the relief column is to set out to-day from Tientsin for Peking.

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ATTACK ON THE SHAH.

Saigon, August 3.

A man menaced the Shah of Persia with a loaded revolver, as his Majesty was leaving the palace by carriage. Arrested immediately, the man refused to give any explanation of his act.

Saigon, August 4.

The author of the attempt against the Shah of Persia is an anarchist aged 24 years, named Salson.

CHINA.

General Frey arrived in Tientsin on the 26th of July.

FOR FAR EASTERN SERVICE.

Saigon, August 6.

General Dodd will embark on the 26th August for Indo-China

Fresh reinforcements for China are being prepared.

A REPULSE.

The Japanese made a reconnaisance to the North of Tientsin on the 8th of July. They were forced to retire with a loss of 30 men.

FOR CHINA SERVICE.

Saigon, August 7.

The French contingent for China will be 15,600 men, of whom 10,500 will be embarked between the 9th and the 24th of August.

CHINA ITEMS.

Telegrams from Admiral Courejolles and the French Consul-General in Tientsin says that the march upon Peking does not yet commence.

A Chinese General (Li Pin-han ?), hostile to Europeans, has been named generalissimo of the Chinese army.

An imperial decree of August 2nd orders that the Foreign Ministers be conducted to Tientsin under good escort.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

CHINA.

Chefoo, Aug. 2.

Governor Yuan to-day addressed to the Foreign Consuls at Tientsin a despatch saying that he had just received a message from Peking, dated July 30th, to the effect that all the Foreign Ministers and the German Legation were safe, that supplies of food were being sent to them from time to time, and that friendly relations existed between them and the Chinese. Suitable measures were being discussed for sending the foreigners under escort to Tientsin in order to remove them for the present from the sphere of danger, and probably that project would be soon adopted. The *Tsung-li Yamên*, in sending this message to Governor Yuan, requested him to communicate it to the Consuls of the various Powers.

Vladivostock, Aug. 2.

On the 29th of July, a Russian force attacked and took possession of Hon-chiun (on the borders of Russia and China). About 1,000 Chinese were killed, and a Russian Lieut.-Colonel was severely wounded. The other Russian casualties are not known. The fighting lasted from 5 a.m. to 8 a.m., and was exceedingly sharp.

Shanghai, Aug. 2.

In addition to the memorial addressed to the Throne by the three Viceroys Li, Chan, and Liu, Viceroy Li has sent another memorial in which he strongly urged that an imperial edict should be published ordering the protection of foreigners and native converts, the speedy supression of the Boxers and the rebellious troops, and the adoption of measures to relieve sufferers by famine. This memorial was delayed owing to some objection raised by Governor Yuan, but it was finally sent from Shanghai on July 31st.

The rumour that a part of Tung's troops had moved towards Shan-tung and fought with Yuan's Army is baseless.

News from Peking dated July 27th says that the Foreign Representatives were then safe, that the Boxers and the Imperial troops were fighting, and that the Boxers were fighting among themselves.

Hongkong, Aug. 2.

A transport from Bombay, carrying 595 men, has passed through Hongkong *en route* for Wei hai wei.

Shasi, Aug. 2.

The Manchu troops, already telegraphed about, have been prevented from setting out owing to lack of military supplies. They are intended to fill up casualties in the Peking forces. The British Consul at Ichang has ordered his nationals to send their wives and children to Shanghai.

St. Petersburg, August 2.

According to a telegram from the Governor-General of the Amur, dated July 31st, the detached army was ordered to seize and occupy Fou-chung for the purpose of driving the Chinese from that place and Sabeloff. The army consisted of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth East Siberian regiments, the Sixth Mountain Battery, the Second Mortar Battery, the Special Battery, a part of the Chitah Cossacks, a part of the Ussuri Cossacks (here the telegram is indistinct) and land-transport troops. The Governor-General deemed it advisable to assume the offensive, instead of remaining on the offensive as hitherto. The detached army, after a sanguniary fight with the Chinese, captured Fou-chung on the 30th of July.

Tientsin, August 2.

On the 31st of July, Lieut.-General Sincivitch (?) arrived here from Port Arthur.

Shanghai, August 5.

Admiral Seymour has returned here in the *Alacrity*.

Chun-king, August 3

The British Government has instructed its Consul here to advise British subjects and other foreigners to leave Chun-king by a British ship which sails to-morrow. The foreigners in the employ of the Customs have already embarked. The post-office has been temporarily closed. The United States Consul and his nationals left this afternoon.

Tientsin, August 2.

A messenger who left Peking on July 22nd and reached Tientsin on July 31st, reports that he received from the Japanese Consul in Peking a letter to be delivered to Mr. Tei, Interpreter of the Chinese Consulate, who would be with the Japanese army at either Ha-shi-wu or Yang-tsung. Being captured by Chinese soldiers in Peking, however, he swallowed the letter to escape detection, and after having been held prisoner for 4 days, was released. He said that although no fighting was going on in Peking, the troops were all in their places. On the day after the cessation of hostilities, General Tung issued strict orders that no communication should be held with the Legations. In the opinion of the messenger, the objects of the cessation of hostilities were to wait for the arrival of troops from the south, and to obtain time for Tung's men to marshal themselves for opposing the advance of the Allies from Tientsin. General Yung and Viceroy Lu had memorialized the Throne that General Li, Governor Yuan and other commanders should be instructed to combine for the recovery of Tientsin and Taku. On the 25th of July, the Emperor issued an edict in that sense. The foreigners in Peking were longing for the arrival of a relief force, and were holding up in the hope of its coming.

PEKING.

Foochow, Aug. 7.

According to intelligence from a trustworthy source, 3,000 men of Governor Yuan's troops, forming a reliable escort, have proceeded to Peking, and are encamped outside the city awaiting the Government's instructions to escort the Foreign Representatives to Chi-nan.

Chefoo, Aug. 8.

A number of people in the vicinity of Chefoo have begun to practise the rites of the Boxers.

Chefoo, August 7.

On the 5th instant the Allies captured Pe-tsang. Our loss was 200 killed and wounded.

Hongkong, August 8

A British (?) ship with 1,145 transport coolies on board has passed Hongkong from Bombay going north.

(From Baron Nishi.)

Peking, August 4 (via Chi-nan, Aug. 7.)

There is no change in the state of affairs. Foreign Corps Diplomatique have decided to remain here awaiting the arrival of a relieving force. The Chinese Government persists in asking us to withdraw to Tientsin. The *Tsung-li Yamên* having announced that telegrams on pacific subjects may be forwarded, this is sent through the *Yamên*.

THE RELIEF OF PEKING.

Tientsin, August 5.

The Allies numbering 16,000, left Tientsin on the 4th for the purpose of driving out the enemy, from Pe-tsang and Yang-tsun. About 7,000 men were left to guard Tientsin and the foreign concessions.

(Received at the War Department.)

(From Major-General Fukushima.)

Tientsin, August 1.

According to information received from various sources, Nieh's death in battle is certain. General Li, with Nieh's remaining troops and the troops raised by him (Li) in Nanking, is in the fortified position at Pe-tsang, where also are the forces of Ma and Sung. Tung's force also seems to have moved southward and joined these. The whole are probably not less than twenty thousand.

(From Colonel Akiyama.)

Taku, August 5.

The Allied forces commenced operations last night for the purpose of driving the enemy from a position about 8 miles north of Tientsin. At 3.30 this morning the fighting commenced and by 7.30 a.m. the enemy were driven back and Pe-tsang was occupied. This news has been sent from Lieut.-Colonel Aoki at Tientsin.

(From Major-General Fukushima.)

Tientsin, August 2.

Information has been received that General Lū, with 20 banners (10,000 men) has come from the south, and is foraging at Yang-liu-tsing. But this requires confirmation. (Yang-liu-tsing is about 9 miles west of Tientsin),

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

Shanghai, August 8.

According to reports circulating among the Chinese here, the Empress Dowager and her attendants have already left Peking and are now at Suen-hwa in Chih-li. But the officials here do not believe the rumour, the idea being that if the Empress Dowager has fled westward, she would have adopted a different route.

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Chefoo, August 6.

Intelligence from Peking, received privately and dated August 1st, says:—"The enemy seem disposed to renew their attacks. They number about 50,000, and are said to be short of ammunition. We also have only 25 rounds per man. Our provisions will suffice for another week. Mr. Narabara, second secretary of Legation, has died of his wounds.

(Mr. Narabara is married to a daughter of Marquis Sago, who is with him in Peking.—ED. *J.M.*)

Kan-chow, August 6.

In consequence of the dangerous state of affairs in the Chinese city, the British Consul and his colleagues moved to the settlement on the 6th instant.

Shanghai, August 7.

The Governor of Chekiang addressed the following communication to the Foreign Consuls on the 2nd August, through the Customs Taotai:—"Kiang-shan and other towns in Kū-chow have fallen into the hands of the insurgents, and nine foreigners have been killed. Governor Wu, who went to quell the rebels, has also been killed. The officers in command of the troops not having taken the necessary measures, the Governor of Chekiang has replaced them by others. Messengers have been secretly sent out to assemble troops sufficient to deal with the insurgents."

The *China Gazette* publishes a telegram that 5 British subjects were surprised and killed in Kū-chow. The Governor, who sends this telegram to the British Consul, adds that the whereabouts of the missionaries between Kū-chow and Yuen-chow not having been ascertained, there may be other casualties.

The British Consul confirms the receipt of the above telegram.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.)

(From Vice-Admiral Dewa.)

Chefoo, August 1.

According to a report from Commander Mori, our Fifth Division received orders to move out of Tientsin at 10 p.m. on the 4th instant and, in conjunction with the British, French, Russians, Americans, Germans, Italians, and Austrians, to attack the enemy assembled at Pe-tsang and advance to Yang-tsun. Commander Mori was to accompany the commanding officer's staff.

According to a report from the front, our troops took Pe-tsang on the morning of the 5th. The Japanese casualties were about 200 killed and wounded.

(FROM THE "MANILA TIMES.")

"YELLOW JACK" IN CUBA.

New York, July 27.

Yellow fever is epidemic among the troops of the Seventh Cavalry and First Infantry, U.S.A., who are stationed at Pinar del Rio, Cuba, the following troops under the command of Col. A. K. Harbach, First Infantry, being the ones affected: Companies C. E. G. and I. of the First Infantry, and Troops E. F. G. and H. Seventh Cavalry. Several deaths have occurred, and vigorous measures are being taken to prevent the disease from spreading and becoming prevalent among the other garrisons on the Island.

U.S. MINISTER TO ITALY RESIGNS.

Mr. William F. Draper, of Massachusetts, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Court of Italy, has resigned owing to the pressure of constantly growing business interests that demand his presence in the United States.

REBELS IN COLOMBIA.

The Colombian, S.A., rebels were victorious again to-day in a fight which occurred on the Colombian coast near the southern boundary of Panama. The Nationalist forces were routed and their defeated generals have taken refuge on English war vessels which were lying near by.

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 483.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to Kt 7	1—K takes R
2—Q to K 4 ch	2—K takes Kt
3—P to B 5 mate	
	2—K to B 3
3—Kt takes Q mate	
	1—Q to K 3
2—R takes Q ch	2—K takes R (must)
3—Q to K 7 mate	
	1—B takes R
2—Q to K 7 ch!	2—Q takes Q (must)
3—R to Kt 6 mate	
	1—Kt to Q 4
2—R to K B 5 ch	2—K to K 3 (must)
3—Q takes Kt mate	
	1—P Queens
2—R to Kt 6 ch	2—Q takes R
3—Q to K 7 mate	
	2—K takes R
3—Q to K 4 mate	

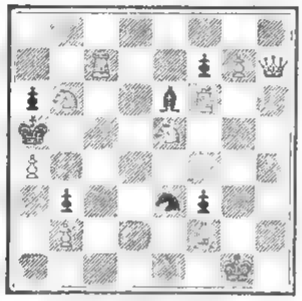
Correct solution received from "W.H.S."

PROBLEM No. 485.

By H. VON GOTTSHALL.

Took First Honours.

Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 610.

THE STEINITZ GAMBIT.

In order to test the soundness of the Steinitz Gambit, the following game was played by correspondence between Mr. Steinitz and the Liverpool Chess-Club:

White—W. Steinitz.		Black—Liverpool C.C.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	19 Q B2	Kt Q4
2 Kt QB3	Kt QB3	20 Q Q4 (f)	Kt K6ch
3 P KB4	PxP	21 BxKt	PxB(g)
4 P Q4	Q R5ch	22 QxKtP	P B4(h)
5 K K2	P Q4	23 Q-KKt2	Q QB6
6 PxP	B Kt5ch	24 R K2(i)	P B5(k)
7 Kt B3	Castles	25 Q RKsq(l)	P B6ch(m)
8 PxKt	B QB4	26 KxP	R Bsqch
9 Q Ksq(a)	Q R4	27 K Kt4	Q Kt2ch
10 PxPch	K Ktsq	28 K R4	Q R3ch
11 K Qsq(b)	BxP(c)	29 K Kt3	Q Kt4ch
12 B Q2	BxQKt(d)	30 K R3	Q R4ch
13 PxB	BxKtch	31 K Kt3	R B3
14 PxB	QxPch	32 P R4	R Ktsqch
15 B K2	QxQBP	33 K R3	QxPch
16 QRKtsq	Kt B3	34 KxQ	R R3, mate
17 B Q3	Q B3		
18 KR Ktsq(e)	KR Ksq		

Notes by the Committee of the Liverpool Chess-Club.

(a) This move is a comparatively recent innovation in the Steinitz Gambit, and, in conjunction with the eleventh move, was expected to re-establish the Gambit.

(b) This withdrawal of the King seems an excellent way of continuing the game. An analysis from this point would possess considerable interest.

(c) Black appears to have no other line of play open than to secure as many Pawns as possible as as an equivalent for the piece short.

(d) 12 B—K6 was discussed as a feasible move, but on investigation did not apparently lead to any decided advantage, and although some of the positions obtained were very strong, there was a feeling that the White King could ultimately make his escape under the shelter of the Pawns on the Queen's side.

(e) R—Bsq was expected.

(f) This was entirely unexpected. We are of opinion that K—Bsq freed Black's position somewhat, and secured a probable Draw. The move enabled Black to win.

(g) Obviously R x Q would not pay.

(h) The advance of this Pawn forces the game White is compelled to abandon his position at Kt 7, and so allow Black to occupy the strong position at Q B6.

(j) Q—K 2 is not any better. P—Q B4 would ultimately win the Bishop, and leave White with a lost position at Q B 6.

(k) Much better than Q—Q 7 ch, which at first seemed to force a win, but was afterwards found to be nothing but a draw.

(l) Necessary to prevent the advance of Pawn to K 7 after the King is forced out.

(m) From this point the game presents no difficulty. Black could have won by simply winning the Queen, but it was considered a mating position, and played accordingly.

GAME No. 611.

GAME FROM THE PARIS TOURNAMENT.

Four Knight's Game.

White—Schlechter.		Black—Lasker.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	26 K Rsq	R K Bsq
2 Kt K B3	Kt Q B3	27 Q R Ksq	QR B4
3 Kt B3	Kt B3	28 Kt K4	BxKt
4 B B4	B B4	29 RxB	QR Kt4
5 P Q3	P Q3	30 Q Bsq	Q Q3
6 B K Kt5	P K R3	31 P Q4	Q R6
7 B K3	B Q Kt5	32 Q Q3	R Kt3
8 Castles	BxKt	33 R(K4) K2	R Q3
9 PxB	Castles	34 P B5	KtxP
10 P K R3	P Q4	35 Q B4ch	KtxK3
11 PxP	KtxP	36 B Kt4	Q R5
12 B Q2	Q Q3	37 RxP	R B3
13 R Ksq	B Q2	38 R QB5	P QKt4
14 R Ktsq	Kt Kt3	39 Q B3	KtxR
15 B QKt4	K R Ksq	40 PxKt	QxRP
16 P B4	P R3	41 R K8ch	R B2
17 BxKt	BxB	42 Q Ksq	R K3
18 B B3	Kt Q2	43 RxR	QxR
19 R K3	P B4	44 Q Q2	R B4
20 Kt Q2	R K3	45 Q Q8	Q B5
21 Q R5	R Kt3	46 QxPch	R Kt3
22 P B3	R Kt4	47 P B3	Q K7
23 Q R4	Q Kt3	48 Q B6ch	R R4
24 Q B2	P B5	49 Q K4	QxQ
25 R K2	R R4	50 Resigns.	

It is reported that Schlechter saw a certain Draw with winning chances by 33 B—R sq, but remarked, after the game was finished, that he was ashamed to play for a Draw with such a position.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong	P & O. Co.	Rohilla 1	M. Aug. 13
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 2	M. Aug. 13
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 3	Tu. Aug. 14
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 4	Th. Aug. 16
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co.	Doric 5	Th. Aug. 16
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich 6	Sa. Aug. 18
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 7	W. Aug. 22
Hongkong.....	M. M. Co.	Yarra	W. Aug. 22
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. Aug. 20
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th. Aug. 35
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. Sept 3

1 Left Nagasaki on the 8th inst.
2 Left Vancouver on the 30th ult.
3 Left San Francisco on the 26th ult.
4 Left Hongkong on the 8th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 7th inst.
6 Left Hongkong on the 8th inst.
7 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Weimar	Sa. Aug. 11
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. Aug. 11
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Aug. 13
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Aug. 15
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	F. Aug. 17
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Aug. 17
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Aug. 18
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. Aug. 22
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Aug. 23
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Aug. 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	F. Aug. 31

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Shigatsura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, T. Murai, 3rd Aug.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 3rd Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kut Sang, British steamer, 1,495, R. C. D. Bradley, 3rd Aug.,—Cebu, P.I., Sugar.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 4th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 3rd Aug., General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 4th Aug.,—Seattle, Wash., 18th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 4th Aug.,—Niigata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yasumoto, 5th Aug.,—Kobe, 3rd Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Teenkai, British steamer, 3,016, D. Davies, 5th Aug., —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 4th Aug., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Weimar, German steamer, 3,176, E. Prehn, 5th Aug., —Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 4th Aug., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Alesia, German steamer, 3,533, Meyerdierchs, 7th Aug.,—Hamburg via ports, and Nagasaki, 4th Aug., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 7th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 6th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Durrande, 7th Aug.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 6th Aug., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, S. J. G. Parson, 7th Aug.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 6th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nurnberg, German steamer, 2,663, S. Stehr, 8th Aug., Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 2nd Aug., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 8th Aug.,—Kobe, 6th Aug., General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 8th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 7th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 9th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 19th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Solace, U.S. Navy Transport, 2,362, Capt. Winslow, 9th Aug.,—Taku via Nagasak, 6th Aug.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,354, Thos. Golding, 9th Aug.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 7th Aug., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 9th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 8th Aug., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Annam, French steamer, 2,331, Poydenot, 3rd Aug., —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General. M. M. S.S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 3rd August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Eva, German steamer, 2,083, C. Peterson, 3rd Aug., —Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Richmond Castle, British steamer, 2,297, R. Clancarty, 3rd Aug.,—New York via ports, General. —Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, H. Takeda, 4th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, German steamer, 3,038, Hansen, 4th Aug., —Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Summoyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Yamamoto, 5th Aug.,—Tsu via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,856, W. Thompsen, 5th Aug.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 4th Aug.,—Yokkachi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 5th Aug.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shiganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Y. Mura, 5th Aug.,—Handa via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 5th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Koln, German Transport, 4,666, Langreuter, 5th Aug.,—Taku —H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Oresles, British steamer, 2,992, T. Peters, 6th Aug., —Moji, Ballast —Butterfield & Swire.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 7th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rhipeus, Dutch steamer, 1,958, C. E. Day, 7th Aug., —London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 7th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sirene, German ship, 1,410, B. Souermilch, 8th Aug., —Royal Roads, Ballast.—Otto Reimers & Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 8th Aug.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 8th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Teenkai, British steamer, 3,016, D. Davies, 9th Aug., —Marseilles and London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 9th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. D. H. Cameron, Mr. G. Maruyama, Mr. A. Nomu, Miss Mary Winn, Miss Julia Winn, Mr. and Mr. Geo. H. Winn, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Weimar*, from Europe via ports:—Dr. Kampf, Mr. Ch. Kampf, Mr. T. Becket Birt, Mr. W. B. Birt, Mr. R. Squire, Mr. R. W. Borthwick, Mr. and Mrs. Lauts, child and governess, Mr. Th. Goeslip, Mr. Waddilove, Mr. A. R. Miller, Mr. Hunter, Miss Hunter, Mrs. O. Ewing, Miss Sanderson, Mrs. C. Rudolph, Mrs. Derkheim, Miss Gerken, Mr. R. S. Scharff, Mrs. C. A. Mackenzie, Capt. Frautenberger, Mr. H. Klingen, Mr. Stoph, Mr. R. Forshaw, Mr. G. A. Adam, Mrs. Swain, Mr. Mühlhausen, Mr. C. M. Cady, Mrs. McCallum, Miss Massy, Mr. H. C. Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Nicoll, Miss Lee, Miss Melville, Miss Bishop, Miss McKelvie, Master McKelvie, Mr. H. R. Fuller, Mr. Bexhausen, and Mrs. O. Hawa, n cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Block, Miss Togawa Hiro, Mr. J. Owedo, Miss Trogen, Mr. Hoyer, Mr. Foepfzer, Mr. Cossum and children, Mr. Alex. Kennedy and wife, Dr. Sennanmikoff, Mrs. Heinrich Heitz, Mr. Mariel, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Kahman Allabasol, Mr. Wilcox and child, Mr. S. M. Arab, Mr. and Mrs. Kershaw, Mr. R. Masujima, Mr. C. N. Crosse, Mr. Brandenstein, Mr. Guggenheim, Mr. Mark Baggallay, Mr. J. A. Barretto, Mrs. Blanc, Mr. Nakayama, Mr. C. W. Dimock, and Mrs. Garrit, 2 children and amah, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. Ladopoula, Mr R. W. Austin, Mr. J. J. Woodruff, Mr. J. W. Lupten, Mr. C. E. Hill, Mr. E. Knaff, Mr. M. A. Will, Mr. M. J. Derig, Mr. J. Hibbs, and Mr. S. Vafiadaki, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. L. D Adams, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. M. J. Egan, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Capt. Farehold, Mr O Mason, Miss Toepke, Mr. K. A. Andrae, and Mr Paine, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. R. B. Allen, Miss M. Bonnell, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Cope, Mr. E. C. Davis, Dr. and Mrs. Fowler, Mr. J. R. Harring, Dr. and Mrs. A. Hogg and 3 children, Mr. J. C. Hansen, Miss Jamieson, Mr. F. Lammert, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Hughes and 3 children, Mr. E. Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Parish, Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, Miss L. M. Stanley, Mr. J. Selles, Mr. N. Sparham, Capt. W. Walker, Mr. I. Weir, Mr. T. Bunt, Rev. E. Burnip, Mr. H. A. Dalley, Mr. H. Fallon, Miss Green, Rev. T. Harnes, Miss Hunt, Miss Johnston, Mr. F. Klingen, Miss A. A. Lanius, Mr. J. P. McCoy, Mr. J. Penniall, Miss Parish, Miss Stayner, Mr. Sanford, Mrs. Sanford and servant, Miss Wadman, Mr. H. Wilcockson, Miss Weir, and Miss Young, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. Bonsfield, Dr E. H. Baldock, Mrs. N. S. Bryant and 3 children, Mrs. Blodeck, Mr and Mrs. H. D. Bosman and amah, Mrs. Dr. J. J. Dow, Miss H. R Galloway, Mr H Jensen, Mr and Mrs. J. Goforth and 3 children, Miss L. Meiners, Rev. and Mrs. S. D. Holmes and 3 children, Miss M. T. McIntosh, Mr. Geo. Michey, Mrs. I. Oakman, Miss M. A. Pyke, Mr. H. Schuchard, Mrs. J. A. Slimmon, Miss G. Taft, and Mr. Toontzin, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Annam*, for Marseilles via ports —Mr. and Mrs. J. Shute, Major H. O. Perley, Mr. Rudolf Metz, Mr. H. Boetel, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Mak Leong, Mr. James Kang, Mr. E. C. Davis, Mr. G. Castriota, Mr. Serge Kowalensky, Miss L. Roth, Mr. Loffler, Mr. Zaeckell, Mr. Walzer, Mr. Luders, Mr. and Mrs. Wencker, Mrs. Gilbert and child, Mrs. Briol and infant, Mrs. Jessen and infant, Mr. Awai, Mrs. Roth, Mr. W. S. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Keyes and child, Mr. R. Patrick, Mr. A. S. Hay, Mr. J. W. MacArthur, Mr. Hep Toon, Mr. Lai Won, Mr. S. Nishiyama, Mr. H. Sakano, and Mrs. Crosby, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. R. Miller, and Mr. A. C. Macmillan, in cabin; 1 Indian, 10 Chinese and child, in steerage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Annam*, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 341 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 35 bales.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 231 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 25 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is still complete stagnation in the import trade.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings 24 yards, 14 inches	2.30 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.80 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD 0.21 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y.0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 30 yards	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.68 to 0.78

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.20 to 11.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 28 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos 38, 42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	Y.170.00 to 175.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	170.00 to 190.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	270.00 to 275.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	335.00 to 345.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	440.00 to 450.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	340.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	400.00 to 415.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	520.00 to 530.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	23 *yen*
Indian Broach	22
Chinese	22.50

METALS.

The market is still stagnant.

	PER PICUL
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y.6.00 to 6.50
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 7.00
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.50 to 14.00
Wire Nails, assorted	8.00 to 8.50
Tin Plates, per box	8.20 to 8.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	7.00 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

Market firm.

American	$2.80
Russian	2.75
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	Y 5.20 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.60 to 6.90
Brown Daitong	4.20 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined	7.90 to 9.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a fair daily business, customers buying freely as the market declined. At closing the fall is checked, native holders showing a little more backbone and saying they will not reduce prices any further.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	Y 980 Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	810 to 820
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	860 to 865
Re-reels—No. 1	840 to 845
Re-reels—No. 1½	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	860 to 870
Kakedas—No. 1½	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 2	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2½	770 to 780

WASTE SILK.

Some few purchases have been made at quotations but there is not as yet a large supply of new fibre to work upon.

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QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	
Noshi—Filatures, Good	
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	80 to 82½
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	

TEA.

Purchases have largely decreased, owing to the high prices demanded, which are out of proportion to the quality of the leaf on offer.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	39 & upwards
Choice	37 to 38
Finest	35 to 36
Fine	33 to 34
Good Medium	31 to 32
Medium	29 to 30
Good Common	27 to 28
Common	25 to 26

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, August 9.

Silver from London ⅛ lower and discount $\frac{1}{16}$ easier have not affected local rates.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¾
— — Bills on demand	2/0 $\frac{13}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 $\frac{15}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 @ $\frac{1}{16}$
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255
— Private 4 months' sight	261
— — 6 months' sight	262½
America—Bank sight	49 $\frac{3}{8}$
— Private 4 months' sight	50¾@1
Germany—Bank sight	207
— Private 4 months' sight	213
Hongkong—Bank sight	* 1% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	* 3% dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 71½
— Private 10 days' sight	* 73½
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	28

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 9.

Engine and Iron Works can be had at *yen* 210 ex dividend. Japan Breweries are obtainable at *yen* 150. Oriental Hotels—Offers for old shares are wanted. Langfeldts have sellers at *yen* 95. Helms are obtainable at par. Laundries have sellers at par.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108. Laundries can be had at par.

Yebisu Breweries were sold to-day at *yen* 102. Osaka Breweries were sold to-day at *yen* 51.50 for *yen* 30 paid up. Tokyo Ropes changed hands to-day at *yen* 73.50 for old shares and *yen* 23.50 for new shares. Offers for Hodogaya Breweries are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	220 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 N.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 Sa
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12 50	500 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 B
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	100 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	50 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	108 St
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	108 Sa
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	101 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	108 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 N.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, August 9.

Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 220. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Offers are wanted for Oriental Hotel shares. Langfeldts have sellers at par. Helms are obtainable at par. Bretts have buyers at *yen* 9.25.

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Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107.
Brett & Co. debentures are obtainable at par.

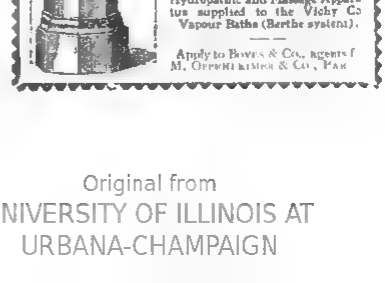
YEN.	
Yokohama E. & I. Works	220 Sellers.
Grand Hotel	230 Sales.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Sales.

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.30, 8.55, 9.35, 10.05, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1.30, 2, 2.36, 3.10, 3.55, 4.33, 5.15, 5.33, 6.20, 7.21, 8, 9.13, 10, 10.50, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMBASHI 4.50, 5.45, 6.50, 7.55, 8.30, 8.45, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25 a.m.; 12, 1.10, 1.40, 2.25, 3, 3.25, 4, 4.35, 5.10, 5.25, 6.30, 7, 7.35, 8.20, 9.20, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 18TH, 1900.

BIRTH.

On 17th instant, at 63-A Bluff, the wife of WILLIAM KING, of a Son.

DEATH.

An San Francisco, California, on July 17th, 1900, D. B. McCartee, A. M., M. D.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

STEINITZ, the celebrated chess-player, is dead.

THE Allies are within 15 miles of Peking.

DESULTORY fighting still continues in South Africa.

AN American steamer with 600 troops left Nagasaki for Taku on the 13th inst.

THE U.S. cruiser *Newark* arrived at Nagasaki on the 13th inst. from Shanghai.

TWELVE French missionaries arrived at Nagasaki on the 12th inst. from Mukden via Vladivostock.

THE French cruiser *Jean Bart* arrived at Nagasaki on the 13th inst. from Taku.

THE Japanese cruisers *Tokiwa* and *Takasago* left Jinsen on the morning of the 13th inst. for Fusan.

Two inspectors and thirty-seven police constables left Japan for Tientsin on the 17th inst.

TEN sick bluejackets belonging to the Japanese war vessel *Takao* arrived at Nagasaki on the 13th inst. from Shanghai.

MR. FUTAKUCHI, Consul at Shashi, arrived at Nagasaki by the *Kobe Maru* on the 13th and left for Tokyo at once.

THE new Italian Premier, Signor Saracco, is 82 years old. Lord Palmerston died at 81 and Mr. Gladstone at 88, and Palmerston died in harness.

THE long distance telephone was interrupted from the morning of the 13th inst. by heavy rain at Osaka, Kyoto, and Shiga. Only one line was opened by 5 o'clock the same evening.

THE Governor of Fukuoka Prefecture has reported to the Home Department that one sergeant, one gendarme, and eleven persons were injured by a drunken soldier belonging to the 24th Regiment on the 10th inst.

A FIRE broke out at half-past two o'clock on the morning of the 16th inst. at Yamadacho, Itchome, Yokohama. About thirty houses were destroyed and ten damaged. It is stated that the fire was caused by a young girl and boy. Both were arrested.

THE British Government is considering the appointment of a royal commission on the naval coal supply. This action is greatly due to the increasing production and cheapness of American coal and the diminishing supply of Welsh steam coal with which warships are furnished.

ON Friday, August 31st, at 10 o'clock, at the Union Church, Tsukiji, Tokyo, a meeting will be held in the interest of Christian union. Professor F. A. Wagner will read a paper, "*The Glory of His Power*," in keeping with the spirit of the meeting; and extempore addresses may follow. The public, including all missionaries remaining in Tokyo and Yokohama during the summer, are cordially invited to attend.

A COPYIST named Furukawa Takeo, employed in the House of Representatives, stole a quantity of books belonging to the House, valued at about 1,500 *yen*, and sold them to a bookseller named Kusubayashi Yasusaburo, of Hongo, Tokyo. Both have been arrested.

PROF. J. M. DIXON, formerly of Tokyo, and now associated with Washington University, St. Louis, was thrown from his bicycle while descending a steep hill at Glen Park, Col., on July 8. His head struck the bridge at the foot and concussion of the brain resulted.

MR. NARABARA, whose death at Peking we recently recorded, was a member of the Christian faith, having been baptized at Edinburgh during his residence there.

THE Osaka Tramway Co. has nearly completed the line from Tennoji to Tengachaya, and it is expected that this section will be opened to traffic on or about the 20th proximo.

SIR FRANCIS CARDEW, who has been appointed Governor of the Straits Settlements, was Assistant Military Secretary in the China Command (General Sargent) at Hongkong in 1882-83.

THE Teikoku Shokumin Kaisha, Kaigan-dori, Kobe, has engaged 200 coolies for service with the German Contingent in China. The men are to leave for North China as soon as the official formalities have been attended to.

THE Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, who completely stopped transactions with China at the outbreak of the disturbances, is now attempting to supply provisions to the troops in the vicinity of Tientsin. The steamer *Atago Maru*, specially equipped, will be despatched on the 14th inst. from Kobe, with tinned meats, beer, Hirano water, handkerchiefs, dried plums, etc.

A GAS pipe broke on the night of the 9th inst. at Tamachi Sanchome, Akasaka, Tokyo. A *jinrikisha* coolie smelt the escaping gas and searched for the leakage with his lantern. An explosion followed, but fortunately with no serious result.

MR. J. R. MESTON, second engineer of the steamer *Victoria*, who was recently sentenced to seven days' detention by the Yokohama Ku Saibansho on a charge of having assaulted a Japanese on board the ship, has abandoned his intention of appeal and is now undergoing sentence.

A BURGLAR, apparently a coolie, aged 40, was arrested on Friday at No. 75, Settlement. He stole some 5 lbs. of indigo valued at *yen* 12, stored in a godown belonging to Messrs. Browne & Co., and, while trying to carry off his booty, was detected by a man employed in an adjoining place of business.

A FORMER singing girl of Tokyo who has been living with a restaurant-keeper in the Koishikawa suburb, tiring of the connection, asked to be released. The man promised the girl her liberty and then enticed her into an upper room of his house, whereupon her three brothers, suspecting foul play, broke into the place and cut down the man with swords. This occurred on the 8th inst.

A MAN named Yamamoto Meiju, accountant at the Asakusa police station, lost 50 *yen* in paper notes on the 28th ult. He was travelling in a train at the time and no doubt a pickpocket relieved him. On the 9th inst. a parcel-post packet was received at Asakusa station containing 30 *yen* and a letter explaining that the remainder would be returned later, but that the writer had no work.

PROF. TSUBOI, of the Imperial University, has just unearthed at Hibita-mura, Nakagori, Soshu, Kanagawa-ken, a rare archæological find. With permission of the Government he has cut into an ancient tumulus and found within a large number of gold and silver rings, wrought stones, iron, glass balls, swords, bridles, &c. Prof. Tsuboi is of opinion that these things belong to the second or third era after Jimmu Tenno.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha has applied to the Ministers of War and the Navy for leave to contribute articles for the use of soldiers and sailors engaged in the suppression of the Chinese trouble. The proposed donations are as follows:—25,000 pieces of *tenugui* for the land troops, 12,000 for the bluejackets and marines, 200 dozen condensed milk for wounded soldiers, and 12 dozen for wounded sailors in the hospitals.

A SIMLA telegram, dated 19th July, says:—This week's famine returns show a further increase in the numbers under relief in British territory with almost a corresponding decrease in the Native States, especially in Rajputana and Central India, where the recent rain has enabled sowings to commence. Most of the famine area has now had sufficient rain for immediate needs, and supposing the rains continue long enough to enable the crops now being put in to yield a harvest all may yet be well.

RAILWAY works are now actively proceeding in British North Borneo. The actual length of line under construction is about 110 miles. Starting from two points on the west coast, viz., Weston and Jesselton, the line runs for some 20 miles in a north-easterly direction, and 58 miles in a south-westerly direction respectively, meeting at Beaufort on the Padas River. From Beaufort it runs almost due south-east, skirting the Padas River and the Penotel Gorge till it reaches Tenom. The distance from Beaufort to Tenom is 33 miles, giving in all about 110 miles of railway.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Aug. 11

Cipher telegrams sent by eight of the Foreign Ministers in Peking on the 6th instant, through the *Tsung-li-Yamên*, are said to be all without dates. This information comes from Shanghai and must therefore be received with caution.

A telegram from Vladivostock says that in the sequel of the operations recently conducted by the Russian troops, communications by the Amur have been restored. It is also stated that, after a sharp fight, the Russian troops have gained possession of Sanshing, which is an important place on the Sugari between Halapin and Habalofsk.

It is estimated that the number of Christian converts killed in Chili alone since the outbreak of the Boxer disturbance aggregates ten thousand. There must be a good deal of conjecture about this calculation, but whatever allowance be made for exaggeration, a terrible total remains. Not much thought has been given by the foreign public to the sufferings of the native Christians, yet the sorrows of these unhappy people ought to move our profoundest sympathy.

It is alleged that Li Hung-chang has received a plenipotentiary commission to open negotiations for peace in Shanghai. The old Viceroy was never required to solve a problem of anything like corresponding difficulty. No Western Power will agree to confer with him until the Foreign Ministers and the foreign community in Peking are in safety. But the Ministers will not leave Peking until the relief force reaches them, and if Li can not effect something before Peking falls, his credentials will be so much waste paper. No wonder that the old statesman is sick in body as well as at heart.

The *Chuuo Shimbun* avers that Viceroy Chang has addressed to all his provincial colleagues a strongly worded circular, declaring that all hope of maintaining peaceful relations with foreign powers must now be abandoned, and that it is the duty of the Viceroys to fight for the preservation of the empire's integrity. Rumours pointing to some change of sentiment on Chang's part had already been circulated, but as all these stories come from Shanghai, their credibility is doubtful. It is most unfortunate that Shanghai, which ought to be our main source of intelligence, has become quite untrustworthy.

The advance of the allied force from Tientsin on the 4th instant is not understood to be a definite move against Peking, but may become so according to circumstances. Evidently the prime purpose of the advance is to drive back the Chinese and gain possession of the railway and the river as far as Yangtsun, which is 18 miles north of Tientsin. The railway crosses the Peiho at Yangtsun, and by occupying the latter place it will be possible to get the line into working order all the way from Tong-ku, so that troops and provisions can be brought up without stopping at Tientsin. If our readers will examine the map issued by us a few days ago, they will observe that the railway runs along the east bank of the Peiho as far as Yangtsun, where it diverges from the river line and takes a north-westerly direction for Peking. The floods spoken of as such serious impediments are chiefly to the south of Yangtsun, and if the latter place is occupied and made a basis for future movements, the task of moving towards Peking whether by the line of the railway or by that of the river would be greatly facilitated. The Allies seized Pe-tsang (8 miles from Tientsin) on the 5th instant, after a severe struggle in which they lost heavily. We now await news of their advance to Yangtsun.

According to verbal intelligence received from the note-swallowing messenger who left Peking on July 26th, the lines of defence of the Legations extend 840 yards east and west and 720 yards north and south. Included within them are the French Legation (partly), the Japanese Legation, the Spanish Legation, the Russian Legation, the German Legation, the Dutch Legation and the American Legation. Excluded are the Legations of Italy, Austria and Belgium. On the south the Allies hold a certain length of the city-wall, the British having a battery posted at the west of this line and the Germans a battery on the east. In addition to the foreigners within the lines, there are a thousand Christian converts. The foreigners are living on rice gruel and horse soup. The Japanese guards seem to have suffered most in proportion to their number. They occupy the salient point of the northern line of defences, namely, the *Yamên* of Prince Shû. It is stated that not merely the non-combatants but also the women and children take part in the building of parapets. The Chinese have posted batteries on the wall at three gates, and the British Legation lies at shortest range, but their gunnery appears to be very bad; so bad, indeed, that some doubts are entertained as to whether the Chinese seriously intend to bombard the Legations, and are not rather seeking to intimidate them. The Christian converts, however, are disposed to regard the erratic flight of the shells as an evidence of divine help.

Mr. Ma, chief of telegraphs in Central China, who has hitherto had his head-quarters at Talien, passed through Moji on the 5th instant *en route* for his native place. He avers that Russia has seized the Liaotung Peninsula. Originally she had only one battalion to garrison Talien and Victoria Bays, but since the troubles commenced she has gradually raised her force to 15,000, the majority of whom are Cossacks, with Chinchow for head-quarters. On receipt of the news that Chinese troops had opened hostilities on the Siberian frontier, the Russian flag was run up at Chinchow (27th July), and on the 29th a number of the Volunteer Fleet steamers with troops and twenty guns entered Victoria Bay, where a large force was disembarked with all speed so that Russia has now a considerable army in the Liaotung Peninsula. On the 31st of July, a Russian officer with some hundreds of men came to the telegraph office in Talien, and informed Mr. Ma that until the settlement of the present disturbance it would be necessary for Russia to have command of the telegraphs. Communication with Peking being impossible, Mr. Ma had nothing for it but to hand over the office. He says that these arbitrary proceedings have greatly increased the indignation of the Chinese, and that constant cutting of the telegraph lines and of the railway may be anticipated. All the Chinese labourers, not knowing when a conflict might arise, have fled from the Peninsula, and the Russians themselves have to perform all operations of landing and transport, and have had to suspend their harbour construction works in Victoria Bay. Mr Ma thinks that if the conflict now taking place in the neighbourhood of Moukden should extend to Liaotung, the greater part of the Chinese population will rise against the Russians.

It is stated that 4,000 English troops and 1,200 French are to be landed in Shanghai and that the Viceroy Liu has given his assent to this measure. If the news be correct, these troops will have to be diverted from the Peking relieving force, and an attempt will then be made to convict Great Britain of an unwise scattering of strength. But we must give to Her Majesty's Government the credit of knowing what necessity exists for such steps. It appears to us that the concentration of a certain force in Shanghai is a very desirable precaution. We do not believe that the occupation of the Chinese city or any similarly arbitrary act will take place. The Chinese city at Shanghai is not fortified, and the duty of holding it would only embarrass the officer commanding the British force. But England has declared to the world that it is her policy to protect Shanghai at all hazards, and that, if necessary, her troops shall co-operate with those of the Southern Viceroys in preserving order. To carry out that programme she must assemble a force within striking distance of the scene of operations, which is what she is now doing. A march upon Peking is not the only step that has to be undertaken. Were that alone necessary, the situation would be much easier. At any moment, however, trouble may break out in the Yangtsze valley, and trouble in China is like a conflagration: checked at the outset, it can easily be controlled, but if left to spread, it soon assumes formidable dimensions. Those that blame England for diverting troops to Shanghai would do well to consider what would be the nature of their criticisms should the Yangtsze valley break into a flame of insurrection, and should Shanghai share the fate of Tientsin, in the absence of any precautionary measures on the part of England. To us it appears that Her Majesty's Government is adopting a wise and statesmanlike course. The presence or absence of 4,000 troops will make little difference to the Peking expedition, and may make all the difference in the world in the Yangtsze valley.

Meanwhile the *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent wires that Li Hung-chang has sent an important telegram to the Russian Government. The public has to be prepared for stories of that kind nor can any one venture to doubt the possibility of their truth. China has only one hope in this emergency; the hope of playing off the Allies against each other. She has sucked much advantage from that policy in the past, and she would be very unwise if she failed to essay it in the present.

Monday, Aug. 13.

It is stated that the Chinese forces defending Pe-tsang and its neighbourhood numbered twenty thousand. The Japanese had some 300 killed and wounded in the attack, and the Chinese left 200 dead upon the field.

The notorious Wu Man tszu, whose doings in Szechuan gave so much trouble and caused such a scandal two years ago, is said to have been pardoned in consideration of his readiness to assemble a force and repair to Peking to protect the city. His troops are to be called Man-tszu-ying. Any port in a storm seems to be the rule in Peking at present, and no wonder.

It is, of course, a very important point that the Peking Government has announced the possibility of cipher telegrams between the

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Foreign Representatives, their Governments and Consuls. Indeed, no incident more significant has occurred, for this step puts an end to all concealment, enables the world to obtain exact information as to what is going on in Peking—so far as the Ministers know—and affords strong evidence of the Chinese Government's desire to act henceforth in good faith.

A letter from the British Minister in Peking, dated the 4th instant, is said to contain a statement that the Legations can not hold out for more than 10 days. Two things make this intelligence difficult to believe: first, it is opposed to authenticated statements already made by Sir Claude MacDonald, and, secondly, the Legations in Peking are now enjoying immunity from attack. It is strange, however, that news is not received more quickly. The Chinese Government manages to have its own decrees conveyed to Chi-nan-fu in three days. Why should not equal expedition be possible in the case of messages from the Foreign Representatives, if the *Tsung-li Ya-mên* is sincere in its declaration of willingness to forward them?

A remarkable story is circulated by the press of Tokyo. It is to the effect that Mr. Chang has been ordered to commit suicide. Mr. Chang is the official who accompanied Mr. Detring on the abortive peace mission to Japan in the early spring of 1895. In connexion with some offence committed subsequently, he was exiled to Shen-si. There would be nothing particularly strange in his being ordered to make away with himself, such incidents being more or less normal in China. But the alleged reason is most artistic. The Court thinks of moving to Shensi and can not reconcile itself to the notion of having such a criminal as Chang in the neighbourhood of the new palace. Neither, apparently, can the Authorities take the trouble of moving him elsewhere. So he is recommended to swallow opium and take his inconvenient self out of the way. What a tale!

The fight at Newchwang on the 4th instant seems to have been a remarkable affair. According to the published account, the Boxers made the attack, and were assisted by the Chinese troops, the Russians opposing them. The fight lasted the whole day, yet there was not a single casualty on the Russian side and very few on the Chinese. In the evening the Chinese troops, the Boxers and the Taotai fled across the river, and the Russian flag was raised over the walled city and the Custom House. During the afternoon, two Russian gun-boats bombarded the town, but did little damage. Altogether it appears to have been a most innocuous affair. A whole-day fight in which one side has no casualties at all and the other side none to speak of is remarkable enough. But what enhances the curiosity is that, although the Chinese were from the first in possession of the walled city, they are represented as the attacking party and as finally abandoning the city. However, the tangible result is that the Russian flag now floats over the city and the Custom House.

Li Hung-chang.

The Imperial Decree of the 7th instant appointing Li Hung-chang commissioner for the re-establishment of peace seems to be a dubious kind of document so far as the Viceroy's powers are concerned. He is to communicate with the various Governments for the immediate object of arranging an armistice; he is to devise some programme suitable to the occasion, and he is to communicate it to Peking. It is evident that the possibility of Li's accomplishing anything must depend, mainly, upon the willingness of the Allies to grant an armistice, and that, in turn, must depend upon the fate of the foreigners in Peking. It is now quite certain that the Foreign Ministers will not be persuaded to leave Peking under Chinese escort. They will await the arrival of a relieving force, and in order that a relieving force may arrive one of two things is necessary: either the fighting must continue, or the Chinese must consent to allow fifteen thousand foreign troops to march unmolested to Peking for the purpose of taking away the Ministers. The former proceeding would render Li's functions altogether futile at this stage, inasmuch as the Allies, if they are determined to occupy Peking, will not entertain any peace proposals prior to that event. The latter plan would also involve postponement of negotiations, for, until the safe retreat of the Ministers had been provided for, no terms could be seriously discussed. There is, of course, another alternative, namely, that Western Governments may agree to treat so soon as they are assured by the Ministers in Peking that all signs of hostility have been suppressed in that city, and that they, the Ministers, feel no further anxiety about their own or their nationals' safety. But whatever method be adopted it is evident that to obtain an armistice will be a matter of great difficulty, while, on the other hand, if Li can not save Peking, he will have failed conspicuously on the threshold of his endeavour. There is also the fact that he has to negotiate simultaneously with at least ten Powers. What hope is there that he can bring them into line? Even supposing that they use all possible expedition in appointing plenipotentiaries to open a conference in Shanghai, we should see a repetition of the weary spectacle witnessed during so many years in the Japanese capital and finally closed by a grand fiasco, the spectacle of a number of delegates all pulling different ways with the idea of moving in the same direction. If the Powers are in a practical mood they will not repeat that futile experiment. They will discuss the matter among themselves in Europe. If they could consent to appoint any one of their number as custodian and representative of the general interests, the prospect of a settlement would be immensely advanced. But that is the very last thing conceivable. On the whole we conclude that the task lying before Li Hung-chang is one of unparalleled difficulty.

Field-Marshal Waldersee.

Telegrams from London indicate that Her Majesty's Government has not yet assented to the assumption of the supreme command in China by Field-Marshal Waldersee. We can not wonder that there is some hesitation, though we do wonder very much that such an appointment was made in Germany without previously consulting the other Powers. Doubtless a German officer of Marshal Waldersee's standing is eminently qualified for the proposed post. But there are other things to be considered apart from mere technical qualifications. Germany has only a very small force in China, comparatively speaking. Her troops are far outnumbered by those of Japan, of England, of Russia, and of America. She is credited with the intention of ultimately sending sixteen thousand men, but, even if she carries out that programme, some months must elapse before her forces take the field, and in the meanwhile her column in the fighting line will be of insignificant dimensions. Why should the supreme command be given to one of her officers, under such circumstances? The principle guiding the choice of commanding officer is quite plain. The rank of the officer placed in command of the troops sent by any particular Power to China depends on their number. If troops amount to a brigade only, they are under a Brigadier-General or a Major-General. If they make a Division, their command devolves on a Major-General, or possibly a Lieutenant-General. If an army corps, then still a Lieutenant-General. The officer taking command of a mixed force is naturally the officer whose national troops are most numerous, since such an officer has the highest rank. In the case of equal numbers of different nationalities, then the date of commission settles the seniority. Japan and England have both put Divisions into the field. Russia has nearly a Division—we are not speaking of Manchuria. America has nearly a Brigade. France has a regiment. Germany has only a battalion. That being the state of affairs, it seems to us that the despatch of a Field-Marshal from Germany to command the whole force would be one of the most singular steps conceivable. It would be plainly tantamount to an acknowledgement that German officers have some official military capacities which entitle them to step above the Generals of all other countries. We all admire the German military organization, and we all admire the splendid fighting of the little *Iltis* at Taku. Moreover, we are all anxious to promote concord among the Allies in North China. But this appointment of Marshal Waldersee seems tactless and unaccountable.

Tuesday, Aug 14.

The *Asahi* quotes a paragraph from Chinese journals saying that Yü Lu, former Viceroy of Chih-li, was killed in action at Yang-tsun, but adds that the statement requires confirmation.

The operations of the Allies in North China are said to have shown that the best transport animals are the horses trained by the Russians at Port Arthur. Other animals have been found more or less unsatisfactory.

The telegraph office in Shanghai has announced its readiness to receive and transmit ordinary telegrams to Peking, The route will be *viâ* Chi-nan-fu, and the messages will be forwarded by hand wherever wires are not available.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent telegraphs that, according to the belief prevalent in Shanghai, Li Hung-chang's appointment as peace commissioner does not mean that the Chinese Government is disposed to surrender but merely that it wishes to delay the march upon Peking. That is just the kind of interpretation we should have expected from Shanghai.

It is stated that the Japanese have hitherto been employing mountain guns only, but that finding them not sufficiently powerful, some batteries of field-guns were sent by the *Tosa Maru*, arriving at Taku on the 1st, and being forwarded thence on the 3rd. Hitherto the English guns have proved the most efficient of all those employed. It is stated that when escalading the wall at Tientsin to open the inner gate, the Japanese put their feet into holes made by British shells during the firing on the preceding day.

It is stated that Taotai Shên and Mr. Chang I-mau have been appointed assistant-commissioners in conjunction with Li Hung-chang. But it is evident that this commission can not hope to accomplish anything unless China abandons all resistance to the march of the allied forces towards Peking.

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The Chinese may be said to have fallen into the pit dug by themselves. They hoped, apparently, to make use of the Foreign Representatives as hostages, but they would now be very glad to get rid of them, for the Foreign Representatives decline to leave Peking until a foreign force comes to escort them, and it is precisely the coming of a foreign force to Peking that the Chinese are most anxious to prevent.

The recent reports that some bad feeling had arisen between the troops of the various Powers at the front are vehemently denied by the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent. He says that nothing could be better than the feeling existing on all sides, especially between the Japanese, English, Americans and Germans, who have become genuine comrades in arms. The correspondent adds that the conduct of the British and Americans towards the Japanese is beyond praise. For example, during the defense of Tientsin, the Japanese position was deficient in water, and the British every day carried 2 tons of water from their own lines to the Japanese. The Americans, also, brought a quantity of ice to the Japanese. The kindness of the Russians is also highly spoken of by another correspondent.

People who take a sanguine view of the situation allege that as no good position for defence offers between Yang-tsun and Tung-chow, the Allies will be able to push on rapidly without any serious engagement, and will reach Tung-chow on the 13th. The distance from Yang-tsun to Tung-chow by river—and it is evident that the river route will be taken—is about 48 miles. Thus, even supposing that the Allies moved forward from Yang-tsun on the 7th, and that everything goes smoothly, their arrival in Tung-chow by the evening of the 13th would mean steady progress at the rate of 7 miles a day. That is a high average, but by no means impossible. But, as we have more than once observed, the question whether the advance is to be pushed immediately from Yang-tsun northward can not be answered until the commanding officers have assured themselves of the enemy's disposition, for the expeditionary force is not strong enough to guard its communications effectually in the face of a resolute and numerous foe. Experience of Chinese fighting, however, encourages the belief that, after the defeats at Pe-tsang and Yang-tsun, the opposition will be somewhat demoralized and Tung-chow may possibly be reached without serious difficulty. Tung-chow is 16 miles from Peking. It is the point on the Peiho where travellers to Peking leave the river and strike off westward for the city, following a paved, though rough, causeway, or moving by fairly good roads through up-lands. There is no danger of flooding or other local difficulties in this part of the route. If the Allies reach Tung-chow quickly, there will be a panic in Peking and we may expect to hear of the Court's flight. But it is also possible that Tung-chow may be the furthest point of the expedition, and that its occupation will be the signal for final surrender.

The Advance on Yang-tsun

The advance to Pe-tsang and Yang-tsun is said to have been decided by a meeting of commanding officers held at the Russian head-quarters in Tientsin on the 3rd. It had been originally intended to hold the meeting at the Japanese head-quarters under the presidency of Lieut.-General Baron Yamaguchi, but the sudden arrival of Lieut. General Linieerwetz (?), General of Division, caused a change of programme. The Japanese were in favour of an immediate advance; the Russians and the Germans opposed it. The Germans gave as a reason that the arrival of the brigade of German troops now *en route* ought to be awaited. The Russian reason was that, as the rainy season had set in, the advance would be attended with many difficulties. The majority, however, decided in favour of an advance as far as Yang-tsun in the first place. Accordingly, the following disposition of forces was made:—the French, the Russians, the Germans, the Austrians and the Italians to form the left wing and to make a flank attack on Pe-tsang; a part of the Japanese Division, under Major-Gen. Tsukamoto, to form the right, to attack the powder magazine, and moving by Han-kia, to assault Pe-tsang from the rear; and the brigade under Major-General Manabe, to form the centre and to move against the front of Pe-tsang by the direct road. There is some slight difference in the various accounts of these details. It will be observed that in the distribution just quoted, no mention is made of the English and Americans, but other statements show that they were divided between the centre and the right, and that they totalled about five thousand. The troops seem to have commenced the movement at 1 a.m. on the 5th. The fighting began with the attack on the powder magazine and the occupation of Han-kia by Major-General Manabe's force. At these points the enemy did not offer any serious resistance. Major-General Manabe then seems to have placed himself at the head of two battalions, and shifted his position from the right to the centre, advancing along the direct road to Peking. At Tun-kia-wan he encountered the enemy in force, and a hot engagement took place, lasting for several hours. Here again the accounts differ. Some say that the Japanese charged four times but failed to break the Chinese, while others say that they succeeded in driving them back, and others allege that the final coup was not delivered until the Russians and the French joined forces with the Japanese. It appears that a considerable delay was caused by a mistake as to the possibility of fording the river. The Russian scouts had reported it fordable, but when the troops of the left wing endeavoured to come to the assistance of the Japanese, who were lying down unable to advance, it was found that the river could not be crossed and the Russians and French had to march back, effect a crossing lower down, and move by the direct Peking road to the assistance of Manabe's battalions. The Russians and French opened a heavy artillery fire, which so weakened the Chinese resistance that the Japanese were able to make a successful charge. Manabe's battalions seem to have attempted the feat of assaulting a strong position in front without artillery. It was in this attempt that the Japanese lost some 300 men. As to whether the Allies advanced, or contemplated an immediate advance, beyong Yang-tsun, there is again discrepancy in the accounts. The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent says that as a reconnaissance showed the enemy to be in force at Tung-chow, dispositions were made to attack him, whereas the *Asahi's* correspondent says that the Allies made no movement northward of Yang-tsun. We can scarcely credit the *Jiji's* account, for Tung-chow being 48 miles beyond Yang-tsun, and the latter place having been occupied after tolerably stubborn resistance on the 6th, it is not easy to understand how Tung-chow can have been reconnoitred on the 7th.

The Tientsin Gate Episode.

It transpires that the man who fired the gun-cotton at the gate of Tientsin was Sub-Lieutenant Inouye Kenkichi, of the Engineers, and that he was not killed, as rumour stated. A letter from him to a friend (Mr. Nomura Sosuke) in Tokyo, is published by the *Jimmin*. Inouye with six sappers was in the most advanced position during the night when the Japanese held their ground after the advance on the 13th of July. He says that things then looked very bad, as the foreign troops on the two wings had retreated more or less, and the Japanese, though keeping their ground, were greatly exposed without being able to accomplish anything. At 3.40 a.m. a message arrived from Major-General Fukushima ordering Inouye to blow up the gate. He and his detachment advanced quietly with the gun-cotton and the fuse to a point some 50 or 60 yards from the gate without being discovered. There they found a house in front of which they took shelter and were in the act of preparing the electric fuse when the enemy discovered them and opened a heavy fire. A bullet struck the breast of the sapper on Lieut. Inouye's right, and the man fell, saying *yarareta*. The other sappers retreated a few paces, and Inouye was left with his wounded comrade, whom he dragged into the house, and then stood for a few minutes expecting an attack from the Chinese, there being no exit from the house in the rear. But the Chinese showed no further sign, and Inouye resumed his dispositions for blowing up the gate. It was then found that the fuse had been hit, and that only a small part of it could be used. Concluding that only desperate measures remained, the party took up the gun-cotton boxes and ran with them through the enemy's fire, fortunately escaping the bullets that fell around. Near the gate they found four or five unarmed Chinese who tried to obstruct them, but they drove them off with the butts of their carbines and piled the boxes against the gate. Inouye then, having sent the sappers back, put together a little train of chips which he collected on the spot, and having set these on fire, ran for his life. He had no hope of escaping, but the explosion did not occur until he had put some 40 or 50 yards between himself and the gate, and he emerged unhurt. Thus the operation cost only one life.

Wednesday, Aug. 15.

Rumour says that Marquis Ito has addressed a letter to his friend Viceroy LI urging the latter to use every possible endeavour for the restoration of peace.

It appears that the Chinese forces engaged in the defence of Yang-tsun were those of Sung, Ma, Li, Yu and Tung. The rumour is repeated that Yu was killed in the retreat.

A telegram to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* from Shanghai says that all the Powers are preparing to send troops to Shanghai and that Russia will despatch 2,000. We do not believe it.

Two thousand British troops from Hongkong landed at Shanghai on the 12th instant. The *Shōgyo Shimpo's* correspondent, who furnishes this information, adds that the step was taken in spite of the objections of Viceroy Liu and of the Chinese commercial guilds. But it is understood that Viceroy Liu gave his consent to the measure when consulted by Admiral Seymour.

We should like to say a word in this context. It is a protest against the caption employed by the *Shogyo Shimpo* for para-

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graphs relating to the landing of British troops in Shanghai. Our contemporary makes use of the ideographs *Shanghai senryo*. The term *senryo* is quite inapplicable. It can not, so far as our knowledge goes, be properly employed except where a place has been occupied in the sequel of warlike operations. In one column of the *Shogyo* the seizure of Pe-tsang and Yang-tsun by the allied forces is described as *senryo*, and in another column the landing of British troops at Shanghai to protect the foreign community in case of emergency is equally designated *senryo*. The expression is most misleading in the latter case, and as the *Shogyo Shimpo* is not in the least likely to lend its columns wittingly to the dissemination of wrong impressions, we call its attention to the fact.

The same correspondent (*Shogyo Shimpo*) alleges that the German and French elements of the Shanghai community have protested against the step taken by Great Britain on the ground that it is likely to lead to a general disturbance in the Yang-tsze Valley. We shall be surprised if this statement is confirmed.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram to the effect that the unwarranted seizure of Newchwang by Russian troops has created great excitement throughout Manchuria, and that the Chinese local officials are raising troops to the utmost limit of their resources. The Chinese in Manchuria are very simple people, yet, after all, one does not see how they could act differently. Their time to resist was in 1898. It is too late now. Their present futilities are most welcome to Russia. She has her own policy to pursue, and it would be strange if she did not avail herself of the excellent opportunities that present themselves.

The civil administration of Tientsin seems to be doing its work successfully, but there have evidently been some symptoms of international jealousy. The original proposal is said to have come from Russia, and to have taken the form of placing the administration in the hands of Colonel Wogack solely. Ultimately, however, three commissioners were appointed, a Russian, an English, and a Japanese, and sub-commissioners and secretaries have since been added. It was at first proposed to have 700 police-constables from Japan, but the final plan will probably be to employ Chinese in that capacity with a few Japanese constables and gensdarmes.

The *Novoye Vremya* committed itself to an inconvenient proposition at the commencement of the Chinese trouble. It alleged that since the Russian squadron in the Gulf of Pechili was numerically superior to the squadron of any other Power, the right of permanently occupying the Taku Forts belonged to Russia. It may well be conceived that the leading Japanese journals ridicule that idea, and pertinently ask whether the principle of numerical preponderance applies with regard to the fruits of operations on shore as well as at sea. The *Shogyo Shimpo* refers also, in caustic terms, to the appointment of Field-Marshal Waldersee, and is unable to understand the reasons that prompted such a step.

The Foreign Ministers in Peking, replying to the request of the Chinese Government that they should leave the capital, are said to have replied:—(1) That if China desired peace, she should immediately cease fighting, and should offer facilities for communications between the Foreign Representatives and the allied forces. (2) That the Chinese Government, in compliance with the demand of the officer commanding the allied forces, should permit the advance to Peking of a body of men sufficient to escort safely to Tientsin the members of the Corps Diplomatique, the foreign residents and the native Christians. (3) That on the occasion of the coming of the above foreign escort, the Chinese Government should agree to withdraw the Chinese Army to whatever distance from Peking might be considered expedient by the officer commanding the allied forces. (4) That, if the Chinese Government was desirous of complying with these conditions, it ought to publicly appoint a plenipotentiary commissioner to treat with the Foreign Representatives. We take these details from the *Shōgyo Shimpo*.

Conflicting statements are published about the advance of the Allies beyond Yang-tsun. According to some accounts, the advance has actually taken place, and the van has passed Ho-shi-wu (the half-way town between Tientsin and Peking) and reached as far as Matao (or Mu-to). According to others, a consultation of commanding officers has taken place at Yang-tsun, but no final decision has yet been reached as the Germans are desirous of awaiting the troops now *en route*. This latter story is not altogether credible. Such a question as the advisability of awaiting or not awaiting the arrival of troops still at sea must have been discussed and settled before the Allies left Tientsin. But that a consultation took place at Yang-tsun is very probable. We have repeatedly expressed the conviction that the expedition which left Tientsin on the 5th was not unconditionally bound for Peking. Its immediate destination, we think, was Yang-tsun, and its advance beyond that point was to depend on the conditions that presented themselves. At Yang-tsun, therefore, the commanding officers would have to consider the circumstances, and to determine, above all, whether the defeats suffered by the Chinese had been sufficiently demoralizing to render improbable any attempt on their part against the line of communications. The latest news seems to indicate that the risk was taken, and that the column is advancing.

Major Hadano, who arrived at Moji on the 10th by the *Hakuai Maru*, says that the attack on Pe-tsang was considered a necessary preliminary to an advance on Peking, and that if Pe-tsang fell easily, the movement towards Peking was to be undertaken without delay. The Japanese troops formed the left wing, the Russians the right, and the British, American, German, French, Italian, and Austrian troops constituted the reserve. There were about 20,000 Chinese, including Bóxers, at Pe-tsang and they had fortified the place thoroughly. The Russians were unable to reach the place on account of the inundation and could only contribute some long-range fire. The Japanese, however, found that the trenches on their side could be negotiated, and they delivered a strong attack The reserve force followed up the assault After a vehement resistance, the enemy broke and fled at 7 a.m. Other accounts say that the Japanese troops made their final charge with the bayonet, their small-arm ammunition being exhausted, and that they did so under cover of a strong bombardment by the reserve artillery. Japanese accounts allege that at the Tientsin conference on the 3rd instant, Lieutenant-General Yamaguchi took the lead in urging the advisability of an advance against Pe-tsang and Yang-tsun, and that the Russian General—who had arrived on the preceding day—opposed the idea to the last, but finally gave in. It is at all events evident that whatever may have been the opinion of Lieut.-General Liniewitch, he gave loyal assistance to the movement when it commenced. The Chinese casualties are said to have been about 2,000, but neither this figure nor that relative to the casualties on the side of the Allies seems trustworthy.

It is evident that the situation in the Yangtsze Valley is becoming less tranquil. The Kolao-hui are beginning to show restlessness, and if they break out into open rebellion, there is little hope of controlling the other unruly elements. We shall be told, no doubt, that the precautionary measures adopted by Her Majesty's Government are responsible for any disturbance that may occur. But the rational view is that the programme indicated by Mr. Brodrick and followed by Admiral Seymour, was dictated by a just forecast of the dangers of the situation. There is always room for criticism. If it is found that a crisis has not been foreseen and provided for, some of the wise ones are sure to denounce the purblind incompetence of officialdom. If foreseeing provision is made, then onlookers can say that the crisis was precipitated by needless measures. Very wonderful indeed is the attitude of some of the critics at present. They denounce the Chinese in the roundest terms. They deny that the smallest credit can be attached to any assurances given by Chinese officialdom. They detect some sinister and underhand purpose in every act of the Chinese Government. Yet these same men are prepared to maintain that the assurances of the Southern Viceroys and their competence to make good their promises ought to be implicitly relied on. All thoughtful persons must be anxious that nothing should be done to weaken the Viceroys or to increase their difficulties. But it seems to us that all the *convenances* were consulted when Admiral Seymour proceeded to Nanking and obtained the Viceroy's consent before the landing of British troops at Shanghai Suppose that Shanghai were reduced to the condition in which Tientsin now is. Why, the clamour against the Queen's Ministers would be deafening and universal.

Thursday, Aug. 16.

The Emperor of Japan is sending a Chamberlain with presents for the allied forces. The envoy will start on the 21st from Ujina.

The *Chuo Shimbun* says that Great Britain has had a thousand transport waggons manufactured in Kobe and that they were despatched to Taku by the *Hideyoshi Maru* on the 14th.

The Russian Authorities in Vladivostock are said to have interdicted the sale of all canned goods in that city, doubtless because they are required for military use The export of food stuffs, with the exception of fish, has also been forbidden.

A telegram from Vienna to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the nomination of Field-Marshal Waldersee was at the request of the Emperor of Russia. The telegram adds that it is stated in diplomatic circles that an exchange of ideas has taken place between Germany and Russia with reference to affairs in China, and that the nomination was the result.

It is alleged that Viceroys Liu and Chung, Taotai Shên and Governor Yuan have memorialized the Throne in the sense that if the Court removes to some other city, the control of the situation will be left in the hands of Prince Tuan and General

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Kang Yi, who would assuredly take some rash step involving the empire in difficulties still greater than those now confronting it.

Viceroy Li is said to have addressed an urgent appeal to Marquis Ito, praying him to assist in restoring peace and to become Japan's plenipotentiary representative in the negotiations. We were prepared to learn that the Viceroy had taken this step. His close relations with Marquis Ito in the past, and his deservedly high opinion of Japan's leading statesman, were certain to make him appeal for Marquis Ito's aid.

There is a rumour that the attack on the Legations in Peking has been renewed. That is not at all unlikely. In fact, the near approach of the relieving force would inevitably be the signal for an outbreak of disorder. But it is impossible to believe that the Government would be privy to any fresh attempt to murder the Ministers. The danger is that, with the Allies at the gates, the Government may altogether lose its grasp of the situation, and the troops may prefer to attack the Legations rather than to face the foreign forces. There is no denying that this is the critical moment—more critical, in our opinion, than any moment since the 1st of July. All officials who look forward to sharing responsibility for what has occurred will be anxious to save the Legations, but the Boxers and whatever part of the troops sympathise with them, will regard the present as their last opportunity of massacring the foreign community. It is even possible that some of the officials who have been vainly urging the withdrawal of the Foreign Ministers under escort, may not be indisposed to save the latter from the results of their refusal. We believe that the Legations will hold their own and that the community will be saved, because the only card now remaining in the hands of the Chinese Government is to prevent a wholesale massacre. But it would be foolish to close our eyes to the perils of the moment. One great source of danger is that the Court may leave Peking at the approach of the allied forces, and thus Prince Tuan and General Kang may find themselves temporarily in control of the situation. No succour for the Legations would then be forthcoming. Doubtless in view of this contingency, the Japanese Government is said to have proposed to the Powers that before making any attack on Peking, the Chinese Authorities should be invited to escort the Foreign Ministers and the members of the foreign community to the lines of the allied forces, the latter halting outside Peking for that purpose. Russia is reported to have at once agreed to that course, but the answer of the other Powers has not yet been received, or, if received, remains unknown to the public.

The Advance on Peking.

Uncertainty as to the movements of the allied forces continues to mark the news received from private sources, though doubtless before we go to press some official intelligence will settle the question. It appears plain, however, that circumstances have been found such as to warrant an advance beyond Yang-tsun, and there is some reason to think that the Allies have divided into two bodies, one following the river, the other taking the railway route. Such, at least, is the inference suggested by news that they have reached An-ting and Ho-shi-wu. It is difficult, however, to feel convinced that such a programme has been adopted. Beyond Yang-tsun the railway and the river diverge, and are separated by a distance of as much as 35 miles at their point of greatest divergence. If the Allies were strong in cavalry, forces marching by these two routes could easily remain in touch with each other, but although the exact composition of the column is not known to the public, it is doubtful whether there is a sufficiency of mounted men for such a purpose. The exact distance from Tientsin to Ma-kia-pu, the terminal station for Peking, is 79 68 miles, and the distance from Tientsin to Anting is 53.64 miles, so that if the advance guard of the Allies reached Anting on the 11th, it may be said to have been within 26 miles of Peking, and must have come within sight of the walls by the 14th or 15th at latest. We do not believe, however, that any advance was made by this route. Ho-shi-wu, where the column is placed by other and more credible accounts on the 9th instant, is a well-known town, usually spoken of as the half-way house to Peking. It is the place where travellers by the river route rest for the night, and speaking approximately, it is 45 miles beyond Tientsin and 35 miles from Peking. Supposing that the Allies marched in two columns, their rate of advance seems to be well-timed, for if the left wing was within 26 miles of Peking on the 11th, the right wing was within 35 miles on the 9th, and they could easily arrange to reach the city on the same day. It is possible that communication is preserved by a system of wireless telegraphy, though the country is so flat that facilities for that kind of work do not offer. The *Asahi* publishes a telegram saying that the van of the force was to reach Tung-chow on the 13th, and the main body would be there on the 14th. If that be true, the Allies are before Peking to-day (16th).

Friday, August 17

Marquis Ito, replying to Viceroy Li's appeal that he should step forward and act as mediator, is said to have expressed much sympathy with the Viceroy, but to have declared that no interference on his part was possible at this juncture.

It is stated that some of the Powers have sent a message to the Chinese Government declaring that the sole objects of the allied forces' advance are to rescue the foreign community and to restore tranquillity in the interests of China, and that all facilities should be offered for the entry of the troops into Peking.

The *Chugai Shogyo* publishes a telegram from Shanghai dated the 15th to the effect that the foreign Consuls held a meeting to consider France's protest against the landing of British troops, and her expression of a resolve to land troops of her own if Great Britain persisted, The Consuls are said to have decided that it would be better not to land troops of any nationality.

The *Asahi's* correspondent persists in his statement that military operations have taken place along the line of railway beyond Yang-tsun. He says that the Indian cavalry cleared the enemy from An-ting on the 10th inst. If that be the case we must assume that a cavalry movement was made along the railway route towards An ting for purposes of flank protection; a sufficiently likely manœuvre. At all events, the main advance has been by the river line to Tung-chow

A telegram dated the 8th instant from the British Minister in Peking states, according to Shanghai rumour, that though the attacks of the Boxers have ceased, there is no certainty that they may not be renewed at any moment, and therefore, even should China ask for an armistice, it should not be granted, but the allied forces ought to continue their advance. Sir Claude adds that Li Hung-chang has certainly been appointed to negotiate for peace. If this telegram be correctly stated, our readers will observe that it constructively contradicts the rumour of hostilities having been resumed against the Legations on the 7th instant.

Tung-chow will probably be the place chosen for the coming of the Foreign Representatives and their nationals, together with the Chinese converts, provided that no change has come over the spirit of Peking's policy. Writing, some time ago, of the advance of the allied forces towards Peking, we expressed the opinion that they might not go further than Tung-chow, as the Chinese Government would then surrender the foreign community and lay down its arms. Were it not for the recent appointment of Prince Tuan and his Manchu allies to the Tsung-li Yamen we should not now feel any doubt about the fulfillment of that forecast.

One of the first steps taken by the Japanese engineers after the capture of Pe-tsang was to repair the Peiho embankment and turn the stream into its original channel. The task seems to have been effected without much difficulty, and the river at once became navigable by the junks and steam-launches which had fallen into the hands of the Allies at the capture of Tientsin. The guns taken from the enemy were 3 quick-firers at the Powder Magazine, and the same number at Pe-tsang. As for the casualties, we are still without accurate information. The Japanese are said to have had about 300 killed and wounded, but nothing is stated about the other losses. The correspondent (Mr. Ono Kwanrei) of the *Keihin Shimbun* was severely wounded

Telegrams from London state that Russia has changed her mind about the appointment of Field-Marshal Waldersee and that England and America, though they have agreed to the appointment, view it with considerable doubts. Russia is understood to have been the Power which suggested Waldersee's nomination, but she now thinks that the step is too late. The advance of the Allies, having for its main object the relief of Peking, can not be delayed for a day, and it is thus evident that Waldersee's active command could not commence until after the expedition had been brought to a conclusion and when his presence at the head of a large allied force would only complicate the situation. Such are the views now attributed to Russia. They must be very welcome to China, if they are true.

Rumours continue to be circulated that from the 7th instant the attack on the Legations in Peking was resumed, the supply of provisions suspended, and every official who had befriended the foreign community was put to death. In connexion with this it is mentioned that the United States Consul in Tientsin received from his Minister on the 9th instant a despatch saying that the situation was highly critical. It must be confessed that the alleged nomination of Prince Tuan and four other Manchus to membership of the *Tsung-li Yamên* lends colour to these rumours. The news of the appointment of Tuan and his colleagues reached Chefoo on the 11th, which would indicate that they received their new appointments about the 7th. The presence of these five men in the *Tsung-li Yamên* is most inimical to the pro-

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spects of a peaceful settlement. But there are strong reasons to doubt the correctness of the news that attacks have been resumed.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram saying that Admiral Seymour has delayed the landing of the Indian troops at Shanghai. The transports reached Woosung and one of them proceeded up the river, but the torpedo-boat-destroyer *Whiting* carried orders from Admiral Seymour that she should return to Woo-sung. The *Asahi's* correspondent attributes this action on Admiral Seymour's part to an announcement made by Russia and France that they also proposed to land troops at Shanghai. But it appears to us that such an interpretation is highly improbable. In the first place, Russia and France are not at all likely to have made that announcement conditionally on Great Britain's action. If they did so, it would be tantamount to an open declaration that they distrust England, and that they do not intend to allow her to act alone in any part of China; a declaration which, to say nothing of its unfriendliness, would come with singularly bad grace from Russia who is allowed an absolutely free hand in Manchuria. In the second place, there can be no objection on England's part that Russia and France should land troops at Shanghai to assist in securing the peace, so long as the step is taken in accordance with the policy of amicable cooperation now actuating the Powers. If, therefore, Admiral Seymour has delayed the landing of the troops, it must be solely in deference to the objections of the Viceroys and the Chinese commercial guilds.

Speaking of the Pe-tsang attack, it is now clear that Major-General Manabe did not, as was at first supposed, change his line of march. The plan was that he should advance by the direct road at the head of 2 battalions, while the right wing (Russians, French, &c.), moving up the left bank of the river, attacked Pe-tsang from the east flank, and the left wing (Japanese, British, &c.), moving by the right bank, delivered its attack from the west flank. These flank attacks were expected to be conclusive, the frontal attack by Manabe's force being chiefly for containing purposes. The Russian wing, however, could not come into action. It found that the enemy's eastern flank was effectually covered by a large sheet of water, and thus this right wing of the Allies had to countermarch, in the hope of supporting the left wing's attack. The left wing, meanwhile, consisting of 9,600 men (*i.e.* 11,200 less Major-General Manabe's two battalions) bore off to the west, captured the Powder Magazine, and having driven the enemy from Han-kia-shu, turned east-ward and delivered the originally contemplated flank attack. Meanwhile Manabe's battalions, not receiving the expected support from the right wing, found themselves opposed by the enemy in great force at Tung-kia-wan and Wang-chwang—towns situated on the direct road to Pe-tsang from Tientsin—and had a sanguinary fight. They lost heavily, and seem to have failed in more than one charge. But they held their ground tenaciously, and being finally aided by the British artillery, they swept the enemy from his position by another rush at the point of the bayonet.

The *Wakanoura Maru* arrived at Shimonoseki on the 15th instant, carrying 57 men wounded at the attack on Pe-tsang on the 5th instant. According to the statement of these men, a council of war was held at Yang-tsun on the 7th to determine whether the advance to Peking should be continued, and a decision was arrived at by the Japanese, the English and the Americans that the troops of these three Powers should advance, whether the others did so or not. The forces are stated to have been 20.000 Japanese, 10,000 English, and 5,000 Americans. We can not place implicit credence in this story. In the first place, the numerical strength of the forces is too large. According to the most trustworthy accounts, the force that left Tientsin on the 5th to attack Pe-tsang and Yang-tsun was composed as follows :—

LEFT WING (Right bank of Peiho).

Japanese..	8,000	with 24 mountain-guns and 12 field-guns.
Bruish ...	1,600	with 6 field-guns, 6 guns of position and 4 Maxims.
Americans	1,600	with 8 field guns.
Totals...	11,200	with 60 pieces of artillery.

RIGHT WING (Left bank of Peiho.)

Russians.	3,500	with 16 field-guns and 6 Maxims.
French...	800	with 12 field-guns and 6 mountain-guns.
Germans.	200	
Austrians	60	
Italians...	20	
Totals...	4,580	with 40 pieces of artillery.

It is probable that before the advance from Yang-tsun these troops were re-inforced, but they cannot have been brought up to the strength indicated by the men of the *Wakanoura Maru*. There is nothing inherently incredible, however, in the statement that the Japanese, the British and the Americans decided to push on whether accompanied by the rest of the Allies or not. At all events, we know that the Russians went too, and it may be assumed that the strength of the advancing column was about 20,000 of all arms.

THE CZAR AND HIS MINISTER.

Our readers are aware that the Czar issued instructions to M. de Giers, the Russian Representative in Peking, that he, M. de Giers, might leave the city under Chinese escort if the Chinese Authorities gave sufficient guarantees. We refrained from commenting on this news at the time because we found it quite incredible. If the Emperor of Russia gave to M. de Giers a conditional order of that kind, his Majesty not only placed the Minister in a most embarrassing position but also made a marked departure from the concert existing among the Powers. One of the Ministers can not leave Peking alone: all must go or none. The other Powers, France included, have intimated that their Ministers can not leave Peking because the road is not safe without the escort of their own national troops. Is it credible that Russia, dissenting from that view, instructed her Minister to place reliance on Chinese assurances and on Chinese ability to protect him? For that is what such a message from the Czar would have amounted to. "You may leave under Chinese escort if the Chinese can make things safe." In other words, "You may trust the Chinese if they appear trustworthy." How can the Chinese Government be trusted for one moment in this matter? They were not able to protect the Legations against a long and fierce attack within the walls of Peking Can it be supposed that they are able to protect a foreign community of 1,000 persons and 3,000 native converts, including women and children, on a march outside Peking? Evidently it has been absolutely unavoidable that the Foreign Ministers should remain in Peking, and that they should decline to place any reliance on the Chinese assurances which the Czar is nevertheless said to have authorized his Minister to trust. We can not believe that the Czar made any such marked departure from the cooperative principle hitherto loyally respected by the Allies. The probable explanation in that his Majesty's ready acquiescence in a programme of a very different nature has been greatly misunderstood. That programme originated with Japan. It is said that the Chinese Representative in Tokyo frequently approached the Japanese Government with a proposal for the removal of the Foreign Ministers from Peking under Chinese escort; but the Japanese Government persistently replied that unless China could give unlimited guarantees as to the absolute safety of the foreigners *en route*, no such proposal could be entertained for a moment. This answer having been more than once telegraphed to Peking, seems to have opened the eyes of the authorities there, and to have led to the re-establishment of communications between the beleaguered Ministers and their Governments. That end having been attained, Li Hung-chang's proposals for an armistice and the restoration of peace came upon the *tapis*, and the Japanese Government concluded that the best way to secure the safety of the Peking community would be to make arrangements for the safe conduct of the Ministers and all the other foreigners as well as the Christian converts, to a place in the immediate vicinity of Peking, where they would be received by the allied forces, the Chinese Government assuming the responsibility of compelling the Boxers to evacuate the district, and being further required to send envoys to the headquarters of the Allied forces, who would halt outside Peking and refrain from attacking the city. This programme was communicated by Japan to the Powers, and Russia immediately took the lead in giving her consent, the Czar causing telegrams in that sense to be forwarded to all the Russian Representatives in foreign countries, including China. We can not doubt that this action on his Majesty's part gave rise to the Reuter's telegram, which, as transmitted, was calculated to create a very false impression.

THE ADVANCE AGAINST PEKING

There is an uncertain point in connexion with the advance of the allied column against Peking. It relates to the Germans, Italians, and Austrians, and the uncertainty is due to ambiguity in the offical telegram which may be read in two ways, either "the small detachments of German, Italian, and Austrian troops returned from Yang-tsun to Tientsin," or "small detachments of the German, Italian, and Austrian troops returned, &c." The *Japan Times* adopts the latter interpretation whereas to us the former seemed more likely to be correct. Our reasons for so thinking were that the German, Austrian, and Italian contingents which marched out of Tientsin with the column on the 5th inst., numbered respectively 200, 60 and 20 men; that it is extremely improbable that these already small forces would have been divided at Yang-tsun, and that, since the original object of the march was to occupy Pe-tsang and Yang-tsun and not necessarily to advance to Peking, the Germans, Austrians, and Italians may not have made land-transport arrangements for proceeding further. The higher the Peiho is ascended the more difficult does the navigation become, and a column of 15,000 men with only this river for the main part of the transport must be a most unweildy affair. At any rate, whether a sufficiency of boats had or had not been provided, the question of the arrangements after leaving the line of the river had to be considered finally at

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Yang-tsun. Up to that point the railway as well as the river were available, but beyond Yang-tsun the river only had to be relied on, and so soon as the column turned westward from Tung-chow, it would require a fully organized land-transport service. This last point was probably the main difficulty so far as concerned the French, the Germans, the Austrians and the Italians. Not expecting to advance immediately beyond Yang-tsun, they had probably considered it unnecessary to provide themselves with a service of carriers or carts for use between the river and Peking, and consequently though the French, being 800 strong, remained at Yang-tsun to garrison that place, it was thought wiser that the German, Austrian and Italian detachments should return for the purpose of guarding the line of communications. We refer to the matter thus at some length, because it is likely to lend itself to misconstruction. The Germans, the Austrians and the Italians have fought admirably and must have been grieviously disappointed not to make part of the final advance. It may turn out, however, that only a portion of the three detachments returned to Tientsin, unlikely as such a movement seems.

HER MAJESTY'S CONSULS.

If possible there is to be a crusade against Her Majesty's Consuls in the disaffected regions of China, especially Shantung and Manchuria. No British subjects have lost their lives in either place. Those that were in danger managed to get away safely in good time. In other words, there was nothing for the Consuls to do. And because they did not do it, they are to be roundly abused. A gentleman has drawn up a lengthy indictment against them in the columns of a Hongkong journal. He sets out with the familiar phrase "it would be interesting and instructive to have a detailed account," &c. How well we know that phrase! How easy it is to infer from it the whole tone of the article it preludes! "It would be interesting and instructive." That is always the exordium of the writer who has nothing that is either interesting or instructive to tell his readers. The American Consul in Chefoo chartered a small steamer and sent her up and down the coast of Shantung to bring off missionaries and merchants. This is described as "noble conduct" on the part of the Consul. But the British Consul—"Did he know that the American Consul proposed to take measures to save the lives of American citizens, and if so, why did he not go shares in the scheme or organise one of his own for the succour of her Majesty's subjects?" It will naturally be supposed that the propounder of this question knew that her Majesty's Consul did neither the one thing nor the other. Not a bit of it. He coolly adds:—"The British Consul may have done the former. If so, the fact ought to be known." Thus the whole accusation rests on the admitted ignorance of the accuser. As for the British Consul in Newchwang, his crime is that "he did not take steps to bring to the coast some eighty or ninety British subjects who were living in the interior of Manchuria." All of them did come down to the coast and all of them did come down scatheless, but her Majesty's Consul did not "bring" them down, and accordingly he is assaulted in print by this kind critic who thinks that "it would be interesting and instructive to have a detailed account," and who, not being in a position to give any such account, substitutes a column of inuendoes.

ENGLAND IN CHINA.

We are glad to see that the leading papers of Tokyo are not disposed to misinterpret England's action in sending a military force for the protection of Shanghai. And in connexion with this it may be mentioned *en passant* that the rumoured occupation of the native town of Shanghai seems to be a baseless tale, as we conjectured at the time. Evidently nothing of the kind is now contemplated, though, of course, should the walled city—if it can be called by such a name—become a rendezvous of insurgents, some measure of control might be necessary. However, the main point is that in the face of Mr. Brodrick's most emphatic and exceptionally explicit declaration of policy, no thinking person should fall into the error of imagining that because England thinks it wise to station a force of troops in such a position as, on the one hand, to afford protection for the great emporium of foreigh trade in China, and, on the other, to be quickly available for cöoperation with the Chinese Viceroys in preserving order, she contemplates establishing her sway in the Yang-tsze Valley. Her Majesty's Government understands the situation perfectly. We may be sure of that. Lord Salisbury is well aware that localization of the disturbance is a point of prime importance, and that if England, allowing herself to be impelled by Russia's proceedings in Manchuria, entered into a rivalry of territorial aggrandisement, the immediate prospect of China's partition would call the Southern Viceroys also into the field, so that the whole empire would be thrown into an uproar. Nothing could be more short-sighted than the hypothesis that because England does not limit her precautions to one section of China only, she has changed her policy, and is no longer desirous of pushing the Peking expedition vigorously. Dissipation of strength is a phrase which has no practical meaning where concentration of strength is not essential. England, happily, has ample force not only for the Peking expedi- but also for the preservation of peace in the Yangtze Valley, being assisted in the former purpose by Japan's powerful army, and in the latter by the cöoperation of the Viceroys.

A MESSAGE FROM THE U.S. MINISTER AT PEKING.

The following telegram from Captain Rodgers, U.S. Navy, was received by the United States Minister in Tokyo at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and has been kindly plaeed at our disposal:—

Chefoo, Aug. 16.

The United States Minister in Peking, Mr. Conger, telegraphs that all the Americans are safe except Inglis' baby and seven Marines.

KOREA.

The new Korean Minister to Japan is said to be Mr. Cho Pyŏng-sik, who, with Mr Kwŏn Chaihyŏng, impeached and procured the banishment of the Emperor's previous nominee, Mr Yu Kwihwan. Mr. Cho is to be the bearer of a decoration for the Prince Imperial of Japan.

The Emperor of Korea's present to Marquis Ito included a tiger skin which is said to be one of the finest in existence. The gold cup is 3½ inches in diameter. It has the Emperor's crest—a peach-blossom—chiselled inside, and it is supposed to have been in use by his Majesty.

THE WEATHER.

While we in Yokohama and Tokyo are still panting for rain, some of the country districts have had more than they wanted. At Morioka a thunderstorm broke on the afternoon of the 12th, and such a deluge of rain fell until the following morning that the Kitakami river over-flowed, and a constable and 3 farmers were drowned. In Iwate Prefecture the same storm produced floods 15 feet deep in the rivers, inundating many houses. One of the constables who went to help the people is missing. On the 13th, Osaka, Kyoto and Shiga had a heavy rainfall, and the telegraph lines were interrupted. From Kumamoto comes news of a flood on the 12th, two railway bridges being carried away, 5,000 houses inundated and 200 persons drowned, but these figures are probably exaggerated.

Belated news comes from Oshima near Hakodate that on the 22nd of July a flood caused considerable damage.

CHINA'S POPULATION.

American journals have published a very interesting comparative table, wherein the population of Chinese provinces is placed side by side with the population of American States of about the same size. The table will well repay examination:—

	Area (square miles	Population.
Hupeh	70,450	33,365,005
Ohio and Indiana	76,070	5,864,720
Honan	65,104	22,115,827
Missouri	68,735	2,679,184
Chehkiang	39,150	11,588,692
Kentucky	40,000	1,858,635
Kiangsi	72,176	24,534,188
Kentucky and Tennessee	81,750	3,626,252
Kweichow	64,554	7,669,181
Virginia and West Virginia	64,770	2,418,774
Yunnan	107,969	11,721,576
Michigan and Wisconsin	111,880	3,780,769
Fuhkien	38,480	23,000,000
Ohio	40,760	3,672,316
Chihli	58,949	17,937,000
Georgia	50,980	1,837,358
Shantung	65,104	36,248,000
New England	62,000	4,700,945
Shansi	56,268	12,211,453
Illinois	56,000	3,826,851
Shens.	67,400	8,432,193
Nebraska	76,840	1,058,910
Kansu	125,450	9,285,377
California	155,980	1,208,130
Szechuan	166,800	67,712,897
Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Kentucky	173,430	11,350,209
Ngan Hwei	48,461	20,596,288
New York	47,620	5,997,853
Kiangsu	44,500	20,905,171
Pennsylvania	44,985	5,258,014
Kwantung	79,456	29,706,240
Kansas	81,700	1,427,096
Kwangsi	78,250	5,151,327
Minnesota	79,205	1,301,826
Chingkiang	43,000	6,000,000
Louisiana	45,000	1,110,569

The population of the United States as a whole is about 20 persons per square mile. The population of the Chinese empire is about 300 per square mile.

AN IRON MINE.

A promising iron mine is said to have been discovered at Kurosawa-mura near the foot of Hakko-zan in the province of Hitachi. The vein is reported to be 200 yards wide and from 10 to 15 feet deep, and to be of great depth. The ore contains 60 per cent. of iron, and there is an abundance of timber in the neighbourhood, facilities for transport being also available.

Captain Lanz, Commander of the *Ilis*, has been decorated by the Emperor of Japan with the Third Class Order of the Rising Sun. The Captain of the *Hertha* and Dr. Schoeder, chief surgeon of the *Ilis*, have received the Fifth Class.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

On the 9th instant a collision occurred on the Hokuyetsu Government line near Kamo, between a goods train and a passenger train. One person was killed, 9 severely injured, and over 20 slightly hurt

Wireless telegraphy is said to be in very successful use at Taku for the purpose of communicating between the British troops on shore and the ships lying off the bar. H.M.S. *Goliath* brought the apparatus.

The Privy Council has passed the amended regulations for elementary schools. The main points of change are that school fees will be abolished, and that the course of study will occupy 4 years definitely instead of 3 or 4 as is now the case.

Formosa seems to be feeling the effects of the Chinese trouble. The insurgents who had submitted to authority and were behaving peaceably, are again breaking out in various quarters. The Government is taking vigorous measures in three districts where signs of disturbance are apparent.

Dr. Baelz left Japan on the 17th inst. for a year's trip in Europe. The Court made an exception in his favour, and he was received in farewell audience by the Emperor on the 15th instant. As a general rule audiences are not granted in the hot weather, but his Majesty departs from rule where Dr. Baelz is concerned.

Our readers will learn with regret that Mr. Fukuzawa had a slight return of his malady on the 8th instant. At 1 p.m. he suddenly became unconscious, and remained in that state for an hour, after which he recovered and showed no ill effects except some exhaustion. His medical attendants have prescribed complete rest.

It is alleged that the organization of the new political party will be announced either at the end of this month or at the beginning of next month. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that when the new Party is formed and when peace is restored with China, Marquis Yamagata will hand over the Cabinet to Marquis Ito.

In the cotton belt of South America mills are being built and manufacture carried on for the sake of the cheapness of the labour obtainable there. A large part of the work is done by children. Little children nine years of age work from 6 in the evening till 6 in the morning for 10 cents. It is a very shocking fact.

Iwo-zan continues to show signs of activity. The bodies of about two-thirds of those that perished by the eruption have not been recovered. They were searched for during three days and nights by some 200 men, but owing to the continual fall of ashes and to heavy rain, the conditions have now become impracticable, and all hope of finding the bodies has been abandoned.

There has been a conflict between the men of the Salvation Army and the *gifu* of Hachioji. The former, on the evening of the 8th, penetrated into the precincts of the Hachioji Yoshiwara, and stopping some of the *jôro* who were taking their evening promenade, began to expound the error of their ways and to distribute copies of the *Voice of the Times*. The employés of the *jôro-ya*, resenting this interference, attacked the Salvation soldiers. Fortunately the police were able to prevent any serious results, and the affair ended in a kind of compromise, the promenading of the *jôro* being interdicted and the Salvation Army undertaking not to send any more emissaries.

A report from Consul Nomura in Bombay says that cholera is raging there. In May the deaths were 166; in June, 339; in July 1,167; and during the first 10 days of August there were 594 new cases and 440 deaths. The epidemic is said to be raging in other districts also, especially those where famine prevails. In the Punjaub the number of seizures up to July 25th had been 25,000, of whom 13,000 died.

The celebrated *raconteur* Yencho died at 3 p.m. on the 11th in Tokyo. He had been ill since last September, his life of unremitting literary and platform labours having brought on brain trouble. Yencho was born on April 1st, 1839. His father also was a *hanashi-ka*, so that from early childhood he began to receive the training which afterwards secured for him such a reputation. Perhaps his most celebrated work was the *Botan-dôro*, almost as well known to foreigners as to Japanese. He had 300 pupils at the time of his death.

One of the quaintest features of the extraordinary lies telegraphed from Shanghai about the "massacre" of the Peking community, is that it raised "a bitter feeling against the duplicity of Chinese officials;" against Shên and Yuan and so on, because, "all the while they were proposing one thing and another with regard to the disposal of the foreigners in Peking, they must have known perfectly well that every one had been murdered." In fact, the Chinese are charged with being liars because they did not endorse the lies told by foreign newspaper correspondents?

The War Office announces that articles intended for distribution among the troops at the front, and sent to the *fippei-bu* for that purpose, must not be less than the following:

Japanese *saké*	1 *taru*, or 2 dozen quart-bottles.
Beer	2 dozen.
Claret	2 dozen.
Condensed Milk	4 dozen.
Cigars	7,500.
Cigarettes	30,000.
Towels	500.
Handkerchiefs	1,200.
Paper	8,000 sheets.

Since the announcement was made that such articles would be received, there have been 30 or 40 applications daily from persons desirous of contributing.

Two new Q.C.'s having been appointed to the Hongkong Bar—the Hon. W. Meigh Goodman (Attorney-General) and Mr. H. E. Pollock—the Bench and the Bar of that Colony have found and utilized an opportunity to say pleasant things to each other. The Chief Justice considered that the distinction had been conferred "in recognition of honourable and successful careers and of good service rendered to the Crown and to the people of the Colony"; the Puisne Judge informed the new wearers of the silk that they were "skilful, wise and loyal councillors;" and the senior recipient of the distinction declared the Supreme Court of Hongkong to be a tribunal "in which suitors are sure to find a patient, a painstaking, an absolutely impartial, and a most conscientious investigation of their case by a Judge or Judges of ripe experience, learning and ability" The mutual-admiration method has become an inseparable part of nineteenth century civilization and refinement. We sometimes wonder how such talk sounds in the ear of a Japanese.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The period of operation of the agreement between the Government and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha which began in the 18th year of *Meiji* expires on the 30th of September, and a subsidy of 880,000 *yen* will consequently cease to be granted. A fresh contract was recently concluded and approved by the Diet, and new instructions have been issued to the Company by the Department of Communications. These instructions are to be operative for five years from the 1st October till the 30th September of the 38th year of *Meiji*. The provisions are much severer than before. Briefly, summarized, they are as follows:—

1. Warrants concerning departures from or arrivals in any port must be obtained either from the Harbour Office or Custom House and presented to the authorities concerned.

2. The names of the Directors of agencies must be reported.

3. In case the chief of a branch office or any person in charge of the business of an agency, or captain of a ship, is known to have failed to carry out the same in a proper manner, the Government may direct the removal of the persons mentioned.

4. An official log must be presented to the authorities for every voyage undertaken.

The above provisions were not included in the former directions. Also, in cases of emergency, the Company's ships are liable to requisition without any previous understanding as to the amount of charges for charter. It is said that the charges subsequent to October for vessels which are at present under charter will shortly be fixed by conference. The compulsory service to be maintained after the 1st October refers to the following lines:—(1) Yokohama-Shanghai; (2) Kobe-North China; (3) Kobe-Korea-North China; (4) Kobe-Vladivostock; (5) Kobe-Otaru (east and west); (6) Aomori-Muroran. The subsidy for these lines amounts to 555,000 *yen*, and that for the Kobe-Korea line to 25,000 *yen*. As to minor lines the Yusen Kaisha has not undertaken to guarantee a service, and the contracts still remain unsettled, although either the Osaka Shosen Kaisha or the Nippon Shosen Kaisha will, it is supposed, be nominated. Another contract has been concluded between the Yusen Kaisha and the Hokkaido Office. It comprehends four lines, namely, Hakodate-Nemuro, Nemuro-Abashiri, Otaru-Wakanai, and Nemuro-Europ. The subsidy for these is reported to be 127,000 *yen*.

THE EMPEROR AND THE FOREIGN WOUNDED.

Capt. Inouye, personal *Aide-de-Camp* of His Majesty the Emperor, accompanied by Mr. Sufu, Governor of Kanagawa Ken, called at 10.30 yesterday morning at the American Naval Hospital to express sympathy on behalf of His Majesty with the inmates who have recently arrived from China. The visitors were received by Dr. Spratling and the United States Consul-General, Mr. Beddoes, and Mr. G.H. Scidmore, Deputy-Consul. Captain Inouye also called at the German Hospital, where he was received by Dr. Koch and Consul General Coates. Later in the morning the U.S. Consul and the Deputy-Consul and the General officials visited the Kencho. A maid of honour will proceed to the American Hospital this morning with a message of sympathy from Her Majesty the Empress.

FIRES IN TOKYO.

The *Hochi* gives statistics of fires in Tokyo from January to July this year. They were ascribed to the following causes:—Bath-houses 5; cooking-houses, 12; chimneys, 9; *Kotatsu*, 4; lamps, 16; fire braziers, 13; embers, 5; tobacco ashes, 11; burnt wood, 4; lights, 3; matches, 1; earthen fire-extinguisher, 6, uncertain, 57; incendiarism, 20; electric light, 1; total 170.

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THE LATE LORD RUSSELL.

Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Chief Justice of England, whose death is announced in our telegraphic news, was one of the most remarkable and interesting personalities of his time. In the catholicity of his tastes and accomplishments he was hardly a man of the latter nineteenth century, but recalled those professors of the "grand manner" who, while possessing a specialist's grasp of politics, science, or what not, were yet less proud of the fact than of their casual accomplishments—their pluck across country, their skill at whist, and their superb command of a billiard cue. Lord Russell was a sound lawyer, a persuasive advocate, a terrible master of cross-examination, and a keen and alert judge, but he was also a politician of weight, a magnate of the turf, an accomplished horseman, a man of social and intellectual interests of the widest character. While he was Lord Chief Justice he was also Chairman of a Parish Council. As an orator he was hardly great—that is to say he lacked the heavenly fire which is given but to the few—but his speeches were always full of weight and substance, and in the House of Commons he was listened to with greater respect than on the electioneering platform. As a judge he was a curious contrast to his predecessor, Lord Coleridge. Coleridge gave the impression, in later years at any rate, of being even more somnolent than the ordinary occupant of the Bench, though when any vital point arose he always proved that the quiescence was more a question of manner than a reality. Russell, on the other hand, was alert, watchful, prone to interference, showed his dissatisfaction plainly with a prosy counsel or a bad witness, and some times terrified with his piercing eye and emphatic voice.

Charles Russell was born at Newry in 1833, and was the son of Mr. Arthur Russell, of Newry and Rostrevor. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and began his professional career by practising as a solicitor in Belfast. Coming to England, he was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1859. He took silk in 1859, and was elected Bencher of Lincoln's Jun in 1872. He represented Dundalk from 1880 to 1885, and South Hackney from 1885 to 1886, in which year he became Attorney General and received his knighthood. He was again appointed Attorney General in 1892, accepting the position at the personal request of Mr. Gladstone, though it must have represented a great pecuniary loss to him, as he gave up the privilege of retaining his private practice. The post of Attorney General is worth £7,000 a year, with another £1,000 or so in the shape of fees, while Russell's private practice at that time brought him in some £25,000 a year. In 1893 Russell represented the British Government in the Behring Sea arbitration, and for his splendid services was given a G.C.M.G. On the death of Lord Bowen in 1894 he was appointed a Lord of Appeal, and a life peerage was bestowed on him, and in the same year he succeeded Lord Coleridge as Lord Chief Justice.

Though he worthily kept up the traditions of the Bench, it was as a barrister that his greatest fame was won. In almost every *cause célèbre* for years the retaining of his services was regarded as the all-important step, and enormous fees were paid to secure him. In the Maybrick case his brief was said to have been marked at 2000 gumeas, with 100 guineas a day as refresher. His great triumph, however, was the Parnell Commission. 'Things have moved so rapidly since the days of the 80's that most people, if they have not forgotten, have at least ceased to remember the extraordinarily dramatic features of the closing chapter of that protracted enquiry. It was simply terrible, the manner in which Russell drew his net closer and closer round the wretched cheat and forger Piggott; the way in which lie after lie was exposed, in which every avenue of refuge by which the miserable man sought to escape was remorselessly closed against him—till even the bitterest enemies of the poor wretch began almost to pity him as they saw his quivering hands and damp brow, and noted his looks of despair. It was one of the greatest forensic triumphs of history.

Russell was a Roman Catholic, and this was probably the only reason he did not reach the Woolsack.

TRADE WITH CHINA.

Since the outbreak of the disturbances in China the question of trade with that country has been discussed with no little anxiety by Japanese at large. According to investigations made at the Customs Section of the Finance Department, the returns for the first half of last month were as follows:—

	Exports in Yen.	Imports in Yen.
South China	30,450	3,869
Shanghai	173,486	224,863
North China	112,991	486,194
Other parts of China.	—	71,308

The *Niroku* alleges that trade with Tientsin, Newchwang, and Chefoo has almost entirely ceased, and by the beginning of this month a similar stoppage had taken place in Shanghai. Many other leading ports, such as Ningpo, Amoy, Fukien, and Canton will probably be considerably affected. Marine products cannot find a market, and three principal ports of this country—Hakodate, Kobe, and Nagasaki—have fallen into a grievous condition. Below are the comparative figures for exports to China for June last and the corresponding period of the previous year:—

	June, 1900. Yen.	June, 1899. Yen.
Dried cuttle fish	407	1,423
Beche de mer	221	1,038
Edible seaweed	—	382
Fins	427	2,028
Ear shells	851	532
Beer	3,461	1,500
Mushrooms (*Shiitake*)	735	189
Habutae	6,179	2,050
Handkerchiefs	1,030	2,679
Cotton yarns	9,860	111,180

The total volume of trade did not exceed 167,848 *yen* against 186,292 last year, even at a time when the disturbances were merely in their preliminary stage.

CRICKET.

THE BANKS VERSUS THE REST.

The intense heat of Saturday had a demoralizing, or rather, wilting, effect upon the rising Bankers of Yokohama, and as a result the cricket match between them and The Rest fizzled out tamely towards the close. The Rest, going in first, made 204 for three wickets, and then declarred their innings closed. The Banks tried seven bowlers during the afternoon, one of whom, Auton, was hit by E. W. Kilby for 5. Kilby's 50, by-the-way, also included four 4's, and four 3's. C. M. Duff's 63 included five 4's and five 3's. E.B.S Edwards, not out, made 48, among which were four 4's. The Banks' batting was almost on a par with their bowling and fielding, though we think a better showing might have been made had The Rest closed their innings earlier. It should be added that the match really opened smartly, 50 runs being scored in 29 minutes without the loss of a wicket the thermometer was then 90 degrees in the shade, which accounts for the subsequent languid fielding. Batting score:—

THE REST.

Mr. E. W. Kilby, c. H. W. Kilby, b. Brady	50
Mr. O. Strome, b. Pumfrett	22
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. Pumfrett, b. H. W. Kilby	63
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, not out	48
Mr. F. H. Abbey, not out	6
Messrs. F. J. Lias, A. Scott, J. E. Moss, W. Goddard, G. Braess, and E. B. Clarke, to bat	0
Extras	15
	204

THE BANKS.

Mr. A. S. Auton, c. Lias, b. Braess	5
Mr. G. G. Brady, c. Hudson, b. Lias	2
Mr. S. H. Wheeler, b. Braess	0
Mr. H. W. Kilby, c. Edwards, b. Lias	12
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, b. Lias	0
Mr. A. J. Pumfrett, c. H. W. Kilby, b. Braess	0
Mr. V. F. Deacon, c. Scott, b. Lias	8
Mr. Da Costa, b. Braess	1
Mr. J. H. Bathgate, not out	1
	29

SAILING RACES.

The Y. Y. C. had races on Saturday afternoon for the 39 raters and the cruising class. The former started at 1 p.m., the course being Tsurumi Nagahama, 17 miles. The first prize was the "Mary Cup," on arbitrary handicap, and a second prize by the Club on club time. The result was as follows:—

	Club Time.	Handicap	Finish.	Cor Arbit
Haidee	Scratch.	Allows.	4.56.34	4.56.34
Kingfisher	,,	,,	4.54.30	4.54.28
Mary	3.36	—	4.47.25	—
Maid Marion	5.13	Allows.	4.58.22	4.58.22
Spray	11.03	17.—	5.02.53	4.45.58

Mary takes two record points and *Spray* one record point.

The cruisers started at 2.30 p.m., the course being that known as No. 3, 10 miles. The first prize was presented by Mr. W. Grautoff, and a second by the Club. The three starters were handicapped level and the result was.

	Finish.
Daimyo	5.03.16
Svankild	5.02.25
Molly Bawn	5.16.08

Svankild takes first prize and two record points, *Daimyo* second prize and one point.

WORK FOR SOLDIERS IN NORTH CHINA.

Mr. Robert R. Gailey, General Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association of Tientsin, who arrived on the recently, *Logan* expects to leave Yokohama on Aug. 11, for Tientsin to carry on Y.M.C.A. work among the American and British troops.

This will be a part of the general army work of the Association which commended itself so favourably to men and officers in South Africa, Manila, Cuba and Porta Rica. The plan in brief is as follows: The securing of rooms or a large tent, according to circumstances, with an experienced secretary in charge; these quarters are equipped as reading rooms with newspapers, magazines, and books; recreative games and sports are provided; facilities for correspondence, entertainments, music, meetings, and such other physical, social and religious privileges as possible. The whole purpose being to present to the men an attractive resort with wholesome and uplifting influences. To hundreds of our soldiers, when not on the firing line, life is a desert of monotony or a deluge of temptation; under such circumstances the Association has been a real friend.

Since the beginning of this movement the soldiers have made such a plea for its continuance, the officers have so appreciated its influence on the morale, contentment, and comfort of their men that both British and American authorities have requested that it be made a permanent feature. In South Africa Lord Roberts gave his fullest personal and official endorsement by giving passports to the secretaries, and facilitating their movements. Not only have thousands of testimonies come from U.S. officers and soldiers, but real appreciation is indicated by the following official communication from General Miles.

"By direction of the Major-General command ng the Army, permission is hereby given the International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations to locate their tents with any of the commands, subject to the supervision and direction of the commanding officers."

Word has just been received that the Admirals and Generals in command "have set apart large quarters at Taku and Tientsin for the Army Association."

Mr. Gailey, with the co-operation of Mr. V. W. Helm, Associate Secretary of the Association movement in Japan, has secured from the business men of Yokohama cash contributions to the amount of *yen* eight hundred and ten (¥810). The work has been presented also at Shanghai, and other ports may assist.

In addition to the regular work already mentioned, Mr. Gailey hopes to provide the soldiers at cost refreshments different from the routine of rations. Because of the heat and miserable water supply, large quantities of aerated waters are important, the Army Associations being empowered by the officers in command to dispense such drinks—this makes a strong competitor to the canteens, the men preferring such drinks when procurable.

Visits will be made to sick and wounded in and out of the hospitals. Such delicacies and ministrations as possible will be offered by the secretaries. The ladies in Shanghai are preparing pyjamas and mosquito-nets and securing fans to be forwarded to the secretaries for distribution among the sick and wounded. Such gifts from the ladies in Japan will be welcomed. Contributions are solicited of files of popular magazines, the latest London, Berlin, and New York dailies and illustrated papers, also books

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of light but wholesome reading, and well selected religious literature.

Such a work necessitates a large expenditure of money; hence contributions are earnestly requested, and amounts large or small will be gratefully received.

Mr. H. McArthur, 10 Bund, Yokohama, will act as treasurer and forwarding agent. All contributions of money or supplies sent to him will be duly acknowledged and forwarded to Tientsin.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Will you kindly favour me with space in your columns to acknowledge the receipt of $810, being contributions solicited from the merchants of Yokohama for the work among the soldiers in North China to be carried on under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association. May I also state that anyone wishing to contribute money or supplies can send the same to Mr. H. McArthur who has kindly consented to act as Treasurer and Forwarding Agent for this work, and it will be duly receipted and forwarded. With grateful acknowledgement for the hearty co-operation of Yokohama in this work,

I remain, yours truly,

ROBERT R. GAILEY.

THE UNITED STATES AND RELIGIOUS BELIEF.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—May I be allowed the privilege of making a few remarks in your columns concerning the item from the *Koye* given in your last Monthly Summary of the Religious Press? The writer in the *Koye* thinks that the tendency in the United States is either towards Roman Catholicism or towards scepticism. In proof he instances the great number of Roman Catholics in America—ten millions at least. Now it happens that the greater part of this vast number comes from immigration, and that the number so far from being a real cause of joy towards thoughtful Roman Catholics is really a source of anxiety, for, making all allowances for death and for a certain number lost from sight there ought to be, when we reckon up the great number of immigrants and the known fecundity of the Irish and the Germans (who make up the bulk of the Roman Catholic population) at least fourteen millions. The truth is that the leakage from the Church is alarming. Hence the tremendous efforts of the prelates to build up a great system of parochial schools wherein the children shall be taught the faith of their fathers. The purblind Orangeman looks upon these schools as a system designed to overthrow the republic, but as a matter of fact they are rather the effects of an earnest desire to save the younger generation to the Church, to which their adhesion is yearly weakening owing to the atmosphere about them. The whole system of public schools in the United States is a tremendous engine which, whatever else it does, renders the children trained in them indifferent to the claims of the Church,—not merely the Roman Catholic, but any other. Nevertheless the trend is not towards general scepticism—Americans are not so logical. They are still, in heart and soul, Protestants, and the very sects which most weaken the various forms of Protestantism pre-suppose the validity of Protestantism. Almost all attacks upon "orthodoxy" by liberals are made upon Calvinism, as if Calvinism were synonymous with Christianity. I have read for many years the ephemeral literature of the subject, and it is a remarkable fact that very many of the ideas advanced by radical teachers are precisely the ideas which have been taught for centuries in all the great historic schools of the Catholic Church! Yet they are hailed as new discoveries. So indeed they are, but really they have been stumbled upon, as it were by accident; or, rather, the necessities of philosophy have at last driven men to assent rationally to what has ever been held in the Catholic Church. What is utterly lacking so far, however, is any perception on the part of either liberal Protestants or orthodox Protestants of any idea of authority in religion. And this is why I say that as yet the manifest tendency either towards Rome or towards Scepticism has not declared itself. As yet the bulk of Americans are content with Protestantism, and Protestantism with all its faults still bears in it enough of life to save the souls of men, for, though it rejects all idea of the authority of an Holy Catholic Church, it devotes itself with passionate energy to Jesus Christ Himself, and, although its professors lack the picturesque features of Romanism they are not less devoted, not less heroic in their self-sacrifice than those of the other side.

The writer in the *Koye* also errs if he supposes that the Protestant Episcopalians are the most numerous of "all the Protestant sects." They may be in New York (but, having no books of reference I cannot say just how many there are in that city) but they certainly are not in the United States as a whole, but are far down the list. Their communicants, that is, the number of confirmed persons, do not reach much to more than 700,000, but if the total of baptized persons be counted (as in the Roman Catholic total) the number comes to fully two millions, or, perhaps, three millions. This number, made up without aid from immigration, and in the face of adverse sentiment both religious and political, is noteworthy, and we venture the prediction that when a real break-up in America does come, and all men must at last choose whether they shall indeed be loyal to Jesus Christ in the end or shall follow alien guides, those who cling to Him will be found indeed Catholics, but made so through the work of the Episcopal Church, which holds the middle ground between the the now widely-sundered extremes. But the end is not yet.

Faithfully yours, PRESBYTER AMERICANUS.

CHRISTIAN ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your correspondent who signs himself "Sufferer—from Heat," in conjunction with other remarks on the subject of the famine in India, makes the following—"I have been told by Hindoos that the great cause of famine, politically speaking, is the excessive land tax levied by the native princes." Now to prove the incorrectness of such an assertion, the answer is this: The native princes have no control or jurisdiction over British India, and cannot levy taxes in British territory; therefore the famines which continue from time to time to afflict territories in British India cannot be caused by the taxation of native princes. What impression your correspondent may have got from "intelligent educated Hindoos" as to the causes of the famines I do know, but I know that from my childhood upward I have been familiar with that one cry "land tax" (not the land tax of the native states, for I have never lived in any of the native states; and I do not pretend to give any information about the ryots who are the subjects of the native princes), but the cry I have heard has been against the land tax of the Government of India, which is the British Government.

That the Indian ryot (speaking of the ryot in British territory) is an individual too poor to be taxed, is a cry that has gone forth, to my own personal knowledge, for more than a quarter of a century, but the voices which have been raised, whether British or Indian, in condemnation of the policy of the Government, have been like the voices of men crying in the wilderness. To attribute the starvation of a people to taxation might perhaps seem erroneous on the face of it; but in a country where money is dear, (the dearest commodity)—where purchases can even be made by cowries (shells) a high taxation must of necessity become a crushing and grievous burden, which in its turn keeps millions on the brink of that starvation into which they are precipitated in a year of drought. To meet the taxation imposed by the Government, the ryot is forced to borrow of the native money lender at a rate of 20-30-40 per cent interest; never perhaps to be able to repay, never to be free from debt, and never to be able to make any provision for a bad year; consequently in a year of drought he is precipitated into the starvation on the brink of which he has been struggling in his perpetual hand-to-mouth state of existence.

The British Government, or at least the Government of India, has been careful to suppress suttee: the car of Juggernaut; and as much as it can be possible the immersion of a dying Hindoo in the sacred waters. It has been careful not to infringe on the religious tenets and doctrines of the people, their rites and ceremonies, and their caste customs; it has tried its best to insure security of life and property under the protection of the law. In a case between native money lender and debtor, the British Magistrate invariably leans towards the oppressed and not towards the oppressor; but to people who know India, and the system of taxation to which the ryot is subject, it is a matter of no surprise that famines are perpetuated under British rule.

As regards England's action in Turkey, what public opinion in England might have done, or might not have done at the time of the massacres, if the British Government had not been bound hand and foot by President Cleveland, and the adamantine cordages of the Venezuela boundary question, I do not know; but the world does know, and has known for generations that have gone before us, that the Turkish Government is, and has been, a machinery for the perpetration of every foul, atrocious, hellish deed, that the imagination not of men, but of devils, can conceive; and yet the world has seen England support this Government, and unblushingly stand as janitor at the gates of this hell.

Can it be refuted that from the days of the younger Pitt, England's policy has leaned towards the protection of Turkey. In 1856 she fought the Crimean War for the protection of Turkey. In 1878, when the Russian army stood at the gates of Constantinople, and that machine for the perpetration of hellish inquities, the Turkish Government, was crushed, prostrate at the feet of the conqueror—England interfered, and saved Turkey. Can therefore the fact be refuted that hundreds of thousands of human beings whose only crime was their religion would not have been done to death under circumstances of the most hideous suffering, if the murderous hand of Turkey had not been strengthened and bandaged from time to time by England.

In 1878 the cup of liberty from the Turkish yoke was at the lips of the unfortunate Armenians, and it was the hand of England that dashed that cup aside; it was the hand of England that cast them down bound hand and foot into the abyss of that Turkish hell, in which they died.

I do not talk of antideal Christianity; such a chimera is not indulged in by sensible men and women who know the world in which they live; but surely England's actions which the world has seen are not consistent even with practical Christianity.

Yours truly, PLAIN FACT.

August 6th, 1900.

SHANGHAI FABLES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I thank you for your frank characterization of the cowardly villains who, from thoroughly safe quarters in Shanghai, cable home newspapers such "lies" as those you have exposed in the *Weekly Mail* of Aug. 11. Some of the most careful religious weeklies have been misled by the minutely and cunningly detailed accounts of events which have never occurred and may not occur, and the doubtfulness of which might easily have been determined in Shanghai, but not in the home lands.

Your strictures of this kind of reporting are not too strong. It is wicked business. Scores of homes in Europe and America, already rent with anxiety, are nevertheless borne up by the hope that their loved ones may still be saved by the allied heroes who are risking all to cut their way to their rescue. To recklessly harrow these feelings and blast these hopes is worse than "ruffianly," and there ought to exist some means of effectively stopping it.

Yours very truly, DAVID S. SPENCER.
Aoyama, Tokyo.

Nagoya, August 14, 1900.

THE BRITISH POLICY IN CHINA.

The following detailed account of the present British policy in China was telegraphed out to Shanghai to Mr. Warren, H. B. M. Consul-General, and communicated to the *N.-C. Daily News* for publication:—

The following statement of policy in China was made on behalf of H. M. Government in the House of Commons on the 2nd of August—

Great Britain will, in concert with the other Powers, press forward by every means the relief of the Legations at Peking, and regards it as imperative to impress upon China the sanctity of Envoys and the power of Europe to protect or avenge them.

As regards the Yangtze district and the adjacent region, assurances have been given to the Viceroys that the ships and forces of Great Britain will cooperate as far as possible with them in quieting unrest and securing order, and provision is being made for the due fulfilment of this assurance.

H. M. Government are opposed to any partition of China, and believe that they are in accord with other Powers in this declaration.

H. M. Government hold that the future Government of China, whether directed from Peking or decentralised, must be a Government by the Chinese, they are not prepared to substitute for this a European administration.

Similarly they hold that in the common interest much caution should be observed in any scheme which may be entertained for organising Chinese troops under foreign officers.

Compensation must be made by China for the effects of the existing disturbances.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Air Temp. Max	Air Temp. Min	Lake	State of Weather.	Remarks in General.
Sunday, 5th	76°	69°	78°	Fine...	—
Monday, 6th	78°	69°	78°	Fine...	—
Tuesday, 7th	76°	67°	78°	Fine...	—
Wednesday, 8th	77°	69°	78°	Fine .	
Thursday, 9th	77°	68°	78°	Fine .	Shower at night.
Friday, 10th	76°	68°	78°	Fine ..	—
Saturday, 11th	77°	68°	76°	Fine...	—

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

In May of last year the Tsar commissioned the Minister of Justice to draw up a law for abolishing banishment to Siberia. The Minister's draft has been examined by the Council of the Empire, and the law, as finally sanctioned, has been signed by the Tsar.

The present trouble in the Far East is likely to have a disastrous effect on the straw-hat industry of Luton, which imports large quantities of straw braid by way of Tientsin, the seat of the Chinese trade. No shipments have been made at that port for the last two months. Canton plait, of which six-tenths of the Luton straw hats are made, has increased £2 per bale on the London market.

The begging profession in Madras has apparently ceased to be as paying as it was; for according to the *Fort St. George Gazette* a beggar has gone bankrupt. It is rather peculiar to read in the week's list of insolvents "Arasanapali K. Ragavacharry, a beggar, residing at No. 86, Tholasingaperumai Covil-street, Triplicane, Madras."

The German Army dogs (according to the *Regiment*) are so trained that when they find a dead body they set up a prolonged howling. If no one comes, they take the dead man's cap or some small article, and with this in their teeth go on a hunt for their trainer, whom they lead to the spot. If the man is wounded, he gives his cap to the dog, and the same object is accomplished.

The *Madras Mail* has the following:—The depressed state of the Bombay cotton industry grows worse every day and mills are rapidly shutting down. There is no demand for yarn for China, and the Buttama and the Presidency Mills closed on Saturday. The David Mills and the new David Mill ceased working on the evening of Monday, the 9th July.

Green cocoanuts have been put upon the New York markets, and have met with an excellent reception. The nuts came from Baracoa, in Cuba. Green cocoanuts have never before been put upon any outside market, for the natives where they are grown look upon them as a great dainty. The so-called "water" of the green nut is said to be far superior to any mineral water.

The Consular Report on the trade of Batoum and district for the year 1899 gives a table showing that the total value of all articles exported from Batoum to China and Japan in 1899 was £671,104 against £106,361 in 1898. The return of shipments of petroleum products from Batoum to China shows that 682,205 cases were shipped in 1899 as against 224,586 in 1898. To Japan 96,522 cases were shipped in 1899 compared with 67,376 in 1898.

An old woman named Kaneko Shige (62), who resided at Yochomachi, Okubo, Tokyo, murdered her maid servant, named Noguchi Shige (14), on the 14th inst. It appears that the girl was a little slack in her duties and the old woman tied her up and then placed her in a bamboo basket, over which she laid a *futon*. Tired with her exertion the ancient beldame laid down to sleep. After an hour or so she woke and, being frightened at hearing no sound of crying, opened the basket. The girl was already dead. The old woman accordingly went out to report the matter to the murdered servant's family, and on returning home at 7 p.m. was arrested by the police.

With regard to the programme recently formulated by Mr. Sonoda, Governor of Hokkaido, it was proposed to ask the Central Government to provide funds to the amount of 60 millions of *yen*. The Government, however, does not seem disposed to accede to this, and the Governor sought to exercise pressure by showing a disposition to resign his office in the event of his claims being refused. The Home Department is now reported to have approved the scheme on the reduction of the amount by 10 millions, the annual installments being fixed at 5 millions. The prospect is gloomy, remarks the *Niroku*, as the Government has to procure at least 15 millions of *yen* by means of increased taxation as things stand at present. The fate of the 10 year programme above referred to can be easily imagined, adds our contemporary, when it passes into the hands of the Finance Department.

The Gaekwar, Maharaja of Baroda, who is at present on a visit to England, is a great admirer of English customs and English methods of administration, both of which he has adopted to a large extent in the State over which he rules. He is one of the three premier Princes of India, Mysore, Hyderabad, and Baroda being the only States whose rulers enjoy the hereditary right to a salute of 21 guns. His Highness, who is paying England a fourth visit, is accompanied by the Maharanee, who has come to consult London specialists. The Gaekwar also intends to make arrangements for the education of his children in England.

Another Volunteer Corps is about to adopt the slouch hat, which the Queen's Westminsters are already wearing—viz., the 1st Middlesex Volunteer Rifles, popularly known as the St. George's and Victoria's. The St. George's are territorially associated with the King's Royal Rifle Corps, and wear the rifle green uniform with scarlet facings. The new hat will consequently be of a like shade of green, and there is to be a folded puggaree with the initials of the corps on a small scarlet badge on the upturned brim. Col. Charles Bird, the commanding officer, intends to add a plume of cock's feathers, in imitation of many of the Colonial irregular troops.

The *Asahi* states that the Yokohama Custom House has decided temporarily to remove the "white whiskey," 9000 barrels in all, imported some time ago by the American Trading Company of Yokohama, to the inflammable goods godown, in accordance with the Customs' Regulations, owing to the failure on the part of the importers to comply with the decision given by the Minister of Finance. It is understood that in case the Company fails to take delivery of the liquor by paying the 250 per cent. duty, as ordered by the Customs, within six months from the date of its removal to the inflammable goods godown, it will be sold by the Customs, and the storage and duty, which amount to *yen* 63,000, will be paid out of the proceeds. The *Aashi* further states that the original price of the whiskey was *yen* 28 per barrel, which will be increased to *yen* 70, by the addition of the 250 per cent. duty.

We have been asked to publish the following acknowledgement of the receipt of rupees 627, the equivalent of the amount realized from the entertainment at Van Schaick Hall, in aid of the Indian Famine; which was remitted to Mr. George Eddy, Madras, who writes as follows:—

In enclosing receipt for funds resulting from the Yokohama concert, my son desires me to express his thanks to you and all aiding in the concert, for your labour in this good cause. It is a joy to those labouring in India, to get such sympathy and practical help from Japan.

You would rejoice in your good work more than you do, could you realize the intense suffering and almost unlimited need in these famine districts. He will distribute this gift at once, trying to use every dollar as the givers would approve, and so that real and lasting good shall be done.

M. L. EDDY.
Kodaikanal, S. India.

July 9th, 1900.

The *Jiji* alleges that the organisation of a corporation (*Tohumei-kumiai*) is in contemplation by Messrs. Ikeda, Ezoye, Sano, Nonaka, Mori, and Yokoyama, and other influential personages in the capital with a view to undertaking the sales of clothing and provisions to the Japanese troops in North China. It is said that each of the promoters is to contribute 2,500 *yen*, the first installments—500 *yen*, having already been paid into the First Bank. The head offices are to be established on the premises of the Nakano, at Koamicho, Nihonbashi district, Tokyo. Mr. Mori Seiyemon is appointed one of the principal officials of the corporation, and is to proceed to Tientsin, accompanied by two or three subordinates. The association has already secured 30 members, but the number is to be increased to 100. Should the result of the transactions be satisfactory, the members might be induced to increase their investments from 2,500 to 500,000 *yen* each. The new corporation will obtain a special charter from the three Departments of Foreign Affairs, the Army, and the Navy. The ultimate object of the corporation, however, is to develope the commerce of North China at the close of the present disturbance.

What is likely to be the effect of the Chinese troubles upon the finances of the Japanese Government? asks *Keizai Zasshi*. In the present state of affairs there is no room for doubt that the Government will find its outlays far in excess of its revenue by the end of the fiscal year. The necessity of resorting to increased taxation is already upon the tapis. It may be of interest to enquire to what extent the outlays of the Japanese Government have increased during the past few years. Since the Japan-China war the annual disbursements from the Treasury have almost trebled, as may be perceived from the following table:—

Fiscal year.	Administrative expenses. Yen.	Military and Naval expenses. Yen.	Interest on national loans. Yen.
1893-4 ...	54,514,387	10,521,686	19,545,999
1894-5 ...	37,726,618	20,662,090	19,739,935
1895-6 ...	37,267,569	23,536,204	24,513,407
1896-7 ...	65,054,110	73,248,282	30,554,116
1897-8 ...	83,597,631	110,542,522	29,538,691
1898-9 ...	78,949,233	112,427,555	28,380,780
1899-900 ..	109,710,256	107,989,188	34,398,602
1900-1 ...	125,478,807	93,858,865	35,212,146

The most striking feature is the increase of military and naval expenses, and it is necessary, remarks our contemporary, that the utmost efforts should be directed to the curtailment of these outlays on the enforcement of the increased system of taxation.

CHINA NOTES.

The circumstances of the looting of Ching Chou, Mission Station are as follows:—

On the 5th July, a proclamation was issued and posted on the four gates of the city, and throughout the eleven counties of the prefecture, inciting the people to rise and loot and persecute. On the 7th the yamên soldiery, with a rabble at their heels, broke into the premises and all night and next and following days carried off and destroyed as they listed. The magistrate endeavoured to obtain the money left deposited in the native banks, as he said to pay his soldiery. At the same time active persecution of the native Christians commenced, their property being looted and some defenceless people killed. This state of things was going on generally throughout the district. The Governor of the province failed of his promised protection to the native church and mission property, as 1,000 of his soldiers were in the vicinity of the city at the time of the looting and did not interfere, and have done nothing in the way of preserving order. The province generally seems getting into a state of anarchy.

Writing of the losses of the Allies at Tientsin the *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent says:—It enrages one to think that this appalling massacre might have been obviated by an attack ten days ago, before the Chinese were reinforced, if we had only had the guns. But why had we not the guns? Ask of some gross incompetents at Taku. It is perfectly well known here that Captain Scott had the four twelve-pounders all ready to land, that he was further prepared to have 47 or even 6in. quick-firers ready in a very short time. It was also known that we were being steadily bombarded by better weapons than we had; then why in the name of humanity and common sense was only one twelve pounder landed and the *Terrible* sent to sea? As at Ladysmith, our lives and fortunes hung on the question of guns, and the same man was ready to save the situation by the same measures as he saved the other, but was not allowed to do so.

With reference to the capture of the city of Chüchou near the Fukien border, by insurgents and the murder of the prefect of that city, together with six of his yamên runners, according to official news received in Shanghai, the insurgents in question are not Boxers, but members of the Fukien Vegetarian sect who in 1895 had taken refuge from Fukien in the adjoining province of Chêkiang, near the vicinity of Chüchou. The Vegetarians, who are actually a secret society hostile to the Manchus, attacked in 1895 a number of British Missionaries at Hwasang, in the district of Kuchêng, some sixty or seventy

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miles from Foochow, and massacred over a dozen missionaries and children there. For this a number of Vegetarians lost their heads, and so strict was the search of the mandarins for them, it having transpired that they were a revolutionary sect, that there was a general exodus of these men from Fukien, dividing themselves into two bands, one going to the Kiangsi borders—the province from whence the sect had its origin—and the other to Chekiang, into Chüchou prefecture, where, taking advantage of the present crisis, they have now risen against the Manchu Government. Had the rising been that of the Boxers, they would never have attacked the prefect or captured the city as has been now done.

The Intelligence Branch at Army Hendquarters, Simla, has published a short military report on the Province of Chihli, the object being to furnish information to the troops now proceeding on active service in the north of China. The report states that there are about 100,000 troops scattered about Chihli Province, but the greater part of them are not very formidable. "At the same time it must be remembered that there are at least 30,000 modern long range rifles among them, mostly of the Mauser and Mannlicher patterns, and that similar rifles are being manufactured in the Chinese arsenals, and that therefore it is necessary that troops opposed to them should not be inferior in armament." It is a fortunate circumstance that most of the Indian regiments being sent out have had the .303 rifle in their hands for some weeks past and that they already know how to use it. It is stated that the best army in China is that raised by Yuan Shih-kai after the war with Japan. "It was until lately quartered at Hsiaochan, south of the Peiho river, about 30 miles south-west of Tientsin, and numbered about 7,000, men, made up of about 5,500 infantry, 500 cavalry with sabres, Mannlicher rifles; and 1,000 artillery. The infantry are armed with the Mannlicher carbines and old revolvers. The artillery has three batteries of Horse Artillery, each battery being armed with six 5.7 mm. quick firing guns; three batteries of Field Artillery, each armed with six 7.5 c.m. Krupp field guns, and three mountain batteries each armed with six 7 cm., Krupp guns." The bulk of this army is in Shantung, but there is another force 16,000 strong, similarly armed, which was quartered on the railway between Tangku and Langchou. It is from this probably that the guns have been drawn which bombarded Tientsin. There is a rabble of an irregular army about Peking 32,000 strong, but the units of this are badly armed.

Among those who have recently reached Shanghai, forced to leave their posts in the interior, is the Rev. A. R. Crawford, of the Irish Presbyterian Mission, Kirin, Manchuria. He told a representative of the *N.-C. Daily News* the other day of the manner in which he and his friends left Kirin. They had none of the hairbreadth escapes which have been told so frequently of late, but the story is interesting. It seems that about the end of June anti-foreign placards began to make their appearance in Kirin, issued presumably by Boxers, though of these last it was said that the city held very few. The city was very quiet, however, the people peaceable, and there seemed no need at that time to leave. The last day of the month brought a belated telegram from Newchwang, announcing the outbreak of hostilities between the Powers and China. On the 1st of July the Russian Settlement at Kirin—which is the wood depôt for the railway work—decided to send their women and children away to Harbin, and very kindly gave the Mission body an offer to accompany them. This they accepted, and on the following day they left by boat, finally reaching Laoshaokou. From this point the completed railway line bears N.E. to Harbin. At Laoshaokou missionaries from other stations met them, and the whole party went on by rail. Harbin, by reason of railway work, has grown very largely. There were there some 5,000 or 6,000 Russians engaged on railway work, but the only troops there were some 150 Cossacks. These railway employees are highly paid—about five times as much as they would ordinarily receive in Russia—but they are not allowed on any consideration to desert their posts. Should they do so, they become amenable to Russian military law. However, the fighting force of Harbin, including volunteers, was about 800. For three days the mission party stayed there, they were treated in the kindest manner by the Russians. Women and children were being sent away in large numbers. On the 9th July about 400 went, and on the 10th some 600 or 700 were to be sent. To this second party the missionaries attached themselves, and were taken by steamer-towed barges to Khabarovsk. On the way there they passed a fleet of steamers, also drawing barges, and learnt that these bore a Russian force of 4,000 infantry, 800 cavalry, two or three batteries of artillery. Afterwards they passed troop-laden trains on the railway. From Khabarovsk to Vladivostock the railway journey took a day and a half, and thus the party came to safety. Mr. Crawford brought the sad news that Mrs. Greig, wife of the well-known Dr. James A. Greig of Kirin, who accompanied her husband in the flight of the Mission to Vladivostock, and who had been very ill in the spring of this year, died at Vladivostock of exhaustion.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The large warehouse of the St. Paul Cold Storage and Warehouse Company was destroyed by fire on July 23. The total loss is estimated at $750,000 with an insurance of $550,000. The warehouse was filled with butter, fruit, tobacco, eggs, tea, whisky and other commodities.

Immigration into the United States increased nearly 50 per cent. in the year ended June 30 last over that of the previous year, and was nearly double that of 1897-18, which showed the smallest total in twenty years. The figures for the twelve months ended June 30, 1898, 1899 and 1900, respectively, were 229,299, 311,715 and 448,551.

A report from Hamburg says that detectives have arrested the secretary of the United States Consulate at that place for the embezzlement of 25,000 marks. Two American ladies in 1898 commissioned the consulate to collect a legacy of 200,000 marks, of which 50,000 had been already collected. The ladies, being unable to obtain their money, called in the local police, with the result above stated.

Mr. Bellamy Storer of Cincinnati is being mentioned as possible Ambassador to Italy to succeed Mr. Draper. Mr. Storer was first sent abroad as American Minister to Belgium, and then transferred to Spain, a distinct promotion. His transfer to Italy would be a still higher promotion, as it would advance him from the rank of Minister to that of Ambassador, the highest rank in the diplomatic corps. The same reasons, religious congeniality, which were said to have operated in favour of Mr. Storer's appointment as Minister to Spain, would obtain in respect to the Italian Ambassadorship.

The burning of twenty-five or more large tanks belonging to the Standard Oil Company at Bayonne, N. J., July 5th, was one of the most spectacular events ever witnessed in the neighbourhood of New York. The fire raged continuously for four days, and could be seen for miles in every direction. The fire was started by a stroke of lightning. Tank after tank caught fire and exploded. During the progress of the fire the streets in the neighbourhood of the oil works were turned into rivers of burning oil, and several houses were burned by the flaming flood. For three days it was feared that the entire plant of the Standard Company, covering one square mile of ground, would be destroyed, but the wind held steady from the southwest and the fire did not leave the old works, where it originated.

"As at present situated, the Government at Washington can communicate with Manila only in the most roundabout way, and its communications are at any point subject to foreign interference," says the *North American Review*. "The existing route of cablegrams from Washington to Manila is as follows. To New York by land; to Valentia, Ireland, by cable; to Brighton, England, by cable and land; to Havre, France, by cable; to Marseilles, by land; to Alexandria, Egypt, by cable; to Suez, Egypt, by land; to Aden, Arabia, by cable, to Bombay, India, by cable; to Madras, by land; to Singapore, Malayan Peninsula, by cable; to Saigon, Cochin China, by cable; to Hongkong, by cable to Manila, Philippine Islands, by cable—the distance being 14,000 miles and the number of transmissions fourteen. And for this communication the Government is now paying about $400,000 annually for its own messages."

The following paragraph will be read with amusement by residents in the Far East:—

Mrs. Lu Wheat of Los Angeles returned from China yesterday on the *America Maru*. Four months ago she started for the Orient with the purpose of making a close and analytical study of the women of China, whom she felt were not fully understood by the women of the Occident. She expected to make many discoveries which she could communicate to the world through the medium of literature, but the conditions she found were far from conductive to scholarly reflection or the promotion of study. She relates her experience as follows: "I engaged rooms in a pleasant house in the outskirts of Shanghai and settled down there for study and observation. Soon ugly reports began to come in and Boxers began to gather in the city. In the next house to mine there was a school for Chinese children, taught by a Chinese lady. I had been there but a short time when the Boxers began to hold their meetings there at night. I couldn't understand a word they said, but they talked loud and savagely late into the night. I reported the matter to the American Consul and he told me that it wasn't safe for me to stay there another hour and that I ought to leave. I didn't know what time the Boxers might attack my house, so I gave up and came straight home."

The *Globe's* naval correspondent at Taku writes that Admiral Kempff of the U.S.N., has raised a storm in a teapot on the salute question. He is second in command of this station, and thus entitled to eleven guns as rear admiral, and this was recently given him by the *Endymion* at Yokohama. He claimed thirteen guns, stating that no American Admiral got eleven guns, their value being. Full admiral, seventeen; vice admiral, fifteen; rear admiral, thirteen. The United States first having started the grade of admiral, perhaps Kempff thought out the regulations in pure ignorance, as there appears to be no reason why a United States rear admiral should be worth more powder than any other rear admiral. To his protest Rear Admiral Kempff was informed that the captain of the *Endymion* would give him as many guns as he wanted, if there were sufficient powder on the ship, but until the U.S. published their regulations we had to go by ours. The *Orlando* arriving at Taku knew nothing of this squabble, and rubbed it in by saluting the Chinese rear admiral with thirteen guns, then the Russian rear admiral with thirteen and then the United States rear admiral with eleven guns. Whether distance made it difficult for them to distinguish the number or a delicate hint was intended, the *Newark* had the good taste to return thirteen.

THE ATTACK ON TIENTSIN.

A detailed report of the attack on Tientsin was received by the War Department from Major-General Fukushima on the 12th instant, and is published in the *Jiji* as follows:—

1.—General condition of Tientsin prior to the attack.

The Chinese troops occupied Tientsin citadel on the right bank of the river, and held a line extending from the fortifications to the villages and hamlets lying north-west of the station on the left bank. Early on the morning of the 11th July the Chinese commenced a hot fire on the station and then proceeded to attack our troops. Our garrison, however, repulsed them but with no small losses. The enemy killed on the field did not fall short of 300. On the 12th the enemy still firmly held the line previously occupied by them. On the same day a Chinese was seen advancing towards us with a white flag in his hand. He was seized, and upon examination a despatch addressed by the Japanese Minister in Peking to the Consul in Tientsin was found in his possession. It was dated June 29 and contained a statement that Peking was in imminent danger. On the same day the 12th Battalion of the 11th Regiment of Infantry arrived in Tientsin. On the afternoon the Commander of the English, French, and American forces held a war council at the *Shireibu* to discuss the best means of attack. The council had its origin in the urgent necessity of attacking the Tientsin citadel in view of ever-increasing casualties sustained daily by the allied forces from shots poured into the Settlement by the enemy day and night. It was determined that the Russians should unite with the German troops and attack the enemy from our side thus securing joint action with the forces from Japan, England, America, and France. Towards dusk a portion of the enemy was reported to have occupied the neighbourhood of the Race Course.

2.—Physical features of the neighbourhood of the Southern Gate of Tientsin.

The walls running westerly parallel with those of Tientsin from the southern end of the Settlement are 5 metres in height, and therefore any troops advancing along the southern side might be effectually concealed from the enemy, while those proceeding directly below the walls could protect themselves from the enemy's fire. Nevertheless, the watercourses along the south of the walls proved serious obstacles to the movement of troops. The arsenal stands between the north of the walls and the Tientsin citadel, while there are houses on the main road to the villages on the south. If some of these obstacles in these places and also in the avenues from the south of the citadel to the settlement could be removed troops could march in open order. As for the watercourses on the eastern side of the main road the water is very shallow and is no great obstruction to the advancing columns. But on the western side they are 20 metres wide, and are unfordable. At a little distance from these watercourses there is no obstacle to march in open order to the west. The marshes on the south of the walls, however, hamper the movement of troops just at their base. The localities most suitable to the placing of artillery are the north and west of the Arsenal, the west of the villages, and the right and left of the walls attached to the Kaiko gate.

The walls of the Tientsin citadel have held out wonderfully against demolition in spite of their being frequently bombarded by the English artillery. They

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are 8 metres in height, and their outer walls preclude all attempts at climbing them. Upon these walls and in the middle of them are eyelet holes enabling the Chinese to fire with great effect.

Moreover, the villages in close proximity serve as almost impregnable positions. The occupation of the southern line of these villages will render artillery operations from three points possible. Yet the enemy is actually holding this position.

Such is the physical condition of Tientsin, and in making an attack upon the citadel the troops on the walls, as well as in the villages on the south, must be vigorously assailed by artillery, and on producing an effect, infantry must be scattered to the east and west of the main road, and a forward march may be undertaken. From these considerations it was resolved that both Japanese and French columns should advance from the east and west by the main road, while the American and English troops should follow them, forming two wings in open order. As for the time of advance, some hours before dawn seemed to be most advisable, but should the enemy hold the villages south of the citadel as firmly as they did at present, the walls could hardly have been reached by dawn. Moreover, the night was as clear as the day, being moonlight, and comparatively large casualties must have been expected, for although it might be possible to scatter the enemy at day-time by means of artillery, it would not be so in the night. It was for this reason that a day attack was determined on at the council of the allied forces. As to the directions for the attack it may be remarked that as the east was in close proximity with the walls on the "white river," and lined almost uninterruptedly with rows of dwelling houses, there was the disadvantage of having to maintain street fighting from the beginning to the end; whereas the western road, besides running parallel with the walls on a certain river, was known to contain a greater number of houses than the southern side, and could not be approached except by a circuitous route; therefore an attack in this direction could hardly be recommended for the allied forces in regard to their numerical strength. Under these circumstances there was no alternative but to take the south as the direction of assault, and such was the ultimate resolution of the allies.

3.—Orders given for fighting on the following day and events connected therewith.

The programme for attack having been determined, the following orders were given:—

Orders given to a special detachment of troops (at the Tientsin Settlement at 9 p.m. on the 12th July).

1. No serious changes are noticeable in the enemy's condition since the last report, but the Arsenal and the vicinity of the Race Course appear to have again been taken by some of them.

2. The Japanese, English, French, and American forces shall proceed to-morrow towards the Arsenal with a view to attack the Tientsin citadel.

3. The allied columns are to be distributed as follows:—

(a.) The French column, 800 strong, to advance towards the embankments from the South-western Gate to the Kaiko Gate.

(b.) A column of the 11th Regiment of Infantry (a company and 5 sub-companies are wanting), a battalion of artillery, a company of sappers, and a French artillery battery (with 6 guns) are to advance from the South-western Gate to the Kaiko Gate through the vegetable fields.

(c.) An English battery of artillery, 700 strong (with 4 ordinary and 4 machine guns), together with 900 Americans, to proceed from the Ryoyen mon along the left side of the 2nd column.

The left flank, the 3rd batallion of the 12th Regiment of Guards (2 companies are wanting), and a company of cavalry are to advance from the Ryoyen Gate to the Kaiko by way of the Race Course.)

4.—The 1st Batallion of the 11th Regiment of Infantry, and a battery of artillery, shall constitute the front guard of the 2nd Column, all under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Hattori, and, leaving the Southwestern Gate at 3.30 a.m., proceed along the walls to the west of that Gate, and continue their march towards the Kaiko Gate through the fields. The march, however, is to be made along the front street, in the direction of the South-western Gate. The advancing column shall include the commanding section, a detachment of cavalry, the remaining portion of the 11th Regiment of Infantry, together with the main portion and a company of the Artillery Battalion, as well as French Artillery.

5.—The left guard shall leave the Kyoyen-mon at 3.20 a.m., and, taking measures to protect the left flank of the allied forces, shall march in the direction above specified.

6.—A company of the 11th Regiment of Infantry shall stay in the encamped position, and serve as the rear guard of the Japanese garrison, as well as the camp.

7.—Each company shall carry small baskets and bags, together with two days' provisions, and drinking water, if possible, shall be carried by means of large baskets provided in each Regiment.

8.—I myself shall proceed in the van of the 2nd column.

(Signed.) FUKUSHIMA YASUMASA, Commander of Special Detachments.

Orders to the various companies were verbally given to be copied by each.

As soon as the plan of attack upon Tientsin was determined, orders were given to a company of sappers to repair a bridge at the south-western Gate and to make preparations for the construction of a new one on the outside of the Kaiko Gate, all this work to be done under cover of darkness. The materials for these bridges had to be dragged over the moat by a gate bridge.

At 3.30 a.m. on the 13th the van of the advanced guard left the south-western Gate, marching in brilliant moonlight, and were followed by the various ranks of the main body. At 4.30 a.m. the English close to the walls, west of the Gate above mentioned, opened fire towards Tientsin with 9 to 12-centimetre guns, while the French advanced from the south-western Gate to the south of the walls along the Kaiko Gate. The vanguard of our troops, which arrived in the neighbourhood of the Kaiko Gate at 5 a.m., was enabled to combine with the 3rd battalion of the 11th Regiment of Infantry, on account of the enemy having deserted the place. The scouts who had entered the Arsenal had opened fire by this time, while the front guard, having forded the moat, reached the end of a village about 200 metres north of the Kaiko. Orders were at once given to the Commander of the Artillery Batallion to lead the men on the southern side of the walls to the east and west of the Kaiko, and in this position the Tientsin citadel was bombarded by artillery. At this time rifle shots were frequent from the castle, causing a number of men to be injured. At 5.20 a.m. the following order was given to the commander of the advanced Guard:—"The guard shall occupy the end of the village under cover, and shall not proceed beyond the point until further instructions have been received." By this time a company of sappers was engaged in the repair of a bridge south of the Kaiko, the materials for repair being brought from the South Western Gate in conjunction with the French troops. The main body was made to march to the neighbourhood of the cemeteries on the south of the Kaiko. At 5.30 a.m. the gunpowder magazine of the enemy exploded, covering the sky with black smoke. The explosion was caused by Russians. The powder magazine stood on the right bank of the Teika. At 6 a.m. a large column of the enemy appeared on the south of the Tientsin citadel, but the distance rendered it impossible to discern whether the enemy would advance or retire. A conference was therefore held with the English Commander, with the result that English infantry were brought to form the left flank. Meanwhile, a company of our artillery was arrayed on the road from Kaiko to the Hachiri-dai and opened fire against the enemy. The French artillery also came, and, having formed a line on the right wing of our company, opened fire in conjunction with our artillery at a distance of 3,000 metres from the enemy. At 6 a.m. a report was received from the commanding officer of a company of cavalry, to the effect that a large number of the enemy were found at a distance of 4,000 metres west of Hachiri-dai and also north-west of this district. The enemy referred to belonged to the same command as those against whom the Japanese and French had already opened fire with their artillery. Orders were therefore given to the commander of cavalry requiring him to halt close to Hachiridai, taking measures to protect the left flank, and ascertain the condition of the enemy, for some distance. After this, orders were issued to the commander of the battalion of artillery to the effect that one company should be despatched to the north-western end of the Arsenal and another to a point about 200 metres north-west of the Kaiko Gate, so that the enemy in front might be dispersed by artillery. At 6.15 a.m. the gunpowder magazine again exploded. At 6.30 a.m. the enemy's artillery appeared in a direction south-west of the Tientsin citadel, and was confronted by the American troops and artillery at about 100 metres north-west of the Kaiko Gate, where many of the enemy's shells were found to reach.

A DIARY OF EVENTS AT PEKING.

The *N.-C. Daily News* takes the following graphically written "Diary of Events in Peking" from the *Universal Gazette*. It comes from the pen of a Chinese official holding a high post in one of the Six Boards in Peking, embodied in a letter to his family living in the vicinity of Shanghai.

"To give you all at home an idea of the trend of events which have led to the present *débacle* in Peking, you must know that the Boxer organisation had its origin in Shantung province, where also the first disturbances began, and which gradually spread into Chihli province during the spring of the present year. News reached us, in the middle of May last, that the Boxers had seized the city of Chochou (some fifty miles S.W. of Peking) murdered the officials there, and had begun tearing up and destroying the railways. Our Emperor, upon hearing of these outrages, desired to suppress these Boxers, but the high Ministers in power at Court were devout believers in the potency of the Boxers and strongly stood up for them before the throne. On the 31st of May, Tung Fu-hsiang had an audience of the Throne and upon being questioned stood up and accepted all responsibility in the war of extermination of Foreigners, which he strongly advocated, staking his head on his ability in successfully combating the Foreign Powers. The result was that instead of ordering the suppression of the Boxers, the policy of the Government was suddenly changed, and an Imperial decree was immediately issued appointing Kang Yi and Chao Shu-chiao, Imperial High Commissioners, to organise the Boxers in the vicinity of Peking and bring them under Government control. During this crisis the various Foreign Powers also sent some 400 odd troops into Peking to protect their Legations. By the 4th of June, the Boxer outlaws had begun to tear up and destroy the Railway between Peking and Tientsin, and from that day also began to enter the city walls of Peking, crowding in at the rate of over a thousand a day. Altars (or gathering-places for recruits, etc.) were erected by them all over the city. At this time also these outlaws began the wholesale slaughter of Christians, and burning of churches outside of Peking, until none of the latter have been left standing. As many as could escape, amongst the Christians, then poured into the capital, taking refuge in the Legations situated in the Tung-chiao-ming street (otherwise known as Legation street). This state of affairs, I may say, existed in the capital during the first days of June, from which time I began to jot down the following diary of events as they occurred before my own eyes and were personally experienced by me.

13th June, 1900: 17th day of the 5th moon 26th year of Kuang Hsü

About dusk, while in the University [of Peking], I saw four places on fire, whereupon I immediately returned to my house, subsequently learning that all the Churches and mission properties inside the 'Eastern City" had been set fire to and entirely destroyed, the conflagration in the Lamplight Market (Night Bazaar) having been especially destructive, lasting far into the next day.

14th June.—I passed the Panshih Residence this morning. The building in the rear of this is now the headquarters of Tung Fu-hsiang and his Kansu troops, who I may state, had already entered the city a few days previously.

[The Kansu troops, ever since their arrival from Kansu in the autumn of 1898, had always been kept encamped outside Peking and prohibited from entering the City walls.]

At noon, my friend Yang Ch'ao-chih, a Military Chüjên graduate, sent a servant over to my house suggesting that we should join our families together and escape from Peking in company from the dangers threatening all, and fixing to-morrow morning as our time of departure. I, fortunately as it turned out for us all, firmly refused to go with Yang's party, as I had just heard the rumour that steamers had stopped running to Tientsin. I had also heard that the road to T'ungchou was greatly infested by marauding bands of outlaws, that the railway to Tientsin had been destroyed, and the telegraph lines cut. Further that a relief force of Foreign troops was on its way to Peking from Tientsin, and that that city was in great confusion. With these considerations in my mind, I decided to remain where I was for the present.

Addendum: Subsequently I learned that on the 17th, 18th, and 19th inst. there had indeed been severe fighting at Chieh-tsulin (Tzetsulin — the French Concession, Tientsin), that 2,000 foreign troops had got near Yangtsun (Railway Station 17.88 miles from Tientsin) and they had been there prevented by the Boxers from proceeding further towards Peking and between them there had been constant fighting. I made careful enquiries to find out the fate of Yang and his family (husband, wife and son), but up to this hour have been unable to get the least clue of their whereabouts, alive or dead. I feel most thankful that I did not allow my family to go with them.

To-night there was a huge commotion and rioting, mostly in the Eastern and Western great thoroughfares, after which a great fusilade of rifle firing succeeded. This was due to those places being near the Austrian legation, the inmates of which, hearing a great commotion amongst the Boxers in the great thoroughfares, and seeing them approach close to the Legation, began to shoot them. The Boxers returned the fire, the mutual fighting lasting to the 3rd watch (11.30 p.m.) when both sides ceased. I may say that my house is only about 60 yards from the Austrian legation.

15th June.—This morning there were several dead bodies lying near the Austrian Legation, the result of last night's rifle fusilade. It seems that there were after all, only some 15 or 16 Boxers concerned in the fighting last night, the commotion having been really created by a mob of ordinary Peking citizens, but of

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the rowdy sort, who were following the Boxers about. Even then, three Boxers were killed in the fight.

16th June.—To-day the fire and smoke rising from buildings set on fire in the great street leading from the Wu-mên [South-gate of the Palace] was awful. So dense was the smoke that throughout the day there was a pall over the capital making the sun a pale yellow. It seems that the Boxers had set fire to the old-established Lao Tê-t'ang drug shop, and there being at the time a strong south-west wind blowing, the conflagration had spread eastwards as far as the Chien-mên (gate); westwards, it consumed the whole of the coal market; and southwards to the banks of the canal leaped over the canal down the great gate dividing the two Hopao streets as far as the Drum tower outside the Chien-men (gate). No less than several hundred large stores were destroyed in this conflagration. Since the burning of Jewellers' Street (Chu-paoshih), and the silver melters' establishments, business has fallen considerably causing even the Sze-héng Bank to shut its doors. (This Bank is the principal establishment of its kind in Peking.) Since the fighting of the night of the 14th inst., when the Boxers got three of their number killed by the inmates of the Austrian Legation, the Boxers have kept at a respectable distance from the vicinity of the Legations, and during the past two nights there have been no commotions near my house. The Boxers say that the reason some of their number got killed was due to their not having succeeded in learning the whole of Boxer enchantments and that those in Peking will have to wait until the veteran Boxers arrive, when another attack will be made against the Legations. But we have daily conflagrations just now, in which either some church or house of a convert has been made the victim

19th June.—At noon to-day as the German Minister and his Interpreter were riding in sedan chairs to get to the Tsungh Yamên and had got just north of the Tai-pai-lou (single memorial arch), suddenly there was heard a shot in the sedan chair of the Minister, due to the revolver which he carried as personal protection going off accidentally (!) The soldiers on guard at the Belgian Legation suspecting that the shot had been fired by our Government troops, the foreign soldiers immediately opened their gates and began firing on passers-by. The Belgian Legation is just next the Te Hsing-t'ang house. Thereupon our Government troops returned the fire. During the mutual fusilades those in the sedan chairs were hit, the German Minister fatally. This was the beginning of actual hostilities. The Government feeling that, under the circumstances, the matter had got beyond recall, accordingly decided, for the first time, to order out the Kansu Corps to attack the various Legations. I should note that, previous to this date,—on the 14th inst.—a decree had been issued appointing Na T'ung (Manchu) and Haü Ching-ch'êng (both members of the Tsung-li Yamên, the latter President of the Manchurian Railways and ex-Chinese Minister at St. Petersburg) to proceed as High Commissioners to the Foreign troops (en route to Peking to relieve the Legations) to stay their advance. The two Commissioners took with them interpreters, of whom our friend Ma Kung-chén was one. His party got the next day as far as Fêngtai (the repair works of the N. C. Railways, near Peking), when they were arrested by Boxers and led to the Altar of their Patron Saint ("Tsu-Sze," who is supposed to be Kuanti, god of war, who during the present dynasty was created "The Conqueror of the Devil" Fu-mo-ta-ti)—whence we now see the animus of the Boxer rebellion. The Boxers were most hostile with the imperial commissioners and there were cries that the mandarins should be disembowelled and their hearts and livers should be offered before their Patron Saint's altar. The commissioners stood their ground, however, and tried to prove with the Boxers the sacredness of their persons as servants of the Emperor on a special errand; but the Boxer leaders would not listen to the words of the Commissioners and replied:—

"We Boxer patriots only know our Patron Saint and obey his commands. We have no need to ask the Throne for orders (in other words, we only recognise the authority of our leaders through our Patron Saint—obtained through an oracle—and decline to recognise the authority of the Throne). If you two Commissioners are allowed to proceed on your way you will doubtless work with the Foreigners for our ultimate destruction. As you are really Ministers of the Throne it is not 'proper that we should summarily decapitate you; but we will (consult the oracle) ask our Patron Saint for his orders in regard to you."

Three times was the oracle "worked," but no answer came to them, but the fourth attempt seemed to be successful, for the leaders of the Boxers notified the Commissioners:—"Our Patron Saint has pardoned you from death, but we warn you from proceeding further on your journey. You had better return at once to Peking and report matters to the Throne." What a narrow escape from death!

20th June.—At 4 p.m. to-day the Kansu troops began firing on the Austrian Legation from the Prince's Palace Great Street (Wan-fu Ta-chih), north of the Ch'angan Memorial Arch. The noise of the mutual firing from rifles and guns was deafening while the bullets constantly fell all round like rain drops. The firing lasted all night.

21st June.—This morning the firing commenced again with terrific earnestness, and I was trying to find out whether we were in great danger or not. I perceived several Kansu soldiers on top of our western neighbour's house firing into the Austrian Legation. As I feared that the foreign troops might direct their fire on this house also and make it dangerous for us, I, at once took my family—wife, younger sister, and a little son and daughter—and fled with them into Chiao-ming street (also near Legation-street) for safety. At about 1.30 p.m., the Austrian Legation was captured by the Kansu troops, and at about 5 p.m. they began setting on fire the buildings near by. The fire was just south of my house, distant about 150 yards and separated only by a street—the Ch'ang-an street. As night fell the buildings just east of the Austrian Legation, namely, the Imperial Chinese Bank and the Dollar Mint, got on fire, spreading everywhere and illuminating the heavens all night. None of us dared to sleep this night.

22nd June.—As morning broke we could see that the conflagration was spreading east to west, and burning more fiercely than ever, and it seemed that the large Railway School between the Austrian Legation and the Imperial Chinese Bank had also been destroyed. At 9 a.m. to-day just as we were at breakfast we suddenly heard the noise of breaking into our western neighbours houses, followed by rifle shots and then by shouts and cries of men, women, and children. At this moment our servant, Li Yü, came rushing into the room we were in, with pale face and excited manner, and said that Government troops had begun to plunder the neighbouring houses. Both myself and cousin, who was with me, became pale and scared also, and ordered Li Yü that if any one knocked at our gates he was to open them at once and not to wait (for the soldiers) to break in themselves. He was also instructed to talk in a friendly manner to the intruders if they came and take care not to rouse their anger. Shortly afterwards the soldiers came rushing into our house also. Some had come through from our western neighbour's house while other broke in by the front gate. The intruders numbered over twenty in all, armed each one with a rifle, and seemed to be in a most savage mood. I and my cousin with my little son and with my seal of office in hand, met the soldiers outside our guest hall and told them, that this was the residence of a metropolitan official. I said:—"If you all are determind on plunder you are welcome to what we have, but I pray that you will not maltreat and frighten our little ones." No one replied, but they began dragging out the whole contents of our residence into the courtyard. They there broke open all our trunks and boxes, poured out their contents and having taken away of the best of these,—valuable fur clothes, jewellery and money—the party left without further words. Soon after these had left, a second party of soldiers arrived, and having taken the best of what had been left by the first party left us unmolested. Then a third party came and having also taken of the best of the remnants, quietly left, and so on until the 7th or 8th party had come; cleaning up everything we had. All our clothes had been taken and even the banknotes I had secreted on my person were taken by a man who searched me. When we had been cleaned out, the soldiers began knocking at our eastern neighbour, Mr. Ma's house. But Ma appeared to have decided to resist the soldiers. This enraged the soldiers who began to assault the place, climbing the wells and roof tops near by and firing into the house. Bullets fell about plentifully and, during the commotion, taking my little son with me, I escaped to my landlord's house for temporary safety. The cries and shouts had now become more furious and the fusilade more fierce—Mr. Ma's house was now surrounded by a large crowd of soldiers and shrieks and cries for help sounded far and near. A bullet penetrated a window of the room we all were in, and we looked at one another with pale and scared faces. At this moment Mr. Ma's house was set fire to and began to burn fiercely; soldiers were thick in front, rear, right, and left of our street, all intent on pillage. I dared not leave our place as already three corpses were lying about at the front door.

I saw a dead body lying just outside of my landlord's outer guest hall and on examination found it to be that of the son and heir of the Wan family, lying at the east side of this house. Greatly shocked and having no other way of escape, I had to lie on the floor for about two hours to escape flying bullets. In the meanwhile the fire at our eastern neighbour's was burning more fiercely than ever, and at this moment a soldier appeared at the guest hall threatening us with his rifle and demanding money from us on pain of immediate death, whereupon an old female servant of my landlord prostrated herself before the soldier, praying for mercy and saying that our all had already been taken by former parties of soldiers. The soldier then went off apparently disappointed. After a while the sounds of pillage gradually died out in our vicinity, and, taking advantage of the lull, my cousin and I tried to escape to the Grand Secretary Sun Chia-nai's house (now retired). We had gone but a few steps from our house, when we were suddenly stopped by some soldiers who presented their rifles and threatened to shoot us. By this time all the front gates of houses in the neighbourhood were standing wide open and we speedily sought refuge in one of these. Fortunately no one pursued us. Here we stayed a while and seeing no one in the neighbourhood we again ventured to start. Again were we prevented in the same manner, after going forward a few steps, and again did we seek safety in a house near by. This last house belonged to a Li family and was only five doors away from our own. We found the father of the Li's and his sons weeping bitterly who informed us that of nearly Tls. 150,000 worth of money, jewellery, antique curios, etc., they had been plundered of everything. As we two were debating what to do next, the wind suddenly changed, and the fire spreading eastwards threatened the house of the Li's. The inmates were in a dilemma; troops outside prevented escape while the conflagration was getting closer and closer. At this moment there arose the cry that a force of Government cavalry under its Colonel was coming from the westward and this decided us to bolt back to our house at the east of the street. Shouts and cries became louder and with them the sound of a large body of cavalry approaching. It appeared that the Government troops had just then heard of the pillaging, incendiarism, and rioting of the Kansu troops and had now come to restore order. I therefore took advantage of this to make my way to Grand Secretary Sun's house. As I arrived I saw H.E. who had just got into an open sedan-chair—the chair in which he is allowed by special edict to ride when going to the Palace—proceeding on his way to visit the Grand Secretary Hsü Tung (the Heir-apparent's second Tutor and known to be the most bigoted of Conservatists at Court). H.E. Sun seemed to be greatly agitated and scared. His house had been pillaged during the night also and had been treated worst of all. I found his son with only his underclothes on. He even had been stripped of everything by the riotous soldiers. They had threatened H.E. with their rifles while demanding money, etc., and had taken everything—even to furniture and the couple of carts and mules H.E. kept for travelling about. These last were used by the soldiers to carry away their plunder. About this time I saw that the conflagration in the vicinity of my house had nearly died out, but I decided not to return and determined to stay in H.E.'s house for the night, anyway. It was then only about 2 o'clock p.m. Shortly afterwards I heard people saying that orders had been issued from the headquarters of the Government troops that any one found looting would be summarily decapitated and his head hung at the scene of looting, and in a few minutes a few cavalry soldiers appeared with some heads which they hung up at the gates of H.E.'s house as a warning to all. This had a good effect for immediately the looting soldiers began to disappear. Upon this I determined to return home again and returning on foot I beheld numbers of corpses strewing the streets and getting to my house learned that all our neighbours had lost some of their number by the bullets of the plundering soldiers; I also learned that the mother of Wên, the Censor, had also been killed during the riot by some soldier's sword. In Mr. Ma's house—the place which first began to resist—two persons had been killed, one, the door-keeper, and the other the coachman. At our western neighbour's, three had been slain—the heir of the house and two servants. We were thankful that we had escaped with our lives; nor was any one wounded. This was really because we made no resistance and quickly opened our gates to the soldiers, and also because we had the previous day first removed our women and children to a place of safety (to the Chiaoming-street.) Had they been present I am afraid that their cries and terror would probably have angered the soldiers and mischief followed. How exceedingly fortunate we were you can easily imagine.

As for these riots and looting, it was entirely unexpected by everyone here, for although we knew that robbing and outrages were frequent both inside and outside Peking, our quarter being surrounded by a cordon of Government troops we thought ourselves perfectly safe from trouble, and so no one had sought safety in flight and removal elsewhere. Hence this calamity came down like a thunderstorm in a clear sky. On the contrary, many families had sought safety by moving into our quarter. What was our astonishment then that the trouble should have actually sprung from regular troops who indeed proved to be more savage and more insatiable than even the local outlaws and ruffians. I hear also that the residence of the Grand Secretary Hsü T'ung and the palace of Prince Su were also plundered and that after being looted clean they were set fire to. The troops seemed to fear nothing. The troops who commenced the pillaging were the Kansu men of Tung Fu-hsang. Then

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troops belonging to Jung Lu's own personal command (the Middle Corps of the "Wu-wei Army," Grand Army of the North) came on the scene to restore order and preserve the peace; but instead of doing this they actually joined the Kansu men in getting loot! Eventually it was found that Jung Lu's own army were the greatest sinners in this respect.

23rd June.—Early this morning Jung Lu arrived in person at Grand Secretary Sun's residence to investigate the matter of the recent outrages and pillage. Taking advantage of this I followed Jung Lu's cavalcade to try and get to Ma Kung chên's house, east of this street. At night we began to see Taichi-chang, and the houses near Legation street on fire. I mounted the top of Ma Kung-chên's house and had a good view of the conflagration, the flames spreading along and looking like a long fire dragon.

24th June.—Commencing from to-day the sound of rifle firing has never ceased, springing up on all sides, that in the direction of the Bridge over the Imperial Canal (Yüho-chi'ao) being the most severe. Behind the Hanlin Academy is the British Legation, and this has been the place of concentration of all the foreign troops there. When the fighting between troops and Boxers against the foreign troops first began, a large number of native Christians made a sortie from the Legation with the object of escaping. They were all armed with rifles and weapons and struck at whomsoever opposed them. Many of the regular troops and Boxers then chased the Christians, and went about hunting for them so that no one could venture on the streets. No mercy was shown to the Christians and wherever found they were at once killed. Some of the houses searched were also set fire to afterwards, and the Christians taken out led to the Lamp-light Market where they were burned to cinders.

27th June.—To-day the British Legation was taken and the foreign troops took refuge in the T'angtze Hutung (lane). The houses in Chiaoming-street had by this time all been burned down to the ground, scarcely any being left standing. At night the firing suddenly became silent. I wonder why?

[End of the Diary.]

THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

Commenting on the defects of the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly Law, a writer in the *Nippon* enumerates the abuses connected with it as follows:—

1.—The extravagant protection afforded by Government to cultivators of leaf tobacco has had the effect of increasing the production of spurious leaf, so much that even an inferior farm could secure to its owners a profit of 30 *yen* per *tan*, whereas in the case of superior farms the profit did not fall short of 75 *yen* per *tan*. In short, tobacco plantations were made more profitable than rice fields.

2.—The system adopted by the Government requires the transport by the cultivators themselves of all the output, in utter disregard of distance or inconvenience. This has naturally led to a diminution in the amount transported, and dealers in the leaf were unable always to depend on fresh supplies. Hence secret transactions became universal.

3.—As the Government's method of sale is the imposition of 100 per cent. upon the original value, dealers of small means find their capital taken up in the form of taxation, and, being thus obliged to curtail the amount of their productive capital, frequently act in contravention of the law.

4.—The serious fluctuations to which leaf tobacco is constantly exposed in regard to compensation have deterred cultivators from selling their stock when the rate of compensation is below the figure previously attained. At all events, the purchase price allowed by Government is not equitable and is greatly disadvantageous to dealers.

5.—Sales are not made freely to dealers, and competition necessarily arises, enhancing values to an alarming extent. The result is conducive to the promotion of speculative transactions on the part of the dealers.

6.—The stock purchased from the Government has frequently been found to be deficient in weight or quantity, while the quality of the leaf has been anything but satisfactory. Thus a bad example has been set to dishonest dealers.

7.—The insignificance of the fees has induced a large number of merchants to engage in speculative trade. The market is thus rendered liable to serious fluctuations.

8.—Since the law, as it now stands, contains no provision except for the control of materials for manufacture, brokers have been enabled to make illegal purchases with impunity.

The abuses enumerated above have been the direct cause of the depression of trade in tobacco, and the fault lies entirely with the Government. The 100 per cent. profit accruing from the monopoly may be extremely satisfactory from a fiscal point of view, but the Government can not escape the imputation of tyranny from an administrative standpoint, as it has caused a number of merchants to violate the law and so impede the progress of the industry. Apart from these circumstances, the most striking feature of the Government's proceedings during the past two years has been the purchase of the leaf at high prices in spite of the market being glutted. The result of this bungling has soon made itself apparent, for in the various monopoly offices throughout the empire the amount of stock which remains unsold at present has reached 2½ million *kwan*. To remedy the evil, the writer recommends the following plans:—(1) Reduction of the *ad valorem* duties to 30 per cent. (2) Imposition of a new tax upon manufactured tobacco at the rate of one *yen* per *kwan*. (3) Increase of license fees to 200 *yen* a year. (4) Manufacturers to be required to set apart 200 *yen* as a reserve according to the amount of their production. (5) Sales of leaf tobacco to be made to dealers or manufacturers at any time on demand. (6) Purchases to be made at each producer's house at reduced rates of compensation. (7) Acceptance of unprepared leaf and appointment of experts to undertake the work of preparation in the various monopoly offices. (8) Experts to be despatched to the various producing districts to give necessary instruction as to the cultivation of best qualities of tobacco and a competitive exhibition to be inaugurated open to the whole empire. (9) Imposition of at least 200 *yen* a year upon licensed brokers and 5 *yen* upon retail dealers.

The adoption of the above programme would augment the revenue by one million *yen*, as may be perceived from the following calculations:—The total receipts from the monopoly during 1899 were about 9,000,000 *yen*. The total output last year was about 15 million *kwan*, the average purchase price per *kwan* being 60 *sen*. The receipts under the proposed system in the form of tax would be 2,000,000 *yen*. The output is estimated at 13 million *kwan*, and the average value per *kwan* would be reduced to 50 *sen*.

Taxes on manufacture at the rate of 1 *yen* per *kwan* would bring in 8,000,000 *yen*. The increase of revenue would thus be 1,000,000 *yen*. It is to be observed that although the amount of license fees might considerably increase under the new arrangements, yet, as the number of dealers would correspondingly decrease, there would be no palpable difference in the accounts between them. At any rate, the scheme can hardly fail to prevent the illegal operations of dealers, whereas the revenue can be secured annually to the estimated amount. It would be beneficial both to government and dealers.

A MOUNTAIN WHITHER THE TRIBES GO UP.

[WRITTEN BY REV. HENRY B. SWARTZ, M.A., FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

About four hundred miles north of Tokyo lies the old castle town of Hirosaki, in the days of feudal Japan the seat of the Daimyo of Tsugaru. It lies in a broad valley rich with rice fields, but walled in on every side by distant mountains. Seven or eight miles to the west, stands the noble mountain, Iwaki San the glory and pride of all the Tsugaru country. Only about half the height of peerless Fuji, it rivals the higher mountain in its perfect shape and majestic proportions, so that its admirers fondly call it "Tsugaru Fuji." Like Fuji it rises at one sweep from the surrounding plain, and has no near neighbours to borrow its beauty or to mar the effect of its perfect cone as it is projected against the sky. Snow-capped in winter and cloud-crowned in summer, Iwaki San stands like a sentinel keeping ceaseless watch over the town at its base. The people of Hirosaki have a right to love it; for it shields them from the cold north-west winds which sweep across from Siberia and makes Hirosaki many degrees warmer that the corresponding western cast. Perhaps, a mingling of this feeling of gratitude with a sense of its beauty made the Tsugaru people take the mountain for an object of worship. Perhaps, the worship began long years ago, when its summit still smoked and the fires now so long extinct, burned brightly in the crater below. In many a Tsugaru home it is still the supreme object of worship, and many a pair of hands are, night and morning, lifted up, placed palms together, before a face bowed in worship toward the mountain.

Long years ago, so long ago that nobody knows just when it did happen, an old woman lived on the side of a little hill near where, years afterward, the town of Hirosaki would stand. It was a very peaceful, quiet spot, no doubt, but one morning when the old woman got up and went out doors as usual a very wonderful thing met her eyes—the friendly hill of long standing was gone and a great mountain towered up in its stead. It was even growing on and up, higher and higher, right before her eyes and the old woman did, in her surprise, just what any one of us would have done, had we been there. She threw up her hands and exclaimed "Oh my, how it grows!" Either the mountain was taken aback by surprise or it got angry at the unlooked for interference; any way it stopped growing that very minute and so the unfortunate woman was the means of arresting what would have grown to a much greater height. For this reason the mountain is said to have a strong dislike for all womankind even to this day, and it shows its displeasure by sending rain whenever a woman attempts to climb it. And yet, according to Tsugara traditions, the mountain was once a beautiful woman, who, persecuted by a wicked man, fled to this part of the country and there died. The poor spirit so molested took its refuge in the little hill and caused it to grow to such a noble height. About half way up the mountain, there is a big rock, called *Oba Ishi* (Nurse stone). This stone, according to the story, is the remains of the lady's old nurse who, hearing of her mistress's transformation, went to see her. On her way to the top she was changed to a stone and there she is to this day, clinging to the breast of the one she had so lovingly brought up. (For all these traditions I am indebted to my friend Mrs. Y. Takasugi.

The first week in the eight month of the old calendar is sacred to Mr. Iwaki. For a week previous the pilgrims have been preparing for the journey to the sacred summit. The men, who are to make the pilgrimage, dwell by themselves, eating neither flesh nor fish and observing the prescribed ablutions in cold water each day. The pilgrim robes must be made ready. These are of white cloth and must not be touched by a woman's hand. The *gohei*, too, must be prepared. These are ordinarily made of stripes of white paper, but those carried by Iwaki pilgrims are made of a certain kind of white wood sacred to this use. A wide plank ten feet long and about two inches thick is made ready, and with steady sweeps of a plane is reduced to long white ribbons, which are attached by one end to the top of a pole. One such plank makes a single *gohei*. When all is ready, the white clothes are put on, the *gohei* are taken up, each borne by a single man; and to the music of fife and drum, the procession sets off. Sometimes in addition to the *gohei*, banners bearing an inscription of adoration and the name of the village are also carried. The time for the pilgrimage is so limited that every minute of it is improved. The sound of the drums wakes us before it is yet light, and all day long from our windows we can see the tops of the *gohei* and the banners as the pilgrims pass along the street near our house, and all through the night we can hear the tramp of many feet, the six lines poetry beating of drums and the pilgrims song:—

Saige saige
Rokko saige
Oyama ni kazudai
Kongo do sa,
Izu ni na no hai
Nanno kimmyocho.

The language is the most extreme form of the Tsugara dialect and resembles the classical Japanese, or the speech of the capital as little as the songs of our negroes resemble the poems of Tennyson.

We go to sleep to be waked by it again, as ever and again the wierd chant grows louder, "*Saige, Saige*—repent, repent," sing the leaders, and borne by many voices comes the response "*Rokko saige* - with the six parts repent." The six parts are the eyes, ears, nose, tongue, body and heart. The meaning in expressed by our, "With all the heart."

Thus far any of us might go, but soon other ideas appear.

"In the honourable mountain,
The eight Gods, unchangeable,
One by one we worship."

The first formula of the chant is pure Shinto, the last is pure Buddhist. In the revival of Shinto which occurred in the earlier days of the present Emperor's reign, a revised version, purified from Buddhist ideas, was prepared and prescribed by the priests, but the people did not take to it and to-day they chant the same old words made sacred to them by generations of use.

For two years in succession I planned to climb the mountain at the time of the annual pilgrimage, but each year something happened to prevent, it so that I cannot tell from personal observation what happens on the summit. The pilgrims carry large cakes of *mochi*-(rice-bread) and in later years, since the introduction of that fruit, they have carried apples as an offering to the god of the mountain. On reaching the summit, they rush up to the image of the god, a stone figure about a foot and a half high, and bowing before it each exclaims "*Tadama*—I have just arrived." The offerings are made and the lips of the image are rubbed with the *mochi* cakes. On the return of the pilgrims, these cakes are divided with their family and friends and eaten as a sort of expression of fellowship, a kind of Shinto communion. A branch of a pine tree is also carried down from the mountain and hung up in the house to protect it against lightening. One night is spent on the mountain and one night at the base. Undoubtedly these pilgrimages

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had their origin, in that sense of sin and guilt which, however overlaid and hidden, is found in every human heart. The pilgrimage is supposed to be over when the summit is reached. The austerity then ceases and licence begins. The women may not climb the mountain, they have been waiting in the village at its foot and the night spent there is a wild level, carried on under the protection of religion.

THE ATTACK ON BLAGOVESTCHENSK.

The *Kobe Herald* gives the following interesting extracts from a letter received in Kobe from a gentleman who, as will be seen, was in Blagovestchensk when the Chinese first attacked the town. The letter is the first to give details of the outbreak of the Chinese-Russian hostilities now proceeding on the borders of Manchuria and Siberia. The writer dates his letter from Vladivostock.

I suppose by this time you will know the cause why communication has been interrupted between Blagovestchensk and this place. I wanted to telegraph to you that Blagovestchensk was bombarded but such telegrams were not received at the telegraph station. When I arrived at Blagovestchensk the city presented the most peaceful aspect and there was nothing whatever to suggest that it would soon be a besieged city. The complete faith the citizens had in their neighbours across the border had lead to the complete withdrawal of the troops and arms. The city was left defenceless. The withdrawal of the troops left it in fact in a most critical position, and we have only to thank Chinese stupidity and cowardice that we have not been sacked. I arrived at Blagovestchensk on Friday evening, July 13th, and went out on business the next day. I expected to call again on several parties and to leave the city a few days afterwards. On Sunday, July the 15th, at 6 o'clock in the evening, every one was amazed to hear that fire had suddenly been opened upon Blagovestchensk from concealed trenches on the opposite side of the river. A steamer was just about to leave the city for Habarovsk with the remaining 300 soldiers. I was just going on board the steamer, to send off my mail, and the principal street, which faces the river, was crowded with men, women and children, the day being a holiday, when all at once volley after volley from rifle and cannon was fired at us. You can imagine what then ensued. The screams and general panic were horrifying. The people were terror-stricken and rushed madly to the rear of the city. In a quarter of an hour in the principal street not one soul was to be seen. The firing from the Chinese shore increased all the time. Soon after all the rifle and ammunition stores were torn open and young and old began to arm themselves with whatever they could get hold of. Residents fought with themselves for the possession of a gun, for the city was left almost as bare of arms as it was of troops. At the hotel where I was staying everybody received a gun and a few cartridges and marched off to the river front, as a Chinese invasion was immediately expected. We were to frustrate any attempt to land. The rifles given out to us were those used in the Crimean War and they are harmless things; however, it was the best the city had, 200 regular soldiers were armed with axes and 300 with guns and the free citizens formed the whole defence of Blagovestchensk. A whole night we stood on watch facing the enemy's fire. Evidently the Chinese, although they kept up a steady fire, were more afraid than the Russians and did not try to cross the river. Thanks to the Chinese not being very good marksmen only a few of us were wounded and two killed, and very little damage was done to the buildings. The next day trenches were dug and the city was surrounded with a cham of guards composed of armed residents. All places of business were closed and a good many of the population left the city and went inland, but soon returned, finding that there was greater danger there than in the city itself

Of course at such a time there was no talk of doing any business. The city was declared under military law on the 16th, hanging being the penalty for any misconduct.

River communication has also been declared interrupted as long as the war on the Amur continues. Finding out that I was only losing time staying there, and that it may become still worse I got permission to leave city by horse. It was a very risky undertaking, but it had to be done, as staying there any longer meant losing time and money, and risking life at the same time. So, after untold difficulties and great dangers and privation, I reached Mikhaelo-Semenofsh, where I met Captain Nikatin who took me to Khabarofsk. I am the first man to leave Blagovestchensk at such a time and think that I have done a good thing in doing so. A good many wanted to do the same but could get no horses and were afraid to undertake the journey.

IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM PEKING.

The *N.-C. Daily News* publishes the following important news from a correspondent at Chefoo:—

Extracts from a letter received from Tientsin will have a special interest for your readers. The messenger who brought Sir R. Hart's dispatch of the 25th of June was one of our college students.

He succeeded in reaching here on the 15th of July, and returned at once to Peking. He was unable to deliver the reply on the 18th or 19th and on the 24th of July returned to Tientsin with a mass of valuable information for the military authorities. He reports them much more closely shut in, though fighting had ceased since the 14th of July. Guns were on the city wall, and on the Peiyuchiao (East of the British Legation.) These bore on the besieged, but had not injured anyone, not having been much used. He heard that a truce for negotiations between the Ministers was declared, and yesterday the Japanese Consul had news that a peace of some sort was being arranged. The Boxers and Tung Fu-hsiang's rabble had been removed from besieging the Legation and only Yung Lu's troops were around it. The French Catholics are still fighting at the mission N.W. of the inner city (Huangch'ing). The dispatches from Conger and Macdonald dated the 4th of July were brought in by a small Shantung boy. The word was that help must come inside of 20 days if at all. The same college student reports having passed the burned buildings at Tungchou. The neighbours were carrying off bricks from the burned buildings. In order to keep the Christian native refugees (about 170 of the American Board Mission) alive, a bakery and laundry had been started in the Mission compound.

The following is the full text of the messages brought through in the manner described:—

Peking, July 21st, 1900.

DEAR RAGSDALE.—Have been besieged in British Legation five weeks under continued fire from Chinese troops. But since 16th by agreement (?) there has been no firing. 50 marines of all nations have been killed and more wounded.

We have provisions for several weeks, but little ammunition. If they continue to shell us as they have done we can't hold out long. Complete massacre will follow. Hope relief can come soon. Glad to hear victory at Tientsin but, regret its terrible cost. Hope you are all safe, and will send cipher message by bearer.

E. H. Conger.

British Legation, Peking, July, 21.

From June 20th to July 16th repeated attacks by Chinese troops on all sides, both rifle fire and artillery, including two 3-inch Krupp guns.

Since 16th July armistice, but cordon strictly drawn, both sides strengthening positions.

We hold at present following line:-200 yards wall Tartar City, South of American Legation, Russian and British Legations, half of Park opposite East of latter, also French and German Legations. All outside this line burnt, and ruins held by Chinese whose barricades are close to ours.

All women and children in British Legation.

Food sufficient for fortnight at most. Ammunition running short.

Casualties to date:—62 killed including Strouts (Captain of Marines), David Oliphant, Warren, and double that number wounded in hospital, including Halliday (Captain of Marines). Rest of Legation all well.

Important that relief force when near should advance rapidly to prevent attack on Legations by retreating Chinese forces.

Yesterday we refused a renewed demand to leave Peking and proceed to Tientsin.

(Signed.) MACDONALD, British Minister.

Tientsin, 27th July, 1900.

The gist of the other messages was that the missionaries were uninjured, but the missions destroyed. The Customs staff and families were uninjured. The Chinese approached the British Minister under a flag of truce, and proposed a cessation of hostilities. The Ministers agreed, provided the Chinese made no advance. Treachery is feared. On the 3rd of July, Captain Myers, American Marines, made a wonderful sortie, capturing guns and standards. He was wounded slightly. The Chinese were also badly defeated when they attempted a night attack. Foreigners hold Legation Street from the French to the American Legation and the British on the North. All are working at barricades, trenches, and fighting, and are nearly worn out. The Chinese seem to be short of ammunition. Our Marines have fought like tigers against fearful odds. Only Chinese cowardice prevented their hordes of savages massacring our nationals.

Later.

The American Consul has received word from the Governor saying that the Imperial Government has declined to send any message to the besieged Ministers except such messages be couched in plain speech without cipher. Since the dispatches of the 24th of July, there is reason to hope that nothing sinister is concealed in this refusal, however unpleasant is its wording. The Imperial Government is not lacking in caution, as well as insane in its rage. Further word from Paoting is ominous to the last degree.

The following is a dispatch from Dr. Coltman of the 20th of June (? July) received here the 31st instant:—"Foreign residents besieged in the British Legation, then under daily fire artillery, rifles Chinese. Fortunately cowardice prevented successful rushes. Our losses 60 killed, 70 wounded. Theirs exceed thousands. No word from outside world. Food plenty, rice and horses. Yesterday flag of truce from Yung Lu, ask Macdonald if willing to make truce. Replied willing, provided Chinese came no closer. Shell firing ceased July 16th. Quiet now. Hope it means relief, having defeated Chinese, is nearing. All exhausted, constant watching, fighting, building barricades, digging trenches, night and day. All Legations except British utterly wrecked by shell and shot.

"Austrian, Italian, Belgian, Holland Legations burned to the ground. British much shattered. American marines still hold vital position on wall commanding Legations, after brilliant sortie 3rd July, Capt. Myers driving back hordes of Kansu troops. Myers slighted wounded, arms, flags captured. Greatest credit due Secretary Squiers whose military education is invaluable. Present dangers treachery possible entry of city by a defeated Chinese army. Intense anxiety early relief."

A letter from the American Minister to Mr. Ragsdale, of date the 25th of July has been duly received.

DR. MORRISON'S TELEGRAM FROM PEKING.

FULL TEXT.

The full text of Dr. Morrison's telegram to the *Times* of the 21st ult. from Peking has been handed to the *N.-C. Daily News* for publication:—

There has been a cessation of hostilities since the 18th, but fearing treachery no vigilance has been relaxed. The Chinese soldiers continue strengthening their barricades round the besieged area, also their batteries on the top of the Imperial City wall; but in the meantime they have discontinued firing, probably because short of ammunition. The main bodies of the Imperial soldiers have left Peking to meet the relief forces.

Supplies are beginning to come in, and the condition of the besieged is improving. The wounded are doing well, the hospital arrangements being admirable. One hundred and fifty cases have passed through the hospital, none septic.

The Tsungli Yamên has forwarded to the British Minister a copy of the dispatch telegraphed by the Emperor of China to the Queen of England, attributing all the deeds of violence to banditti, and requesting assistance to extricate the Chinese Government from its difficulties.

The Queen's reply is not stated, but the Chinese Minister at Washington cables that the United States will gladly assist.

This dispatch to the Queen was sent to the Yamên by the Grand Council on July the 3rd, yet the day before an Imperial edict was issued calling upon the Boxers to continue to render loyal and patriotic services and exterminate the Christians. The edict commanded the Viceroys and Governors to expel all missionaries from China and arrest all Christians and compel them to renounce their faith. There have been other decrees applauding the Boxers, and speaking approvingly of their burning out and slaying converts. Their leaders are stated in a decree to be Princes and Ministers.

On July the 18th another decree was issued showing a complete *volte-face*, due to the victories of the foreign troops in Tientsin, when for the first time, one month after the occurence, allusion was made to the death of Baron Ketteler, the deed being attributed to local brigands, though it was undoubtedly a premeditated assassination done by an Imperial officer, as Mr. Cordes who survives can testify.

Our besieging force at Peking consists of Imperial soldiers of Yung Lu and Tung Fu-hsiang, whose gallantry is applauded in Imperial decrees, though that gallantry has consisted in bombarding for one month defenceless women and children, cooped up in Legation compounds, using shell, shrapnel, round shot, and expanding bullets.

The Chinese undermined the French Legation, which is now in ruins. The French Minister was not present, having fled for protection to the British Legation, the first day of the siege.

The greatest peril we suffered during the siege was from fire, the Chinese, in their determination to burn the British Legation, burning the adjoining Hanlin Academy, the most sacred building in China, sacrificing the unique library, which is reduced to ashes.

The Chinese throughout with characteristic treachery posted a proclamation assuring us of protection, and the same night made a general attack, hoping to

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surprise us unawares. We have still no news of the Petang Cathedral.

The following are our casualties :—

Killed.—British, Captain Strouts, Phillips, Scadding, and two civilians, David Oliphant and Henry Warren, eight.
Italians, seven.
Russians, three, and Mr. Hitroff of the Russo Chinese Bank.
Germans, ten.
Austrians, four, including Commander Thomann of the *Zenta*.
Americans, seven.
Japanese, Captain Ando and five marines, and Nakamura and Kojima, students.
French, M. Herbert, officer, and eight men, M. E. Wagner of the Customs, and M. Gruintgens, engineer.

Wounded—One hundred and thirty-eight, including Capt. Halliday severely, the American Surgeon Lippitt severely, and Capt. Myers. All doing well.

All Ministers, members of Legations, and families in good health. The general health of the community is excellent, and we are contentedly awaiting relief.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Following is the seventieth report of the court of directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders, to be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on Saturday, 18th August, 1900, at noon :—

The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 30 June, 1900. The net profits for that period, including $960,843.56, balance brought forward from last account after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, amount to $3,438,826.01.

In accordance with the intimation given at the last ordinary half-yearly general meeting, the reserve fund of $11,500,000 has been divided into a sterling reserve fund of $10,000,000 and a silver reserve fund of $1,500,000. The directors now recommend the transfer of $500,000 from the profit and loss account to credit of the silver reserve fund, which will then stand at $2,000,000.

After making this transfer and deducting remuneration to directors, there remains for appropriation $2,923,826.01, out of which the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of one pound and ten shillings sterling per share, which at 4/6 will absorb $533,333 33. The difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 1/11⅛. the rate of the day, amounts to $672,949.39. The balance, $1,717,543.29, to be carried to new profit and loss account.

Directors.—Mr. A. McConachie having resigned his seat on leaving the colony, Mr. H. W. Slade has been invited to fill the vacancy. the appointment requires confirmation at this meeting.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Mr. Henderson and Mr. C. S. Sharp.

N. A. SIEBS,
Chairman.

Hongkong 31st July, 1900.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 30TH JUNE, 1900.

LIABILITIES.

Paid-up Capital		$10,000,000.00
Reserve Fund—		
Sterling Reserve	$10,000,000.00	
Silver Reserve	1,500,000.00	
		11,500,000.00
Marine Insurance Account		250,000.00
Notes in Circulation—		
Authorised Issue against Securities deposited with the Crown Agents for the Colonies	$10,000,000.00	
Additional Issue authorised by Hongkong Ordinance No. 17 of 1899, against Coin lodged with the Hongkong Government	1,353,419.00	
		11,353,419.00
Current Accounts—		
Silver	$63,900,416.25	
Gold, £1,874,959.6s. 3d. =	18,744,171.93	
		82,644,588.18
Fixed Deposits—		
Silver	$35,733,130.76	
Gold, £4,035,419.14s. 6d. =	40,339,456.99	
		76,072,587.75
Bills Payable (including Drafts on London Bankers and Short Sight Drawings on London Office against Bills Receivable and Bullion Shipments)		25,250,153.38
Profit and loss Account		3,438,826.01
Liability on Bills of Exchange re-discounted, £4,663,986.2s. 6d. of which up to this date £3,127,200 have run off.		
		$220,509,574.32

ASSETS.

Cash		$26,792,974.52
Coin lodged with the Hongkong Government against Note Circulation in excess of $10,000,000		6,070,000.00
Bullion in hand and in Transit		4,878,482.44
Indian Government Rupee Paper		1,825,530.89
Colonial and other Securities		5,947,808.34
Sterling Reserve Fund Investments, viz—		
£250,000 2¾°/₀ Consols lodged with the Bank of England as a Special London Reserve, at 95	£237,500	$1,900,000.00
£452,000°/₀ 2¾ Consols,		
£70,500°/₀ 2¾ National War Loan, at 90	£470,250	$4,702,500.00
£349,500 Other Sterling Securities standing in the Books, at	£339,750	$3,397,500.00
		10,000,000.00
Bills Discounted, Loans and Credits		74,600,981.72
Bills Receivable		90,183,808.25
Bank Premises		219,858.16
		$220,509,574.32

GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT. 30TH JUNE, 1900.

DR.

To Amounts Written off—		
Remuneration to Directors	$	15,000.00
„ Dividend Account— £1 10/ per share on 80,000 Shares=£120,000 at 4/6		533,333.33
„ Dividend Adjustment Account— Difference in Exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the Dividend is declared, and 1/11⅛, the rate of the day		672,949.39
„ Transfer to Silver Reserve Fund		500,000.00
„ Balance forward to next half-year		1,717,543.29
		$3,438,826.01

CR.

By Balance of Undivided Profits, 31st Dec., 1899	$	960,843.56
By Amount of Net Profits for the Six Months ending 30th June, 1900, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, deducting all Expenses and Interest paid and due		2,477,982.45
		$3,438,826.01
		$3,438,826.01

STERLING RESERVE FUND.

To Balance	$10,000,000.00
By Amount transferred from General Reserve Fund (invested in Sterling Securities)	$10,000,000.00
	$10,000,000.00

SILVER RESERVE FUND.

To Balance	$2,000,000.00
	$2,000,000.00
By Amount transferred from General Reserve Fund	$1,500,000.00
„ Transfer from Profit and Loss Account	500,000.00
	$2,000,000.00

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

CHINA.

Shanghai, August 10.

The *Koelnische Zeitung* announces that Marshal Waldersee is appointed commander of the Allied forces in China.

Woolwich is preparing a large quantity of war stores for China.

Mr. Goschen, in reply to questions in the House of Commons, has stated that the question of reserves of coal and other stores at Hongkong has received most earnest attention.

A Royal proclamation in the *London Gazette* prohibits the export of arms and ammunition to China.

PARLIAMENT PROROGUED.

Parliament has been prorogued.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Dewet with Steyn is reported at Schoeman's Drift. Kitchener is closing round. Heavy fighting was proceeding at Elands River on the 5th and 6th inst. There are no particulars. The Boers have reoccupied the Springs, an important junction commanding the coal-mines.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Aug. 12.

A London telegram dated the 10th inst. says Roberts fears that the Elands River garrison has been captured after ten days' resistance.

Kitchener is pursuing Dewet, who has crossed the Vaal.

THE PHILLIPPINES.

Mr. Jennings Bryan in his speech intimated that if elected his first step would be to give independence to the Phillipines.

AMERICA AND CHINA.

America has sent an ultimatum to the Chinese Government.

CONSPIRACY TO ABDUCT LORD ROBERTS.

Shanghai, Aug. 13.

A grave conspiracy to murder the British officers and abduct Lord Roberts with a relay of horses on the night of the 7th, amid the confusion caused by incendiary fires, has been discovered at Pretoria. Ten conspirators have been arrested.

LORD RUSSELL DEAD.

Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Chief Justice of England, is dead.

AMERICA AND CHINA.

The American message to China—not an ultimatum, as was telegraphed yesterday—insists on the cessation of the attack on the Legations and on Chinese cooperation with the relieving force.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Buller has captured Amersfoort, driving out Christian and Botha with four commandos. The position was a strong one.

Methuen, co-operating with Kitchener, attached and defeated a portion of Dewet's force near Venterstroom.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN CHINA.

Waldersee sails for China in a fortnight.

BELGIUM AND CHINA.

An expeditionary force for China is forming in Belgium.

THE ELANDS RIVER GARRISON.

The captured garrison at Elands River consists of 300 Bushmen and Rhodesians.

CHINA.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CZAR.

Shanghai, Aug. 14.

Replying to M. de Giers' telegram from Peking, the Czar authorises him to leave Peking provided the Emperor or the Government of China guarantee absolute safety. The Czar warns them that they will incur a grave responsibility if any are injured.

MARSHAL VON WALDERSEE.

Great Britain, Japan, and the United States have formally agreed to Marshal von

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Waldersee's assuming the chief command in China; Great Britain conditionally on the other Powers' assenting.

THE PROTECTION OF SHANGHAI.

The Viceroys, including Li Hung-chang, have appealed to the United States to use its good offices to prevent foreigners landing troops at Shanghai.

EXPORT OF ARMS TO CHINA.

Germany has forbidden the export of arms and ammunition to China.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Kitchener engaged Dewet's rearguard yesterday at Lindeque. Methuen is also engaged six miles to the north-west.

Buller is marching towards Ermelo.

THE MINISTERS IN PEKING.

Later.

China has complained to M. Delcassé, the French Foreign Minister, of the delay on the part of the Ministers in accepting the escort offered to them by the Chinese Government. M. Delcassé has replied that the Ministers are unable to leave Peking until the road is safe, and that China ought to prove her sincerity by ceasing to oppose obstacles to the advance of the Allies.

THE VICEROYS' APPEAL.

America has decided to ignore the appeal of the Viceroys with respect to the landing of troops at Shanghai.

THE BOERS.

Methuen has captured six wagons and two ambulances, and afterwards joined Kitchener, the enemy fleeing before them.

A FRENCH STRIKE.

Shanghai, August 15.

A strike of stokers at Marseilles prevents the Messageries Maritimes steamer *Melbourne* from sailing to China.

RUSSIA'S PREPARATIONS FOR CHINA.

Russia continues mobilising troops for service in the Far East on a large scale.

FRENCH TORPEDO BOAT SUNK.

The French destroyer *France* has been sunk in collision with the flagship *Brennus* off Cape St. Vincent. Fifty of the crew were drowned.

AMERICA AND CHINA.

America, replying to a communication with reference to the edict appointing Li Hung-chang to negotiate for a cessation of hostilities, has refused emphatically to negotiate until the demands of the Powers are complied with.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Aug. 16.

Carrington has evacuated Zeerust, concentrating all available forces at Mafeking.

The bulk of Dewet's commando has seemingly eluded the British and will probably join Delarey.

It appears that Carrington made strenuous efforts to relieve the Elands River garrison, and that he attacked Delarey vigorously, but his force was too smal., and he was obliged to retreat, narrowly escaping being cut off.

THE PEKING RELIEF QUESTION.

America has expressed willingness to join in an agreement of the Powers to abstain from hostile demonstrations on condition that China allows a portion of the relief force to go to Peking and escort the foreign community to Tientsin unmolested.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE)

CHINA.

Saigon, August 9.

The English Admiral at Chefoo telegraphs that the combined forces of the Powers, to the number of 12,000, took possession of Hsihow on the 9th. The Chinese fled north, pursued by the Allies, who occupied Pe-tsang.

Saigon, Aug. 12.

The allied troops have occupied Yang-tsun. They had two hundred casualties in the operation.

M. Pichon, French Representative in Peking, has telegraphed to M. Delcassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs, that the Ministers cannot leave Peking with safety unless the allied troops come to fetch them.

Saigon, Aug. 13.

Admiral Courrejolles telegraphs that General Frey and 800 French troops and three batteries form part of the column going to Peking.

A telegram from Berlin announces that General Von Waldersee will leave on the 21st of August to take command of the allied forces in China.

Saigon, Aug. 15.

The allied forces arrived on the 9th at Ho-shi-wu, which is half-way between Tientsin and Peking.

The torpedo destroyer *France* has sunk near Trafalgar, in consequence of a collision with the armour-clad *Brennus*: 3 officers and 44 sailors were drowned.

General Voyron, commander-in-chief, and the troops from Marseilles by the *Polynésien* and the *Melbourne*, have sailed from the port amid acclamations.

The troops of General Frey had a large share in the taking of Pe-tsang and Yang-tsun. The artillery's role was brilliant.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

CHINA.

According to a telegram from Baron Nishi in Peking, the names of the volunteers killed in the fighting are as follow:—

June 25th.—Commercial student, Mr. Nakamura Hidejiro.

July 2nd.—Diplomatic Assistant, Mr. Kajima.

July 6th.—Captain Ando Tatsugoro.

July 24th.—Second Secretary, Mr. Narabara (died of wounds received on June 11th).

St. Petersburg, August 8.

Count Lamsdorf has been duly appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Shanghai, August 9.

The following telegram, dated the 6th instant, has been received from Chunking:—Two thousand five hundred troops of General Ting's command are to arrive here in two weeks and proceed north.

Li Hung-chang has been appointed by imperial decree plenipotentiary to negotiate with foreign Powers for the cessation of hostilities and the restoration of peace. It is therefore supposed that he will remain in Shanghai and open negotiations.

Söul, August 9.

According to a report received by the Korean Authorities 7 Russians and 4 Danes have arrived at An-chiu, fugitives from Liao-tung.

St. Petersburg, August 6.

A telegram from the Governor-General of the Amur says that, after severe fighting, the Russians got possession of Aigan. The Chinese retreated to Chichihal.

Seattle, August 7.

Two American transports with 1,050 troops and 900 horses left this port on the 6th bound for China viâ Japan.

London, August 8.

On the 2nd instant, the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs made a long speech in the House of Commons on Great Britain's foreign policy. After explaining the negotiations that had preceded the despatch of troops by Japan, he said (1) that England, acting in conjunction with the other Powers, would spare no effort to relieve the Ministers in Peking, and that she was actually engaged in that operation; (2) that Great Britain was resolved to restore tranquillity in the Yangtsze; to lend naval and military assistance to the Viceroys for the purpose of establishing order; and to take full measures for protecting Shanghai, whether it was immediately manaced or not, for which purpose a brigade of troops had already received orders to start from India. She was determined to oppose anything like the partition of China, whatever form the operation might take, and there was no reason to suppose that Great Britain's resolve in this matter was opposed to the intention of any other Power. Whatever might be the nature of China's future government, it must be conducted by Chinese for the Chinese. Not only had Her Majesty's Government no idea of converting China into another India, but they were assured that other Powers would be unable to approve such a course. The training of Chinese troops under foreign officers was a policy attended with many perils, and Her Majesty's Government could not endorse it. The Government held that in so far as any responsibility could be fixed for promoting the present disturbance or for failing to suppress it, China should be required to pay an indemnity, but as to the source whence money should be obtained for the purpose, that was a problem for future consideration. It could scarcely be expected that this disturbance would not be followed by great changes, but what Her Majesty's Government hoped was that the Powers would see established in China a Government not opposed to civilized progress.

Shanghai, Aug. 12.

With reference to the news of the 10th instant that a mob had entered the Christian church and various empty houses, and after behaving riotously had been guilty of incendiarism, and had also robbed a pawnbroker's shop, it is now reported that one of the local officials has committed suicide through remorse at not having been able to prevent these outrages.

OFFICIAL TELEGRAMS.

Shanghai, Aug. 13.

The *N. C. Daily News* has a telegram from Chun-king dated the 12th which says that Viceroy K'uei has received from Peking an order to kill all foreigners, and that, though he will not comply with it, he has ordered all the foreigners in the place to take their departure. The telegram adds that soldiers of a low class are assembling at Chun-king. The arrival of Bishop Cassels and 60 fugitives from the interior is daily expected. (Bishop Cassels' head-quarters are at Pao-ming.—ED. *J. M.*). The foreign residents of Chun-king fear to become the victims of some plot and are anxiously hoping for a relief force, which can easily be sent, as there is plenty of water in the river.

A letter from the United States Representative in Peking to the American Consul in Canton, which was despatched from Chi-nan on the 10th, says that the Legations are surrounded by Government troops and in a very dangerous state. Sixty persons

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have been killed and 200 wounded. There are also several sick, but, on the whole, the health of the community is good. Whatever may be the result, the Ministers will hold their ground.

Söul, Aug. 15.

According to news from Pyöng-yang, the inhabitants of Antung, learning that about 1,000 Russians have landed at Takushan, are preparing to withdraw from the district.

Newchwang, Aug 13.

On the 10th Instant, the Russian troops captured three of the Chinese positions at Ta-shi-kian, the Chinese troops retreating in the direction of Hai-cheng. The Russians then proceeded to attack Hai-cheng, which place, together with 5 guns, they captured on the morning of the 12th. The Russian casualties were small. Twenty of their wounded have reached Tientsin.

A telegram from Newchwang *via* Chefoo, dated the 14th (at Chefoo), says that the Russian Consul has been appointed civil governor of Newchwang, the Consular duties being discharged by the Secretary. The Customs officials have agreed to carry on their duties under the Russian flag, but as the customs dues are pledged for a foreign loan, Russia will not include them in the revenue. There is no further fear of disturbance here. Beans are gradually coming in. It would be well if the Japanese merchants and bankers returned at once.

(Received at the War Department.)

Chefoo, Aug. 11.

According to information received from a trustworthy source, the allied forces have captured Nan-tsi-tsun (mid-way between Yang-tsun and Ha-shi-wu) and probably reached Ha-shi-wu during the night of the 9th.

Hongkong, Aug. 13.

One transport from Calcutta with 189 men has passed Hongkong *en route* for North China.

Shanghai, August 14.

The news has been confirmed that Yu Lu was killed in the engagement at Pe-tsang.

Chefoo, August 11.

According to trustworthy information Prince Twan, Chi Hsiu, Kwei Chun, Pu Siu, and Na Tung have been appointed members of the Tsung-li Yamên

Shanghai, August 14.

The Imperial Decree ordering the execution of Hsu Ching-cheng and Yuen Chung said that they had been repeatedly denounced and that their reputation was very bad; also that they were guided by strange and obstinate views in their management of foreign affairs, and that, when received in audience by the Emperor, they behaved in an unbecoming manner. They had not only caused dissensions among officials by their unbridled language, but had also given rise to disputes by their intemperate methods of controversy. For these indescribably shameful proceedings and for the sake of preserving order among officials the two men are sentenced to the severest penalty provided by law, the sentence to be immediately carried out.

The two officials were at once put to death. The decree was from the Empress Dowager and was handed direct to the Department of Military Affairs. The Minister of War knew nothing of the affair until it was concluded.

Kang-chow, Aug. 14.

According to trustworthy intelligence, the Governor of Chekiang, on August 11th, received from the Customs Taotai a telegram to the effect that two British men-of-war had visited Ningpo, and that the commanding officer had informed the Authorities that a British officer would land at each of the ports in the south for the purpose of concerting with the local officials measures for the protection of foreigners.

Shanghai, Aug. 14.

The Secretary of the German Legation in Peking has addressed to the German Consul in Chefoo the following telegram, not dated:—Since the 21st of July there has been no change. The Chinese Government has asked us to leave Peking for the sake of security, but we apprehend that if we leave Peking we shall all be murdered, and we have therefore refused to go until the relief force arrives. We are short of provisions.

Tientsin, August 10th.

The allied forces, leaving Tientsin on the 4th, occupied Pe-tsang on the 5th and Yang-tsun on the 6th. A portion of the Japanese force advanced on the 7th to Nan-tsi-tsun. In the above fight General Ho, commander of the Tientsin trained troops, was killed and General Ma was found missing. Thereafter, the Japanese force became the van, and the Russians, British, and Americans followed in succession, their programme being to reach Tung-chow on the 12th. The French troops remained at Yang-tsun, their transport arrangements being incomplete. The small detachments of German, Italian, and Austrian troops returned to Tientsin. After the fall of Tientsin, the Russians immediately undertook the repairs of the railway, and it will be finished as far as Yang-tsun by the 20th instant.

According to news received from Shan-hai-kwan on the 8th, the Russians were engaged repairing the railway between Tong-ku and Lu-tai. The Russian engineers stated that about 800 railway navvies were to come from Ussuri.

From Chinese sources it is learned that General Li arrived in Peking with 10,000 men, and that after having had an interview with the Empress Dowager he left the city, but his destination is unknown. The same authority alleges that the Empress-Dowager will probably fly to Tai-yuen in Shan-si.

From Lieut-General Yamaguchi.

Tientsin, Aug. 7.

The allied forces advanced yesterday morning (6th) to Yang tsun. The English, Americans, Russians, and French, with a portion of the Japanese infantry and artillery, moved by the left bank of the Peiho, the remainder of the Japanese division moving by the right bank. The enemy, however, were easily driven back by the van of the column on the left bank, so that the column on the right took no share in the fight except to cannonade the main body of the enemy as they retreated to Pao-ti. Moreover, the troops on the right bank were greatly hampered in their advance by the swampy nature of the ground, and for that reason arrived too late to take any part in the actual attack on Yang-tsun. The Japanese had no casualties. This morning (7th) the allied troops were to advance up to Nantsi-tsun, mid-way between Wu-sing and Yang-tsun.

Yang-tsun, Aug. 6.

The Japanese Division pursued the enemy along both banks of the river to-day and occupied Yang-tsun. We had no casualties, although we experienced some resistance. The enemy retreated in all directions from both banks of the Peiho. A mixed force will advance to-morrow to capture Nantsi-tsun.

(From Colonel Akiyama.)

Taku, Aug. 7.

The Land Transport corps has reached Tientsin.

(Place of despatch uncertain.)

Aug. 5.

The allied forces advanced along both banks of the Peiho during the night of the 4th to attack the enemy at Pe-tsang and the Powder Factory. The Japanese troops, on the morning of the 5th, captured the Powder Magazine and Han-kia-shu, and thereafter occupied Pe-tsang and Wan-chwan (a place on the opposite side of the River from Pe-tsang—Ed. *J.M.*) A force is now pursuing the enemy. The enemy mustered over 20,000, and fled in all directions. The Japanese casualties were over 300 of all ranks. Over 300 dead were left on the ground by the enemy.

(From Lieut.-General Yamaguchi.)

Yung-tsun, August 7.

In the fight on the 5th instant the losses on our side were:—Captain Kiuchi of the Infantry killed; Captain Ochiki of the Infantry, Sub-Lieutenant Mogami, Sub-Lieutenant Koseki, Sub-Lieutenant Nishiyama, Captain Inouye, Captain Fukuchi, Lieut. Nakamura, Sub-Lieutenant Nishiyama (different from the above), Sub-Lieutenant Katagiri, Lieut. Yamazumi, Lieut. Yokoyama (cavalry) and Major Yamakawa (artillery), wounded.

August 11.

The Customs Taotai has presented the Foreign Consuls a memorandum from the leading Chinese merchants urging that so long as foreign troops are stationed at Shanghai, there will be a feeling of unrest among the people in the Yang-tsze Valley. The Taotai, in forwarding this memorial, recommends that the number of troops should be reduced to a minimum in order to guard against the spread of the agitation now beginning to prevail.

(From Lieut.-General Yamaguchi.)

Tung-chow, Aug. 12

Early this morning the Division took possession of Tung-chow. The enemy offered no resistance, but seem to have withdrawn to Peking during the night. We have taken stores containing about fifty thousand *koku* of hulled rice, as well as a quantity of arms.

(Received at the Naval Department.)

(From the officer in command of the Standing Squadron.)

CHINA.

Fusan, Aug. 15.

On the afternoon of the 14th the Russian steamer *Niji Novgaratski* (?), carrying a full load of soldiers, signalled that she had sprung a leak. Steps were at once taken to send collision mats and to inquire whether help was needed. She replied that she had struck a sunken rock that morning in a fog, and that as she was leaking badly she desired to be stood by. The *Takasago* was therefore ordered to accompany her to Port Arthur.

London, August 9.

The British Government has forbidden all export of arms or munitions of war to China from the 7th instant.

Hongkong, August 11.

Four transports from Bombay have passed Hongkong *en route* for North China.

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CHESS.

All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

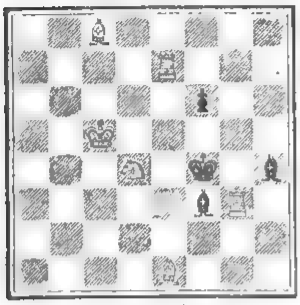
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 484.

Key move R to K B sq.

PROBLEM No. 486.

By C. E. LINDMARK.

Black—Four Pieces.



White—Six Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

GAMES No. 612 AND 613.

Two of the games in the Paris Tournament.

BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

White—Rosen. Black—Schlechter.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	16 RxPch	BxR
2 P KB4	P x P	17 KtxB	Q R5ch
3 B B4	Kt KB3	18 K Kt2	Q Kt4ch
4 P Q4	Kt x P	19 K B2	P Q4
5 B x Pch	K x B	20 Kt KB3	R Bsq
6 Q R5ch	P Kt3	21 Kt Q2	Q R5ch
7 Q Q5ch	K Kt2	22 K K3	R Ksq ch
8 Q x Kt	B Kt5ch	23 Kt K5	Kt B3
9 K B2	R Ksq	24 Kt B3	KtxKt
10 Q Q3	Q R5ch	25 PxKt	Q K5ch
11 P Kt3	PxPch	26 QxQ	PxQ
12 K Kt2	PxP	27 KxP	B Q2
13 Kt KB3	Q Kt5ch	28 R Ksq	B B3ch
14 K B2	B Q3	29 K K3	R K3
15 B R6ch	KxR	Resigns	

White lost the game on the fifth move with the unsound sacrifice of the Bishop.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Showalter. Black—Tschigorin.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	19 Castles	Kt Kt4
2 P QB4	Kt QB3	20 KtPxP	KtxBP
3 Kt KB3	B Kt5	21 BxKt	RxB
4 P K3	P K3	22 PxP	QxKP
5 Kt B3	B Kt5	23 R Q4	P B4
6 B Q2	KKt K2	24 R Q2	QR KBsq
7 P QR3	BxQKt	25 P Kt3	Q B2
8 BxB	Castles	26 Q Qsq	R Ksq
9 P R3	B R4	27 Q K2	P Kt4
10 P KKt4	B Kt3	28 KR Qsq	R K2
11 P KR4	B K5	29 R Q8ch	K R2
12 R KKtsq	P B3	30 R QKt8	Kt K3
13 P R5	Q Ksq	31 Q Kt4	PxP
14 Kt Q2	P KR3	32 QxP	Kt Q5
15 KtxB	PxKt	33 Q R8	Kt K7ch
16 Q B2	P B4	34 K Kt2	RxRP
17 B R3	Kt Qsq	35 R Q6	Resigns
18 P Q5	Kt B2		

The defence is Tschigorin's own: it gives an irregular game, suitable only to his style, and could not be played by anybody else. He had a fine game at the adjournment, Showalter, inclosing his thirty-second move Q takes P, in the envelope. Tschigorin should have won but for the faulty 34...R takes RP. He should have played 34...Q takes P, which wins in all variations.

Writing on the subject of the proposed China League for the collection and dissemination of accurate information in a popular form, Mr. Archibald Colquhoun gives £70,000,000 as the total foreign interest of the British Empire. The interest of the British Empire is over 60 per cent. of the total, or £42,500,000. Of the shipping interest, Britain's share is 60 per cent., and China has nearly 25 per cent. of the remainder. Last year the foreign trade of China increased by no less than £14,000,000.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Aug. 11th:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	18,502,530
Amount of convertible notes issued	207,114,688
Government deposits	48,520,617
General deposits	5,314,565
Exchange liability	53,058
Total	309,525,460

CR.	
Discount notes	81,401,613
Foreign discount notes	12,026,898
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	63,075,050
Exchange liability	2,057,150
Government bonds	52,502,563
Property	2,144,436
Bullion and Specie	14,317,747
Total	309,525,460

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	207,125,130
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	70,539,949
Silver	3,333,334
Total	73,873,283
Securities:—	
Government bonds	29,090,421
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	10,971,470
Commercial notes	71,189,956
Total	133,251,847

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	640,478
Silver	—	668,666
General loans	—	299,149
Government deposits	—	1,593,758
General deposits	—	1,522,100

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich 1	Sa. Aug. 18
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 2	W. Aug. 22
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Yarra 3	W. Aug. 22
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 4	Sa. Aug. 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Aug. 27
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 5	Th. Aug. 30
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. Sept. 3
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Sept. 3
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Su. Sept. 9

1 Left Shanghai on the 9th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 17th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 16th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 11th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Aug. 18
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W. Aug. 22
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Aug. 23
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa. Aug. 25
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Aug. 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	F. Aug. 31
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Sept. 3
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. Sept. 5
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Sept. 10

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 11th Aug.,—Kobe, 9th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Goodwin, British steamer, 2,832, A. Jackson, 11th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 9th Aug., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Wm Watt, 11th Aug.,—Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 11th Aug.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,856, W. Thompsen, 11th Aug.,—Hakodate, 9th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Purnea, British steamer, 2,127, J. B. Pearson, 11th Aug.,—Madras via ports, 2nd Manila, 4th Aug., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Amoy, German steamer, 663, Wolf, 11th Aug.,—Cebu, P.I., Sugar.—J. Puig.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 11th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, 5th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, C. H. S. Tocque, 11th Aug.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 10th Aug., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Nagakado, 12th Aug., Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Prometheus, British steamer, 3 583, Robt. Day, 12th Aug.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 11th Aug., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 13th Aug.,—Vancouver, B.C., 30th July, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 13th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 26th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Maria de Larrinaga, British steamer, 2,578, J. A. Harrison, 13th Aug.,—New York via ports, and Manila, 5th Aug., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Thomas, U.S. Army Transport, 3,653, W. B. Buford, 13th Aug.,—Manila via Nagasaki.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 13th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 12th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Java, British steamer, 2,733, G. W. Gordon, 13th Aug.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 12th Aug., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

County of Edinburgh, British ship, 2,078, Tode, 13th Aug.,—New York via Shanghai, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,307, M. J. Curnow, 14th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 12th Aug., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S. Kawamuro, 14th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, 8th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 14th Aug.,—Kobe, 12th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kubo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,164, Suda, 15th Aug.,—Shimonoseki, General.—N. Y. K.

Algoa, British steamer, 4,897, F. G. Hansford, 16th August,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 14th August, General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Ayr, British steamer, 1,955, W. H. Gibson, 16th August,—Christmas Island 30th July, Phosphate.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,201, H. Takeda, 16th August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Geier, German gunboat, 1,700, Peters, 16th inst.—Acapulco via Honolulu.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 16th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 16th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 10th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Alesia, German steamer, 3,533, Knuth, 10th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 10th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,214, E. W. Haswell, 10th Aug.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kut Sang, British steamer, 1,495, R. C. D. Bradley, 10th Aug.,—Moji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Wewnar, German steamer, 3,176, E. Prehn, 11th Aug.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 11th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,663, S. Stehr, 11th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Solace, U.S. Navy Transport, 2,362, Capt. Winslow, 11th Aug.,—Guam, Honolulu, and San Francisco.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J. McKenzie, 11th Aug.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Goodwin, British steamer, 2,832, A. Jackson, 12th Aug.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Takasago Maru Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 12th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J Campbell, 13th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 13th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 13th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 13th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Wm. Watt, 13th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 14th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S Co.

Thomas, U.S. Army Transport, 3,653, M. B. Buford, 14th Aug.,—San Francisco.

Purnea, British steamer, 2,127, J. B. Pearson, 14th Aug.,—Madras via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Dorothy, British schooner, 21, Johnson, 14th August,—Guam, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,307, M. J. Curnow, 15th Aug.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Muke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S. Kawamuro, 15th Aug.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Nagakado, 15th Aug.,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Kuho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,164, S. Suda, 16th Aug.,—Kobe, 16th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 16th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 16th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Purnea*, from Manila:—Dr. J. R. Waggener, Mr. and Mrs. Juan M. Rodriguez and child, and Mr. B. Rodriguez, in cabin

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Greenburg, Mr. and Mrs. Cohn, Mr. and Mrs. Koplin, Mr. Ip Lam, Mrs. Ip Wo, Mrs. Wong, Mrs. Ho, Miss Fletcher, Mr. P. L. R. Goodhoop, Major Duce, Capt. Murray, Mr. A. G. Pereiara, Miss Ribiro, Mr. Yakano, Mrs. Yamamoto and amah, Mr. G. Kondo Master Ip Ping Wun, Mr. Kung Mah Koi, Mr. and Mrs. Hatabe, Mr. C. D Partridge, Miss Chanlar, Mrs. Elliot, Mr. G. Johamsen, Mr. Y. Hellyer, Mrs. Remedios, Miss Remedios, Master Remedios, and Mr. Hubbard Taylor Smith and servant, in cabin; 17 on deck.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via ports:—Mr. F. T. Gause, Mrs. F. T. Gause, Mr. A R. Morris, Mr. R. W. Effex, Mr. K. Nishimura, Mr M. Abe, Mr. O. Nionoya, Mr. W. E. Thurston, Mrs. W. E. Thurston, Mr. T. Wada, Mrs. L. W. Washington, Mr. Y. Miasawa, Mr. L. W. Washington, Miss L. Adam, and Miss A. Adam, in cabin. For Kobe—Mr. K. Nishino, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. W. R. Allison, and Mr. H. C. Collins, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan* from Vancouver, B.C.:—Lieut. Akiyama, Mr. W. H. Anderson, Rev. D. L. Anderson, Mr. T. Asasama, Mr N. A. Black, Mr. E. Blohm, Mrs. Bunt, Mr. Thos. R. Brownlee, Mr. S. Ban, Miss Cornish, Mr. A. J. H. Carhll, Mr H. A. T. Currie, Capt. Des Voeux, Mr. C. Ewens, Dr. Genthe, Sir Walter Hillier, K.C.M.G., Mr. Isaacs, Miss Mabel Isaacs, Miss Bella Isaacs, Mr. K. Ishizumi, Mr. Gaston Kahn, Mr. C. H. Mearls, Mr. R. J. Money, Mr C C. Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. Playfair and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. Schell, Miss Sutherland, Mr. R. Tatsui, Mr. G. C. Vanderkieft, Mr. W. W. Yen, Mr. Villetard de Laguerie, and Mr. C. Pilkington, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. R. A. Dowler, Mr. C. L. F. Duhain, Mrs. A. Tyler, Miss E. Harris, Dr. F. A. Haker, Mr. G. Sutherland, Mr. and Mrs. R. Wade, child and amah, Mr. T. E. Evans, Miss Howard, Mr. E. A. Sargent, Mr. T. H Culty, Mr. A. H. Alburtson, Mr. C. Alburtson, Mr. C. Schroter, and Mr. W. J. Schroth, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. W. G. Hall and Mr. W. A. Ramsay, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. C. Thorn, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Snow, Miss Norma Snow, Miss Ellen Snow, Mrs. Randolph, Miss E. Alen, Miss B. Alen, Mr. F. Berbs, Mr. W. A. Harding, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Solquist, Rev. and K. S. Stokke, Mr. Pechtnoff, Mrs. Monteith, Miss L. F. Kidwell, & 2 Japanese maids, and Miss Corbin, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* from Hongkong via ports —Mrs. Rolfe and infant, Miss Underwood, Mrs. Payne, Miss Egerton (2), Mr. A. W. Brewin, Mr. C. E. A. Hance, Mr Behrendt, Mr. Tabbah, Mr. W. Dobie, Miss N. Warr, Mr. A. R. Pattison, Mrs. B. H. McCalla, Mrs. Burnhardt and child, Miss McKenna, Mrs. E. C. Pacy, Mr. M. Naruse, Mrs. H. J. Paul, Mr. and Mrs. Saxton, Mr. Lofoog, Mr. C. S. Downs, Dr. Kemple, Mr. F. M. Jonas, Mr. F. H. Olmsted, Mrs. Brutton and child, in cabin. For Vancouver:—Mr. and Mrs. Aitken, Rev. D. McIver, Miss C. M. Ricketts, Mr. A. Wright, Mr. J. M. Underwood, Lieut. G. R. L. Edwards, R.N., Rev. G. W. Greene, Mrs. and Miss Greene and 2 children, Mr. F. H. Kew, Rev. Swan, wife and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Davis, Mr. J. A. McKay, Mr. H. Benening, Miss A. Lman, Mrs. Allan and child, Rev. F. Flynn, R.N, Lieut. the Hon. Forbes Sempill, R.N., Lieut. C. M. Sinclair, R.N., Mr. Drummond Alley, Capt. Limpus, R.N., and valet, Mr. and Mrs. Holmstroom and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. Sama, Rev. and Mrs. Haden, and 2 children, Commander Beatty, R.N. and valet, Lieutenant A. E. Silvertop, R.N., Rev. and Mrs. McKenzie, and children, Mrs. Edwards, child, and Amah, Dr. and Mrs. Menzie, and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. G. Clarke, Mr. D. C. Campbell, Rev. and Mrs. Swallen, and 3 children, Rev. and Mrs. Tague, and 3 children, Master M. Lacy, and Mr. F. E. Barto, in cabin; 10 Second Class and 181 in steerage.

DEPARTURES.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Low Chong, Mr. H. C. Collins, Mr. A. E. McGlew, child and amah, Mr. K. Nishino, Mr. Geo. Philip, Mr. Hub. T. Smith, Mr. Y. Y. Sang, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. A. Adam, Mr. L. D. Adam, Mrs. L. D. Adam, Mrs. C. E. Alfred, Mrs. Adrian Alfred, Mr. R. E. Abenheim, Mr. F. J. Bardens, Mr. M. J. Egan, Capt. O. W. Farenholt, Mr. Hugh Gunn, Mr H. S. Goddard, Mr. A. Haase, Mr. O. Maxon, Mr. R. D. Paine, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Miss M. Toepke, and Capt. W. Walker, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, for Australia via ports —Lt. Com. W. Braunersreuther, U.S.N., Capt. M. Flaherty, Lieut. J. C. Patton, U.S.A., Mr. and Mrs. Ackland, Mrs. Taft, Miss Taft, Master Robert Taft, Mrs. and Miss Wright, Mr. J. C. Brown, Mr. C. Von Osten, Mr and Mrs. Edwards, Miss Herrow, Mrs. and Miss Moore, Mrs. and Miss Gumnow, Mr. and Miss Stratton, Mr. H. Gardener, Mr. E. L. Vail, Mr. L. A. Vail, Mr. and Mrs. B. Smyth, Mr. J. F. James, Miss Mullay, Miss Burns, and Mr. and Mrs. T. Funamoto, in cabin; Mr. A. G Vaclavinsky, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Tanaka, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Weimar*, for Europe via ports —Mr H. Dicke, Mr. Amthor, Dr. Kempte, Mr. C. Brenner, Mr. C. M. Cady, Mr. A. B. Hoff, Miss A. Cooley, Mr. E. H. Scheibler, Dr. and Mrs. Vogelsang, children and governors, Mr. W. Stringer, Mr. and Miss Weir, Consul Dr. and Mrs. Kruger and children, Mr. W. Drosemeier, Prof. Dr. G. Volkens, Mr. Chas. B. Kaempf, Dr. E. Kaempf, Mr. C. Weinberger, Prof. R. G. Watkins, and Pastor Schiller, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kanagawa Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. Y. Takekoshi, Mr. and Mrs. T. Masao and baby, Capt. R. Dauncey, Mr. and Mrs. Bently, Mr. G. T. Hare, Mrs. Brady, Madam Marie Muller, Mr. T. Sawada, and Mr. R. Kajima, in cabin; Mr. M. P. Ferguson, Mr. S. Swaminadham, Mr. S. Akiyama, Mr. S. Iwasaki, Mr. K. Nonami, and Mr. S. Ikeda, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Bousheld, Mrs. Bousfield, Dr. E. H. Baldock, Mr. J. C. Bentz, Mrs. N. E. Bryant, Miss A. Bryant, Miss F. Bryant, Miss B. Bryant, Mr. A. L. Coombs, Mrs. A. L. Coombs, Mr. S. J. Davis, Miss Dr. J. I. Dow, Mr. Erie Vernon Fraser, Miss Helen Galloway, Mr. J. Goforth, Mrs. J. Goforth, Master P. Goforth, Miss H. Goforth, Master Goforth, Miss S. A. Godfrey, Mr. M. H. R. Harris, Mr. T. Hata, Mr Chas. R. Head, Rev. S. D. Holmes, Mrs. S. D. Holmes, Miss E. Holmes, Miss L. Holmes, Master H. Holmes, Capt. Geo. E. Ide, U.S.N. Mr. Henry Jensen, Mr. C. R. Joy, Baron N Kanda, Mr. S. M. Leake, Mr. B. M. Leake, Mr. J. P. McCoy, Miss M. J. McIntosh, Miss Lily Meiners, Mr. Geo. Michey, Mrs. J. Oakman, Mr. E. T. Osborn, Mr H. C. Perkins, Mrs. H. C. Perkins and maid, Miss Perkins, Miss Mabel Perkins, Miss F. Perkins, Master Cleveland Perkins, Miss Ruth Perkins, Miss M. A. Pyke, Mr. Donald W. Rich, Miss Doris A. Rich, Mr. S. Segawa and servant, Mrs. J. A. Shimmen, Mr. H. Schuchard, Miss G. Taft, Mr C. B. Tyler, Mr. Toorizen, Mrs. H. F. Walker, Mr. H. Walker, and Miss R. E. Walker, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr G. A Caldwell, Mrs. Caldwell, 2 children and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. Kershaw, Mr. R R. Gailey and native servant, Dr. C. J. Decker, Mr. and Mrs. Languet, Mr. J. Trost, Mr. J. Tenner, Mr. and Mrs. Niclassen, child and nurse, Mr. R. B. Allen, Mr. E. J. Ezra, Mr. A. Vopel, Mr. Page, Mrs. C. J. Dieker and child, Mr. Charlestown, Mr. M. Russell and 2 children, Mr. M. Baggallay, in cabin.

REPORTS

The British steamer *Doric*, Capt. H. Smith, R.N.R., reports —Hongkong, Amoy, Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe arriving at Yokohama Aug. 16th, at 1 p.m.

The British steamer *Coptic*, Capt. J. H. Rinder, reports:—On Wednesday, August 8th, in Lat. 32.44 North and Long. 168.53 East met and spoke the three masted schooner *C. A. Thayer*, of San Francisco, from Fiji Islands.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

In regard to yarns, dealers are waiting for lower prices, but probably with the cool weather demand will revive. No change in shirtings, but a slight enquiry for fancy cottons and woollens.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirting 8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.30 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ..	2.80 to 5.00
	PER YARD
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.21 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD
Flannels	Y.0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.20 to 11.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ...	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	1.45 to 1.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	Y 170.00 to 175.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	170.00 to 185.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2, 80, Gassed	353.00 to 365.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS

American Middling	27 *yen*
Indian Broach	24
Chinese	25.00

METALS.

Rather more enquiry, especially for tin plates and corrugated iron sheets.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward ...	Y.6.00 to 6.50
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 7.00
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.50 to 14.00
Wire Nails, assorted	8.00 to 8.50
Tin Plates, per box	8.00 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅛ to 1½ inch)	7.00 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

A slight advance.

American	$2.86
Russian	2.80
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

Hongkong refined active and prices firm.

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	Y.5.30 to 6.10
Brown Manila	5.70 to 7.00
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined	8.00 to 9.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Holders resist any further decline in prices, and quotations have accordingly remained very steady for the last few days, an advance of *yen* 5 to 10 per picul being even obtained. At the close, however, the market is again quiet, and holders show more willingness to accept offers.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	0 20
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	Y.980 Nominal
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	835 to 845
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse.	815 to 825
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	860 to 805
Re-reels—No. 1	840 to 845
Re-reels—No. 1½	820 to 830

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Re-reels—No. 2	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	860 to 870
Kakedas—No. 1½	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 2	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2½	770 to 780

WASTE SILK.

A small business doing. The present stock is estimated at 5,000 piculs, viz. Noshi, 1,930; Kibiso, 2,700; peerced cocoons, 30; sundries 340.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	160 to 140
Noshi—Filatures, Good	140 to 130
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	145 to 135
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	135 to 130
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	130 to 120
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	110 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	105 to 100
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	75 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshiu Good	
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	

TEA.

Prices continue very firm, with a good enquiry. Third crop leaf, which is now coming in, compares unfavourably with last year's picking.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	39 & upwards
Choice	37 to 38
Finest	35 to 36
Fine	33 to 34
Good Medium	31 to 32
Medium	29 to 30
Good Common	27 to 28
Common	25 to 26

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, August 17.

Silver from London ¼ lower and discount again easier (a) 4 per cent. and 3⅞ per cent. per 6 and 3 mos. paper respectively. Local raters continue as they were and close for the mail per steamers *Empress of China*, *Ernest Simons*, and *Doric* as under:—

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞ @ ⅛
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 @ ⅜
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255
— Private 4 months' sight	261 @ 1½
— — 6 months' sight	262½ @ 3
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅜ @ 1
Germany—Bank sight	207
— Private 4 months' sight	212½ @ 13½
Hongkong—Bank sight	*½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight	*2½% dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 71½
— Private 10 days' sight	* 73½
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	28 ⅛

* Nominal.

Later.

Telegrams from London up to yesterday's date quote —

Consols .....£99⅛=£1 higher.
Japan Loan .....£79½=10/ higher.
China Loan .....£76=£2 or £3 higher.

These figures indicate an improved state of things during the last week.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, August 16.

Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Offers are wanted for Oriental Hotel shares. Helms are obtainable at par. Offers of Grand Hotels are wanted, Bretts have buyers at *yen* 9.25.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107. Brett & Co. debentures are obtainable at par.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works	210 Sales.
Grand Hotel	235 Sales.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	95 Sales.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Sellers.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 16.

Breweries are obtainable at *yen* 150. Engine and Iron Works can be had at *yen* 210. Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 230. Oriental Hotels—Offers are wanted for old and new shares. Helms are obtainable at par. Langfeldts can be had at *yen* 95. Laundries have sellers at par.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108. Laundry debentures are obtainable at par.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	210 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	230 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 N.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12 50	500 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 B
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	95 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	50 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	108 St.
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	108 Sa.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	101 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	108 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N

ONE NIGHT TREATMENT FOR SORE HANDS

Bathe and soak the hands, on retiring, in a strong, hot, creamy lather of CUTICURA SOAP. Dry, and anoint freely with CUTICURA Ointment, the great skin cure and purest of emollients. Wear, during the night, old, loose, kid gloves, with the finger ends cut off and holes cut in the palms. For red, rough, chapped, and discoloured hands, dry, fissured, itching, feverish palms, shapeless nails with painful finger ends, this one night treatment is simply wonderful.

FOR BABY'S SKIN Scalp, and hair, no other soap is so cleansing, purifying, and beautifying as CUTICURA SOAP, the most effective of skin and complexion soaps, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery. For infantile rashes, chafings, inflammations, and eruptions, for crusted, itching irritations of the scalp, with dry, thin, and falling hair, for red, rough hands with shapeless nails, and simple blemishes of infancy, when assisted by gentle anointings with CUTICURA Ointment, it is absolutely without a rival.

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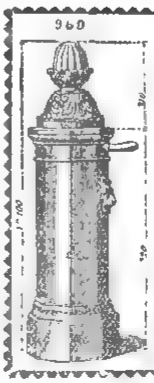

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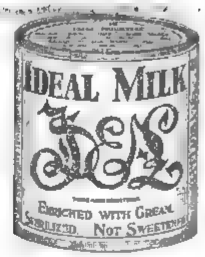

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same, and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 25TH, 1900.

BIRTHS.

At Nakayamate-dori, Kobe, on the 17th inst., the wife of E. H. SUMMERS, of a Son.

On the 19th inst., at Bluff, No. 106, Yokohama, the wife of H. J. HOLM, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

On the 21st August, at Lyons (France), J. F. VARENNE, of the firm Varenne & Co., and father of Mr. F. Varenne, late of Yokohama.

On 23rd August, FREDERICK TOWNLEY, in his 61st year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Chinese Court has fled to Si an in Shensi.

THE war is gradually drawing to a close in South Africa.

THE gales of the past week did great damage in the Southern Prefectures.

MESSRS. BRETT & Co., Yokohama, declare a dividend of 10 per cent. for the year.

AN Amateur Dramatic Club has been started in Yokohama, an influential committee being elected.

A COOLIE named Adaka Kumakichi hanged himself on the morning of the 20th inst. at Tobe.

PEKING was occupied by the Allies on the 14th inst. The Ministers and foreign community were all saved.

THE great strike of dockyard hands still continues at Marseilles, paralyzing trade and stopping the dispatch of troops.

THE Japanese otter-hunting steamer *Seiho Maru* has been captured by a Russian war-vessel in the Behring Sea. She is charged with poaching.

ONE hundred and nineteen warships have been mobilised for the forthcoming manœuvres in connection with the British Navy.

THE British steamer *Jason* 12,871 tons, belonging to the Holt Line, is about to pass into the hands of the Akita Steamship Company.

ON Saturday afternoon a young man, diving from a height into the sea at Yamashita, Yokohama, struck some timber, and was instantly killed.

THE Japanese fishing boats *Kaiun Maru*, *Kiho Maru*, and *Kokoku Maru* have been seized off Kamchatka, where they were fishing without passports.

MR. OTANI KAHEI visited the U. S. Naval Hospital at Yokohama on the 20th instant and presented the wounded officers and soldiers with boxes of tea.

MR. FREDERICK TOWNLEY, the senior partner in the firm of Lane, Crawford & Co., Yokohama, died on Thursday night. The funeral took place this morning.

SOME handkerchief-stitchers of Yokohama have been pawning handkerchiefs belonging to various firms to the value of about 800 *yen*. Three of them have been arrested.

FOUR young fellows were arrested for throwing stones at a train near the tunnel between Totsuka and Hodogaya on the afternoon of the 17th inst. Heavy fines were imposed.

DYSENTERY daily increases in Kanagawa Prefecture. Fifty-seven new cases were reported on the 20th inst. The total is now 1,534, and 611 are under medical treatment.

SEVENTY carpenters left Kobe for Ujina a few days ago and will proceed to China to erect barracks for the Japanese troops at Peking. They will be paid 1.30 *yen* per day.

THE plague patient from the O. & O. *Coptic* died at the Isolation Hospital, Yoshida Shinden, Kobe, at 3 o'clock on Sunday morning. The remains were immediately cremated.

IT is gratifying to many to know that the prospects are that the French wine crop this year will be a famous one. The quantity is estimated to be 55,000,000 hectolitres, as against 48,000,900 last year

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha's new steamer *Tairi Maru*, built at Kawasaki Dockyard had its trial trip on the 22nd inst., and afterwards left for the Yangtze. She was insured for *yen* 300,000 in the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company.

THE Hon. W. W. Rockhill, the U.S. Special Commissioner to China, was a through passenger by the *America Maru*. The capture of Peking and the safety of the U.S. Minister, His Ex. Mr. Conger, simplifies his work considerably.

STEINITZ, the dead chess-player, had long been held unaccountable for his actions. Apart from his proficiency in the game, he was a ripe Hebrew scholar, and had planned a monumental work on Jewish archæology and antiquities.

THE Naval Department will attempt to raise the Japanese torpedo-destroyer *Niji*, which was wrecked in the China Sea. Masuda Mankichi, the well-known diver and wrecker of Yokohama, left this port on the 16th with a party of forty-four men and machinery.

AN armed robber entered a dry goods shop at Ishikawa-machi, Yokohama, on the 13th, and stole 30 *yen* belonging to Sugihara Yoshigoro. He was arrested at Kobe on the 16th. He is an ex-soldier named Abe.

THE steam-ship *Bosnia*, of the Hamburg-America line, lately chartered by the German Government to carry supplies to China for the Kaiser's troops, left New York on July 27th, for San Francisco. She has in her hold over 8000 tons of material, and when she reaches the Pacific coast, it is said, will ship at least 1,500 horses for the use of the German cavalry in China.

MR. ESTES RATHBONE, recently director-general of posts in Cuba, has been arrested on four charges. These allege the unlawful drawing of two orders for $500 each, paying his private coachman and gardener from the postal funds, and drawing per diem an allowance when not entitled to do so. Mr. Rathbone was held in bonds of $25,000.

IF one may believe the gossip circulating in Yokohama, the stories of "the massacres in Peking" were the invention of a band of newspaper correspondents who met regularly at a certain hostelry in Shanghai, and whose boast it is that as their journals demanded "something bright and startling," in the absence of real news, they rose to the occasion. Comment is unnecessary.

THE Trustees of the Kobe International Hospital have placed their infectious diseases hospital at the disposal of the sick and wounded from China. The hospital has been furnished at an expense of 2,700 *yen*. There are in all thirty beds, in two large wards and four smaller ones. The former are for men and non-commissioned officers and the latter for officers only. The major portion of the funds for the erection of the hospital consisted of a handsome donation made by the British Jubilee Committee of 1897. In consideration of this association of Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee with the erection of the building, one of the wards is to be called the Victoria Ward and it has been arranged that a medallion of Her Majesty will be placed on its walls.

OWING to the wet and blowing weather the usual sailing races did not take place at Yokohama on Saturday. An incident which, though amusing, might have proved serious, took place. Mr. A. M. Delf, owner of the *Eclair*, indulged in a little "chaff" of the members of the Yacht Club in postponing the races on account of the weather, and called them "fair weather" sailors. He was immediately challenged, and to "save face" decided to go out. He had not left the moorings many seconds, however, before a puff of wind put the *Eclair* on her beam ends, and she filled and sank. Fortunately the water was not very deep at the spot and Mr. Delf awaited rescue safely from the top of the mast, which was still above water. He was taken off none the worse for his immersion.

ONE of the most touching incidents of the war in Africa occurred the other day when Captain Towse received the Victoria Cross. Capt. Towse earned the distinction by attempting to carry off Col. Downman, who had been wounded, under a hail of bullets. He was unable to do so, and lay beside him and kept off the Boers all night till help came. By that time Col. Downman was dead. Capt. Towse was blinded in both eyes by a bullet wound. The hero was taken to Windsor and led into the royal presence by his wife, where he knelt at the feet of his sovereign, who was so much overcome at the sight that her aged hands could scarcely pin on the most prized of all British decorations. The Queen's few words of simple praise of his devotion were spoken so low as to be almost inaudible, and when Queen Victoria was led out there was scarcely a dry eye among the officials present.

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THE RELIEF OF PEKING.

The relief of Peking will rank as one of the most dramatic incidents in history. It is plain that the safety of the foreign Ministers and their nationals hung on a hair. They were threatened with starvation and they had not sufficient ammunition for a day's defence. Accounts differ as to the supply of provisions. Correspondents writing on the 5th said that enough remained for 10 days only. M. Pichon, in his telegraphic despatch of the 9th, said that by living on siege rations they could held out until the 24th. As for ammunition, however, Lieut. Colonel Shiba's despatch of the 5th declared that if the enemy made one more resolute attack, the ammunition must fail. Everything depended, therefore, on the forbearance or the irresolution of the Chinese. On the other hand, it was believed in Europe that a military advance to Peking would be impossible before September, and there can not be the least doubt that had the task of relieving the city devolved upon the Occidental Powers only, they would not have attempted it until another mouth had passed. In fact, the troops which France and Germany are sending can not be in the field before the end of September, and could not have begun the march to Peking before probably the second week in October. It is scarcely conceivable that the Legations could have held out until that time. Great Britain showed remarkable promptitude in despatching troops from India, but even she has only a small number of men—less than 2,000—in the fighting line as yet, and her Division of ten thousand could not have commenced the advance before the beginning of September It was, indeed, with that idea that her plans were laid To Japan, therefore, belongs the credit of having saved the situation. Japan not only despatched a large and well equipped force with remarkable rapidity, but her men also fought splendidly from first to last, and her commanding officers showed great and, as the event proves, wise daring in pushing on rapidly. We have already seen that the movement which commenced on the 5th was directed only against Pe-tsang and Yang-tsun. The idea was that as the approaches to these places had been rendered so difficult by artificial flooding and other defences as to preclude the employment of large bodies of troops, and also as the cutting of the Peiho's bank at Pe-tsang had unfitted it for navigation, the two places ought to be occupied by way of preliminary to the general advance, which was expected to commence on the 10th instant—the day predicted by us from the first, our readers may remember. There was, however, an alternative programme, namely, that the advance might be continued at once beyond Yang-tsun, should circumstances warrant such a course. Circumstances did warrant it. The fighting at Pe tsang and at Yang tsun fell mainly to the share of the Japanese. They, with the English and Americans, formed the left wing; two Japanese battalions formed the centre; and the Russians, Germans, French, Austrians, and Italians formed the right wing, in the advance on Pe-tsang. The right wing does not appear to have come into action at all: it was held off by a large sheet of water. Thus the fighting devolved entirely on the left wing and the centre. Again, in the advance from Pe-tsang to Yang-tsun, the Russians, French, Germans, &c. formed the right wing, and advanced up the left bank of the Peiho. By them the attack should have been delivered, but as Yang-tsun lies on the right bank, they had to cross the river to get at it, and in the meanwhile the Japanese seem to have come up on the right bank with the English and Americans and expelled the Chinese. That was on the 6th, and at a council of war held on the 7th, the question of advancing at once or waiting until a concentration could be effected, was debated The Japanese commanding officer was emphatically in favour of an immediate and continuous advance. His knowledge of the Chinese told him that if they are pressed with sufficient persistency when in retreat they never make any effective rally. Given time to halt and throw up breastworks, they become dangerous, but, if kept on the move, they can be prevented from serious resistance An immediate advance meant that the aid of the French, the German, the Austrian, and the Italian contingents—1,080 men in all—must be forfeited, but the probable advantages were held to outweigh that loss. The column pushed on, therefore, on the 8th, encountering only perfunctory opposition As the Japanese officers had foreseen, the attempts made by the Chinese to rally were rendered nugatory by the rapidity of the Allies' movements. Tung-chow was reached on the 12th, and a brief delay then took place. From a military point of view the commanding officers would have desired to advance at once against Peking, but they seem to have thought it their duty to endeavour to achieve the object of the expedition, namely, the relief of the foreign community, by peaceful negotiation if possible and without assaulting the city. We do not yet know what measures they adopted for that purpose, but it is obvious that they were unsuccessful, and also that they wisely determined not to lose any time. At daylight on the 14th the troops were before the walls of Peking, having set out from Tung-chow on the previous night, presumably. The arrangement was that the Allies should move against the eastern side of the city, the Japanese and Russians attacking the Tong-chih and Tse-hwa Gates, the British and Americans attacking the Tung-pien Gate. The distance between the Tang-chih and the Tse-hwa Gates is 2,300 yards; that between the Tse-hwa and Tung-pien gates, 2,450 yards. If our readers consult the plan of Peking issued from this office some days ago, they will see that although the Tong-chih and Tse-hwa Gates are much further from the Legations than the Tung-pien Gate, the two former give access at once to the Tartar City, whereas the last gives access to the Chinese city, and in order to pass thence to the Tartar City where the Legations are, the Hata Gate has to be entered The Chinese made a stout resistance at the gates attacked by the Japanese, and the latter seem to have avoided any useless waste of life They devoted the whole day to bombarding the walls, finally breaching the two gates with gun-cotton, their total casualties being 100 killed and wounded. Immediately on forcing the gates a body of men were hurried forward, and they succeeded in opening communication with the Legations. We have no account yet of the operations of the column that moved against the Tung-pien Gate, but its casualties are said to have been only 30. It appears that the honour of succouring the foreign community of Peking belongs chiefly to the Japanese. They were first in the escalade of the Taku Forts; they were first in the storm of Tientsin; they did the main part of the work at Pe-tsang and Yang-tsun, and they finally carried Peking, saving about a thousand Europeans and Americans, including many women and children, from a terrible fate. We have thought that it would be inhuman to add by any words of our own to the harrowing anxiety felt by those whose friends and relatives were shut up in the Chinese capital, but we may now say that the Japanese, who know the Chinese character well, were possessed by a great fear as to what might happen when the city was actually menaced. They did not believe that the Foreign Ministers would be murdered. They believed that the Government, flying from Peking, would carry the Ministers with it as hostages, the value of a hostage having always stood high in China In that event, the whole of the rest of the foreign community would probably have been massacred. A resolute attack by ten thousand troops must have sealed the fate of the Legations, and it was that contingency that Japanese statesmen and soldiers feared. We thank heaven the catastrophe has been averted. We thank the Japanese also.

THE U.S. AND CHINA.

The United States Government is said to have taken the fall of Peking and the rescue of the Legations as an occasion for reiterating officially its determination to support the integrity of China and to oppose resolutely any alienation of her territory. It certainly was most opportune that, just before these Boxer troubles culminated, the United States should have stood forward as the avowed representative of the non-partition policy, for no other Power can now maintain that policy with equal weight of disinterestedness and justice. This brings America, England, and Japan very close together in their attitudes towards the Far-Eastern problem. But it is evident that the advocates of the non-alienation policy will be required to solve a great and difficult problem at the very outset, the problem of Russia in Manchuria. We can not suppose that Sir Charles Dilke's notion of non-partition will be endorsed by any Occidental Government; the notion that, while territorial aggrandisement at China's expense is to be generally forbidden, a huge exception is to be made in Russia's favour, and that, whereas other States shall not be allowed to take so much as a province or an island, Russia will be free to appropriate something very like a continent. A programme of that kind is scarcely conceivable. Yet Russia is virtually in possession of Manchuria, and she may claim, with much show of justice, that by her arms alone has the situation been saved there. Her great anxiety to prevent independent action by any other Western Power elsewhere in China suggests plainly that she intends to claim special significance for her own independent action in Manchuria. It is chiefly in Russia's interests that France has opposed the landing of British troops in Shanghai, and has declared that, if England persists, then a French military force also shall be landed. Evidently Russia's independence of procedure in Manchuria is not to be disturbed by any parallel which might impair its significance. A very troublesome problem indeed presents itself on the threshold of the negotiations.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Aug. 18.

A telegram from the Netherlands Minister in Peking, dated the 11th, says that all his nationals were then safe but that "they were exposed to the enemy's fire." This latter expression is ambiguous. A clumsy translation of the original telegram makes it impossible to say whether firing was actually going on, or whether it was merely apprehended. The Minister adds that there had been some 60 deaths among the foreigners and that they looked for the arrival of the relief force about the 15th instant.

Lord Salisbury's reply to the Chinese proposals for peace is said to have been that if China really desired the restoration of peace she should abstain from opposing the march of a portion of the allied forces to the neighbourhood of Peking, not with any object of seizing the city, but merely for the purpose of escorting the foreign community of Peking to a place of safety. After that had been accomplished, the question of terms of peace could be opened. The Chinese, on their side, should take steps for handing over the foreign ministers and the foreign community with the least possible delay to the allied forces.

The United States' reply was similar to that of England, but it asked that the allied forces should be allowed to enter Peking, whereas Lord Salisbury intimated that he would be content if they were permitted to encamp outside.

Russia took the same line. She suggested that a portion of the allied forces should be specially distinguished, whether by a white flag or by some other indication, and that the troops thus distinguished should be suffered to enter Peking for the purpose of escorting the foreigners to a place of safety.

The Foreign Consuls in Shanghai appear to be divided in their opinions. At first they were disposed to endorse the protest of the French Consul against the landing of British troops, but subsequently the United States Consul is said to have withdrawn from that view, and we must assume that the British Consul also supports his Government, Meanwhile the leading British Merchants are reported to be resolutely endorsing Admiral Seymour's proposal' and to be memorializing the home Government in favour of landing troops. It is to be feared that this question will produce very bad feeling in the Settlement. To outsiders it presents the aspect of an unfortunate display of jealousy. If Great Britain is to be precluded from taking precautionary measures until others Powers are in a position to take precisely the same measures, the resulting situation is that danger can not be averted unless all have an equal share in averting it. What renders the position particularly strange is that Russia is permitted to land what forces she pleases in Manchuria, and France may do the same with regard to Yunnan, but England, who alone is ready to protect Shanghai, must not do so lest she should seem to take the lead of other nations. A very wretched business.

Li Ping-hang in said to have been at the head of 10,000 troops when the Allies approached Ho-shi-wu, but, as he failed to make any effective resistance, he has resigned his post. Such is the rumour.

The *Asahi* publishes telegrams indicating that Russia's programme includes military occupation of all the important places in Manchuria, including Haicheng, Kirin, Mukden, and so on. She has already gained possession of several cardinal points and there is nothing to stop her progress. These telegrams can not, of course, be accepted with implicit confidence, but there is no room to doubt that the present troubles in China are inuring to Russia's sole advantage.

It is stated that such portions of the allied forces as did not march with the Japanese in the advance on Tung-chow, were expected to assemble at that place by the 13th instant, when measures would be concerted for the attack of Peking Baron Yamaguchi is reported to have sent a message into the city asking Jung Lu to meet him at some point outside the walls, but the possibility of getting such a message through was, of course, uncertain. The *Asahi* has a telegram saying that the Legations were again vehemently attacked on the 11th and 12th instant.

Monday, Aug. 20.

Viceroy Liu is said to be dangerously ill. His loss at this juncture would be a great calamity.

Russia is reported to have ordered the mobilization of 150,000 troops, and to be making extensive preparations for despatching them to North China.

Li Hung-chang, on receipt of the news that the allied forces were nearing Peking, is said to have immediately commenced preparations for going north.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a telegram that rumours are rife to the effect that 2,000 Russian troops have landed in Korea. It is impossible to attach any credence to the story.

The French are said to be desirous of obtaining 1,000 more transport coolies. They offer 1.75 *yen* per day, of which the men would receive 1.50 *yen*, and 25 *sen* would go to the agents.

The British troops appear to have landed at Shanghai, and it is said that the French have put a hundred marines ashore. It was not to be supposed that the British Government would be deterred from carrying out a plan suggested by the exigencies of the time merely because other Powers exhibited some jealousy. If France has landed marines, that is all the better for the protection of Shanghai, where she has a separate settlement of her own to guard. We do not doubt that the French marines and the British soldiers will cooperate heartily.

The Chinese made an attempt at Chan-kia-wan to oppose the advance of the Allies to Tung-chow. Chan-kia-wan is perhaps the only place offering defensive facilities between Ho-shi-wu and Tung-chow. Had the Allies moved more deliberately, the Chinese would have found time to throw up breastworks there and offer a stout resistance. But they were pressed too closely by the Allies, and the result was that they had to continue their retreat, leaving 50 dead on the field and inflicting only 7 casualties—2 killed and 5 wounded—on the Japanese.

It appears that the two unfortunate Chinese members of the *Tsung-li Yamên* who are reported to have been cut in two, and who at the least suffered decapitation, were not guilty of any offence except that they resolutely and unflinchingly protested against the suicidal and uncivilized policy of their Government. It is beyond measure pitiable that enlightened and courageous men, whose only faults are genuine patriotism and superior intelligence, should be thus dealt with. When the day of reckoning comes, we sincerely trust that the foreign negotiators will take the fate of Heu and Yuen into account, and will insist that posthumous honours are conferred on them, and that their families are placed beyond the reach of want. It would be criminal purism to talk of such action being an undue interference with Chinese domestic policy. Interference is absolutely necessary, for, if the foreign Powers never stretch out a hand to save their friends, they can not look for many displays of friendship.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has a telegram saying that the Indian troops who were to have landed at Shanghai are preparing to return to India. But the *Asahi* publishes a telegram to the effect that they have been ordered to land in the teeth of all remonstrances from foreign Consuls. We entertain no doubt that the latter version is correct. The landing may have been delayed in deference to French, Russian, and German objections, but that it will be altogether abandoned we do not believe. Such objections seem to us to be actuated by mere jealousy. They can not be justly attributed to solicitude lest the landing of the troops should excite the Chinese, for the English and Americans have a far larger interest in that question than the French, the Germans, or the Russians, and if the British and American merchants are desirous that the troops should land, it is extravagant that the merchants of other nationalities should demur on the ground of prudence. Unwilling as we are to draw such an inference, this business presents itself to us as a deliberate attempt to give a slap in the face to England, and of course the Chinese authorities are only too willing to foment these disagreements among the Powers.

Another despatch from Lieut.-Colonel Shiba—who was with the Japanese guards in Prince Shu's mansion—to Major-General Fukushima, dated the 5th instant, says that though there were daily interchanges of shots, no lives had been lost since the death (24th July) of Mr. Narabara, and that, as all the Legations were sharing their provisions, the supply would suffice for 10 days longer. Scarcity of ammunition was, however, the great difficulty. If the enemy made a whole-day attack, successful resistance would be impossible. Including the captured ammunition, the troops had not more than 30 rounds a man. On the other side of the account there was one laughable fact, namely, that, since the 4th instant, Chinese soldiers were coming with 20 or 30 rounds of ammunition to sell. The Chinese Government were perpetually inviting the foreigners to leave, and threatening that if they did not withdraw their guards the attack would be renewed. The plan apparently was to get the foreigners into the open and kill them all, but they were resolved not to move before the coming of the relief force. It was to be hoped that no time would be wasted by the latter in negotiations which the Chinese were sure to open with respect to the withdrawal of the foreigners and such matters. As the Ministers had that day announced their resolve not to leave, pending the receipt of instructions from the home Governments, it was not unlikely that the attack on the Legations would be renewed the next day. There were indications that progressist Ministers had been put to death, and that conservatism

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was stronger than ever in the councils of State.

The Southern Viceroys, Liu and Chan, seem to have made a strong effort to protect the imperial city in Peking. Learning that the Allies had reached Tung-chow and were about to move against Peking, the Viceroys represented to the foreign consuls that any attack upon the imperial palace—the "Forbidden City" as it is commonly called—would provoke the whole Chinese nation and would render it impossible to maintain order in the Yang-tsze Valley. There cannot possibly have been time to convey this remonstrance to the commanders of the allied forces, but, even if it were conveyed, we should be sorry to think that any attention would be paid to it. The imperial palace is precisely the place that ought to be occupied, not, of course, for destructive purposes, but because there is no better way of punishing those primarily responsible for the Boxer complications. The Chinese have more than once had recourse during this trouble to menaces of what would happen if the Allies followed the programme naturally presenting itself to officers commanding a force in the field, but it seems to have entirely escaped their attention that the sanctity of the foreign Legations was not respected by the imperial troops, and that, consequently, they have no manner of right to expect greater forbearance at the hands of the allies. If the occupation of the "Forbidden City" were in any sense an act of wanton cruelty or vandalism the case would be different, but it is a little too much to expect that the Allies, in deference to a vague menace, should abstain from taking a step which seems eminently calculated to bring the Chinese Government to reason.

One thing is now clearly established, namely, that the Japanese commanding officers pressed eagerly for a forward movement to Peking without an hour's delay. It nevertheless seemed impossible that the preparations of all the contingents could be completed before the 10th instant, and that day was accordingly fixed for the general advance. Then the advisability of driving the enemy from Petsang and Yang-tsun, by way of preliminary to the general advance, suggested itself, as access to these places was difficult, and had been rendered still more difficult by the Chinese, so that large forces could not possibly be moved against them. Thus the advance on the 5th was originally intended to be a preliminary measure only, with the proviso that it might be pushed should circumstances sanction such a course. In other words, the column, having forced its way to Yang-tsun, might have remained there until the arrival of re-inforcements on the 10th or 11th, or might have pushed on at once. A certain amount of hazard attended the latter step, but experience has taught the Japanese that a beaten Chinese army does not rally quickly, and that its capacity to offer renewed resistance depends on the time at its disposal to throw up entrenchments, work which the Chinese perform *con amore*. Lieut.-General Yamaguchi, therefore, seems to have voted strongly for pushing on from Yang-tsun without delay, and without waiting for reinforcements or further preparations. That plan involved the elimination of the French contingent of 800 men from the fighting line, their transport arrangements not being complete. But, inasmuch as the tenure of Yang-tsun was essential, the task of holding it might well be entrusted to the French. Apparently it involved also the return of the small detatchments of Germans, Italians, and Austrians, but as their total strength did not exceed 300 men, their absence from the fighting line could not greatly affect the issue. Events proved the justice of the Japanese General's forecast. The Chinese did rally and were making preparations for renewed resistance, but before they had completed their parapets the Allies were upon them, and Tung-chow was thus reached with only desultory fighting.

One of the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondents, Mr. Oka Seiichi, has managed to send a letter to Tokyo, dated the 5th instant in Peking. This is the second achievement of that kind that stands to the credit of our contemporary's correspondents, and the *Jiji* is to be congratulated on such enterprise Mr Oka says that on June 19th the Chinese Government, having received from Tientsin intelligence of the demand made by the commanders of the allied forces for the surrender of the Taku Forts and being informed of the bombarding and capture of the forts, addressed to the Foreign Representatives a communication in the sense that, since there could no longer be any doubt that the Foreign Powers were determined to commence hostilities, the Ministers must leave Peking in 24 hours. At the request of the Ministers this period was extended to 48 hours, but in the meanwhile the murder of the German Minister took place, and the Representatives decided that as they could not possibly venture to move out into the open with the small guard at their disposal, they must remain in Peking and defend themselves as best they could. The Chinese Government was understood to have endorsed that course; nevertheless, at the end of the first period of 24 hours, fire was opened on the Legations, namely at 4 p.m on the 20th of June. On the 21st, the Chinese Government issued and published in the *Official Gazette* a proclamation declaring that war had commenced. On the 25th a messenger carrying a white flag made his appearance on the bridge of the Palace enclosure and would have approached the British Legation, but, as he was accompanied by a large force of troops in fighting order, fire was opened on the latter from the Legation. The messenger then threw down the letter he was carrying and retired. A messenger was subsequently sent from the Legation to fetch the letter, but, as he was fired on by the Chinese, he could not effect his purpose. He found written on the plaster of the bridge these words:—"We are instructed by Imperial Edict to protect the Foreign Ministers and not to fight with them. We offer to meet them on this imperial bridge for purposes of consultation." This was probably a nefarious scheme to inveigle us to the bridge and attack us from a side street. This idea was confirmed by the fact that a violent attack was made that night on the Legations. Thus the month of June and the first half of July passed in continuous fighting, and the sufferings of the beleaguered garrison were indescribable. On the 14th of July, a messenger of ours was captured and conducted to Jung Lu's *Yamên*, where a letter was handed to him. It said that if we would give up fighting and assemble at the *Tsung-li Yamên*, the Chinese would escort us to Tientsin. Thenceforward communications passed between us and the Chinese, and from the 17th things became so quiet that the Chinese soldiers would approach and converse with us. It cannot be said, however, that fighting had ceased altogether; shots were still heard from time to time. The difference was merely that artillery was no longer used against us, nor were any vehement attacks made. The *Tsung-li Yamên* constantly presses us to leave, offering to escort us to Tientsin, but as we have sick and wounded on our hands, it is impossible for us to fix a day for leaving and we must only await the coming of the relief force. The Chinese, however, seem to be concentrating all their forces for the defence of Tientsin, and we must therefore be prepared to find that relief is delayed. It would seem that the Chinese Authorities are trying to make out that we have been attacked by the Boxers only, but as a matter of fact the men at whose hands we have suffered most are the troops of Jung Lu and Tung. It is probably owing to the loss of the arsenal at Tientsin and to their consequent want of arms and ammunition that the Chinese have stopped fighting with us. The two Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên who opposed these proceedings from the first, namely, Heu Ching-cheng and Yuen Chang, have been beheaded, and Prince Twan and General Li Ping-han are now in chief control of affairs. Among the Japanese forces 5 have been killed, as also have been Mr. Kojima and Mr. Nakamura Hidejiro. Captain Ando and Mr Narabara, Second Secretary of Legation, have died of wounds. Sixty-one foreigners altogether have been killed, including 9 Japanese.

Tuesday, Aug. 21.

It is alleged that Viceroy Chan has made arrangements for borrowing £750,000 from English financiers for the purpose of paying his troops. The rate of interest is 4½ per cent., but nothing is said about the price of issue.

A telegram from Saseho says that a Japanese man-of-war has taken on board 120 troops and sailed with them for Shanghai, where they will land to assist in protecting their nationals. Japan, apparently, does not share the belief that the landing of troops at Shanghai will throw the Yangtsze Valley into a ferment.

It was expected that a military telegraph between Peking and Tientsin would be opened by the 19th instant. At the date of latest advices—about a week ago—the cable from Taku to Chefoo was said to be within 50 miles of completion. Thus we are on the verge of having through telegraphic communication established once again, and our news from Peking will soon be not more than a few hours old.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has a telegram confirming the intelligence that the Chinese Court has fled to Wu-tai-shan in Shansi. According to this telegram the flight took place on the 10th instant *viâ* Chan-kia-kow. It appears to be thought that there will be some necessity for a military expedition to follow up the fugitives. But we fail to see that any such enterprise need be undertaken. The Chinese want peace, and provided that duly accredited representatives are appointed by the Government, there will be no occasion for the Court to be in direct touch with the envoys of the Powers. In the war of 1860, the Court fled from Peking to Jehol, but neither France nor England saw any need to send soldiers to the latter city.

It appears, now, that the Allies made only the briefest possible halt at Tung-chow They arrived there on the 12th and they commenced the attack on Peking on the morning of the 14th. From Tung-chow to Peking is 16 miles, and that distance must have been traversed on the 13th, for though the troops might have made a night march

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so as to reach the environs of the city at dawn on the 14th, the heavy artillery—of which the British had some—must have been moved on the 13th. There was, in fact, no delay at all: the Allies pushed on as fast as possible, doubtless judging that the relief of Peking should not be deferred even for an hour, and that the less time given to the Chinese troops, the less would be the danger of a resolute attack on the Legations. It has been altogether an excellently managed and well judged expedition.

There is a rumour that the Japanese troops, or, at any rate, a part of them, are moving southwards towards Pao-ting-fu, using the Lu-Han Railway. The purpose of such a manœuvre being inexplicable, we find it difficult to credit. The Japanese troops must remain for some time in Peking. Evidently the continued tenure of the city will be useful for the purposes of the peace negotiations which will doubtless commence at an early date. Viceroy Li will now be the most prominent figure on the scene, and since Russia is understood to be taking the lead in urging the restoration of peace, we shall probably witness the diplomatic combination predicted in these columns from the outset: Japan will have to take care that on this occasion also, as in 1895, she does not emerge from the struggle with the comfortable assurance that her efforts have inured principally to the advantage of another State.

The *Chuo Shimbun* has a telegram to the effect that France is about to send two batallions of infantry and a battery of artillery from Saigon to Shanghai. This force is estimated in our contemporary's telegram at 950 men, but we should think that 1,950 would be nearer the mark, if the composition is rightly stated. However, the whole story sounds incredible. If France can spare two batallions and a battery from Saigon, she would have sent them long ago to assist in the relief of Peking. It is of course possible that her intention may be to replace these troops by stopping those now *en route* for the East from Europe, but even that does not appear probable. Meanwhile, there are indications that the precaution taken by England in landing troops at Shanghai may be quickly justified by events. The Southern Viceroys, as stated in our last issue, are understood to declare that if the Allies lay hands on the Forbidden City in Peking, it will be impossible to restrain the population in the Yang-tsze Valley. The threat may be quite empty. Very likely it is nothing more than an attempt on the part of the Viceroys to recover the "face" they have lost *vis-à-vis* the Throne by refraining from sending help to Peking. But inasmuch as virtually implicit reliance has hitherto been placed on the assurances of the Viceroys that they could preserve the peace, some credit is due to their avowals in a contrary sense, and since we know that the Forbidden City has been occupied, or, at any rate, was the scene of a conflict between the Japanese and the Chinese troops on the 15th instant, it may soon be found that England has acted most prudently in concentrating a force in Shanghai.

One phase of all the idle talk now circulating seems to escape observation. It is that the Viceroys are conjuring with Chinese public opinion, and that the world seems disposed to regard the spectacle seriously. When did Chinese public opinion become an active factor in international affairs? We have seen the people of the Yang tsze Valley remain quiescent and apparently indifferent when Peking was occupied by France and England and the Summer Palace reduced to ashes, and we have seen them remain equally indifferent and quiescent when their country suffered heavily at the hands of France in 1884-5, and still more heavily at the hands of Japan in 1894-5. What is there in their history that justifies us to expect a patriotic ebullition if a handful of foreign troops are landed at Shanghai to assist in keeping the peace, or if the Forbidden City be occupied by a Japanese force? It is not easy, by the light of past events, to read any sincerity between the lines of the Southern Viceroys' menaces.

According to the statement of a wounded trooper, Yamamoto, who arrived at Moji on the 17th by the *Matsuyama Maru*, the allied cavalry, after the fall of Yang-tsun, received orders from Lieut.-General Yamaguchi to advance at once along the line of the Peiho, and to keep the enemy on the run, so that he should not have time to entrench himself anywhere. The allied cavalry numbered 700 sabres, the majority being Japanese. They set out on the 6th, and encountered a force of Chinese cavalry at a point 8 miles from Yang-tsun. A conflict ensued, the enemy being dispersed with a loss of 26 men, and the Allies' casualties being one English trooper wounded. On the 7th, they continued their advance, but did not see anything of the enemy. On the 8th there was a slight skirmish, and on the 9th, two battalions of the enemy's cavalry were found at Hwen-tsun, a village of about 300 houses. A fight of 30 or 40 minutes sufficed to put them to flight with heavy loss, the only casualty on the allies' side being one trooper, Yamamoto, wounded. Thereafter he says that the cavalry pushed on and were able, not only to prevent the enemy from rallying, but also to reconnoitre right up to the walls of Peking. As to the latter point, however, we doubt whether the cavalry advanced further than Tung-chow in the first place, seeing that, according to General Yamaguchi's report, the enemy, in force, evacuated the latter place on the night of the 11th-12th only.

Wednesday, Aug. 22.

Our readers doubtless remember that it was announced, some time ago, that a battery of siege artillery would be sent from Japan to take part in the attack on Peking. The battery was duly sent, and its arrival at Tientsin was expected on the 20th instant, but, as there is no apparent prospect of its services being required, it will remain quietly in Tientsin.

Admiral Alexieff, according to an *Asahi* telegram from Chemulpo, is said to have declared that Russia has no intention of annexing Manchuria; that her military measures there are merely for protective purposes, and that, so soon as order is restored, due steps will be taken to surrender any territory which may then be in her possession.

Certainly Li Hung-chang has been the subject of innumerable rumours since he left Canton. It was stated that, when the news of the taking of Peking reached him, he made preparations to start immediately for the north. Now, on the contrary, we are told that, although Prince Ching telegraphed asking him to come at once, he still remains in Shanghai and shows no sign of moving.

Rightly or wrongly, Li Hung-chang has been discredited in the eyes of the world. If he is entirely guiltless of the many irregularities laid to his charge, he is one of the most unfortunate figures in history. We believe him to be a man deserving of confidence, as the word is understood in China, and to be genuinely patriotic and progressive. But the foreign public does not believe anything of the kind, and the wisdom of the Chinese Government in nominating him to the post of negotiator is very questionable. A statesman fitted for such a post ought not to be handicapped by an unfavourable reputation as Li is. The Chinese Government might more advantageously entrust the guardianship of its interests to Prince Chung and General Tung At all events, the Powers will want a commissioner more responsible than Li Hung-chang

There appears to be no doubt that the Empress Dowager and the Court have fled from Peking accompanied by Prince Twan. Their ultimate destination is Si an in Shen-si, which was the capital of China under the Ting dynasty, and their sojourn at Wu-tai-shan, the site of the celebrated Buddhist Monastery, is only temporary. Si-an is on the upper waters of the Yellow River, and is most readily accessible from Yung-ching on the Yangtsze. There will doubtless be an outcry in Europe and America for the seizure and condign punishment of Prince Twan and General Kang, but, after all, these men have played a legitimate part in the drama. They are not rebels, and have not been rebels at any time. If any confirmation of that were needed, it is furnished by the fact that both men have accompanied the Court in its retreat from Peking. Prince Ching, General Jung Lu, and other moderates seem to have remained in Peking.

Thursday, Aug. 23.

There can be no mistake about the significance of the executions which took place in Peking on the 13th inst. The Minister of War, the Minister of Finance, and a member of the Tsung-li Yamên were beheaded and several other prominent officials imprisoned, all of them being men of moderate, if not progressive, tendencies. It is plain that at the last moment the Court threw itself definitely into the arms of the extremists. Probably the explanation is that the moderates had given some kind of pledge to save Peking, or, at any rate, had been expected to save it. The evident object of desisting from further attacks on the Foreign Legations was to obtain some pretext for preventing the advance of the allied troops against Peking. The moderates probably assumed the position that if the Chinese Government respected the persons of the Foreign Representatives, and finally handed them over safely, the march of the Allies against Peking would be suspended. They were right, no doubt. But their counsels were not followed soon enough. We can scarcely question that had the Chinese Government distinctly signified its willingness to allow a body of foreign troops to come to the Hata Gate, and there receive the Ministers, the members of the foreign community, and the Christian converts, no hostile entry would have been made into Peking. But, instead of taking that decisive step, they dillied and dallied, and the result was that it devolved on the military commanders in the field to settle the question. Thus the extremists were able to discredit the moderates at the last moment by pointing out that, whereas the attack on the Legations had been arrested in deference to the latter's advice, the safety of Peking had not been secured. It was when the allied forces were actually advancing from Tung chow that the unfortunate officials were decapitated China could scarcely have furnished any object lesson

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more strikingly illustrative of the difference between her civilization and that of the Occident. Her acts have complicated the problem of a settlement, for although the irresistible power of foreign military systems has been demonstrated, it has also been shown that whatever Minister or prominent official attempts to stand in opposition to conservatism will inevitably be crushed. Foreign Powers will have to think whether, in the impending negotiations, they can not order things so that death and imprisonment shall no longer be the penalty of liberalism in China.

We shall soon know, doubtless, whether any attempt was made by the Allies to open communications with Peking before storming it. The commanding officer had full discretionary power. If he did make any such attempt, he was certainly careful that it should not delay his progress, and the event proved the soundness of his judgment. By pushing on with all speed, he not only prevented the Chinese from organizing any strong system of defence, but also averted the peril that must have threatened the Foreign Legations had they been left unsuccoured for four or five days while the whole of the Chinese armies were assembled in Peking. The rapid advance of the Allies compelled the Chinese to devote themselves mainly to the task of removing the Court in safety and making preparations for the retreat to Shen-si, and gave them no leisure to assault the Legations. All that they could do was to wreak their bloody vengeance upon the officials whose advice had interfered with the consummation of their original project, namely, the seizure of the Foreign Ministers as hostages.

Not only are the Chinese insurgents showing themselves active on the northern frontier of Korea, but the Koreans also seem to have felt the infection of riot and to be making a disturbance in the Hamyang-do district. The latter trouble, however, does not appear to be connected with foreign affairs or to be actuated by anti-foreign motives, though it has involved a collision with some Japanese constables and the withdrawal of the Japanese residents from Song-chin to Yuen-san. The most trustworthy explanation given is that the affair has grown out of purely local causes namely, a division of jurisdiction between Song-chin and Kil-ju, and resulting inconvenience and discontent among the people. So far as we can see there are at present no reasons to anticipate anything in the nature of an anti-foreign outbreak in Korea.

In Shanghai it is stated that Viceroys Chan and Liu have addressed a letter of thanks to the Japanese Government for the steps taken by the latter to subdue the Boxers and save the Imperial Court. We give the rumour for what it is worth—very little, we should think.

Shanghai attributes to Li Hung-chang an idea that since China can not possibly pay the indemnity which will be demanded of her, there will be nothing for it but to give territory instead of money, in which case Shin-king might go to Japan, Shin-kiang to Russia, and Thibet to England. That is one of the most bizarre schemes we have yet seen in print, but it is at any rate amusing to find that Shanghai continues to sustain its inventive role.

Friday, Aug. 24.

It is reported that a big fire occurred in Hankow on the 20th instant. Eight thousand houses were burned and the prisoners all escaped from the jail.

The *Shogyo Shimpo's* special correspondent in Shanghai telegraphs that the Emperor is still in Peking, but that the Empress-Dowager has fled. That would be a strange arrangement.

The latest tale is that all the telegrams forwarded from Chi-nan-fu throughout the course of the recent complications were forgeries, manufactured by connivance of Governor Yuan, Viceroy Li, Taotai Shêng, and Vice-Governor Liu. That is an excellent yarn. It emanates from Shanghai.

It is now denied that Li Hung-chang has any intention of proceeding north. He was said to be merely awaiting the arrival of a steamer to carry him to Taku, but that project is believed to have been abandoned There is, indeed, no apparent reason why Li should visit either Tientsin or Peking. Shanghai is a much more convenient place for carrying on negotiations, especially if the Court has retired to Si-an.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a London telegram to the effect that it is generally believed in England that Germany entertains the design of getting possession of some important harbour in southern China, and that all her preparations in that sense are made No credit, we think, can be placed in such a suspicion. Nothing could be clearer than the language of Count von Bülow's Circular of July 12th. By the terms of that document, the German Government stands publicly pledged not to seek for any advantage independently of the other Powers.

The only semblance of serious resistance made by the Chinese to the advance of the Allies from Yang-tsun to Tung-chow seems to have been at Chwang-tsun, a village on the Peiho. Certain preparations for defence had been made there by the Chinese, and about an hour's fighting was required to dislodge them, but, though some Japanese correspondents speak of the conflict as "fierce," the epithet scarcely accords with the fact that the Japanese casualties were only 3 wounded. Evidently the rapidity of the allies' advance completely disconcerted the Chinese.

From the *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent comes a statement that the programme now pursued by Prince Twan and General Kang Yi will be to lay the whole blame of what has hitherto occurred upon the shoulders of Jung Lu and the Ministers recently executed; to make the Emperor retire in favour of the Prince Imperial, and to have themselves—Twan and Kang—appointed regents. That is indeed a wild project. It appears to us to have been conceived in Shanghai, for Twan and Kang must be well aware that under no circumstances will the Foreign Governments consent to treat with them. The Prince Imperial is said to be still in Peking, but except as a matter of humanity no one outside China takes much interest in his fate If Prince Twan imagines that he can now conjure with the person of the baby prince, his own son, it will be necessary to conclude that he is a lunatic rather than a bigot.

THE WEATHER.

It is not believed that the storm of wind and rain which broke over Tokyo and Yokohama on Friday night (17th inst.) was of the nature of a serious typhoon. A centre of low depression had been reported some days previously from Oshima (Kagoshima), but, its effect not having been felt in Kiushiu, it was not thought likely that any great atmospheric disturbance would ensue. The rain-fall from Friday night to noon on Saturday was 53 m.m.

The centre of depression observed some days ago in the neighbourhood of Oshima (Kagoshima) began to move northwards on the 19th, and passing over Kiushiu and Nagasaki, took, apparently, a north-easterly route, threatening Kyoto and advancing in a direction which would have carried it *viâ* Sanyo and Sanin (the central provinces) to the north-western coast and out into the Sea of Japan. The mercury fell steadily throughout the day, the reading being 732 m.m. at Matsuyama in Iyo. The centre passed over Kiushiu and Shikoku, where the wind developed great force, though the rainfall was comparatively small. The lines of telegraph westward of Hiroshima were interrupted. Tokyo suffered very little and the weather mended on the 20th, simultaneously with the anticipated passage of the centre of disturbance into the Sea of Japan. Reports of violent rain and storm have been received from Tochigi, where the Watarase-gawa became heavily flooded, and from Shinano, Nagoya, Ise, Hiroshima, Bakan, and Shikoku. The Sanyo Railway's service was suspended.

The centre of depression passed out into the Sea of Japan on the 20th instant, as originally expected. This disturbance made its appearance to the south of Riu-kiu on the 13th instant, and news of its presence in the form of a violent hurricane to the north-east of Luzon was received that day in Tokyo. On the 15th the effects began to be felt in Riu-kiu and on the 16th in Formosa, but there was nothing serious as yet. Gradually things became worse, and on the 18th the area of depression had extended over the whole southern coast and due warnings were given. Nevertheless, the weather remained tolerably fair throughout Japan until 6 a.m. on the 19th, when the centre of depression suddenly entered Kiushiu and a violent hurricane resulted, the barometer falling to 738m m. At 10 a.m. the centre reached Miyazaki, the barometer falling to 717m m., and that afternoon the storm reached Oita, thence travelling past Aki, Suwo. and Nagato, which places it merely grazed At 3 p.m that day it passed west of Hiroshima, producing a tidal wave of 2 feet, the storm developing a speed of 46 metres. The centre then travelled to Hoki and Iwami and at 10 p.m. passed out into the Sea of Japan. Fortunately the fall of rain was comparatively small, so that the damage done was not great. The maximum violence was developed at Hiroshima Gifu Prefecture also suffered severely. Ujina was invaded by a tidal wave and suffered greatly.

THE IMPERIALISTS AND CHINA.

At a meeting held on Wednesday by the Imperialists, a resolution was unanimously adopted that the preservation of Chinese independence is a matter of the gravest national importance to Japan, that the Party must make every possible endeavour to promote that cause, and that negotiations must be opened with other political parties in the same sense. The Press Fellow-thinkers (Doshi-Kisha Club) also held a meeting on Tuesday. It was attended by some 50 editors and by several members of the Diet A resolution was adopted, *nem. con.*, that the preservation of China's integrity is imperative, and that measures for securing that end must be vigorously undertaken.

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COUNT VON WALDERSEE.

Saturday, Aug. 18.

A telegram published by the *Shogyo Shimpo* says that Marshal von Waldersee's staff is to consist of a Major-General, a Colonel, two Lieut.-Colonels and staff officers to the number of twenty, the whole leaving Europe on the 21st instant.

With reference to this question of Count Von Waldersee's appointment, we have received two letters from German correspondents, one pointing out that it is misleading to speak of Germany's having only a battalion in the field, since she will ultimately have eighteen thousand men; the other objecting that had England appointed a field-marshal we should not have penned any criticism. As to the former point, it is necessary to remember that if Germany has sixteen or eighteen thousand troops in the field in October, other Powers may have a much larger number. In other words, if when October comes, a necessity is still found to exist for extensive military operations, England, Japan, Russia and the United States will doubtless be much more numerously represented in the field than they are at present At all events, eighteen thousand men is not a field marshal's command. It does not begin to be a field-marshal's command. Germany does not send a field-marshal to direct the movements of 18,000 men. She sends a field-marshal to direct the movements of the whole allied forces. There is no doubt whatever about that point. Germany is taking an extraordinary—a most extraordinary—step solely for the purpose of ensuring that the supreme command of the allied troops shall be in the hands of one of her officers. There can be no discussion about that. It is absolutely plain. If England adopted a similar course, we should form an identical conclusion, and so far from abstaining from criticism, we should condemn the measure in much more unqualified terms. In our opinion the Power taking such a step practically declares that its own officers possess some exceptional qualifications for commanding in the field, and that the question of leadership must not be determined by the considerations which would decide it were the officers of all nations on an equal footing as to professional capacity. According to present appearances, Field-Marshal Waldersee will not be required to take the field. But should the restoration of peace be deferred longer than seems now probable, and should the Field-Marshal be called on to assume command, the scope of his functions will be an interesting problem. He is to direct the military operations throughout the whole of China, we are told. Then, should it have become necessary for England to resort to the use of troops in the Yang-tsze Valley, they will be under Marshal Waldersee's orders Should France be engaged in the south, her troops will be under Marshal Waldersee's orders. Should Russia be still fighting in Manchuria, her forces will be under Marshal Waldersee's orders. It can not be otherwise. Just as Lord Roberts commands the fighting columns in every part of South Africa, so Count von Waldersee will command the fighting columns in every part of China That will be the result of employing an officer whose rank is totally disproportionate to the duties falling within his legitimate sphere of action. We can not choose but say that the appointment appears to us to be one of the most singular steps conceivable.

Tuesday, Aug. 21.

We observe that our comments on Field Marshal Waldersee's appointment are traversed by a writer in the *Japan Herald*, who finds his case so weak that he is obliged to fall back on the device of charging us with anti-German bias, and who also does not hesitate to drag the British Legation into the discussion. It may be taken for granted that the British Legation never sanctioned any such public parade of statements said to have been made by it, and, as to our anti-German bias, the accusation is too silly to deserve notice except as illustrating the conscious hopelessness of our critic's cause. The one argument adduced by him in support of Marshal Waldersee's appointment is that there have been "indications of disagreements and dissensions in the councils of the commanders" in the field and that "something had to be done to secure the maintenance of the friendly cōoperation which existed at the outset." That is certainly an argument which a moment's reflection should have saved our critic from advancing. These so-called "indications of disagreements and dissensions" have certainly not impaired the practical competence of the allies in any degree Their movements have been conducted with all possible celerity, success, and cō-operative efficiency, so that whereas Europe originally expected the advance on Peking to commence in September, the city was occupied and the foreign community saved on August 14th. The general public has altogether failed to detect any symptoms of the "disagreements and dissensions" which, according to our critic," must ere this have been recognised by the home Governments," nor can we think that the presence of a hundred Count von Waldersees could in any respect have expedited the relief of Peking. At any rate it was perfectly well known in the capitals of Europe that the advance of the allied forces against Peking would commence about the 10th of August, if not earlier, and it passes our comprehension to conceive how a field-marshal leaving Europe on August 21st could hope to harmonize the views of officers commanding an expedition which could not fail to be under the walls of Peking before the end of that month. Our critic professes to be unable to understand what we meant by saying that "the question of leadership should be determined by the considerations which would decide it were the officers of all nations on an equal footing as to professional capacity," and pretends to imagine that we contemplated the selection of a commanding officer by the troops in the field. That is mere persiflage. Our meaning was fully explained. The senior officer present with the forces in the ordinary course of events should take the command. He would probably be the officer at the head of the largest force put into the field by any one Power; but, of course, that does not follow, for two Powers might have *corps d'armée* of different strengths under Lieut.-Generals, in which case the date of commission would decide the question. There is no force now assembled in China, nor, so far as we can see, will there be any force hereafter assembled, of such dimensions as to constitute a Field-Marshal's command, and when, under such circumstances, one Power sends out a Field-Marshal, the public can not have any difficulty in interpreting the significance of the act. We should be pleased to see British troops serving under a German General at any time, provided that the command fell to him in the natural order of things, but we consider it not only contemptible but also ridiculous that an English journal should declare that since "Great Britain's greatest General is fully occupied in South Africa, she is not in a position to supply an officer of commensurate rank and acknowledged military skill." She is in a position to supply fifty such officers, if she pleases, and it is precisely because the extraordinary step taken by Germany suggests such inferences as our contemporary complacently draws that we object to that step as tactless and unwarranted. If the *Japan Herald* is content to rest its case on such arguments as that "Germany is *par excellence* the great military Power of Europe"; that a German field-marshal is therefore pre-eminently fitted to command a force consisting of the troops of all nationalities, and that England is not in a position to supply an officer of sufficient qualifications, we have only to say that these are precisely the inferences which render the appointment objectionable in our eyes.

Wednesday, Aug. 22.

The *Chiugai Shogyo* publishes a telegram from Shanghai to the effect that the Berlin Government has conveyed to the officer commanding the German contingent in North China instructions that, pending the arrival of Count Von Waldersee, the contingent is to be under the orders of the officer commanding the Russian troops. In that crude form the telegram will probably give rise to adverse comment. Lieut.-General Yamaguchi has command of the Peking relief column, and it is evident that the Allies have been acting loyally under his orders. The Berlin message would suggest, however, that Germany does not approve of that arrangement. In our opinion the telegram must not be so interpreted. The explanation probably is that, as Germany has only 200 men in North China at present, she has considered it advisable to attach them to the Russian brigade for the sake of tactical convenience. Any one conversant with the routine of issuing orders in the field will at once perceive that so small a force as 200 men can not conveniently remain a separate unit. From that point of view the action attributed to Germany is perfectly natural. Our contemporary's telegram has a rider that the arrangement is supposed to be connected with the fact of Russia's having suggested Count Von Waldersee's appointment. We are inclined to regard it in a much simpler light.

A telegram from Shanghai published by a Tokyo contemporary alleges that, Peking having been relieved, the Powers are disposed to regard the despatch of Count von Waldersee as unnecessary. We do not understand what qualifications Shanghai has to be regarded as the interpreter of European and American State opinion, but neither do we understand that the original purpose of Count von Waldersee's appointment was to command the Peking expeditionary force. It must have been perfectly well known in Berlin that the expeditionary force hoped to be able to start from Tientsin on the 10th, or, at latest, the 15th of August, and that, even assuming the necessity of waiting for siege artillery, the attack on Peking would be made at the close of this month. But Count von Waldersee's departure from Germany was fixed for August 21st. He could not have reached Tien-tsin before October 1st; that is to say, fully a month after the latest date fixed for the probable attack on Peking. How are we to suppose that the purpose of his appointment was to command the relief column, unless we also suppose that the failure of the column's first attempt

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was expected in Germany? However, the question will very soon be settled. If Count von Waldersee started yesterday (21st), as originally announced, it will be plain that the object of his appointment was something different from the leadership of the relief expedition.

So Count von Waldersee is coming. The news of the capture of Peking has not affected his movements. Thus the only conclusion we can form is that Germany foresees a possibility of more comprehensive measures than the capture of Peking becoming necessary. We trust not, and we think not, but it is well to be prepared for all contingencies.

As far as we can make out, Count von Waldersee will have about 11,000 Germans under his command; not eighteen thousand, as one of our correspondents recently stated. Count von Bulow, in his circular of July 12th:—

As regards Germany in particular, an expeditionary corps under the command of Major General von Hopfner left Wilhelmshaven on July 3rd on board the steamers *Wittekind* and *Frankfurt*, of the North German Lloyd. This corps consisted of two battalions of marines at war strength, a battery of field artillery (six 8.8 centimetre guns) 100 engineers and telegraphists, and a medical detachment—in all 69 officers and 2,432 men. Further, the first division of the first squadron, under Rear-Admiral von Geissler, has received orders to leave for East Asia. This division is composed of the battleships *Kurfürst Friedrich Wilhelm*, *Brandenburg*, *Weissenburg*, and *Worth*, and the despatch-boat *Hela*. The total strength of the crews amounts to 91 officers (including surgeons, engineers, and paymasters), 1,522 bluejackets, and 782 firemen—in all 2,402 men. The despatch of a mixed brigade to be composed of volunteers is in progress. This brigade will consist of eight battalions of infantry, three squadrons of cavalry, four batteries of field artillery, and the requisite special arms, ammunition column, and army service corps.

Concerning the composition of the mixed Brigade very divergent statements are made, but the most trustworthy seems to be the following:—

The official list of appointments to serve in the Chinese expeditionary corps is published in a special edition of the *Militär Wochenblatt*. This list shows that two "East Asiatic infantry brigades" are to be formed, each consisting of two "East Asiatic infantry regiments." There will further be set up an "East Asiatic cavalry regiment," consisting of three squadrons. The artillery will be composed of an "East Asiatic field artillery regiment" of four batteries and a battery of heavy artillery of the field army (howitzers). There will further be attached to the expeditionary corps an "East Asiatic engineer battalion" of two companies, a telegraph division, a railway construction company, an ambulance company, and an ammunition section (infantry and artillery ammunition columns, and an ammunition column for the heavy artillery). The army service corps will consist of two commissariat columns, one field bakery column, and four field hospitals. The communication bases will be under the control of an officer of the staff, with the rank of regimental commander, and will consist of a communications ammunition column, a horse depôt, a hospital reserve depôt, the *personnel* of the military hospitals, a clothing depôt, the stores *personnel*, the *personnel* for watching over the army service, and a hospital ship. The infantry, the engineers, and the communication troops will be armed with the latest rifle, the model adopted in the year 1898, the cavalry and the unmounted men of the field artillery with the 1898 carbine. Officers of the Infantry School of Rifle-shooting will arrive at the formation bases in Germany on July 18 in order to train the troops in the use of the new weapon. In accordance with an order issued by the Secretary of State for the Imperial Post Office, letters to and from the troops of the expeditionary corps will be carried post free.

Between 30 and 40 steamers will, it is said, be hired by the Government for purposes of transport. According to the *Vossische Zeitung*, it is intended to organize a regular service of steamers between Germany and China for the transport of food, ammunition, and other stores required by the troops. If the present plan is adhered to, a large steamer will leave for China twice a month. Care will also be taken to remove the sick and wounded from unhealthy localities as soon and as quickly as possible.

This account gives 4 regiments of 2 battalions each, or 6,400 men, the strength of each battalion being 800, according to accounts published elsewhere. Then we have 3 squadrons of cavalry, or about 700 sabres; 5 batteries of artillery, or 600 gunners; 2 companies of engineers, or 240 men, and other corps, say, 500—or 8,440 in all. Add to these 2,432 men who sailed from Germany on July 3rd, and 200 men now in Tientsin, and we have a total force of a little over 11,000 of all arms.

With regard to the officers next in seniority to Count von Waldersee, we find the following facts:—

Lieutenant-General von Lessel, who has been appointed to the command of the expedition to China, has been connected during a great part of his career with the German General Staff. He obtained his lieutenancy in the 2nd Guards Regiment in 1866 and took part with this regiment in the campaigns of 1866 and 1870-71. After studying at the Staff College for three years and subsequently commanding a company, he was attached to the General Staff of the army and also acted for a time on the staff of the 3rd Army Corps and of the 7th Division. After some further service in a regiment of the line, he returned to the General Staff as major in 1885. From 1886 to 1888 he was attached to the 20th Division, and from 1888 to 1889 to the 10th Army Corps, then under General von Caprivi at Hanover. Subsequently he was chief of the staff of the 1st Army Corps, and and in 1896 he became commander of the 2nd Grenadier Regiment, and in 1897 major-general in command of the 28th Brigade at Dusseldorf. From 1898 till May 22, 1900, he was acting as Chief Quartermaster, and since then he has been commanding the 28th Division at Karlsruhe.

Lieutenant-Colonel von Arnstedt, who will command the cavalry of the China expedition, is the colonel of the Brunswick Hussars. He has been in the service since 1870, and was at one time military tutor of Prince Frederick Henry and Prince Joachim Albrecht of Prussia, the sons of Prince Albrecht, the Regent of Brunswick. Major von Reitzenstein will command one of the squadrons of the cavalry corps. In looking though the list of 326 officers appointed in the new brigades one notices the names of many who are well known to be the most promising young men in the German army.

As to the time when Germany's force will arrive in China, we can form no clear idea. Apparently a portion—perhaps the whole—sailed on July 28th. If so, they should be at Taku about September 20th, supposing that they go to Taku, but truly we do not see what they will find to occupy them there. One can not help reflecting how things would have fared with the Peking community, had it been obliged to wait for rescue from Europe.

THE STEPS TO BE TAKEN IN CHINA.

The *Jiji Shimpo* strongly advises that steps be taken to secure the return of the Emperor of China to Peking under guarantees for his safety given by the foreign Powers. Our contemporary thinks that no other step would be more likely to tranquillize the mind of the Chinese nation, and further advocates that the occupation of Peking by Japanese troops should be employed as a step to ensure his Majesty's return. It is noteworthy that the *Jiji* does not say one word about the Empress-Dowager. Apparently the idea is to eliminate her altogether.

The *Jiumin* discusses the same problem, but confines itself in a preliminary article to stating the various questions that are likely to arise, as an indemnity, punitory measures, the formation of a progressive Cabinet, the organization of the Army and the police, the appointment of foreign advisers to reside in Peking, the abolition of restrictions on trade, and so on. What Japan's attitude should be, our contemporary undertakes to discuss in a future article.

The Osaka *Asahi* thinks that Germany is the great danger to the peace of the Orient. England and Russia have many points of difference, but they would not fight if left to themselves. Germany, however, while ostensibly preserving good relations with England, will secretly work to embroil her with Russia, for the integrity of China and the unimpaired strength of Russia are not objects for which Germany is disposed to labour. The preservation of the peace depends largely upon Japan, and our Osaka contemporary earnestly advises her to fulfil the important part devolving on her.

The *Nippon* reads its countrymen a lecture on their disposition to make violent efforts and then sit down to rest. It compares them to the Tokyo firemen, who rush into a conflagration, careless of life and limb, and afterwards proceed to smoke a pipe. The Japanese have entered the field and captured Peking while a great European Power is preparing to despatch an officer to take command of the expeditionary force. The question is, will they now be content to repose on their laurels or will they follow the unremitting, untiring example of Western nations?

The *Jiumin*, in a second article, gives its promised statement as to the course that Japan should adopt in the negotiations with China. Two things are declared to be cardinal; namely, an indemnity and guarantees for the future. Now it is precisely with regard to the nature of these guarantees that we should have been interested to learn our contemporary's views. But unfortunately they are witheld. Possibly they may be set forth in a future article, but nothing of that kind is implied. Even with regard to the territorial question the *Jiumin* is vague. It thinks that an effort should be made to maintain the present limits of the Chinese empire, but that, if the limits can not be protected against alteration, the empire at any rate should be preserved. There is a very large margin between the two policies. Finally, the *Jiumin* expresses the opinion that Japan's chief aim should be obtain tradal concessions from the Chinese, in which endeavour she will have England on her side.

The *Jiji Shimpo* thinks it worth while to comment on some sarcastic remarks recently published by the *Nippon*, to the effect that foreign Powers have used the Japanese in the present crisis much as one employs a dog or a horse, namely, to perform labour which is considered beneath one's own exertions. In accordance with that principle the Japanese troops have been placed in the van of the fight in China. "Let us pit barbarian against barbarian. Let us not waste the lives of any Occidentals." That has been the spirit actuating the Powers of Europe and America, according to the *Nippon*. The *Jiji* scouts the idea, but asks very pertinently what effect such a fancy ought to have had upon Japan's proceedings, even supposing it to be well founded. Should she, for that reason, have abstained from taking part in the campaign, and, had she done so, what would be her position to-day compared with the position she has gained?

IMPORTS FOR MANUFACTURING PURPOSES.

The Government has only now promulgated Law 85, passed by the Diet last session, providing that the import duties, levied on raw materials for manufacturing purposes will be remitted provided that the manufactured goods are exported within a year of the date of import.

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THE WHITE WHISKEY CASE.

The "white whiskey" case has created so much interest, and has given rise to so many false impressions in Yokohama and elsewhere, that we have considered it worth while to make full enquiry into the circumstances. The result of our investigations has been to prove, what indeed demanded no manner of proof, the absolute good faith of Mr. J. R. Morse, President of the American Trading Company, whose speculation in spirits was the origin of the dispute.

The whole trouble arose, as our readers already know, out of the importation by Mr. Morse of a large quantity of what was called "white whiskey." But the details of the transaction are, we believe, at present not within the knowledge of the public. The facts are that Mr. Morse first received from America a request for information whether he could sell in Japan the liquor known as rye whiskey. Mr. Morse was cautious, and, knowing that the Japanese had made strict alcohol regulations, and not knowing what the whiskey was, replied that he might be able to sell it, but that he must ask for a sample barrel first. The sample was sent, and when it arrived, without any suggestion at all from Mr. Morse, the Customs Authorities voluntarily classed it as whiskey subject to a duty charge of 40 per cent. Mr. Morse was not even satisfied with this, but took a portion of the contents of the barrel, and sent it down on March 3rd to the Customs Authorities with a letter. In this he pointed out that the spirit was a product which had been passed by them as whiskey and charged at a duty rate of 40 per cent., but that since he was requested to do business in the commodity on a large scale, and was considering the advisability of making a very large contract, he asked that they should test the sample again officially and let him know if he could count on goods of a similar nature being introduced at a 40 per cent. rate if he should enter into this contract. The Customs Authorities answered on the 5th March that they were satisfied that the liquor was whiskey, and that it would be subject to a duty rate of 40 per cent. if he made his contract. This letter was officially signed by the Customs Authorities, and duly delivered to Mr. Morse, and on the strength of it he made his contract for 10,000 barrels of whiskey. The first shipment came on the P.M steamer *China* on the 27th April, and consisted of 400 barrels, which were immediately passed by the Customs Authorities without argument or discussion, and were charged with a duty rate of 40 per cent. Later on a larger shipment reached Yokohama by a subsequent steamer, and the Customs Authorities then, for the first time, classed the product as alcohol, and assessed the duty at the rate of 250 per cent. which they insisted must apply to all subsequent shipments in the same contract.

The suggestion has been made that Mr. Morse was attempting to introduce alcohol at a lower rate by having it branded as whiskey. Now, as a matter of fact, the brands burnt into the barrels were placed there not by Mr. Morse, or by his agents, or even by the shippers or the manufacturers, but by the Excise officers of the U.S. Government, when the liquid was withdrawn from Government bond in Peoria, Illinois, under the requirements of the law, which provides that these officers should test all liquids withdrawn, and shall brand on the casks the trade name properly belonging to them, in order that they may not be sold under any other name.

We may observe parenthetically that, according to the system pursued in America, it is not permissible for anyone to manufacture whiskey or alchoholic liquor and sell it direct. It must go into Government bonded warehouses, where it is tested and branded by expert Government officials, who, on its withdrawal from bond or sale, give to the goods their trade name.

We have had an opportunity of inspecting the documents in this affair, and have traced these barrels of whiskey from the manufacturers at Peoria to the bonded warehouse, and from the bonded warehouse to the Customs House at San Francisco; and from the certified copies of officials' certificates we have seen that both by the inland officers and by the Customs officers at San Francisco the liquor was certified as whiskey, that duty was paid on it as whiskey on its leaving the bonded warehouse, and was afterwards allowed for on the liquor being shipped. It was gauged when it went into bond at Peoria, it was gauged when it came out, and was re-gauged and checked by the Government experts in San Francisco for export.

When these certificates were placed before the Japanese Authorities, the answer of the Japanese Government was that they could not allow certificates or official opinions of any foreign Government to influence them in the assessment of duties Mr. Morse never asked, of course, that the Japanese authorities should allow themselves to be influenced by a foreign Government in the assessment of duty, but what he did ask was that the Japanese should accept it that whiskey was not only the commercial trade name of these goods, but also their official trade name, and he asked them to take the certificate of a foreign Government only to establish the trade name of the goods, and then to apply Japanese law in fixing the duty that should be assessed on goods of that trade name. Japanese law provides that whiskey, gin, brandy, and so forth may be tested, and if they contain less than 65 degrees of pure spirit they shall not be classed as alcohol, but shall go in under the 40 per cent. qualification. The official decision of the authorities in this case was that the liquor contained 62$\frac{3}{10}$ degrees of pure spirit, but they refused to recognise the trade name of whiskey and to give Mr. Morse the benefit of the test guaranteed by Japanese law in the case of whiskey. They classed the liquor as alcohol on its "appearance and odour," and in regard to alcohol there is no limit of percentage of pure spirit fixed by law.

Another inference that has been somewhat ungraciously drawn in certain quarters is that Mr. Morse had the idea of introducing the liquor at 40 per cent. duty and selling it at a price which would have justified the imposition of 250 per cent. As a matter of fact a perusal of the contracts which Mr. Morse had entered into relative to this liquor shows that he not only bought the entire contract shipment at a whiskey price, but sold it to Japanese dealers at a whiskey price. So that, even if the liquor were actually alcohol and therefore would yield a large profit if introduced into the country as whiskey, Mr. Morse would not reap any of the benefit of it, and cannot be charged with any lack of business integrity in making the contract, which was concluded on his part with one of the largest and soundest concerns in the United States.

In the Appeal to the Department of Finance two points were made by the importer: one was the letter written to the Chief of Customs at Yokohama before the contract was made, and the other was the fact that the stuff was recognised as having the trade name of whiskey, and should have the benefit of the test guaranteed by Japanese law to whiskey. The decision given by the Department answered only the first point, and absolutely ignored the other. On the first point it said that the letter of the Chief of Customs could not be treated as having any official effect or force, and that the reply of the Customs Office was given not as a matter of official duty but from mere good-will and courtesy, and had no legal effect at all. The other point, which is of much greater importance, was quite ignored. The Customs took the ground that the second consignment was not the same as the sample and the first consignment, in spite of an affidavit of the Crown Distilleries Company before an officer of the United States and before the Japanese Consul of San Francisco, Count Mutsu.

We think we have said enough to show that, whatever may be the facts concerning the composition of the whiskey, Mr. Morse has acted throughout in a thoroughly straightforward manner. We should not have thought it anything but an impertinence to attempt to demonstrate such a proposition but for the fact that some bitter and quite unjustifiable criticism has been indulged in by a Kobe paper, which would appear to have the very smallest opportunity of knowing the facts, but which, with that species of valour in which fools are said to excel the angels, has thought it well to assail Mr. Morse.

To recapitulate, the contract was made with one of the soundest whiskey firms in the United States; Mr. Morse took the greatest possible care to ascertain whether the liquor could possibly be interpreted as coming under the heading of alcohol before he set about its import; it was examined by responsible United States officials and passed as whiskey; the brands of those officials were placed upon the barrels; the whiskey was bought at a whiskey price and was contracted to be sold at a whiskey price; and, lastly, it contained several degrees less pure spirit than the maximum allowance in the case of whiskey. Those facts seem to us sufficient to convince any but the incurably stupid or wilfully malicious that, whether the Customs officials be right or wrong in their exclusion of the liquor, there was not the least intention on Mr. Morse's part to do anything not in perfect accord with a business record of spotless honour. It is a pity that a paper which must necessarily get its information at second-hand should be so reckless in its conclusions as the *Kobe Chronicle* has shown itself in this matter.

EDUCATION.

The new Educational Regulations for Ordinary Primary Schools have been promulgated in the *Official Gazette*. It was in 1890 that the former Regulations were promulgated, and in these rapidly-moving times, all institutions seem to want re-casting in the space of ten years. There are various cardinal points of difference between the amended Regulations and the old. The first point is that whereas the study of the ideographs, composition, and reading have hitherto been taught independently, they will hereafter be included in one branch of study called "national language" (*kokugo*). The significance of this change is that the ideographs will cease to be learned by form and sound only without reference to their meaning. According to the present system, a Japanese child has to devote a long time at the outset of his studies to learning how to write the ideographs and

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how to pronounce them, without any reference to their meaning, which is a subsequent branch of study. His memory is exercised without any corresponding development of his intelligence. That will now be changed The second point is that whereas gymnastics have hitherto been optional, they will now become obligatory. The third point is that whereas history and geography have hitherto been separate subjects of study, they will thenceforth be studied in conjunction with "National Language." That means, we presume, that a child will learn where places are situated in connexion with the events that render them remarkable In short, the changes made are directed mainly to fuller development of the intellectual faculty and a diminished appeal to the mechanics of memory. There is another important change, namely, that the period of study is increased from 3 years to 4. On the other hand the course at the Higher Ordinary Schools, which has hitherto been 3 years, will henceforth be either 2 years, 3 years or 4 years. The 2 year-course will not include physics. Further, the item "foreign languages" will now be changed to "English language," but the study will be limited to the four-year course, and from all the courses geometry will be excluded. Finally, school fees will no longer be paid, education thus becoming free. This latter statement must, however, be modified. Hitherto the rule has been to exact fees, the exception to remit them. Hereafter the rule will be to remit them, the exception to exact them.

From the detailed regulations now published with reference to the changes introduced in the Law of Education—changes of which a general summary was given in our last issue—, we learn that an official step has now at length been taken to reduce the labour imposed on a Japanese child in studying the syllabic and ideographic scripts. The *Shira-kana*, consists, as our readers are probably aware, of 47 symbols each representing a syllable. But each of these symbols is written in more than one form, some having as many as four forms, so that it is necessary to commit at least 100 symbols to memory. The first of the steps now taken by the Educational Department is to abolish all these variations and adopt one only, the most simple, the *kana* being thus reduced to 47 symbols, neither more nor less. The second step relates to the use of the *kana*. One of the most perplexing vagaries of Japanese orthography is that, there being no long vowels in the *kana*, they have to be produced by combining two syllables, and, owing either to the caprice of ancient orthographists or to a desire to establish distinctions which have no practical value, different syllables are combined to produce the same sound. For example, *kô* is written *kau*, *kafu*, *kou*, *kofu*, or *kuwau*, *sô* is written *sau*, *safu* or *sou*, and so forth. All these various combinations are henceforth to be abolished in favour of a single *kana* sign supplemented by an enclitic. Thus the only legitimate way of writing kō will be こ—, that of writing Sō, そ— and so on. These are certainly very important simplifications. A great step has been taken with regard to the ideographs also. The Department issues a table containing 1,200 of the most commonly used ideographs, and instructs the schools to confine themselves to these as far as possible. We can not expect that the latter step will have much effect, but Rome was not built in a day. It is a great and blessed thing for Japan that officialdom has at length begun to think of lightening the terrible burden imposed upon the shoulders of the people in the race of intellectual progress.

Another great and, we venture to think, most salutary reform introduced by an Instruction from the Minister of Education is that progress from class to class is to be henceforth determined by the results of every-day study, not, as heretofore, by special examinations. We have often alluded to this subject in previous issues, and need not now repeat our remarks further than to say that, owing to the excessive prominence given to the examination, scholastic education has been virtually perverted into a course of cramming, to the detriment not only of the morale but also of the physique of the students We have witnessed with great regret the growth of this most pernicious habit, and we offer our sincere congratulations to Count Kabayama on the enlightened step he has now taken.

The Minister of Education has also cut down the hours of study at Common Elementary Schools from 30 hours per week to 28. The difference is not great, but it gives the lads half an hour longer for play four days in the week, and most assuredly they want it badly. In the Upper Elementary Schools the weekly course is reduced from 36 hours to 30, a very material reduction.

PEKING.

Belated news has at length arrived from Peking The Chinese appear to have maintained a desultory resistance throughout the 15th and 16th, but they were overcome without much difficulty. The capture of the forbidden city, however, has proved a matter of greater trouble, for the allied commanders, being anxious to preserve it against injury and to avoid killing or wounding any of its non-combatant inmates, have refrained from using artillery. By the evening of the 16th instant, the Japanese succeeded in getting possession of the main gate, and before we go to press news will doubtless be received that the city is entirely in the hands of the allies. It is to be sincerely hoped that there has not been any of the looting or inhuman outrages committed at Taku, at Tientsin, and at other places hitherto visited by the allied forces, but unless the discipline enforced by the commanding officers was very different from that observed up to the present, there will certainly be some evil tales to tell. Military men have been appointed to conduct the civil administration, the Japanese commissioner being Lieut.-Colonel Shiba, who was among those beleaguered in Peking. Colonel Shiba might well claim a little rest after the hardships he has undergone, but his knowledge of Peking renders him invaluable for duties such as he is now called on to discharge. The telegrams state that the northern half of the city has been placed under Japanese jurisdiction. The statement in that form is vague, since it does not indicate whether the word "city" includes the Chinese quarters or refers to the Tartar City only. If the former, then "the Forbidden City" is comprised in the northern half

There is still uncertainty as to the whereabouts of the leading Chinese officials and of the imperial court. Various rumours are published, but as they emanate from the least trustworthy of the Shanghai newspapers, little credit attaches to them. Among the stories we find it stated that the American troops suffered most in the assault on the Forbidden City; that Pring Twan is hiding in Peking; that the Court has fled with an escort of 3,000 of Tung's braves; that the Foreign Ministers deny indignantly the receipt of any provisions from the Court, and that, when the expeditionary force approached Peking, two thousand shells were fired into the Legations by the Chinese. The *China Gazette* is responsible for all these stories, and the probability is that they are mere conjectures, for the most part.

THE NEW PARTY.

The Imperialists, it appears, have declined to dissolve their Party for the purpose of joining the new political association. They intend to maintain their independent organization. Many of them, however, will pass over to the ranks of Marquis Ito's followers, so that there will remain only a very small coterie to represent the Party (*Teikoku-to*). Messrs. Sasa Tomofusa and Saito Shuichiro are said to be the leaders of the men opposed to dissolution. Their purpose in standing aloof is not clear, but we presume that they know their own business. At any rate, we incline to think it a wholesome thing that some publicists should oppose the almost romantic impulse now driving politicians to join the new Party. The country needs an Opposition.

The Liberals also are said to have declined to dissolve their organization in deference to the new Party. But their number also will be largely reduced by deserters to Marquis Ito's banner. And the same is true of the Progressists. In short, according to present appearances, the new Party will consist of recruits from the Progressists, the Liberals and the Imperialists, together with the whole of the Business Men and many of the "Independents," but the skeletons of the old parties will still remain articulated.

KOREA.

Our intelligence from Korea is that the appointment of Mr. Cho Pyeng-sik to the post of Korean Representative in Japan is interpreted to mean that he has undertaken to secure the political fugitives said to have been connected with the assassination of the Queen, especially the grandson of the ex-Regent, the Tai Won-kun. It is believed in Sōul that almost any reward within the gift of the ruler of Korea may be confidently anticipated by the man who succeeds in drawing these fugitives into the net of "Korean justice."

It appears that the *News* of Korea, a paper said to possess great influence, has just published a statement taken from the local Japanese Journal and said to have been copied by the latter from a Tokyo newspaper, to the effect that a scheme is on foot to divide Korea between Japan and Russia. The names of the Ministers of the two countries engaged in the plan were mentioned, and the result was the arrest of the editor. We have not yet learned what was done with him.

There seems to be much political unrest in Korea. The Pedlars, aided by conservatives like Cho Pyeng-Sik, are said to be behaving in such a manner that some violent change can not be long deferred. The Pedlars, according to our information, are not more trustworthy than the Boxers. Their anti-foreign feeling is not so much *en evidence*, but it is there all the same, and, given a favourable opportunity, it might develop startling dimensions

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THE ECHIGO OIL ENTERPRISE.

In the *Nippon* we find an article referring to the Echigo oil wells. The writer says that it is uncertain whether Messrs. Samuel, Samuel & Company will take any large share in the development of the enterprise, but that there cannot be any doubt about the intentions of the Standard Oil Company, whose representatives are actively engaged in making arrangements on an extensive plan. Some people, our contemporary goes on to say, are pleased to witness these proceedings, regarding them as the first advent of foreign capital on a large scale. But others, with whom the *Nippon* evidently sympathises, consider that it would be a national misfortune if an enterprise of such importance fell into foreign hands, and these persons, headed by Viscount Enomoto, Baron Shibusawa, Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro, and Mr. Mudaguchi, are engaged organizing a company with a capital of ten million *yen* to compete with the Standard. It will be observed that the patriotic objection attributed to these gentlemen by our contemporary is of the vaguest character. No attempt is made to explain how the interests of the country would be impaired because foreigners assist to develop a source of wealth which would otherwise lie dormant. The *Nippon* is not opposed to the introduction of foreign capital: it has often written liberal and able articles on the subject. But how can foreign capital be introduced if the mere fact that it chooses a promising field is to be held a disqualification? It is by no means certain that the oil enterprise of Echigo will prove remunerative. There have not been any indications as yet of an output sufficiently large and permanent to render success sure. A great deal of risk has to be undertaken. We imagine that the Standard Oil Company will have to sink from two to three million *yen* before it begins to derive any return, and, after all, the essay may turn out a loss. But even supposing that it fulfils the most sanguine expectations, what then? Does the *Nippon* expect, or do the gentlemen of whom it speaks expect, that foreign capital will flow into Japan if its channels of entry are to be limited to enterprises of a highly hazardous and unpromising kind only? So far from impairing Japan's interests, the Standard Oil Company will have materially advanced them if it succeeds in developing the Echigo wells on a scale commensurate with the outlays it is incurring, for not only would Japan then be in a self-supplying position with regard to one of her principal staples of consumption, but the Japanese themselves would be large gainers. There is no feature of monopoly in the proceedings of the Standard Oil Company. Its method is not to buy up large tracts of country and hold them in its sole possession. What it does is to work the oil-producing districts on a cooperative principle, giving a full and fair share of the profits to the owners of the land, but taking upon its own shoulders all the risks of development. No terms could be juster. There is more than that, too, in the matter. There is the effect that will surely be produced on Japan's credit if a great institution of world-wide fame like the Standard Oil Company shows sufficient confidence in the Japanese to invest millions of *yen* in a Japanese industry, and if the essay is successfully carried to completion. Much has been written and said about the danger of foreigners attempting to develop any big enterprise in this country. Nothing can dispel the prejudice thus created except a vivid object-lesson, and no object-lesson could be more conclusive than that furnished by the Standard Oil Company's operations in Echigo. People in Europe and America will inevitably say, when they see what the Standard Oil Company is doing, that if men of such shrewdness and repute as its directors do not fear to step into the Japanese field, others may safely follow. From that point of view we have watched the Company's doings with sympathetic interest, and hoped that neither the silly greed of local land-holders nor the force of prejudices such as the *Nippon* now ventilates, would create any obstacles. Besides, the Japanese can not develop these oil-fields without the aid of foreign experts. To attempt anything of the kind would be disastrous. It may thus be said that the Standard Oil Company is about to establish in Echigo a school where the Japanese can acquire all the necessary knowledge without buying it by costly experience.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The Emperor's present to the troops, to be conveyed by Baron Okazawa, who leaves Tokyo on the 20th, is said to be a hundred thousand bottles of Hirano, and seventy-five thousand cigars.

The East Asian Common-literature Society (*To-a Dobun-kai*) has passed a resolution declaring its determination to promote the cause of Chinese integrity. Prince Konoye, President of the Society, spoke in favour of taking active measures in the sense of the resolution.

The Canadian Parliament has thrown out the second reading of the bill for excluding Japanese immigrants. The bill provided that under no circumstances should an Asiatic be enfranchised in Canada, and that no immigrant should be admitted who could not write a petition for admission in the English language. As the troops of Japan and Great Britain are now working together in the field to save a community of foreigners in Peking, the time was not opportune for discussing such a bill.

We regret to have to announce the death of Countess Mutsu which took place at her residence in Sadowara-machi, Tokyo, on the 15th instant at 9 p.m. The body will be cremated, and a portion of the remains will be interred in Tokyo, another portion being buried in the same tomb with the body of Count Mutsu at Tennoji in Osaka. The Countess died of pneumonia resulting from a severe attack of influenza. The obsequies took place on the 19th instant, and were attended by a great number of notables, including Viscount Katsura, Count Itagaki, Baron Iwasaki, Count Goto, Count Inouye, Professor Hozumi, the prominent members of the Liberal Party, representatives of many Ministers, and nobles, &c., making in all fully a thousand persons.

The Progressists have held a meeting to consider the Chinese question, and have come to the conclusion that although the original purpose of the cooperating Powers in taking up arms was to rescue the Peking community which had been imperilled by the Chinese Government's failure to suppress the Boxers, that purpose seemed likely to be now amplified into a pretext for extensive aggressions. The Progressists decided therefore (1) that Japan must disapprove of all attempts to convert this crisis into a selfish pretext; and must endeavour to prevent such a result, (2) that in deference to neighbourly duties Japan must take the lead in endeavouring to restore peace; and (3) that the time for opening a general conference to discuss terms of peace had now arrived.

Mr. James Creelman has again taken the field. He finds in Mr. Stead's hysterics a good opportunity to make himself conspicuous, and he accordingly declares to the world that Japan should not be entrusted with the duty of relieving Peking lest her veneer of civilization might not prevent her from repeating the Port-Arthur drama. Mr. Creelman and Mr. Stead are most unfortunate in this matter. If only they had waited to learn the facts before masquerading in the garb of philanthropists. We ought to apologise to Mr. Stead for bracketting him with Creelman, but in this case the two are tarred with the same brush.

The 15th tunnel on the line over the Usui Pass has given way, and the service of trains was suspended until the evening of the 17th, when traffic was again possible.

Sir Charles Dilke, speaking about the Chinese crisis, declared that England and America were the only two Powers honestly desirous of preserving the integrity of China; that Japan and Germany were in favour of partition, and that, if England and America held together, they could easily impose their policy on the rest. Sir Charles is a long-headed statesman, but in this matter he shows himself egregiously mistaken. No Power is more sincerely in opposition to the partition of China than her neighbour Japan.

In the same speech Sir Charles said that the annexation of Manchuria by Russia must be tacitly permitted because it would inure to the benefit of Manchuria. Is not that a remarkable proposition to issue from the lips of an avowed advocate of the non-partition policy? "Let us not have any cutting up, but, at the same time, let us allow Russia to take a huge slice." Statecraft so glaringly disingenuous is beyond the comprehension of every-day folk.

The special correspondent of the *Mainichi Shimbun*—not the correspondent who discussed these matters on previous occasions—writing from Tong-ku under date of the 10th instant, declares that the outrages perpetrated by Russian soldiers continue unabated. We shall not quote the particulars of our contemporary's charges. They are shocking. Doubtless these matters will be cleared up by-and-by. The Russians are not the only troops accused of cruel conduct.

Fresh disturbances are reported from Formosa. We can not identify the locality but the facts are that an insurgent chief, Chang, who had previously made act of submission, was found to have issued an inflammatory circular and was arrested. As he was being marched to jail, a resolute attempt was made by 200 of his associates to rescue him. The essay failed but Chang managed to effect his escape from prison the same night.

The *Asahi Shimbun* says that in consideration of the duties devolving on him, as the leader of the new political party, Marquis Ito has intimated his desire to resign the position of President of the *Teishitsu Seido Chosa-kyoku* (Bureau for Investigation of the Imperial Court Constitution). Our contemporary adds that as most of the work of the Bureau has been finished, the presidency will devolve upon the present Vice-President, Count Hijikata,

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and the Bureau will be closed at the end of the year. The duties discharged by Marquis Ito in connexion with this Bureau have been among the most important ever undertaken by him, and as it was not anticipated that they could be concluded within the short space of a year, we are surprised to learn the *Asahi's* news. The Bureau was organized last September, and thus far the only body of laws issued by it has been the *Teishitsu Konka-rei* (Imperial Marriage Law), by the provisions of which the arrangements connected with the wedding of the Prince Imperial were regulated. There must, therefore, be much work still unfinished, and as Marquis Ito is perhaps the only statesman in Japan possessing all the qualities essential for such duties, we are inclined to doubt the statement that he has already resigned them, unless, indeed, he regards the tenure of the post as incompatible with his new political position.

It is stated that the manifesto of the new political party will be issued over the name of Marquis Ito only, and that the committee of management will subsequently be appointed. The Committee will probably include Messrs. Hoshi, Hayashi, Matsuda and Suyematsu, Viscount Watanabe, Baron Kaneko, Messrs. Watanabe Koki, Hara Kei, Haseba Junko and Ooka Ikuzo. Another may be added, and, if so, it will doubtless be Mr. Ozaki Yukio. It is expected that there will be a grand gathering at the Imperial Hotel on the 25th instant for the purpose of proclaiming the laws of the new association. Representatives of the Business Men (Jitsuyo-ka) will probably hold a meeting there on the 23rd. Marquis Ito, it is said, will attend on both occasions, and will enunciate the purpose and policy of the Party. Meanwhile Mr. Ozaki Yukio is said to have applied for a meeting of the *Hyōgi-in* (advisory committee) of the Progressists on the 22nd instant, his purpose being to lay before them a proposal for the dissolution of the Party in order that its elements may amalgamate with the new association. Mr. Ozaki knows, of course, that such a proposal will not be endorsed by his colleagues, but he probably regards it as a necessary preliminary to his own secession, which is now considered inevitable. There is some uncertainty whether the Advisory Committee will meet as desired, or whether some step will not be previously taken with regard to Mr. Ozaki. At any rate, as he has hitherto been the very head and front of the Progressists—after Count Okuma—their leader in Parliament and their ablest debator, his secession will be a great blow.

The first-class cruiser *Azuma* sailed from Portsmouth for Japan on the 17th. The *Azuma* was built in France, but her armament is English. Her displacement is 9,456 tons.

The *Oshima*, which has for some time been stationed at Chemulpo, has proceeded to Fuchow to assist in protecting life and property there. The *Oshima* is a steel gun-boat of 640 tons displacement.

The *Hochi Shimpo* declares, and other Tokyo newspapers endorse the statement, that Russia's treatment of Japan has of late undergone a marked change, and that the great Northern Power now shows a strong inclination to court Japanese good will. The *Hochi* publishes, with reference to this subject, an article which is partly solemn, partly sarcastic, largely courteous, and slightly rude. We confess that we do not quite perceive what view our contemporary intends to enforce. In one breath it tells us that the Czar is an eminently peaceful Sovereign and that Russia's policy towards Japan is dictated by that laudable sentiment. In the next, a very plain intimation is given that Russia is actuated by wholesome prudence. For our own part, we have always thought and said that one result of the present complications would be to reduce the tension between Russia and Japan.

At the distribution of awards in connexion with the Paris Exhibition on the 18th inst., 40 Japanese exhibitors obtained certificates of honour; 138 received gold medals; 256 received silver medals; 507 received copper medals, and 316 received certificates of merit.

THE LATE KING HUMBERT.

The American papers just received give few further particulars beyond those already published in Japan of the assassination of King Humbert. Monza, the scene of the assassination, is a summer resort about nine miles from Milan and is much frequented by the Milanese. The royal palace was built in 1719 by order of the Archduke Ferdinand of Austria after designs by Piermarini. It stands in a beautiful and very large park surrounded by walls and laid out in many winding drives. The gardens contain notable collections of indigenous and exotic plants. The facade of the palace is considered very impressive and the interior is ornamented by frescoes by Applani and paintings by Gozzi, Traballeri and Sanguirico. Besides the royal palace there is in Monza the communal palace and a very ancient cathedral of St. John the Baptist, which in the fourteenth century was rebuilt after designs by Matteo Di Campione. In this cathedral also is preserved the noted iron crown of Lombardy, so called because in it there is an iron nail said to be from the true cross. The crown itself is of gold.

It appears that when King Humbert was wounded he exclaimed, "It is nothing." The royal carriage covered the distance between the Gymnastic Society's clubhouse, where the crime was committed, and the royal villa at full speed, requiring but three minutes. The King expired on the way, and, although placed on a bed, was dead when the doctors arrived. Bressi is young, tall and swarthy. It appears he recently left Patterson, N.J., stayed a while in New York, then journeyed to Italy and remained four days at Prato and two days at Bologne, after which he went to Monza.

When Queen Margherita arrived at the villa it was still hoped that the King would survive, and when the truth was broken to her a heart-rending scene ensued. Bursting into tears she exclaimed:—"It is the greatest crime of the century. Humbert was good and faithful. No person could have loved his people more. He was one who bore ill will to none." When the Queen's mother arrived there was another affecting scene.

The assassin was strictly guarded in prison. He preserved absolute indifference and took his meals without any sign of being affected by his position.

The first shot, it seems, wounded the King in the neck, the second—the fatal one—pierced his heart, and the third broke the arm of the already dying sovereign. The crowd was stunned by the unexpected scene, but speedily a rush was made toward the assassin. He did not attempt to escape and was roughly treated until the carbineers formed a cordon and secured him from the fury of the people.

An eye-witness says that immediately after the shots were fired the King fell back pressing his hand to his heart. He was instantly supported by General Ponzio Baglia, who told the coachman to drive with all speed. Beyond the exclamation, "It is nothing," the King did not utter a sound. Blood gushed from his mouth.

Mgr. Angelo di Pietro, Prefect of the Congregation of the Council, took it upon himself to inform the Pope of the assassination of King Humbert. He entered the chamber of the Pope at an early hour. The latter was already awake. The Cardinal cautiously first stated that an attempt had been made upon the life of the King, whereupon the Pope immediately asked if the wound was dangerous. The prelate replied, "Very dangerous." But his anxious air was noticed by the Pope, who at once divined the truth. His emotion was such that he was unable to speak for some time. When his distress had passed he wished to leave his bed and to celebrate mass for the repose of the King's soul. Later he summoned Cardinal Rampolla, Papal Secretary of State, whom he requested to send a dispatch of condolence to the Princess Clotilde, sister of the Queen.

Moving an address to the Queen with reference to the assassination of King Humbert of Italy, the English Premier, Lord Salisbury, said in the House of Lords that anarchists are not confined to any one political opinion. The last half century had seen the assassination of three Presidents of republics and two monarchs. It was "a fearful thing," Lord Salisbury said, "to contemplate this depth of human villainy beneath the smiling surface of society, threatening the destinies of society in the early future." The Premier paid a glowing tribute to the character of King Humbert, who, he said, had unflaggingly worked for the benefit of his country and people. The assassination of such a man could not be considered private revenge. It was nothing but that morbid thirst for notoriety which is the plague and curse of modern civilization, which had time and again led men to the commission of the foulest crimes and which threatened the very existence of society if it could not be arrested. He did not propose to speak of remedies for such a state of things, but he had never hesitated to express his own views in that respect. Modern society had erred on the side of leniency. The Earl of Kimberley seconded the motion for the adoption of the address, which was adopted both in the House of Lords and in the Commons. In the lower house, Mr. A. J. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury, spoke in a similar strain to the speech by Lord Salisbury, and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Liberal leader in the House of Commons, seconded the motion.

POSTAL STATISTICS.

According to the *Niroku* mail matters dealt with during last year numbered 621,485,567, showing an increase of 16,138,013 over the figure for the previous year. The increment, however, was secured only in connection with newspapers, periodicals, and magazines, which escaped increased fees at the time of the alteration of the postal regulations. In the case of letters and communications a decrease of over 9 millions is noticeable. As to post cards, the number increased by 3 millions, but this is simply the result of economy exercised in regard to sealed correspondence. The *Toyo Keizai Shimpo* gives the comparative figures for the past seven years as follows:—

Year.	Letters and cards, thousands.	Increase or decrease, thousands.
1893	238,751	—
1894	285,144	46,393
1895	338,403	53,256
1896	385,212	46,809
1897	444,508	59,296
1898	481,554	37,045
1899	476,058	*5,496

(* represents decrease.)

Taking the average increase for the past years as 48,560,000, and adding to it 5,496,000, the number of last year's decrease, we get a total of 54,056,000, as representing the true extent to which correspondence has been hampered by the imposition of increased postage fees. Nothing can be more inadvisable, remarks our contemporary, than to throw obstacles in the way of correspondence.

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DR. KATO ON THE EVOLUTION OF MORALITY AND LAW.

Among Japanese writers on Philosophy Dr. Kato Hiroyuki has no equal. He is the only Japanese whose system of philosophy has been seriously discussed by the Germans. Though for over thirty years he has been an earnest student of the views advocated by various German Schools, he cannot be said to have adopted any one set of opinions. He has played the part of an eclectic. His views have been moulded as much by his Oriental surroundings and studies as by his investigation of Occidental thought. The result is that Dr. Kato is a new and original type of philosopher, and as such forms an interesting subject of study. A few months ago he gave to the world a new work entitled *Dôtoku, Horitsu Shiukwa uoku* (The Principle of the Evolution of Morality and Law), which is a very full and lucid explanation of the views held by the author on the deeper questions of philosophy. The book covers 212 large-sized pages. In the matter of arrangement it leaves nothing to be desired, and the style is such that the reader is never in any doubt as to the meaning of the author. As the number of foreigners who can read and understand books of this class is very small we propose to furnish a brief epitome of the work. Though the task of summarising an extremely technical treatise of this kind is by no means easy, the importance of the subjects treated and the high position as a writer occupied by Dr. Kato have induced us to attempt the undertaking.

In his introduction Dr. Kato tells us that the work under review contains the only full exposition of his views on the Evolution of Law and Morality that he has published. He then plunges at once *in medias res* and states his main position as a philosopher in the following terms:—According to the Chinese, heaven, earth, and man are three great powers (三才) of equal rank that are all united. But man is the head of all things or the soul of the Universe. In Western philosophy the Universe is the *makrokosmos* and man the *mikrokosmos*. According to religious teaching man is made in the image of God. Though in ancient times it was customary to think of man as inherently qualified to occupy a preeminent position in the Universe and to attribute to him sacredness approaching that of a god, it has now been made plain by scientific study that the position held by man in the Universe to-day is the result of the stages of progress through which he has passed—is the result of evolution and selection natural and artificial. Many of the errors into which philosophers have fallen are traceable to the misconception of man's original position in the Universe, to the notion that man was originally endowed with rational faculties not possessed by other animals. The theory of the original sacredness of man may be said to have been exploded. Man does occupy the highest place in the Universe to-day, but this is the result of his own efforts in the past. It will be seen that the principle that underlies my explanation of the development of morality and law is essentially utilitarian. But in not a few particulars my views differ from those of the leading Occidental Utilitarians, as well as from those of writers on evolution. For the terms Egoism and Altruism I have used the words 愛己心 *Aiko Shin* and 愛他心 *Aita Shin*, instead of those hitherto employed 利己心 *Riko Shin* and 利他心 *Rita Shin*, for the reason that, perhaps owing to the Buddhist origin of the latter terms, *Riko* is used in a bad sense and *Rita* in a good, thus leading to an entire begging of the question, in what does true egoism consist?

PART I.—EGOISM AND ALTRUISM.

Chap. I.—Pure Egoism and Transformed Egoism (that is Altruism); and the nature and different kinds of Egoism.

Chap. II.—Differences between the Three Kinds of Egoism.

Chap. III.—The Relation of Egoism to Altruism.

Chap. IV.—Egoism and Altruism. The conflict of individual interests and the struggle for supremacy among states and other organized bodies, and the natural selection ever going on result in the development of higher types of Egoism and Altruism.

PART II.—MORALITY AND LAW.

Chap. I.—The Nature of Morality and Law; their first appearance and progress.

Chap. II.—Virtue and Vice, Right and Wrong, together with the idea of Morality and of Law.

Chap. III.—The Principle of Utilitarianism, its character and varieties.

Chap. IV.—The conflict of interests and the competition for power between the higher and lower types of humanity have given rise to a process of natural selection that has resulted in the development of Morality and Law.

Chap. V.—Within what limits are Morality and Law necessary?

Chap. VI.—Morality and Law for all men as subjects of a universal empire.

Chap. VII.—Morality and Law compared. Peculiar human acts that are neither connected with Law nor Morality (Incident to Political Revolutions).

Chap. VIII.—The Relation of Egoism and Altruism to Morality and Law.

Chap. IX.—Morality and Law sometimes become the means of destroying the peace and happiness of a State.

Part. I. Chap. I.—What is known as egoism is nothing but the developed form of that self-protecting spirit which characterises all animals alike. It is the higher or more rational form of the self-preserving instinct that we call egoism It is quite plain that egoism is the basis of all altruism, as individual life preceded the life of what is called society and constituted the one essential condition of its existence. There are two kinds of altruism. One is the result of natural processes, the other may be said to have been manufactured. Altruism may be the result of feeling or it may be the result of reasoning. In either case it is natural. But there is a good deal of altruism that is the result of teaching, religious or otherwise. The feeling referred to above may be that of a parent for its child, of friends for each other, or it may be of a more general kind like the sociality which is so common a characteristic of human beings. What may be called rational altruism is the result of an intelligent appreciation of the many benefits to be derived from considering the interests, feelings, and tastes of other people in deciding our own acts. In teaching altruism resort has been had by some to doctrines concerning a future life. Future rewards and punishments have been used as incentives to charity and devotion to the welfare of others.

Chap. II.—The three kinds of altruism referred to here are those mentioned in the last chapter, namely, (1) that which proceeds from feeling; (2) that which is the result of intelligence; and (3) that which is taught. The differences discussed are (1) as to *motive* (that is, the exciting cause); (2) as to *object* or *end*; (3) as to *consciousness*; and (4) as to *reward*. The views of various European writers on this subject are given, for which we have no space in this review.

Chap. III.—Altruism may be compared to the shell of a nut of which egoism is the kernel. A very slight cracking of the shell reveals the kernel inside. But there are times when the shell appears too weak to contain the kernel, when it breaks through of its own accord and reveals its identity. Of pure egoism there are two kinds. One is unlimited and has no respect for the rights and feelings of others, the other is limited and is largely guided by consideration for others . . . . . Those scholars who have taught unqualified altruism have done much to destroy that spirit of independence in man which depends on the development of individuality. Their error is to be attributed to the fact that it is only in modern times that the process by which altruism was evolved out of egoism has been made plain. The extreme forms of egoism developed in the lower animals at first and inherited by man as the race progressed gave place to qualified egoism, which is only another name for altruism. But there are not a few modern scholars who, like Spencer, regard egoism and altruism as co-ordinate principles. They quote the habits of animals in order to show that regard for others is as old an instinct as regard for self, but to me the examples quoted seem capable of being interpreted in an entirely opposite manner, that is of being represented rather as forms of egoism. To me, then, the two principles are not co-ordinate. Altruism is subordinate to egoism and always has been so.

Chap. IV.—In the early stages of human progress the masses have no individual rights. Altruism is forced on the weak by the strong. This may be called involuntary or even slavish altruism. As people become enlightened the desire to assert their individuality becomes greater, and in order to be able to do this oppressed classes contend for rank and power. There are those who argue that the manner in which the strong treat the weak displays a species of altruism, in that certain benefits are conferred by this treatment, but to me this view is quite untenable. The conduct of those in power towards their inferiors is in too many cases egoism of a most objectionable type. The use they make of their subordinates differs nothing from the use made of horses or other animals—its object being the furthering of the ends of the employer rather than the benefit of the employed. Treatment which leaves the individual no liberty whatever can hardly be described as altruism. A certain amount of profit accrues to the weak from their connection with the strong, but this result does not warrant our regarding the attitude of the strong as altruistic. The generosity with which those in power treat their subjects or subordinates may be described as mercy, favour, or condescension, but it never rises to the level of altruism. . . . . It is true to say that among uncivilised and semi-civilised nations there is very little real altruism and that even among highly civilised states altruism is too often only practised to a limited extent. Certain classes of people only are treated with consideration. Such is the altruism of the Brahmans and such too is the altruism of modern Europe and America, which excludes many alien races from the favours it has to bestow. . . . . But the competition between States, while it develops what may be called State egoism, has a tendency to produce a higher type of altruism. The conduct of nations is so keenly criticised and so fearlessly exposed in modern times that a large amount of impartiality of action is forced upon all countries claiming to be civilised.

Part II. Chap. I.—Wherever communities of human beings have gathered and settled there have sprung up a set of rules or ways of acting toward each other. These have formed the basis of the systems of morality and law which have governed them in later times. All law and all morality then originated in custom. And custom, or established usage, was the result of natural or artificial selection. A great many ways of doing things were tried and eventually one way was adopted generally as the best way. Where the selection has gone on freely without interference on the part of individuals or bodies in power it is called natural selection. Where there has been a distinct choice made by influential persons, and where their decisions have been sanctioned by the community the selection is spoken of as artificial. In the construction of morality and law, speaking generally, natural selection has played a more important part than artificial. . . . There are schools that deny that this is the true origin of morality and law. There are the intuitionists, who assert that morality and law originate with man's conscience, a special gift of Heaven by means of which he is able to distinguish between right and wrong; and that did not this moral faculty exist in man no such morality and law as we now possess could have been called into existence. Then there are those who think that the moral qualities of actions are part of the order of nature which was fixed for all time at the creation of the world. Then there are among Utilitarians some like Hobbes who assert that in the development of morality and law there was no such thing as natural selection; it was all artificial from beginning to end. Aristotle seems to have taken this view, as he argues that right and wrong, virtue and vice, are decided by those in authority. There are those who assert that Confucius was an intuitionist and also a Utilitarian of the Hobbes school, but some uncertainty is attached to this view. But 荀子, Siuntsz, clearly taught the same doctrine as Hobbes 2000 years before the English philosopher was born. In the work of Siuntsz known as 性惡篇 man's nature is represented as radically bad and hence necessitating the establishment of law and

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rules of morality to prevent its running riot. Morality and law then are measures devised by man to restrain his inordinate desires. The Japanese philosopher Sorai in his 辨道, *Bendō*, propounds pretty much the same theory. He says, "The teaching of the Chinese sages known as the *Sen-ō no michi* (The way of ancient kings) was not developed naturally but was constructed by the ancient kings, who were endowed with the highest intelligence and were appointed by Heaven to reign and to comfort their subjects. . . In deciding on the road which men must follow the ancient kings consulted human nature, but we cannot say on this account that their teaching was the teaching of nature, any more that we can say that the palace for the building of which wood is used is a product of nature because trees grow naturally The moulding of things so as to make them serve certain ends belongs to man. The economist Ninomiya Sontoku wrote in a similar strain. In his *Yawa* (Nightly Chats) we find the following passage:—"The earth goes around ceaselessly, heat follows cold. Things are created in order to perish. The fences made by man soon crumble to bits, his canals fill up. The roof that covers his house decays. There is no constancy anywhere. Such is the way of nature. Nature allows things to go to decay. The richest land if let alone grows barren and useless. But what is known as man's way (*jindo*) is different. Man has a fixed purpose and he makes all things conform to it. He improves on nature. He plants rice where nature has only furnished weeds. There is no good and no bad as far as nature is concerned. Her plan is to let things alone. Man comes into the world like a cook and uses the materials at hand for his own purposes. But since the steps he takes for preserving what is valuable from disintegration and decay often prove inadequate he passes laws, develops a system of morality, establishes religion, and is particular about etiquette and thus after endless pains constructs what we call the path of duty." Stated briefly the difference in the views of the above-quoted philosophers is as follows:—Hobbes was of opinion that man's nature is selfish to the core and that it has no elements in it that are inclined to virtue. Morality may depend on religion and other influences, but can expect no assistance from man's mental constitution. Suintsz seem to have plainly taught that there were no germs in man's nature for morality to use. Sorai taught that there were germs there, but that their development is wholly dependent on human effort. Ninomiya held that man's way and nature's way are opposed to each other. On the question of whether human nature has in it the elements of morality or not he is silent. It seems to me, says Dr. Kato, that it was plain to both the Chinese and Japanese philosophers who wrote on this subject that without anything to work on in human nature the elaboration of a system of morality by the sages of antiquity would have been impossible. Hence, in general, they say that the sages were following the bent of human nature in laying down rules of action. The terms used to describe nature varied according to different writers. We have *Tenchi michi*, *Tenri*, and *Tensoku*. How far morality and law have been manufactured and how far they have sprung up naturally it is hard to determine. Perhaps in this the history of no two countries is alike. The intuitionists are very much out of date at the present time. Men like Mackintosh and Buckle have maintained that the main elements of morality never change; that there can be no such thing as an evolved system of morals. But such writers have not thoroughly studied the progress of morality in uncivilised and semi-civilised countries. It may be true that little change is perceptible in the morality of modern civilised nations, but if we examine the moral notions of partially civilised races we find them changing fundamentally from age to age. As for me I am of opinion that in all countries morality is progressive and that higher types are yet to be reached even by the most forward of nations.*

Chap. II.—With the Chinese philosophers the question of what constitutes virtue and what vice, or of what is right and what wrong, is mixed up with the question of the good or evil tendency of man's nature. Is man to be regarded as inherently bad or inherently good? Upon the answer to this query depends the system of morality prescribed by the leading moralists of the world. Mencius taught that man's nature is good; Liu-tsz that it is bad; Tung-tze (董子) and Yang-tze (楊子) that good and evil are mixed, and others have asserted that man's nature is quite negative, neither good nor bad, that is that there are no moral elements whatever in man's constitution. But laying aside the consideration of the abstract qualities called good and evil, if we come to actions, there seems to be no doubt that actions bear a different character according to the circumstances under which and the time at which they are performed. And if actions thus change their quality, may not the mind which plans them and helps to carry them out alter in like manner? Does not the law of evolution work wonders here as well as elsewhere?

It was a characteristic of the writers quoted above that egoism was always bad and altruism always good.

Dr. Katō quotes largely from European writers throughout the treatise. These quotations we find it impossible to find space for even in an epitomised form.

Chap. III.—Utilitarians are divided into what may be termed the egoists and the altruists, that is there is a disagreement among them as to whether the principle known as utilitarianism is chiefly egoistic or chiefly altruistic in character. Among those who champion the egoistic cause are Hobbes, Cocke, Bentham, Mill, and other English philosophers. Sidgewick and a large number of modern writers maintain that Utilitarianism is essentially altruistic. Dr. Kato adopts the first view but differs from some of the conclusions reached by its supporters, and at considerable length states and answers the arguments of his opponents. According to the Utilitarians the ultimate object of all morality and all law is "the greatest happiness of the greatest number." Dr. Kato objects to this definition on the score that it does not specify whether the happiness to be conferred is to be given to individuals as individuals or to individuals as members of a State. He thinks that there is no happiness to be obtained apart from State organisation and control. It is organised bodies of human beings that derive benefit from wise laws and good moral teaching. The object of morality and law is the welfare of organised communities. There are times when the welfare of large numbers of human beings considered individually is quite incompatible with the welfare of organised bodies and in this case the latter must have precedence. It is then the happiness of society generally in the life that is lived under the control of various States that is the final object of all morality and law. This is made very apparent in a country like Japan, where the Sovereign holds such a high place in the breasts of his subjects. Patriotism in this country means loyalty to the throne. To the Japanese the Emperor and the country are one and the same. The Emperor of Japan without the slightest exaggeration can say *L'état c'est moi*. The Japanese believe that all their happiness is bound up with the Imperial line and have no respect for any system of morality or law that fails to take cognisance of this fact. Bismarck was of opinion that the same feeling exists in Germany as is shown by his remark:—*Wir haben in Preussen nicht gelernt, den Dienst der Fursten von dem Dienste des Vaterlandes zu Scheiden.*

Spencer argues that the happiness of the individual is the final object of morality and law, and that the happiness of society is only a means of attaining this object. But is not this doctrine subversive of the prosperity and even the very existence of States? The peace and order which constitute the primary and essential foundation of all happiness can only be maintained by a well-organised governing body, and the welfare of a nation as a nation is distinctly more important than the welfare of the individuals composing it considered separately. The object of morality and law is thus concisely stated by Dr. Kato: "Morality and Law control the relations, both egoistic and altruistic, between the society of States and individuals and between each separate individual and prescribe what self-control is necessary, and thus they are the means of furthering the peace and happiness of State society both directly and indirectly."

Chap. IV.—In the early stages of a nation's progress certain classes of human beings exercise despotic control over the masses of the people. Various forms of slavery exist. Women are subject to men. The rulers do as they please and the ruled have no rights. While this state of things lasts morality and law are framed with a view of maintaining the authority of those in power, and even-handed justice is practically unknown. Then there ensues a struggle for power. The fittest come to the front. Enlightenment spreads and as a result the old one-sided morality and law are abandoned in favour of a more equitable code. The equality of all men in the eyes of the law is a stage that it takes a long time to reach. One of the chief objects of morality and law is to sweep away the distinctions which wealth, rank, and a number of fortuitous circumstances have created between different classes of people. Only in the region of morality and law are men equal. In every other sphere their inequality is too real to be explained away.

Chap. V.—The Intuitionists and the believers in a fixed order of nature among philosophers hold that in their dealings with each other men of all nationalities are bound to act in conformity with morality and law. To Utilitarians this demand seems unreasonable. Those who maintain the above-named theory are of opinion that morality and law of universal applicability and authority exist. But Utilitarians do not accept this view. They hold that such morality and law as exist exist for the sake of consolidating and benefiting certain States; that they have no authority over other States, being in some cases opposed to the morality and law of other States. Hence it follows that in the dealings of one State with another interest dictates what principles of morality and law are to be observed. In actual practice to-day there is no such thing as the invariable following of an abstract moral principle by a number of countries. Just as no society can exist without the observation of certain rules of action, so in international dealings certain principles have to be observed. Their choice is dictated by utility and nothing beside. This is the guiding principle of modern international transactions of all kinds. It must be admitted that high class morality would require that acts which, when committed against one's own countrymen, would be universally condemned as bad, should be considered as equally bad when committed against foreigners. But no such code of morals is practised by the leading nations of the world. On the contrary, arbitrariness, aggression, injustice, cruelty, oppression, and the like, all receive public approval when alien races are the subjects under treatment. The answer to the question which forms the heading of this chapter, "Within what limits are morality and law necessary?" is, their use is confined to the State by which they are observed, and they are only to be used *vis-à-vis* foreign States in so far as interest allows. So that in the matter of the applicability of certain moral maxims and codes to foreigners, the practice of the uncivilised, who have no respect for foreign property and foreign lives, and that of the highly civilised, who feel at liberty to violate all the maxims of home morality in dealing with alien races, occupy the some position. Each party practically denies the universal and impartial applicability of law and morality.

Chap. VI.—As the world is now constituted no such things as universal morality and universal law are possible. The interests of one State are opposed to the interests of another and this matter of interest affects morality in a most fundamental manner. The doctrine that all men should love

* In confirmation of this opinion the change in the ideas of the English and the Americans in reference to slavery in the early part of this century and the ideas of the Japanese in reference to the vendetta, suicide, and many other actions may be quoted. Nothing could be more radical than the above changes and they could be matched in the history of the moral notions of other nations.—(REVIEWER).

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each other and act in a friendly manner to each other is found to be incapable of being practised to any very great extent. The progress of nations is dependent on competition with each other. Competition begets jealousy and envy. The prizes are few, the competitors many. Heart-burning is the consequence. International jealousy and envy leading to all manner of unfriendly acts prevail from age to age. Now the only chance of bringing into existence moral principles and laws that shall be universally binding would be the establishment of a universal empire. Since the publication of Kant's *Ewige Frieden* the possibility of bringing such an empire into existence has been earnestly discussed by scholars, and after considering all the objections to its practicability which have been raised, I am of opinion that, the interests of mankind in general being so much in favour of the whole world being brought under the control of one set of laws and one moral code, when we consider the enormous influence which human interests always have exercised and will exercise on the course of events, it is not too much to hope that within a calculable period this grand consummation will be effected. Until it is effected, however much men may indulge in theories, in actual practice there can be no such thing as the administration of a universally acknowledged moral code or system of laws.

Dr. Kato treats this subject at great length, answering many objections to his view, discussing the Peace Conference and kindred indications of the desire for relief from the existing strain of armed nations.

Chap. VII.—Speaking generally, morality and law are one and the same, together constituting the means for preserving society from destruction. In origin, in nature, and in purpose they are one. Taken as a means for preserving society, law may be said to be of absolute necessity, taking law to include the authority by which it is enforced, and morality to be of relative necessity. Though for the sake of convenience we divide them, Law and Morality are so much the same that one term would do for both. Together they constitute the opinion of existing society as to the nature of the acts of individuals and organised bodies. Morality is often used in a broad sense so as to include all rules of action whatever and then law is embraced in the meaning of the term. Among uncivilised nations the enforcement of Law is more important than the teaching of morality. Society can only be held together by insisting on the observance of existing laws. But among enlightened people there is little inclination to break the law and with them moral teaching becomes still more important than law. In progressive countries the unwritten moral sense of the public becomes a higher tribunal than the written law of the land; and there arise cases where a man escapes punishment from the law, owing to some technicality or owing to the nature of his actions, but he is branded with disgrace by public opinion and his offence is never forgotten. Thus does morality supplement law in a variety of ways, contributing not a little to the welfare of society. The acts which are controlled by law and those which are controlled by public opinion on moral subjects differ considerably in different countries. The scope of morality and law respectively even in any given country changes continually.

The peculiar acts referred to in the heading of this chapter are such as are committed in the time of revolution, and this is what Dr. Katō has to say about them. That the overthrow of constituted authority and the assassination of cruel despots are against law is evident enough, but are such acts immoral in all circumstances? Those who believe that morality occupies a higher rank than law maintain that, though illegal, these acts are eminently praiseworthy as they are conducive to virtue. But I have no hesitation in condemning all such acts as contrary to the Moral Codes of civilised nations. Though I do not fail to realise that political affairs may reach such a pass that bloody revolutions become a necessity, and though I admit that such revolutions have in numerous instances contributed largely to the welfare of nations in that they have been the means of establishing more enlightened forms of government, yet I hold strongly that the acts of revolutionists must be considered as quite exceptional, judged of each on its own merits, and must not be allowed to furnish a precedent for the disturbance of the order and peace upon the continuance of which the happiness of society so much depends.

Chap. VIII.—We have seen that all altruism is modified egoism. Self-advancement and self-interest demand that the advancement of others and the interests and feelings of others should be considered. Now, the object of law and morality being the welfare of States, that is, of the society that constitutes the State, it is plain that the instances are not few where law and morality are in direct antagonism to both egoism and altruism. Whereas this is so, at times law and morality furnish the means for the realization of the ends the egoist or the altruist has in view

Chap. IX.—The morality and law that destroy the peace and happiness of society are the rules of conduct practised by dishonest persons. It is true that there is a certain amount of honesty among thieves. They scrupulously observe a number of maxims in their transactions with each other. Were it not so, they could not hold together as criminal corporations whose chief object is the spoliation of law-observing society. The adoption of this course by thieves and their criminals renders them much more dangerous to society than they would be were they entirely lawless. Thus it is seen that, whether in the hands of highly virtuous and highly enlightened Governments or whether in the hands of utterly debased criminals, rules of conduct which have the interests of the society concerned as their primary object and which are so framed as to prevent the realisation of antagonistic individual aims, constitute one of the most powerful weapons wielded by mankind.

RAILWAY REGULATIONS.

The *Official Gazette* publishes regulations relating to railways for the exclusive use of private individuals or companies. According to these regulations any private individual or company may construct a railway on his or their account provided sanction be obtained from the local Governor. Such sanction, however, may be limited by conditions considered necessary by the Government. Moreover, railways thus constructed are amenable to the provisions of Articles XXVII., XLII., L., LIII., and LIV of the Private Railway Law. They are not allowed to be used for the transportation of articles other than those originally indicated, unless special permission is obtained from the authorities. A part or the whole of them may also be shut up when they are deemed prejudicial to public welfare. Offenders against the regulations are to be punishable by a fine not exceeding 20 *yen*.

Another regulation published in the *Official Gazette* refers to reports of casualties to be presented to the Government by private railway companies. Any of the casualties specified in the schedule is to be first reported by telegram, this to be followed by a detailed despatch.

The following Regulations have lately been published in the *Official Gazette*:—

Art. I.—Railway officials and employés are required to treat passengers with politeness.

Art. IV.—Whenever it is considered that the proceedings of railway officials in regard to passengers or goods are unjustifiable, a protest may be made by stating particulars in the book specially provided for the purpose. When protests are so made, and the name and address of the protestor are given, the officials are required to give explanation without delay.

Art. XIII.—Children under 4 years of age shall be transported free of charge, and those above 4 and below 12 years at half usual fares.

Art. XVII.—Passengers are allowed to change their tickets for those of another class, or return the same demanding repayment of fares, if steps are taken prior to the examination of the tickets. The demand for repayment of fares, however, is limited to the day of issue.

In case seats of a class for which tickets are issued are full, passengers may postpone their journey, demanding repayment of the fare, or they may demand the repayment of a part of the fare, on entering a car of inferior class, except where the railway officials have adopted measures to accommodate them. In such cases, however, the fact must be immediately reported to the railway officials. Even after examination of tickets, the passengers may change their cars for those of a higher class on payment of the balance of fare, whenever they can find seats for them.

Art. XIX.—In case trains are suspended in consequence of natural calamities or emergencies or other unavoidable occurrences, measures will be taken to afford proper protection and convenience to passengers.

In the foregoing cases the passengers may, on demand, receive the balance of the fares after deducting that for the journey already accomplished, or may secure their return to the station of departure, free of charge.

Art. XXIII.—With regard to passengers who have entered train without tickets or with invalid tickets, or who refuse to present the tickets for examination or to deliver the same at the time of collection, the railway officials may claim extra payment not exceeding double the amount of ordinary fares.

In case passengers have no time to purchase tickets, but enter a train with the consent of the railway officials, they may be liable to extra charges not exceeding 20 *sen*.

Art. XXVII.—When prisoners are taken into a train they must be distinguished from ordinary passengers.

Art. XXIX.—Passengers are not allowed to appear or to behave in such a manner as to cause annoyance to others in the same train. Neither are they permitted to lean against the door, nor put their hands, feet, or body out of the car. Care must also be taken not to spoil or damage the furniture or decorations of the cars. Matches and tobacco ashes should be deposited in the spittoon.

Art. XLVII.—In case delivery is not taken of passengers' baggage within 24 hours after arrival at the destination, fees for storage may be demanded.

Art. XLVIII.—In case baggage is lost or damaged without any malicious intention or serious neglect on the part of the owner, the railway officials shall be held responsible for compensation to an amount not exceeding 100 *yen* for a single passenger.

Art. XLIX.—In case lost luggage is found after compensation has been paid, notice must be immediately given to the owner, provided application to that end has been previously received.

The owner on the receipt of such notice must repay the compensation within 30 days, but may demand the delivery of the luggage at its destination free of charge.

Art. XLV.—With regard to the transport of gold or silver coins, precious metals, paper money, postage stamps or cards, revenue stamps, bonds, jewelry, or other valuable articles, extra charges shall not exceed the following rates:—

	Value in *yen*.	*Sen*.
For less than 25 miles	100	10
Above 25 and below 50 miles	"	15
" 50 " " 100 "	"	20
" 100 " " 200 "	"	25
Above 200 for every additional 200 miles	"	5

Art. LXXI.—Small animals carried by passengers may be transported in the same train.

Art. LXXII.—Small animals carried by passengers, with the exception of dogs, must be secured in a basket, net, or box.

Art. LXXX.—With regard to animals damaged from causes not ascribable to malicious intention or serious neglect on the part of the railway officials, in cases other than those where extra charges have been paid with a declaration of value at the time of transport, compensation may be demanded as follows:—

	Yen.
Horses, per head	70
Milking cows	100
Cattle	30
Calves	10
Sheep	10
Hogs	5
Goats	10
Other animals	5

Art. LXXXI.—In case the value declared at the time of transport exceeds the limits specified above, the railway officials may claim extra charges against the amount of excess at rates not exceeding the following:—

For less than 50 miles	10 *sen*	for every 10 *yen* of value
Above 50 and below 100 miles	15	" "
Above 100 and below 200 miles	20	" "
Above 200, for every additional 200	5	" "

Art. XCVIII.—Delivery must be taken of all goods transported by railway after their arrival at their destination. Defaulters are liable to special fees for storage.

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Art. CI.—In case railway officials are requested to give a certificate as to the condition or weight of the goods examined at the time of delivery, they are not allowed to decline to do so.

Art. CIII.—These regulations shall come into force from the date of operation of the Railway Business Law.

MULBERRY AND TEA FARMS.

According to investigations made by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce and published in the *Keizai Zasshi*, the area of mulberry farms and output of cocoons during the past ten years has been as follows :—

Year.	Mulberry farms in *cho.*	Output of cocoons in *koku.*
1890	243,842	1,172,272
1891	247,968	1,580,240
1892	231,400	1,480,705
1893	243,358	1,686,894
1894	253,889	1,797,842
1895	266,164	2,258,173
1896	288,937	1,831,378
1897	298,203	2,121,944
1898	304,312	2,027,339
1899	307,084	2,512,562

Thus with the development of sericulture the statistics have considerably increased year by year. On the other hand the tea industry seems to have been seriously affected by the depression of trade, as may be judged from the following figures :—

Year.	Tea farms. cho.	Output of tea. kwan.
1890	—	6,907,564
1891	—	6,946,419
1892	—	7,096,398
1893	60,669	7,211,860
1894	—	7,640,368
1895	59,000	7,883,232
1896	57,728	8,598,880
1897	59,479	8,500,392
1898	58,892	8,471,956
1899	58,648	8,441,718
1900	57,883	—

With regard to the trade in silk and tea it is interesting to observe that, although the former is steadily increasing, the latter remains stationary without any palpable development. Below are the figures :—

	Silk. Total output. Catties.	Value realized by export. *Yen.*
Average from 1886 to 1890	4,975,839	20,598,621
1891	6,799,850	29,356,338
1892	6,850,550	36,299,743
1893	7,709,713	28,167,411
1894	8,804,894	32,353,155
1895	10,020,694	47,866,256
1896	9,017,000	28,830,601
1897	9,609,756	55,630,460
1898	9,248,419	42,047,411
1899	10,963,938	62,627,721
	Tea.	
Average from 1886 to 1890	43,749,188	6,786,977
1891	44,352,488	7,033,049
1892	44,352,488	7,033,049
1893	45,074,156	7,525,315
1894	47,753,300	7,702,088
1895	49,270,200	7,930,286
1896	53,743,000	8,879,241
1897	53,127,456	6,372,328
1898	52,949,725	7,860,460
1899	52,760,738	8,215,664

FIRES.

A big fire occurred at Kushiro, Akita Prefecture, on the afternoon of the 19th inst.; 750 houses were destroyed, including a post office, the local court, police station, etc. One person was killed and ten were injured

A fire broke out at Demachi, Tonami district, Toyama Prefecture, on the night of the 19th inst.: 320 houses were burnt, including a police station, two schools, one hospital, four banks, and a company's office.

A fire broke out on the night of the 19th inst. at Takata, Niigata Prefecture: 78 houses were destroyed.

BANK OF JAPAN.

The 36th general meeting of shareholders of the Bank of Japan was held on Saturday, President Yamamoto in the chair. Among the Government officials present were Baron Tajiri, *Chef de Cabinet*, Mr. Matsuo, Director of the Finance Bureau, Mr. Yoshida, Vice-President of the Imperial Household Treasury, and 20 others of more or less distinction. Messrs. Hara Rokuro and Yamanaka Rinnosuke, being nominated as *kunji*, read a report of the settled accounts of the Bank for the first half of this year, and it was passed unanimously. Below are details :—

	Yen.
Net profit	2,996,728
First Dividend (6 per cent. per annum)	9,000,000
Balance	2,096,728
Distributed :—	
To reserves	600,000
For rewards to officials and entertainment fund	165,000
Balance	1,331,728
Second dividend (6 per cent.)	900,000
Final balance	431,728

After the above accounts were passed the President moved that as the term of service of Mr. Minomura as Director would expire in January next, and that of Messrs. Hara and Uchida as *Kanji* would terminate in February, candidates should be nominated for the respective posts mentioned. The voting resulted in the election of Messrs. Minomura and Mitsui as Directors and of Messrs. Uchida and Hara as *Kanji* (Managing Directors).

The Bank's profits have increased by 319,000 *yen* in comparison with last year, and by 700,000 *yen* as compared with the corresponding period of the year before last. In short, the result for this year is extremely satisfactory. As for reserves the amount set apart for this year is nearly twice as large as that of the previous year, and from these facts it may be inferred that the Bank is directing its utmost energies towards consolidating its position. In regard to the profit and loss account for the term under review the following comparative figures are given :—

	1900. Yen.	1899. Yen.
Head Office	1,309,372	1,957,806
Osaka branch	652,175	184,714
Western branch	212,491	196,257
Nagoya branch	198,020	60,539
Sapporo Out-office	*11,752	*12,940
Kyoto "	173,707	104,313
Taipeh "	—	146,385
Otaru "	25,719	12,565
Fukushima Out-office	*1,984	12,565

(* losses).

Thus a considerable increase of profits is noticeable in Osaka, Nagoya, Kyoto, and Otaru, and in the western sections, while a decrease is experienced in Tokyo and in Hokkaido. The increase of profits for the first term of this year over the corresponding period of last year is entirely attributable to a general increase in the demand for bonds, the appreciation of interest on loans and discounts, increased receipts of interest on public bonds, the transfer of the business of the Taipeh Office to the Formosa Bank, &c. The various losses in connection with the redemption of public bonds by depreciation in value, and the payment of the tax on the note issue, as well as the increase of income tax, have produced no serious effect upon the Bank's operations during the term under review. As for reserves the figures now stand as follows :—

	Yen.
Reserves up to end of 2nd half of 1898	14,250,000
Reserves for 1st half of 1900	600,000
Total	14,850,000

Thus the actual amount of reserves comprises 495 per cent of the 30 millions of *yen* of capital, showing an increase of 2 per cent in comparison with 47.5 per cent of the previous term.

Below are comparative figures for specie and bullion in the Bank's possession :—

	At end of June, 1900. yen.	Corresponding period of 1899. yen.
English gold coins	593,287	193,530
American "	1,810,710	1,291,459
French "	2,138	5,375
German "	3,418	628
Russian "	14,773	12,919
Old Coins	342,398	327,466
Gold and silver mixed bullion	59,627	18,324,811
Gold bullion of various kinds	21,607,385	8,783,189
Gold bullion	3,134,536	3,105,907
Silver "	4,000,000	—
Gold coins	47,982,522	72,689,010
Total	79,559,799	104,734,299

Thus gold coins and gold and silver bullion have decreased by 25,170,000 *yen* as compared with the corresponding period of last year. But the cause of this is to be found in the steady efforts of India to absorb gold since the spring and the abnormal exodus of gold consequent on inequality of trade, on the one hand, and the outbreak of disturbances in China on the other.

The value of Public Loan Bonds held by the Bank at the end of June last as compared with the figure for the corresponding period of the previous year is given as follows :—

Bonds.	At end of June, 1900. Yen.	Corresponding period of 1899. Yen.
5 per cent. Pension	7,807,875	7,985,609
Old loan	78,909	86,714
Naval	1,328,624	1,346,392
Redemption	20,206,248	25,805,700
Imperial	3,601,800	3,907,100
War	4,369,277	4,869,810
Foreign	15,305,071	1,122,005
Total	52,697,807	45,123,331

Thus the amount of bonds in the Bank's possession for the first half of this year reached 52,690,000 *yen* approximately, showing an increase of over 7½ millions of *yen* over the figure for the corresponding period of the previous year. This may, however, be ascribed to the payment of bonds in English currency.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Aug. 18th :—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund, and other liabilities to shareholders	18,608,929
Amount of convertible notes issued	207,560,011
Government deposits	48,232,000
General deposits	5,735,727
Exchange liability	7,171
Total	305,161,929
Cr.	
Discount notes	79,644,470
Foreign discount notes	11,055,265
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	61,984,869
Exchange liability	1,597,354
Government bonds	52,502,563
Property	2,145,444
Bullion and Specie	74,231,961
Total	305,161,929

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	204,832,448
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	70,081,372
Silver	3,000,000
Total	73,081,372
Securities :—	
Government bonds	27,636,755
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	10,914,886
Commercial notes	71,129,435
Total	131,751,076

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	458,575
Silver	—	333,334
General loans	—	1,090,181
Government deposits	—	288,527
General deposits	—	419,162

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BRETT AND CO., LIMITED.

The eighth annual meeting of the shareholders of Brett and Company, Limited, was held on Thursday afternoon at No. 60, Main Street. Mr. G. Blundell presided, and there were present Messrs. D. H. Blake, J. H. Curtis, R. Hay, and F. W. Thomas (Manager).

THE REPORT.

The CHAIRMAN presented the report and accounts, which were as follows:—

The statement of Assets and Liabilities, also Profit and Loss Account for the year ended June 30th, 1900, accompany this report. It will be noted on referring to the accounts that the business continues to improve with very satisfactory results, net profits over 1899 being ¥194.91, and this notwithstanding that we have paid in the shape of Registration fees, Certificates, Licences and Taxes, increased rent and wages, etc., a sum of ¥1,293.36.

Our credit balance at Profit and Loss Account being ¥3,368.90, I recommend a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. free of income tax, to be paid for the year, which will absorb about ¥2,360; from the balance, ¥1,008.90, I propose that 10 per cent. be written off the goodwill account, and the remainder, ¥708.90, be placed to the credit of Debenture Redemption account.

I regret to say that Mr. Curtis (the only remaining member of our Advisory Board) is leaving for England for good, and I desire to put on record that I am greatly indebted to him for the able assistance he has rendered.

By the resignation of Mr. Curtis you are now without an Advisory Committee, I should suggest that one at least of the shareholders be elected to fill his place.

Mr. McVicar having resigned the Auditorship, Mr. P.E.F. Stone has been appointed, which requires confirmation.

G. BLUNDELL,
Managing Director.

BALANCE SHEET—30TH JUNE, 1900.

LIABILITIES.

Capital.		
2,800 shares (fully paid up) @ $10 per share	$28,000	
Less 500 shares in hand	5,000	23,000.00
Debentures.		
122 Debentures @ $100 each		12,200.00
Sundry Creditors.		
Amounts owing		1,010.98
Balance at Credit of Profit and Loss		3,368.90
		39,579.88

ASSETS.

Stock.		
Value of stock as per Inventory and stock Book:—		
Drugs, Chemicals, etc., in Store and Godown	25,208.55	
Aerated Water Stock	2,469.22	27,677.77
Plant, Furniture, and Fixtures.		
Value as per Inventory of Aerated Water Plant and Fixtures	1,323.00	
Store and Godown Furniture and Fixtures	3,808.70	5,131.70
Goodwill.		
Value of Goodwill as per Prospectus of the Company 20th June, 1892	4,500.00	
Less written off 30th June, 1896	1,500.00	3,000.00
Cash.		
Cash in hand		308.60
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China		
Balance at Credit of Current Account		1,149.46
Sundry Debtors.		
Sales Ledger	1,770.05	
Aerated Water Ledger	427.80	
Burgoyne Burbridges & Co.'s a/c	114.50	2,312.25
		39,579.88

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—30TH JUNE, 1900.

To Dividend account:	
5% paid for year ending 30th June, 1899	1,150.00
To Bad Debts.	
Amount written off	59.60
To Balance carried forward to new account	3,368.90
	4,578.50
By Balance 1/7/1899	1,211.14
By Old Debts:	
Amount recovered	20.35
By working account:	
Balance Transferred	3,347.01
	4,578.50

WORKING ACCOUNT—1ST JULY, 1899, TO 30TH JUNE, 1900.

To Salaries and Wages	6,514.70
„ General Expenses	2,926.31
„ Advertising	170.60
„ Discounts and Commission	79.74
„ Fire Insurance	253.06
„ Rent	1,750.00
„ Interest on Debentures	854.00
„ Balance transferred to profit and loss a/c	3,347.01
	15,895.42
By profit	
On Sales	15,834.48
„ Interest	60.94
	15,895.42

I certify that I have compared the foregoing accounts with the Books and Vouchers of the Company and find them to be in accordance therewith.

P. E. FRED. STONE, Auditor.

Yokohama, 16th August, 1900.

The CHAIRMAN congratulated the shareholders on the very satisfactory result of the year's working, and trusted they could look forward to a continuance of prosperity. From the accounts he felt justified in recommending a dividend of 10 per cent.

On the proposition of Mr. CURTIS, seconded by Mr. HAY, the report and accounts were passed and the dividend adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

On the proposition of Mr. CURTIS, seconded by Mr. THOMAS, Mr. Blake was elected a member of the Advisory Committee, in the place of Mr. Curtis, who is leaving Japan.

Mr. P. E. F. Stone was elected auditor, on the proposition of Mr. BLAKE, seconded by Mr. HAY.

VOTE OF THANKS.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to the Manager and staff for the energy displayed by them in the interests of the company.

This was seconded by Mr. CURTIS and passed, and Mr. THOMAS suitably acknowledged the compliment.

A PRESENTATION.

Mr. BLAKE said he would like to bring forward another matter. They were very sorry to learn that Mr. Curtis was shortly to leave them and not only the remaining shareholders of the company, but his numerous friends in Yokohama, would share that regret. Mr. Curtis had worked energetically on behalf of the company, and the present balance-sheet would show that he had not worked in vain. Of course the fact was not due solely to his efforts, but he had co-operated very heartily with the others in the interests of the company. He (Mr. Blake) thought they should extend to him a very hearty vote of thanks and wish him a pleasant return home. Last year a vote was passed authorising the payment of 150 *yen* to the Advisory Committee. That money was well earned last year, and even more so this present year, and as Mr. Curtis was leaving he wished to make a motion that he be voted a sum of 250 *yen*, not by means of recompense, but as a mark of their esteem. He hoped Mr. Curtis would take it in the spirit in which it was meant.

Mr. HAY seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. CURTIS, in accepting the gift, expressed his sense of the kindness extended him. When first the Committee was appointed they had an uphill fight, but since then their positions had been practically a sinecure. Of course they had always been on deck when there was anything to do, but the lion's share of the work had fallen on the Managing Director and the staff. He was pleased to leave the Company in the flourishing position it was to-day, and he hoped they could look forward to even higher dividends hereafter.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S SPEECH.

The following is the full text of the German Emperor's Speech delivered at Wilhelmshaven on the 2nd of July:—

"Into the midst of a time of the most profound peace—though, alas, it was no surprise to me—the firebrand of war has been hurled. My tried and trusted representative has been natched away, the victim of a crime of unheard-of insolence and of horrid cruelty. The Ministers of the other Powers are in danger of their lives, and with them are your comrades who were sent to protect them. Perhaps they have even to-day fought their last fight. The German flag has been insulted, and the German Empire has been set at defiance. That calls for exemplary punishment and for vengeance.

"The situation has developed with fearful rapidity into one of the utmost gravity. It has become even more grave since I called you to arms for mobilization. The work of re-establishment which I hoped to carry out with the help of the marine infantry has now become a serious task which can only be accomplished by large bodies of troops belonging to all the civilized States. The commander of the cruiser squadron has already begged me to consider the advisability of sending out a whole army division. You will meet a foe who is not less valiant than yourselves. Trained by European officers, the Chinese have learnt to use European weapons. Thank God, your comrades belonging to the marine infantry and to my navy have strengthened and maintained the ancient martial renown of Germany wherever they have met the foe. They have defended themselves gloriously and with success and have accomplished the tasks which were set them. I send you forth now to avenge the wrong, and I will not rest until the German flag, together with those of the other Powers, floats victoriously above the Chinese standards and, planted upon the walls of Peking, dictates peace to the Chinese.

"You are to keep good fellowship with all the troops whom you meet in China. Russians, the English, the French, or whoever they may be, they are all fighting for the same cause, which is that of civilization. We think, too, of something yet higher—of our brethren in China, some of whom have risked their lives for their Saviour. Think, too, of our martial honour, think of those who have fought before you, and go forth with that verse in your thoughts which of old constituted the motto on the flag of Brandenburg:—

Vertrau auf Gott d'ch tapfer wehr,
Daraus besteht dein ' ganze Ehr',
Denn wer's auf Gott herzhaftig wagt
Wird nimmer aus der Welt gejagt.

[Trust in God and bravely fight, therein your honour lies, for he who in God's name goes forth shall never be put to shame.]

"The flags which float above you here will be under fire for the first time. See that you bring them back unspotted and unstained. My gratitude and my interest, my prayers and my solicitude will not fail nor desert you; I shall follow you with them wherever you go."

FORCASTS AND FACTS.

On the 12th of July, the Vienna correspondent of *The Times* wired to that journal:—

The numerous indications of the difficulty of maintaining harmony among the Powers, together with the physical and climatic hindrances to be overcome, leave practically no hope of the timely relief of the besieged foreigners in Peking, if, which is doubted, any of them still survive. The utmost that is now expected is that the reinforcements, Japanese, Russian, and British-Indian, may arrive in time to enable the international troops to hold Tien-tsin, which must be the base of all future operations.

This was penned in Vienna exactly two days before the assault and capture of the walled city of Tientsin by the Allies. It is seldom that forecasts are so signally contradicted by facts.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Max	Min	Temp. Lake	State of Weather
Sunday, 12th.	69°	70°	..78°	..Fine...
Monday, 13th	...69°	76°	...78°	...F.ne...
Tuesday, 14th	...66°	78°	...78°	...F.ne...
Wed'sday, 15th	...70°	78°	...78°	...Fine...
Thursday, 16th	...71°	78°	.. 78°	...Fine...
Friday, 17th	.....70°	78°	.. 78°	...Fine...
Saturday, 18th	...68°	74°	...78°	...Rain & wind.

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NIPPON RAILWAY COMPANY.

At a recent meeting of this Company, Viscount Soga presiding, Mr. Ema Shunichi raised the question of the necessity of laying a new railway between Uyeno and Senju with a view to securing an improvement of traffic along the coast; the extension of the main double track to Utsunomiya as far as Oyama at least, the construction of a double track in the near future for the Shinagawa section of the railway; an increase of rolling stock, necessitated by the establishment of an elevated railway from Uyeno to the central station; a better method of guarding against accidents; reconstruction of the two iron bridges over the rivers Tone and Sumida, now said to be in a dangerous condition; and a report as to whether the new bogie-cars are dangerous, &c. The President replied:—Measures are being taken to establish the new line in conjunction with the elevated tract for the Uyeno-Akibasection. No necessity is felt for a double track at Shinagawa for the time being, but investigations are being made. During the three months—July, August, and September—the rolling stock being increased by 417 cars, and orders being placed for an additional supply of 300. Next year the stock will be further augmented by two or three hundred carriages, so that the total increase may exceed 1,200. Measures are being taken in regard to the elevated railway from Uyeno to the central station. The derailment of trains at Iwanuma seems to have resulted from the imperfect condition of the track. The inspection of rolling stock is undertaken by officials of the section of trains specially charged with the duty. The two iron bridges over the Tone and Sumida have presented no signs of danger. The bogie cars are perfectly safe, having been put in proper repair. As to the company's accounts, the President remarked that the net profit having amounted to 2,254,990 *yen*, a dividend would be declared at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and a sum of 199,390 *yen* brought over to the account for the latter half of the year.

BUSINESS CORPORATION LAW.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has promulgated the following rules for the enforcement of the Business Corporation Law issued in the beginning of this year:—

Art. I.—The amount of capital for a single share shall not exceed 50 *yen* except when there are special reasons for not conforming to this provision.

Art. II.—First calls on shares shall not be less than one-tenth of the value of each share.

Art. III.—The amount of reserves shall not be less than the gross total of the capital invested.

Art. IV.—In case money is collected from the members of the corporation or from persons newly admitted, the same shall be transferred to the reserves. This provision applies also to the amount left by shareholders who may retire from the corporation by receiving a portion of their shares in conformity with the provisions specially established for that purpose.

Art. V.—No Director or superintendent is allowed to receive any salary, remuneration, or reward, unless the same be granted in conformity with the rules of the corporation or by the decision of a general meeting.

Art. VI.—The business year of the corporation shall be in accordance with the calendar, except when there are special reasons for acting otherwise.

Art. VII.—The Director is required to forward to the local Governor all the documents specified in the first clause of Article XXX. of the Business Corporation Law, immediately after they have obtained the approval of the general meeting.

Art. VIII. The business reports of the corporation must contain the following items:—

1. Number of members, as well as alterations in the amount of capital.
2. Gross amount of capital paid up, or of the total surplus when the same has been appropriated for the payment of the capital.
3. Loans and amount of redemption.
4. Reserve funds of all descriptions.
5. Decisions of general meeting.
6. Condition of business.
7. Amount of loans issued or repaid in the case of Trusts (*Shinyo-kumiai*); amount of deposits received or paid, as well as rate of interest on same, classification and value of commodities sold, purchased, or manufactured in the case of other corporations.
8. Classification of members as to their occupation and the amount of shares subscribed by them.
9. Amount of money guaranteed in the case of corporations accepting responsibility for guarantees of all descriptions (*Hoshō Sekinin Kumiai*).
10. All important matters connected with the business of the corporation.

Art. IX.—The Director is required to report the following particulars every year to the local Governor with the approval of a general meeting:—

1. Maximum amount of loans that can be obtained during the business year.
2. Maximum amount of loans that can be issued to a single member during the business year on the part of a trust corporation.

Art. X.—Any application for a reduction in the amount of investment for each member, or in the amount of money to be guaranteed, must be accompanied by a statement of reasons, records of the decision of a general meeting, inventory of assets, and the balance sheet.

Art. XI.—The ratio of dividends as against shares held shall in no case exceed 6 per cent. per annum.

Art. XII.—Any application for amalgamation must be accompanied by a draft contract of amalgamation as well as the regulations to be maintained or organised after the amalgamation, together with the documents specified in Article X.

Art. XIII.—An application for alteration of organisation must be accompanied by a document showing that the consent of all the members of the corporation has been given and in case such application is designed to decrease the responsibility of the partners, the documents specified in Article X must also be annexed.

Art. XIV.—In case the district Headman or any person authorised considers it necessary to issue order or adopt measures in conformity with the provisions of Article LX. of the Business Corporation Law, the directions of the local Governor must be obtained.

Art. XV.—In case the local Governor has issued orders or enforced measures in accordance with the provisions of Articles LX. and LXI. of the Business Corporation Law, the fact must be immediately reported to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. XVI.—In case a corporation has effected registration in conformity with the provisions of the Business Corporation Law, a report must be forwarded without delay to the local Governor, stating the particulars as well as the date of registration. This provision, however, does not apply to statements made in the register of partners.

Art. XVII.—The documents to be addressed by the corporation to the local Governor must always be forwarded through the district Headman or any duly authorized person.

APPENDIX.

Art. XVIII.—These regulations shall come into operation from the date of the enforcement of the Business Corporation Law.

Art. XIX.—These regulations shall not apply to business corporations to be organised in conformity with Imperial Ordinance No. 255 issued in the 33rd year of *Meiji* (1900).

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Extensive changes in the Tokyo Beer Company are now in contemplation. A committee of five have lately been appointed, says the *Kokumin*, for this purpose. It seems that the losses sustained by the Company have been largely due to the declaration of unwarrantably large dividends, and the enormous expenses incurred in pushing the sale of the Company's products,&c. The committee propose to raise a sum of 100,000 *yen*.

Statistics published in the *Jiji* show that the Japanese residents in Mokpho at the end of last month totalled 815 540 men and 345 women. The number of families is 220, a decrease of 9 as compared with the figure for the previous month. As to among the figures are as follows:—

	Number of families.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Japanese	23	95	90	115
Formosans	82	681	17	698
	105	776	107	813

According to the latest official investigations, the output of tobacco throughout the empire from April to December totalled 6,032,300 *kwan*—5,326,000 in cut tobacco and 706,000 in cigarettes. The amount of sales during the period mentioned reached 5,252,700 *kwan* for the former and 793,000 for the latter, the value realized being 15,380,200 *yen* and 3,315,900 *yen* respectively. It is added that this figure is unprecedened.

For many months the rates of freight to Hokkaido have been considerably reduced by the Yusen Kaisha as a result of competition with various foreign steamers. But now freights have not only been restored to their former standard, but an increase of from 10 to 20 per cent. has been resolved upon for the western section of the Hokkaido line, namely, the line between Kobe, Otaru, and Hakodate. Below are comparative figures:—

Cargo.	Former rate in *yen*.	Revised rate in *yen*.
Iron per picul	0.30	0.36
Sugar per bale	0.28	0.33
Iron pipes per ton	5.50	6.50
Flour per bag.....	0.10	0.12
Miscellaneous goods per ton.	6 to 8 . ....7.20	to 8.20

A provisional committee has been appointed, consisting of the following gentlemen—Dr. Eldridge, Messrs. E. Beart, C. F. McWilliams, G. G Brady, W. K. Vincent and H. J. Sharp,—in connection with the proposed Yokohama Amateur Dramatic Society.

The number of aboriginal Ainos in Hokkaido has considerably decreased with the development of the island. They are now only to be found in 69 districts out of the 83 into which the territory is divided. At the end of 1892 the number of families totalled 3,988, containing a population of 17,148—8,452 males and 8,696 females. The latest investigation, however, shows a decrease of men. The population is 16,978, the families numbering 3,965. They are distributed as follows:—Ishikari, 901; Shiribeshi, 692; Oshima, 211; Iburi, 3,836; Hidaka, 6,261, Tokachi, 1,706; Kushiro, 1,565; Nemuro, 451; Chishima, 88; Kitami, 996; Teshio, 20,061. The aborigines living in caves in Shana and other parts of Chishima have been excluded from the above figures.

The amounts of subsidies for Agricultural Experimental Gardens having lately been determined by Government, in conformity with the Treasury Aids Law, the cities and prefectures declared eligible for subsidy are announced as follows:—

	Amount of subsidy. Yen.		Amount of subsidy Yen.
Kanagawa	1,500	Hiogo	1,200
Nagasaki	2,000	Niigata	6 000
Gumma	1,300	Tochigi...	1,000
Nara...	1,000	Miye	1,000
Aichi	2,000	Shiga	2,000
Fukushima	1,400	Yamagata	2,000
Akita	1,600	Toyama	300
Yamaguchi	1,500	Kagawa	1,200
Fukuoka	2,000	Miyazaki	700
Nagano	1,500		

As previously reported, the Industrial Bank has decided to make the 8th call on its debentures, and the Finance Department is shortly expected to give its approval to the step. The amount to be raised is one million *yen* in shares of 20 *yen* each. The period of subscription will be closed by the end of October, and the total amount will have to be paid in after the 20th November. The highest premium attached to these debentures is fixed at 1,000 *yen*, instead of 500 as here-to-fore. The present object of issue is to accumulate funds chiefly from the provinces. With this in view measures are being taken to increase the number of local agencies and out-offices. The bank has lately despatched five or six of its employés, including a sectional chief, to various prefectures.

The famine in India approaches its termination. The monsoon, though late, has brought copious rain throughout India, and in a few weeks cultivation will be possible, and the moneylenders, secure of a future crop, will recommence making advances, by which seed at all events may be secured, while the State, we hope, will render assistance in the collection of cattle. The extinction of the beasts is a terrible addition to the weight of the calamity. There are still, men who say that a famine of this kind is all the fault of our system of taxation, which is wanting in elasticity; but, as a matter of fact, the heaviest blow has fallen upon districts still taxed only by their native rulers,—Guzerat, Rajpootana, and Kattiawar. There is grave reason to fear that in the wide regions included under the first two names the loss of population from the famine and its

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sequelæ—cholera, fever, and typhoidal disease—will not be less than a fifth of the whole, while the destruction of the beasts will be in yet greater proportion. In some districts tank irrigation would be a complete preventive, but we can hardly force so costly remedy upon the native Princes.

The other evening Shanghai was startled by a violent explosion in the direction of the Chinese City. In a number of buildings in the Settlement the shock of the explosion was felt, some places being described as fairly shaking, and many people said that the sound resembled that of the discharge of a big ship's broadside. It seems that an explosion had taken place in the powder works of the Kiangnan Arsenal a little to the North of the Pagoda. The material that "went off" consisted of several hundred shells for small calibre quick-firing guns. The cause is said to have been the over-heating of a furnace. Eight small buildings were destroyed, but no lives are reported to have been lost. There was an excellent supply of water in the creek close by and the pumps, which are very efficient, were manned by the soldiers and coolies, who had the burning ruins extinguished in about an hour. The big chimneys in the works are intact.

The *Nichi Nichi* publishes the following statistics showing the number of paupers in Tokyo:—

Name of street.		
Kanegafuchi, Yotsuya...	Number of pauper families.	276
	Number of persons	949
Minami-cho, Shinjuku..	Do	239
	Do	786
Shinamicho, Shiba.....	Do	383
	Do	1,326
Mannencho, Shitaya ...	Do	271
	Do	964
Honjo	Do	686
	Do	2,852
Total	Do	1,855
	Do	6,877

It is stated that the ratio of poor families in Honjo is 1 to 29, and in Yotsuya 1 to 26. The average daily house rent in the poor districts above mentioned is given as follows:—Mannencho, 2.9 *sen*; Kanegafuchi, 2.5 *sen*; Minamicho, 1.3; Shinami, 2; Honjo, 3.3.

A general meeting of the Hokkaido Colliery and Railway company was held on the 12th instant, Mr. Takashima in the chair. Mr. Inouye, Director, read the report of transactions for the 1st half of this year, according to which the gross receipts for the term amounted to 2,726,430 *yen*. Of this 802,529 *yen* belonged to the Railway Section and 1,907,947 to the Colliery department, whereas the remaining 15,953 *yen* represented miscellaneous receipts. The total expenditures during the term under review having reached 1,990,865 *yen*, leaving a profit of 735,564 *yen*, allowed of the distribution of a dividend at the rate of 11.5 per cent. Below are details:—

	Yen.
Net profit	735,564
Brought over from the previous account	15,947
To reserve	37,000
For rewards to officials and entertainment fund.....	62,523
To capital fund for redemption of the first debentures	10,000
To Dividends	606,180
Balance, carried to next account.....	35,809

The *Keizai Zasshi* urges the advisability of securing to Formosa independent financial administration, in short, treating the island in the same way as England treats her colonies. The estimates for this year, it remarks, stand at 14,601,577 *yen*, of which 13,001,577 are to be derived from national and 1,600,000 from local taxes. The figures for next year amount to 16,298,598 *yen*, the two items being 14,498,598 and 1,800,000 respectively. These figures show an increase of 1,497,021 *yen* in comparison with the estimates for this year. As to the principal sources of revenue it may be observed that camphor contributes 4,592,300 *yen*, opium 4,287,888, and salt 723,708. Thus the revenue for this year has considerably increased, but a corresponding increase is noticeable in the estimates of expenditures. With regard to public undertakings, especially railways, the annual installments, amounting this year to 2½ millions of *yen*, have been increased to 4½ millions, with the result that the work has so steadily progressed as to warrant the possibility of opening traffic on the Takao-Tainan section of the railway from October next. It is said that next year the annual installments are further to be augmented to 5 million *yen* with a view to securing completion of the line within half the period originally fixed. In regard to the classification of land, too, the expenses are to be increased from 600,000 to 700,000 *yen* to facilitate the execution of the plans formulated. In short, the Formosa Government is endeavouring to consummate the so-called ten year programme in five or six years. This expansion, however, must not be carried out to the extent of affecting the financial system of the central government.

Esashi has long been known as the centre of the auriferous districts in Hokkaido, but there are many places which are now equally noted for gold deposits. According to the latest investigations the number of licences granted by Government for gathering gold dust total over 920, of which 678 are connected with operations on the river beds covering a distance of 2,872 *ri*, while 242 embrace fields to the extent of 287,074,310 *tsubo*. As to immigrants the *Kokumin* remarks that their number is increasing yearly, the figures for the half-year ending in June reaching 7,734, an increase of 4,470 as compared with the corresponding period of previous years. The latter half of this year promises to secure a further augmentation, and it is anticipated that the total increase for the year will not fall short of 5,000. Beer is now popular with all classes of society, and there is now serious competition with the northern breweries. During the 32nd year of *Meiji* the total output of beer in Hokkaido reached 225,220 dozens, valued at 474,201 *yen*. Horse-breeding shows little progress. Among other branches of industry canning occupies a conspicuous position, the material used being salmon and trout. Last year the output amounted to 1,117,396 canes, valued at 162,243 *yen*, showing an increase of 65,000 *yen* over the figure for the previous year. Finally it may be mentioned that the manufacture of glass is now being undertaken in Hakodate and Sapporo, but the amount of production is still extremely insignificant. Some enterprising men in the latter city are reported to have recently formulated a scheme for manufacturing glass on a larger scale, the annual demand in Hokkaido being estimated at no less than one million *yen*.

Mr. Soyeda, in a recent speech at the Economic Society's rooms in Osaka, said the ultimate issue of the war in China would be to enhance the political influence of the Japanese in that empire and secure for them a greater respect on the part of European Powers. Japan will be able to bear the burden of war expenses without having recourse to increased taxation: she had credit sufficient to secure new national loans. There was no doubt that this country's trade with China was seriously affected, but it would soon be restored to its former prosperity on the suppression of the insurrection, which might be expected in two or three months. As to the reform of China, the speaker suggested the following points:—(1) Reorganisation of the Chinese Government with the support of liberals. (2) Improvement of civil administration, accompanied by the extirpation of official corruption and reorganisation of the Army and Police. (3) Introduction of a perfect machinery for communication and a new system of coinage, together with uniform weights and measures. Apart from these points, however, the most important question was the adjustment of finances. The abolition of the likin tax must at once be determined on. The ultimate desire of Japan towards China was not the latter's dismemberment, but the restoration of peace, and the preservation of the Empire's integrity. Japan's commercial development must inevitably be influenced by the vicissitudes of her neighbour. Her diplomacy in China must be backed by the commercial and industrial classes in general. Such was the secret of the success of England's modern international policy? Why should Japan hesitate to follow it?

CHINA NOTES.

The death in Peking of Captain Stroats of the Marines is deeply regretted in Tientsin, where he was widely and popularly known. He was in command of the marine guard during last winter, and by his soldierly and personal qualities made hosts of attached friends.

It is reported that the large mission of the American Methodists 300 li east of Peking has been confiscated by special order of the old General Sung Ch'ing, (who has been posing for some time as the special friend of foreigners) and that the mission house has been looted, and torn to pieces.

In their anxiety to get at the British Legation the Chinese themselves fired perhaps the most venerated building in the Empire, viz. the famous Hanlin College with its invaluable and superb Library—a loss which is in Chinese life and letters almost equivalent to that which Western civilisations suffered at Alexandria. It is by no means impossible, says a Shanghai paper, that this atrocious war may live in history on the ill-fame of this incident, rather than on its own inherent demerits.

Crowds of refugees continue to pour into Chefoo from Newchwang. Some 1,200 arrived in the course of one day recently, and still they come. Many of these men are merchants who have left their earthly all behind them and come with only the little clothing they stand in. They are loud in their denunciation of Russia's indiscrimination in all dealings with the natives and of the way in which Cossacks demand money with rifles pointed at the heads of the people. This, they say, is a very common proceeding.

"A member of the A. P. Mission" writes to the *N.-C. Daily News* a lengthy indictment of the late Governor of Shantung, Yü Hsien. We have no space for the article, but we quote the concluding sentence:—While the growth of foreign political influence in Shantung since the war with Japan, the extension of foreign commerce, the propagation of Christianity, especially in the Roman Catholic form, and perhaps most of all the recent reactionary policy of the Peking government have contributed to bring about the present uprising, the fact that it has grown so widely and assumed such a virulent character is wholly due to the actions and attitude of the late governor of Shangtung, Yü Hsien.

Tientsin is fierce with indignation, says an *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent, over the official (British) stupidity anent mails and telegrams. Censorship is often a military necessity, though it is doubtful if it be of any use in this case unless its object be to break criticism. But even with a rigid censorship, it is simply scandalous that telegrams should take 11 days to come up from Chefoo, and that hongs, banks, and private correspondents should find letters delayed an' entire month or deliberately destroyed. Just imagine the awful confusion in business and the terrible anxiety of friends at home, due to some official addle-pate seizing and delaying (if not destroying) all correspondence.

At present, says a Shanghai paper, Shanghai appears to have usurped all the naval importance that so long attached to Hongkong, and the river off the Bund presents a fine sight with its mixed fleet of large and small warships of different nationalities. There are no less than 11 naval representives up here, ranging from the squat little t. b.d. *Whiting* to the big French, German, and Dutch cruisers *Pascal*, *Gefion*, and *Kaiserin Wilhelmina*. Then there are, among others, the trim little gunboat *Plover* and the "Admiral's yacht" *Alacrity*, besides our American friend the *Castine*, and the Japanese fighter, the *Maya*. Naturally enough, when there is "general leave" in such a goodly company of ships, many men come ashore. Jack ashore, of all nations, seems to take very kindly to cycling, and from the number of tars seen awheel here at times, it would seem that a naval cyclists' brigade is not a very remote contingency. Besides all the craft in the Whangpoo there is another noble company down

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at Woosung, and when the time comes for "the passing of the ships" Shanghai waters will look bare indeed.

The *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent at Tsingtao writes that news reached that place on Friday, the 27th of July, from Kiaochou city, that an attempt had been made by a band of Chinese rioters to destroy the railway lines. The *modus operandi* was to abstract nails and screws wherever they were seen, these being more easily portable—in relation to their mechanical importance—than any other parts of the line. The detachment on guard over the line caught the men in the act, and fired on them. The fire was returned, but finally, with a loss of three men killed, the Chinese retired. Near Tsimo the Chinese are also very troublesome, and anti-foreign placards are freely posted on the walls. A Boxer was brought in from Laotsun the other day. He had been seized and searched, and a number of placards were found hidden in his clothing. It seems that this man had at one time been an officer in the Chinese army, but had joined the Boers. His seizure was the direct result of his making speeches against foreigners, urging that they be all driven out of Tsingtoo. He was shot.

The Canton correspondent of the *Hongkong Daily Press* says:—Imperial edicts having been sent to nearly all the Viceroys of the Provinces requiring them to send troops to Peking, the late Viceroy Tan of Canton recommended the Imperial Government to summon the Black Flag Chief, Liu Yung-fu, with his army to the North to suppress the Boxers or perhaps to resist the foreign troops. The Acting Viceroy asked Liu if he would go, and he replied that if the Government wanted him to go, he will take 10,000 troops with him to the North, but that he will require several hundred thousand dollars for expenses, without which he will not go, as he was fooled once in Formosa, at the time of the China Japanese war, and does not wish for a repetition of this. He was left then without any ammunition or provisions, was almost destitute, and had to run away in the disguise of an old woman. As the Government is unable to supply this money, it has been decided to send 3,000 troops under a cheaper general overland, with intent to "suppress the Boxers."

The following is the text of the Imperial decree issued on the 7th inst., appointing Li Hung-chang, with plenary powers, to negotiate for peace with the Foreign Powers at Tientsin:—"The present complications between this Empire and Foreign countries have been caused by certain mistakes made by the various combatants. Nor can we aver that our local authorities have been free from blame in the administration of their duties, and in consequence mutual hostilities have arisen endangering our friendly relations with the Powers. This cannot be favourable for the prosperity of the whole world. We, therefore, hereby appoint Li Hung-chang Minister Plenipotentiary to negotiate with the Foreign Powers, and he is empowered to confer by telegraph with the Foreign Offices thereof for the stopping of further hostilities, after which an approach towards peaceful negotiations can be made. Whatever arrangements towards this end may be made Li Hung-chang is to memorialise us and ask for ratification."

A correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury* writing from far Chung king in western China, says—In considering the future is it likely to make the people of China esteem foreigners to have the foreign Customs, which began as maritime, now pressing all through the interior of China exacting dues at every turn of this great river; is it likely to make them like us for us to force them to accept missionaries of every kind; and is it likely to make them respect as acquiescing in their killing people our missionaries have converted; lastly, is it likely to make them either respect or like us to introduce houses of ill-fame peopled from America right in the centre of China at Hankow, and in the far north at Tientsin, besides having turned what used to be called the model settlement into a perfect hotbed of vice, so that Chinese merchants up country, even when they see their way to making great profits, object to sending their sons there until they are of an age to have their principles established? And to the wisdom of this view too many wrecked lives of young Chinese would sadly testify if but the dead could speak! The longer one lives in the interior of China the more one wonders they can tolerate foreigners at all and the less one wonders that they should long to drive us out.

When the Cavalry Brigade has gone to China, says the *Madras Mail*, India will have upwards of 22,000 fighting men in the service of Great Britain abroad; namely 7,000 British troops in South Africa, two Native Regiments in Ceylon, one in Mauritius and one in Singapore, also upwards of 12,000 men in China. The cost is, of course, enormous. The initial expense of sending the first China contingent, without including the Cavalry Brigade, has been close upon a million sterling. A similar sum will be requisite for bringing it back, while its keep at the front, in a country where every scrap of fodder has to be imported, will mount up rapidly. However, short therefore, the campaign may prove, from three to four millions sterling is the very lowest sum it is likely to cost. This does not, of course, concern India, for the Home Government bears the whole of the burden Indian revenues will benefit to the extent of saving the up-keep of the regiments during the time they are away. It means, however, that a very large indemnity will have to be paid by China to make up.

The *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent at Tientsin wrote the other day:—I have some reason for thinking that the vacillation which seems to haunt British policy and plans like a curse of the gods is weakening the *entente cordiale* which exists between the Allies in general and between the British and Japanese in particular. The Islanders were ready to march ten days ago, and chafed restively under the delay of Lieut.-General Gaselee's arrival: now that he has come it is found that instead of 8,000 men, the number officially announced as the British contingent for the Peking relief force, he has less than 3,000 in consequence of the rest being detained to places where the emergency is less urgent. The Japanese rightly consider that this is not quite playing the game—nor is it. A nice adjustment of forces in exact proportion to the interests involved is not what any sane man would stand for when the lives of a thousand Europeans are at stake; but considering England's historic position in China the vast predominance of her commercial and political stakes, and lastly the greater number of her subjects whose lives are imperilled, it does seem pitiable that so small a force has reached Tientsin on so momentous a mission.

We take the following paragraph from a native account of the events in Peking, translated by the *Shanghai Mercury*:—

On June 11th the general body of General Tung's troops that had remained in the South Park entered the Yungting-men. This is the central gate of the Chinese city on the South. They met a secretary, Sugiyama, of the Japanese Legation, who was leaving Peking in order to meet the foreign troops coming to Peking. General Tung's troops asked him who he was. He replied he was an official secretary of the Japanese Legation. The soldiers objected to this, "If you are an official secretary why do you use a cart with a red band round it?" They seized his ear and made him come off the cart. The secretary knew that it was not a time to reason the matter. He said in a conciliatory tone. "Kindly allow me to see your commander, to him I will apologize". The soldiers said, "There is no need." "Then," said he, "I will later on invite your commander to my Legation and my Minister will apologize." The officers, with their swords, then killed him by cutting open his abdomen. The Japanese Minister on hearing it asked permission to have the body taken back to the city for burial. After a long time permission was given. Prince Tuan afterwards on seeing General Tung put out his thumb and said, "You are indeed a hero."

Just to show what resolution will do, says a correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News*, I may mention that the village of Tunghu-tsun near Paoting and inhabited almost entirely by Roman Catholic converts has for three entire months defied all the efforts of the Boxers; the folk threw up a rampart and bought a few Mausers; their own resolution guided by the cool skill of the Fathers has done the rest. The Treasurer of the Province—let it be remembered against him—has offered by proclamation 4,000 taels for the capture of the village; but so far without effect. Another but larger place to the North of Paoting (20 miles) named Anchiachuang has similarly held out under precisely the same conditions. When one has so much to condemn in Chinese officials' duplicity let it not be forgotten to praise the strong impartial justice of the ex-sub-prefect Lao, a man of Cato-like character and antecedents, who clearly saw to what length the Boxer business was tending and who showed splendid resolution in coping with it till he was superseded. The cause of his removal was curious. The image of a fox in a temple had a red-button Lao ordered this to be removed with the contemptuous remark that he could not see a fox with a red button while he, a living man and a magistrate, had only a crystal. Unhappily the Treasurer had erected a votive table in that shrine, so Vulpes' dishonour was his own, and Mr. Lao was dismissed.

The *N. C. Daily News* translates the following portion of a letter written by a native pastor at Tientsin to friends in Shanghai with reference to an incident which occurred in the early part of July in that city. If proof indeed were wanted, of the Empress Dowager's close complicity with the Boxers, the following alone will be sufficient to expose her to the world. "An Imperial High Commissioner specially delegated by the Empress Dowager arrived here (Tientsin) from Peking on the 6th of July and took up his quarters in the Head Office of the Imperial Chinese Telegraphs, inside the East-gate of the Native City. This Commissioner called himself Liu En-p'u [a native of Chihli province and holding the post of Comptroller-General of the Imperial granaries at Peking and T'ungchou.—Translator] and immediately upon arrival sent retainers with his official card to the various Boxer chiefs inviting them to a grand conference. He declared that he held a special decree of the Empress Dowager commanding him to come to Tientsin and transmit to the Boxer chiefs, *i.e.* all the 'elder brethren,' her Majesty's high approval of their conduct, and to reward them therefore. The Empress Dowager's special decree read something like the following:—

'It comes as a surprise to me that there are yet left to China such a unanimous, patriotic body of men who are now combined in fighting for their Government and driving out the Foreigners. I am indeed pleased at their (Boxers') conduct. I, therefore, hereby command that Tls. 100,000 from the Privy Purse be granted as a special reward to the Boxers and that this money be handed to Yü Lu [Viceroy of Chihli] for distribution.'

"The decree also contained the following: During the Governorship of Tan Chi'hsün of Hupeh province [December 1889 to October 1898] the said Governor fined a certain wealthy notable Tls. 100,000 as a punishment for certain misdemeanours. Thereupon an R. C. priest visited the said Governor's yamên and created a disturbance, forcibly demanding the return of this money. Incidents like these of browbeating our Government and the people are not few and have continued for many a day. I expect and trust, therefore, that all you, my 'elder brethren' (Boxer chiefs) will sympathise with the difficulties of the Throne and courageously assist us by your patriotic aid to the best of your ability.' [The high Commissioner then further said] 'If you all do your utmost in assisting the Government to regist the Foreigners, H. I. M. the Empress Dowager will give you important posts, beyond the usual official route, by which any one of you may attain nobility and receive high pay.'" The letter then concludes:—"This incident is perfectly authentic and few know it owing to the progress of hostilities between the Chinese and Allied forces at the time—during the booming of big guns and shrieking of shells—and when communication was most difficult."

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CORRESPONDENCE.

BRITISH INTERESTS IN CHINA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The following figures given by Mr. Brodrick in the House of Commons a few weeks ago will be of interest at the present time.

Vessels engaged in Foreign trade of China in 1899.

British ... ... 61 per cent.
Other Countries ... ... 39 per cent.

Value of goods carried by above vessels.

British ... ... 53 per cent.
Other Countries ... ... 47 per cent.

Percentage of duties paid on such goods.

British ... ... 59 per cent.
Other Countries ... ... 41 per cent.

The latest year's complete returns as to the shipping trade of the Yangtse was 1898. In that year the number of British ships entered and cleared at treaty ports was 10,753 with a tonnage of 12,271,892.

The total tonnage of all shipping entered and cleared was.

British ... ... 61 per cent.
Chinese ... ... 27 per cent.
Other Countries ... ... 12 per cent.

No comment is necessary to show the preponderance of British interests in China.

Yours truly, S.

A PRAISEWORTHY ENTERPRISE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Governor Hattori and some of the leading officials and residents of Nagasaki have formed themselves into an association called the *Iankwai* (Comfort Rest Society), for the commendable purpose of relieving the tedium of sick and wounded soldiers and of refugees from China, now sojourning in this port. One of the means by which this is being very successfully accomplished is the provision for a daily excursion down to Takaboko, just outside the mouth of the harbour. Two large boats, capable of accommodating about one hundred people, have been fitted up with comfortable seats and awning, and they are towed to the island each day by a good steam launch. Large tents and bathing sheds have been erected on the shore, and some nice tables and seats provided for the use of the guests. A small lunch counter has also been thoughtfully provided, where light refreshments can be had on the ground, at cheap rates. The privileges of boats and tents are free to all refugees and soldiers.

I went down with the party yesterday, and was highly pleased with what I saw. Three members of the Association were present to look after the comfort of their guests, and they made the trip very enjoyable for us. The boats provided were amply large and airy; and the journey consumed only thirty minutes, while it requires one hour by the ordinary house-boat. The accommodations that have been provided at Takaboko are complete in every respect; and a swim there under the auspices of the *Iankwai* is a great treat in these hot August days.

The refugees here appreciate very much the efforts of their Japanese friends to give them a pleasant time; and they are making good use of the privileges. This society is doing a thoughtful, graceful thing, and should have the encouragement of all good people. Subscriptions from foreign friends will be gladly received by the secretary, Mr. Glover, of Holme, Ringer & Company. Yours, &c.

Nagasaki. R. B. PEERY.

MISSIONARIES AND INCOME TAX.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In May last, when the missionaries of Nagoya were asked to report their incomes for taxation, after much discussion, it was decided to comply with the order on condition that the Tax Bureau hold the reports of income derived from foreign sources until a construction of the law could be obtained from the Finance Department *in re* the matter. An appeal was carefully prepared and sent to the Finance Department, through the Local Bureau, over the signatures of all the Protestant missionaries in the city, the Catholic missionaries, acting under advice from their superiors, having refused either to report or to sign the appeal, and a short time afterwards the Vice-Minister of Finance was interviewed and the appeal fully discussed.

According to promise made to the Tax Bureau I beg the privilege of using your columns to make public the reply which came a short time since. The appeal explained the nature of the work of missionaries and the sources of their income, and the claim was made that in equity such incomes ought not to be taxed, and inasmuch as Sect. 6 of Art. V, of the Income Tax Law can be interpreted so as to exempt such incomes without doing violence to the law, all missionaries, whether independent or supported, should be relieved from all necessity of paying tax on incomes derived from foreign sources. There were other points raised both in the appeal and the interview, but the above represents the line of argument followed.

Both the Local Bureau and the Vice Minister admitted that in equity missionaries' incomes derived from foreign sources should be exempted and no objection was made to the claim that the law, as it stands, will admit of an interpretation that will provide for such exemption. It was the understanding that a definite reply would be made to each of the points presented and interpretation give to Art. V., Sect. 6, but the note sent down by the Finance Department is a simple, short statement to the effect that "Although the salaries of missionaries come from foreign countries, inasmuch as they are received where the Income Tax Law is in force, said salaries constitute a taxable income."

The appeal is entirely ignored, not even being mentioned in the note, and the promise made by the Vice-Minister to give a definite reply and explanation seems to have been overlooked,—or did the Department find it rather difficult to deal with the subject-matter of the appeal?

With apologies for requesting the insertion in your columns of that which will be interesting to a small section of your readers only, I am,

Yours Sincerely, U. G. MURPHY.

636 Yaba-cho, Nagoya, August 20, 1900.

KOREAN NEWS.

[From our Correspondent.]

Sôu., August 8th, 1900.

A wave of reform seems to have struck this country several days since, when the Progressive element of Korean politics essayed to call the attention of His Majesty to the shortcomings of the present Cabinet. Mr. Yu Kin Whan, an officer who during the days of the Independence movement two years ago secured the unenviable distinction of being one of the "Five Villains," in a stirring memorial to the Emperor, reviews with refreshing freedom the unsavory records of the immaculate statesmen who are now mismanaging the affairs of the country. Mr. Yu Kin Whan, two years ago, was acting in accordance with Minister Cho Pyeng Sik, Ming Chong Muk and others whose official conduct he now so severely condemns. He was instrumental in effecting the reorganization of the infamous Pedlars Club, an organization under the guise of loyalism which is fast dragging the country to destruction; an organization he now asserts is causing the general feeling of unrest more or less prevalent in various parts of the land. The memorial was applauded by the people, who thought they saw in it a hope of relief from the oppressors.

It was received with such splendid favour in official circles and especially in the Palace, that Yu was severely rebuked and promptly sent into banishment for five years. The explanation is always offered that at least the *Official Gazette* says so.

The Korean Government has now joined the Allied Powers. It is true she has not despatched troops, men-of-war, or transports to the scene of conflict, but His Imperial Majesty the Emperor has ordered the shipment of one thousand bags of cleaned rice, two thousand bags of flour, and several hundred cases of cigarettes. This as an expression of his good-will and best wishes for the success of the Powers.

The Soul-Chemulpo Railway has been running through to the Capital since the 8th of last month, and traffic I am told has increased more than three-fold. Five trains are running each way daily. Every body feels the accommodation and travel is increasing in consequence.

Russian soldiers to the number of over fifty crossed the frontier at Wi-ju, they were accompanied by two Danish missionaries. The latter reached Chemulpo in safety and reported kind treatment from the Koreans on the way.

JAPAN'S SHARE IN THE CAMPAIGN.

We think it a matter of historical interest to record in their sequence, so far as we know them, the incidents and utterances connected with Japan's dispatch of a Division to China. *The Times* of July 12th said:—

The time when help can arrive in Peking depends, as all the world sees, upon a single factor. The commanders at Tien-tsin have declared that they cannot advance without some increase of the force under their orders. If the situation was not urgent the increase might be provided by contingents of the various Powers with interests in China, carefully calculated so as not to give umbrage to any of them. But the urgency of the situation is, on the face of it, extreme. With the memory of Khartum present to us, we cannot forget what a few days or hours may mean where life is at stake. It may already be too late to rescue the Legation and its inmates. There is but too much reason to dread that it is too late. But, at all events, the last chance of rescuing the hundreds of Europeans who have sought refuge there—including the diplomatic representatives and the soldiers of all nationalities, and including, too, the women and children—lies in an immediate march upon Peking in adequate force. The besieged, many, many days ago, have themselves called upon their countrymen to "hasten." How is that cry being met? One Power, and one Power only, can at once supply a sufficient force equipped with the necessary transport to undertake the march. That Power is Japan, and, to her credit as a representative of civilization, she is willing to perform this task, if the Powers will authorize her to do so. England, at any rate, is anxious that Japan should be permitted to discharge this most pressing duty to humanity, and Mr. Brodrick was able to announce yesterday that a communication had been addressed to her on the subject, to which her Majesty's Government were hourly expecting a reply. The United States, we rejoice to gather from a Washington telegram, share our anxiety in this respect. They look to Japan, we are told, to supply the requisite troops, because she is nearer to Tien-tsin than any other nation, and therefore she is better able to do so without that delay which must of necessity be fatal to the objects of the expedition. The telegram goes on specifically to deny the statement that Japan has been paralysed in her desire to rescue the Europeans by the action of Russia. The Washington Government, it declares, "have been assured by both Powers that the direct contrary is the case," and they believe that the European Governments agree with them as to the expediency of employing the only force available for a work which must be done at once if it is to be effective.

In the interests of our common civilization we should be only too glad to believe that the Washington Government are right in their view as to the attitude of the Continental Powers. While we are able to understand that some of these Powers might have preferred to see the work of rescue entrusted to a Christian and Western State, we find it difficult to conceive that any amongst them should hesitate to accept the help of Japan when that is the only help which can be had in time. It is, however, extremely difficult to reconcile the view attributed to the Washington Government with a statement—apparently semi-official—which has appeared in some German newspapers. According to this document several Powers, of which England, of course, was one, suggested that the mission of delivering the Europeans in Peking should be entrusted to Japan. Russia, we are told—in contradiction, it would seem, to the assurances given to the United States—did not give her consent, but replied "evasively." England, it is added, next proposed that Germany should use her influences with Russia in support of the suggestion. But Germany, it is stated, refused, in consideration of her good relations with Russia, which she feared would be adversely affected if she spoke." For the same reason, we are told, she has kept in the background, neither pronouncing for nor against a mandate to Japan. We have hesitated hitherto to believe the rumours in circulation that any Power was impeding the sole effectual means by which the lives of the Europeans in Peking might possibly be preserved. Still less should we have imagined that a Power whose own Minister has certainly been massacred, and which rightly claims to play a great part in "world policy," should even tacitly support such a policy out of reference to the supposed susceptibilities of a powerful neighbour. But in spite of the German Emperor's burning words at Wilhelmshaven, which had perturbed, quite unnecessarily, as it now seems, the Bourses of Berlin and Vienna, it is impossible not to attribute some weight to this explanation of German actions and of German motives. The policy of delay until the European steam-roller is quite ready to get in motion is as fatal, we may point out once more, to the policy of vengeance which was so proudly announced in the Emperor's speech to his sailors, and to the protection of those material interests he guards with such vigilant solicitude, as it is to the simple work of rescue. Unless immediate retribution is inflicted on the Manchus in a shape which shall be plain to the eyes of the whole East, all China will believe that by their anti-foreign policy the old ruling race have rehabilitated themselves as the lords of Asia, and they will act as all Orientals act in such circumstances. The danger is daily growing. It has spread north to Mukden, and Mr. Goodnow, the American Consul-General at Shanghai, says it is already imminent in the Yang-tsze provinces unless the international forces are increased, while the Viceroy Chang is urging us to increase our fleet in those waters and pointing to the risk of an invasion from the north by the Grand Canal. On all grounds immediate action is imperative, Japan alone can act immediately. Will any civilized Power or combination of Powers undertake the responsibility of holding her back?

The same journal, in its issue of the 7th of July, wrote:—

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The veil still hangs over Peking and its ghastly possibilities; and while the world waits in dread for news of the worst, public attention is compulsorily turned to the curious state of something like suspended animation which for several days has come over European diplomacy. Mr. Brodrick's statement in the House of Commons yesterday as to the result of the communication which, as he informed the House on Thursday, had been addressed to Japan by the British Government, and to which they were then "hourly expecting a reply," was naturally listened to with the greatest interest. All that the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs could say, however, was that Her Majesty's Government had given assurances to Japan that the prompt despatch by her of a large force to Taku would be welcomed by us, and that no objection had been raised by any European Power to that course. So far as it goes, and as an indication of the disinterested action of Great Britain, this statement is a satisfactory one, though Mr. Brodrick had to add that negotiations were still proceeding. Of the character of these negotiations we have no hint, but it is clear that Great Britain has taken the initiative in proposing that Japan, as the Power with the ability to strike the soonest, should be the advance agent of the civilized world in that new expedition to Peking which has been necessitated by the repulse of Admiral Seymour's composite force. Unfortunately, it is but too clear that while no objection to this course has been raised by any European Power, it has not received in every quarter the ready assent accorded by public opinion in this country. The different versions obtainable of the attitude adopted in more than one Continental capital enable us to define the real position with some approach to precision. None of the Powers would willingly incur the odium of openly objecting to the help which only Japan can give in the present extremity, when common humanity demands that no stone should be left unturned in the work of rescue and repression; but some of them evidently fail to realize the immediate gravity of the situation sufficiently to discard considerations dictated by their traditional policies towards one another and towards the problem of the Far East. This is the only charitable interpretation we can place on the announcement made in Berlin that the Russian Government "had reframed from giving its assent" to the British proposals with regard to Japanese intervention, and that Germany had refused to give them her support at St. Petersburg.

In circumstances of such pressing necessity the statesmen of Europe are called upon to recognize that there are times of crisis when greater things are at stake than individual interests, and that there may have to be an interruption even in a traditional policy. The whole future of civilization in the Far East depends to-day on the question whether the Powers, either together, or by any combinat on of them, or by the agency of one alone out of their number, can bring such pressure to bear upon Peking that not only will the terrible situation there be cleared up and just punishment inflicted, but the whole of China may set that barbarism is not, and cannot be, the winning side. Mr. Balfour, on behalf of the British Government, declared on the 30th of June that we should "welcome the despatch of troops" by any Power which, owing to the proximity of its forces, might be able to act at once for the suppression of disturbances in North China." The words were, no doubt, carefully chosen, and they implied that, so far as we were concerned, either Russia or Japan, or both, might send as many soldiers as they could. Such an invitation on our part proved that Great Britain at all events had no *arrière pensée* in this matter. But, as many military experts have suggested, the military resources of Russia in the Far East are still much more limited than she cares to confess, and it looks as if a large proportion of the Russian troops who are available on the spot would have sufficient work to do in Manchuria alone. The one Power which is in a position to respond to the general invitation given by Mr. Balfour is Japan; and it may, we hope, be assumed that this young and vigorous recruit to the Concert of Civilization will now be utilized to the full in the interests of all. The *rôle* which lies before Japan in the present emergency is to act as the vanguard of the combined Powers. In a few weeks the rest, no doubt, will be ready; but time is urgent, and all other considerations are now dominated by the one word—'haste."

Finally, *The Times* correspondent, telegraphing from Berlin under date of July 8th, says:—

The semi-official telegraph agency circulates the following *communiqué* on the attitude of the German Government towards Japan:—

"The Japanese Government has notified that in its view the increasing gravity of the situation in China demands the immediate despatch of bodies of troops on a large scale, and has at the same time expressed a desire to learn the views of the Powers. The German Government has replied that what it considers of most importance in the situation is the maintenance of unanimity among the Powers. The German Government would, accordingly, agree to all measures which met with no objection from any other quarter."

There is one unfortunate circumstance which is calculated to diminish the feeling of relief with which the Japanese announcement will be received throughout the civilized world. It is the knowledge that the aid of Japan has been secured too late to effect the rescue of the foreign Ministers and residents in Peking. Even if the appalling news which represents their fate as already sealed should prove to be premature, even if they could by any possibility maintain their desperate stand in the British Legation for a few more days, or weeks, the Japanese forces and those of the other Powers cannot reach Peking before September. This, I may add, is the opinion of Japanese military authorities who are perfectly familiar with the conditions of the problem. The rainy season has begun. The country between Tien-tsin and Peking is one vast quagmire. An attempt to traverse it with large bodies of troops under these conditions would not only be a desperate enterprise, attended with fearful suffering and loss of life, it would in all probability prove utterly impracticable. In tacitly agreeing at the eleventh hour to the proposal of Japan to send a large force, the Continental Powers are doubtless quite aware that that force may for weeks be condemned to inactivity. A fortnight ago there was still time. History will not fail to assign the responsibility for the fatal delay.

The explanation of the German attitude with which I have headed my despatch is the latest of a long series of such statements published by well-informed German journals. A comparison of these different accounts of the negotiations of the past few weeks reveals certain minor discrepancies; but these are unimportant since the moral value of all the explanations is approximately identical.

With regard to the political aspects of Japan's action, it is pointed out here that the approval of Russia now vouchsafed and involving the acquiescence of Germany does not imply that the Powers have conferred a "mandate" upon Japan. The principle accepted from the first by all the Powers, including Japan and Germany, was that each of them should co-operate according to the best of its ability in the "work of rescue." It may, perhaps, be assumed that this principle will continue to apply to the work of restoring peace and order, in which, according to the declarations of Japan, that Power intends to co-operate with such a strong and compact force.

THE FIGHTING AT NEWCHWANG.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

Newchwang, August 6.

On Saturday 4th, at 7.15 a.m., over 150 Boxers made their long-promised attack on the foreign settlement. They were armed with swords, knives, and spears. An attempt was made by them to cross the barrier constructed near the river-side. Several members of the volunteer corps were at once on the spot and attempted to drive them off by firing several blank shots. This, however, had not the desired effect, and as reinforcements had arrived, fire was opened in earnest and resulted in 10 killed and as many wounded; the rest beat a hasty retreat. Some 20 Russian marines had by this arrived who, assisted by the volunteers, poured a few volleys into the retreating mob. The leader of the Boxers was pluckily captured by a volunteer and was afterwards shot by a squad of Cossacks and volunteers. He was most profusely covered with red ribbons and his flowing hair was adorned with similar material of red and yellow; his facial expressions reflected those of a hardened sinner.

At about 9 o'clock the Boxers were joined by some soldiers and were seen near the city walls amongst the reeds and high grass. From that time and until one o'clock some 400 Russians kept up an incessant cannonading and rifle fire. Reinforcements arrived in the shape of 500 cavalry and several companies of infantry. The Russians soon gained the advantage, and forced the enemy back into the city.

In the meantime the Russian gunboat *Gramiastchy* had moved to a position opposite the native city and another gunboat took up a position near the fort. At 2.30 p.m. the *Gramiastchy* opened fire with shrapnel, directing her shots well beyond the heart of the city and the enemy was seen streaming out of the city in an opposite direction. The other gunboat and the land forces attended to those. The 500 cavalry especially did good execution, and the slaughter of Boxers and soldiers became general. With short intervals the firing continued for 3 hours and but few shots fell into the main part of the city, which was on fire in several places, without, however, doing much damage. At one time the Chinese replied with [illegible] rifle fire, and bullets were heard whizzing dangerously near people in the settlement.

The Taotai had meanwhile made off towards Tenchwan, 11, 15 miles away. At 6 p.m. the General commanding the Russian troops sent a messenger to the guilds that, if all arms were brought in, the city would be spared. These conditions were accepted and hostilities suspended. After sundown the Russian naval flag was hoisted at the Customs flag staff, where it proudly continues to fly. The Russian Admiral arrived yesterday and it was decided to establish a provisional government with a civil governor at its head. The Customs is to carry on its functions as heretofore until a final settlement is arrived at. An inspection of the city on the following day proved it deserted. With the exception of the public buildings no signs of looting were seen. Very little damage was done by shells in the main part of the city, the missiles being chiefly thrown beyond at the outskirts. The two Japanese gunboats in port took no active part in the fight.

The Boxer element is completely wiped out, and there is at present no fear of attack either from local rowdies or soldiery, and the whole place is policed by the Russian forces. The only fear of attack to be anticipated is from the north, where Imperial troops and hordes of brigands have joined hands. It means a deal of hard fighting to subdue the entire district. Where a few days ago Boxer flags were seen there are now innumerable miniature Russian flags and foreign signboards over Chinese shops, taken down before, are being restored. A Russian trooper arrived on Saturday from Port Arthur, and while passing the gunboats engaged in firing the band struck up lively tunes and the cheering was incessant. The railway between this and Port Arthur remains still interrupted.

The following was circulated by the Consular Body on the 7th inst:—

Yingkow, 6th August, 1900.

SIR,—The hostile behaviour of the Chinese authorities, who had first encouraged the rebellion and then declared that they could not maintain order, ended in the open attack on our forces placed in the city in accordance to the wish of the Consular Body. During the said attack the Chinese authorities had fled, leaving the town to its fate. To avoid disorder and looting by the Chinese mob and with the object of protecting the commerce of the port and the property of foreigners, the Russian Military Authority found it necessary to place the town under the guard of the Imperial Russian troops. It may be added that the previous destruction of the Chinese Eastern Railway by the insurgents and soldiers also necessitated our placing in Yingkow a force of troops to protect the same. Nevertheless the Imperial Government tried to avoid the extreme measure, Yingkow being a Treaty Port. It is to be understood that the temporary administration that is to be established in the interest of the Russians, as well as the foreigners and Chinese, will not infringe the rights and privileges which they have enjoyed previously in Yingkow.

The foreign community has to note that the sole object of the provisional Russian administration is to maintain peace and order and restore trade, and I hope in these endeavours to have the sincere support of the Foreign representatives.

I have, etc.,
Your obedien. servant,
L. ALEXIEFF,
Vice-Admiral.

The Consuls of the Treaty Powers, Yingkow.

Messrs. Bush Brothers send the following account of the fighting at Newchwang:—

Newchwang 6th August.

Owing to an attack on the Settlement made by the "Boxers" on the morning of the 4th inst., followed up by rifle fire from the soldiers and licensed highwaymen, the Russian gunboats opened fire on the Chinese Town, which resulted in all the native combatants flying southwards towards the plains, where they were intercepted by the Russian field artillery and cavalry.

The bombardment was stopped to allow our Mr. H.A. Bush and some of the merchants, accompanied by a Lieutenant, to proceed down and get the Guilds together. Some eight native merchants with one of the Yamen officials—the Taotai had fled, having been threatened with death by the "Boxers" for endeavouring to dissuade them from making an attack—were found, and returned with the foreigners to the settlement, where they had an interview with the General, who stopped further bombardment on the condition that all arms would be given up by 10 a.m. the following day. The same evening the Russian Naval flag was hoisted at the Custom House by order of the General. On the 5th inst. our Mr. H. A. Bush, a few of the foreign merchants, and Mr. Schmidt, of the Russo-Chinese Bank, accompanied the troops on their march into the native city, to assist in procuring accommodation for the soldiers appointed to police the town and to prevent misunderstanding between the Chinese and Russians. Vice-Admiral Alexeff arrived yesterday and informed the deputation of foreign merchants who called on him that the Russians would administer the town, and that the dues would be collected by the Customs as heretofore, but held pending final settlement. But for the barbarous behaviour of the Cossacks it would

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not be difficult to reassure the merchants. The native city is quiet and hongs are all closed.

Very little damage was caused to the town by the bombardment.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE)

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Aug. 17.

A messenger has reached Pretoria with the news that the Elands River garrison is still holding out. The casualties were 67. Carrington has been ordered to return to Zeerust.

FRENCH TROOPS DELAYED.

No fewer than 3,600 troops and 600 passengers for China are congregated at Marseilles unable to proceed owing to the strike of stokers.

DEWET.

Clery and Kitchener are closely pressing Dewet, who has been forced to discard his ammunition and to destroy some waggons.

TOTAL CASUALTIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The total casualties in South Africa, exclusive of men in the hospitals, now reach 39,057.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

Shanghai, Aug. 18.

A Russian *communiqué* reiterates the anxiety of the Russian Government to restore friendly relations with China.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

Delarey holds Rustenburg, whither Dewet is hastening.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY CLEARED

The Free State (Orange River Colony) is clear of the enemy, except for a small force under Olivier at Heilbron.

MARSHAL WALDERSEE.

It is generally understood that the powers of Marshal Count von Waldersee are limited strictly to the command of the troops.

PEKING.

Shanghai, August 19

The Allies have entered Peking and the Legations are relieved.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Dewet, availing himself of his knowledge of the country, which enables him to perform night marches, has eluded General Kitchener, despite a strenuous pursuit.

Dewet has released all British prisoners in his hands, except the officers.

CHINA AFFAIRS.

A negro cavalry regiment has sailed from San Francisco for China.

THE BOER WAR.

General Buller has joined hands with General French General Hunter, advancing from the North has outflanked Oliver.

The court-martial which has been convened in Pretoria in connection with the attempted kidnapping of Lord Roberts, has commenced its sitting. Lieutenant Cordua, late of the State Artillery, was the first to be tried. He pleaded guilty

FRANCE, RUSSIA, AND CHINA.

Shanghai, August 21.

M. Delcassé, speaking on the Chinese policy of France, emphasised the fact that France and Russia were acting in accord, and said it was necessary that the Powers should moderate their desires to what all could agree on.

THE KAISER ON WALDERSEE'S APPOINTMENT.

The Emperor William, in presenting a Field Marshal's baton to Count von Waldersee, dwelt especially on the Czar's approval of the appointment, and expressed the hope that the co-operation of the Allies would be a pledge of the peace of Europe.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Rumours of big Boer successes are current at Lourenzo Marques. It is impossible to verify them, the British censorship being extremely strict. Dewet's following is now 7 000.

A TRIBUTE TO JAPAN.

Shanghai, August 21.

The Times pays a warm tribute to Japan, who, by the promptitude and efficacy of her aid, saved the Powers the humiliation and anguish of being powerless spectators of a massacre. Japan deserves well of the commonwealth of Europe.

WALDERSEE'S DEPARTURE.

Waldersee has left Berlin *en route* for China. He was given an enthusiastic farewell.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, August 22.

Dewet and Delarey were reported on the 19th inst., to be within 20 miles of Pretoria, going to the North-east. This shows that they have quitted the Western Transvaal.

General Hamilton occupied Oliphant's Nek on the 17th. He captured 2 Krupps, and 684 Boers surrendered who had hitherto been at Harrismith.

CHINA.

Li Hung-chang has applied to America to appoint H. E. Mr. Conger, or some other American, to conduct peace negotiations.

Russia has prohibited the export of arms to China.

Colonel Grearson, of the Artillery, and Colonel Powell, of the Indian Staff, are to join Field Marshal Waldersee's staff.

THE MARSEILLES STRIKE.

The strikers are preventing the unloading of the *Golconda* at Marseilles. The P. & O. Company threaten to send the vessel to Genoa.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

THE FRENCH EXPEDITION FOR CHINA.

Saigon, Aug. 16.

The ceremony of handing the colours to the troops of the expedition for China took place at Marseilles, and gave rise to an imposing and moving demonstration. The President of the Republic said in his address that the expedition was destined to impose on China signal reparation for past injuries of which she must give an account, and to assure the necessary guarantees for the future. The enthusiasm was general, and M Loubet's speech was much applauded.

JAPANESE MEN-OF-WAR.

The *Yakumo* reached this port on the 16th and the *Asahi* arrived at Port Said on the same day.

TELEGRAM FROM M. PICHON.

Saigon, Aug. 17.

Monsieur Pichon, Minister of France in Peking, telegraphed to M. Delcassé on the 9th of August as follows:—"If the negotiations with Li Hung-chang delay the march of the foreign troops, in which lies our unique chance of safety, we run the risk of falling into the hands of the Chinese. We are reduced to siege rations and have provisions for fifteen days only."

THE MARSEILLES STRIKE.

Saigon, August 18.

The strike of the firemen at Marseilles is retarding the departure of the mail steamers Government firemen are providing for the service of the steamers transporting troops to China.

THE SUCCOUR OF THE LEGATIONS.

English and American journals announce that the allied forces entered Peking on Monday (13th), and express the belief that the Legations have been succoured.

Saigon, August 19.

A telegram from Admiral Courrejolles dated the 17th at Tientsin, confirms the news of the capture of Peking and the succour of the Legations.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

Saigon, August 20.

Li Hung-chang has received a telegram confirming the news that the Allies entered Peking on Wednesday, the 15th, without opposition. Rumour has it that the Empress-Dowager and the Court fled with the troops.

THE EXHIBITION.

The ceremony of distributing awards at the Paris Exhibition was magnificent. The President of the Republic, in his speech, expressed the hope that the spirit of the Exhibition of 1900 would survive it so as to draw together the bonds between the nations and give a new impulse to the idea of the confederation of humanity.

PEKING.

Despatches from the Admirals confirm the capture of Peking on August 15th, and say that the Legations are saved.

THE EXHIBITION.

Saigon, August 20.

The fete given in honour of the Exhibition was very brilliant, and the crowds were enormous.

HONOURS.

M. Pichon, Minister of France in Peking, has been promoted to the grade of Commander of the Legion of Honour, and the following gentlemen are named Officers of the Legion, namely, M. Du Chaybard, Consul-General in Tientsin; M. de Bézauze, Consul-General in Shanghai; and M. François, Consul in Long-tcheon.

CHINA.

Saigon, August 22.

A telegram from Taku, under date of the 18th, says that fighting continued in the streets of Peking, and the Allies were bombarding the Inner City.

Yung Lu prevented the Empress-Dowager from leaving Peking.

(RECEIVED AT THE WAR DEPARTMENT.)

CHINA.

Ho-shi-wu, Aug. 9.

A portion of the Division, attacking the enemy, captured Nan-tsi-tsung on the 7th, and the main body reached that place on the 8th. Ho-shi-wu was occupied on the 9th. The enemy made some slight resistance, but, being pursued by our van, dispersed in a northerly direction. The Chinese troops at Ho-shi-wu were the Imperial Guards, the Fu-nan men, and the Wei men. They numbered over 10,000, and were under the command of Ma, Sü, Nieh, and Li. These generals were making dispositions for defence, but our sudden advance interrupted them. According to the statements of the prisoners, although rewards have been given to wounded soldiers, there is no desire on the people's part to fight, and the banners are very much below their regulation strength. Five hundred wounded men—probably from the Pe-tsang fight—had been sent by boat to Tung-chow. It seems improbable that the enemy will make any further resistance. We had 3 rank and file wounded to-day.

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THE PEKING RESCUE.

(From Colonel Ishibashi, Chief of Staff of the Fifth Division.)

Taku, August 16.

The Division attacked Peking on the 14th, and after from eight to nine hours' bombardment, blew up the Tong-chih and Tse-hwa Gates between the hours of 8 and 10 p.m., and took possession of the north and east of the city. We had 1 officer killed and 3 wounded, and about 100 rank and file killed and wounded. The enemy had about 300 killed. The remainder of the allied troops entered by the Tung-pien and Hata Gates. The staff of the Japanese Legation were all safe. On the 15th, the enemy who had retreated into the Palace, offered stubborn resistance to troops sent by us to guard the Palace, and the conflict is now in progress. The Division is quartered in the suburbs outside the An-ting Gate, and the head-quarters are in the Japanese Legation. We have taken from five thousand to six thousand *koku* of hulled rice in Peking.

(From Colonel Akiyama.)

Tientsin, August 18.

The telegraph line northward of Tientsin has been injured by storm and no news has been received from Peking.

(From Lieut.-General Yamaguchi.)

Peking, Aug. 17.

From 9 a.m. on the 14th instant until nearly dusk we bombarded the Tong-chih and Tse-hwa gates, and between the hours of 8 30 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. We blew up the two gates, entered the city and took possession of the other gates on the east and north One regiment was than sent to guard the front gate of the Imperial Palace and one to communicate with the Foreign Legations The Russian, American and French troops, after a sharp struggle, entered the Tung-pien Gate, and thence advanced to the Hata Gate. The British troops, meeting scarcely any resistance, entered from the Kuang-chü Gate, and thereafter making their way through one of the water gates, reached the Legations at 3 p m. One of our regiments entered by the Tung-pien and Hata Gates at 7 a.m. on the 15th, and proceeded to the Legations. We found the Ministers and others all safe. The regiment sent on the morning of the 15th to guard the Palace was engaged all day but as it did not use artillery the fight was not decisive. It is stated that the Chinese Court and the Government escaped four or five days ago to Si-an, escorted by thirty (three?) thousand of Tong's troops. There is considerable disorder in Peking, and the city has accordingly been divided into several administrative districts, the northern half being placed under Japanese charge. The Japanese, English, Russians, Americans and French have furnished one officer each to undertake the work of restoring order. The Japanese commissioner is Lieut.-Colonel Shiba. Peking has now been cleared of the enemy, who have fled from the city. One half of the fugitives consisted of Boxers and troops of the Eight Banners The enemy's casualties up to to-day are not less than 600. The guns taken are 9 Krupps and 100 old-pattern pieces, and the flags captured are innumerable. The Japanese regiment sent to guard the Palace has rescued the missionaries and the native converts who were in Tōa-shō (?). Prince Twan's palace has been burned by ————. The Japanese had over 200 killed and wounded of all ranks. Lieut. Yazaki was killed, and the following officers were wounded:—Col. Watanabe, Captain Azuma, Captain Otera, Lieut. Iida and Lieut. Goto, of the 42nd Regiment; Captain Tomita, Captain Michiiye and Lieut. Takenouchi of the 41st Regiment. But all the wounds are trifling. The troops are encamped at the parade ground in the north of the city and the head-quarters are at the Japanese Legation.

(From Colonel Akiyama).

Tientsin, August 18.

Peking is nearly clear of the enemy. The Japanese had 50 killed and wounded in the street fighting on the 15th.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

Shanghai, Aug. 17.

It was proposed to deliver a general attack on Peking on the 15th instant.

Shanghai, Aug. 16.

With reference to the recently reported disturbance at Ta-tung information from a trustworthy source says that the local authorities employed troops against the insurgents and killed about 100, which measure restored tranquillity.

The Governor of Shensi has proceeded as far as the borders of Chili for the purpose of meeting the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor.

Súchow, Aug. 16.

A thousand silk-weaving operatives who are thrown out of employment, yesterday attacked the mill, but were quickly reduced to order, 14 of the ringleaders being arrested. There is no prospect of further disturbance.

Berlin, Aug. 13.

It is announced that Count Von Waldersee will leave Genoa by a German steamer on the 21st instant.

An imperial decree has been issued forbidding the export of arms and ammunition to China or neighbouring ports.

Fu-chow, Aug. 16.

It is reported that the insurgents at Sü-chow have killed the principal local official, and that the officer commanding the troops has committed suicide. With reference to this, the Viceroy of Min-che has received from the officer commanding the troops sent to the assistance of Sü-chow a telegram saying that the troops are surrounded by the enemy and are in urgent need of succour. The place where the troops are surrounded is the foot of a hill on the borders of Fuh-kien and Che-kiang. It does not seem, however, that the Viceroy can send assistan

Amoy, August 18.

It is reported that several Christian churches at Ting-chou-fu and Lun-yuen-chow have been wrecked by insurgents. There are signs of the insurrection spreading to Chang-chou-fu. There does not remain a single foreign missionary in the interior.

Chefoo, August 18.

A telegram received at Tientsin on the 16th, sent by Lieut.-General Yamaguchi from Peking on the 15th, says that at daylight on the 14th the Allies began to bombard Peking from the east. The enemy offered a stubborn resistance. The Japanese and Russian troops attacked from the direction of the Tung-chow canal; the English and Americans attacked from a more southerly point. At sunset the Japanese blew up two of the gates into the Tartar city; the English and Americans entered from the Tung-pien Gate, and detachments were at once sent by both forces to the Foreign Legations. The Japanese had over 100 killed and wounded, including 3 officers; the Chinese had over 400 killed.

Hongkong, August 18.

A transport from Calcutta with 120 men has passed this port going north.

Shanghai, August 18.

The C.M.S.N. Co.'s steamer *Kung-ping* has hoisted the Japanese flag.

According to trustworthy information, a body of imperial guards, carrying flags with the legend "Imperial escort," passed the Luh kow bridge on the 12th instant; and on the 14th instant, Luh-chen-liu sent a telegram to the southern Viceroys ordering that all war funds should thereafter be sent Shan-si. From this it would appear that the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor, or at any rate the former, have left Peking *viâ* Pao-ting-fu for Wu-tai-ken in Shan-si. Nevertheless, as an imperial edict was issued in Peking on the 13th, the retreat of the Court must have been subsequent to the latter date. Further news from a trustworthy source indicates that Prince Twan has accompanied the Court, but that Prince Ching, General Kang Yi and General Jung Lu remain in Peking.

There is credible news that General Li died on the 11th from the effects of a wound received in fight against the Allies. It is further stated that the Emperor and the Empress Dowager fled on the 15th to Wu-tai-ken in Shansi, but this is not yet certain.

WESTERN CHINA.

Shanghai, August 19.

The British Consul of Chung-king now at I-chang, will return to his post as soon as an opportunity presents itself.

WESTERN CHINA.

Shanghai, August 20.

The British Consul at Chun-king, who lately withdrew from that place, is about to return thither for the purpose of instructing his nationals to move from Szechuan to some place further down the river. In order to insure his safety *en route*, it is said that a force of marines will travel in the steamer which carries him.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

Söul, August 20.

It is reported that two Japanese subjects have been seized by Chinese at a place opposite to Cha-son on the upper waters of the Yalu.

A report from Kyong-heung near Tu-man-zan says that the Russian and Chinese are fighting on the Chino-Russian frontier.

A message from Kup-san says that two Russians and one Korean have been killed by a gang of some 30 Chinese who invaded that place.

Hongkong August 20.

A transport with 219 troops from Calcutta has passed this place *en route* for North China.

SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, August 20.

About 70 French Marines landed on the 18th instant for the protection of the Settlement

The American Association at Shanghai has made a strong representation to the Government in favour of despatching troops to that place.

LATE PEKING NEWS.

Hsu, Lien, and Lih were decapitated on the 11th of August by command of the Empress-Dowager. General Jung Lu was to have met with the same fate, but the order was changed into one of imprisonment.

The Emperor and the Empress-Dowager left Peking on the 13th instant, under escort of Tung's troops, and are now *en route* for Wu-tai-shan.

The Empress-Dowager ordered that Prince Twan, Prince Chuan, General Kang Hsu Tung and Chung Ki should remain in

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Peking. Kang Yi has been appointed to the chief command of the Wu-wei troops.

KOREAN DISTURBANCES.

Sōul, August 21.

A telegram from Mr. Kubo, Assistant Vice-Consul at Song-ching near Gensan, says that on the 19th about a thousand Korean rioters from Kil-jee wrecked and burned several houses and official buildings, and that the Japanese residents were in danger, when fortunately the *Aioi Maru* came into port, and her arrival alarmed the rioters so that they desisted. They had disavowed any intention of attacking the Japanese, but when some Japanese police went to reconnoitre, they were attacked and barely escaped after using their pistols and wounding some Koreans. As these occurrences made it uncertain whether the attack might not be resumed at any moment, the Japanese residents withdrew to Gensan. The Korean officials had given notice that they could not be responsible for the safety of foreign life and property, and they themselves fled by the same steamer.

A NEW CABLE.

Chefoo, Aug. 20.

The cable between Taku and the Chefoo island is finished, and the portion between the island and Chefoo is now under construction. The whole will be finished by the 22nd.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

Sōul, Aug. 22.

The trouble at Song-chin was owing to the place being put under a separate jurisdiction from that of Kil-ju, which separation displeased the inhabitants of Kil-ju—a mere local disturbance. Nine Japanese fled to Yuen-san from Song-chin, one remained there, and one at Im-pien. The Korean Government in sending troops to quell the disturbance.

PEKING

Tientsin, Aug 22,

A telegram from Baron Nishi in Peking dated the 18th says that the relief force arrived on the 14th and that all were saved.

Shanghai, August 22.

The Japanese troops took possession of the Imperial city on the 16th instant. The Empress-Dowager, the Emperor and the Ministers escaped from the city on the 11th, escorted by 3,000 of Tung's soldiers. It is believed that they have gone to Si-an in Shen-si. The Japanese, Russians, English, French, and Americans have appointed officers to administer the city. The Japanese had over 200 killed and wounded; the enemy lost 600.

Hangkow, August 22.

Twenty-six Chinese suspected of being Boxers were arrested this morning by the Authorities and two of them were at once decapitated.

Amoy, August 20.

Several churches have been wrecked at Po-nan and Peh-ki in Chan-chou-fu, and the houses of native Christians in the neighbourhood, to the number of over ten, have been burned by insurgents.

That enterprising paper, the *Daily Express*, has seized the present occasion to teach the British public something about the geography of China. It is a case of the blind leading the blind, for we are informed, amongst other things, that Ichang is in the province of Szechuan about two miles from Shanghai!

A London correspondent writes:—It is significant of the fear of reprisals for the doings in Peking which is felt by Chinese residents here that members of the Chinese Legation have dropped their Eastern costume and are wearing tall hats and frock coats, but I do not hear the smallest suggestion of personal danger to them.

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

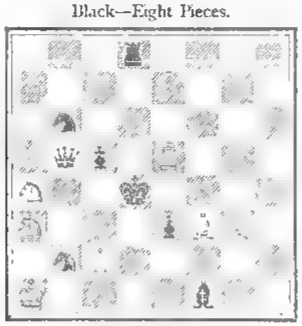
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 485.

Key move Q to R 2.

PROBLEM No. 487.

By "MERCATOR" (ADELAIDE).

Black—Eight Pieces.



White—Seven Pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 614.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

White—Showalter. Black—Brodie.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P QB4	17 P QB4	Q R3
2 Kt KB3	P K3	18 R Kt3	Castles
3 P Q4	PxP	19 B R6	KR Qsq
4 KtxP	Kt KB3	20 Q K4	P Q4
5 Kt QB3	B Kt5	21 PxPep	BxP
6 B Q3	Kt B3	22 B Kt5	KR Ktsq
7 KtxKt	KtPxKt	23 R Q3	B Psq
8 P K5	Kt Q4	24 B B6	Q R4
9 Q Kt4	P Kt3	25 B B3	Q QB4
10 Castles	P KR4	26 R Q7	R Ksq
11 Q B3	KtxKt	27 KR Qsq	B Kt2
12 PxKt	B K2	28 BxB	KxB
13 R Ksq	Q R4	29 P R3	QR Bsq
14 B Q2	B R3	30 K R Q6	K Bsq
15 QR Ktsq	BxB	31 Q B4	R K2
16 QxB	QxRP	32 Q B6	Resigns

GAME No. 615.

The following brilliant little game occurred during the visit to Adelaide in May, 1885, of the British champion, Mr. J. H. Blackburne. The occasion was his remarkable simultaneous performance in the Exchange-room of the Town Hall. Mr. Charlick played two games simultaneously against Mr. Blackburne, and succeeded in winning one and drawing the other. We reprint the former, which was the only game lost by Mr. Blackburne in South Australia The notes are from the *Australasian*. The game does not appear in Mr Blackburne's recently published "Collection":—

KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White. Mr. J. H. Blackburne.	Black. Mr. H. Charlick.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P to Q 4!
3—Kt to K B 3 (a)	3—Q B to K Kt 5
4—B to K 2	4—P takes K B P! (b)
5—P takes P	5—B takes Kt
6—B takes B	6—Q to K R 5 (ch)
7—K to B sq	7—QKt to Q 2
8—P to Q 4 (c)	8—Castles
9—P to Q B 4	9—R to K sq
10—Kt to B 3	10—K Kt to B 3
11—B to Q 2	11—P to K Kt 4
12—Q to Q R 4	12—P to K Kt 5!
13—B to Q sq	13—Kt to K R 4 (d)!
14—Q takes Q R P	14—P to KB6!
15—Kt to Q Kt 5	

Black mates in five moves, thus:—

	15—Kt to K Kt 6 ch
16—K to Kt sq	16—P to K B 7 ch!
17—K takes P	17—Kt takes R dbl. ch
18—K to Kt sq	18—R to K 8 ch
19—B takes R	19—Q takes B mate

(a) This move, though one we have frequently adopted in practice, is, we consider, decidedly precarious.

(b) And Black adopts the line of play which makes matters most unpleasant for White.

(c) We should be tempted here to try P to K Kt 3, followed, if the Pawn be taken, by K to Kt 2.

(d) A well-conducted attack. White has no show to escape.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer	Date.
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 1	Sa. Aug 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Aug 27
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 2	Th Aug 30
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen	Sa. Sept. 1
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M Sept. 3
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Sept. 3
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	——	W. Sept. 5
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th Sept 6
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 3	Su. Sept 9
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. Sept. 10
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Sept. 17

1 Left Nagasaki on the 22nd inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 11th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 21st inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line.	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa Aug 25
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu Aug 28
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W Aug 29
Europe, via S'hai ...	M. M. Co	Yarra	F Aug 31
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	F Aug 31
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M Sept. 3
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W Sept. 5
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W Sept. 5
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F Sept 7
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M Sept 10
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Sept. 12
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu Sept 18

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, J. Kennedy, 17th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports and Kobe 15th Aug., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, C. Christensen, 17th Aug.,—Kobe, 15th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 17th Aug.,—Kobe, 15th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orwell, British steamer, 2,446, Gibb, 17th Aug.,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Shantung, British steamer, 1,835, T. Quail, 17th Aug.,—Hongkong, Sugar and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 17th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 17th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinz Heinrich, German steamer, 3,902, H. Supmer, 17th Aug.,—Hamburg and Bremen, via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 17th Aug., - Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. - Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tovei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 19th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, 14th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumiuye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 19th Aug.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,782, J. S. Thompson, 20th Aug.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 18th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 20th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 3rd Aug., Mails & General. Toyo Kisen Kaisha

Dorothy, British schooner, 21, Johnson, 20th Aug.,—Put back to port, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Bergenhus, Norwegian steamer, 2,344, J. H. Svendsen, 21st Aug.,—New York via Singapore, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 21st Aug.,—Otaru via ports, 16th Aug., General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 21st Aug.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd

Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, J. Barber, 21st Aug.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 20th August, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,084, R. Schmitz, 22nd Aug., Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 21st Aug., Mails and General M. M. S.S. Co.

Mikasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 22nd Aug.,—Kobe, 20th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, H. Takeda, 22nd Aug.,—Kobe, 20th Aug., General, -Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shigawara Maru, Japanese steamer 1,507, T. Murai, 23rd Aug.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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DEPARTURES.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 17th Aug.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Durrande, 17th Aug.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Amoy, German steamer, 663, Wolf, 16th Aug.,—Moji, Ballast.—J. Puig.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,201, H. Takeda, 17th Aug.,—Kobe, 17th Aug., General.—N. Y. K.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 18th Aug.,—San Francisco, via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,871, J. Kennedy, 19th Aug.,—Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Afrdi, British steamer, 2,354, Thos. Golding, 19th Aug.,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 20th August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prometheus, British steamer, 3,583, Robt. Day, 21st Aug.,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sirius, German ship, 1,699, N. T. Behring, 21st Aug.,—Portland, Oreg., Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Ayr, British steamer, 1,955, W. H. Gibson, 22nd August,—Kobe, Phosphate.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Geier, German gunboat, 1,700, Capt. Peters, 16th Aug.,—Taku via Chefoo.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yasumoto, 22nd August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumunoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 21st Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, C. H. S. Tocque, 22nd Aug.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Maria de Larrinaga, British steamer, 2,578, J. A. Harrison, 22nd Aug.,—Kobe, General. Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 22nd Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, C. Christiansen, 22nd Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shantung, British steamer, 1,835 T. Quail, 22nd Aug.,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,236, P. H. Going, 23rd Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Java, British steamer, 2,733, G. W. Gordon, 23rd Aug.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 23rp Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 23rd Aug.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orwell, British steamer, 2,446, Wm. Gibb, 23rd Aug.,—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, from Europe via ports.—Mr. A. Leveltus, Mr. F. W. Horn, Mr. G. H. Brown, Mr. T. Dundell Mr. W. Bandow, Mr. Gradwell, Mr. F. Dabelstein, Mr. F. Smith, Mr. Slyvestrie, Mr. and Mrs. Mattue, Mr. A. Nicoubeun, Mr. M. Blumer, Mr. R. Metz, Dr. Sato, Mrs. A. Crawford, Mr. L. Schulze, Lt. Pietro Umberto-Antonie, Mr. L. Joseph, and Mr. F. Ikeda, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Ancneat Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu.—Dr. W. F. Becker, Mr. H. G. H. Coffman, Mr. W. S. Culver, Mrs. W. S. Culver, Mr. Arthur Young, Dr. Emil Schworer, Mrs. Emil Schworer, Mr. K. Tajmao, Mr. T. Takatsuji, Admiral Beardslee, Mrs. Beardslee, Mr. S. Togo, Mr. A. Eto, Mr. Y. Ozawa, Dr. S. Yamamoto, Mrs. S. Yamamoto, 2 children and nurse, Brig. Gen. J. S. Wilson, Lt. G. S. Turner, Lt. J. H. Reeves, and Mrs. W. S. Stone, 3 children and nurse, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. Fred. McCormick, in cabin. For Shanghai.—Mr. W. W. Rockhill, Mrs W. W. Rockhill, and Mr. L. F. Millard, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. S. W. Cotton, Mr. J. A. Lewandowski, Mrs. J. A. Lewandowski, Com. N. E. Niles, Mr. W. S. Smith, and Mrs. W. S. Smith, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles via ports.—Mr. R. Murakami, Mr. Keurenaer, Mr. Geesteranus, Mr. and Mrs. Bird, Mr. Barnet, Mr Bremer, Mr. and Mrs. Murray and 4 children, Mr. Wriede, Mr. Livingstone, Mr Cuandoni and boy, Mr. A. Gysin, and Mr. We She, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Marseilles via ports.—Mr. J. H. Rodier, Mr. C. A. Wegelin, Mr. J. Puig, Mr. B. C. Bom, Mr. R. Lakin, Mr. F. Hellyer, Mr W. M. Treglown, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Stordford, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Sale, Mr. G. M. Arah, M Fitz Gerald, Mr. Chan, Mr. Dammann, Mr. S. Sugimoto, Mr. Brandenbourg and servant, Mrs. Elliott, Miss Chandler, Dr. A. Semmimkoff, Miss R. Miller, Miss K Miller, Mrs. Hokai Rion, Mr. Banbaud, Mrs. T. Castle McCallum, Dr. Blane and servant, Mrs. Brthall and child, Miss Blanche, Mr. Meyer, Miss Fletcher, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Vrygon, Mr Lanestrous, Mr. J. Suren, Mr. d'Andigier, Mr. Gillott, Mr. A. Dutilleul, Mr. A. Witzeg, Mr. Casares, Mr. Oviedo, and Mr. R. Cohen in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.—Mr and Mrs. A.G. Aitken, Mrs. Allen and child, Staff Surg. O. W. Andrews, Mrs. O. W. Andrews, Mr. F. Berto, Dr E. Baelz, Comdr. Beatty, R.N., Mr. W. Beckett Birt, Mr. F. Beckett Birt, Mr. Lucien Bourgogne, Mr H. Bruening, Mr. Emile Cambefort, Mr. D. C. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. G. Clark, Mr. C. H. Cowan, Miss M. Croucher, Mr. and Mrs W. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Denison, Lieut. G. T. L. Edwards, R.N., Mrs. G. T. L. Edwards and child, Mr T. E. Evans Mr. E. Fenollosa, Mr. A. C. Fenollosa, Rev. F. Flynn, R.N., Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Greene and 2 children, Miss Greene, Rev. and Mrs. Haden and 3 children, Mr. John Hammond, Mr. Drummond Hay, Mr. J. M. P. Hermanns, Mr. & Mrs. Holmstrom and 2 children, Mr. H. Hunter, Miss Hunter, Mr. F. H. Kew, Master W. Lacy, Capt. A. Lupus, R.N., Miss A. Linam, Mr. J. A. MacKay, Rev. E. McBurney, Rev. MacKenzie, Mrs. MacKenzie and child, Mrs. Marshall, Mr. P. F. Matzinger, Rev. D. Melver Dr. Menzies, Mrs Menzies, and 2 children, Baron de Meyer, Baroness de Meyer & maid, Mr. E. Meyer, Mrs. G.W. Middleton and child, Master H Middleton, Miss M. Middleton, Miss K. Murphy, Mr. F. Nozawa, Mr. F. N. Paton, Mrs. A. V. Payne, Miss C. M. Ricketts, Rev. Sama, Mrs. Sama, Lt.-Col. A.N Sandilands, Lt. The Hon. Forbes Sempill, R.N., Lieut. C. H Sinclair, R.N., Lieut. A. E. Silvertop, R.N., Mr. Reynold Squire, Rev. W. M. Swallen, Mrs. W M Swallen, and 3 children, Rev. C W. Swan, Mrs. C. W. Swan, and 2 children, Rev. C. A. Tague, Mrs. C. A Tague, and 3 children, Mr J. M. Underwood, Mr. K. Ueno, Mr. M. Ueno, Mr. A. Wright, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco via Honolulu.—Miss B. Allen, Miss F. Allen, Mr. S. D. Ames, Mr K. Asano, Mr. L. L. Bailey, Mr. F. Barbis, Mr. H. T. Bosman, Mrs. H. T. Bosman and maid, Mr. E. Brandenstein, Miss F. Corbin, Mrs. A. I. Gilmore, Mr. W. G. Hall, Mr. Robert H. Hampson, Mr. O. D. Hampson, Mr W. A. Harding, Mr. C. F. Hill, Miss L. M Kidwell and 2 maids, Lieut. von Krohn, I.G.N., Mrs. J. F. Lowder, Miss F. Lichtenberg, Mr. Walter Magee, Mrs. Walter Magee, Mrs. E. J. Marsh, Mr. Victor Marsh, Mrs. Monteth, Mr. Frederick Muhlhausen, Lady Pelly and maid, Mr. Pechtnoff, Mr. W. A. Ramsay, Mrs. Randolph, Mr. A. B. Snow, Miss Norma Snow, Miss Ellen Snow, Mr. C. A. Solquist, Rev. K. S. Stokke, Mrs. K. S. Stokke, Mr. B. C. Thibaudier, Mrs. C. Thorn, and Mr. M. M. Triponock, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash.—Mr. A. C. Bang, Mr. and Mrs. Cornwell and four children, Miss J. Cornett, Mr. A. P. Curtis, Mrs. Foster and three children, Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Lyon and child, Mr. F. L. Marshall, Mr A. M. Montell, Mr and Mrs. F. Muller, Miss E. Patchett, Mr. J. H. Pearson, Mrs. A. B. Ross and child, Mrs. L. Speicker and two children, and Mrs. G. Thomson and child, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. E. L. Lakin, Mr. R. Lakin, Mr. W. L. Wilson, Baron de Meyer's native servant, Mr. N. A. Block, Mr. Quong Sing Lung and servant, Mrs. Quong Sing Lung, and Mrs. Britton, child and amah, in cabin; 3 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. H. T. Paul, Mr. W. J. Scroth, Mr. F. Upton, Mr. M. Mutter. Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Diercks, Miss Hiro Matsumoto, Miss Mitchell, Miss Diercks, Mr. S. Nakayama, and Mr. B. Lundholm, in cabin, Mrs. Chung, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. S. Asano, Mrs. S. Asano, Mrs. Baba, Mr. S. Cotton, Mr. H. G. Coffman, Miss E. Harris, Mr J. A. Lewandowski, Mrs. J. A. Lewandowski, Mr. A. Ladopulo, Mr. F. McCormick, Mr. L. F. Millard, Commander Miles, Mr. H. Okawa, Mr. James H. Reeves, U.S.A., Mr. W. W. Rockhill, Mrs. W. W. Rockhill, Mr Geo. E. Rice Mr. W. W. Rich, Mr. W. S. Smith, Mrs. W. S. Smith, Mrs. A. Tyler, Mr. J. J. Turner, Mr. John G. Upton, Mr. S. Valiadaki, Mr. J. A. Wattie, Mrs. J. A. Wattie, Brig. Gen. Jas. H. Wilson, U.S.A., and Miss Waters, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Java*, for London via ports:—Mr. Chas. I. Burke, Mr. Williams Stewart, Mr. James Howe, Mrs. H. L. Weeks, and 3 children, Miss Stephens, and Mr. and Mrs. Girling, in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash.

TEA.

	Canada.	Chicago & West	New York & East	Pacific Coast.		Total Packages.
Amoy	—	—	3,641	—	—	3,641
Shanghai	—	3234	438	75	—	3,747
Kobe	681	1,460	363		—	2,504
Yokohama	917	1,911	1,544	168	—	4,540
Total	1,598	6,605	5,986	243	—	14,432

SILK.

	New York	Hartford.		Total Bales.
Yokohama	220	20		240
Total	220	20		240

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is rather a better tone generally, though the landing of troops at Shanghai has, curiously enough, had rather a disquieting effect on the Chinese market There is, however, little actually doing.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting -9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ..	2.30 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ..	2.80 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	0.21 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb.	0.68 to 0 78
	PER PIECE
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.20 to 11.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	1.45 to 1.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38, 42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	Y. 170.00 to 175.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	170.00 to 185.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	353.00 to 365.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	27 *yen*
Indian Broach	24
Chinese	25.00

METALS.

The market is flat.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ⅝ inch and upward	Y. 6.00 to 6.50
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 7.00
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.50 to 14.00
Wire Nails, assorted	8.00 to 8.50
Tin Plates, per box	8.00 to 8 30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1½ inch)	7.00 to 7.40

KEROSENE

The market is firm.

American	$2 86
Russian	2 80
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y 5.30 to 6.10
Brown Manila	5.70 to 7.00
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined	8.00 to 9.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Moderate business. Prices steady with a tendency to firmness, and yet there is an under-current of weakness which may result in lower prices next month.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	Y. 920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	970 to 980
Filatures—No 1, Coarse	860 to 865

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Filatures—No. 1½, Fine...	930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	835 to 845
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	815 to 825
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	860 to 865
Re-reels—No. 1	840 to 845
Re-reels No. 1½	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	860 to 870
Kakedas—No. 1½	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 2	800 to 810
Kakedas No. 2½	770 to 780

WASTE SILK.

A moderate business at quotations. Supplies of desirable fibre are at present scanty.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	150 to 160
Noshi Filatures, Good...	130 to 140
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	135 to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium...	120 to 130
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	105 to 110
Noshi -Shinshiu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	75 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	

TEA.

The trade remains steady at unchanged quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	39 & upwards
Choice	37 to 38
Finest	35 to 36
Fine	33 to 34
Good Medium...	31 to 32
Medium	29 to 30
Good Common	27 to 28
Common	25 to 26

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, August 23.

London silver ¼ higher and discounts down to 3½ and 3¼ per cent. for 3 and 6 months paper respectively, but locally exchange rates all keep steady.

London —Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight.....	255
— Private 4 months' sight.....	261
— — 6 months' sight ...	262½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅝@ 1
Germany—Bank sight.....	207
— Private 4 months' sight.....	212½@ 13
Hongkong—Bank sight	*½% dis.
— Private 10 days' sight...	*2½% dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 72
— Private 10 days' sight ...	* 74
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	28¼

* Nominal.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, August 23.

Japan Breweries are obtainable at *yen* 150. Engine and Iron Works have sellers at *yen* 210. Grand Hotels have been sold at *yen* 240; at this price a few shares are obtainable. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Oriental Hotel—Offers for old and new shares are wanted. Langfeldts are steady at par. Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107. Brett & Co. debentures are obtainable at par.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. shares have been purchased from China at $91.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works 210	Sellers.
Grand Hotel 240	Sales.
Club Hotel..... 85	Sellers.
Oriental Hotel 150	Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.....100	Steady.
Japan Brewery Co. 150	Sellers.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 23.

Breweries can be had at *yen* 150. Engine and Iron Works are obtainable at *yen* 210. Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 240. Oriental Hotels—Offers for old, founders, and new shares are wanted. Helms are obtainable at par. Langfeldts—Offers for shares are wanted. Launches have sellers at par. Bretts—Offers of shares are wanted.

Y. U. Club debentures can be had at *yen* 108. Laundries have sellers at par.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50 ..	210 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 N.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100.....	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 B.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd, ¥100	95 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	50 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	108 St.
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100..	108 Sa.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100 ...	101 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100 ..	108 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	93 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25 ..	40 N.

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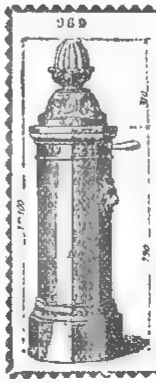

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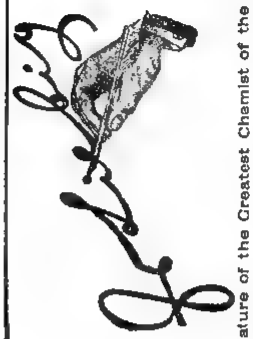

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 1ST, 1900.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

PEKING is quieting down. The Chinese Imperial Court is still on its travels.

THE *Tientsin Maru*, with 158 wounded and sick men, arrived at Ujina on the 26th inst.

MOUNT RAKYU, Kushiro Island, Hokkaido, burst into eruption on the 14th July and still continues active.

SEVENTY-FOUR Japanese coolies engaged by the French Government left Nagasak. on the 26th ult. for Taku.

TWENTY-EIGHT horses belonging to the Tokyo Tramway Company were affected by sunstroke on the 27th ult.

THE chartered steamer *Kinshiu Maru*, with 153 wounded and sick troops, arrived at Ujina on the 26th ult. from Taku.

THE Iwaya tobacco firm has offered to send 1,000,000 cigarettes for the use of the allied forces in North China.

A VERY severe earthquake was felt in Yokohama at 3 p.m. on Monday. At 4.30 p.m. a slighter shock was experienced.

THE Red Cross hospital steamer *Hakuai Maru* arrived at Ujina on the 26th ult. from China with 200 sick men on board.

A MAN named Hattori murdered a woman and her daughter in Maganecho, Yokohama, on the 26th inst. He has been arrested.

WOOLLEN winter clothes for the Japanese troops in China were sent by the Military Department a few days ago to Ujina for shipment.

A FIRE broke out at 2 a.m. on the 25th inst. at Hatsunecho Nichome, Ota, Yokohama. Four houses were destroyed and three damaged.

250 JAPANESE coolies belonging to the Kobe Emigrant Company, engaged by Germany, left Kobe by the German steamer *Prinz Heinrich*.

THE Boers are making a last desperate stand at Belfast, at the entrance to the Lydenburg district. The British, however, are gradually advancing.

MESSRS. MACARTHUR & Co., the treasurers, announce that E.P.S. has contributed 5 *yen* towards the Y.M.C.A. Army and Navy Fund at Tientsin.

THE following Japanese war-vessels are anchored at Yokosuka:—*Asama*, *Hashidate*, *Yashima*, *Soko*, *Amagi*, *Chinto*, *Chinboku*, *Suma*, and *Heiyen*.

ADMIRAL POTHIER, the commander of the China squadron, has appointed Captain Viaud ("Pierre Loti"), now travelling in India, as his chief of staff.

A COOLIE named Ito Yukichi, staying at Miyoshicho Sanchome, Yokohama, was attacked by cholera on the 28th ult., and sent to the hospital at once.

A TELEGRAM from Kagoshima dated 25th ult. says that seven coolies were that day killed and two injured by poisonous gases at the Usho Mine, Oguchi-mura.

THE chartered steamer *Sakata Maru*, with 83 Red Cross nurses and attendants, 3 officers, and 60 police constables, left Ujina on the 26th ult., for North China.

BISHOP David H. Moore, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is on his way to Shanghai, to take charge of missionary interests in China, Korea, and Japan.

A BRANCH pipe of the Yokohama Waterworks burst at Kakinokizaka, Kami-kawamura, Tsutsukigori, on the 27th ult. The repairs are expected to take about a week.

IT will surprise none to learn that some one in Shanghai telegraphed a few weeks ago that Li Hung-chang had committed suicide, and that Yuan Shi-kai had been killed.

Two armed robbers entered the shop of a *saké* merchant named Hioka, at Ishikawamachi, Rokuchome, Yokohama, on the early morning of the 27th inst. and stole 27.50 *yen*.

THE sum of 25,000 *yen* in Japanese gold coin was shipped for Hongkong by a Chinese merchant, and 5,000 *yen* to Shanghai by another Chinese, per the N.D.L. steamer *Prinz Heinrich*.

A PARLIAMENTARY paper gives the estimated cost of the Hongkong Naval Dockyard Extension as £1,275,000, of which £46,516 was spent in 1899. The work is expected to be completed in 1904 or 1905.

DR. M. A. SCHLOSSER, the chiropodist, so well known in the Far East, and who was recently in Japan, died of paralysis on the 5th of August at the San Juan de Dios Hospital, Manila. He was a native of France.

THE German army has lost one of the heroes of 1870-71 by the death of General Count von Schleffen, who died at Interlaken, aged seventy one years. During the French war the Count gallantly commanded a regiment of the Horse Guards.

THE application of the Yokohama Electric Railway Company has been sanctioned by the City Assembly, and the applicants are now attempting to obtain a charter from the Communications Department. A line from Yamashitacho round the Public Garden has been added to the scheme.

THE new Hamburg-America liner *Deutschland* has beaten the famous maiden trip of the *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse*, which has heretofore held the record across the Atlantic. The *Deutschland* steamed 3,044 knots in 5 days 17 hrs. 27 min., averaging 22.42 knots an hour for the whole voyage.

ON August 4, Captain Lara, one of the most distinguished officers of the Manila Civil Police Force, was fatally shot on the Calle Salcedo. Captain Lara had gone to the Libertad Theatre accompanied by a friend and his confidential orderly, and, when returning home, was shot from behind. The murderer escaped. The thieves of Manila had placed a price of $800 on Capt Lara's head.

ABOUT six tons of bar silver, seized by the American troops in the capture of Tientsin, arrived at the Osaka Mint on Thursday. The bullion, says the *Kobe Herald*, was forwarded through the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The silver is mixed with brick dust and other stuff, having been melted in the conflagration. The Mint will refine the composition and deliver the silver to the bank.

THE Report of the Shanghai Feather Cleaning Company, Limited, in liquidation, presented to the shareholders at an extraordinary meeting, on the 17th instant, is dismal reading. The liquidator in his report submitted the final account. The profit and loss account showed a debit balance of Tls. 247,900.44, the loss on consignments to Europe amounting to Tls. 67,367,92 and that on the whole of the property of the Company, sold at public auction, being Tls. 110,026.74. A proposal was submitted to liberate the Directors and the Liquidator from their responsibility.

ON Aug. 15th, the Hongkong branch of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., celebrated its jubilee. It was founded by Mr. Ninian Crawford (father of Mr. K. F. Crawford, of Yokohama), who was joined shortly after its establishment by Mr. T. A. Lane. The present Mr. D. R. Crawford (just now in Japan on a holiday) has been connected with the firm for over 40 years. The Shanghai and Yokohama houses were originally branches of the Hongkong firm, but they have been separated now for some years. The present premises in Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, have been occupied by the firm for 50 years. They have recently, however, been sold, and a new building on the Praya Reclamation is being erected for the firm's occupation.

A FIGHT occurred inside the Kobotoke tunnel of the Central Railway, between Hachioji and Kofu, on the afternoon of the 24th ult., between 50 workmen belonging to a contractor named Kawaguchi Seisuke and 28 workmen of the Works Bureau. It seems that a cook named Fujita, belonging to Wakaguchi's, a few days ago engaged a man named Bando Masajiro, who was generally disliked. About noon on the 24th inst. two workmen entered the tunnel and inquired for Fujita, and on his appearing they struck him. At about 4 p.m., as the workmen of the Railway Bureau finished work and were leaving the tunnel at the south entrance, 50 workmen of Kawaguchi's met them. They were armed with pistols, swords, and sticks. A fight ensued and several were injured on both sides.

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THE TAKING OF PEKING.

Tuesday, Aug. 28.

We have now a pretty full account of the taking of Peking. It is from the pen of the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent and was telegraphed by him from Shimonoseki, when he returned thither from Taku on the 26th instant.

On the day after the occupation of Tung-chow, namely, the 13th instant, the 9th Brigade marched from that place at 6 a.m. having the 11th Regiment in the van. At 10 a.m. Ta-wan-chwang was reached, and a number of scouts were sent out. These drew the enemy's fire as they approached the walls of Peking and there were some casualties. They reported that the Boxers were beating drums within the city and making preparations for resistance. At 11 a.m. the sound of vigorous firing was heard from the direction of the Tung-pien Gate, to the attack of which the English, Russians and Americans had advanced. Scouts sent by the Japanese in that direction brought news that the Russians explained that this was not a genuine attack on the city but merely a reconnoissance in force. But the truth seems to be that the Russians expected not to encounter more resistance at Peking than had been met at Tung-chow, and that, observing the Tung-pien Gate to be lightly defended, they had at once proceeded to attack it. The original agreement among the commanding officers, however, had been that the general attack on Peking should not be made until the 15th instant, the 13th and 14th being devoted to getting the troops into position and making reconnaissances. But since the Russians had thus commenced the attack, it became necessary for the Japanese to adopt the same course without delay so as to prevent the isolation of one part of the Allied force. The 41st Regiment now moved up to the front, accompanied by Major Generals Manabe and Fukushima. At 2 a.m. on the 14th, the 9th Brigade received orders from Major-General Manabe to hold itself in readiness for an immediate advance, and shortly afterwards an order arrived from Lieut.-General Yamaguchi, whose head-quarters were in Tung-chow, to the effect that the cavalry should manœuvre on the west and north-west of the city, and that the 9th Brigade should take the earliest opportunity of effecting an entry. At dawn on the 14th the advance was commenced from Ta-wan-chwang, thus anticipating the original plan by one day. The movement began at 4.45 a.m., the 41st Regiment being in the van and the 11th Regiment forming the main body. The Tse-hwa Gate was the objective point. The weather was beautiful and the troops presented a splendid appearance as they marched to the attack.

Meanwhile the 21st Brigade with the Head-quarters moved out of Tung-chow at 3.30 a.m., and marched without halting, the 42nd Regiment forming the main body. These troops moved rapidly to a position 1,200 metres from the Tse-hwa Gate. The 21st Regiment, however, bore off to the right, taking the Tung-chih Gate for objective point.

Outside the Tse-hwa Gate there is a stone bridge, and this was reached by the 41st Regiment at 6 10 a.m. The cavalry scouts now reported that the enemy were ranged on the wall in fighting order. The artillery of the 41st Regiment therefore came into action on one wing, and the infantry advanced under cover of its fire. The enemy opened a severe fire from the wall, and the Japanese troops pushed on gradually, finding cover in the houses on either side of the road. On approaching the gate, they found the walls and towers intact, and so high that to scale them was quite out of the question. Moreover, the system of defence was very complete, so that troops advancing to attack the gate would find themselves exposed to flank and rear fire from the adjacent parapets. On the other hand, unless the gate were quickly breached and an entry effected, the troops pushing up from the rear to the attack would find themselves in a species of well with bullets pouring down on them from over-head. Lieut. Yazaki, with a detachment of the 1st Company, and Captain Minamiyama, with the 10th Company, attempted to force the Gate but failed. Major Saiki then led the foremost battalion to the gate for the purpose of blowing it up with gun-cotton, but the enemy's fire was so heavy that it was found impossible to effect this purpose. The casualties at this stage were very heavy. The Artillery now received orders from Lieut.-General Yamaguchi to fire at the enemy crowding the wall. The Artillery's position was on an elevated spot about 1,500 or 1,600 metres from the Tse-hwa Gate, under the command of Colonel Nagata. It commenced firing at 9.40 a.m., the 18 field guns and 36 mountain guns, keeping up an incessant cannonade. The thunder of the guns was magnificent. The correspondent was with the Artillery, and viewed the operations now from the roof of a house, now from the top of a tree. The enemy had a considerable number of guns, but appeared to be ill-supplied with ammunition, for their fire was feeble and they inflicted little damage. At this point the correspondent of the *Chosen Jiho* was struck on the head by a bullet. The Artillery's fire thoroughly searched the positions of the enemy's guns on the north and south of the gate, but the enemy were under cover while we fired and came out again so soon as our troops began to move towards the gate. The men led by Lieut. Yazaki and Captain Minamiyama were all this time lying under the wall unable to advance or retreat, and as the position had become temporarily hopeless, the Infantry were gradually drawn off at 11 a.m., a strong artillery fire being now concentrated on the gate. Owing, however, to the configuration of the trace it was almost impossible for shells to reach the gate, and though several attempts were made to carry forward gun-cotton, the men could not yet cross the zone of fire. In one of these attempts Lieut. Yazaki was killed. Colonel Ohara then reported the great difficulty of the situation to Lieut.-General Yamaguchi, who thereupon issued orders that, as the operations of the Engineers were evidently impossible during day-light, night-fall should be awaited, and the attack on the gate repeated at 9 p.m. Nevertheless the Artillery continued to bombard the gate throughout the rest of the day.

The task of blowing up the gate was entrusted to a detachment of engineers under Lieut. Tsuchiya. He told off Sub-Lieutenant Tasaka and 7 sappers to gun-cotton the outer gate, and Corporal Sugimoto with 7 sappers to blow up the inner gate. At a little before 9 o'clock the men began to get ready for the attempt. They stripped themselves completely in order to escape the enemy's notice. It was a fine moon-light night, but fortunately a shower of rain fell just before the time of the attempt, and the sky being temporarily over-cast, the little detachments found a good opportunity. The enemy, evidently prepared for an attack under these circumstances, opened a heavy fire, but the engineer detachments pushed on resolutely, and succeeded in blowing up the outer and the inner gates. Thereupon three battalions, the first under Major Saiki, the second under Major Kokura, and the third under Major Inouye, charged the gates, and sweeping away the enemy, effected an entry. The two leading battalions at once doubled off in the direction of the Japanese Legation, and the third, turning northward, went to assist the attack on the Tung-chih Gate. But as the latter was found to have been already blown up, the battalion returned and took possession of the store-houses at the Tse-hwa Gate.

When, at 8 a.m., the 11th Regiment, which left Tung-chow on the morning of the 14th, reached the position opposite the Tse-hwa Gate, the latter was already under attack by the 41st Regiment. Major Murayama, who was in command of the leading battalion of the 11th Regiment, disposed his men to assist the attack on the Tse-hwa Gate, but as news reached him just then that the Russians had effected an entry at the Tung-pien Gate, he ordered the battalion to march thither with the object of opening speedy communication with the Legations. But the battalion, on reaching the gate, found that it had not been breached, and therefore the troops were marched back. At 6 p.m., however, another message was received saying that the Tung-pien Gate had been breached, and the 3rd and 1st battalions, under Colonel Awaya and Major Maruyama, marched at once to the place, entering in succession to the Russian troops. The Russians had experienced unlooked for resistance, and had many killed and wounded, a number also falling into the enemy's hands. The Tung-pien Gate does not give direct admittance to the Tartar City. The Hata Gate, which is at a considerable distance, has also to be entered. The Hata Gate, however, had not been breached by the Russian troops. It was standing intact. Between the gate and the ground there was an interval sufficient for a man to creep through. Into this interval Captain Hayashi thrust himself, carrying a hand electric-lamp. He was able to ascertain that the gate was formed of a single panel, and that the enemy were not in sight. Accordingly he and ten men crept under the gate, and on ascending the parapet found that the gate was constructed so as to be raised and lowered in a groove. They raised it sufficiently to allow of the passage of a horse, and the Japanese troops then took the lead, the Russians following. They reached the Legations at 8.55 p.m.

It is impossible to describe the delight of the foreigners, and the warmth of their thanks. The ladies brought out brandy to the troops and did not seem able to express their gratitude sufficiently. But we were not the first to reach the Legations. The Indian troops were before us. Apparently the English officers found a special route to the centre of the city, and this they took, with a small force of Indian troops. It was a brilliant achievement. While the rest of the forces were assaulting the city direct, the British officers effected a rapid entry elsewhere. Their plan of action was this. Between the British and the Japanese Legations runs a canal which has its exit under the city wall. The point where the canal emerges is guarded by an iron grating which does not reach fully to the surface of the canal. It happened that the water in the canal was exceptionally low, and the British officers, taking advantage of the fact, led a body of Indian troops under the grating, a proceeding

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against which the enemy had made no sort of preparation. These troops reached the Legations at 2 p.m. on the 14th

On the morning of the 15th one battalion of the 11th Regiment, which had proceeded to the Legations, was told off to garrison the An-ting Gate, and the other battalion was directed to guard the Legations. A company of the latter battalion proceeded to the Finance Department on the morning of the 15th, and took possession of a sum of two million taels.

With regard to the attack on the Tung-chih Gate by the 21st Regiment, the conditions were very similar to those at the Tse-hwa Gate. An entry could not be effected by infantry and artillery, and at 11 a.m. Lieutenant General Yamaguchi issued orders that the gate must be blown up with gun-cotton, which task was entrusted to a company of Engineers under Captain Inouye. That officer, escorted by the 18th company of Infantry, made his way to a detached house within 300 metres of the Gate. But the enemy being in strong force and their fire continuous and well directed, the infantry and engineers could not get any nearer to the gate. Meanwhile the Artillery had gained a position which enabled them to search the top of the walls, and the enemy, unable to hold their ground, abandoned the walls completely. No sooner, however, did the infantry and artillery attempt to reach the gate, than the enemy again manned the walls and opened a fire which the men could not face. These daylight attempts were therefore abandoned, and an order was issued that the gate should be blown up by 9.10 p.m. Corporal Ikegami and 10 sappers were told off to blow up the outer-gate, and Sub-Lieutenant Murayama with nine men to blow up the inner gate. These men decided to wear great-coats, as the best disguise. They were exposed to a heavy rifle fire but they reached the first gate, and blew it up with 30 kil of gun-cotton at 8.55 p.m. While the smoke of the explosion enveloped the place, the sappers advanced to the second gate, and blew it up at 9.10 p.m. At this point a curious difficulty occurred. The enemy's fire was so loud that the explosion caused by blowing up the second gate, which was at a considerable distance from the first, could not be heard, and the infantry waited before advancing to the assault Meanwhile, the engineers at the second gate finding themselves unsupported, guessed what had happened, and caused their trumpeter to sound the national anthem. But this also could not be heard. It became necessary, therefore, to send back a messenger, and in the interval the men at the gate, were exposed to a constant fire, tiles and even sycee silver being rained on their heads. At length the 21st Regiment formed up and charged. Owing, however, to the narrowness of the gate, no movement on a large scale was possible, and the enemy's fire from the parapets being unremitting, the attacking party had 90 casualties. The enemy's losses also were very heavy. They finally fled, leaving several hundreds of dead, and over 70 pieces of artillery. On the following morning, the 1st battalion moved to the Tih-shing Gate on the north of the city, and the 2nd battalion moved to the Tse-hwa Gate.

The 42nd Regiment, which had formed the main body of the Division, took no part in the attack on the city. It entered Peking on the night of the 14th by the Tse-hwa Gate, after the latter had been blown up by the 11th Regiment. The commanding officer told off one battalion of this Regiment as a Divisional reserve, and sent a battalion and a half under Col. Watanabe to guard the four gates of the Imperial City. The plan was that one double-company should take charge of each gate, but as it was found that a strong force of the enemy was within the Imperial City, the whole of Col. Watanabe's men advanced against the Tung-an Gate. On the way thither, they dispersed a small body of guards, and then moved towards the Gate, covering their advance with skirmishers. They had received orders not to fire on the Imperial city if possible, and they observed these instructions, the skirmishers not directing their fire on the Tung-an Gate. (This part is not intelligible.—ED. *J.M.*) A body of men was sent to force the gate, and in spite of a fierce fire they effected their purpose, the other troops charging in after them. They found the enemy on the opposite side of the canal at a distance of 200 or 300 metres and received a heavy fire. The troops outside the gate were also exposed to a flank fire, and the casualties at this point were over 20 It was therefore decided to await the arrival of artillery. Colonel Watanabe was wounded at this stage. At 8 a.m. a battery of field-artillery arrived. It was found difficult to get a good position for the guns, but finally two were posted at a cross street, and the Imperial City was bombarded over the gate, the infantry being withdrawn from within the gate. The firing continued until night-fall and was resumed at daylight on the 16th. The enemy opened rifle fire on the battalion of the 21st Regiment which was at the Tih-shing Gate. A force of artillery having been sent by the 21st Regiment to assist this battalion, the Imperial City was bombarded from the north. The enemy seemed to have retired, so the artillery advancing, fired about 200 shells at the *Yamên* of Prince Twang near the Se-chih Gate. The troops and Boxers in this *Yamên* hastened out, declaring themselves to be peaceful citizens, but on examination they were all found to be enemies who had taken part in the fighting. At 11 a.m. the *Yamên* was set on fire. By 2 p.m., the enemy had ceased resistance in the Imperial City, and the allied troope took possession of the Ta-tsing gate, the Japanese taking charge of the three other gates. In the three days fighting, the casualties on the Japanese side had been Lieut. Yazaki killed; Colonel Watanabe, Lieutenants Azuma and Odera, and Sub-Lieut. Iida and Goto of the 42nd Regiment; and Captains Tomita and Michiye and Sub.-Lieut, Takenouchi of the 21st Regiment, wounded, and 200 rank and file killed or wounded.

The measures for defence taken by the foreign community were remarkably strong. All round the concession and from thence to the Chinese town, a brick parapet had been erected. This parapet had been rebuilt several times, the extent being reduced on each occasion, so that it tells a plain tale of how the foreigners were gradually driven back. The British Legation had been regarded as the citadel. Sand-bags were piled up in all the windows, and the defences were of the most minute character. It is said that these defences were planned chiefly by Lieut.-Colonel Shiba, who consequently enjoys a high reputation among the foreign community. Within the enclosure of the Legation are eight graves where our countrymen who fell during the siege lie buried. The spirits of the garrison had never flagged, but their appearance indicated great exhaustion, the natural result of protracted anxiety and deficient provisions. Their morning meal had been gruel made from unhulled rice, and their evening meal, barley dumplings, the only relish being sea-weed soup. Occasionally they had a feast of horseflesh which they regarded as a superlative treat. The native converts in British Legation often had nothing to eat but grass and leaves; several of them died of starvation. I have myself seen many of them since the relief who appear to be in an almost hopeless condition of exhaustion.

When the Allies had made themselves masters of Peking, they at once sent a force of cavalry to the Summer Palace to search for the Court and to guard the Palace, which lies at a considerable distance from Peking. The cavalry found that the Court had made a brief halt at the Palace on the 15th instant (?) and had then pursued a route to the north or north-west. Their Majesties were escorted by about 500 troopers of Tung's force, and General Ma is said to have been of the party. The Imperial cortège is reported to have consisted of not more than twenty carriages. Prince Ching is said to be still in Peking, and General Li to have been killed. General Yamaguchi, in reporting these facts, adds that the heat in the day is very severe but that the nights are cool.

Major-General Fukushima, telegraphing from Peking on the 19th, reports that on the morning of the 16th the enemy fled from the Imperial City in Peking. They had fought resolutely throughout the 15th. The Japanese sent a double company to guard the Legations. Five of the city gates are held by the Japanese. The Emperor and Empress Dowager left Peking on the evening of the 14th, and after a brief rest at the Summer Palace, continued their journey northward. They were escorted by only 500 of Tung's cavalry. The Princes have, for the most part, fled from the city. Under these circumstances, it has not been possible to establish relations with the Government. The Foreign Representatives and the commanding officers decided, after consultation, that the allied forces should march through the Imperial City as a victorious demonstration. The Chinese troops showed signs of massing in the neighbourhood of the Summer Palace, and the Allies decided to attack them on the 22nd.

The Russian casualties at the attack on Peking are reported by Major-General Fukushima, to have been 26 officers, killed and wounded, including the Chief of Staff, and 180 men killed and wounded. This is a very heavy record. The Japanese, we know, had over 200 killed and wounded on the same occasion, and the Americans are said to have suffered most severely of all in proportion to their number. It will probably be found, we fear, that the capture of the city involved from 500 to 600 casualties on the foreign side. Major-General Fukushima's despatch is dated the 19th instant, and his statement of the Russian casualties must therefore include the losses in the street fighting on the 15th and the 16th.

Wednesday, Aug. 29.

Dr. Morrison, in a telegram to *The Times*, says that the flags of France and Russia are floating over the most conspicuous part of the Imperial City in Peking; that by common consent it has been decided to respect the imperial buildings; that the palace treasures are probably stored at the place occupied by the Russians and the French, and that unless the duty of guarding the palace be entrusted to the Japanese, it will be difficult to punish any outrage committed there. He adds that the Japanese are said to have

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obtained possession of half a million taels; that the Emperor, the Empress-Dowager, Prince Twan, and the high officials of the Government fled from Peking to Tai-yuen in Shansi, whence they will proceed to Si-an in Shen-si; that the *Peking Gazette* ceased to be published on the 13th inst., and that there is now no source of official information.

The Peh-tang Cathedral seems to have been saved. Dr. Morrison so reports in a telegram to *The Times*, though the *China Gazette* speaks of 30 women and children, Chinese converts, having been blown up in the Cathedral by a mine. The Peh-tang Cathedral is about a mile from the Legations. It was built by the celebrated Bishop Favier, one of the greatest of Christian propagandists, and if only for the sake of that much loved man the safety of the Cathedral will be a matter of general rejoicing.

General Gaselee has reported that the most difficult work at the taking of Peking devolved on the Japanese. It is a matter of great interest to hear what will be said about the precipitancy of the Russian attack on the Tung-pien Gate. According to the accounts of Japanese correspondents, the general attack was originally planned for the morning of the 15th, but the Russians, anticipating only a very slight resistance, attempted to carry the Tung-pien Gate on the night of the 13th. They did not succeed, but their action rendered it imperative that the general attack should be delivered on the morning of the 14th instead of the 15th. The *Asahi's* correspondent says that the Russians lost very heavily, and that they applied to the Japanese for assistance, but the *Jiji Shumpo's* correspondent does not confirm that version. Both agree, however, that the Russians made a deliberate departure from the original programme. Their statements may be erroneous, but the question is one of much importance.

The Japanese troops fired 4,600 shells in the attack on Peking, it is said. If the statement be true, the severe nature of the operations may be inferred.

Two hundred shells are said to have been thrown into Prince Twan's *Yamên*. A crowd of men flocked out disguised in various ways. They professed to be peaceful citizens, but on examination they were all found to be Boxers and soldiers who had been taking part in the fight. What became of these men the correspondents do not say. Prince Twan's *Yamên* was burned to the ground. He, at any rate, has suffered some penalty Doubtless he believed himself a good patriot. The burning of the *Yamên* occupied from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There must have been a large pile of buildings, though, of course, as houses in China are built of brick, conflagrations do not spread with the rapidity to which we are accustomed in Japan.

One of the first acts of the Allies after the capture of Peking was to perform the obsequies of the late Baron von Ketteler. The remains were interred in the foreign cemetery, the troops of all nationalities being present, and the ceremony being of a most imposing character.

Thursday, Aug. 30.

The impression produced by the reports hitherto published is that the British troops entered the Tartar City of Peking direct from the east by passing under a grating which protects the exit of a canal. That is not quite a correct impression. The fact is that the British troops entered the Chinese Town from the south, in the first place, and marching through it without molestation, finally found their way into the Tartar City by wading under the grating of the canal. If our readers look at the map of Peking recently issued from this office, they will see that the Chinese City lies on the south of the Tartar City. On the east face of the Tartar City there are three gates; the Tung-chih, the Tse-hwa and the Tung-pien; on the east of the Chinese City there is one gate, the Kuang-chü (or Sho-wo), and near the south-eastern angle there is another, the Tsao-an (or Tso-gan). The natural places of attack for an army coming from the east are the Tung-chih and Tse-hwa Gates, which give immediate access to the Tartar City. The Tung-pien Gate is an obviously bad position from a military point of view, because, not only does it not give ingress direct to the Tartar City, which was the real object of attack, but also it is exposed to flank fire from the wall of the latter, and after effecting an entry, the assaulting troops had to march a distance of some 1,300 metres immediately under the wall of the Tartar City before reaching the Hata Gate, which gives access to the latter. During this advance of 1,300 metres, the assailants might expect to be exposed to a dangerous fire from the parapets. Another reason for not directing an attack against the Tung-pien Gate was that had artillery been used to silence the Chinese fire on the eastern wall of the Tartar City, the Legations themselves would have been in the direct line of fire at a distance of only 1,300 metres. It remains to be shown why the Russians selected the Tung-pien Gate, but the explanation suggesting itself at present is that, desiring to act independently of the Japanese, and not anticipating any serious resistance, they chose a position which placed them as near as possible to the Legations. The British adopted a very different method. They made a wide detour so as to approach the Chinese City from the Tso-an Gate, which they entered without encountering any resistance at all, the imperial forces not having made any dispositions for the defence of the Chinese City. Then, instead of moving against either the Hata Gate, or the Tsi-en Gate, which stands westward of the Hata Gate on the southern face of the Tartar City, they directed their march to the canal which emerges midway between those two gates, and reached the Legations without fighting at all. It is, of course, tolerably certain that this adroit operation would not have been possible had not the attention of the Chinese troops been engrossed by the Japanese and Russian attacks on the eastern face, but it may also be assumed that the desertion of the Hata Gate by the enemy and its entry by the Japanese at 8.30 p.m. without loss were the results of the successful move previously made by the British troops.

THE WEATHER.

The heat on Monday the 27th is declared by the Central Observatory to have been the greatest experienced since 1886. The thermometer registered 95° F. in the shade. In 1886, it reached 97° F. We ourselves think that the heat this year has been as bad as anything felt since 1871. Higher readings of the thermometer may have been recorded in former years, but the aggregate of hot days this season is a record. However, the worst is probably over now.

THE POT AND THE KETTLE.

It really becomes a little tiresome to find the London *Times* and other English journals so persistently denounced by one of our local contemporaries for crediting the news of the Peking massacre, when the very newspaper that denounces them showed equal credulity on its own part. That newspaper now writes:—"One feels greatly tempted, to say of the readiness exhibited by London papers to credit the Peking massacre that the wish was father to the thought." Yet, turning to the columns of that same newspaper's issues of July 17th and July 25th, we find the following:—

July, 17th.

The lingering hopes which had been entertained that those who took shelter in the British Legation at Peking as their best place of refuge, still survive, have become so weakened by the absence of the receipt of any news to be relied on, that the unfortunates had succeeded in repelling the bloodthirsty fanatics surrounding them, anxious to take their lives, that the belief that no living soul is left surviving the dreadful massacre of foreigners at the Chinese capital is now generally entertained. Reluctant indeed as all have been to entertain the thought that the dreadful tragedy was impending and might really happen, yet it cannot be longer doubted that the very worst fears have been realized.

July, 25th.

Every day which passes without any communication from the unfortunates at Peking being received, serves to confirm the conclusion which we in common with numbers of others latterly arrived at, that most, if not all of the foreigners there have been savagely slaughtered by the Boxer butchers with more or less of assistance by the Chinese troops.

Having itself accepted beyond question the story of the Peking massacre, we really fail to see what right our local contemporary now possesses to ridicule the credulity of *The Times* and other English journals.

KOREA.

The *Suma* has been sent to Song-chin—near Yuen-san in Korea—it is said, for the purpose of protecting life and property. Some time ago, a rumour was widely circulated to the effect that Japan had sent troops to Korea and that, in addition to preserving peace and order, they would undertake the duty of guarding the northern frontier against Boxer inroads. It goes without saying that the story was groundless. Now, on the other hand, we find that a section of public opinion is in favour of sending troops to the peninsular. Three Tokyo journals have taken up the subject, the *Nippon*, the *Shogyo Shumpo* and the *Jimmin*. The two first advocate the measure as a precaution against disturbance; the third frankly declares—as it has frequently done on previous occasions—that since Russia is having a free hand in Manchuria, Japan should be equally privileged in Korea.

The new Korean Minister to Japan, Mr. Cho Pyong-chik, arrived in Tokyo at 7 p.m. on the 25th, having travelled by train from Kobe. Mr. Cho is an old man of 76, but he appears to enjoy vigorous health, for, with his suite of four persons, he made the railway journey from Kobe without a break.

The surveys of the Sôul-Fusan Railway are said to have been completed and the projectors are now busily arranging to obtain the necessary State support. It is expected that the law relating to railways constructed by Japanese subjects in foreign countries will be promulgated after the summer recess.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Aug. 25.

There is a report that Field-Marshal Count von Waldersee will land at Kiao-chow instead of proceeding to the north of China.

Shanghai believes, it is said, that Germany intends to annex the whole of Shantung as a penalty for the assassination of her Minister. We should think that few thoughtful persons will be found to credit such a rumour, though there is of course a possibility that pending the payment of the heavy indemnity which will be exacted from China, the Powers may insist on occupying territory. In that event, Germany would be likely to hold Shantung.

Russian officers are said to have stated that although their country has no desire to annex Manchuria, the tenure of the place may be considered necessary by way of security for the payment of an indemnity. Meanwhile steps are being taken to organize an efficient civil administration.

A singular telegram is published in Tokyo to the effect that Li Hung-chang's appointment as peace-negotiator was made by Prince Twan alone, and did not have the consent of either the Empress-Dowager or the Emperor. Considering that Li has been perfectly outspoken in denouncing Twan, and has declared that until that pernicious person is finally removed from the entourage of the Throne no satisfactory arrangement is possible, the notion that Twan is Li's patron may be called bizarre.

We shall now have a feast of rumours. Operations in the field being virtually suspended, the newsmongers will have to fall back upon their imagination. They have opened the ball by starting a report that Russia and Germany have concluded a secret compact with regard to China. As yet, however, they have not ventured to define the terms of the compact. That will come, no doubt.

Vice-Admiral Seymour has addressed to Colonel Shimamura a warm letter of thanks for the assistance rendered by the Japanese Contingent on the occasion of the Admiral's attempt to carry re-inforcements to Peking We presume that the original of the letter will be published, and we therefore refrain from mutilating it by attempting to re-translate the Japanese translation.

Monday, Aug. 27.

Viceroy Liu is said to be consulting with Viceroy Chan as to the propriety of memorializing the Throne in the sense that as the allied forces can be confidently trusted to respect the imperial person, the best plan would be for their Majesties to return at once to Peking, and appoint duly accredited representatives to sue for peace. This is one of those reports which obviously rest, in the main, on the reporter's credulity. It is impossible to conceive that the Viceroys should advise the Emperor and Empress Dowager to constitute themselves prisoners of the Allies, as they would do if they returned to Peking.

On the other hand, a second London telegram to the same journal says that, in view of the relief of Peking having been effected, Russia has countermanded the departure of a Division which had been under orders to embark at Odessa for China.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a London telegram dated the 23rd, saying that Germany is preparing to embark 7,000 men for China during the first week of September. It is difficult to understand what purpose these troops are to serve unless the German Government contemplates terms of peace which China can not be expected to endorse without further military operations.

The story that Jung Lu has been imprisoned continues to be circulated, and it is now added that his execution is imminent, but that the Foreign Representatives have entered a strong protest against such an act and are exerting themselves vigorously to prevent it.

Five transports passed Hongkong on the 24th bound for North China. They carried 673 Indian troops. We are inclined to doubt the correctness of telegrams recently forwarded from Hongkong about transports from India. The number of troops said to be carried by the vessels is incredibly small

The Naval Department has received a telegram from the officer commanding the *Takachiho* to the effect that rioters at Amoy burned the branch of the Nishi Hongwan Temple (established there by Japanese Buddhists) on the 24th instant at 12.30 a.m. The Shin sects of Japan have temples in Korea, Hawaii, and China. We are not sure at the moment whether they have more than one temple in China, but it is certain that for several years they have been collecting funds for purposes of propagandism in foreign countries. This incident at Amoy has special interest as showing that the destruction of a foreign religious edifice in China must must not necessarily be construed as a demonstration against the religion it represents. The men that burned the Hongwan-ji at Amoy were doubtless themselves Buddhists. They attacked the temple simply because it was a foreign possession. The Japanese have landed marines at Amoy.

A telegram to the *Shogyo Shimpo* states that an association is secretly importing arms and ammunition into the Yang-tsze Valley, hiding the articles in kerosene-oil cases. Several foreigners are said to be implicated in the smuggling

M. Delcassé, in a speech delivered on the 20th instant, said that Peking having now been occupied and the Foreign Ministers and community saved, the next step was to make arrangements for the future. France's policy, he declared, would be, in the first place, to demand a suitable indemnity, and, in the second, to obtain guarantees of a satisfactory nature. Anything like territorial acquisition on the part of the Powers must be opposed, as impairing the integrity of the Chinese empire which it is France's object to preserve, and as calculated to cause disunion among the Powers. Each Power must refrain from pursuing its se fish aims and all must work in concert This speech has been warmly approved in Europe and America.

Shanghai has renewed its canard-manufacturing enterprise. It says that the Emperor and the Empress Dowager have disappeared somewhere *en route* for Pao-ting-fu; that Twan has been murdered; that Li Hung-chang believes the Emperor and Empress-Dowager to be at Hiroshima under Japanese care; that Jung Lu has committed suicide by order; that the Emperor and Empress-Dowager are in the Japanese camp, &c.

A London telegram published by the *Jiji Shimpo* says the total number of British troops under orders for China is 26 000

The Queen has sent a telegram to Sir Claude MacDonald warmly applauding the resistance made by the Legation Staff and the Guards, and conveying to both her Majesty's thanks.

On July 15th Mr. Brodrick informed the House of Commons, on the strength of a telegram from Mr. Consul-General Warren in Shanghai, that no reasonable doubt could any longer be entertained of the massacre of the foreign community in Peking. Europe accepted this statement as conclusive, and in Paris, Berlin, and Vienna the press published sympathetic and impassioned articles. *The Times* also devoted a whole page of its issue of the 16th instant to long and appreciative obituary notices of Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald, Sir R. Hart, and Dr. Morrison. After all, we in Japan have the consolation of knowing that we were the only folks in the world who persistently retained our belief in the safety of the Legations.

The Iwasaki family have sent to the troops in North China 30,600 bottles of Masamune *sake* and 1,500,000 cigars; and to the naval forces, 72,000 handkerchiefs and 200,000 cigars.

Tuesday, Aug. 28.

The rice captured by the Japanese troops in China is said to be sufficient to feed a Division for a year and a half.

An engagement is reported to have taken place on the 24th instant in the neighbourhood of Tientsin, between 3,000 Chinese, and a force consisting of 500 English, 500 Americans, and almost as many Japanese. The Chinese were completely routed, the English and American casualties being 12 and those of the Japanese 10. This is probably an exaggerated account of the reconnaissance described by General Yamaguchi in our telegraphic column.

A telegram from London published by the *Shogyo Shimpo* says that England, Japan, Germany and Italy have formed an alliance for the purposes of the Chinese Settlement.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation at Yokohama have received news by cable that the whole of the staff at Peking and Mrs. Brent are safe. The building has been damaged, but after a few slight repairs, work was resumed. The premises were not looted.

Wednesday, Aug. 29.

There are various reports about Li Hung-chang. One story is that he has memorialized the Throne, urging the absolute necessity of at once making peace overtures. Another and more probable account is that his memorial is a prayer to be released from the duty of solely conducting the negotiations, and that he suggests the appointment of a commission consisting of Chan Chi-tung, Liu Kun-yi, Prince Ching and Jung Lu. The latter course will probably commend itself. On such an occasion the foreign Powers are not likely to open negotiations unless they are confronted by a really trustworthy and representative body of statesmen.

The rumoured death of Jung Lu is now contradicted. He is said to be at Pao-ting-fu in Shan-tung.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha having telegraphed to its branch office in Hankow for information about the recent fire, received a reply that three conflagrations broke out on the 18th instant, but that whether they were accidental or incendiary had not been as-

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certained. From 500 to 600 houses were destroyed. The third fire was in the neighbourhood of the Shosen Kaisha's office, but the latter did not suffer.

The new German Representative in China has reached Shanghai. His staff is said to include two officers who formerly served on the military commission employed by Liu Kun-yi to organize the Chinese forces.

It is stated that the Chinese in Amoy and its neighbourhood are agitating for the expulsion of the Japanese, and for the restoration of Formosa to China. Inflammatory circulars in that sense have been issued. One of them fell into the hands of the British Consul, who forwarded it to the Japanese Authorities.

A telegram published by the *Asahi* says that information from Newchwang is to the effect that the Governor-General of Shinking is collecting his forces at Mukden to oppose the advance of the Russians, and that he has sent one division towards Tieh-lin and another towards Liao-yang. The General in command at Kirin has also assembled his troops and is sending them to the Russo-Chinese border. The people in the Liao-yang district are flying, in anticipation of war.

The number of so-called reformers executed by order of Viceroy Chan at Hankow is said to have been twenty.

Rumour says that the chief of these reformers was Ling Kei-chu, the well-known follower of Kang Yu-wei, who spent some years in Japan. The scheme of the reformers was to erect a new Government in China, under the control of Chan Chih-tung, Liu Kun-yi, and Li Hung-chang. Ling Kei-chu is said to be in Shanghai, and Tokyo journals allege that he has telegraphed to Mr Sasa Tomofusa, a leader of the Imperialist Party, in the sense that 22 of his friends have been arrested at Hankow; that 7 of them were cut asunder at the waist, and that he prayed Marquis Ito to use his influence in behalf of the remaining 15. Mr. Sasa received this telegram on the 24th and immediately carried it to Marquis Ito, who said that, in his present position, it was impossible for him to give any assurance, but that he would do what might be done. The Marquis' efforts were doubtless too late.

The *North-China Daily News* publishes a very singular telegram. It is to the effect that at the time of the attack on the Imperial City in Peking, the commanding officers of the allied forces held a meeting, at which they decided that the palace should not be burned unless instructions in that sense were received from the home Governments. The Russian General absented himself from the meeting, alleging that, as his country was now openly at war with China, he could not be bound by the decisions of such a conference. We hesitate to accept this news as true. It would signify an unequivocal abandonment of the cooperative principle hitherto observed by the Allies. Whatever events may be in progress between one of the allied Powers and China in Manchuria, or elsewhere, it is plain that the conduct of each unit of the confederacy in Chili should be regulated by the decisions of the majority.

It is stated that the leading Chinese merchants of Wu-chang and Han-kow have put up a sum of 1,800,000 taels and forwarded the money to Viceroy Chan for military purposes. As for the 500,000 taels said to have been borrowed by the Viceroy from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the security is believed to be the salt tax, and the endorsement of Her Majesty's Government is reported to have been obtained

Two hundred and fifty Japanese marines with two machine guns have landed at Amoy. The landing did not cause any excitement. The marines landed in two parties, 100 men on the 25th and 150 on the 26th. This step has doubtless been taken owing to the burning of the Hongwan-ji.

The Tokyo *Asahi* says that 1,000 British Indian troops have landed at Chu-san, and that there is much local excitement.

Mr. "Makatsu," of the *Asahi Shimbun*, who enjoys the reputation of being eminently well versed in Chinese affairs, writes, under date of July 15th, that the delay made by the Allies at Tientsin after the capture of that place was due to want of unanimity among the commanding officers. The Japanese, the English and the Americans contended that an immediate advance should be made; that not a day should be given to the Chinese to make dispositions for defence, and that if the Allies went forward on the tide of victory, they could easily reach Peking The German commanding officer demurred at first. He desired to await the coming of the large reinforcements already *en route*. Ultimately, however, he said that, in deference to the obvious impatience of the Emperor William, he would vote for an immediate advance. The Russian General, however, stood firm, and was supported by the French General. These officers maintained that the force at the disposal of the Allies was quite inadequate for the relief of Peking; that they were even threatened with attack by the Chinese in the neighbourhood of Tientsin, and that the state of the roads enormously enhanced the difficulties of the undertaking. The discussion lasted many days, and finally the Japanese, English and Americans declared their determination to advance whether supported or not by their allies. This declaration settled the question, and a general vote for advance was secured. Mr. "Makatsu" adds that had not a delay of three weeks occurred in Tientsin, the Chinese could not have made at Peh-tsang and Yang-tsun the preparations which afterwards cost the Allies such a heavy loss of life, and Peking might have been relieved at the end of July instead of in the middle of August. We give these statements for what they are worth.

Thursday, Aug. 30

Shanghai's opinion of Germany's attitude, according to the *Asahi's* correspondent, is that she has made some secret agreement with Russia, and that the German troops, now about to embark in spite of the fact that Peking has fallen, are to undertake operations which Russia would have performed had her finances been in a more favourable situation. We shall presently have the newspapers publishing the text of a new "Cassini Convention," Russia and Germany being the high contracting parties on this occasion.

A telegram from Shanghai published by the *Shogyo Shimpo* says that Russia seems to contemplate getting possession of all the railways in China. This hypothesis is founded on the fact that some negotiations are taking place between the Russo-Chinese Bank and the director of railways, apparently with the object of transferring to Russia's possession the obligations now held by British subjects. There is one link lacking in the continuity of the story, namely, the consent of the British subjects.

A traveller who arrived at Nagasaki on the 28th instant from Shanghai, says that fugitive missionaries were daily arriving at that place from the interior of China; that 500 Indian troops were encamped near the Woo-sung station; that 700 Japanese marines had been landed from the *Toyohashi*; that the insurgents were said to have killed 50 missionaries at Kiukiang, and that three British vessels had proceeded thither There was also a report that the Chinese troops had killed 500 of the insurgents by whom the missionaries had been murdered. It is strange that these statements, if they be at all credible, have not reached us from any other quarter.

A telegram from Shanghai says that a species of public festival was held by the foreign residents on the 28th instant, in honour of the capture of Peking.

Admiral Seymour is in Shanghai and seems likely to remain there for some time.

A detailed report has at length been received from Baron Nishi. It reached Tokyo on the 27th We take this statement from the *Asahi*, which adds that the Government, having some special instructions to convey to Baron Nishi, will despatch Mr. Uchida to convey them to Peking.

Friday, Aug. 31.

The landing of Japanese marines at Amoy seems to have caused some excitement. Two hundred and fifty men have been put on shore, and there is talk of sending further troops from Formosa, but the latter rumour requires confirmation. It is stated that the foreign consuls in Amoy are opposing the steps taken by the Japanese, but we can scarcely believe that such is the case. The burning of the branch temple of the Hongwan-ji was an unmistakable demonstration against the Japanese, and it has been followed by the circulation of inflammatory documents calling on the people to expel the Japanese and recover Formosa. Ever since the cession of Formosa to Japan, Amoy has been the hotbid of anti-Japanese intrigue and many Japanese publicists have contended that, unless the place were put under Japanese jurisdiction, the orderly administration of Formosa would be impossible. It is not surprising at this juncture that the anti-Japanese spirit always smouldering in Amoy should burst into flame, but it would be very surprising if the foreign Powers placed any obstacle in Japan's path when she adopts measures for self-protection The landing of marines is a step which any Power would take under the circumstances. The landing of troops might bear a different significance, but we not think that Japan will land troops unless the symptoms of disturbance become much more pronounced. She might send a force from Taipeh or Tai-nan to the Pescadores to be ready for emergencies, but she would probably hesitate to put them ashore at Amoy. It must be confessed that the principles by which the majority of the Occidental Powers profess to be guided towards China differ palpably from the practice of others. Russia is permitted to send what forces she pleases to any part of Manchuria; France recently talked of despatching a strong force to Yunnan; Great Britain has landed troops at Woo-sung. But the idea of Japan's adopting military measures to protect the life and property of her subjects in Amoy, and to avert disturbances in her Formosan territory, seems

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to be regarded as an improper innovation. We venture to predict that the marines will be withdrawn at the earliest opportunity.

An uneasy feeling is evidently caused by the continued despatch of troops by European Powers in spite of the fall of Peking and the rescue of the foreign community. Germany especially seems to be an object of suspicion, since the effort of sending a large force to the Far East is particularly onerous in her case, and since, as the general public supposed, she might have suspended the departure of Field-Marshal Waldersee and countermanded the preparations for the embarkation of the Mixed Brigade. But it has to be remembered that the Chinese complication is not settled by any means. No one can foresee what contingencies may present themselves. It is quite within the range of possibilities that a great insurrection may take place in China. There is certainly no apparent prospect of a rebellion which would take an anti-foreign character. What looks much more probable is that a large section of the nation should rise against a Government so incompetent and so short-sighted as the Manchu. Yet, even in that case, the danger to foreign life and property might be immense, and it would be necessary for the Powers to adopt wholesale measures of protection. Moreover, they have to obtain satisfaction from China for her offences in the past and guarantees for her future behaviour. Is there any certainty that the terms formulated by the Powers will be accepted by the Chinese Government? We ourselves believe that they will be accepted, but it is obvious that nothing can be taken on trust in such a matter, and that preparations must be made for every emergency. From that point of view it would be very unwise did the Powers desist from sending troops merely because Peking has fallen Peking fell because Japan stepped into the breach. Its capture would be still far distant had Japan stood aloof. Then there is another situation which we do not like to contemplate but which cannot be ruled out of the calculation. It is that the Powers themselves may disagree about the settlement of this Chinese problem. People that persuade themselves of the certainty of agreement are called sanguine, though few care to openly predict disagreement. Undoubtedly, however, there may be disagreement, and in that most unhappy event the States most strongly represented from a military point of view will not be in the least enviable position. Thus, when all the contingencies are taken into consideration, there is no difficulty in believing that the preparations of the Powers are dictated by wholesome caution rather by sinister purpose.

It is stated that Li Hung-chang has informed the commanding officers at Taku of his desire to proceed north for the purpose of conducting peace negotiations, and has requested that no obstacle shall be placed in the way of his landing and that he shall be given free access to the telegraph. These requests have of course been favourably received, but it remains to be seen what Li can accomplish by going north. His natural plan would be to place himself in direct communication with the Court, and neither Tientsin nor Peking seems to be the best place for that purpose. At any rate there can not be much hope that the Powers will agree to negotiate with Li alone. A strong commission of prominent and responsible Chinese statesmen will be necessary to conduct the negotiations satisfactorily. Meanwhile there is nothing for it but to hold Peking.

The news of disorderly conduct on the part of the Chinese troops in the neighbourhood of Peking and Tientsin suggests that the forces which fought against the allies have been disbanded. To be sure there is nothing novel in the commission of excesses by Chinese troops even when they are under what goes by the name of military discipline in China. But it appears plain that they are now without any organization and that they are subsisting merely by plunder. A telegram says that a large body of these soldiers crossed the Shan-tung border and began to commit excesses, whereupon Governor Yuan turned out his forces, killed 1,500 of them, and drove the rest back into Chili. Very likely the unfortunate men are starving. At all events the inference is that all capacity for organized resistance on the part of the Chinese Government has been temporarily paralysed.

DEATH OF COUNT KURODA.

We regret to announce the death of Count Kuroda, which took place at 8 p m on the 23rd instant in Tokyo. The Count had been in bad health for the past two years, and had had more than one paralytic stroke. The immediate cause of death was effusion of blood on the brain. Count Kuroda was one of the leaders among the *Meiji* statesmen. He acted a prominent part at the time of the Restoration and always enjoyed the confidence of his Sovereign. He will be best remembered, perhaps, on account of the work he did in connexion with Hokkaido, which, as Chief of the Colonization Bureau, he administered for several years, holding steadily on his way amid evil report and good report, and counting confidently on time to bring the justification of his measures. He was a man of strong convictions and indomitable will, much loved but also not without enemies. His last very prominent appearance in the political field was when he held the office of Minister President in 1889. At the time of his death he was President of the Privy Council

Count Kuroda, just before his death, was raised to the Second Grade of the First Rank, and received the Grand Order of the Chrysanthemum.

It need scarcely be said that Count Kuroda's funeral was a very imposing spectacle Just before the hour fixed for the departure of the cortège, an Imperial Chamberlain arrived, carrying a present of 5,000 *yen* and a quantity of white silk, together with an Imperial Message. His Majesty's words were very gracious. They alluded to the great and zealous services rendered by the deceased at the time of the Restoration, to his valuable assistance in a military capacity in connexion with the subjugation of insurgents, to the work done by him in strengthening the northern frontier of the empire and developing the resources of Hokkaido, and to the many and important offices of State he had filled. The message concluded with a profound expression of his Majesty's regret for the loss of such a servant. The Empress also sent a Chamberlain with a present of a thousand *yen*, and the Prince Imperial's representative carried 300 *yen*. A battalion of troops preceded the bier and two battalions followed it. The funeral rites were according to the Buddhist ritual. Fully two thousand persons followed the bier, including nearly all the Imperial Princes, prominent statesmen, noblemen, and leading citizens of Tokyo.

DEATH OF MR. F. TOWNLEY.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Frederic Townley, senior partner in the firm of Messrs. Lane, Crawford, and Co., Yokohama, which took place on August 23rd. Mr. Townley, who was in his 61st year, had been long in failing health, suffering from a cancerous affection of the throat. His death followed an operation which had been performed on Thursday morning. He was one of the oldest and most esteemed residents of Yokohama. Arriving here from Shanghai some 30 years ago, he joined the firm of Messrs. Kirby and Co., afterwards becoming connected with the Yokohama branch of Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co., of which he became the head He remained in the firm up to his death, though he had recently taken no active part in the business. His genial and kindly disposition, together with his wide catholicity of tastes and well-balanced judgment, made him most popular, and as he was the possessor of a splendid voice he was able to add much to the enjoyment of the community for many years, no concert in the earlier days being complete without his assistance. His last appearance in public as a vocalist, we believe, was on the occasion of the patriotic concert given at the Public Hall in the spring of the present year, when, at the call of the audience, he sang the first verse of "Rule Britannia." It was even then evident that the disease from which he suffered had made extensive inroads. Mr. Townley was for years Treasurer of the Choral Society, resigning just before his last visit to England. His death will be regretted by all.

The funeral of the late Mr. Frederic Townley drew a large concourse of sorrowing friends to the house and the cemetery on Saturday, Aug. 25, very few of the older foreign residents still with us in Yokohama being absent. The floral tributes were very numerous and included a dwarf pine-tree to which was attached a mourning quatrain in Japanese. The sad procession left No. 120, Bluff, shortly after nine o'clock, the pall-bearers being Messrs. H. C. Litchfield, J. T. Griffin, T. L. Brower, H. J. Snow, and Drs. Wheeler and Van der Heyden; the chief mourner was Mr. K. F. Crawford, who was supported by Mr. David R. Crawford, of Hongkong, Mr. A. M. Read, Mr. G. Booth, Mr. R. B. McKinnell and the Staff of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, and at the close the reverend gentleman gave the following address:—To a man of Frederick Townley's eminently practical and philosophical mind, the mere fact of death was, in his view, as much an incident of life as was his birth. Therefore, so far as he is concerned, we feel that he passed from life without the slightest fear. We feel that, under the circumstances, we could not have wished that our dear friend's life should have been prolonged much more, with such suffering and sorrow as we know him to have recently endured. In fact, we feel that the loss is not his but ours. Each one of those who stand around here this morning feels that he has lost a friend, for we all remember a hundred instances where we had gone to him as a matter of course on quests of kindness or charity, and never did he turn a deaf ear. And even as regards those talents which he possessed and by which he shone, his very shining was not that flashy light that one so often sees, but was rather the kindly radiance which comes from the heart, which exerts itself not only for its own distinction, but also in order to make others happy. His is a place which it is impossible for us to fill, and we can only hope that in a brighter life we may again see his well-loved face. We lay him to sleep, believing that he rests in God, after his well-wrought day of life.

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POLITICS.

Monday, August 27.

The twelve men appointed by Marquis Ito to form a committee of promotion (*soritsu-iin*) of the new Party are Marquis Saionji, Viscount Watanabe, Baron Kaneko, Mr. K. Watanabe, Mr. Tsuzuki Keiroku, Mr. Hoshi Toru, Baron Suyematsu, Mr. Hayashi Yuzo, Mr. Matsuda Masahisa, Baron Honda, Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, and Mr. Haseba Junko. The *Jiji Shimpo* is disposed to be somewhat sarcastic about this nomination. It calls the committee the "Twelve Disciples" of Marquis Ito, and expresses a fear, couched in language which evidently embodies more than a suspicion, that, as was the case nineteen hundred years ago, so to-day a traitor may be found among the twelve. The *Jiji* also notes that the Manifesto was issued on a Friday. Apparently our contemporary's approval of things foreign extends to the region of superstition.

The name of the association is *Rikken Seiyu-kai*, which signifies "Association of the friends of Constitutional Government." It is plain, we think, that some more concise term will have to be selected when the party is definitely organized. These complex denominations never find favour with the public.

The organizing Committee held its preliminary meeting at the Maple Club on the 25th instant, and elected Viscount Watanabe to be Chairman of Committee Marquis Ito made a speech lasting for nearly an hour, which we reproduce elsewhere. The Committee is to meet every morning at the Imperial Hotel, and the public organization of the party will take place on the 15th of next month.

Saturday, Aug. 25.

We stated in a previous issue that Mr. Ozaki Yukio, one of the most prominent members of the Progressist Party, had applied to the Advisory Committee of the Party for a meeting to discuss the propriety of dissolving the Party. It was suggested in some quarters that as Mr. Ozaki himself desired to pass over to the ranks of the new association which is to be organized under Marquis Ito's banner, his application was merely intended to obtain a decent pretext for severing his connexion with the Progressists. Whether the Advisory Committee adopted that view we do not know, but it is said that they suppressed Mr. Ozaki's application, and did not take any action with reference to it. Mr. Ozaki, however, is not the man to submit to such treatment. He renewed his application, changing it, however, into a demand that a general meeting of the parliamentary members of the Party should be summoned. This second application had twenty signatories, among them being men of such distinction as Messrs. Takata Sanaye, Seki Naohiko, Otsu Junichiro, Koizuka Riyo, Minoura Katsuto, Maruyama Meisei, &c.

Wednesday, Aug. 29.

The Progressists held a general meeting on the 27th, which was very largely attended. But they did not wait to hear Mr. Ozaki Yukio's exposition of his views. The General Committee had already decided to remove from the roll the names of Messrs. Ozaki, Mochizuki, and Kurabara, and the meeting endorsed their decision. Hence Mr. Ozaki was not allowed to attend the general meeting and the Progressists had no opportunity of hearing his defence. Baron Kusumoto spoke at the general meeting. The gist of his remarks was that a great party like the Progressists, commanding 120 votes in the House, must not be blown about by every wind of doctrine, and must not be invited to change its organization merely because another party had appeared in the field under new auspices. They had their own platform, and while they were ready to support all politicians sharing their views, they were determined to oppose all that differed from them. Meanwhile, it was proposed that the Party should henceforth have a recognised leader, and that, in view of the importance of the Chinese crisis, a committee of investigation should be appointed.

It is scarcely necessary to say that Count Okuma is to be the declared leader. At a *réunion* subsequently held in the Maple Club, Count Okuma expressed himself highly pleased that Marquis Ito had come forward to head a party. He and Marquis Ito were old friends, and their friendship had survived all differences of political opinions. They might easily work together, but it was for the benefit of the country that there should be two great parties.

Faiday, August 31.

A meeting of the Kwanto Club was held on August 27th, Mr. Nakajima in the chair. The attendance numbered over 60 members, including Messrs. Hoshi, Arai, Yokoyama, and Shindo.

The following resolution was unanimously passed:—"That the Club, recognising the propriety of taking the decision of a general meeting of the members of the Diet belonging to it, insist upon the dissolution of the Party at a meeting to be held on the 13th September, in order to amalgamate it with the Constitutional Political Association."

Mr. Hoshi delivered the following conciliatory speech:—In our aim to subvert Clan government, we, in conjunction with politicians of the same views, have suffered many hardships, receiving on more than one occasion penalties of the severest type. Indeed, we stigmatised clannism as an enemy with whom we dared not live under the same heaven. To accept Marquis Ito, one of the clan statesmen, as our leader may seem a proceeding hardly bearable to us. But private sentiments can not be permitted to influence us in connection with the public affairs of the country. Our party has actually exercised and is still exercising its influence in securing the smooth working of the constitution, but it is not altogether free from defective points. Our country's constitution, unlike that of other Powers, is closely connected with the Imperial House, and therefore no party will be able to accomplish its object unless the confidence of the Imperial Court is perfectly secured. The latter feature is directly the defect of our party. We have recognised the advisability of the combining our strength with the dignity and confidence of Marquis Ito, in order that we may reap the fair fruits of the constitutional government required by the spirit of the age, and we have determined to dissolve our party so as to organise a new association under the name of *Seiyu-kwai* (Political Friends' Association). The manifesto issued by Marquis Ito is full of things quite unsatisfactory to us, but the manly spirit, the characteristic of the true gentleman, does not allow us to contend on these points in so far as their literary aspects are concerned. In short, everything depends upon substantial strength. Consider the story of Oboshi. He was overwhelmed with grief and indignation, yet he calmly and sedately delivered the castle to the Shogunate officials. His memory is still held in public admiration. We hope that we shall assume just the same attitude as Oboshi in delivering our donjon to the new party. We must give before we may be able to take. Oboshi was as little anxious about the castle as he would have been in throwing away a pair of broken sandals. Yet his affected disregard was simply a prelude to his triumphant parade on the snowy height near the Nishiu bridge. Our party's present condition is very much like that of Oboshi in the preliminary stage of his scheme.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The attempt to procure Japanese workmen for Madagascar seems to have been temporarily unsuccessful. Tokyo journals state that, without fuller information as to the nature of the climate and other details, official permission will not be given. Some may be disposed to think that as the whole expense of carrying the emigrants and providing for them must be borne by their French employers, the latter might be trusted not to subject the men to any injurious conditions, but Japan has had such bitter experiences in the matter of emigration that her caution is not unnatural.

The 1st of next month is the *nihyaku-toka* (210th day) which occupies such an important place in the estimate of Japanese agriculturists. According to present appearances, the centre of depression now advancing slowly from the south, is not unlikely to reach central Japan just about that time. The Meteorological Observatory continues its warnings, and the appearances indicate the approach of a disturbance. There has been such a spell of dry weather, however, that a heavy downpour next week could scarcely do any injury.

It is announced that from September 1st it will be possible to hold telephonic conversation with persons who are not in possession of an instrument of their own. The telephonic exchanges will undertake to summon any one to the exchange and place him in communication with the applicant. For this service of summoning, it will be necessary to pay 10 *sen* within the limits of Tokyo, while between Tokyo and Yokohama the charge will be 15 *sen*, and for more distant places, as Nagoya, Kyoto, &c., 25 *sen* must be paid. To make this clearer—suppose that *A* wants to talk to *B*, both being in Tokyo and *B* having no telephone of his own, then *A* asks to have *B* called to the nearest exchange, the expense of the communication being 10 *sen* for the summons and 15 *sen* for 5 minutes' talk. If *A* is in Tokyo and *B* in Yokohama, the corresponding charges would be 15 *sen* and 25 *sen*; and if *A* is in Tokyo and *B* in Nagoya, Kyoto, &c., the figure becomes 25 *sen* plus the regular charge for communication. It is agreeable to see some sign of progress on the part of the telephone authorities. Fortunately for them they have a patient public to deal with. There are, we imagine, few capital cities in the world where an applicant has to wait over two years before getting a telephone set up in his house. Were the telephones in the hands of a private company, this outrageous state of affairs would soon be rectified.

The Government has raised the rate of the Tobacco Monopoly from 100 per cent. to 130, except at ten places where the increase is limited to 120, namely, Sukugawa, Kobe, Yanago, Oseko, Kumamoto, Matsumoto, Takeda, Tsuruki, Osaka, and Higashine. The import duty on leaf tobacco will doubtless be proportionately increased.

It is stated that a case of embezzlement of public funds, or some cognate offence, has been discovered in Formosa. Certain military men as well as agents of a well-known Japanese firm are implicated. Two officers serving in Formosa have been told off for court-martial and two employées of the firm have been arrested. A third officer and a third employé have been apprehended in Tokyo and will be sent forward for trial. The sum involved is said to be thirty thousand *yen*.

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According to the Seismological Bureau, the earthquake at 3 p.m. on the 27th was felt with greatest severity in Yokohama; Yokosuka came second in order, and Tokyo third. The principal component of motion was the vertical. In Yokohama some earth-cracks were produced. It appears that the area of the disturbance was very limited.

The Russians have captured four Japanese schooners, four boats and 43 men who were engaged in the Behring sea carrying on fishing operations said to be illegal. The schooners have been confiscated with all their belongings, and the men have been sent to prison in Petropaulowski, whence they will be transferred to Vladivostock for trial.

The *Nippon Yusen Kaisha's* steamer *Futami Maru*, Captain Thom, ran on a sunken rock in the Mindoro Sea, near Manila, on the 18th instant. The ship left Thursday Island on the 11th and was due at Manila on the 19th. The passengers and crew reached Manila uninjured on the 24th. The vessel and cargo have been given up as a total loss. The *Futami Maru* is a new vessel built last year in Glasgow. She is of 3,856 tons.

Official intelligence from Hiroshima says that in the storm of the 19th the Saiki district suffered most severely. Fifty-two houses were swept away; 827 were inundated; 86 were over-thrown, and 63 were partially destroyed. In 35 places every trace of a house disappeared. Other serious damage was done, 450 acres of reclaimed land being inundated, and 11½ miles of main-road swept away.

It is curious to observe how difficult the Journals of the West found it to disabuse their minds of the impression produced by the first circumstantial accounts of a massacre in Peking. When intelligence began to be received, through Chinese sources, from the massacred foreigners themselves, showing that they were still alive and were making a stout fight, though the odds were heavy against them, the news-papers of the West found it easier to suppose that Chinese officials had organized the most stupendous and fatuous system of falsehood ever conceived than to believe that the foreign community could still be safe. What is the aspect presented by this page of history now? On which side are we to seek for the falsehood and deceit?

It has been noted more than once in these columns that a portion of the Japanese press advocates the opening of negotiations for the purpose of recovering Japan's tariff autonomy in the sequel of the present war. Some journals recently went so far as to allege the Government had actually approached the Treaty Powers with such a proposition, and had obtained the consent of several. But the latter part of the story was well known to be incorrect. The Government had not taken any such step, nor had the advisability of taking it been discussed by the Cabinet. The *Jiji Shimpo* now raises its voice in favour of the proposal. But instead of arguing on the ground solely of the war with China, the *Jiji's* idea is that Japan should offer to extend to individual foreigners the privileges of land-ownership and mining enterprise. Our contemporary thinks the time opportune, and urges the Government to make the attempt, since even if the result be unsuccessful, no harm will have been done.

The strike of coal-carriers at Moji has been brought to a conclusion owing to the intervention of the local police superintendent. The carriers have resumed work on condition that they receive an increase of pay equal to 10 per cent.

There has been a disastrous fire at Kuji in Hitachi. Two hundred and fifty houses were destroyed.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that many of the sailors of foreign men-of-war offer articles of gold, silver, or coral for sale at places where they land in Japan. It is supposed that these things are spoils obtained at Tientsin. Very likely, we should think.

The Privy Council is said to have decided in favour of ratifying the six articles adopted by the Hague Convention, and it is expected that the ratifications will be published in a few days. They are not of great importance.

It is now stated that the anticipated storm is not likely to come. The centre of depression has disappeared, and the Meteorological Department has withdrawn all its warnings. We do not think that much reliance can be placed on these appearances, however. At present the barometer shows a steady upward tendency, but the sudden change last Tuesday night from oppressive heat to autumn cool can not be considered normal.

At a meeting of the Organizing Committee of the new political party held on Wednesday in the Imperial Hotel, Count Inouye, who appears to be one of the pillars of the Party, delivered a speech, the gist of which was that it has hitherto been an unfortunate habit in Japan to separate politics and finance, with the result that business men stand aloof from the Diet and do not interest themselves in the administration of state affairs. Count Inouye was delighted to think that the formation of the new Party would bridge over this gulf between economists and politicians. Of course the adhesion of the Count to the *Teikoku Seiyu-kai* means that many of the most influential business men will enrol themselves in its ranks.

The Kobe branch of the Russo-Chinese Bank is said to have advanced a sum of 300,000 *yen* to the proprietor of a coal mine at Minechi in Buzen. Commenting on this, the *Chiiio Shimbun* thinks that the proceeding has more significance than appears on the surface. It is probably intended as a means of obtaining a coal-supply for Russian ships, the Russo-Chinese Bank being a semi-official institution.

VLADIVOSTOCK.

A correspondent of the *Hochi Shumbun*, writing from Vladivostock, describes a state of affairs which is not very credible. He says that the place is practically in a state of siege. All business has been suspended. The Chinese, by whom the greater part of the trade used to be carried on, dare not open their shops lest they should be subjected to plunder and violence, nor can a Chinaman venture to walk abroad in the face of the dangers he would encounter by doing so. Japanese residents also are subjected to great inconvenience, many of their letters being opened at the post office and others not forwarded. It is possible that this account contains exaggerations. We give it for what it is worth.

WASTED RHETORIC.

Many sounding expressions and much tearful rhetoric were wasted in London on the subject of the "Peking massacre." Following are a few extracts:—

The Times—"Retribution for this shocking iniquity, if, as can hardly be doubted, it has been perpetrated, must inevitably be exacted. The honour and interests of the whole civilised world are at stake, and punishment cannot long be averted."

The *Standard*—"We must realise that a crime which will rank among the most shocking examples of Oriental barbarity known to history has in all probability been committed. It is an act for which no excuse is possible, and for which there is no expiation but one. . . . All the Powers, great and small, have to deplore the loss of subjects done to death under circumstances of inexcusable treachery; all have to avenge an insult to their dignity such as no self-respecting people can for a moment endure. . . . Pity for the dead, sympathy for those whom they leave to deplore their untimely fate, will be swallowed up in desire for the prompt punishment of the miscreants, whoever they be, who are responsible for this act of monumental wickedness. It will be felt that no rank and no obscurity, no political subterfuge or diplomatic device, must be allowed to avert the just and terrible revenge which cries aloud from the blood of these slaughtered victims."

The *Telegraph*:—"There have been deeds of blood perhaps as treacherous, but never so great a crime that could so certainly have been prevented. The scarlet and indelible shame is that of civilisation. Cawnpore was the affliction of England alone. To-day, at the very moment when the ignoble discord of enlightened nations have been accentuated by this inexplicable dereliction of duty, a common blow has fallen upon them that unites all civilisation in mourning—a human bond has brought them together in the same emotion of the same sorrow; and their league is compelled by the punishment of their disunion. It is the first penalty, it will not be the last, and, terrible as is the first act of retribution, there may be worse to come."

The *Daily News*:—"There is just the smallest possible room for hope, but the civilised world may at any moment receive beyond all doubt tidings as terrible as those from Cawnpore. The difficulty of inflicting punishment may be great. Western civilisation is on its trial, and it is bound by every instinct of self-preservation to show that it cannot be defied with impunity. The lives of the foreigners in Peking might have been saved if the Power which was nearest had acted at once. The jealousies and intrigues of the Powers will form a sordid chapter in history."

The *Daily Mail*:—"The fiendish race which has thus satisfied its lust of blood and its hatred of the foreigner must be taught that swift retribution waits on such dark deeds. All Europe is combined to punish the treacherous Government which has murdered her Ministers and flattered her empty hopes with lying tales put forward every hour."

The *Daily Graphic*:—"The retributive justice of Europe must ring through Asia if the blood of our countrymen is not to be spilt in vain. A lesson must be taught the Chinese which will last them for generations."

The *Globe*:—"Whatever versions may be circulated, there can be no doubt that the Dowager-Empress, by her criminal and ferocious policy, gave the signal for the storm. Whatever happens, she must be deposed, and her faction visited with the sternest penalties."

The *Evening News* says:—"The immediate duty before us all is the condign punishment of a crime that cries to Heaven for vengeance."

Apropos of this, it may be remarked that the whole of the responsibility for the sensational horrors published in London cannot be laid at the door of the correspondents in China. They of course transmitted the original fables, but they were amplified and embroidered by journalistic ghouls in London. We happen to know of a case where a correspondent in Japan, on receipt of the rumour of the massacre in Peking, at once wired his reasons for discrediting it. The message was deliberately altered in the London office in the sense of admitting the extreme probability of the massacre. There is now apparently little difference in "yellowness" between the lower class papers of London and those of New York.

The American authorities in the Philippines have arranged to isolate all the lepers from the island in three islets near the port of Cebu. To make room for the lepers, all the inhabitants of the islets will be removed to Cebu.

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THE NEW PARTY.

AMONG foreign observers of Japanese politicst here can be but one conclusion, we think, with reference to Marquis Ito's action in assuming the leadership of a political party. Japan has nothing more to give Marquis Ito. He has attained the highest pinnacle of honour and respect that can be reached by a subject. He possesses the Emperor's confidence in a preeminent degree; he is looked up to by all the statesmen of his time; the nation regards him with reverence and absolute faith, and he has won a sure place in history by his achievements. That such a man should descend into the political arena is an act irreconcilable with any theory of self-seeking ambition, and can only be attributed to a patriotic conviction of the country's need. Marquis Ito, it may be taken for granted, recognises an obligation to achieve the successful operation of the parliamentary system introduced by himself, and sees no way of accomplishing that end except by undertaking in his own person the organization and control of a political party. He very well understands, of course, that in this new character he will inevitably create enemies and provoke estrangements. The more signal the success he achieves as a political leader, the bitterer will become the animosity of those in the other camp. A week ago every party in the State would have welcomed him as its chief, and could have easily persuaded itself that its own platform was identical with his. Henceforth, a large and probably a growing number of publicists will regard his beliefs as mischievous heresies, and will obey the supposed duty of opposing him at every turn. That is the inevitable penalty of espousing a political cause. Marquis Ito is evidently prepared to pay it, and we respect the courageous sacrifice he makes, the more so that his career up to the present indicates a man who attaches no little value to popularity.

The manifesto itself presents two features of special interest. Since the Constitution became operative, that is to say, since 1891, the object of political attack has been favouritism. "Government by persons not by principles" was the abuse challenged by all the political agitators when they took their seats in the first Diet. It was impossible for them to sincerely impeach the programme of progress and liberalism that the *Meiji* statesmen had uniformly followed, so they set up a kind of abstract target to tilt against, and called it "clan government" or "government by favoritism"; interchangeable terms in those days. What, now, is the abuse which Marquis Ito denounces most unequivocally in the conduct of the political agitators themselves? What is the tendency which, above all others, he seeks to eliminate from the conduct of the new Party? Precisely this same respect of persons and neglect of principles. While they declaimed against clan feeling and favoritism, the party politicians themselves behaved in such a manner that self-seeking was seen to be their first object. They put party and persons in the van; country and nation in the rear. It is very curious to see them hoisted thus with their own petard.

The second feature of special interest presented by the Manifesto is Marquis Ito's pronouncement with regard to the system of party Cabinets. It is for the inauguration of that system that the two great parties have openly agitated during the past ten years "Party Cabinets" (*seito naikaku*), "Responsible Cabinets" (*sekinin naikaku*), have been their shibboleth. That is the consummation they have invariably indicated as the pinnacle of legitimate political purpose. But they have to take it now from Marquis Ito's lips that the Constitution does not recognise any such system; that the choice of Cabinet Ministers belongs solely to the Imperial Prerogative, and that such choice may be entirely independent of party considerations. In fact, the manifesto of the new Party, on the one hand, condemns the old parties for conspicuously committing the sins which they continuously denounced; and, on the other, abjures the profession of faith which has hitherto headed their political creed. Marquis Ito doubtless designs these drastic declarations to serve as a species of sifter. They will have the effect of separating a good deal of chaff with which he has no desire to be associated, but, of course, the residue of grain will not be as bulky as the public at first anticipated. In short, Marquis Ito's Manifesto will serve the double purpose of creating an opposition as well as an alliance. That is, perhaps, not the least fortunate part of the event, for it would not have been either safe or wholesome that all the political elements should have grouped themselves in a motley throng under one banner, even though it were Marquis Ito's.

THE PRAYERS OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

A CONTROVERSIAL question is now engaging the attention of religious people in Germany. When the war in South Africa commenced, the Christians of Germany offered repeated prayers to heaven for the success of the Boers, and were very confident that their supplications must be successful. They had a biblical promise with respect to the prayers of the righteous, and their leading church paper confidently predicted that the intercession of its countrymen would assuredly move the Almighty to give victory to the Boers. But the forecast was not fulfilled by events. The Boers were hopelessly defeated. Then the German Christians found themselves perplexed. How was this thing to be accounted for? Had prayer lost its efficacy? Was the biblical promise deceptive? Impossible to answer either question in the affirmative. One theologian stood forth and declared that prayers are not always sure of unconditional hearing where earthly things are the subject of entreaty. For example, the Huguenots and the Protestants of Austria had prayed for themselves and been prayed for by others, yet dire defeat had been their fate. Thereat another theologian retorted that the biblical promises do not extend to religious wars, since the believer is required to be ready to die for his faith instead of fighting for it. But this exquisite bit of casuistry did not find universal favour It seemed too intellectual. The believers were unwilling to admit any such limitations. They preferred to hope against hope. "Those who trust in the Lord," they said, "may be driven down into hell, but they can also be led out again. . . . The prayers of so many Christians that have ascended to the heavens must surely reach the heart of God. They have not been in vain and will not have been in vain. They will find a hearing in a manner that will amaze us." These prayerful people are consequently now waiting to be amazed. We must not forget, however, to notice the explanation of one religious journal which declares that "the righteousness of God has triumphed gloriously even in the defeat of the Boers. The whole civilized world has now been convinced of the hollowness of the official piety and religiousness of Great Britain, by showing to mankind the picture of a people utterly blind to all that is right." We have not heard how this last bit of exegesis has been received. It seems probable, however, that some Germans may be disposed to ask whether the British would have been less detestable had they been defeated, and whether human intelligence can reasonably be expected to regard prayers as satisfactorily answered when the very thing happens which the prayers are intended to avert. But, after all, what is perhaps most striking in this German controversy is that not one of the controversialists ventures to suggest the possibility of German prayers having been offered up on behalf of the side that is wrong in God's sight. So blindly hostile are they to England that they do not hesitate to deny the Almighty's freedom of judgment. Impossible that the Germans can have been praying for the party that God does not favour. Quite impossible. If a human being takes a course diametrically the opposite of that he is entreated to take, one inclines to the belief that he finds the entreaty improper. But the Germans don't admit anything of the kind. They find it easier to believe that when God orders events in a manner exactly contrary to the wishes of a number of suppliants, he is granting their supplication in some mysterious, incomprehensible manner, or is preparing some great surprise for them. There is, too, another novelty in the German theory. It takes no account whatever of the prayers offered up by Christian England. The British nation, many times more numerous than the German, has presented a great many petitions to the Throne of Grace on account of the South-African war, and according to plain, straight-forward appearances, their petitions have been favourably received. No such explanation suggests itself to the Germans: anything but that. Better to conclude that prayer has lost its efficacy than to admit that by some possibility the right may be on England's side.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

Under the title of "Reason and Feeling in History" in the pages of the *Shigaku Zasshi*, Dr. Katô Hiroyuki expresses the following sentiments. History comes to us in a very mixed state. In a great many instances what is rational is entirely obscured by the feeling entertained in reference to certain events; so that falsehood takes the place of truth. To mention a few instances, the 47 *rônin* are regarded as great heroes and it is generally supposed that the Chûshingura represents a remarkable case of the carrying out of the vendetta. But in reality Oishi Yoshio and his comrades did not wreak vengeance on their master's foe and were ordered to commit suicide as a punishment for disturbing the peace. Reduced to actual facts the story assumes an entirely different shape, and the chief actors in it can only be regarded as the victims of mistaken zeal, the suppression of which public interest demands. Regarded from an emotional standpoint the events in question appear praiseworthy, but viewed rationally the inability to bear affronts without taking the law into their own hands which was displayed by the 47 *rônin* was a weakness to be viewed with pity rather than admiration. Yet after the Confucian scholar Muro Kyûsô had pronounced these *rônin* to be "righteous men" (*Giyu*) the world so regarded them down to the present time. In feudal times men's actions were determined more by feeling than by reason. Men reasoned little about their duties to their various superiors. There was the Emperor occupying the highest rank in the land, then came the Shôgun, beneath him were the various barons, then came retainers and their servants. Loyalty was in most cases reduced to the service of the master from whom favours had been directly received. Obligations to the master's master were seldom felt at all. Guided by their feelings, men decided on the course to be pursued. At the revolution the bewilderment in men's minds as to the course to be pursued was great owing to the entire absence of the habit of reasoning as to the claims of the various candidates for their allegiance, the Emperor, the Shôgun, the daimyô, or the leading retainer. . . . . Turning to Chinese history, we find that men who began as rebels against lawfully constituted authority ended as emperors and heroes. The authority they wielded was undoubtedly usurped, but posterity overlooked the fact and allowed its judgment to be warped by feeling. The doctrine that bad rulers may be overthrown by their subjects and their power be usurped by successful combatants is dangerous in the extreme and not such as any rational man would defend, but it was acted on again and again in China in ancient times. . . . . In reading the history of Occidental countries we are impressed with the fact that many of the events of history have resulted from a state of feeling rather than from logical deductions. Take the whole treatment accorded to non-Christian nations by European Governments in the past. Have not these Governments gone on the principle that there is one law for themselves and another for unbelievers? Christ taught that all men of whatever creed are equal in the sight of God, but the Governments that call themselves Christian have always acted on the supposition that Christians are superior to non-Christians, and that in their relations with heathen nations they are no longer bound to follow the principles observed in their dealings with each other. What is this but the subjugation of reason to mere blind emotion? I do not agree with the teaching of Christ that when smitten on the one cheek we should turn the other towards the smiter; and I think that in resenting insults and in resorting to physical force the nations of Europe are acting rationally, but what strikes me as so peculiar is the boast of these nations that they are Christian, while acting in the most direct opposition to the precepts of Christ in many of their public acts. The superciliousness and air of superiority assumed towards nations that they term heathen all become States that *habitually transgress the leading* precepts of Christianity. The very creed on which their claim to superiority is based is denied every month in the year by their public acts. . . . . Thus all the world over do we see that events are determined far more by feeling than by reason. Writers of history should recognise this and should endeavour to disentangle the threads and show us what are the elements that constitute the warp and the woof of the fabric men call history.

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The *Shigaku Zasshi* states that the paper read by Dr. Tsuboi at the Oriental Congress held at Rome last year has been highly appreciated in Europe, as is testified by the comments of French and German journals. Dr. Tsuboi has just returned to Japan, and it is said that a Japanese edition of his historical essay published among the Transactions of the Congress will appear in Japan.

* * *

The *Chûo-kôron* has a very spirited editorial on the part that Japan should take in restoring order in China, entitled *Hei wo idasu no igi* (The Meaning of the Despatch of Troops), in which the writer maintains that the religion of so-called Christian Governments is a sham, that these Governments cannot be depended on to practise humanity and benevolence where heathens are concerned, and that therefore it is incumbent on Japan to rescue China from her troubles and to treat her with consideration. Thus will Japan show that her actions are guided by a higher moral creed than is practised by Christians. In carrying out this purpose Japan should be prepared to see her 200,000 tons of naval shipping reduced to atoms. The same publication urges on the Japanese people the necessity of contributing more liberally to the Indian Famine Fund. It says that only a few straggling efforts have been made. Much money might be collected if the public were appealed to in a more efficient manner. Why do not the Buddhists take the matter up? asks the *Chûô-kôron*. Does it not seem an anomaly that a sect which boasts of being a great charitable organisation should spend thousands of *yen* in conveying relics from Siam while in the neighbouring country millions of the fellow-countrymen of Shaka Muni are perishing of hunger. Why do the Buddhists not despatch a mission at once to the seat of the famine and open a relief fund here without further delay?

* * *

In the *Tenchijin* Mr. Toyabe Shuntei comments at some length on the new political party that Marquis Itô is trying to form. The following is the gist of his remarks on this subject:—For many years past Marquis Itô has done nothing but show up the want of organisation and the many imperfections characterising existing political parties and has now come forward as the would-be organiser of a party more solid and efficient than any which already exists. There is no doubt that if he succeeds in effecting his object it will constitute an appropriate crown to the acts of a life of great usefulness. It will mean the death of clannism and of that stand-aloof policy of cabinets which has always attended clannism. In considering the probabilities of success we are confronted with the fact that in the past political parties have been created by events rather than by individual men, that they have developed spontaneously by a process of natural selection. If there are defects in existing parties, the simplest course to pursue would be to remedy these defects and not to try to form a new party which could not be guaranteed against abuses. Regarded logically, then, the reason for the organisation of a new party does not appear. It does not require much insight to perceive that Marquis Itô's efforts are prompted by policy rather than by reason. He sees plainly that the interests of the State require that for some time to come Cabinets should be able to command majorities in both Houses. His aim then is to put himself at the head of a number of Representatives and Peers who will carry his measures though the Houses. The general policy to be adopted he intends to direct, of that we may be sure. Now the question which it is pertinent to ask is, is this kind of organisation a real political party? Is it not rather a personal following? Undoubtedly the course proposed by Marquis Itô would in many ways conserve State interests, but judged from the point of view of old members of the Jiyutô the proposed scheme lacks some of the most essential elements of strength in a political party. To them it must seem that a party that is principally dependent on the personal guidance of a single statesman must be a very short-lived affair. Will the members of the Jiyutô whom Marquis Itô is so anxious to bring into line consent to forego all the liberty they have been accustomed to enjoy and submit to the proposed leadership? This is the question which is now being asked and to which the course of events will before long give a decisive answer.

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In the *Taiyô* a long review of the tendency of thought in the nineteenth century is being published. Various writers have been asked to express their views. In No. 8 there is an article by Count Okuma and another by Dr. Katô Hiroyuki, both of which call for a brief notice. The following is what Count Okuma has to say on the present political situation in the Far East. The end of the century has been marked by a very singular and unprecedented combination of civilised nations against an outburst of barbarism. The fate of China in the near future it is impossible to predict with absolute certainty, but in my opinion the Chinese are too great a nation to remain subject to any European Power for any length of time. Despite all the oppression which they suffer from their own rulers, they prefer them to foreigners and will always do so. China is not to be governed as Russia governs Siberia and England governs India, and this fact is known to European Powers. . . . China must be reformed. There is nothing to prevent her following in Japan's footsteps and making of herself a great and powerful nation in 30 or 40 years. When 40 years ago Japan set out on her career of progress, she had little to start with. But she went ahead so fast that to-day she is in a position to stand forth as a champion of the enlightenment she at one time opposed. Regarding the position of Japan in the world to-day there is only one cause for regret that I can see, that is that our moral education is deficient. There are those who maintain that the early development and the early decay (早熟早老, Sôjuku Sôrô) of the Japanese mind is fatal to the accomplishment of any great purpose. But such persons fail to perceive that this national characteristic was caused by feudal domestic customs which are now undergoing constant modification and which bid fair to pass out of existence altogether. I see nothing to prevent our competing successfully against Occidentals in any enterprise whatever, and in this present Chinese crisis we should uphold the honour of the nation to the utmost extent.

Reviewing the progress of thought in Europe during the nineteenth century Dr. Katô writes in the following strain. The first half of the century witnessed the rapid development of state ideas, the latter half was marked by increased interest in the relation of different orders of society to each other. After the political rights of subjects had been secured and constitutional government set on a firm basis, the relation of the rich to the poor and employers to employed became the burning question of the day and remains still unsettled. The question of what rights subjects may justly claim was to a large extent a problem of jurispurdence, and hence in enlightened countries found a satisfactory solution, but the relation of the classes to each other is not a question that the law can ever settle. The differences that exist between the rich and the poor seem to grow wider every day and demand special treatment. It is useless to plead that the rich have a legal right to the place of eminence they hold and that the oppression they practise cannot be stopped. The poor feel that the position in which they are placed is unjust and cruel, and being men of spirit, cannot be expected to always remain content with the crumbs which fall from the rich man's table. While the remedy for the existing state of things has not been discovered in Europe and America, the time is not far distant when Japan will find herself confronted with the labour and capital and the rich and poor problem, and will be forced to deal with it. Already the fact that

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there are few large farmers in Japan, the land being farmed by very poor tenants, is making itself felt. The life of the agricultural slaving peasant is growing harder and harder as the prices of commodities increase. As population grows and the means of livelihood become harder to procure, great class readjustments must take place.

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A new literary organ called the 明星, *Myôjô* (Bright Star) has come into existence. It is edited by Mr. Yosano Tekkan, a well-known writer of "new style verses." From the criticism of current Japanese literature which appears in its pages we extract the following, bearing on newspapers. One of the characteristics of current literature worth noticing is the influence of the newspaper on the course of events. The crusade carried on by the *Niroku Shimpô* against the Mitsui family has undoubtedly produced some striking results. These may be briefly enumerated as follows: (1) Conscious of having fallen away from the high standard of their ancestors, the Mitsui brothers held a solemn ceremony in front of the family altar, on which occasion the rules of the house were read and the brothers vowed that they would act up to them. As a proof of the sincerity of these professions, large sums of money were contributed to various worthy objects. For educational purpose the following sums were given, to the city of Tôkyô 30,000 *yen*, to Kyôtô 20,000 *yen*, and to Matsuzaka (Ise) 3,000 *yen*. To Mr. Mitani Sankurô, through whose instrumentality the Mitsui house had realised enormous profits, but who had been allowed to sink into poverty, the sum of 10,000 *yen* was given.* The *Jiji Shimpô* calls itself the first paper in Japan and in size and number of advertisements it undoubtedly is so. But in other respects it is questionable whether it merits the title it assumes. It publishes a large amount of very insignificant news in large type. It furnishes a great many telegrams from foreign parts, but many of these are sensational falsehoods. What one cannot but admire in the *Jiji* is the presistency with which it keeps its readers informed on the progress of learning and science in Western countries. There is no paper in Japan that furnishes such a good history of the progress of modern thought and of scientific inventions. Its articles on art are specially well-written. When we come to mention the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* some readers may shrug their shoulders with a feeling of disgust (on account of its having been for a long time a Government organ), but the material it publishes is first-class and the editing is so excellently done that there is a harmony about its style that is possessed by few newspapers in Japan. Its *Kinji-hempen* (Scraps on Recent Events) defy imitation. On all Government affairs its news is earlier and more reliable than that of any other paper. Those who look for amusement in a newspaper will find little here to attract them. And what there is in the line of light literature is not penned in the style of the popular novelists. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, which of late has increased its reputation, is free from the impurities attached to many other papers. It is a champion of the labourer, it sympathises with the poor and the oppressed and weeps over the evils of the time. It aims at acting the saviour to society. But regarded as a newspaper it is a very tame affair. The *Hôchi Shimbun* has of late made a specialty of publishing on its third page interesting items of news bearing on the relations of various classes to each other. In its attention to all social topics it resembles the *Jiji*, though it is far surpassed by the latter journal. The *Nippon* is a very high class and pure organ, which for a decade has never swerved from its principles one iota. It is quite indifferent to the fashions of the time. It figures rather as a critic than a retailer of news, and hence it is that its news is often behind time. The *Yomiuri*, though on a lower pedestal and designed for a different class of readers, resembles in its principles the *Nippon*. Its distinctive characteristic is the attention it pays to literature and to items of literary news. By some it is regarded as a literary rather than a political organ. The *Tôkyô Asahi* surpasses all other papers as regards the early publication of news. During the present crisis all its contemporaries are daily indebted to it for important items of information. The paragraphs published on its third page have a flavour all their own which attracts readers every day. If this paper were to pay more attention to social topics and to improve the literary style of all its columns it would have no equal in Japan.

Speaking generally, no one who has read the *Tôkyô Asahi*, the *Jiji* and the *Yomiuri* on any given day need read anything more. Among recently issued newspapers many are utterly insignificant. But there are two exceptions, the one is the *Fuji Shimbun* and the other the organ alluded to above, the *Niroku Shimpô*. The former, though conservative in tone and hence unpopular, has some literary merits of a high order that furnish a model which other papers would do well to imitate. And as for its conservatism, in this fickle age a little of this is needed.

The *Niroku Shimpô* is written in a very entertaining style and makes a specialty of its illustrations, which excel those of any other daily. Its persistence in any matter that it takes up is remarkable. In this age, where the belief is so strong that money is power, for a newly started paper with little capital at its back to attack a great banking firm and force them to reform their ways was a triumph of the pen over the purse of which its proprietors and its editor, Mr. Akiyama, Barrister-at-law, may well be proud

The *Myôjô's* comments do not extend to the *Kokumin*, the *Chûô* and other newspapers.

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Mr. Takayama Rinjirô, B.A., who has distinguished himself as a writer on art and literature, and who for some time past has been editing the *Taiyô*, and Mr. Kaneko Umaji, an earnest student of philosophy connected with the Waseda Semmongakkô, have both been ordered to Germany to complete their studies and will sail, it is said, on Sept 8th. It is reported that Mr. Omachi Keigetsu will be appointed editor of the *Taiyô*.

The *Taiyô* has taken to publishing in English a short account of the articles contained in each of its numbers. The plan is an excellent one, but unfortunately it is carried out in a most bungling fashion. The English is on a par with that put together by a High School student. Here is a specimen of the *Taiyô's* English. We transcribe the words just as they are printed. "Dr. Inouye Yenrio's essay about the future of the Chinese ideographs demands the particular attention of the linguistic student as well as reformists. As we have often reported, the linguistic reform is one of the most important matters in the present Japan. A great majority among the educationists and learned are inclined to recognize the abolition of the Chinese character as the first step to be taken at the reform, if there must be a reform at all. A few months ago, the Department of Education appointed the special Committee for investigating the problem. Though the final verdict to be brought about by these committee is not yet certain, one fact is at least undeniable, that all or nearly all of them stand against the Chinese characters. So far the sentence to be given is not difficult to imagine. For all that, Dr. Inoue Yenrio alone stands for this ill-fated characters." There are still worse passages than this and the writer's attempts at translating difficult terms display all the courage and the rashness of youth, but in many instances convey no notion of the meaning of the original.

In No. 9 the *Taiyô* has an article contending that among a certain class of writers in Japan there is a great deal of hair-splitting going on which resembles that of the schoolman of the middle ages. The attempt to render things easy of apprehension is deemed undignified. The great thing to be aimed at is to write so that few can understand, to pile up complicated phrases so as to leave the mind in a maze as to the meaning. To this method of treating subjects the Japanese give the term *hansa* (煩瑣) *gakufû teki* (scholastic method) and according to the writer we are quoting those who follow it are the enemies of common sense and hinderers of the development of poetic fancy. A very unintelligible epitome of the above article is given in English. It is waste of money to print such English as appears in the *Taiyô*:—"China betook herself into the irrevocable destiny. "Mr. Shiga, an executive Committee of the Shimpo Party." "Strength of the recent statistics is drawn to support the argument." "Viscount Shishido Tamaki, sends his interesting autobiography. It tells an aspect of the Reformation, observed from the standpoint of a Choshu authority."

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An interesting article appears in the *Kyôiku Kôhô* entitled "The Great Defect of the Japanese Nation." Of which the following is a brief abstract:—Neither in intellect nor in feeling can Japanese be said to be deficient, but in the opinion of the present writer, Mr. Yoshida Kenryô, in the possession of will we are decidedly wanting. Take two of our greatest heroes Sugawara Michizane and Kusunoki Masashige. Although everybody is deeply impressed by their loyalty, nobody can assert that they were men of strong wills. When Masashige set out for Minatogawa he had quietly resigned himself to death. There was no display of such will as was shown by Nelson and others who have fought against great odds. So was it with Michizane's contest with Fujiwara, his opposition was not carried to the utmost limits of possibility. The Japanese stage illustrates the same truth in a remarkable manner. Take the majority of Chikamatsu's characters. Do they not on the slightest pretence, on account of a small amount of humiliation, or from an exaggerated sense of duty, cut short their fight with adverse circumstances by suicide? Even the cruel robber is made to lose all his will and end his career by confessing his crimes and taking his own life. This fleeing from the ills of life instead of bearing them and trying to cure them which has become so popular among us has led to numerous suicides and still is one of the chief causes of the self-destruction practised by certain classes. This weakness of will is displayed in other ways. There are numbers of gifted young men whose talents have attracted the attention of foreigners abroad who come back to this country and sink into obscurity from want of will to make their influence felt. The scholar of the west has will enough to carry him to the North Pole on a voyage of discovery, not so the Japanese. Instead of going out of his way to discover new obstacles to overcome he retires from those he encounters in his daily life. His zeal is soon excited, but it soon subsides. He will fight hard for territory in China, but relinquish it at the bidding of foreign foes. To refuse to turn aside from a great purpose, notwithstanding the presence of a thousand obstacles,—resolution so frequently displayed by Occidentals—this one looks for in vain here. This weakness of will is the cause of the leniency with which men's sins are regarded and of the failure to control men's desires witnessed throughout society at the present time. The influence of public opinion on moral subjects is very slight. The proverb *Hito no uwasa mo shichijû-go nichi* (People are only talked about for 75 days: scandal is short-lived) represent the general feeling as to the permanent harm a man may do to his reputation by immoral acts of any kind. This is not the result of mere want of memory. It is a consequence of the fact that the public has not sufficient will to carry its antipathy to vice to any great lengths. Unless this defect is remedied there can be no chance of Japan's successfully competing with foreigners either in the region of mind or the region of matter.

What are the remedies to be applied? (1) One great cause of want of will is physical weakness. The physical development of the Japanese is on the whole poor. Attention to this point at all schools is most important. (2) Self-reliance needs to be more cultivated. It is one source of strength of will, and is sadly deficient in the Japanese. Although as a moral standard Mr. Fukuzawa's "Independence and Self-respect"

* It is stated that Baron Shibusawa was the means of inducing the Mitsui brothers to take this step. It was their treatment of Mr. Mitani that incited the attack on the house by the *Niroku Shimbun* (Writer of Summary.)

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cannot at present be recommended, that the general cultivation of these qualities is an urgent necessity is unquestionable

In commenting on the above article, the *Teikoku Bungaku* takes exception only to the assertion that Masashige was a man of weak will. The circumstances in which he was placed must be taken into consideration before any such rash assertion is made, says the *Teikoku Bungaku*. The tactics which he proposed were not adopted by his master and he was placed in the position of meeting Takauji's large army with a small cavalry force consisting of 700 men. His knowledge of war told him that death was certain. It was no question of want of will.

How far Mr. Yoshida's views are one-sided is a question which we cannot discuss here, but which it seems to us would bear a great deal of discussion.

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In the pages of the *Gwaikō Jiho*, Dr. Ariga has a great deal to say on the situation in China and the attitude to be adopted by Japan. The subject is discussed at considerable length in several numbers. As to the early stages of the crisis, Dr. Ariga says three courses were open to Japan. (1) She might have sent an equal number of troops with other Powers and in all operations have acted in concert with them, without taking the initiative in any obvious manner. (2) She might in the absence of opposition from other Powers gladly have offered her services for quelling disorder. (3) Or she might have waited till other Powers had found out that they were unable to deal with the situation adequately without her aid and then have come forward and done what was required thoroughly. The adoption of the latter course, Dr. Ariga thinks, was to be recommended. The following is an epitome of the views he expresses on the whole question:—There is no saying how long the war that has commenced may last, and Japan's finances will not allow of her undertaking a big war without some definite ends in view that it is to her permanent interest to promote. The situation is full of pitfalls for Japan. The Powers are allied to-day, but it is impossible to say how long the agreement will last, as China will try to play off the Powers against each other by offering certain of them inducements to act separately. Before Japan can undertake any gigantic operations against China she must receive some guarantee from the allied Powers that there shall be no interference with her in the carrying out of the mission with which they entrust her, that is, that no Power shall be allowed to take China's side against Japan or make peace with China while Japan is at war with her.

Another difficulty of the situation to Japan is the connection of the territory leased by Russia England, Germany and France with the present troubles. Russia has leased Port Arthur and Talienwan, England Wei-hai-wei, Germany Kiaochow and France Kwang-chow. Now three of these powers have plainly indicated that they claim to exercise sovereign rights over the territory acquired. It will be remembered that not long after the occupation of Port Arthur a Japanese military officer was arrested by the Russian authorities for inspecting the fortifications at that place. The Japanese maintained that Russia's lease of the place gave her no sovereign rights and that hence she had no warrant for trying or punishing a Japanese subject who had committed an alleged offence in Chinese territory. But the Rusians refused to take this view of the case. Japan was not prepared to carry her opposition to the point of going to war, and so a compromise was arrived at. The officer was condemned by the Russian Court, but was subsequently pardoned by order of the Czar. This incident may be said to have established the fact that Russia exercises sovereign rights over the territory she has leased. Germany's action vis-à-vis Japan was of a different kind, but amounted to the same thing. The German Minister in Peking requested Mr. Yano, the Japanese Ambassador in Peking, to take the necessary measures for insuring that all Japanese war ships entering the Bay of Kiao-chow salute the German flag. This request was complied with and thus Japan recognised Germany's sovereign right at Kiaochow. France in a most public manner announced the position she assumed at Kwang chow and Japan had nothing to say to this. Japan might have protested, as some Powers did in the case of England's occupation of Egypt, but she did not do this, and hence to-day no alternative is left to her but to act on the principle that the Powers in question do actually possess sovereign rights in China. In the matter of Law the recognition of the above-named rights introduces difficulties of the gravest nature. According to international law Japan has a perfect right to land troops at any of the leased ports when at war with China, but policy forbids her adoption of such a course. If it be admitted that the territories in question belong to the Powers who claim them, then in any war waged between Japan and China, provided these Powers are not also at war with China, these territories must be declared neutral. Upon the settlement of the question of the lawfulness or unlawfulness of the claims to territory made by the Powers would depend a whole series of actions in case of war between China and Japan or between Japan and Russia. By the action of Western Powers in China the whole law of neutrality hitherto followed has been seriously disturbed. Japan's treaty with China is not really affected by any territory leased to foreign Powers by China, and she has the undoubted right to ignore all arrangements of the kind indicated above, but she has hitherto not ignored them and though against her will, she will have to go on acting as though she approved of them. By establishing her right to Sovereign ownership of Port Arthur, Russia, according to a recent precedent in South Africa in the case of a British railway passing though Portuguese territory, will have secured the right in case of necessity to transport troops over Chinese territory to Port Arthur, in order to fight Japan or any other Eastern Power. The situation in the Far East grows more complicated every day, and Japan will find that it will tax all her resources to know what course to take.

COAL.

The amount of coal exported this year from the various commercial ports in the Empire is reported to have reached 283,460 tons, valued at 1,590,921 *yen*. Such a figure, remarks the *Jiji*, has never before been attained. Compared with last year the amount has increased by 67,850 tons and the value by 313,577 *yen*. In fact, the increment does not fall short of 20 per cent. both in quantity and value. The average quotation this year stood at 5.92 *yen*, indicating no material difference in comparison with last year. Below is the total from January to last month :—

	Tons.	Value in *yen*.
From January till end of July ...	1,897,779	11,106,970
Corresponding period of last year.	1,451,263	9,260,214
Increase in comparison	446,516	1,846,756

With regard to Moji coal the *Jiji* gives the following particulars :—Shipment of coal continues brisk, and in the beginning of this month 36,300 tons were exported to Hongkong, 199,500 to Shanghai, 6,000 to Singapore, 5,800 to China, and 3,200 to Vladivostock. Vessels chartered at present for the transport of coal are no less than 16. Quotations are :—Buzen (1st class), 6.30 *yen*; same (2nd class), 5.80; Chikuzen, 5.40; same (2nd class), 5.10.

FIRES.

A fire occurred at Hachinoye Shinmachi, Aomori prefecture, in the early morning of the 28th ult.; 14 houses were burnt.

Two curtains were burnt at the Kaiseiza theatre, Shichikencho, Tokyo, at 8 o'clock on the 27th ult., during the performance. Owing to the panic six men were injured.

A farmer named Sato Yonekichi, aged 55, and Renroku, his son, living at Suma-mura, Nakagori, Kanagawa Prefecture, were killed by lightning on the evening of the 27th ult. Their house was destroyed by fire. Lightning also struck a telegraph post at Nakakido, Kanagawa.

MARQUIS ITO'S MANIFESTO.

The following is an authorized translation of the manifesto issued by Marquis Ito to the new political party :—

Ten years' experience of Constitutional Government has not been unattended by some noteworthy results, but much still remains to be done in the way of so guiding and educating public opinion as to render it a help and assistance to the conduct of the affairs of the State. To speak frankly, it has for some years been a source of profound regret to me to observe a tendency on the part of the existing political parties to be betrayed into words and deeds which are at variance with the principles laid down in the Constitution, which indicate a proneness to sacrifice national for private interests, and which, moreover, are antagonistic to the fundamental national policy decided upon by His Imperial Majesty at the time of the Glorious Restoration in unison with the requirements of the universal progress. The lamentable consequence is that the conduct of these parties leaves much to be desired in regard to the maintenance of the honour and good name of the Empire abroad and to earning the confidence and trust of the people at home. Being now called upon to collect round me men of similar views with myself and submit to the candid consideration of the public a general statement of the lines of policy which I intend to pursue in common with these my friends, I avail myself of the present opportunity of briefly setting forth some of the principles which, in my humble opinion, ought to guide the actions of a political party.

The appointment and dismissal of Cabinet Ministers appertain, under the Constitution, to the Prerogative of the Sovereign, who, consequently, retains absolute freedom to select His advisers from whatever quarters He deems proper, be it from among the members of political parties or from circles outside those parties. When once Ministers have been appointed and invested with their respective official functions, it is not under any circumstances whatever permissible for their fellow party men or their other political friends to interfere in any manner with the discharge of their duties. Any failure to grasp this fundamental principle would be fatal to the proper and efficient management of the important affairs of State and might lead to unseemly struggles for political power, thus engendering evils and abuses unspeakable. In inviting my political friends and sympathizers to rally round me, it is my earnest wish to keep ourselves clear from these evils and abuses.

In view of the duties which it owes to the State, a political party ought to make it its primary object to devote its whole energies to the public weal of the country. In order to improve and infuse life and rigour into the administrative machinery of the country, so as to enable it to keep up with the general progress of the nation, it is necessary that administrative officials should be recruited, under a system of definite qualifications, from among capable men of proper attainments and experience, irrespective of whether they belong to a political party or not. It is absolutely necessary that caution should be taken to avoid falling into the fatal mistake of giving official posts to men of doubtful qualifications, simply because they belong to a particular political party. In considering questions affecting the interests of local or other corporate bodies, the decision must always be guided by considerations of the general good of the public and of the relative importance of those questions. In no case should the support of a political party be given for the promotion of any partial interests, in response to considerations of local connections, or under the corruptive influence of the interested persons. It is my earnest wish, by the help of my friends, to sweep away all these abusive practices.

If a political party aims, as it should do, at being a guide to the people, it must first commence with maintaining a strict discipline and order in its own ranks, and above all, with shaping its own conduct with an absolute and sincere devotion to the public interest of the country. Convinced of this truth, unworthy as I feel myself for such an important task, I venture, in concert with my political friends, to organize an association under the name of "Rikken Seiyu Kai" (Constitutional Political Association), and offer my humble endeavours for the rectification of the standing abuses and evils connected with political parties, my only wish in so doing being to contribute what little is in my power to the future success of our Constitutional Government and thus discharge what I owe to the August Sovereign and the country. So resolved, I now appeal to such of my fellow countrymen as may do me the honour of sharing my views and sentiments, and invite their attention to the separate memorandum herewith presented, containing a statement of the general aims and principles of the proposed Association.

Marquis HIROBUMI ITO.

August 25th, 33rd year of Meiji (1900).

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Actuated by a desire to discharge the duties which every loyal subject owes to the Imperial House and the State, I now propose to organize a political association under the name of "Rikken Seiyu Kai" (Constitutional Political Association), and hereby announce the general principles by which, in common with the other members of the Association, I purpose to shape our policy, namely as follows:—

I.—We propose strictly to observe the Constitution of the Empire, and, in accordance with its provisions, to secure the successful operation of the Sovereign power, so that the important affairs of State may be properly conducted and further that the rights and liberties of individual subjects may be efficiently preserved and safeguarded.

II.—We make it our aim to advance the prosperity and position of the country and promote its civilization, in strict obedience to, and in whole-hearted support and furtherance of, the grand Imperial policy inaugurated at the time of the Restoration.

III.—Desirous as we are to secure the harmonious working of the administrative machinery and preserve the equity and justice of its actions, we propose to use scrupulous vigilance in the appointment of officials; to avoid useless formalities in the transaction of official business; to clearly define, and rigidly exact the performance of, the duties and responsibilities attaching to the various official positions; to maintain strict discipline among public functionaries; and to secure such despatch and precision in the conduct of business as are required by the general progress of the country.

IV.—Attaching, as we do, high importance to the foreign intercourse of the Empire, we will use our best endeavours to cultivate good relations with the treaty Powers and guard the welfare of all foreign sojourners within the Empire by extending to them the benefits of such enlightened government as is requisite for every well-regulated community.

V.—Recognizing, as we do, the necessity of completing the defence of the country in accordance with the march of events at home and abroad, we propose to secure, within limits sanctioned by national resources, an effective protection of the national rights and interests.

VI.—Being desirous of placing the strength of the country on a sure and solid basis, we propose to encourage and promote education and foster the personal character of the people so that their moral and intellectual qualities may be so developed as to enable them to fulfil satisfactorily the duties they owe to the State in their private and public capacities.

VII.—We make it our object to strengthen the economic basis of national life by encouraging agricultural and industrial enterprises, by promoting navigation and commerce, and by completing the various means of communication.

VIII.—We propose to direct our efforts toward the realization of the object of local self-government, so that the communal units may be knit together in such a way as to secure social and economic harmony among them.

IX.—Keenly aware, as we are, of the serious responsibilities which a political party owes to the State, we will strive to shape our actions in accordance with the requirements of public interest, and always endeavour, in the spirit of self-admonition, to guard ourselves against falling into the old evils and abuses.

SPEECHES BY MARQUIS ITO AND VISCOUNT WATANABE.

The following (taken from the *Japan Times*) is a verbatim translation of Marquis Ito's speech at the preliminary meeting of the Organizing Committee of the Political Association on Saturday, the 25th.—

"GENTLEMEN,—I thank you most heartily for your presence here to-day and for the cordial manner in which you have consented, in response to my request, to act as the Organizing Committee of the new political association, with regard to which I have already had the pleasure of consulting you once before. As to the aims and principles of the Association I propose to organize, they are briefly described in the Manifesto which had already been published in the papers, and which, consequently, I need not tax your patience by reciting over again. As you may have gathered from my published views on the subject, my sole object in establishing the Association, is that by its means I may be able, in concert with you, to contribute something to the future political progress of the country. I scarcely need tell you that it is impossible to secure the complete success of our constitutional government in the short space of a few years; not only must many years elapse before the object in view can be attained, but I am fully persuaded that the task is one of no ordinary difficulty. In every country where absolutism has been superseded by constitutionalism, a long course of time has invariably elapsed before any benefits were reaped from the new system. Time is, indeed, a necessary element in all political progress, particularly so in the case of Japan, where the constitutional system is only ten years old, and where but thirty odd years ago there was in full force a system of absolute feudalism under which the country had for centuries been kept in complete seclusion from the rest of the world. Under these circumstances the constitutional regime under which we are now living has not only no precedent in our history to support it, but it is entirely new to the customs and habits of the people. There being, thus, little in our history to contribute to the foundation of our constitutional government, it has been necessary for us to look for guidance to the principles and practices in operation in Europe and America. The fundamental principles are nearly alike in all constitutional countries, but the method, course, and result of practical development is necessarily different in different countries according to their respective peculiarities in the matter of history and customs and manners. And so in our case, the development of our constitutional system must proceed along the lines best fitted for our national interests.

"To carry out successfully a constitutional system of government, is, as I have already said, a task of no small difficulty, but it is generally admitted in all advanced countries that in the present stage of human progress there is no form of government better suited than a constitutional system for purposes of conducting administration in harmony with the advance of civilization. In recognition of this truth, the policy of opening up the country to foreign intercourse was adopted at the time of the Restoration, feudalism was finally abolished and the Throne made the real basis of the Government, national education was encouraged, and, to complete the process, the power of taking part in the government of the country was granted to the people. The constitutional régime, it need hardly be pointed out, was inaugurated by the Emperor with a view to the better furtherance of the national welfare and prosperity by the united efforts of Sovereign and people. To secure the success of a constitutional system, it is not sufficient that the legislative and executive functions of the Central Government should be properly carried out, but it is also necessary that care should be taken to promote the healthy growth of a system of local self-government. The improvement of these two branches of the political system proceed hand in hand and in accordance with the requirements of the general progress of the country. Their improvement, moreover, must be steady and unintermittent. Another point to which I wish to call your attention while on this topic is that the improvement of the political system of the country, whether local or central, cannot be effected by the efforts of officials alone, but requires the assistance and co-operation of the people at large. In order that the last-mentioned element of political improvement may be forthcoming, it is obviously important that the people should be so educated and so guided that they may be able to form a correct judgment on political affairs, and this, in my opinion, is one of the most important functions of a political party. Politics should occupy the attention of all classes of the people, but I regret to observe that there has been a tendency among our farmers, manufacturers, and merchants to regard politics as something with which they are in no way concerned, it being a set belief among them that the public affairs of the country should be left to the care of a special class of men. Nothing is more mistaken than such a view of politics. Politics, it should be remembered, affects the interests of all sorts of people, whatever their sphere of life or whatever their line of business, and none are better qualified than those engaged in the material pursuits of life to understand and judge of the merits of the questions directly affecting the interest of those pursuits. In order that the interests of the industrial and commercial classes may be properly safeguarded, and also that men of these classes may discharge their public duties to the State, it is necessary that they should have their interests directly represented in the Diet: it will never do for them to delegate the representation of their interests to men outside their own spheres of life. The conduct of the administrative business of the country must be left to public officials, but the task of legislating on questions affecting the economic and other interests of the nation has to be undertaken by the representatives of the people themselves. It is, therefore, to be sincerely hoped that all sorts of interests should be properly represented in the Diet. It is my wish, in asking your assistance for the organization of a new political party, to call the attention of the people to the point I have just dwelt upon. There is another advantage which may be expected from the direct representation of the various interests in the Diet, and that is that it will afford better facilities for the education and development of useful talents for the service of the country. As you are well aware, it is the regular course of things in all countries that talents sharpened and tempered by a long course of training in political affairs are utilized for the management of the mighty affairs of State. This is but natural and proper, because talents and abilities are only developed and made known by experience and assiduous culture. I do not pretend to be sufficiently well qualified to assume the task of training men in the art of statesmanship. But as I occupy a position of seniority toward the younger men of today, I cannot but consider it my duty to do what I can in the way of guiding these men and affording scope to the development of their capacity. Institutions and laws, however good in themselves, would be of no practical utility, unless there were men of ability to put them into operation. It is, therefore, my earnest wish that opportunities should be given to the men of the new generation to serve the State according to their ability. We men of the older generation have thus far been principally invested with the conduct of State affairs, but, being ourselves men of imperfect education, it has ever been our wish to have our place taken by new men of ability and character.

"As you may remember, I have had occasion in my speeches in various parts of the country to lay particular emphasis on the necessity of reforms in party circles. I notice among those now present several who have had long connection with political parties, and I have no doubt that these gentlemen are better qualified than myself to speak on the subject. They will, I trust, agree with me, when I say, as I have said on several occasions, that it is a most difficult thing to regulate the action of any large body of men and keep them in strict discipline. Unlike armies, political parties are made up of men enjoying perfect liberty of thought and action, and consequently their control is a task beset with immense difficulties. The difficulty of the task makes it all the more necessary that a political body should, like any other assemblage of men, be kept under strict control, for if each member be left to act according to his own inclination, the inevitable result will be the utmost confusion. Unless its actions are regulated according to a strict system of discipline, a political party will be deprived of its vitality and even of its ability to impress its will upon the legislative business of the country or to guide and mould the opinion of the people. It is, therefore, incumbent upon the members of a political party, not only to be scrupulously vigilant in their conduct as individuals but to be always amenable to discipline by taking part in the public manifestation of the principles and aims of their common party. It is of course understood that in enforcing and accepting such discipline, the cardinal object kept in view should be the promotion of the best interests of the country and the people. I flatter myself that on this point I enjoy the whole-hearted approval and support of all present here. It is my fond wish that, with your help and support, I may be able in common with you to direct our best endeavours to the realization of the important object in question.

"The political association which I propose to form has not yet been called into existence, and I now appeal to you to favour me with your valuable services in connection with its organization. In spite of some rumours to the contrary, I have not yet approached anybody with a request to join the proposed association. Such steps may, however, be taken now that an Organizing Committee has been formed, and I take this opportunity of requesting you to invite your friends to join the Association. But at the same time I request you to bear in mind that it will be better for the purposes of the Association not to obtain adhesion of such persons as may entertain views and ideas at variance with those I have already made known. Unless we limit our membership to those who share my published opinions, I am afraid the result may be very injurious to the future success of the Association. Rather than secure numerous adherents from the outset, we should make it our aim to start with a few select members and strive by word and deed gradually to win the sympathy and confidence of the people. Such being our aim, there is absolutely no occasion to extend our invitation to such as may join us from love of novelty, without even taking the trouble to understand the object and principles of our Association. Especially necessary will it be to shut our doors in the face of the *soshi* and other rough characters, who may possibly have been the unavoidable accessories of political parties in the past, but whose services we shall have no occasion to call into requisition, as our object is perfectly peaceful. To include men of this description among our rank and file, would be diametrically opposed to our object of promoting political progress and furthering the welfare of the best sections of the people. Our object in organizing the Association being to educate and guide the political views of the people in the right direction, it is my earnest wish that our door be closed against such as may desire to join us with a view to utilize their membership for some self-seeking purpose. On the other hand, with regard to those who may desire to join us from a genuine sympathy with our aims and principles, I do not think it necessary to refuse their application on account of the views and principles they may have professed in the past. We should not turn from our door any person who may desire to join us from a sincere appreciation of our published views. So long as their sympathy with our views is genuine and so long as they are honestly resolved to share our efforts to serve the country, we should not be so narrow minded as to suffer any personal con-

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sideration, even in the case of those who may heretofore have been our political opponents, to stand in the way of our welcoming them into our Association? My object is to bury the past in oblivion and place the Association on completely new and fresh foundations, hoping that in this way our efforts may be crowned with better results than similar efforts have hitherto been. I hope and trust that, keeping these points constantly in your view, you will honour me with your hearty co-operation in a common endeavour to serve the interests of the country.

"I shall be content to-day with what I have thus far dwelt upon, my principal object in inviting you to this gathering being to ask you to formally sit on the Committee of Organization and to introduce you to each other. Besides those present here, a few more additions may perhaps be made to the Committee, in which case I shall not fail to consult your views beforehand. In conclusion, allow me to repeat my earnest hope that what I have thus far stated may have your complete approval and that I may hereafter enjoy your ungrudging assistance in bringing the proposed Association into existence."

In reply to the above speech, Viscount Watanabe, ex-Minister of Finance, spoke on behalf of the Committee as follows:—

"Your Excellency—I am happy to say, on behalf of myself and the other members of the Committee, that we have the honour and pleasure of sharing all the views just expounded by your Excellency as well as those expressed in your Manifesto. We think it is a matter for our own sake but for the sake of the country, that a statesman of your Excellency's standing, combining in your person the double character of one of the most illustrious servants of the Crown in connection with the Restoration as well as that of our political senior and master, should have decided to take the initiative in the present important undertaking. We, therefore, assure your Excellency of our determination not only to labour for completing the organization of the Association but to use our best endeavours to secure its permanent success."

COUNT OKUMA ON THE NEW PARTY.

At a meeting of Progressists held at the Maple Club on the 27th instant, Count Okuma delivered the following speech:—

Gentlemen:—I am extremely gratified to find that many of the members of our Party, gathered from distant provinces, have assembled to-day to participate in the debate. As you all know, our country has now arrived at an important turning-point, at which a serious change is to come for our politics, diplomacy, and financial administration. Such being the case, it will not be unfitting if I endeavour to express my views to you. Before entering into the subject in hand, I have to say a word about Mr. Ozaki Yukio. His conduct on the present occasion is really regrettable. Inspired with the same spirit as myself, he for the past twenty years has struggled with the clan coteries with the utmost energy and probity, in the hope of consummating the benefits of constitutional government. He was always lamenting the corruption of the political community. In the last year's session of the Diet, he boldly impeached the Yamagata Cabinet, criticising at the same time the gross injustice of official interference in elections and the purchase of members. The energy displayed by him is still fresh in our memory. It is no small cause for sorrow with me that circumstances now compel me to part with such a just and honourable politician.

Next I have to say something about the new political party. The Clan Statesmen have hitherto looked upon political parties as their enemy, and in some respects as the enemy of the nation at large. Nevertheless the fact that even Marquis Ito, who is himself one of the most powerful of the Clan Statesmen, has now become thoroughly convinced of the impossibility of disregarding political parties under a constitutional system of Government, and has been obliged to organise a new party for himself, discarding all his former prejudices, is a sign of the progress of the nation, and with it you and I ought to be highly delighted. But who was it that enabled the country to attain such remarkable progress? The answer may be emphatically made that it was no other than we ourselves who have brought about the present development. Indeed, we have endured hardships for more than twenty years, and had we not devoted ourselves to promoting the interests of the country with the utmost zeal it is doubtful whether the present progress would have been attained. Had we acted like a certain party who sometimes preferred to espouse the cause of the people under the pretence of justice, but sometimes endeavoured to secure its own interests in utter disregard of those of the nation, the difficulty of arriving at the present stage of civilization would have been great. That the time has ripened so as to enable Marquis Ito to organise a political society is no doubt the result of the efforts of those who with one heart have laboured with us. (Applause).

Marquis Ito and I are intimate friends, and, having advocated the same progressive principles since the Restoration, have joined hands with each other, in spite of occasional collisions. We had a general object in common, and the furthering of it cemented us together. Sometimes we looked upon each other with hostile feelings in connection with political matters, but in respect of private intercourse nothing could impair our friendly relations. Some time ago—probably the 17th instant—I went to Oiso, where Marquis Ito, unexpectedly coming to see me, intimated that in his recent tour through the various provinces he had spoken on the necessity of improving the condition of political parties, and it had now become necessary for him to organise one for himself. On hearing the Marquis' proposal I gave my hearty approval to it, intimating that he must have been actuated by a desire to promote the country's interests, and that it was extremely delightful to see my friend engaged in the execution of such a praiseworthy project. At the same time, however, I intimated that I had certain views of my own in regard to the question of the improvement of political parties. I am not yet perfectly familiar with the ideal of the Marquis, but the question must first be asked whether the so-called corruption had its origin in the political parties themselves or whether it was the result of some external influence. To say the truth, a people groaning under the oppression of a military administration is naturally mean and submissive, and it is beyond question that the corruption of a Government will inevitably have the effect of corrupting the people. "What is loved by the superior is also loved by the inferior, even to an excessive degree." If the personages entrusted by the Sovereign with grand duties to perform are upright and faithful on their own part, they need scarcely entertain any anxiety or apprehension as to want of probity in the people. That some of the members of the Diet have sold their consciences for a handful of silver is evident from the documents presented for the impeachment of members, but who was the chief factor in inducing members to yield to such ignominous conduct? They, either as members of the Diet or members of a political party, can not escape the stigma of disgrace, but at the same time it must be admitted that the source of their immorality was the Cabinet itself. In order to extirpate the abuses of the political community, therefore, it is necessary to do something with the fountain head of the vices referred to. Should Marquis Ito be really willing to remedy the evils now inherent in the political parties he ought not to resort to such a quack-doctor-like scheme as reorganisation of a party, but should endeavor to make radical surgical measures. I expressed the above views to the Marquis, who seems to have perfectly understood me.

Now that the powerful Marquis has organised a new party with the object I have just mentioned, shall we cooperate with him? As for me, I am not disposed to do anything in the way of cooperation or union. Parties ought to stand against each other. Put the authority exclusively in the hands of a single party, and corruption will be inevitable. The continuance of one and the same Cabinet for any great length of time is a flagrant abuse under a constitutional system of administration. There is absolute necessity for an opposition as a check on the Cabinet. Even if Marquis Ito succeeds in forming a great political society, there is still a need for an opposition, which, under a distinct banner, will strive to keep the possessors of power within proper bounds. The Marquis has twice consulted me about the formation of a new party, and each time I expressed my views as I have just expressed them to you. Up to the present nothing has yet emanated from the new party except a rather vague manifesto, and its platform is not precisely known in regard to internal administration, diplomacy, finance, and other important questions, especially that of civil government. We are left in darkness as to the views actually entertained by it. Nevertheless, with regard to the necessity of remedying the disorder of the civil administration the Marquis and I hold identical views, and therefore he will, I trust, take up an attitude of opposition against the present Cabinet.

Although it is not necessary for us to wage war on the new party as our political enemy, yet, as it includes many persons who are by no means trustworthy, we shall never relax our exertions in exercising a check over it.

The most important question before us is that of China. This question is not a temporary one but will extend over many decades. To-day it is yet in its preliminary stage. The initial object of relieving the foreign Ministers in China has already been accomplished. The question of indemnity is now to follow. With regard to this problem, however, things are so confused that even the whereabouts of the Chinese sovereign are not known yet. It is really a problem not between the two countries, but between the allied Powers, and it may well be expected that the issue will be of a most complicated nature. At all events, it is evident that the Powers are disposed to preserve China's integrity and to prevent her dismemberment by any of them. As for our country the development of commerce and industry will strengthen more than ever the relations with the Middle Kingdom; and, if China is unfortunately to be dismembered, our chief market will be lost to us and our commerce irrevocably impaired, to the great disadvantage of the people at large. Japan is thus called upon to exhaust her energies towards the preservation of China's integrity. Under these circumstances the Chinese question may perhaps bring upon us unavoidable calamities, but at the same time it may serve to create a footing for our aggrandisement. The people should not rely solely upon the Government, but, by the exercise of firmness and discretion on their part, endeavour to manifest a desire to consolidate the foundation of our diplomacy. That is the problem which requires our careful consideration. The public already knows that our colleagues, having endured difficulties for the past many years without forswearing the principles they have advocated, may well be proud of their career, which is without parallel in the other party's history. We are endowed with a high mission, and there can be no doubt that we shall some day be required to play an important role in the administration of the country. Such a period, such an opportunity, must come sooner or later. Thus the duty of taking the lead of the people devolves upon us, and we must always be prepared to act in unison with public sentiment, by strengthening our organisation.

AQUATIC SPORTS.

The annual aquatic sports of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club took place on Saturday afternoon. The weather, from some points of view, was delightful, with a fresh southerly breeze that gave crispness to the surface of the water, though the sun was rather too strong to be pleasant to swimmers in the early part of the afternoon. But all the same these sportive swimmers had the better part of it: the onlookers, even in the depths of the shady verandah, finding the August heat a sweltering reality; while the fun provided for their delectation was of the tamest, as it must ever be at diversions of this sort. Yet there was a fair attendance of ladies and other visitors at the Boat-house, and a Band lent a little gaiety by playing a selection of music and dances. The committee of management comprised:—

COMMITTEE:—H. C. Litchfield, President; F. J. Hall, Captain; Dr. Wheeler, L. Mottu, W. Goddard, Rev. E. C. Irwine, H. Rose, G. C. Allcock, H. A. Poole, Hon. Treasurer; H. E. Hayward, Hon. Secretary.

The results of the contests were as follow:—

TOURNAMENT.

This diverting contest was decided in four rounds. The first, between O. M. Poole and E. M. Barnby, was given as a bye to the former, as Barnby did not turn up in time. In the second round H. Y. Irwine easily defeated Poole; J. E. Moss beat O. Strome; W. M. Carst beat A. L. Manly; and W. M. Squire got a bye. In the third round Carst got the best of Squire, and Moss beat Irwine. The final was decided by Carst defeating Moss after a long and stubborn contest.

BLINDFOLD RACE.

W. M Carst	1
H. Y. Irwine	2
F. Nutter	3
E. H. Irwine	0
H. Goddard	0
H. E. Hayward	0
J. E. Moss	0
H. A. Poole	0
O. M. Poole	0
O. Strome	0

Considerable amusement was caused by the erratic courses steered by most of the swimmers, who diverged to all points of the compass. Carst and Irwine kept the best line, the former touching the pontoon only two inches or so before Irwine, after a good race.

GREASY POLE.

W. M. Carst	1
H. Y. Irwine	2
J. B. Gibbs	0
R. Bohlke	0
A. L. Manley	0
O. M. Poole	0
W. M. Squire	0

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After the usual number of falls—some when the prize, a live duck, seemed to be almost in the hands of the natatory Blondin—Carst, in his third try, succeeded in carrying away the basket containing the prize, and a lively duck hunt followed. Irwine made the nearest unsuccessful attempt.

OBSTACLE RACE.

H. Goddard	1
H. E. Hayward	2
H. Y. Irwine	3
E. H. Irwine	0
F. J Nutter	0
J. E. Moss	0
O. M. Poole	0

The obstacles in this competition comprised a well greased pole laid between two sampans, breast high, which had to be surmounted; a climb through the windows of a houseboat and return, then a dive from the top of the houseboat. H. Goddard won easily.

TEAM RACE.

1	J. Drummond, R. Bohlke. W. Carst. H. Goddard.	
2		W. M. Squire. O. M. Poole. H. E. Hayward. F. Lammert.
3	E. H. Irwine. F. J. Nutter. J. E. Moss. H. Y. Irwine.	

This was an easy win for H. Goddard's team.

RUNNING HEADER FROM SPRING BOARD.

J. F. Drummond, 53 points	1
W. M. Carst, 41 points	2
R. Bohlke, 41 points	3

Drummond won easily, displaying a very clean entry and quick recovery.

WATER POLO.

RED.		WHITE.
O. M. Poole	Forward.	J. E. Moss.
H. E. Hayward.		H. Y. Irwine.
J. Helm.		H. Goddard.
H. H. Irwine.	Half Back.	F. Luther.
F. Lammert.	Back.	O. Lord.
F. J. Nutter.		R. Bohlke.
E. M. Barnby.	Goal.	G. Strome.

This was, perhaps, the most interesting contest of the afternoon. In the first half Red earned the first try but missed. White then forced the ball into Red's water and scored the first goal. Red then carried the ball into White's water and secured two goals in rapid succession. In the second half, after several tries on both sides, saved by the goal keepers, Red obtained two more goals, thus winning by four to one.

TRADE RETURNS.

According to official investigations, the volume of trade transacted at the nine leading ports of Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, Nagasaki, Hakodate, Shimonoseki, and Kuchinotsu, during the first half of this month shows an excess in imports of 1,269,617 *yen*, in consequence of the decline in transactions in silk and other staple exports. As for the export of gold the amount reached 1,098,508 *yen*, against 18,098 *yen* of silver. Below are the details:—

	1st half of Aug., 1900.	Total from January.
	yen.	yen.
Exports	7,687,408	28,472,817
Imports	11,957,025	57,673,699
Excess of imports	4,269,617	79,200,882
Export of gold	1,135,282	38,344,956
Import	36,774	7,274,838
Excess of export	1,098,508	31,070,118
Export of silver	32,417	1,041,489
Import	14,319	973,844
Excess of export	18,098	67,645

Compared with the corresponding period of last year, exports show a decrease to the amount of 268,049 *yen*, whereas imports have increased by 26,507,391 *yen*. In the export of gold the increment has reached 38,165,284 *yen*, the import, including silver, having decreased by 10,669,021 *yen*. If things continue as they are a greater financial embarrassment must be expected, says the *Hochi*.

THE KOBE WATER-WORKS LOAN CASE.

The following circular has been issued by the Kobe (Japanese) Chamber of Commerce:—

The complications which have arisen between the Kobe Municipal Council and Mr. J. R. Morse, President of the American Trading Company of Yokohama, in regard to the Public Loan Bonds of the Kobe Water-works, have unfortunately failed to be brought to a satisfactory issue. Many persons who have directed their attention to the affair have in their sympathy with Mr. Morse, unwarrantably blamed the Municipal Council of Kobe, and have indulged in adverse criticisms of the judgment delivered by the District Court in Yokohama. These criticisms may, indeed, have simply emanated from a few who are not at all familiar with the facts involved, but still if such statements are allowed to go unchallenged not only is it possible that serious ill-feeling might be created between Japanese and foreigners, with effects highly detrimental to commerce, but future enterprises may also be seriously affected. Under these circumstances the Kobe Chamber of Commerce has considered it necessary to endeavour to clear away any misapprehension by laying before the public all the facts connected with the affair.

1.—Below we quote some of the provisions relative to the affair, from the Regulations established for securing increased subscriptions to the Kobe Water-works Loan, for which bonds had to be issued by the Municipal Authorities of Kobe. These Regulations were prepared according to the decision of the Municipal Assembly in April of the 32nd year of *Meiji*, and, being sanctioned by the Minister of Home Affairs on the 19th of May, were duly promulgated on the 30th of June in the same year.

KOBE MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS (No. 12).

REGULATIONS FOR THE INCREASED ISSUE OF KOBE CITY WATER-WORKS LOAN BONDS.

Art. I.—In order to supply the increased expenditure consequent upon the extension of the Kobe Water-works, public loan bonds to the amount of 1,940,000 *yen* shall be raised within three years from the date of the operation of these Regulations.

Art. III.—The aforesaid loan shall be issued in the form of unregistered bonds with coupons attached, and a specimen of the same shall be on view at the Kobe Municipal Office and also at each of the banks where the bonds are to be dealt with.

Art. IV.—In securing subscriptions to the bonds specified above, the amount and the value of the same, as well as the period of application, shall be notified by the Municipal Council of Kobe.

Note.—The Municipal Council is empowered to secure subscriptions for the bonds referred to, by concluding, if occasion requires, a special contract with any person or persons of good standing, without having recourse to the procedure prescribed in these Regulations.

Art. VI.—The bonds above mentioned shall contain extracts of the important provisions of these Regulations, together with an English translation thereof and a statement as to foreign currency, in order that relations between the holders of the bonds and the Kobe Municipality may be clearly established.

Art. VII.—The principal or original amounts of the bonds shall be allowed to remain unredeemed for a period of ten years from the year of their issue, at the expiration of which redemption shall be made by means of lot within thirty-six years from the year immediately following the period of expiration.

2.—The *yen* denomination is adopted in all the calculations given in the table showing the annual installments of redemption to be made in conformity with the programme relating to the increased issue and to the redemption of the Kobe Water-works Loan as determined and promulgated by the Kobe Municipality, along with the foregoing Regulations, through a process similar to that connected with the latter.

3.—On the 31st of March, in the 32nd year of *Meiji*, a draft of the above regulations, together with the programme concerning subscriptions and redemption, was taken by Mr. Miyauchi, Chief Commissioner of Water-works, to the Finance Department and presented for official inspection. At the same time Mr. Miyauchi entered into a conference with a view to having an express provision inserted in the Regulations in the sense of securing redemption in foreign currency when desired by the holders of the bonds. He was informed however, by Mr. Matsuo, Director of the Finance Bureau of the same Department, that the Government could not grant permission for the redemption of the bonds in foreign currency. Accordingly the Municipal Council of Kobe was obliged to alter the Regulations by expunging those provisions which referred to redemption in foreign currency. From these facts it may be inferred that the officials concerned must have become thoroughly convinced by this time of the impossibility of redeeming the bonds in foreign currency, as was subsequently proved by Director Matsuo in connection with the legal proceedings instituted in the Yokohama Court.

4.—On the 7th of July in the same year contracts for the bonds under review were exchanged between the Municipal Council of Kobe and Mr. Morse. These contracts were unquestionably designed to cover the public debentures prepared in conformity with the Loan Bonds Regulations above referred to, while the regulations in question were even made an integral part of the forms of contract exchanged.

The following is a translation of the agreement in its entirety:

AGREEMENT FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE KOBE CITY WATER WORKS LOAN BONDS OFFERED FOR INCREASED SUBSCRIPTION.

Increased subscriptions being invited for the Kobe Water-works Loan Bonds, the following agreement has been made between Mayor Narutaki Kokyo, representing the Municipal Council of Kobe on the one part, and Mr. James R. Morse, an American, at No. 28, Yokohama Settlement, on the other part:—

I.—The regulations for the increased issue of the Kobe Water-works Loan Bonds, and a programme for securing subscription and redemption, are stitched together with this contract in a separate copy, which forms part of the contract.

II.—Out of 1,940,000 *yen* face value of the Water-works Loan Bonds to be issued by the Kobe Municipality in conformity with the aforesaid Regulations and the programme concerning the increased issue and the redemption of the Bonds referred to, debentures amounting to one million *yen* are to be taken by Mr. James R. Morse.

III.—The amount subscribed by said Mr. James R Morse shall be calculated at the rate of 920 *yen* as against 1,000 *yen* face value, and the same is to be delivered by the 15th instant in exchange for the receipt of the Municipal Council in Japanese currency within the period specified in this contract.

IV.—Of the said one million *yen* subscribed as above, half the amount is to be delivered by the 15th instant in exchange for the receipt of the Municipal Council, and the remaining half to be delivered in cash prior to or not later than the 15th of December next, in exchange for bonds.

NOTE.—In case of the delivery of half the amount being effected on the 15th of July, the loan bonds shall be prepared in due form and handed over by the Municipal Council by the 15th of August next. These loans bonds shall contain an additional statement of the value, in English currency, £103 7s. 8½d. corresponding to 1,000 *yen* in Japanese money, in conformity with the exchange rates of the 1st of July of this year, when £1 was quoted at 9 67 *yen*.

V.—The place where the loan bonds are to be exchanged for cash is fixed at No. 28 Foreign Settlement, Yokohama.

VI.—In case of Mr. Morse failing to fulfil the contract from causes for which he cannot be held responsible, the heir or successor of the said Mr. Morse may secure the continuance of the contract, but if no notice to this effect is given to the Municipal Council prior to the date of payment specified in Paragraph IV., the Municipal Council in question may regard this contract as having lost its binding force,

VII.—In case it is impossible to exchange the loan bonds for cash within the period specified in paragraph IV. of this contract in consequence of either the Municipal Council or Mr. James R. Morse failing to satisfy the provisions of the contract, one or other of the parties concerned may immediately claim to withdraw from the contract

NOTE.—In such cases, however the party who has failed to satisfy the requirements of the contract must pay to the other the sum of 25,000 *yen* as compensation for breach of faith.

In order to guarantee the validity of the contract concluded above, the contract in question is prepared in duplicate containing exactly the same sentences, and, both being signed by the parties concerned, a copy of the same is held by each.

July 7, 32nd year of *Meiji*.

(Signed.) NARUTAKI KYOKO, Mayor of Kobe, and Judicial Representative of the Kobe Municipal Council.

5.—The following communication was addressed to the Mayor by Mr Morse on the day of the conclusion of the contract.—

[TRANSLATION.]

American Trading Company,
Yokohama, July 7, 1899

To NARUTAKI KOKYO, Esq.,
Mayor of Kobe.

SIR,—With reference to the understanding arrived at between you and me, I now beg to state that I am quite willing to agree to the arrangement that the Kobe City Loan Bonds shall be of 1,000 *yen* face value each, with the exchange rates of £103 7s. 8½d against 1,000 *yen* as mentioned on their back, and that I shall take the Bonds at the rate of 92 *yen* per 100 *yen*. I beg to add that half the amount of the Bonds above mentioned shall be taken and paid for on the 15th of this month, the remainder being re-

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served for acceptance and payment on the 15th of December, or prior to that date.

(Signed.) JAMES R. MORSE.

6.—On the 15th of July in the 32nd year of *Meiji* a sum of 460,000 *yen* in Japanese currency was received from Mr. Morse by the Municipal Council of Kobe, in conformity with the contract above mentioned, and on the 23rd of the same month a specimen of the bonds was transmitted to Mr. Ishida Sennosuke, a middleman connected with the transaction. (According to statements made by the representative of Mr. Morse in the District Court in Yokohama, the specimen of the bonds referred to is alleged to have been received about the 30th of the same month.) On the 14th of August loan bonds to the amount of ½ million *yen* face value were handed over to Mr. Morse. These bonds had on their face inscriptions in Japanese, with no allusion whatever to English currency, but on the back was the following in English:—

THE KOBE CITY WATER-WORKS LOAN BONDS.

Mark..... 1,000 *yen*. No. . . ..

(£103-7/8½ st. at the rate of exchange on the 1st July, the 32nd year of *Meiji*).

(The rest is omitted.)

7.—On the 11th of September Mr. Morse sent a note to Mr. Ishida requesting the latter to communicate on the subject with the Municipal Council of Kobe. The gist of the note was that, whereas the contract bearing upon the affair purported to secure redemption in English currency by fixing the rate at £103 7s. 8½d. against 1,000 *yen*, the Japanese inscriptions on the bonds did not contain any statement as to English currency, and that therefore the mere English note was not satisfactory, and he desired to know whether the bonds were really to be redeemed in English currency. The above note having been transmitted by Mr. Ishida to the Municipal Council a reply was given on the 21st of the same month, to the effect that the English currency mentioned in the English translation on the back of the bonds was simply intended to show the amount corresponding to Japanese currency in conformity with the exchange rates of the time, and was not in any way to be taken as the standard for redemption.

8.—Mr. Ishida arrived in Kobe on or about the 10th of October as a representative of Mr. Morse, and, having called upon Mr. Narutaki, Mayor of Kobe, solicited him almost importunately to make the bonds redeemable in English currency. Thereupon the Mayor, merely out of good-will, addressed the following communication to Mr. Matsuo, Director of the Finance Bureau of the Finance Department, and, having received a reply (as below), by which he was convinced that the views of the Finance Department concerning redemption in English currency remained the same as when the regulations for the bonds were established, refused to comply with the request of Mr Morse as regards redemption in English currency. The Mayor's letter to the Director of the Finance Bureau was as follows:—

Availing myself of this opportunity to express my joy at your excellent health, I beg to inform you that with regard to the Kobe City Water-works Loan Bonds, to which you kindly devoted your consideration the other day, a contract was concluded on the 7th of July with Mr. James R. Morse, a citizen of America, at No. 28, former foreign settlement, Yokohama, who agreed to take up one million *yen* worth of the said bonds, on condition that he would pay half the amount on the 15th of the same month and the remaining half on the 15th of December next. Accordingly bonds similar to the specimen enclosed herewith were delivered to him on the 14th of August for the amount of money paid by him. I am now in receipt of his communication urging that the principal amount of the bonds should be redeemed at the rate of £103 7s. 8½d. sterling as mentioned on the back of the bonds referred to. I am, however, of opinion that a demand of the kind can not be complied with in so far as the bonds in question and the regulations for their issue are concerned. Nor am I ignorant of the fact that the Finance Department itself holds views against the expediency of paying the principal in English currency. In giving my consent, therefore, as required by Mr. Morse, it will be necessary to enact a new law in favour of making payments in English currency, as without recourse to such a measure all the arrangements would be of non-effect. Nevertheless I beg to be furnished with information as to whether your Department is finally resolved to withhold permission for payment in English currency, or whether there is no objection to our making disbursements either in Japanese or foreign currency according to the views that may be entertained by the Municipality. Let me add that, as investigations are now being made with regard to the demand from Mr. Morse, you will greatly oblige me by taking the trouble to inform me on this particular subject.

With respect and consideration, I am, Sir, your obedient servant, NARUTAKI KOKYÔ.

October 28th, 32nd year of *Meiji*.

To MATSUO SHINZEN, Esq.

(REPLY.)

In acknowledging the receipt of your despatch I have to tender my sincere thanks for the trouble you have taken to forward me the specimen of the bonds in connection with your Municipal loan, which I am now informed has been satisfactorily raised to the amount of one million *yen*.

As to the question of payment of principal in English currency I may state positively that the Finance Department is not disposed to grant such permission.

November 7.

MATSUO, Director of the Finance Bureau.

To Mayor NARUTAKI.

9.—Communications on the same subject were subsequently exchanged between the two parties concerned, but the Municipal Council of Kobe consistently refused to comply with the request, even rejecting the application from Mr. Morse for a postponement of the payment of the remaining half of the amount of subscription for five months. Finally, on the 7th of December, Mr. Morse addressed a note to the Municipal Council of Kobe, intimating that he would put the whole affair into the hand of the lawyers, and thus legal proceedings were instituted.

10.—On the 18th of January, in the 33rd year of *Meiji*, the legal representative of Mr. Morse, presented a document at the District Court in Yokohama, claiming the annulment of the contract, as well as recovery of 460,000 *yen*, with interest thereon, together with a sum of 25,000 *yen* as compensation for damages. A reply was forwarded by the judicial representative of the Municipal Council of Kobe, intimating that the blame for the breach of faith rested with Mr Morse, and that therefore a claim for 25,000 *yen* damages ought to be preferred against the latter instead of against the defendants.

11.—Plaintiff (Mr. Morse) asserted that the public bonds alluded to in the legal document were originally contracted to be redeemed in English currency, and that as the English currency in question was only mentioned in the English translation on the back of the bonds, while nothing of the kind was stated on the face, which contained regulations in Japanese, the bonds in question were utterly incompatible with the contract.

Against these allegations a protest was made by defendants (the Municipal Council of Kobe) on the ground that they did not recognise the existence of an understanding as alleged by plaintiff in regard to the contract, and that the plaintiff's failure to pay the remaining half of the amount of money in arrear up to the 15th of December, was a breach of faith on his part.

12.—After examinations on the 3rd of March and on the 12th of April, judgment was delivered entirely in favour of the defendants.

It may be noticed that the points in dispute are, first, whether the contract really purported to undertake redemption of the bonds in English currency, and secondly whether the bonds in question ought to have on their an face inscription in Japanese as to English currency.

In the first place, it is to be observed that the Loan Bonds Regulations promulgated by the Kobe Municipality upon the decision of the Municipal Assembly, and with the sanction of the Home Minister, for the purpose of undertaking the issue of the bonds above referred to, were prepared several months before the contracts were concluded between the two parties concerned. The Regulations therefore had to be observed by the municipal officials and could by no means be altered by them. For these reasons they may be taken as a legitimate basis on which to seek the true interpretation of the contracts entered into. The causes which led to the present complication appear to lie in Article VI. of the above regulations, in which there is the allusion that the "Loan Bonds shall contain some of the important provisions of these regulations, together with an English translation as well as a statement of foreign currency." It was not positively stated, however, which of the important provisions of the Regulations should be inserted, or that an additional statement of foreign currency be made, and that these should be translated into English. From a literary point of view therefore, it may be perceived that a statement concerning foreign currency was intended to be attached to a portion of the translation. Nor is it difficult for any one to understand that three distinct operations, namely, the insertion of the important provisions of the Regulations, the giving of an English translation, and the making of an additional statement as to foreign currency, were altogether based on the same purpose or intention. As a matter of fact, the insertion of the important provisions of the Regulations is designed to show at a glance the object and the nature of the bonds, as well as the process of redemption, whereas the purpose of the English translation is simply to enable a foreigner to secure without difficulty a thorough knowledge of these particulars. The same remark holds good with regard to the statement of foreign currency. In other words, the additional statement of foreign currency is simply intended to afford facilities to foreigners in ascertaining the corresponding amount in English currency of one thousand *yen* in Japanese.

As remarked above, the Loan Bonds Regulations are unequivocally clear in meaning, and do not in any way imply the sense of redemption in English currency. Nor is there any room for doubt that statements as to foreign currency were to be made in English on the back of the bonds. Yet Mr. Morse has pretended that the contract as to redemption in English currency was made on the basis of mutual understanding, and he has even attempted to determine the fate of his contract by concentrating the whole strength of his case upon the matter of redemption in English currency. To him the redemption in English currency must have been a matter of the greatest importance in connection with the contract under review. But even admitting that the bonds were to be redeemed in English currency, as alleged by Mr. Morse, it follows that, since bonds of that kind would be at variance with ordinary rules, express provision must of course have been inserted in the regulations, and also in the contract showing the result of the understanding arrived at in connection with such extraordinary transactions, and if so it is impossible to suppose that such an item of importance should have been left out of the contract. But in examining the contract of July 7 it may be perceived that the Loan Bonds Regulations, together with the programme for redemption, were introduced to constitute a portion of the contract, and not only do they not allow of redemption in English currency, but they also contain nothing showing a departure from ordinary rules as regards the statement of foreign currency. Mr. Morse has further alleged that the Mayor and other Municipal functionaries made a verbal statement about redemption in English currency, and, by way of confirming his allegation, referred to evidence supposed to have been given by Mr. Ishida and Mr. Woolsey. This evidence, however, is extremely doubtful. At any rate, it is a matter of no small concern that the contract, perfect in all respects and duly exchanged between the two parties, should have been exposed to adverse criticisms by the public. Indeed, there are irrefutable facts which preclude all credence in these criticisms, namely, not only that the Mayor and other Municipal officials became convinced of the impossibility of redeeming the bonds in English currency, as a result of communications made by them with the Finance Department at the time of the establishment of the Loan Bonds Regulations, but also that the despatch subsequently addressed to the Director of the Finance Bureau, simply from good-will, at the instance of Mr. Morse, gave ample proof of the absence of a possibility of redemption in English currency from the very outset.

With regard to communications that passed between the two parties in connection with the exchange rates, Mr. Morse insisted that his procedure in this respect had simply been actuated by a desire to settle the question of the market rate, and he thus endeavoured to involve in these circumstances the existence of an intention as to redemption in English currency. Against these assertions, however, the Municipal Council of Kobe seems to have protested that the City recognised at the outset the propriety of stating the value in conformity with the rates fixed by the Finance Department, whereas Mr. Morse preferred to conform to the quotations of the 7th of July, on which day the contract was concluded. Thus differences arose betwen the parties. This, indeed, is true. Still, as the bonds under notice were not to be issued solely in conection with Mr Morse's contract, his proposal for the adoption of the quotations of the day of contract was rejected; but as it was believed that, since the Loan Bonds Regulations were promulgated on the 30th of June, the proper procedure would be to calculate the value in conformity with the exchange rates of the day on which the work of preparing the bonds was to be commenced, namely, the 1st of July, a resolution was made to that effect. Not a word was uttered at the time on the question of exchange rates. Nor was there any trace of any intention for redemption in English currency. From the above remarks it may be inferred that the allegations of Mr. Morse are entirely without foundation.

Having thus far commented upon the two points in dispute, namely, the question of redemption in English currency and the insertion of a statement of English currency in Japanese on the bonds, we fail to find anything faulty in the proceedings of the Municipal Council of Kobe, from whatever point these proceedings are discussed. In fact, Mr. Morse's assertions are unworthy of notice, and it is sincerely to be hoped that by making suitable concessions on both sides the complication will speedily be brought to an end, and a compromise be secured on reasonable terms.

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THE ATTACK ON TIENTSIN.

MAJOR-GENERAL FUKUSHIMA'S REPORT.

(CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS TRANSLATION.)

The number of riflemen at the front began to decrease gradually from 6.30 a.m. on the 13th, and the French artillery, advancing, formed a line on the left wing of our artillery at the north-western end of the Arsenal. At 6.45 a.m. Major Hattori and his aide-de-camp were struck by a shell from the enemy and killed. At 7.20 a.m. arrangements were made to march with the 11th Regiment of Infantry in the first line and two companies of the 3rd Battalion of the 12th Regiment of Infantry as the reserve.

The former regiment, however, was transferred to the van, while the greater portion of the enemy, holding a General's flag, were retreating towards the west from the western gate of Tientsin. The advancing troops of the 11th Regiment of Infantry now divided themselves into two parts, one battalion marching along the road from the east of the River, and the other battalions from the west of it. The French advanced along the main road in front of the 2 companies of the 12th Regiment of Infantry, which formed the reserve. The commanding section arrived at 8 a.m. in a detached house on the north-west of the Arsenal in the rear of the first line of our troops, but by this time over half the amount of ammunition for our artillery had been consumed. As for the English Infantry a portion remained at the walls north-west of the Arsenal, to confront the Chinese in the neighbourhood of the Western Bay, the rest marching on in the direction of the south-western end of Tientsin citadal to protect the rear of the left wing of the 11th Regiment of our infantry. The English were joined by a portion of the Austrian troops. The Americans took open order on the north-east of the arsenal, ready to engage the enemy on the right wing of our forces.

At 8.40 a.m. Lieutenant Colonel Aoki, who was in the detached house on the main road to the north-west of the Arsenal, had his left shoulder wounded, but the wound was very slight. A clerk of the Commanding Section was also hurt at the same time in the same place.

At 9 a.m. the Commanding Section advanced as far as the place where three houses stood at a distance of 200 metres in front. The neighbourhood of this district being an easy range from the shot holes established on the top and in the middle of the walls on the right and left of the Southern Gate of the Tientsin citadel, the column on the main road was exposed to an oblique fire to such an extent as to effectually prevent communication with the rear.

The various companies of our first line, however, had pressed the enemy and succeeded in reaching a point about 300 or 400 metres south of the gate of the citadel. The enemy's fire grew hotter of course, but the French had also reached the southern extremity of the village south of the Gate. Prior to this, the 3rd battalion of the 12th Regiment of our infantry forming the reserve found it difficult to advance from the rear on account of the enemy's fire, and had therefore turned desperately to the village south of the gate. At 11 a.m. the following orders were given by the commanding officer to a company of sappers :—

"The gate of the citadel should speedily be demolished to open a way for a bayonet charge."

At this time the enemies at the southern end of the gate, sheltering themselves in the houses in close proximity to it, were making a stout resistance, and had also occupied a manufactory about 200 metres east of the gate. As they, in conjunction with those on the walls, continued to pour in a hot fire, it was impossible for our troops to advance and reach the gate. Moreover, scouts dispatched to ascertain the condition of the gate were all killed by the enemy's fire, before they could accomplish their aim.

Such being the case, the 5th and 8th companies of the 11th Regiment of Infantry, led by the late Major Iguchi, and the 3rd and 11th companies of the same Regiment, together with the 2 companies of the 12th Regiment under command of Major Sugiura, were ordered to conceal their troops in the villages occupied by them, and to obstinately maintain a defensive attitude without firing a single shot. Thus the actual condition of the gate and its front could not be ascertained.

Besides, a company of the 11th Regiment had maintained its post at the embankments on the south-east of the village lying to the south of the citade. gate ; whereas on the left wing on the main road the 2nd, 4th, 9th, and 12th companies, led by the commander of the 11th Regiment, advanced on the open field, reaching the river running parallel with the walls on the south. As these troops advanced on the open field their losses were far greater than those sustained by forces which had taken the highway. Even they were unable to march further on account of the river front being exposed to the furious attack of the enemy. At noon the commanding officer of a company of sappers was pressed to advance, but he replied that as he found the gate closed with the enemy in front, he had made arrangements for laying explosive substances, and was looking for an opportunity to fire then. Even by this time, however, details as to the moats at the foot of the walls, as well as bridges over them, could scarcely be obtained on account of the hot fire from the enemy. The Americans, who marched towards the north-eastern extremity of the Arsenal, pushed their way as far as the southern end of the pond on the south of the citadel, and interchanged shot with the enemies. At 4.20 p.m. orders for the night were given as follows :—

1. To-night the French troops and heavy guns are expected to be increased.

2. Each company shall maintain its post, determining not to retreat a step until further instructions are received.

3. A company of sappers shall continue the duties previously assigned to it, taking advantage of the darkness.

4. The artillery shall proceed to the neighbourhood of the Hai-kwang Gate after sunset, and bivouac in the open field. Its protection is to be entrusted to the land corps of the Navy.

5. Each company shall endeavour by some means or other to convey the wounded back to the south of the Hai-kwang Gate.

6. A troops of cavalry shall reconnoitre the road leading from Pahlitai to the west.

7. Each company shall carry provisions.

Measures were to be taken at the same time to secure the progress of a reserve section of the sanitary corps as far as the Hai-kwang Gate ; to convey the wounded by means of men provided with large baskets ; and to transport gunpowder for infantry to the southern end of the village on the south of the Gate. A communication was then addressed to an English officer requesting that, as our troops had determined to defend at the risk of death all the places that they might happen to occupy, our left wing might be protected by his force. A reply was received promising to give assistance as required. At sunset, the enemy having ceased fire, measures were immediately taken to transport the gunpowder and drinking water for the advanced forces, or to convey the wounded back from the field.

Meanwhile the commanding section had proceeded to the vicinity of the Haikwang Gate to hold a conference with the commanding officers of the allied forces in regard to the proposed attack on the following morning.

At 7 p.m. the commanding section had reached the Gate, and, having met the commanders of the English and French troops, conferred with the latter as to a plan for the next morning's attack. The officers of the allies requested me to take command in the next day's assault, and I suggested the following points.

1. After our troops shall have demolished the Citadel Gate and effected an entry they shall occupy the walls east of the Southern Gate.

2. The French troops, following them, will endeavour to occupy the top of the walls west of that Gate.

3. The English and American forces will proceed through the Gate and adjoining streets, and then occupy the top of the walls on the north.

The commanding officers of the Allies consented to my proposals without any objection.

After the above resolution was made orders were given to the effect that a company of infantry stationed at headquarters for some time past should go forward, and that Commander Shirai, of the Commissariat Corps, should exercise control over the headquarters during the absence of commanding officers. At the same time the Commander of the 3rd battalion of the 12th Regiment of Infantry, as well as the Commander of a company of Sappers, were invited to appear at the Commanding Section, where the commander of the 11th Regiment of infantry had also come. It was 8 p.m., and, information having been obtained as to the condition of the neighbourhood of the Citadel Gate, the following programme was determined for the attack :—

1. Discrimination to be made as to the lines of the walls to be occupied by the troops of different Powers after the demolition of the Citadel Gate.

2. The work of demolishing the gate to be undertaken by a company of sappers early next morning.

3. A column of infantry to enter the citadel immediately after the destruction of the Gate by sappers, and, occupying the top of the walls as previously ordered, to proceed to attack the enemy in a eastern direction.

This night the enemy kept fires lighted on several portions of the walls, and maintained a constant rifle fire all night.

At 2 a.m. on the 14th July orders were given by the Commander of the Artillery battalion to the effect that a battalion of troops should advance towards the Tientsin citadel immediately after the Japanese forces were known to have scaled the walls. At 3.30 a.m. a feeble report of gun fire was heard in the direction of the Southern Gate, and black smoke was seen rising into the sky. Finally, after a short time, screams were faintly heard. Then again, rifle fire on the walls was seen gradually advancing to the east and west, and this induced us to suppose that our troops had occupied the walls. At 4 a.m. a mounted herald, accompanied by Sub-Lieutenant Inouye, of the sappers, came from the 11th Regiment of Infantry.

They reported that the 1st company of Sappers had demolished the Gate, that, having climbed the walls, the Infantry had opened the second Gate from within, and enabled the French to follow our troops through the Gate. Officials of the Commanding Section, as well as the land and marine forces from Japan and abroad, expressed no small admiration at the success and bravery of our troops. An English General, too, came and congratulated us. At this time a battalion of French left the Hai-kwang Gate and proceeded to the south of the Tientsin citadel by way of reinforcing the other troops. The Gate had been destroyed by Sub-Lieutenant Inouye of the Sappers, Sergeant Iwa., and three soldiers, Miyaji Shigetaro, Kawagoye Jiusuke, and Sawada Katsuichiro.

The walls were climbed by the 7th and 8th companies of the 11th Regiment of Infantry, and the 10th and 11th companies of the 12th Regiment of the same, operations being effected from the walls east and west of the Southern Gate. When a company of Sappers had demolished the Gate, the infantry immediately entered, but the second Gate still remained unimpaired. The infantry thus found themselves confined in a square between the outer and inner Gates. They could here accomplish nothing, and moreover were exposed to a hot fire from the walls, and had tiles and stones thrown on them. They appeared for a time to be in extreme danger. A ladder with which they were provided helped them to scale the walls, while some of them attempted to climb over them without such assistance. The opening of the second gate was thus effected, and the troops rushed in in a body. As soon as they had climbed the walls, they drove the enemy like sheep. At this time the 10th company of the 11th Regiment of Infantry, which had remained in the place of encampment, arrived at Hai Kwang Gate. Thereupon the commanding section, accompanied by that company, carried on towards the Southern Gate, and directly expressed sympathy with the officers and men stationed there. It was 5 a.m., and by this time the walls from the Southern Gate to the Western were occupied by our troops, who mounted the Rising Sun flag high above the tower. The French troops occupied a line between the Southern and Western Gates, the Gate being held by the land corps from our navy. This land corps had been fighting in conjunction with our column since the 13th, and, having with our artillery guard on the previous night garrisoned the western and northern walls, together with the English troops.

Although the highest parts of the four walls had fallen into our hands, yet as the enemy still remained in the low-lying places within and without the gate and also at the foot of it, our troops were constantly fired on, and the reports of rifles were heard in all directions. At 8 a.m., however, firing had entirely ceased. Prior to this the English passing the inside of the citadal marched out by the Northern Gate, and, hurrying directly towards the river, captured more than 80 Chinese ships.

An English General officer then came upon the walls and suggested that as he had captured over 80 ships and a small steam launch, measures might be taken to despatch guards on both sides with a view to securing the spoils. Captain Hirano was therefore directed to perform garrison duty with two companies under him. The vessels captured were afterwards divided between the two Powers, each holding one half of the number. As for the places occupied within the citadel, the limits were fixed as follows after consultation with an English General :—

1. The north-eastern extremity within the citadel, to be occupied and held by Japanese.

2. The north-western extremity to be occupied by the English.

3. The south-eastern extremity to be held by the Americans.

4. The south-western extremity to be held by the French.

At the same time a company of cavalry was asked to come to the Haikwan Gate.

At 8.10 a.m. orders were given to the various companies to leave as many men as were necessary for garrison duty and to bring the rest to the walls east of the Southern Gate. Prior to this, 2 batteries of artillery had advanced towards the Tientsin citadel immediately after the destruction of the Gate, and having attacked the enemy from behind, finally stationed themselves within the Northern Gate. These batteries were also called to come to the foot of the walls east of the Southern Gate.

At 9.20 a.m., I assembled all the general officers at the wall of the Southern Gate, and, having congratulated them on the victory they had achieved, gave certain hints for the future, in the sense that they should control the men under their command in such a way as to preserve the reputation they had gained in the field. At the same time I gave the following instructions to Major Sugiura :—

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1. After the capture of Tientsin the limits of occupation by various Powers have been fixed.

2. Major Sugiura, with 3 companies of infantry and a battery of artillery, should undertake the duty of guarding the limits so determined and the citadel.

3. Protection should given to the inhabitants within the limits of occupation, and maltreatment of Chinese and looting should be strictly forbidden. As the limits allotted to the Japanese troops directly adjoin those occupied by the English, French, and Americans, especial care should be taken not to impair their reputation by trifling acts showing lack of discipline.

4. In entering dwelling houses a number of non-commissioned officers and men designated by a general officer should first be sent, to seal the places to be used, and no one should be allowed to employ any articles without permission.

5. Soldiers should be forbidden to walk alone outside the buildings except on official business. In short their outdoor walks should only be made under the surveillance of non-commissioned officers.

6. A line of patrols should be established at the important points of the limits of occupation in order to secure safely and to protect the inhabitants.

7. Each soldier should be courteous towards the inhabitants, and in no case behave rudely to them.

8. Other details should be properly arranged by the commanders of battalions, and efforts should be made not to impair the military reputation of Japan.

After the above instructions were given the various companies were allowed to return to the respective places where they were quartered. At noon the commanding section returned to its head-quarters in the settlement.

OCCUPATION OF A NAVAL STATION ON THE TSIN-KAI-KWAN ROAD.

The 9th and 12th companies of the 12th Regiment of Infantry, to which the duty of guarding the railway station had been entrusted, had frequently received on the 13th, severe attacks from the enemy, but had repulsed the latter by their fire.

At 3 p.m. on the same day the Russians on our right commenced the attack, and advanced near the railway line. The enemy, however, made a desperate resistance.

At 10.25 p.m. a company of infantry was sent to reconnoitre. At some time past 5 a.m. on the 14th three parties of scouts were despatched from the 9th company to ascertain the condition of the enemy, and as it was known that a greater portion of them had already deserted their posts, the 9th and 12th companies, leaving but a small number of men to guard our station, moved towards the Tientsin citadel, and, having routed a small force of enemy on their way, reached the Peiho; one section of the 12th company of infantry occupying the Tsui-hai-kwan road, and another taking a naval station at 9.20 a.m.

The 9th company, after crossing a bridge over the Peiho, had taken a different route from the 12th company, and, having dispersed the routed Chinese in several places within the streets on the north-east of the Tientsin citadel, arrived at the Northern Gate at 10.30 a.m.

The batteries in the naval station above mentioned were provided with 6 9-centimetre guns, to the fire of which the settlement had daily been exposed. The occupation of these batteries, as well as Tientsin itself, was naturally subject of great satisfaction to the residents.

THE STRENGTH OF THE ENEMY AND CONDITION AFTER FIGHTING.

The strength of the enemy consisted of 25 brigades of regulars (under General Nieh) and 10 brigades of infantry, and 3 brigades of cavalry (under General Ma), together with disciplined troops of Tientsin, numbering 14,006 in all. Ma's troops were stationed near the Peiho river. The Boxers numbered 10,000, besides an equal number of the brigade. Nieh's troops were once broken up, but organised again, and were generally known as "Lu Yung." Upon the examination of corpses it was found that the troops were classified as disciplined regulars, Lu Yung troops, assistant brigade, front brigade, and right and left brigades. The Boxers wore yellow garments with a yellow belt, and their leader was called Changtehcheng. They fought really obstinately. A large column of the enemy who retreated westward from the Western Gate of Tientsin at about 6 a.m. on the 13th seems to have consisted of the greater portion of the Chinese forces above mentioned. The enemy who opposed us during the 13th did not fall short of 2,000 Imperial troops and 1,000 Boxers. Those who defended their posts until the entry of our troops early on the morning of the 14th were mostly killed, while the survivors were entirely broken up and fled towards Yang-lin-tsing. The number of corpses within and without the citadel totalled at least 400. In this operations the Chinese troops as well as the Boxers made a stubborn resistance, and caused us losses beyond expectation; their conduct was really worthy of admiration. Such resistance on the part of Chinese soldiers was not found in the war of the 27th and 28th years of *Meiji*.

SPOILS.

There was in the citadel a large quantity of arms and ammunition, together with 2 million taels of silver, but as these were found in the limits occupied by foreign troops, no demand was made for a share in them, and they were left to be treated in whatever way was agreeable to those troops, the limits of occupation having already been determined. The portion occupied by us was the most wealthy part of the citadel, but it contained the least number of offices where articles like those above mentioned were kept in custody. In the naval station as in Tsui-hai-kwan, large quantities of arms and ammunition and other articles were captured, but most of them were of old patterns.

CASUALTIES.

The greatest casualties were sustained by those of our troops who proceeded through the field west of the main road. Those who entered the village south of the citadel gate by advancing along the highway had comparatively small losses. That we had greater casualties than might be expected of such a small force as ours was an inevitable result of the obstinate resistance made by us in defence of the post for about 18 hours. This might be cause for regret, but without such excessive bloodshed and the subsequent victory the reputation of our military forces could not be so firmly established as to secure the confidence of the foreign allies. As to the exact number of men killed and wounded, details may be gathered from the table given below. On the American side the casualties were 123 killed, including officers, while the figures relating to the French and English were 117 and 98 respecively.

COMPARISON OF CASUALTIES SUSTAINED BY THE ALLIES.

The number of our troops who took part in the fighting totalled 2 700 to 2,800, and as the casualties numbered 402, the ratio was as 1 to 7. The loss was indeed exceptional but when we investigate the details as to our Allies we find that, the Americans having lost 123 out of 900, in killed and wounded, the ratio in their case is also 1 to 7. The French lost 117 out of 800, the ratio being the same. This remark applies equally to the English, who lost 98 out of 700. Thus the Allies, one and all sustained the same ratio of casualties. In short, it may reasonably be asserted that in dealing with an enemy like the Chinese, who are accustomed to fire indiscriminately, a similar number of casualties is likely to be sustained without regard to distance when men are within rifle range and when the dead are left uncared for.

Table showing the number of casualties sustained by troops specially despatched:—

Name of Company.	Deaths.			Injuries.		
	Commissioned officers.	Non-commissioned officers	Horses	Commissioned officers	Non-commissioned officers	Horses.
11th Regiment of infantry.	4	82	3	5	184	3
3rd batallion of the 12th Regiment of the same	—	6	3	5	33	2
A company of cavalry ...	—	1	4	4	1	3
A batallion of field artillery	1	15	13	2	48	20
A company of sappers ...	—	1	—		11	—
Commissariat.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary corps	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table showing the captures by special detachment:—

Classification.	Number.
Men	1
Horses.....	25
Rifle barrels	258
Rifles	2,610
Guns	69
Machine guns.....	3
Bullets.....	253,000
Shells	1,785
Coins (pieces)	1,449

NOTE.—Of the above guns, 2 were lent to the English troops. The Chinese silver known as *Bateigin* is now quoted at 60 *yen*.

Table showing the amount of ammunition used:—

	Rifle cartridge.	Shells.	Small shells.
11th Regiment of Infantry ...140,853		—	—
A batallion of the 12th Regiment 12,266		—	—
A company of cavalry	2,000	—	—
A batallion of field artillery...	—	470	1,181
A company of sappers.....	—	690	—

Captain J. M. M'Quhae, C.B., R.N., of St. Enox, Rownhams, Southampton, died on 16th ult., in Suffolk-place, at the age of fifty-three. He was flag captain on the China Station in the *Impérieuse* from 1892 to 1895.

A PEKING DIARIST.

(BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE "TOKYO ASAHI.")

The following translation will be found, we think, very interesting at this juncture:—

June 19.—On the night of the 13th and 14th of this month the Kiaumin street, where the Legations of the various Powers are located, was invaded by the Boxers, against whom defensive measures were vigorously taken by the guards and volunteers of different nationalities. On the 17th orders were issued by our Minister, Baron Nishi, requiring the volunteers of our country to assemble at the Legation. They did not know what was the matter. The Minister in a stern voice said:—"At 4 p.m. to-day the Chinese Government sent an official circular to each of the foreign Representatives, intimating that as the Powers had unwarrantably seized the Taku forts by force of arms, peace was consequently broken, and that therefore the Representatives should retire from Peking within 24 hours. A conference was immediately held with other Ministers, and resolutions adopted for retirement. But, in order to make necessary preparations for this purpose, a request was made to the effect that the 24 hours should be extended to 48. Although we have not yet received a reply, we must at all events leave the city. Things point to war, and we have to go wherever we can reach, and to die altogether if we are doomed to die." The hearers were struck with surprise, all this was entirely beyond their expectation. As all were engaged in making preparations for retreat, sleep was impossible that night. The Legation staff was provided with several bags of parched rice as provisions *en route*.

June 20.—At 10 a.m. the German Minister, Baron von Ketteler, while proceeding to the Tsung-li Yamên with a view to consult about his retreat, was murdered by the Chinese troops, and an interpreter who accompanied him was wounded. Thereupon the resolution to retreat previously arranged was discarded, and a fresh proposal was adopted that the Legation-street should be defended at the risk of death until a relief column should arrive. The Chinese troops could not have been trusted, and to leave Peking for Tientsin under their escort was justly considered more dangerous than to remain. The women and children of various nationalities were removed to the English Legation. In the mean-time a reply had been received from the Tsung-li Yamên announcing its consent to extend the period from 24 to 48 hours as desired. About 4 p.m. reports of rifle fire were heard in the direction of the Austrian Legation, and the Austrians and the French had one each killed in the attack. Such was the beginning of the assault by which the Chinese troops, or more properly, the Chinese Government caused the foreign Ministers, together with 1,000 foreigners and 700 Christians, to be tormented between life and death for a period of two months. At night bullets showered over our heads.

June 21.—The bullets from the enemy came mostly from the direction of the Yahho bridge, but though the smoke was visible not a man was to be seen. A French Professor of the Chinese University appeared on the line garrisoned by the Japanese guards, and sought to reconnoitre the Custom House by sending men from both sides. The Professor was accompanied by six soldiers, and we on our side despatched two. I myself followed them. The entire premises, however, were calm and deserted, and not an enemy was to be found.

Since yesterday the enemy have begun to press us from the north east. The Austrians fought with them, but in vain: their Legation buildings were set on fire. The Christians seemed resolved to meet death fighting and by a sudden rush upon the Boxers they captured one. By this time the Chinese Imperial troops had joined the Boxers and pressed on the Kianmin street.

June 22.—Early in the morning a furious battle was fought in the north-eastern part of the city, and by 2 a.m. the Austrian guards were unable to hold their post, and retired. They were followed by the French and Japanese, who had all taken shelter in the English Legation, in pursuance with the previous arrangement that should they fail in their campaign they would fall back upon their British Legation. Shortly after, the allied forces emerged from the Legation and betook themselves to the fighting lines. Had the Chinese troops attacked them in large numbers at this time, they would have been unable to resist for long, and the Kianmin street would have passed into the hands of the enemy. Thank Heaven however, the enemy did not follow up our retreat vigorously, and the allies were thus able to make preparations to withstand a siege. A fire broke out in the English Legation, and resulted in the destruction of a row of buildings. Some of the ladies, rolling up their sleeves, burned themselves in conveying water to the spot. It is reported that the English Minister Sir Claude McDonald, as a representative of the Ministers of the various Powers, pre-

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sented a demand to-day to the Tsung-li Yamên that they should prevent firing on the part of the Chinese troops without justifiable cause.

June 23.—During the forenoon the enemy pressed the defenders on the north-eastern side, causing the Austrians to retire and join the French, who were sheltered in the Legation. A number of shells fell on the street. Indeed, pieces of such bombs fell two or three times in front of the Japanese Legation, and the struggle proved to be the most fierce since the 20th inst. Volunteer Nakamura Hidejiro killed one of the Boxers. The University (Hanlin College) buildings were burned by the enemy. At night a miscellaneous goods store was also set on fire, and as it was in close proximity to our Legation, the utmost exertions were made by the Volunteers to extinguish the fire. The Legation barely escaped destruction.

June 24.—In the forenoon the enemy furiously attacked Prince Shu's palace, which stands opposite the Japanese Legation. Had the palace been taken by the insurgents the latter would have been enabled to attack the English Legation, under shelter of the numerous trees in the precincts, and communication between that Legation and those of Japan, Austria, France, and Germany would have been effectually interrupted. By the 22nd, however, the Japanese fighting with dedly resolution occupied this Palace. The enemy to-day, having assembled at the foot of the northern walls, attempted to enter the palace precincts by breaking open a part of the walls. But our troops opposed them most desperately, being assisted by the Italians, French, and Austrians. At 1 a.m. the commander of Volunteers, Infantry Captain Ando, accompanied by 5 men of our force and 20 Austrians and French, attempted to attack the enemy on the north of the palace by a secret advance, having broken through the fences of a private house on the east and demolished the gate. He, however, repulsed by the enemy, was obliged to retreat. In this attempt I was taken as interpreter. One of the French soldiers who followed our troops was severely wounded. After we had returned to camp intelligence was received from the English Legation intimating that danger was imminent, and that our immediate assistance was needed. Captain Ando, with 5 men, went to the rescue, and raising a war cry in conjunction with the English, completely dispersed the enemy, and set fire, on his way back, to some private houses on the north of the Legation. He left behind some 5 or 6 dead Chinese, who seemed to belong to Tung's troops.

Rumour says that last night the German troops descried from a house-top two signal fires at a distance, and that at 5 p.m. reports of gun fire were faintly heard. People say that reinforcements have arrived. In the afternoon the enemy in large numbers advanced towards the Prince's Palace, but soon retired.

June 25.—At about 8 o'clock a tremendous gun fire was heard to the north of the Palace, the enemy again attempting to break the wall. When we listened attentively we could hear distinctly the constant noise of falling masonry. Our volunteers broke open the godowns in the precincts of the palace, and filling silk bags with earth, constructed breastworks for defensive purposes. The silk stuffs so used being of various colours, the earthworks were of a dazzling description.

Prior to this, although the residents of our Settlement organised a volunteer corps they were equipped with no better weapons than swords and spears, hunting guns, and not more than 4 or 5 pistols. To-day we obtained from the French some 6 rifles, which they had taken from the enemy. I, in company with Mr. Kano Naoki, M.A., and Mr. Furuki Teikichi, correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi*, emerged from the breast-work, disregarding the enemy's fire, and succeeded in procuring 2 rifles with a number of cartridges from some dead Chinese. The bodies were half putrified, and the evil smell of the rifles was only removed after many days' handling.

At 2 p.m. Mr. Nakamura Hidejiro, one of the volunteers, was killed in an engagement on the north of the Legation. Toward dusk the enemy retired. Not a Chinaman remained now to the north of the Palace. It was reported that the Chinese, mounting a white flag at the Tah-ho bridge, had held up a piece of board on which was written that they in deference to the instructions of the Sovereign, would protect the foreign representatives and would exchange communications on the bridge. At the same time a man who appeared to be a messenger was seen advancing towards us, but as he was fired on by the English he immediately ran away. The messenger (a Chinaman) whom we despatched was also unable to proceed, a rifle being pointed at him by the enemy. Some persons began to doubt whether the Chinese Government had changed its intentions, but most of us were confident that the apparent withdrawal of hostility was a stratagem quite in the Chinese manner, by which they sought to make us neglect necessary precautions. As we anticipated, they came to attack us from all directions at midnight, and surprised those who were innocent enough to regard the white flag as a sign of peace.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

"Woman's highest mission on earth is to make the whole world homelike."—FRANCES E. WILLARD.

"The more individual work we do, the more power will be ours."—LADY HENRY SOMERSET.

The Foreign Auxiliary Women's Christian Temperance Union Convention met on Aug 8th, 1900, in the Karuizawa Union Church, with the President, Mrs. Davidson, in the chair. Miss Veasey being absent, Miss Clawson was asked to act as Secretary. Thanks are due to the committee who so appropriately decorated the room and to Miss Hart for the above quotations from Miss Willard's and Lady Henry Somerset's writings and for the Globe encircled by the White Ribbon so beautifully done in coloured crayons, upon the board at the back of the platform.

The Convention opened with an organ voluntary by Miss Hart; this was followed by the responsive reading of the 146th Psalm and the singing of the hymn "Give to the winds thy fears." After the opening prayer, Miss Barrows conducted a most helpful Bible reading, the theme being "The Togethers of the Bible." The first thought was the "togethers with God" and the second thought, the "togethers one with another;" many Bible references were given on this subject.

After a solo, "Holy Saviour, Lord and King," sung by Miss Hart, Mrs. Large read a brief account of the world's W. C. T. U. Convention held last June in Edinburgh, which proved very interesting and instructive, and especially did those of the audience who live in Japan enjoy that part of the report in which the "Seventh Around the World Missionary," Miss Parrish, told of her work here. During her stay in Japan she saw a better organization of the men's work in the temperance cause, organization of work among girls, union of societies, the higher classes of society more interested, and the uniting of the foreign and native women's temperance societies.

Miss Cumings of Chofu then spoke in praise of the work done by Mrs. Large and by Mr. Miyama in the school she has in charge. Now the pupils carry on their temperance work under the four heads of Benevolence, Sunday School work, Personal Cleanliness, and Physical Culture and Literature.

Miss Fife of Yotsuya, Tokyo, reported that, besides the training given to the little ones in her kindergarten, classes for mothers had been formed in which they were taught how to care for their children from the infant to the adult age. English classes for young men formed a basis for teaching temperance lessons, and, by the help of Mr. Ando and other temperance workers, a society of thirty-five men and boys had been formed in the Yotsuya district.

Miss Luther from Kanazawa spoke of the good resulting from Mr Miyama's stirring addresses in that city last spring, she also gave a short account of the attempt to obtain the abolition of the public dance houses opened during the annual spring festival there. She said that, while the attempt was not entirely successful, a general public sentiment against these abominations was created, which it was hoped would next year effect still greater results.

Mrs. Large, in reporting for the Rescue Home, gave a number of encouraging facts in regard to it, and said that, while the discouragements are many, there is still enough of encouragement connected with the work to forbid its being abandoned.

Mrs. Chappell asked the question, "what has been done in the way of mothers' meetings during the past year?" She reported for her Aoyama, Tokyo, meeting, that the mothers, no longer satisfied with the mere helping of themselves, were ready and anxious to reach a helping hand to their *very poor sisters*. After a number of other ladies had reported good results from their mother's meeting, Miss Cheny favoured the audience with the solo, "O Rest in the Lord."

An appeal to the audience for help in regard to Mr. Miyama's salary for the coming year was followed by a paper read by Mrs. Albrecht, but prepared by Mrs. A. D. Hail of Osaka, on "The Ohio Crusade." This paper gave an account of the great temperance movement which had its origin in that state; it was exceedingly interesting, for Mrs. Hail herself had a part in the thrilling scenes which she described.

The Convention closed with the hymn "Blest be the tie that binds," and the usual noontide moment of silent prayer.

BERTHA CLAWSON, Secretary, pro. tem.

It is understood that Sir Thomas Sutherland has been invited, and has consented, to fill the post of President of the General Committee of the China Association, vacant by the death of Lord Loch.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Forty-one new cases of dysentry were reported on the 29th inst. in Kanagawa prefecture. Since the beginning of the outbreak, the total is 1,817.

A police constable named Ono Kido, belonging to Isezakicho Police Station, Yokohama, absconded with over 100 *yen* of official money on the 20th inst.

A slight but long-continued shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama at 11.40 o'clock on Wednesday morning. It was followed by two slighter quakes.

One hundred and thirty-eight persons were fined at Kotobuki-cho police station, Yokohama, from the 24th to 27th ult. for being found in a state of nudity. The fines range from *yen* 1.50 to *sen* 5.

Lady Blake, the wife of the Governor of Hongkong, is said to be about to publish her impressions during her recent three months' tour through China and Japan.

The Norwegian steamer *Brand* arrived at Nagasaki last Friday morning from New York by way of Hongkong, with a cargo of railway material amounting to 1,535 tons. After the import procedure had been complied with at the local Customs, the vessel left the same evening for Kagoshima, where she will land her cargo. It appears that the material is for the construction of he Kag oshima railway.

Hiroshima appears to have suffered greatly, says the *Nagasaki Press*, from the storm of the 19th inst., which reached its climax at 4 p.m. As usual, the embankments gave way, with the result that the streets and houses were inundated. Matters at Ujina were even worse. The military storehouses were completely gutted, considerable portions of the stores being washed away. A pier was also carried away. Happily none of the transports suffered, though there were many at anchor at the time.

It is stated that the commerce of the German colony at Kiao-chow has decreased during the first quarter of 1900. In that period twenty-nine steamers and four sailing vessels arrived at Tsingtao, while thirty steamers and three sailors left that harbour. The imports consist of 34,250 gross cases matches, 155,380 gallons American and 23,320 gallons Russian petroleum, 25,000 piculs beans, 9,324 piculs maize, 3,620 piculs paper, 14,635 piculs rice, 1,281 porcelain, and 67,325 piculs wheat. Exports were 237,590 pieces cabbage, 5,484 piculs earthnuts, 2,148 piculs bean-oil, 8,324 swine, 5,007 piculs walnuts, &c. The Chinese Custom House at Tsingtao had a revenue during the last three-quarters of *Hk. Tls.* 45,996.

There is a probability, says the *Kobe Herald*, that the Interport cricket match will be the occasion of much additional cricket interest beyond that which naturally and always belongs to the Interport fixture. The Kobe Club is communicating with Shanghai with the view of arranging a visit to Japan by a China team—perhaps with members from both Shanghai and Hongkong. If the overtures are successful there will be a series of cricket engagements in Kobe which will prolong the occasion into a full "Cricket Week," if not further. The Interport match, Kobe and Yokohama, will be played of course; and there may follow matches Kobe v. Shanghai and Yokohama v. Shanghai, and a final match, Japan v. China.

The latest statistics published in the *Hochi* show the total number of registered *jinrikisha* in the capital to be 46,889. If these be renewed every two years the annual manufacture does not fall short of 23,444. Moreover, the output in Kwanto, Tohoku, and other provinces, as well as the export to China, is by no means inconsiderable. The manufacturers of these vehicles number 2,500 in the capital alone. The vehicles are generally turned out by hand and there is a large division of labour. A report presented to the Government from the Akiha factory the year before last shows that at least

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30 artisans are necessary to secure a yearly output of 1,900 carriages. It is said that machinery is utilized only by the joint stock company in Honjo, where 60 men are engaged at work, making 30 carriages every day, including carts and coaches. The vehicles designed for export to China are chiefly double-*jinrikisha*, to carry two persons. This class of *jinrikisha* was in vogue in the beginning of the *Meiji* era. They are not only exported to China, but also to Singapore, Saigon, Bombay, and Siam, through Chinese merchants, and are chiefly drawn by Chinese coolies. Singapore alone has taken 10,000 up to the present. It is said that the Singapore authorities make it obligatory to use on each of these vehicles a lamp sold exclusively by them at extravagant prices. This form of tax is limited to three years.

Prices, which began to fall in March this year, have shown an upward tendency since July. Taking prices in June as 100, those of July stand at 102.3. This figure, however, represents only the average rate of increase. If we investigate in detail we find that the commodities which show the most marked rises are the following:—Coal, cotton yarn, silk floss, kerosene, salt, barley, rye, wheat, oil cake, fertilizers, rice bran, imported yarns, eggs, manufactured tea, bean sauce, oil, flour, nails, and silk thread. Those that have fallen in value are:—Copper, iron, spinning cotton, shirtings, sugar, bleached cotton, floor mats, fowls for food, summer lining stuff. The staples that remain stationary are:—Timber, charcoal, wood, *saké*, soy, dried bonito, hemp and flax, vegetable wax, Japanese cut tobacco, raw lacquer, hides and leather, glass panes. Appreciation on the whole is ascribable to the increased issue of convertible notes. At the end of last year the amount of issue reached 254 millions of *yen*, but from the spring the figure gradually decreased until in the beginning of June it stood at 192 millions, the amount of reduction being no less than 62 millions. After that, however, it again swelled to 209 millions in consequence of abnormal outlays being required in connection with the disturbances in China. The Government deposits in the Bank of Japan amounted in the beginning of last month to 62 millions of *yen*, but the figure at present does not exceed 50 millions. There can be no doubt, remarks the *Keizai Zasshi*, that the appreciation of commodities will tend to increase the volume of imports and diminish the facilities for exports. The rate of interest will be raised, and this will render new enterprises extremely difficult. Commerce and industry may prosper to a certain extent, but the consumers will be sufferers. It is absolutely indispensable to adopt measures to prevent the further appreciation of commodities, and to secure this end the former procedure of defraying the war expenses out of the three capital funds should be suspended, and recourse be had to an increased system of taxation or the raising of a national loan.

AMERICAN NOTES.

John Clark Ridpath, the historian, died in the Presbyterian hospital, New York, at 5.30 o'clock on July 31st, from a complication of diseases.

The members of the New York Brotherhood of Tailors, who are said to number 12,000, are getting ready for a general strike. They say that all the advantages which they won several years ago have been gradually lost, and that the contractors have in most instances returned to the sweating system, under which a man has to work a day and a half or two days for one day's pay.

"The fire eaters are dying out, but the blood drinkers are on the increase," says a New Orleans physician in *The Times-Democrat* of that city. "Go down to the slaughter pens, near the barracks, any morning and you'll see a crowd of them waiting for their daily draught, fresh from the animals' veins. Most of the drinkers are people who show plainly the ravages of tuberculosis, but others are merely run down and debilitated and take the blood as a tonic. There are always women and children in the gathering, and it is a place where there are no caste distinctions. You find wealthy business men chatting confidentially with hoboes, and society women swapping symptoms with women in ragged calico. It's a queer sight."

The Hongkong firm of Ho Tung and Co., on July 9th, filed in the Court of Claims, Washington, a petition asking for the refunding of $32,945 paid as import duties, port, and other charges on two cargoes of American merchandise shipped to Manila in August, 1898. They base their claim on the President's proclamation of July 12, 1898, establishing a tariff schedule for the Philippines, and claim that it was not within the power of the President to enforce a tariff against American products.

The death is announced at Hamilton, Ontario, of Dr. Charles F. McDonald, aged 71 years. While connected with the post office department in Washington the postal money order system was organized through his efforts. President Lincoln appointed him superintendent of the money order department, which office he held until 1893, when President Cleveland appointed him consul at Hamilton. Through Dr. McDonald's efforts the exchange of money orders was effected between the United States and the principal civilized countries of the world. He drafted thirty-two conventions for the exchange of money orders.

Public opinion is decidedly turning against the mendacious methods pursued by the new half-penny journals of London. One correspondent, wiring from London to an American paper under date August 4, says:—Chinese mendacity has been coloured with duplicity, but it has not been without artistic qualities. Our half-penny journalism is deeply tinged with Chinese tones, but it is so inartistic in inventing realistic fiction respecting barbarous massacres and military movements that it now fails to produce any impression. The public now receive without emotion the intelligence that ten thousand Christians have been massacred at one fell swoop and that many English women have been beheaded; and it is not deceived by premature reports of the doings of the allied army in Peking.

In expert quarters it is urged that the State of Alabama will soon be able to control the coal trade of the West Indies and the Atlantic and Pacific ports of South America. Alabama's coal production in the year 1870 amounted to the nominal total of 10,000 tons. Its output for this present year will bulk 1,000 times that amount—10,000,000 tons. Its yield of iron ore has grown in like proportion; and its industrial capital—Birmingham—claims that, owing to cheapness of production, it fixes the price of pig iron for the world. Alabama has an area of 51,000 square miles, a population exceeding a million and a half, and its coal lands exceed 5,000 square miles in area in the Warrior field alone, the other two fields—the Coosa and the Cahaba—being measured in hundreds of square miles only.

In America they mean business before all things. The following obituary notice from a New England town shows enterprise.—"Died on the 11th inst., at his shop, Greenwich-street, Mr. Edward Jones, much respected by all who knew and dealt with him. As a man he was amiable, as a master upright and moderate. His virtues were beyond all praise, and his beaver hats only three dollars each. He has left a widow to deplore his loss, and a large stock to be sold cheap for the benefit of his family. He was snatched to the other world in the prime of life, just as he had concluded an extensive purchase of felt, which he got so cheap that his widow can supply hats at more reasonable rates than any house in the city. His disconsolate family will carry on business with punctuality."

Mark Twain, remarks a correspondent, is a good talker, and invariably prepares himself, though he skillfully hides his preparation by his method of delivery, which denotes that he is getting his ideas and phrases as he proceeds. He is an accomplished artist in this way. His peculiar mode of expression always seems contagious with an audience, and a laugh would follow the most sober remark. It is a singular fact that if an audience be in a laughing mood when they first enter the lecture room, they are ready to burst out at anything and everything. In the town of Colchester, Connecticut, there was a good illustration of this, the Hon. Demsham Hornet having a most unpleasant experience at the expense of Mark Twain. "Mr. Clemens was advertised to lecture in the town of Colchester, but for some reason failed to arrive. In the emergency the lecture committee decided to employ Mr. Hornet to deliver his celebrated lecture on temperance, but so late in the day was this arrangement made that no bills announcing it could be circulated, and the audience assembled, expecting to hear Mark Twain. No one in the town knew Mr. Clemens, or had ever heard him lecture, and they entertained the idea that he was funny, and went to the lecture prepared to laugh. Even those upon the platform, excepting the chairman, did not know Mr. Hornet from Mark Twain, and so, when he was introduced, thought nothing of the name, as they knew Mark Twain was a pen-name, and supposed his real name was Hornet. Mr. Hornet bowed politely, looked about him, and remarked: 'Intemperance is the curse of the country.' The audience burst into a merry laugh. He knew it could not be at his remark, and thought his clothes must be awry, and he asked the chairman, in a whisper, if he was all right, and received 'yes' for an answer. Then he said: 'Rum slays more than disease!' Another, but louder laugh followed. He could not understand it, but proceeded: 'It breaks up happy homes." Still louder mirth. 'It is carrying young men down to death and hell!' Then came a perfect roar of applause. Mr. Hornet began to get excited. He thought they were poking fun at him, but went on: 'We must crush the serpent!' A tremendous howl of laughter. The men on the platform, except the chairman, squirmed as they laughed. Then Hornet got mad. 'What I say is Gospel truth,' he cried. The audience fairly bellowed with mirth. Hornet turned to a man on the stage, and said: 'Do you see anything very ridiculous in my remarks or behaviour?' 'Yes, ha, ha! It's intensely funny—ha, ha, ha! Go on!' replied the roaring man. This is an insult,' cried Hornet, wildly dancing about. More laughter, and cries of, 'Go on, Twain!' Then the chairman began to see through a glass darkly, and arose and quelled the merriment, and explained the situation. The men on the stage suddenly ceased laughing, the folks in the audience looked sheepish, and left off laughing, too. Then the excited Mr. Hornet, being thoroughly mad, told them he had never been in a town so entirely populated with asses and idiots, and having said that, he left the hall in disgust, followed by the audience now plunged in deep gloom."

Mr. Delos F. Wilcox contributes to *Annals of the American Academy* an article on the American newspaper, giving to it the sub-title of "A Study in Social Psychology." It is the opinion of the writer that the press of a city reflects the social conditions of the community, and consequently that we can note the diverging courses of development in different parts of the United States by a careful comparison of the differences in their newspapers. Whether that theory be true or not, the article furnishes a good deal of interesting information concerning American newspapers. For the purpose of making the study, Mr. Wilcox obtained copies of 240 of the newspapers of the country having a circulation of more than 7500 a day. He classified their contents as:—News, illustrations, literature, opinion, and advertisements, and proceeded to note the proportion of each found in the various papers. Then, for the purpose of further investigation, he subdivided news into several departments, such as war, foreign, political, business, sporting, society, crime and vice, and general news. Advertisements were also subdivided and a study made of the comparative amount of space taken in different cities by want advertisements, medical advertisements, retail advertisements, self-laudatory advertisements by the paper, and miscellaneous advertisements. Some of the results of the investigation are curious. San Francisco stands away above all other news centres in the

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proportion of illustrations. It also stands first in want advertisements, but is last in retail advertisements, being in these respects almost the exact opposite of Pittsburg. New York has journals of all descriptions, setting the pace in conservative and in yellow journalism alike, but does not occupy the first or the last place in any department. In the matter of illustrations Boston comes next to San Francisco, with St. Louis, Denver, and New York in their order. Philadelphia stands first in society news and last in medical advertisements. Chicago stands second in literature and nearly last in the amount of space given to vice and crime. It also gets the credit of furnishing "the best average among its leading newspapers of any great city in the United States." Baltimore and Washington City have no other peculiarities than that of ranking next to Boston at the bottom of the list of business news. Pittsburg has the honour of standing first in retail advertising and next to the last in want advertisements. Of St. Louis and Cincinnati it is said they are "the most notable centres of yellow journalism in the country. They keep remarkably close in the matter of percentages. Both stand high in illustrations, medical advertisements, and news of crime and vice, while they stand very low in letters, editorials, literature, and retail advertisements." Louisville stands first in business news, Buffalo first in sporting news, and in advertisements as a whole. Cleveland is first in foreign news, New Orleans first in war news and editorials, and Milwaukee is first in the amount of space given to literature.

ESCAPED FROM SHANSI.

A TERRIBLE STORY.

Of all the provinces, Shansi holds the record for diabolical massacres and barbarities. At one time it looked as if not a single foreigner could by any possibility escape the murderous purpose of Yü Hsien, whom our Ministers so supinely allowed to be made Governor there. Fortunately some have escaped. A party of refugees from Shansi has arrived in Hankow, after encountering such sufferings and hairbreadth escapes as will be difficult to find a parallel for anywhere.

The party consists of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Saunders with two children (other two of their children died on the way), and Mr. A. Jennings and Miss Guthrie, all from Ping-yao; Mr. E. J. Cooper and two children Lucheng, (Mrs. Cooper, Miss Rice, and Miss Houston, also from that city, were killed on the way or died from injuries received); Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Glover with two children, and Miss Gates, from Lu-an. All are members of the China Inland Mission, and of the nineteen who started five perished.

The story they tell is as follows:—All was quiet in Ping-yao up to the 25th of June. The magistrate was friendly, and had issued a proclamation denouncing the Boxers and promising protection to foreigners and Christians. We were aware that there was trouble on the route between us and Tientsin, but did not know much as to what was going on, or anticipating danger. On that day, however, we received a letter from Taiyuang enclosing a copy of a proclamation which had just been issued by Yü Hsien, the Governor, in which the people were informed that China was at war with foreigners, and that all foreign devils must be destroyed. On the back of that, we learned that our magistrate was having his favourable proclamation taken down from the walls, and that a mob had already begun to demolish our chapel in the city. Later on, in the evening, a mob arrived at our house in the suburb, and we were driven to take refuge in the yamên. The magistrate declared he could not help us. He had received orders no longer to protect foreigners, and bade us depart in peace. At length, in answer to our entreaties, he agreed to send us to Taiyuan, 150 li distant, under escort, so we started north for the capital. We got within 20 li of it without adventure when we met a native Christian whom we knew fleeing south. He implored us to turn back, as the Inland Mission had been already burned, the Roman Catholic establishment pulled down, and all the foreigners were in the Baptist Mission compound surrounded by a great mob who were threatening to burn it with all who were inside. On this we turned back towards Ping-yao, and our escort at once left us. We had not much money, and the people demanded exorbitant prices for everything, even for the simple permission to pass along the road. We sold our clothes and pawned whatever would pawn, including our wedding rings, and in this way reaching our station at Lucheng, safe but stripped.

Lucheng had not yet been rioted, but only two days' peace was allowed us when, with the friends there, we had to flee for our lives at midnight with nothing but one donkey-load of bedding and clothes, and a supply of silver which we divided up amongst the party. Which direction to take we did not know. To go north again was out of the question, and eastward to Shantung was equally impossible, so we made for the south, hoping to get through Honan and Hupeh to Hankow. But we had only got 40 li from Lucheng when we were stopped at a large village by some two hundred people who demanded money. We could not satisfy them, so they seized our donkey and in sheer wanton mischief tore all our bedding and clothes to pieces. Then they stripped us next, taking each person's clothes, hat, shoes and stockings, and little store of silver, leaving us nothing, ladies and children alike, but a single pair of native drawers each. In this affair we lost the natives who were accompanying us, some of whom we fear were killed, while we were driven along the road by men with clubs. It was a terrible situation. The blazing sun burned us to the bone, and some of us had not so much as a little piece of rag to wet and put on the top of our heads. At every village we were attacked and driven from one to the other with blows and curses. The villages there are very thick, and, before we got clear of the mob from one, the mob from the next had already arrived to take us in hand. Neither food nor water could be obtained. How we contrived to exist we hardly know; for days our only support was found in the filthy puddles by the road-side. When we reached a city it was a little better. Apparently each magistrate was anxious that we should come to our end in the next county, so when we went to the yamên they would give us a little food and send an escort to see us safely over the borders of that particular yamên's jurisdiction. Arrived at that point, the escort always left us, and we had to struggle on as before.

Miss Rice was killed on the road fifty li north of Tsehchaufu in Shansi. That day both she and Miss Houston sat down on the road-side saying they would willingly die, but walk another step they could not. In the previous city the magistrate had given us a small piece of silver which we had to carry in our hand, having nowhere else to put it. We thought we might be able to hire a cart for these ladies with this piece of silver, so two of us went to a village to negotiate. The villagers refused the cart, but at the same time they pounded our knuckles with a stick till we dropped the silver, and then drove us down the road away from our party. Just then it began to rain and the party, with the exception of the two ladies, retired for shelter to an empty guard house near. There a mob fell upon them and drove them on, and in this way the two helpless ladies got left and were beaten to death. Nothing could be done till Tsehchan was reached, when the magistrate sent back to enquire. Miss Rice was found to be already dead, but Miss Houston, although dreadfully injured, was still alive. She died afterwards at Yunmung in Hupeh and the body was brought on to Hankow for burial.

The crossing of the Yellow River was one of our most trying experiences. The yamên had placed us in carts, and promised to send us over. But as soon as we were in the boat the carts drove away, and the boatmen ordered us to land again, as they declined point blank to have anything to do with us. For two days we sat on the bank of the Yellow River not knowing what to do. We were like the Israelites at the Red Sea. Pharaoh was behind; neither right nor left was there any retreat, and no means of crossing over. On the third day the boatmen unexpectedly changed their minds and took us over.

The first city we came to south of the river was Changchou. The magistrate here was bitterly anti-foreign and said had we only arrived twenty-four hours sooner he would have had the pleasure of killing us all. His orders were to allow no foreign devil to escape, but the Empress Dowager had taken pity on them, and he had just been instructed to have them all sent as prisoners into Hupeh. Accordingly, from this point we were sent on across Honan, from city to city, as prisoners, by the yamên, some in carts and sometimes mounted on the hard wooden pack saddles of donkeys. For food they gave us bread and water, and no where showed us any kindness till we reached Sinyangchou, the last city in Honan. Here we were no longer treated as prisoners, and here we met with the Glovers from Lu-an, who had arrived there after a similar journey. The Hupeh magistrates were exceedingly kind. At the first city Yingshan, we were supplied with food and clothing and kept in the yamên five days as the road south was blocked by soldiers proceeding to Peking, whom it would not be safe to meet. The Yingshan native Christians also sought us out and showed us great kindness, as they also did at the cities of Tehugan, Yunmung, and Hsaokan. Mrs. E. J. Cooper died at Yingshan of the injuries and hardships undergone, and her body was brought to Hankow for burial. Thus ended at Hankow on the 14th of August a journey of fifty days' duration of which the wonder is that a single one survived to tell the tale.—*N. C. Daily News.*

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Aug. 24.

On the 20th instant Baden-Powell and Paget fought a rear-guard action with Dewet and Delarey, whom Hamilton also is following. It is evidently Dewet's intention to go to Bushveldt for the purpose of a general concentration, including Botha's force.

AMERICA AND LI HUNG-CHANG.

America has rejected Li Hung-chang's application on the ground that China failed to comply with America's previous conditions.

THE PRETORIA PLOT.

The Court Martial at Pretoria has found Cordova guilty on all counts. Sentence is deferred pending reference to Roberts.

DEWET'S MOVEMENTS.

Shanghai, Aug. 27.

Dewet has recrossed the Magaliesberg with 300 followers. He found it impossible to go eastward, so he buried his guns and intends to return to the Free State.

BOER PRISONERS.

Three transports with 2,080 Boer prisoners, with half a battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment, have sailed from Durban for Ceylon.

BOER ACTIVITY.

The Boers have destroyed a hundred yards of the railway near Dannhauser and derailed a train, and they have placed a Long Tom near Ingogo and are bombarding the bridge.

STRIKES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Owing to a strike on the Taff Vale Railway, work is stopped at over 30 collieries. The shipping of coal at Cardiff has almost ceased.

BOTHA'S COMMAND.

Louis Botha with four other commanders and 8,000 men, comprising the whole of the Boer artillery, are reported to be concentrated at Machadodorp.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Aug. 27.

Buller is encountering considerable opposition near Leeuwkloof.

Two companies of Liverpools advanced by mistake into a hollow, out of sight of the main body and were surrounded. They lost 10 killed, 46 wounded, and 32 missing.

Dewet has crossed the railway midway between Potchefstroom and Johannesburg, and is making for the Free State.

CHINA.

It is intimated from Washington that it will possibly be necessary to continue the garrison of Peking all the winter.

BADEN-POWELL.

Baden-Powell engaged Grobler's rearguard all day on the 21st inst, and drove the enemy to the eastward of Pienaar's River. During the fight the two advance guards galloped into each other. Both lost heavily. Colonel Spreckley and four men were killed, and two officers and six men wounded.

AMERICA AND CHINA

America has diverted 4,000 troops bound for China to Manila, judging the present force in China adequate.

THE PRETORIA PLOT.

Lieut. Cordua was shot in the precincts of the jail at Pretoria on the morning of the 24th instant.

RUSSIA AND THE FAR EAST.

The enrolment of the Russian Volunteer reservists for the Far East has been stopped

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THE BOER WAR.

Lord Roberts has arrived at Wonderfontein.

Gen. Pole-Carew has occupied Belfast.

The enemy is holding the ridges near Dalmanutha

French is moving to the east of Machadodorp.

Gen. Carrington has come into touch with Methuen at Zeerust.

THE FRENCH AND THE SEYMOUR EXPEDITION.

A highly complimentary letter has been sent by Admiral Seymour to Admiral Courrejolles concerning the gallantry of the French detachment on the Seymour expedition. The letter has produced an excellent impression in Paris.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Aug 29.

The Boers' position near Belfast is strong. It is a semi-circle of mountains, approachable only through morasses. The frontage is 25 miles.

Buller with three days' assault has made no impression. There was an artillery duel on Saturday. The naval guns frustrated a Boer flanking movement.

Roberts has arrived at Belfast, meeting Buller, Pole-Carew, and French.

3,651 troops start for the Cape during the next fortnight.

RUSSIA'S WAR EXPENDITURE.

Russia has increased her customs duties and her excise to meet the expenditure in China, which is already enormous.

MARSHAL VON WALDERSEE.

The German Consul at Port Said has handed to Marshal von Waldersee most important instructions from his Government.

SOUTH AFRICA

Shanghai, Aug. 29.

General Buller is to the southwest of Dalmanutha; General Pole-Carew is in the centre, and General French to the north of Belfast. They were engaged throughout Sunday, but the enemy stubbornly resisted the attack, maintaining a hot fire from three Long Toms and many other guns. The country is very difficult for military operations. The troops bivouacked at dusk where they were.

General French repulsed the Boers on the extreme left on Sunday. The Guards occupied the ridge and enfiladed the enemy. The troops behaved splendidly. The firing was continued till sunset.

Lord Roberts visited the battle-field.

Dewet has appeared in the neighbourhood of Heilbron, and there are three small commandos in the vicinity of Senekal and Bethlehem.

Boers raids into Natal are increasing in daring, the objective being the railway. The volunteers at Dundee are entrenched, anticipating a rush.

General Bruce Hamilton has repulsed the Boers with considerable loss at Winsburg. He captured Olivier and his three sons.

The railway between Johannesburg and Krugersdorp is cut.

GREAT BRITAIN'S NAVAL SUPPLY.

The British Admiralty have had a conference with the coal-owners at Cardiff, and it is understood that the authorities are negotiating for the purchase of floating cargoes to replenish depôts abroad.

General Buller had a decided success yesterday and captured a very strong position. The battle continues.

DESERVED PROMOTION.

Shanghai, Aug. 30.

Mr. Bax Ironside (of the Peking Embassy) has been appointed Secretary of Legation at Stockholm.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

General Buller's success was continued at Bergenfal, northwest of Dalmanutha, which the Rifle Brigade and the Inniskillings carried at the point of the bayonet. The scarps were defended to the last. The commandant was captured. Our loss was about 60, and the Boers' was heavy.

(TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

CHINA.

Saigon, Aug. 23.

Li Hung-chang has asked the Powers to name plenipotentiaries for negotiating peace.

MARSHAL WALDERSEE.

Saigon, August 24.

Marshal Waldersee has embarked at Naples for China.

FRENCH LANDED AT SHANGHAI.

A hundred French marines have landed in the Shanghai concession. The landing was not attended by any incident, and the impression produced was excellent

LIEUT.-COL. MARCHAND.

Lt.-Colonel Marchand has been gazetted to serve on the staff of the French expeditionary corps to China.

PEKING.

The allied troops took possession of the Imperial City in Peking on the 17th instant after a sharp resistance.

THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

Saigon, Aug. 25.

It is believed that the Powers will refuse to negotiate with Li Hung chang, considering his authority insufficient.

THE MARSEILLES STRIKE.

The strike of firemen at Marseilles is terminated.

PEKING.

Saigon, Aug. 26.

The flags of France and Russia fly over the imperial residence in Peking. The Sacred City has been respected.

Saigon, August 27.

General Frey telegraphs from Peking under date of August 20th that the Allied troops have chased the Boxers from positions which they still occupied. The troops field through the Imperial City, after which the gates were shut.

Saigon, August 29.

The Chinese are pillaging in the neighbourhood of Peking and Tientsin. They ill-treat the villagers.

They are re-besieging Tientsin, where famine is imminent.

It is confirmed that the Emperor has fled in an easterly direction with 500 cavalry.

Saigon, Aug. 30.

General Frey telegraphs from Peking that the French troops had some sharp fighting in the streets of Peking on the 16th. They encamped that night in the palace gardens. Their casualties were 4 killed and many wounded.

M. Pichon, the French Minister at Peking, and the members of the Legation, were present at the engagement.

The French Minister in Peking telegraphs, under date of the 19th inst., confirming the news that has already been received. He adds that several quarters of the city are simply heaps of ruins.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

CHINESE CRISIS.

Hangkow, Aug. 24.

The Chinese Independent Association's manifesto says that (1) the Association no longer regards the Manchu Government as fit to administer China, and that the duty of the associates is to remodel the old China and constitute a new China; (2) that the Association aims at restoring the Emperor Kwang-su to administrative power and establishing a constitutional empire; (3) that the Association's policy is to combine with the allied foreign States, to control all acts of violence and to punish all advocates of anti-foreign measures; (4) that the Association will endeavour to protect the foreign settlements and places of worship and the lives and properties of foreigners, and to prevent all disturbances.

Taku, Aug. 24.

Peking has been divided into two parts for police purposes. The northern half is under Japanese jurisdiction; the southern is divided into five sections, and placed under the English, the Russians, the Americans, the French, and the Germans. Some Boxers and troops are still giving trouble within the Imperial City and on the walls, but order is almost established. The Empress-Dowager and the Emperor, with the leaders of the conservatives, fled some days ago, but their whereabouts are unknown. Possibly they have gone to Suien-hwa. There are now no means of opening peace negotiations.

Paris, Aug. 20.

The French Minister of Foreign Affairs, addressing his constituents, said that in order to settle the great Chinese problem, all the Powers must have a clear understanding, and must work in unison. The prime purpose of the military operations had been to rescue the Ministers, and the object of keeping the troops in China is to obtain indemnification for the past and guarantees for the future. Whatever might be the particular ideas entertained by different Powers, M. Delcassé had no doubt that they would adapt their demands to China's intelligence, and that they would avoid asking for special concessions. The effect of asking for special concessions would be to disturb the concord of the Powers and to provoke jealousies which could scarcely fail to have evil consequences.

Shanghai, Aug. 25.

According to a telegram from the *locumtenens* of the Governor of Shen-si, the Governor of Yang-kau in Shan-si reports that the arrival of the Imperial Court was expected there on the 21st. It would appear, therefore, that the ultimate destination of the Court is Si-an in Shen-si.

Hongkong, Aug. 25.

A transport from Bombay has passed with coolies on board for North China.

Yuensan, Aug. 27.

This morning the following report was received from Song-chin:—"The consular officials and Japanese residents who returned to Song-chin on the 26th are all well. The party led by the constable Kobayashi fortunately did not injure any of the rioters. The latter stole various property, seized the persons of 11 Koreans, and retired on the night of the 19th. A number of rioters appear to be still collected at Shoka (?), their base of operations, but everything is quiet in the settlement. The Japanese residents have suffered more or less injury to their property. The speedy return of the local officials is required, but, if they come accompanied by a small force only, the result will be to raise fresh

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disturbance. The feeling among the people is unquiet. The fact that Kwan, the leader of the rioters, has been arrested may possibly lead to trouble.

[It will be observed that this telegrant is not in accord with the messages sent by the officer commanding the *Suma*.—ED. *J. W.*]

Sha-si, Aug 26.

There are 500 troops here, in two bodies, for the protection of foreigners.

Hongkong, Aug. 27.

A transport from Cape Town with 750 troops on board has passed this place *en route* for North China.

Two other transports with 626 troops have passed here for Wei-hai-wei and Taku.

Shanghai, August 26.

Intelligence received from a trustworthy source is to the effect that Jung Lu arrived at Pao-tung-fu on the 19th. He is still stopping there, but will probably proceed westward in a few days. Prince Twan's whereabouts are not known, but the general belief among the Chinese officials is that he is not with the Empress-Dowager.

Hongkong, Aug. 28.

Two transports from Calcutta with 750 troops on board have passed this place going north.

Shanghai, Aug. 28.

According to telegrams received by the officials here from the Acting-Governor of Shen-si, the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor were to reach Ta-yuen in Shan-si on the 30th instant.

Shanghai, Aug. 29.

The Chinese officials have received a telegram from Pao-ting-fu saying that Princes Twan and Chwang are with the Empress Dowager.

A secret message from the Governor of Anhui says that Hsu Tung and Chao Shu-chiao, Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen, have received orders to proceed south on a mission like that entrusted to Kang Yi last year, and that they are preparing a disguise.

Taku, Aug. 27.

The people between Tientsin and Peking are suffering terrible hardships at the hands of the Chinese soldiers. Most pitiable is the fact that being without grain they are threatened with famine, and that many of them having lost all their garments, are likely to perish of cold during the approaching winter. It is most important that Japanese merchants should speedily forward stores of rice, cotton and stuffs. It should be noted that although the railway, being in the hands of the Russians, does not offer facilities for the transport of private goods, the river is very little used for that purpose at present. There will be a considerable demand for provisions and winter clothing on the part not only of the troops but also of the people. Much need is also felt of tailors, boot makers and barbers.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT).

CHINA AND KOREA.

Yuen-san, Aug. 25.

The officer commanding the *Suma* telegraphs that, according to the statements of the Japanese Consul and the officer commanding the guards at Yuen-san, the dispute between the people of Kilju and Song-chin had reference solely to local interests. A man of great influence and popularity in Kilju, by name Kwan, had been arrested and imprisoned at Song-chin, and the people of Kilju determined to attempt his rescue on the 19th, which was the national festival. For that purpose a number of them proceeded to Song-chin and carried away Kwan. They had given notice that no foreigner should be injured, and, as a matter of fact, they did not harm any foreigner. But—— (here a portion of the telegram is erased)—, the subsequent state of affairs being unknown, the *Suma* went round to Song-chin harbour.

(From the same)

Yuensan, Aug. 25.

The Japanese consulate and the remaining Japanese residents at Song-chin are quite safe. The officials of the consulate and the residents of the Settlement returned to Song-chin on the 26th. It is quite plain that there is no intention of inflicting any injury on Japanese subjects. Tranquility has been restored.

(FROM VICE-ADMIRAL DEWA.)

Taku, Aug. 25.

The marines in Peking are to return at the end of the month, by desire of the Minister, escorting the ladies and children of the Legation and of the other Japanese residents. The ladies and children will be sent back to Japan by war-vessel or other convenient opportunity.

(RECEIVED AT THE WAR OFFICE.)
(From Lieut.-General Yamaguchi).

Peking, August 22.

The Japanese and English forces in Tientsin, infantry and cavalry, made a reconnaissance in force to Kwoh-kia-tsun, in the neighbourhood of Tientsin, on the 19th inst. The cavalry encountered about 600 of the Boxers and dispersed them. They lost about 70. The infantry also encountered the enemy and drove them back. They numbered about 400 and retired to Shiau-pien-chwang, with a loss of 40. We had 1 wounded. The place of the fight is about 7½ miles south-west of Tientsin.

Peking, August 23.

The Emperor of Korea has sent a chamberlain carrying 2,000 bags of rice, 3,000 bags of flour, and 2,000 boxes of cigars for the Allied forces.

(From the same.)

Peking, Aug. 25.

At a meeting of the Foreign Representatives and commanding officers held to-day, it was decided that the gates of the Imperial City should be guarded as hitherto, namely, the south gate by the Americans and the other three by the Japanese. It was farther decided that, to commemorate the capture of Peking, the allied troops should file through the Imperial City next Tuesday (28th). This afternoon the French and Japanese flags were raised on the hill called King-shan within the Imperial City. Over seventy Chinese came to the Tang-fah Gate to-day and surrendered. In order to make inquiries into the state of affairs in the interior of China, five of these men were detained by the English and five by us. The remainder were released. It is probable that many more will surrender. The active members among the City's officials are coming forward, and 15 of them have placed themselves in communication with the Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique.

Peking 26.

Affairs are quiet at Nan-yuen and in its neighbourhood.

(From the same.)

Peking 27.

Among the five prisoners detained yesterday, two were sent into the Palace with a message for the inmates. The result was 260 persons came out to-day and surrendered. The majority of them were guards and eunuchs, there being only one officer. The officer was taken to our Head-Quarters and treated with every consideration. He was then released and sent to the Palace to explain that the allied troops would file through on the 28th, and to request that order should be preserved. It appears that six ladies who formed part of the household of the two last Emperors and many female attendants and eunuchs are in the Palace. Notice was given to these that they would not be in any way injured and that supplies of food and other necessaries would be sent to them. Moreover, in order to prevent disturbance on the 28th instant, Ching Hsin, a member of the Tsung-li Yamên, and others, are to be sent to the Palace to-morrow.

(RECEIVED AT THE WAR DEPARTMENT.)
(From Lieut.-Colonel Aoki.)

Tientsin, August 28.

The enemy in the neighbourhood of Tientsin have gone southward, and the Boxers are gradually being quelled.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

Hangkow, Aug. 23.

The Japanese subject who was arrested by order of Viceroy Chan has been released, but all the Chinese reformers have been decapitated.

Shanghai, Aug. 24.

A Chinese official in Pao-tung-fu has received intelligence that Jung Lu committed suicide by order. His death is supposed to have occurred about the 15th.

Prince Twan is said to have been captured by the Japanese troops.

The *Dobun-kai* (common-literature society) at Nankin has been withdrawn.

[FROM THE "OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD."]

GERMAN ITEMS.

Berlin, Aug. 20.

The Prince of Wales is on a visit to H. M. the German Emperor at Berlin.

The Czar has assured the Boer emissaries that he would under no circumstance try to interfere with England on behalf of the Transvaal.

The entire Press of England condemns most severely the idea of making peace with China at his moment.

The King of Italy received Field Marshal Graf von Waldersee in audience to-day. The Field Marshal's journey to Rome was one triumphant ovation all the way through. He will arrive at Shanghai on the 22nd of September.

The strike of the wharf hands at Marseilles has ended.

The imperial manœuvres will begin on September 7th at Stettin.

Ferdinand Laeisz, Jr., the head of one of the leading shipping firms, died at Hamburg to-day.

A French transport with one thousand men has left Algiers for China.

The Czar has conferred the St. George's Cross upon General Linevich, the Commander-in-chief of the Russian troops, for the relief of Peking.

The Boers have lately gained a notable success against the British troops in South Africa.

At the Paris Exhibition two people were killed and 28 severely wounded in a crowd.

In Berlin 20,000 labourers of the coal-yards have struck.

A telegram from Chefoo reports:—As soon as the Allies reached Peking they immediately searched for Prince Twan, but did not find him. They then pursued him with cavalry. At the same time the Allies issued the following proclamation: We fight only against the Boxers and their leaders and for the protection of our Ministers, and do not seek a conflict with the Chinese people.

The *Gaulois* quotes the case of Rene Guerry, 86 years old, living at Verrie (Vendée), whose family circle totals up the modest number of 99 descendants, of whom 98 are living. Guerry had ten children, of whom eight are living. These eight children are married, and have had altogether 69 children, out of whom seven are married and have 20 children.

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CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 486.

Key move B to B 5.

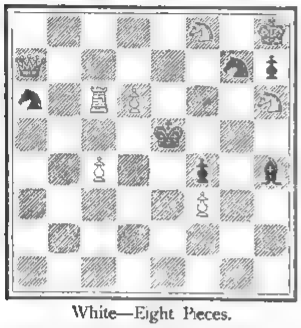
PROBLEM No. 488.

By J. COLPA, LEIDEN.

Second Prize,

Netherlands Chess-Association Tourney.

Black—Six Pieces.



White—Eight Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 616.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Teichmann. Black—Van Vliet.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	21 B Q3	P QB4
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	22 P QKt3	P QR4
3 B Kt5	P Q3	23 Kt B3	P Kt5
4 P Q4	B Q2	24 B Rsq	P R5
5 Castles	KKt K2	25 Kt R4	K Ktsq
6 B QB4	KtxP	26 B B4	PxP
7 KtxKt	PxKt	27 RPxP	K Bsq
8 QxP	Kt B3	28 P K5	QPxP
9 Q K3	Kt K4	29 PxP	RxB
10 B K2	P KKt3	30 RxR	QxP
11 B Q2	B Kt2	31 Q Q3	B B3
12 B QB3	P KB3	32 R R7	R K2
13 P B4	Kt B2	33 RxR	QxR
14 B B4	Q K2	34 Kt B3	P B4
15 Kt Q2	Castles	35 BxKt	KxB
16 QR Ksq	KR Ksq	36 R Ksq	B K5
17 K Rsq	B K3	37 Q B4ch	K Bsq
18 B Q3	K Rsq	38 Q R6	B B6
19 Q Kt3	B Q2	39 R Qsq	B QKt2
20 B B4	P QKt4	40 Q Q3	Drawn

GAME No. 617.

ZUKERTORT OPENING.

White—Lee. Black—Lawrence.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 Kt KB3	P KB4	21 R QBsq	P KKt4
2 P Q4	P K3	22 RxP	Kt Kt5
3 P B4	Kt KB3	23 KtxP	KtxR
4 Kt B3	B K2	24 KtxKt	P B5
5 P K3	Castles	25 KtxB	PxKPch
6 B Q3	P Q4	26 KxP	P Kt5
7 Castles	P B3	27 B K4	QxKt
8 Kt K5	QKt Q2	28 R R6	Q Kt4ch
9 P B4	KtxKt	29 K Q3	B R3ch
10 BPxKt	Kt Kt5	30 K B2	QR Bch
11 B K2	Kt R3	31 B B6	R B7
12 B Q2	B Kt4	32 Q QB3	QxR
13 Q Kt3	K Rsq	33 P Q5	B Kt4
14 QR Qsq	P QKt3	34 P K6ch	K Ktsq
15 PxP	KPxP	35 P K7	Q Bsq ch
16 B B3	B Kt2	36 QxQ	RxQch
17 Kt K2	B R3	37 KxR	BxB
18 R B2	B R5	38 PxB	K B2
19 P Kt3	B K2	39 Resigns.	
20 Kt B4	B Bsq		

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Aug. 25th :—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders...	16,731,668
Amount of convertible notes issued ...	199,545,494
Government deposits	47,162,260
General deposits	6,549,041
Exchange liability	36,278
Total	300,025,743

CR.	
Discount notes	75,988 831
Foreign discount notes	11,055 265
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	60,767 940
Exchange liability	1,342 242
Government bonds	52,402 558
Property	2,155 892
Bullion and Specie	74,222,011
Total	300,025 743

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	200,158.697
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	69,940.034
Silver	3,000,000
Total	72,940.034
Securities :—	
Government bonds	26,034,755
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	10,808,887
Commercial notes	68,375,020
Total	127,218,663

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	141,338
Silver	—	—
General loans		1,216,929
Government deposits...	—	1,068,830
General deposits...	795,314	—

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.		Date
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 1	F	Aug. 31
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen 2	Sa	Sept. 1
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro 3	M	Sept. 3
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan 4	M	Sept 3
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Salazie 5	W.	Sept. 5
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th	Sept 7
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M	Sept. 10
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 6	Su	Sept. 9
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M.	Sept. 10
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M.	Sept. 17
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th.	Sept. 20

1 Left San Francisco on the 11th inst.
2 Left Nagasaki on the 29th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 25th inst.
4 Left Vancouver on the 20th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 29th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 21st inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line.	Steamer	Date	
Hongkong	P M Co	City of Peking	Sa.	Sept. 1
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M.	Sept. 3
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W.	Sept. 5
Shanghai	N Y. K.	Nagato Maru	W.	Sept. 5
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W.	Sept. 5
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R Co.	Em. of India	F.	Sept. 7
Hongkong.....	N D. Lloyd	Preussen	Sa.	Sept. 8
Hongkong	O & O Co.	Gaelic	M.	Sept. 10
America	O & O. Co.	Coptic	W	Sept 12
Europe, via S'hai .	M. M. Co.	Salazie	F.	Sept. 14
Hongkong.....	T K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu	Sept 18
America	T. K K.	America Maru	Sa.	Sept. 22

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 24th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, 18th Aug., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 24th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 24th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, 19th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 26th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, Aug. 25th, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, S. Yoshizawa, 27th Aug.,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 25th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 27th Aug.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 26th Aug., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 27th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 26th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Muke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S. Kawamuro, 27th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K Fuji, 27th Aug.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Savoia, German Hospital steamer, 1,622, S. Behrens, 27th Aug.,—Taku via Moji.—C. Illies & Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Wm. Frakes, 28th Aug.,—Tacoma, Wash., 9th Aug., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, H. Pybus, 28th Aug.,—Kobe, 26th Aug., General.—C. P. R. Co.

China, Austrian steamer, 3,855, R. Meyer, 28th Aug.,—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong, 16th August, Mails and General.—Browne & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 28th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yasumoto, 28th August,—Kobe, 26th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Breconshire, British steamer, 2,323, Geo. Elliott, 28th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 26th Aug., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 28th August,—Keelung, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumitoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 29th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 28th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Y. Kishi, 30th Aug., — Hakodate, General. — Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 30th Aug.,—Kobe, 28th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tiuyuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 30th Aug.,—Australia via ports, and Hongkong, 23rd Aug., Mails and General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 30th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 24th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,201, H. Takeda, 24th August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinz Heinrich, German steamer, 3,902, R. Meyer, 25th Aug.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Esmeralda, American schooner, 130, R. G. Lowden, 25th Aug.,—Guam, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,856, W. Thompsen, 25th Aug.,—London auk Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 25th Aug.,—Honjo, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, J. Barber, 26th Aug.,—Seattle, Wash., Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 26th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—N. Y. K.

Shiganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Y. Mura, 27th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, J. F. Allen, 28th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General. Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke 28th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, G. D. Bowles, 29th Aug.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Breconshire, British steamer, 2,323, Geo. Elliott, 29th Aug.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma., Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 29th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, W. W. Greene, 29th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 29th Aug.,—Shimonoseki, General. -Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, Austrian steamer, 3,855, R. Meyer, 29th Aug.,—Trieste via ports, General.—Browne & Co.

Muke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S. Kawamuro, 29th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 30th Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 30th Aug.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mr. A. H. Brooks, Rev. J. C. Garrit, Mr. W. F. Treglown, Miss A. Henry, Miss M. Brunsten, Miss M. Kellow, and Mr., Mrs., Master, and Misses Terada, in cabin; Mrs. and Mr. R. Shindo, in second class; Japanese 32, and Chinese 11, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from Hongkong :—Mr. R. J. Gerrard, Mr. J. Denss, Mrs. J. A. Duncan, Mr. V. L. Baeck, Mr. T. Hance, Miss Show, Mr. and Mrs. Fawkner, Mr. E. Asair, Mr. C. H. Miller, Mr. J. L. Jacott, Mr. K. Geerts, Miss Keith, Mr. M. Delbourgo, Mr. L. M. Thomas in cabin. For San Francisco :—Mr. L. Bleck, Mr. W. P. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Plat and 4 boys, Mr. Amstrong, Miss J. Dickerson, Mr. B. S. Buckman, Mr U. T. Anderson, Mr. A. Swickar, Mr. J. D. Trawick, Mr. Sam Yate, Mr. J. C. Siegfred, Mr. Thos. Wood in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. J. Hallard, Miss Faithfull Davies, and Mr. Chue Yu Shom, in cabin ; 3 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Glenogle*, from Tacoma, Wash., for Kobe.—Mr. H. Sundermann, in cabin. For Hongkong :—Mrs. Forbes, Mrs. Hinds and maid, Miss Hinds, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Gallagher, and Mr. H. Wilmpon, in cabin.

Per Austrian steamer *China*, from Trieste via ports :—Mr. Eberstein, and Mr. Hartn, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steomer *Prinz Heinrich*, for Europe via ports :—Miss Summers, Mr. G. H. Browne, Mr. A. E. McGlew, Miss M. Clare, Mr. H. A. Poole, Mr Geo. R. Chipmann, Mr. A. Gysin, Mr. E. A. Carolan, Mr. E. Goyet, Mr. H. W. Andrews, Mr. Rudolf Metz, Mr J. Kuhn, Rev. H. Loomis, Mr. S. H. Perkes, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Saxton, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Jonas and child, Mr. A. H. Cole Watson, Mrs. B. Browne, Mr. Aug. Ehlers, Mr. and Mrs. Cope, Mr. F. Bornemann, Capt. W. Frazier, Mr. Karl Conscience, Mr. Gradwell, Mr. John W. Bandow, Miss S. L. Dodson, Mr. C. Warnock, Mr. F. Dabelstein, Mr. J. T. Smith, Mrs. Lyne, and Miss Cartwright, Mr. Schroder, Mr. J. Zundel, Mr. A. Levetus, Mr. J. F. Vernet, Mrs. Harvhurst and servant, Capt. Schlieper, Dr. Aitkin, Miss M. J. Graham, Miss L. Howie, Miss S. Mundle and 2 children, Mr. W. Koch, Mr. C. Koch, Mrs. C. Powell, Misses Powell (2), Miss E. A. Adams, Miss A. B. Lanius, Mrs. Florence and child, Mr. Yamasaki, Mr. C. E. Libeaud, Mrs. Ishida Toki, Miss Bishop, Miss Melville, Master and Miss McKelvie, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Nance, baby, amah and child, Mr. J. T. Pearson, Mr. P. Lehmann, Mrs. A. A. Crawford, Mr. Chas. A. Gaff, Mr., Mrs. and Master Remedios, Mr. R. Ryhoomal, Mrs. Cooperus, Lieut. P. U. Antona, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Watson, Misses Watson (2), Master Watson, Miss Ruth Watson, and 2 Japanese amahs, Mr. H. Grose, Mr. W. Martin, Mr. L. Seacomb, and Mr. J. Watson, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sado Maru*, for London via ports :—Com. M. Nawa, Com. K. Togo, Lieut. K. Kato, Chief Eng. T. Uyeno, Chief Eng. M. Yamazak , Chief Surgeon Y. Suzuki, Chief Paymaster N. Kuwajima, Eng. K. Murakami, Sub Lieut. T. Noda, Sub.-Lieut. R. Katsura, Sub.-Lieut. S. Kobayashi, Mr. C. W. Duckworth, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Curtis, Dr. A. Tashiro, and Mr. T. Inouye, in cabin; Mr. S. Kirito, Mr. T. Nomura, Mr. G. Yukawa, Mr. C. Giotoku, Mr. S. Matsuura, Mr. S. Higuchi, Petty Officers S. Sato, K. Haru, K. Amano, T. Kunishige, R. Miyakawa, and Mr. W. Seabourue, in second class ; 271 I.J.N., crew, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. G. W. Anderson, Mr. Nathan Bentz, Mrs. Nathan Bentz, Mr. B. S. Buckman, Mr. L. Black, Mr. W. L. Boeck, Comte Clarey and valet, Miss Myrtle J. Dickerson, Mr. Fortsmann, Dr. S. J. R. Greville, Mrs. C. A. Greville, Mr. R. Hotta and servant, Miss E. Hunt, Prof. David Starr Jordan, Mr. T. Mori, Mr. J. F. Peat, Mrs. J. F. Peat and 4 children, Mr. J. C. Siegfried, Mr. Jno. O. Snyder, Mr. A. Swickard, Mr. W. A. Thomas, Dr. J. D. Trawick, Mr. Thos. Woon, Mr. Lam Yate, and Mr. Sui Yung, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—Miss Albertson, Mr. W. Collins, Mrs. W. Collins, Sir Charles Forrest, Bart, Mr. Kingham, Mrs. Kingham and child, Rev. G. Marshall, Mrs. G. Marshall and child, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports :—Misses Clarke, Mr. G. D. Clarke, Mr H. G. Ginn, Mr. J. C. Martin, Mr. G. Knowles, Mr. E. H. Mitchell, and Mr. A. H. Brooks, in cabin. Messrs. K. and K. Matsuo, Mr. K. Komura, and Mrs. F. Schaetzchan, in second class.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Prinz Heinrich* :—

	RAW.			WASTE.
	Option	France.	Italy	Italy.
Siber, Wolff & Co.	10	—	30	34
Sieber & Co.	76	-	-	—
O. Reimers & Co.	70	—	—	—
Herbert Dent & Co.	—	4	—	—
Lough & Co.	—	20	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	—	33	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	14	—	—	—

Total—257 bales, Raw Silk ; 34 bales, Waste Silk.

The following are the silk shippers per steamer *Nippon Maru*, which sails for San Francisco, to-day:—

	Bales.
O Reimers & Co.	110
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	84
Ulysse Pila & Co.	70
Nabholz & Co.	20
Vivanti Bros.	20
Herbert Dent & Co.	5
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	136
Doshin Kaisha	48
Kuto Gomei Shokai	42
Total	535

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—

From.	TEA. Canada	Chicago & West.	New York & West.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Hongkong	395	—	—	304	—	699
Amoy	320	492	4,409	—	—	5,221
Foochow	11,344	531	369	2,110	—	14,354
Shanghai	591	2,103	387	—	—	3,081
Kobe	597	1,747	253	70	—	2,667
Yokohama	3,765	1,048	527	261	—	5,601
Total	17,012	5,921	5,945	2,745	—	31,623

From.	SILK. New York	Hartford	Total Bales.
Hongkong & Canton	68	—	68
Shanghai	Raw 60 / Wild 5	—	65
Yokohama	20	—	20
Total	153	—	153

Per British steamer *Brecoushire*, for Tacoma, Wash. —

	TEA. Canada	Chicago and West.	New York and East	Pacific Coast	Total Packages
Calcutta	264	—	—	—	264
Foochow	—	522	—	—	522
Kobe	—	1,326	145	—	1,471
Yokohama	—	2,788	226	—	3,014
Total	264	4,636	371	—	5,271

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The feeling is a trifle better, but there is still no business on any scale. The deadness of the market during many months past is without parallel during recent years.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38¼ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb. 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2 30 to 3 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ..	2.80 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Sattcens, Black, 32 inches. .	PER YARD. 0.21 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb.	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.20 to 11.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2 15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	1.45 to 1.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38, 42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	Y. 170.00 to 175.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	170.00 to 185.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	353.00 to 365.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	27 *yen*
Indian Broach	24
Chinese	25.00

METALS.

The market is lifeless.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 6.00 to 6.50
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 7.00
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.50 to 14.00
Wire Nails, assorted	8.00 to 8.50
Tin Plates, per box	8.00 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	7.00 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

The market is firm.

American	$2.86
Russian	2.80
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

The market is firm.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.30 to 6.10
Brown Manila	5.70 to 7.00
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 5 50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined	8.00 to 9.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Business has fallen away a little during the week, and, though lower prices are not quotable the tendency foreshadowed in our last report is confirmed, and silks will probably be lower next month

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse.	Y. 920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	970 to 980
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse.	860 to 865
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	835 to 845
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	815 to 825
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	860 to 865
Re-reels—No. 1	840 to 845
Re-reels—No. 1½	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	860 to 870
Kakedas—No. 1½	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 2	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2½	770 to 780

WASTE SILK.

A moderate business at quotations. Supplies of desirable fibre are at present scanty.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi -Filatures, Best	150 to 160
Noshi Filatures, Good	130 to 140
Noshi Oshiu, Best	135 to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	120 to 130
Noshi -Shinshiu, Best	105 to 110
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi -Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	75 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	

TEA.

A steady trade has been proceeding without much appreciable change in quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	39 & upwards
Choice	37 to 38
Finest	35 to 36
Fine	33 to 34
Good Medium	31 to 32
Medium	29 to 30
Good Common	27 to 28
Common	25 to 26

RICE MARKET.

Fukagawa Godowns, Tokyo, August 29.

The market was steady.

Sold, Japanese rice 6,864 hyo; arrived, Japanese, 1,203 hyo; in stock, Japanese, 388,523.

Retail per *Yen*—First quality 4 sho 9 go ; second, 5 sho 3 go, third, 5 sho 6 go ; fourth, 6 sho 1 go, fifth, 6 sho 7 go.

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, August 30.

London silver ⅛ higher and discount unchanged, Indian Council Bills went a trifle higher and China rates reported steady; locally no change has been made in quotations.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255
— Private 4 months' sight	261
— — 6 months' sight	262½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞@1
Germany—Bank sight	207
— Private 4 months' sight	212½@13
Hongkong—Bank sight	*½% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*1½% dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 71½
— Private 10 days' sight	* 73
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London) 25th	28⅛

* Nominal.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, August 30.

Japan Breweries again changed hands at *yen* 150. Brewery debentures have been sold at *yen* 108. Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107. Bretts & Co. debentures are obtainable at par.

Langfeldts are steady at *yen* 100. Oriental Hotels offers for old and new shares are wanted. Helms are obtainable at par.

	YEN.	
Yokohama E. & I. Works	210	Sellers.
Grand Hotel	240	Sales.
Club Hotel	85	Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150	Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	100	Steady.
Japan Brewery Co.	150	Sellers.

TELEGRAPHIC QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, Aug. 29.

BANKS.		
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	$305 % prem.	S.
National Bank of China, Limited	27	Sales
MARINE INSURANCES.		
China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited	58	Sales.
North China Insurance Company, Limited	Tls. 165	Sales.
FIRE INSURANCES.		
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	$295	Sellers.
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	76	Buyers.
SHIPPING.		
Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, Limited	30	Sales.
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	43	Buyers.
MINING.		
Punjom Mining Company, Limited	5⅛	Sellers.
Raub A'lian Gold Mining Company, Limited	56	Sellers.
DOCKS, WHARFS AND GODOWNS.		
Hongkong & W'poa Dock Company, Limited	505 % prem.	Sa.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ld.	90 old Shares ex new	Sellers.
LANDS.		
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited	170	Sales?
H'phrey's Estate & Finance Company, Limited	11	Sellers.
MISCELLANEOUS.		
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	114	Sellers.
Green Island Cement Co., Limited	21	Sellers.

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BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 30.

Breweries can be had at *yen* 150. Engine and Iron Works are obtainable at *yen* 210. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 240. Oriental Hotels—Offers for founders, old and new shares, are wanted. Helms can be had at par. Langfeldts were sold to-day at at *yen* 95. A few more shares can be placed at the same figure. Laundries have sellers at par. Offers of Bretts are wanted.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 108. Laundry debentures can be had at par

Hodogaya Breweries are obtainable at *yen* 28.50.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	210	S
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150	Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240	Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80	N
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150	S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500	Sa
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal	
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215	B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9	B.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	95	
Helm Bros., ¥50	50	S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50	S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	110	St
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	108	Sa
Brett & Co., Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	101	Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	108	Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	99	Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40	N.

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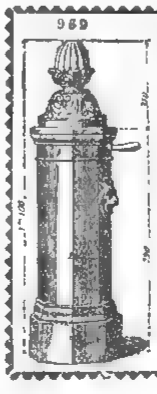

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 8TH, 1900.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A SEVERE earthquake was felt at Hikone at 3 a.m. on the 4th inst.

A BRANCH office of the First National Bank was opened at Nagaoka, Niigata Prefecture, on the 1st inst.

THE Shinto Shrine, Samukawa Jinja, at Goshomit mura, Koza-gori, Kanagawa prefecture, was burn- on the 31st ult.

IT is said the repairs to the military station at Ujina, damaged by the recent storm, will amount to about *yen* 100,000.

THE Directors of the Norddeutscher Lloyd have given pensions to the families of their officers and men who perished in the Hoboken fire.

HORSE disease is spreading at Otamura and Kinoshitamura, Inbagori, Chiba, where, from the 2nd to the 25th ult., 86 horses were attacked.

FIRE broke out in a drying-room of the Skin Factory, Oimura, Yebaragori, Tokyo, on the evening of the 3rd inst. and the building was destroyed.

A FISHERMAN'S fight occurred between Takahama and Futakunijima, on the 3rd inst. Several fishermen were injured and they have since been arrested.

THE Yokosuka Port-Admiralty announced through the Kanagawa Kencho on the 2nd inst., that torpedo-mines are to be placed in Nagaura Bay from the 5th to 20th inst. Steamers and fishing boats are warned not to venture within the dangerous area.

COLONEL C. de Wogack, Military Attaché to the Russian Legation at Peking, has been promoted to the rank of Major-General, in recognition of his distinguished services.

IT is stated that penny-in-the-slot telephone stations are to be fitted up at Shimbashi and Uyeno. Ten *sen* and five *sen* pieces are reported to be the means of operating the machines.

THE sensation of the week has been Russia's proposal to withdraw all the foreign troops from Peking. The other Powers are discussing the subject. The U.S.A. provisionally assents.

LORD ROBERTS has annexed the Transvaal. The main burgher position is near Lydenburg, which General Buller is attacking. Meanwhile some small commandoes have appeared at Ladybrand in the Free State.

AN armed burglar entered the premises of Ish Masataro, chief of the Kanagawa Post Office, Kanagawa, on the evening of the 3rd inst., and stole 3 *yen*, after threatening the inmates with a drawn sword.

THREE silver *okimono* (ornaments to be placed in alcoves) subscribed for by Japanese residents of Great Britain, to be presented to the Crown Prince in celebration of his marriage, arrived in Tokyo a few days ago.

SUZUKI GONZO, a gambler living at Sugacho, Yokosuka, sold some lottery tickets on the 29th ult. After his arrest, his house was searched by order of the Yokohama Local Court and 4,500 tickets were found.

A MAN named Kuroda Unosuke lost a gold watch near Imagawa-bashi, Tokyo, on the 31st ult. He notified the police at once, and on the 4th inst. a parcel (post) arrived at the Kanda Police Station containing the missing valuable.

A ROBBER entered the premises of Mr. Mitsui Yonosuke of Hamacho Nichome, Tokyo, the other night and stole five tobacco pouches, some gold and silver articles, two gold watches and chains, and a diamond ring, altogether valued at 1,790 *yen*.

MR. KONISHI SHINZABURO, ex-chief-inspector of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, resigned a few weeks ago. Some 256 of the staff of the Company have presented him with a gold watch and chain, a silver vase, a jewelled locket, etc., as marks of their esteem.

A SAILOR of the British ship *Palgrave*, at present at Kobe, was tried in the Kobe District Court on Thursday on a charge of creating a disturbance in the Tokiwa restaurant, Sannomiya station. He was found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment for 15 days.

THE body of a young man was washed ashore at Oiso on Saturday morning. It could not be identified, and was temporarily buried. The same afternoon, the body of a young woman, with hands tied, was washed ashore near the same spot. It is thought that the man and woman committed suicide together.

A MAID-SERVANT named Sayegusa Man, set fire to the dye-shop known as the Santoku, Matsukagecho, Yokohama, early on the morning of the 30th ult. She was arrested the same afternoon by the Isezakicho police. She had previously insured her personal goods for *yen* 150.

AN employee in the bakery establishment of A. Balmes at No. 117 Creekside, Yokohama, who was dissatisfied with the treatment accorded him, is reported to have adopted an unpleasant form of expressing his feelings by flavouring the bread with kerosene. He then demanded *yen* 22 as wages and refused to leave till he got them. On the intervention of the police he agreed to take *yen* 10 and go.

THE armourer of H.M.S. *Centurion*, who accidentally shot himself whilst repairing a pistol during the operations of the relief column, died at Wei-hai-wei. The bullet entered his leg above the knee, and came out in the calf. The limb was amputated, but the operation proved unsuccessful.

ONE hundred and eighty-two fresh cases of dysentery were reported from the 21st to 25th ult.; the deaths were forty-eight. Fourteen persons were attacked in Yokohama on the 30th and 31st ult. From the beginning of the outbreak until the 25th the total was 1,691 cases and 363 deaths.

THE House of Lords has given judgment in the case of the *Times* v. Lane, the question being whether a reporter can copy-right speeches, the utterances in this case being those of Lord Rosebery. The judgment reversed the decision of the Court of Appeals, the House of Lords upholding the copyright of the *Times*.

THE Governor of Fukuoka Ken reports to the Home Department under date of the 28th, 1.20 p.m., that a genuine case of cholera is reported from Kiku-gori. The total number of cases in that Ken since the first outbreak is 44 and the disease is still spreading. Miike, Kurate, and Goga are the worst infected districts at present.

ON Friday evening, about 7 o'clock, a man named Nakatsugawa (23), a native of Sendai, who is alleged to have defrauded the Dai Ichi Ginko, Tokyo, of the amount of *yen* 7,600 on the 30th ult., was arrested by the Yokohama police at a tea-house called the Sammoro, Chojamachi, Rokuchome. *Yen* 6,000 were found in his possession.

THE four new torpedo destroyers lately built for the Russian Admiralty at Elbing, and named the *Kasatka*, *Skat*, *Kit*, and *Delphin*, have been commissioned for the Far East. This flotilla of Russian destroyers, it is anticipated, will reach the mouth of the Pei-ho about a fortnight or so later than the German torpedo-boats proceeding from Kiel.

UNDETERRED by the fact that nearly every attempt to undertake salt refining on a large scale in the Hokkaido has hitherto failed, the Hokkaido Tanko Kaisha is reported to have started a factory at Otaru, utilising for the purpose such coal produced from its mines as is unfit for the market. The daily output of salt is stated at two *koku* and the quality is said to be very superior.

DURING the Indian Famine of 1897 large numbers of starving children derived great benefit from the generous gift by Mellin's Food Company of several hundred cases of their speciality sent out for free distribution. Through the Lord Mayor of London's Fund 300 dozen cases of Mellin's Food have been presented to the Central Committee of the Indian Famine Fund for 1900.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a report by Mr. Adachi (Chief Director of the Railway Bureau) with regard to the Seoul-Chemulpo Railway, the prospects of which he considers very promising. Four hundred tons of freight are carried over the line every day. Ministers of State travel free of charge, and Mr. Adachi notes that frequent attempts are made to personate those distinguished folk with a view to economical locomotion.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Sept. 1.

Among the curious rumours now circulated, one of the strangest is to the effect that the allied forces are to be withdrawn at once from Peking with the exception of the Russians and the Germans. That would be a singular step. It may be taken for granted that Peking will be resolutely held until peace is re-established, and we shall not be surprised to find that the evacuation of the city is ultimately made to depend on the satisfaction of the monetary claims that will be preferred against China.

It is telegraphed from Shanghai to the *Asahi Shimbun* that Germany and Russia will not agree to open peace negotiations with China until affairs are restored to their normal channels, and the travel and trade of foreigners in the interior are as safe as they used to be. We do not understand how such a programme could be carried into practice. Even if foreign subjects and citizens were willing to make the extremely risky experiment of resuming their commercial and missionary pursuits in the interior of China without any guarantees other than those already existing, or, we should rather say, non-existing, an unlimited time would have to elapse before the conditions attributed to the Russian and German Governments were fulfilled. Germany is at present the object of much suspicion. The measures she persists in adopting seem, at first sight, intended to prelude some kind of anti-climax. We have already stated another theory which accounts for her acts without any recourse to ominous explanations, and until events convict us of error, we prefer to adhere to the straightforward view.

The *Shogyo Shimpo's* telegrams suggest that the association of monied men (*Fu-yu-hui*) of which we have recently heard in connexion with affairs in the Yang-tsze Valley, is a powerful organization, its ramifications extending over Hunan, Hupeh, the two Kwangs, and Canton, and that, if once it raises its head strongly, the authorities may find great difficulty in dealing with it. One rumour says that its real leader is Kang Yu-wei. However that may be, it is an organization of substantial men who are weary of the misgovernment of their country and ready to promote reform. Five of its associates were recently arrested and beheaded, which does not look as though the Authorities were much disposed to treat it gently.

Monday, Sept. 3.

A telegram to the *Asahi* says that the remains of Baron von Ketteler were interred in a Chinese coffin, and that the Representatives of Belgium and Holland were wounded during the siege. The message adds that the United States Representative is at Chefoo, where the foreign community of Peking are likely to assemble. Those that endured the pains and perils of the siege ought to come to Japan and take a long rest.

Mr. Ogawa, correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun*, who has sent to Tokyo such an interesting account of the events during the siege of Peking, says that some reform in the manner of victualling the Japanese army is absolutely essential. The difference between the food of the foreign troops and that of the Japanese is altogether too great. For the former, biscuits and canned meats are always provided in abundance. But the Japanese eat rice, and as it has to be boiled, large pots for that purpose as well as vessels for cleaning the rice have to be carried by the transport corps. It frequently happens that these utensils do not reach the camping ground until after sunset, and in that event the troops do not get their evening meal until 10 or 11 p.m. Then, by way of provision for the following morning and mid-day meals, rice has to be cooked overnight and pressed into balls which the men carry with them. During hot weather, such as was experienced on the recent march to Peking, this cooked rice ferments in a few hours, and becomes quite unfit to eat. In some cases dried rice (*hoshi-i*) is provided. But before eating it, it has to be steeped in water, and water was one of the greatest difficulties. The Peiho, along whose banks the men marched, is never fit to drink at the best of times, and this summer it has been encumbered with corpses of men and animals. Thus the Japanese troops often had to do a hard day's work on empty stomachs.

The same correspondent strongly criticises the dress of the Japanese soldiers. Instead of wearing *khaki*, which is difficult for the enemy to see, they have white tunics, and are thus an excellent mark for riflemen. Their head-gear, too, does not compare with the light, sun-proof helmet of the European and American soldiers, and the fashion of their trousers, which are cut so as to fit the leg tightly, is eminently unfitted for marching in hot weather. The knapsack also evokes this critic's condemnation. He notes that foreign troops are not required to carry their knapsacks into action. The knapsacks are carried for them, and they are burdened only with ammunition and a little food. The Japanese soldier, however, has to carry his knapsack at all times, and it makes an immense difference in his freedom of motion. The soldiers say that fighting is nothing to them, but that marching is terrible. On the march from Tung-chow to Peking, one of the men remarked that were it not for patriotism, death would be the most desirable event that could come to him.

Another curious point is discussed by Mr. Ogawa. An European officer, he says, asked how Japanese soldiers pass their time in barracks. In Europe the officers and men have much in common; they play games together and are on comparatively intimate terms, so that, on campaign, they work sympathetically and in unison. Observing the high spirit of the Japanese troops, this officer inquired how they were treated in barracks and what measures were adopted to educate such a spirit. The Japanese to whom he addressed himself was obliged to reply that the only incentives in the case of the Japanese soldier are patriotism, loyalty and education. As a matter of fact, the gulf between the soldier and the officer in Japan is immense: such a thing as engaging in the same sports is never heard of.

The Japanese marines who were stationed in the Chinese town of Amoy have been withdrawn and only a Settlement guard is to be retained. This step is said to have been taken in consideration of a guarantee given by the Chinese Authorities for the security of life and property. We can not but applaud the moderation that Japan is displaying in her dealings with China. It furnishes a complete answer to critics of the Mitford and McColl clan. These gentlemen and the London *Spectator* seem to carry us back to the time of the Crusaders, when every one not a Christian was regarded as a "dog of an infidel."

It is telegraphed from London to the *Shogyo Shimpo* that some of the leading German newspapers strongly advocate an agreement between Germany and Russia with regard to the Chinese problem. They say that such an alliance is natural, and that the time for it has definitely arrived. In view of these utterances as well as of the departure of Marshal Waldersee and of the preparations Germany is making, a belief is said to have become prevalent that she contemplates an extensive *coup* in China in conjunction with Russia. The circulation of such rumours is inevitable, but we can not for an instant believe that while Germany and Russia are ostensibly acting in concert with the other Powers, they have secretly agreed to adopt an independent course. That would be an incredible disregard of international good faith.

The Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Washington is reported to have informed an American high official that Russia earnestly desires the restoration of peace in China and that she has not the remotest intention of joining in the partition of that country. She has been suspected of a design to possess herself of all the railways, but her purpose does not extend beyond the protection of the railways and their gradual development. As to her seizure of Newchwang, which has given rise to so many conjectures, the Chargé d'Affaires failed to see how it differed materially from the seizure of the Taku Forts by the Allied forces.

The *Asahi's* Shanghai correspondent wires that a former Chinese Admiral—whose name being in *kana* we cannot identify—was recently arrested on a charge of having attempted to enrol his men in the ranks of the Ko-lao-hui, with the object of overthrowing the Manchu dynasty. Viceroy Liu ordered his immediate decapitation.

Viceroy Chang is said to have applied to Viceroy Liu to contrive the arrest of 19 prominent members of the reform party, now in Shanghai. Liu has sent officials to Shanghai for the purpose, and negotiations are in progress with the Consuls. All this activity against the reformers at the present juncture is not very encouraging, but it remains to be seen what designs they really contemplated.

According to a telegram published conspicuously by the *Asahi Shimbun*, Prince Twan is the source of authority in China at present. He is said to have sent a message to Liu Kung-yi which has induced the latter to invite Chang Chi-tung, Shêng and Li Hung-chang to Nankin for the purpose of holding a conference on lines dictated by Twan. If there be any truth in the statements attributed to Viceroy Li, or if he really addressed to the Throne the memorials attributed to him, it is impossible that he should undertake any negotiations at the instance, or subject to the approval, of Prince Twan. It would be, we imagine, a *sine qua non* that Twan should not wield any authority in the administrative machinery set up after peace is restored.

The *Isis* is reported to have landed marines at Amoy for the protection of the British Settlement. A large exodus of Chinese is said to have taken place, and public feeling is considerably excited.

Mr. Ogawa writes very strongly about the conduct of the Japanese coolies employed by the British troops in China for transport purposes. He declares that no efficient means were adopted to preserve discipline among these men, and that they engaged freely in plunder and ill-treatment of women. Even the Chinese converts who went through

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the sufferings of the Peking siege in company with foreigners, did not escape outrage at the hands of these coolies, who being collected from the very dregs of the population in Japan and subjected to no sort of restraint, conducted themselves in the most brutal manner. Doubtless much of their misbehaviour will be attributed to the Japanese troops.

He says, also, that the inhabitants of Tungchow having been taken by surprise, the respectable people had not had time to escape before the allied troops entered. They were indiscriminately pressed by the Russians as baggage-carriers and it was a most pitiable sight to see old men, evidently of good position, toiling under the weight of loads, and beaten unmercifully if they flagged. "May we never be the vanquished party," is Mr. Ogawa's ejactulation.

Mr. Ogawa has a good laugh at the Indian troops also. They are terrible fellows to look at, he says, tall, fierce, dark, armed with formidable lances, and shooting lightning from their coal-back eyes. But in the fight they look less appalling. The whistle of a bullet doubles them up like deer-stalkers and sends them under the nearest cover, so that, seen from behind, they often present the appearance of a truncated corps. This facetious correspondent thinks that many of them must have received wounds in a part of the body which is usually reserved for kicks.

He speaks very highly of the conduct of the American troops, who seem to be disciplined by intuition, and he is enthusiastic about the appearance and soldier-like bearing of the Germans, whom he places at the head of all so far as military aspect and equipment are concerned. Concerning the Cossacks, he has nothing to say except that they seem to possess an almost supernatural power of lying asleep in a marsh without any covering under the severest rain.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* published a London telegram which says that the *Novosti* announces the occupation of the whole Amur region by Russian troops, and indicates this territory as the compensation that Russia proposes to demand from China. The *Novosti* does not represent the Russian Government, and unless some better authority is forthcoming we shall not believe in the inauguration of such a policy.

Tuesday, Sept. 4.

The *Kolnische Zeitung*, according to a telegram received by the Foreign Office in Tokyo, constitutes itself an apologist for Russia's action in taking possession of Newchwang and administering the Customs there. The German newspaper alleges that Russia took this step simply because the Chinese Customs officials were absent, and that she has no intention whatever of departing from the system of friendly and loyal cōoperation.

Shanghai is represented as believing that Russia and Germany have entered into a secret agreement, the terms of which are that Russia is to have Manchuria and Germany will become mistress of Shantung and Chili. The withdrawal of the allied forces from Peking is by way of preliminary to that programme. Shanghai is always inventive and always credulous. We shall have a new Cassini Convention sprung on us presently.

A London telegram says that Russia is steadily adhering to her role of *deus ex machinâ*. She has asked the Powers to cancel the instructions issued by them to their commanding officers in North China that no communications should be permitted between Li Hung-chang and the Chinese officials on the subject of a peace conference. We were not aware that such instructions had been issued, nor do we see how they could be obeyed.

If it be true that Russia has intimated her intention of withdrawing her Minister and her troops from Peking, the plain interpretation is that she has broken up the confederation of Powers and that she intends to act on her own account. But such a statement requires much confirmation. What seems most probable is that Russia has merely advanced a proposal in that sense, and that if the majority of the Powers opposed it, she would be bound by their decision. Nevertheless there is no denying that whatever may have been the routine of her procedure, it amounts to a disruption of the confederacy so far as the operations northward of Tientsin are concerned. At present the apparent outcome of the Chinese complication is that it has furnished a splendid pretext for Russia to establish herself in Manchuria.

The *Asahi* publishes a Shanghai telegram purporting to give the gist of secret instructions issued by the British Government to Her Majesty's Consuls in the Yang-tsze Valley. The message says that Germany has joined Russia and France in a scheme to abandon the union of Powers, and to undertake extensive aggressive operations independently. Germany, according to this programme, is to have the coast ports of North China and the Yangtsze Valley. It is with that object that she is sending out a large squadron of ships and twenty-five thousand men. She will proceed, in the first place, to occupy some point of vantage under an easily devised pretext, and having thus obtained a basis of operations, she will ultimately carry out her purpose in its entirety, France and Russia cōoperating.

Considering the material that Germany is furnishing to rumour by her military and naval preparations, we can not be surprised that such stories should circulate. But their inventors show an unusual deficiency of imagination. They do not tell us where France is to come in. Manchuria for Russia; the Yangtsze and the coast-ports for Germany—that is plain enough. But is France to be engaged solely in the chestnut-pulling operation? The times are sufficiently interesting and picturesque without the profuse embroidery of fiction manufactured in Shanghai and elsewhere.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* wires that Russia has issued definite orders to her Minister and troops to withdraw from Peking, which order, except in the very improbable event of its having the consent of all the Powers, is a distinct departure from the policy of confederation. Our contemporary alleges that the Japanese Government would have been pleased to withdraw its troops at once, since they had suffered such hardships in the advance, but that it refrained from doing so in deference to the principle of cōoperation. It will continue to be guided by that principle, and will not withdraw unless the other Powers agree to do so.

It is evident that in this matter Japan and England are virtually masters of the situation. They have quite sufficient force to hold Peking, and fresh English troops are arriving weekly, while Japan could at any moment increase her contingent. But England and Japan will work with the other Powers. Of that we may be sure.

Wednesday, Sept. 5.

From Shanghai emanate all sorts of constructions of Russia's action with regard to the withdrawal of the forces from Peking, but we need scarcely repeat these conjectures. The suspicion, pretty generally entertained that some kind of secret understanding exists between Germany and Russia, pointing to independence of the concert of Powers, is receiving contradiction from Germany's action, and was, indeed, incredible from the outset.

It is reported that Prince Ching, General Tung Lu and Mr. Hsu Tung will be nominated peace-commissioners in conjunction with Li Hung-chang. They have a difficult task before them, for unless the Foreign Powers intend to be content with a very perfunctory settlement, considerable inroads will be made into the irresponsible authority of the Manchus, and the latter will thus be called on to assist at their own obsequies. The only hope for the commissioners is that the Powers cannot be brought into line for the enforcement of any drastic policy, and it must be confessed that things have already assumed that aspect.

A telegram from Shanghai says that 500 German troops are in the act of landing there. One cannot but wonder what principle actuates the proceedings of the Foreign Powers in China. England was blamed for hesitating to land troops in Shanghai lest other Powers should make good their threat of landing also. It is not credible that England was deterred by any such motive. If she hesitated, it was because she found that her action was likely to be interpreted as a departure from the concert of States. But what are we to say about the proceedings of France and Germany in immediately following England's example? Were these Powers actuated simply by a desire to protect foreign life and property? Apparently not, or they would have landed troops without waiting for England to take the lead. The motive force in their case, so far as we can judge, was simply a resolve that England should not get ahead of them. They are probably very wise from their own point of view, but if their doings in China are thus guided by international considerations rather than by local exigencies, we find it inconsistent that they should condemn England for a similar sin.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram to the effect that a large body of Tartar cavalry have made their appearance on the northern frontier of Korea, and that a battalion of Korean troops has proved quite unequal to cope with them. This is important news, if true.

According to news brought by the *Asagao Maru*, which arrived at Moji on the 31st ultimo, Prince Ching was in Peking, and Lieut.-General Yamaguchi had detailed troops to guard his *yamên* against disbanded soldiers or Boxers. But this story is inconsistent with all other intelligence, especially with the statement that steps are being taken to secure Prince Ching's return to Peking. From the same source we learn that Wang Wen-shao, who was supposed to have been cut in two by order of the Government, escaped uninjured, and has been induced by Lieut.-General Yamaguchi to remove to Prince Ching's *yamên*. Another high official of the same political party,

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Chung Li, is said to be still in Peking. Urged to move to Prince Ching's *yamén*, he is reported to have replied that since the Japanese troops are in occupation of the city he has nothing to fear.

The *Nippon* publishes a very detailed account of the difficulties that arose in connexion with the transport coolies engaged in Kobe for service with the British army. As usual it seems to have been a case of rascality on the part of the men by whom the coolies were collected and controlled, namely, Yasumoto and Yasui. The original agreement was that each coolie should receive 2 *yen* daily, but out of that amount Yasumoto and Yasui stopped 30 *sen* for clothes and 80 *sen* for food. Moreover, the provisions they supplied were execrable, and ultimately the men found it impossible to work. The real cause of their grievance did not become known to the English officers, who treated the matter simply as an instance of insubordination. Twice, however, an increase of pay to the extent of 50 per cent. was made by the British, but it is claimed that this money never reached the men, being stopped *en route* by Yasumoto and Yasui. Finally the coolies, with the exception of a hundred, effected their escape and joined the Japanese troops, when, for the first time, they obtained enough to eat. The other side of this story has still to be heard, but we incline to the belief that the coolies were unjustly and illiberally treated by Yasumoto and Yasui, for they went to China with the intention of working, and would surely have worked willingly under reasonable conditions. We do not understand that any complaint whatever is preferred against the British officers.

Thursday, Sept. 6.

An imperial decree is said to have been issued in China making Tai-yuen the new capital. Tai-yuen lies westward of Peking. It is on the projected line of railway to Nankow, but the line has not been built further than Pao-ting. The German idea that if Russia withdraws, the remaining troops would be free to pursue the Imperial court in the interior of China, can scarcely commend itself to practical minds. Such a pursuit would be virtually interminable. The Court can always get a start of two or three days, and its capture would be out of the question except by a large body of very swiftly moving cavalry. A brigade of horsemen organized and equipped according to the Boer system, each man carrying 8 days' provisions in his holsters, might accomplish the task, but many of the horses would surely break down in the essay, and guides would be very difficult to procure. Then, it is very doubtful whether cavalry could move rapidly in the interior of China. On the whole, the capture of the Court seems to be impossible. But we may be very sure that the Court will not care to be hunted from pillar to post. The slender thread of Chinese loyalty by which the Manchu throne is suspended would scarcely bear that strain.

The foreign residents of Shanghai are said to be much perturbed about Russia's proposal for the evacuation of Peking. A majority of them have united to despatch a telegram to London urging non-compliance with such a programme. British opinion appears to be tolerably unanimous on this subject. Meanwhile news comes from London that Russia has formulated four bases of procedure: first, that no change should be made in the Government of China; secondly, that the concert of the Powers should be carefully preserved; thirdly, that there should be no dismemberment of the Chinese empire, and fourthly, that no time should be lost in re-establishing the administrative power. The formulation of such proposals, if they really have been formulated, has a quaint flavour. It is as though Russia said," we must work together but I alone am to have the right of enunciating the aims of our coalition." The preservation of the present Chinese Government is precisely what the majority of the Powers do not want. They have been shamefully treated by the Manchu rulers of China, who are also obviously opposed to progress of every kind and who seems to have been in open alliance with anti-foreign insurgents. The only hope for China is that the conservative elements should be eliminated, and that the administration should be placed in the hands of liberal statesmen. But Russia, if she be correctly interpreted, requires that there shall be no re-organization of the Government. Things are to revert to the old groove. Such is the line that she undertakes to dictate to her confederates. Experience shows that Russia is very often misrepresented by the telegraph agents who cater news for the world. The same is true of Germany. One is often tempted to think that the purveyors of public intelligence harbour a secret grudge against both of these Powers. Certainly it would conduce to a better understanding all round if they made some special arrangement for a proper telegraphic representation. At all events, pending the receipt of more detailed news, we are not disposed to credit all the stories circulated about Russia's doings.

Things are said to be quieting down in Amoy. There is a report that detachments of British and French troops landed at that place on the 1st instant, but the statement must be accepted with reserve.

An Imperial decree issued by the Emperor of China on the 20th of August assigns a reason for the journey of the Court to Tai-yuen. The Empress-Dowager being old and feeble, the obligations of filial piety oblige her nephew to consult her health and comfort. Hence the Court will make a temporary sojourn in Tai-yuen, whither the high officials of State are invited to repair for the purpose of transacting business. That is a point of view.

Meanwhile the provincial forces seem to be gradually concentrating in Shen-si, to secure the tranquillity of Her Majesty's sojourn. It is a pity that Tai-yuen does not boast a spa. That would make the situation complete.

Mr. Song Il-sing, formerly Chinese Minister in London, has arrived at Nagasaki and started for Tokyo. Mr. Song became famous in London for arresting and confining in the Legation a fellow-countryman who was a fugitive from what the Chinese call "justice." He is now a prominent member of Kang Yu-wei's reform party.

Some remarkable statements have been published about the spoils taken in China. The *Miyako Shumbun* recently laid before its readers a detailed account, according to which the Japanese troops obtained at Tientsin, Tung-chow and Peking, 5 million *yen* worth of sycee, 28 million *yen* worth of bar silver, 185 pieces of artillery, ninety thousand *koku* of cereals—forty thousand *koku* being rice—and 101 ships, namely, 100 junks and 1 steam-launch. These figures are probably very much exaggerated, but the correspondents of the *Hochi* and of the *Nichi Nichi* both affirm that 2½ million *yen* worth of silver was found in the vaults of the Finance Department. This place happened to be within the district held by the Japanese troops for a few days immediately after the capture of the city. They subsequently handed over the post to the Russians, but not before they had removed the silver.

Friday, Sept. 7.

The British troops in Shanghai are being steadily increased. A telegram says that 1,400 landed on the evening of the 3rd. We have no statement of the exact force now assembled there, but it must aggregate some thousands.

The *Chugai Shogyo* publishes a London telegram which says that Lord Salisbury has instructed Her Majesty's Representatives to approach the Governments to which they are accredited, in order to ascertain the views held with regard to evacuating Peking, and that the attitude of England will probably decide the question. There is not much news in this telegram. Lord Salisbury probably took the step attributed to him within a few hours of the receipt of Russia's proposal; and as to the effect of England's attitude, we can be tolerably certain that if she decides to hold Peking until peace is made, she will have plenty of backers.

M. Delcassé, speaking in the Chamber, said that it was not impossible that the union of the Powers might be shaken, in which event it would be France's part to act as mediator. M. Delcassé has earned the title of a true statesman, and however these unhappy complications eventuate, his name will be remembered with honour. It is most fortunate that such a man directs France's foreign affairs at this critical juncture.

Austria has landed 50 men in Shanghai.

It is stated that Li Hung-chang is about to proceed north. He will embark in the *An-ping* from Shanghai, and transfer himself to the Russian ship *Admiral Korniloff en route*. That is indeed a silly rumour. Li is much too astute to behave so tactlessly. He is further said to have memorialized the Throne to the effect that peace commissioners should be appointed immediately, and that if the foreign military commanders guarantee the security of the Court, the imperial personages should return to Peking.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a telegram from an unindicated source, declaring that the edicts issued by the Chinese Court since the retreat from Peking do not contain a hint of submission, but rather urge the military authorities to make defensive preparations. Our contemporary adds that the anti-foreign feeling is spreading throughout China.

It is stated that the Japanese are guarding the northern part of the Tartar City of Peking and the English the east. The west and south of the Tartar City and the Chinese City, as well as the Imperial City, are not occupied. Whole families in Peking are said to have committed suicide on the approach of the allied forces, and it is alleged that not one responsible Chinese official remains in the city. The capital seems to have been left to its fate.

A sensational case of murder and suicide is reported from Horonai, Iburi Province, Hokkaido, where a man named Abe Mornosuke killed four persons and then took his own life.

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THE CHINESE NEGOTIATIONS.

In all the "slates" suggested by foreigners for the composition of a peace-negotiations Committee, the name of Jung Lu appears. That official seems to have won the confidence of foreigners completely, though it would probably be difficult to point to any overt act of his warranting such faith. There is in Yokohama a Chinese newspaper called the *Seigi-ho* (*Tsung-i-pao*). It is published by members of the reform party—that it to say, Kung Yu-wei's party—and we presume that its editors have tolerably accurate information about their country's politicians. This paper has a long article in which Jung Lu is soundly denounced as one of the main promoters of the anti-foreign trouble. The line of argument is this. Jung Lu is Minister of War. Every military procedure officially taken must have his sanction. The commander-in-chief is Prince Li Kang. Kang Yi also belongs to the War Department, but is in a position inferior to that of Jung. The latter is in reality the head of the military organization and the director of military movements, Kang's position being rather of the civilian and non-combatant order. Jung is a man of rapid, clear judgment and great resolution. He attained his present position by currying favour with the Empress-Dowager and by the free employment of bribes, amounting, it is said, to a million taels. Kang on the contrary, is a man of slow intelligence, his prominent quality being ignorant and stubborn conservatism. It has been commonly reported that Jung Lu advocated friendship with foreigners, and opposed the Boxer movement. But the truth is that Jung Lu knows perfectly how to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds. He thoroughly appreciates the value of popular rumour and understands how to manipulate its mainsprings. The news-mongers are in his pay, and it is through their instrumentality that he has figured before the foreign public in such a favourable light. His power and influence are immense. Folks talk of Prince Twan, but Prince Twan wields no such authority as Jung. A word from Jung would procure Kang Yi's removal from office and would dislocate any programme of Prince Twan. The Peking troops aggregate 150,000. A considerable part of them are armed with bows and arrows and drilled in old style. Prince Twan commands 10,000; Prince Ching, 20,000; General Cheun Li, 20,000, and so on. General Cheun is completely under Jung's sway. As for Jung, he commands the Wu-wei army of 50,000 men. These are the flower of the Peking troops. They alone are fully equipped with modern weapons and trained after Western methods Generals Tung, Nieh, Sung, Ma—in short all the well-known Chinese commanders, belong to the Wu-wei army and are under Jung Lu's orders. Prince Twan's power is not a fraction of Jung's. The latter is the man of the time. If he does not give his permission, military operations are out of the question. Baron von Ketteler was murdered by Tung's troops who are under Jung's supreme command. All the resistance made to the Seymour column and to the advance of the allies from Tientsin to Peking, as well as all the fighting at Tientsin, was directed by the Generals and troops of Jung's Wu-wei Army. He was privy to it all and approved it. The root of all this trouble was the partial deposition of the Emperor last year. That was in the main Jung's doing, and was directed against the growth of the progressive party whom Jung regards with aversion. The rôles acted by Prince Twan and Kang Yi in that *coup d'etat* were subordinate to Jung Lu. When the Boxer movement began, Prince Twan took it up openly, but Jung Lu and Kang Yi supported it behind the scenes, and it was thus that the Boxers obtained admission to Court. By way of evidence our contemporary publishes two letters said to have passed between Jung Lu and General Tung. The first, from Jung to Tung, says that the foreign barbarians are becoming intolerable and that people in general regard them with awe. But although they have fine weapons and ships their numbers are comparatively few and their territories narrow. On the other hand China has millions of men and they are now well equipped. Of late, too, the Boxers have been organized, who are strongly anti-foreign, and who, being supernaturally protected, can not fail to be of immense assistance in driving out the barbarians. The letter concludes by praising Tung and his troops and calling on them to signalize themselves by great deeds. Tung's answer declares that every Chinese patriot is furious; rejoices in the uprising of the Boxers; avers his conviction of the successful expulsion of foreigners and declares his readiness to obey Jung Lu to the death.

We (*Japan Mail*) epitomise this article without endorsing or traversing the allegations it contains. But we confess that the publication of so-called "secret" communications between Jung and Tung does not increase our confidence in the Chinese newspaper's trustworthiness. One thing, however, seems pretty certain, namely, that if Jung Lu had desired to put a stop to the attack on the Legations or to the Boxer insurrection, he could have done so. As to the fighting at Tientsin and Peking and on the road between those cities, no one has any right to blame China. It was legitimate warfare. After the attack on the Taku Forts, China could not choose but fight.

THE JAPANESE PRESS AND THE CHINESE CRISIS.

The Japanese press is much concerned about the new aspect given to affairs by Russia's action. The *Jiji Shimpo* fears that the disruption of the Powers can no longer be averted, and that each will now independently follow the route indicated by its own interests. The *Yomiuri* takes the same view, but is chiefly perturbed about the possibility of a secret understanding between Russia and Germany. It is unwilling to believe in the possibility of such an understanding, but it can not ignore the facts that Russia wants Manchuria; that she can not have it without the collusion of one or two other Great Powers, and that the inexplicably extensive preparations made by the German Emperor are shrouded in mystery. The *Jimmin* is still more confident that a secret understanding has been arrived at between Russia and Germany. It catalogues all the telegrams bearing upon this point, not excluding the telegram in which the German Emperor publicly announced his intention of affording special protection to German subjects in the Yangtsze Valley, and the telegram saying that German newspapers urge the advisability of such an understanding. France, the *Jimmin* thinks, is bound to go with Russia. Thus it may be said that the fighting which held the Powers together having terminated, they enter the arena of diplomacy under an entirely new grouping. The great question now is, what will England do. The *Chiuo Shimbun* writes in a semi-sarcastic strain. It calls Russia the fisherman who found the Clam and the Kingfisher absorbed in a dispute and carried them both to market, and it designates Germany's policy as *Honno-ji shugi*, a historical allusion signifying that the real purpose of an enterprise is quite different from the ostensible purpose. The *Chiuo* hesitates to affirm that a secret understanding has been concluded between Germany and Russia, but it evidently believes that such is the case, and it admires the astute policy of Russia which, time after time, sets other Powers by the ears, and then steps in itself and reaps all the benefits. Apparently Russia on the present occasion has succeeded in placing herself in communication with the Empress Dowager, since she undertakes to be the exponent of her Majesty's wishes in Washington. It has always been thus. While others are engaged in fighting, Russia finds a back-door to her own profit. As for Germany, the *Chiuo* points out that she seems to be deliberately defying England; thrusting herself wantonly into Great Britain's sphere of influence. Does she mean to provoke a contest with England? Have she, Russia and France come to a conclusion that they are strong enough on land and at sea to deal with England and Japan combined? The *Chuo* does not think so. Its idea is that Russia's ambition does not extend beyond Shantung, and that her hope is by harrassing England to obtain the reversion of Wei-hai-wei.

THE SALVATION ARMY AND RESCUE WORK.

The Salvation Army have taken up the task of rescue work vigorously. There is undoubtedly a great field there. The theory of Japanese law is that no girl may be bound to a life of shame until she has reached the age of eighteen and unless she is a consenting party, and that she must not be kept in that life so much as an hour against her will. If she can repay the money originally advanced to herself or her parents, or if she can repay whatever part of it remains due, she is legally entitled to immediate release. But in practice the system does not work so as to secure to the girl any freedom of action. Even if she makes the necessary payment, it appears that her employer can contrive to control her movements and can obtain police assistance to do so. We do not profess to know how the thing is managed. No one appears to have obtained a very clear idea. It is easy, of course, to understand that if an employer finds his account in retaining a girl's services, he can keep her perpetually in debt, and thus deprive her of liberty. She can scarcely refuse to dress as he wishes, and she thus finds herself responsible for a heavy bill on account of clothes. But that is not the point. The point is that even by discharging her legitimate debts she cannot obtain her freedom unless her employer is willing to let her go. He will place no obstacle in the way of her redemption by some one willing to pay him a good round sum, but he will not release her otherwise. Evidently the first step towards correcting this terrible abuse is to instruct the girls that the law is on their side. They seem to know nothing, and to deliver themselves up in despair to the hateful career. It must, of course, be very well-known to outsiders that once an inmate of the Yoshiwara, always an inmate, until youth and good looks disappear. Hence we conclude that many girls sell themselves, and

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are sold, into the life with full cognisance of what is before them. But there are many others who, under pressure of dire necessity, agree to two or three years' degradation and misery, and then, to their consternation, find that escape is impossible. It is on behalf of such unhappy creatures that the Salvation Army are beginning to exert themselves, as Mr. Murphy and his friends in Nagoya have been doing. They have established a home of refuge in Tokyo, and have organized measures for making the law known to inmates of the Yoshiwaras, and assisting them to avail themselves of its privileges. It is a work that should command sympathy, and doubtless charitable people will not hesitate to contribute the funds without which nothing effective can be done.

A SCENE.

There has been quite a spectacle in Tokyo; a combat followed by a species of triumphal march. It was in connexion with the question which, thanks to Christian interference, has begun to occupy a prominent place in public regard; the question whether a girl, having pledged herself to a life of shame in consideration of a monetary payment, can be held in the painful service so long as the money is not repaid, or so long as other debts contracted by her remain undischarged. The circumstances attending the latest development of this problem are easily told. A girl held for a debt of 600 *yen*, read in the *Niroku Shimbun* various articles instigating resistance to compulsory detention. She addressed a letter to the office of the paper. Her cause was vigorously taken up by the editor and his staff. They employed barristers to draw up a document applying for her release. The law requires that such a document must carry the signature of the girl's employer, who naturally objects to sign away what he regards as his property. In this case the employer refused, and complications ensued which ended in the severe maltreatment of three members of the *Niroku* staff by a crowd of roughs in the service of the brothel. The police appeared quickly on the scene and arrested the principal combatants. This brought the practical issue before the Police Authorities, and they decided that the signature of the employer was not essential to the validity of the girl's petition, which they accordingly endorsed. Thereafter Miss Ayaginu was handed over to Mr. Akiyama, proprietor of the *Niroku Shimbun*, who is a doctor of law, and he sent her to her friends. The police, anticipating a disturbance, told off an escort of three gendarmes and fifty constables, who guarded the young lady *en route* from Mr. Akiyama's office to her elder brother's house. It is a strange incident, and we sincerely hope that it will lead to the correction of serious abuses which seem to have grown up in connexion with the system of koshō. Our own opinion is that the framers of the new Civil Code have legislated, unintentionally perhaps, in in such a manner that the continuance of the system is impossible.

TRANSPORT COOLIES.

It is stated by Tokyo journals that the German Government is making arrangements to employ a thousand transport coolies in Yokohama, and that Messrs. Illies & Company have taken up the contract. Some surprise is expressed as to what can be Germany's object in engaging these men at the eleventh hour, but we see no reason for astonishment. Germany has not abandoned her military preparations. Her troops are *en route* for the East and it is right that she should make all necessary arrangements. Messrs. Illies & Company will doubtless profit by the unhappy experience furnished in connexion with the coolies employed for transport purposes with the British troops.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The *Yakumo*, first-class cruiser, reached Yokosuka on the 30th ultimo.

The *Asahi Shimbun* undertakes to forecast the number of adherents that the new political party will obtain. Its figures are :—

	Total membership.	For Marquis Ito.	Against.	Imperialists.	Uncertain.
Liberals	118	116	0	2	0
Progressionists ...	118	1	117	0	0
Imperialists.....	25	12	0	10	3
Doshi Club.....	10	0	0	0	10
Hiyoshi Club.....	10	0	0	10	0
Unaffiliated	19	11	3	4	1
Total	300	140	120	26	14

This is obviously wrong so far as the Progressists are concerned, since we know that three of their members have been expelled for joining Marquis Ito. That correction alone would bring Marquis Ito's following to 142 and would reduce the Opposition to 118. But will 116 Liberals enter Marquis Ito's camp?

There has been a case of genuine cholera in the Kojimachi district of Tokyo. The sufferer was a coolie, originally forming one of a gang of 60 who were working elsewhere. All have been medically inspected.

The 1st of September, the two-hundred-and-tenth day, was unprecedentedly fine from end to end of Japan Not even a cloud marred the serenity of the sky It is many years since such weather has been experienced on the *nihyaka-toka*.

Governmental business moves slowly. The unfortunate Japanese settlers in Hawaii whose houses were destroyed by way of sanitary precaution many months ago, are still awaiting compensation. The matter now rests with the United States Government, and the justice of Japan's claim appears to be recognised, but there are as yet no signs of a settlement, nor is it likely that anything will be done until Congress meets.

A telegram from London dated the 30th ultimo says that the Manchester cotton mills have closed owing to scarcity of cotton and the Far-Eastern trouble, which temporarily puts an end to trade with China. With regard to scarcity of raw material, it is stated that the supply available at Manchester does not exceed four hundred thousand bales, which is a million bales short of the quantity usually on hand at this time of the year.

There is a scandal at Yokosuka, and, as usual, rumour magnifies it into something extraordinary. The story is very simple. A certain Commander in the Navy is supposed to have entered into collusion with the Dock-yard carpenters, and thus obtained a quantity of timber for the construction of his own house, the carpenters at the same time surreptitiously disposing of other timber placed in their charge. We presume that there is some truth in the tale, but it is evidently much embellished, and we therefore give the outlines only.

Tokyo has recently been full of rumours to the effect that the Imperial Guards had been ordered to mobilize, and it is now stated that orders have been given to call in the reserves of the Seventh Division (Hokkaido), the Eighth Division (Hirosaki), and the Tenth Division (Himeji). But as a matter of fact the Guards have not been ordered to mobilize, and the step taken with regard to the reserves of the three Divisions is in connexion with the ordinary routine of practice.

Rumour has it that the new Korean Minister, Mr. Cho Pyŏng-sik, has an important mission, namely, to enlist Japan's good offices for the purpose of placing his country on the footing of an internationally recognised neutral State. That is a very old idea, and there was a time when it might have been feasible enough. But if Russia is to be mistress of Manchuria, she will have ideas of her own about the neutrality of Korean territory, and we doubt whether the status of Korea will attract much practical attention on the part of other Occidental Powers.

The cable between Chefoo and Taku was completely laid by the 26th of August, and telegrams for Tientsin or Peking are now received. But the telegraph authorities do not accept any responsibility for delays in transmission or mistakes. The only line at present open between Tientsin and Peking is a Japanese military line, and cipher telegrams can not be forwarded by it. Even the Japanese Government can not hold cipher communication with Baron Nishi as the Foreign Office cipher is in Roman letters. All the Representatives of the Powers in Peking must be similarly inconvenienced.

The bronze statue of Kusunoki Masashige has been at length finished, and set up inside the Sakurada Gate. This statue is made of copper from the Besshi mine of the Sumitomo Family, who not only give the metal but defray all the expenses. The statue represents Masashige on horseback in the armour of his day. He is supposed to be riding before the Emperor Godaigo when the latter was returning to Kyoto after the overthrow of the Hōjō. The artist is the celebrated sculptor, Okazaki Sessei, and the dimensions of the statue are, height 13 feet, length of horse from head to tail, 18 feet, height of pedestal 14 feet

A story is circulating that the priests of Daitoku-ji in Kyoto have had some trouble about their pictures of the 100 *Rishi*, which they obtained official permission to sell some years ago. The price fixed was 300 *yen* per picture, and the purchaser was Mr. Ono Zenyemon. Twelve of the pictures are said to have been delivered. Ten remained in the Ono family, and have just been paid for, after much difficulty. Two are supposed to have found their way into the hands of foreigners. The priests are about to hold a meeting for the purpose of determining the wisest course to adopt. We can only repeat what we said at the time, that we have never seen a set of *Rishi* pictures likely to command such a price as thirty thousand *yen*.

The *Hochi* publishes a story which, if true, throws a new light on Chinese character. Within the precincts of the Forbidden City, says our contemporary, there is a store known as the "unopened vault" In this place is deposited an unknown amount of silver and gold, representing the sums paid by Chinese subjects in commutation of offences during the past two or three hundred years. It is the custom in China to commute crimes for money, but the specie thus obtained being regarded as unclean, is dumped into the "unopened store" and there left

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to waste its sweetness. The store will soon be opened, says the *Hochi*. 'Tis a good tale.

The Progressists have addressed a circular to the constituencies throughout the empire. We need not enter into the details. A considerable portion of the document is devoted to showing that Mr. Ozaki Yukio has made a fatal blunder in severing himself from his old associates, or rather in seeking to lead them into a new route. The gist of the circular, however, is an arraignment of the Liberals, who are charged with surrendering the principles for which they have fought during 24 years and passing into the camp of their opponents unconditionally. There is also an endeavour to stigmatise Marquis Ito as a representative of bureaucratic conservatism. The circular is pretty much what might have been expected under the circumstances, and it will doubtless produce some effect. Meanwhile we observe that three members of the Lower House representing Tokushima Prefecture have removed their names from the roll of the Progressists and joined the new party, while a fourth, Mr. Abe Okito, has left the Progressists though he has not yet joined the *Riken Seiyu-kai*.

The *Zenrin Yakusho-kwan*, an association of which we spoke some time ago when it was founded, seems to be making a success. Its object is to draw closer the bonds of amity between Japan and China, by translating useful books into the Chinese language, and placing them on the Chinese markets at cheap rates. Viceroy Chang seems to be taking an intelligent and active interest in this enterprise. He has bought up, or provided for the purchase of, forty thousand copies of the Association's books, and it has now been determined to open branch stores in Tientsin, Newchwang, Hankow, Chefoo, Shasi, Foochow, Han-chow, Su-chow, Chunking, Amoy, and Ichang. One of the difficulties against which the Association has to contend is that there is no protection of copyright in China. The Chinese Authorities, however, have been induced to issue a proclamation forbidding the reproduction of some of the most important works published by the Association, as the *Dai-Nihon Isshin-shi*, *Kokka-gaku*, *Nihon Keisatsu Shimpo*, *Sempogaku*, and the *Ei-kwa Jiten*. This is the first instance of copyright being granted in China to foreign books.

It is stated that of the 8 torpedo-destroyers to be built for the Japanese navy, two have been ordered from Messrs. Thornycroft and Company, one is to be built by the Yarrow Company, and one by Messrs. Parson and Co. The remaining four will be imported in pieces and put together in Japan.

It is stated that Russia has postponed for one year the operation of the regulation which gives a right of priority to any Russian subject engaging in fishing operations in the waters of Saghalien, irrespective of the date of his appearance in the field. Our readers doubtless remember that this regulation created much excitement in Japan at the time of its promulgation. Its effect would have been to destroy the industry of many Japanese who had been for years engaged in fishing on the strength of the existing convention. The Diet took up the matter vigorously, and passed a law imposing a special import duty on dried fish entering Japan from Russian waters. This law was promulgated last month, and has apparently produced the desired effect, for Russia, as stated above, has granted the Japanese fishermen another year's law. She gave them one year in deference to diplomatic representations, and now she gives them another. It is evidently not her intention to make any unfriendly discrimination.

We observe that a summer school for Japanese teachers of English was held on Mount Hiye from August 13th, under the instruction of Mr. C. M. Cady, who devoted two hours daily to the work. Some of the teachers who attended came from very remote places, as Sendai and Yamada. The success of this attempt will doubtless show Japanese teachers that they need not depend upon the Government to provide summer schools, since they can make arrangements on their own account.

The Rev. W. E. Griffis is about to add to the number of his valuable publications on the Far East. He has just completed a life of the late Rev. G. F. Verbeck. It is compiled from that eminent missionary's letters, covering the period from 1859 to 1898, and from original documents, and it deals most fully with that period of Mr. Verbeck's life (1859-75) when he was educating the future leaders and statesmen of Japan. The title is to be "Verbeck of Japan: A citizen of No Country," and the publishers are Messrs. E. H. Revell & Co., of New York.

Mr. Hara Kei, formerly Vice-Minister of Home Affairs and during the past three years editor of the Osaka *Mainichi Shimbun*, has resigned his editorial chair to Mr. Yano Fumio, who represented Japan in Peking prior to Baron Nishi. The reason of the change is that Mr. Hara has thrown in his lot with the new political party and has been appointed a member of the organizing committee. Hence it becomes impossible for him to continue his duties of editorship. He has been very successful as an editor. The Osaka *Mainichi* does not command the great resources of its rival the *Asahi*, but these two journals are so far superior to all their local competitors that they practically monopolize the patronage of Osaka, a city of nearly eight hundred thousand inhabitants. The Osaka *Asahi* is said to have the largest circulation of any newspaper in Japan.

From the 1st of next month the post office authorities promise to issue closed post-cards, and also 1½ *sen* stamps. The double cards will cost 3 *sen*, and the stamps will serve for carrying mail matter in the manner of single post-cards.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Berlin *Tageblatt* writes to that journal in the following terms:—

"The attempts of the English correspondents to minimize everything in the part the Russians took in the storming of Taku, the relief of Tientsin and the liberation of Seymour, are too barefaced, and the hatred of England is increasing. It is an undeniable fact that the Russian forces did the most work in these three engagements, in which the allies were led by Russian officers. If General Stoessel had not acquitted himself so well, the Europeans in Tientsin would have been massacred. Admiral Seymour's unsuccessful march to Peking, in which he did not show great brilliancy, would have ended in his becoming a prey of the 'Boxers,' had not General Stoessel relieved him. In the official telegrams laid by Brodrick before the British Parliament, the services of the Russians are simply ignored. The facts can not be altered by this conduct; it proves only the ignoble and hateful character of leading British statesmen, who will not admit the services rendered them by Russians."

It has been most frankly and fully recognised out here that the safety of Tientsin and of the foreign community there was due to the brave exertions of the Russians, who alone had a force sufficient to withstand the Chinese attacks. Neither has any one thought of denying that the rescue of Admiral Seymour's column was effected mainly by the Russians, who for that act deserve hearty thanks and acknowledgments. With regard to Taku, however, we have always understood that the Japanese were first to enter the forts, though of course the Russians, who had much the largest force and whose losses far exceed those of any other troops, may justly claim the chief honours of the day. The tone of the *Tagablatt's* correspondence is so intemperate that it deters sympathy. We do not think that it is the nature of English soldiers or English statesmen to deny to their comrades and allies a just mead of praise.

The probability is that this spirit of bitterness has been provoked in great part by the charges of want of discipline and inhumanity preferred against the Russian troops. But the Russians are not the only objects of this accusation. The Tientsin correspondent of the New York *Sun*, wiring under date of July 15th, says:—

"This day has been devoted entirely to looting the native city, and it is impossible to cable a description of the scenes that were enacted there. Millions of taels' worth of property have been taken. [A tael is about two thirds of $1.] The whole city is filled with an indiscriminate mob of Chinese and soldiers of all nationalities, who are breaking open stores and smashing chests and safes and rushing hither and thither with their arms filled with silks, furs, jewelry, silver bars, and money. . . . The American and Japanese troops were the only ones who made any attempt to restrain the civilian or soldier looters. The men of both these commands behaved well, the conduct of the Japanese being especially commendable under the circumstances. . . . Fires have been started throughout the city and men are fighting in the streets over loot. Revolvers have been drawn and threats of shooting are not uncommon. The Chinamen sometimes offer a show of resistance against being plundered, and in these cases are shot."

On the 1st instant, the opening ceremony of Mr. Okura Kihachiro's commercial school was performed. The ceremony was considered of a private character. It will doubtless be repeated on a larger scale after Mr. Okura's return from Europe. Baron Ishiguro and Mr. Watanabe Koki took a leading part in the ceremony, and Baron Shibusawa also spoke. There are now 130 students and their regular course of study commences today (3rd).

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce predicts a splendid rice crop this year. Reports received from all the rice-producing centres are the basis of the following estimate.

YEAR.	KOKU.
1889	33,007,566
1890	43,037,809
1891	38,123,548
1892	41,378,474
1893	37,199,663
1894	41,815,714
1895	39,920,882
1896	36,199,771
1897	33,039,293
1898	47,387,666
1899	39,698,258
1900	44,543,446

The average crop being 38,966,858 *koku*, this year's yield, if present expectations be fulfilled, will be 5,580,000 *koku*, or 14.3 per cent, above the average. It will also be 4,840,000 *koku* greater than last year's crop. In fact, during the twelve-year period ending 1900, it seems probable that only 1898 will be able to boast a better crop than that of this year. The difference between this year's and last year's crops in money will be about fifty million *yen*.

The scoring in first-class cricket this season is quite exceptional. Centuries are almost as common as matches. No doubt the unusually fine dry summer is largely responsible, though the extraordinary care and attention now devoted to cricket pitches also

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contributes greatly; while it is also a recognised fact that the science of bowling has not kept pace with the improvement in batting. Still Mr. C. B. Fry's score against Surrey, playing for Sussex was a wonder—125 in the first innings and 229 in the second; a total of 354 in one match "without the shadow of a chance." It would be hard to beat that. Reuter also informs us this morning that Prince Ranjitsinghi has made the fine record of 12 centuries already this season.

One of those terrible calamities which occur only too often on the Japanese coast during the typhoon season is reported from Imbara in Ehime Prefecture. A fleet of fishing boats was caught in the gale of the 19th ultimo. Fifty-one men were drowned and 13 are missing. Twenty were saved.

EDUCATIONAL REGULATIONS.

Below we give a summary of the revised rules relating to the course of study for the Preparatory Department of High Schools:—

Art. I.—The curriculum for the Preparatory Department of High Schools shall be divided into three Sections; the first section being devoted to the study of law and literature; the second to engineering, physics, physical engineering, and agriculture; the third to medicine alone.

Art. II.—The curriculum for the first Section shall consist of ethics, Japanese and Chinese literature, foreign languages, history, logic, psychology, general principles of laws, and physical culture. In the case of students of literature, political economy will be added; whereas with respect to students of philosophy the study of mathematics and natural philosophy will be ordered to the exclusion of logic and psychology. As regards foreign languages two tongues must be selected out of English, German, and French. Law Latin may be introduced as an optional branch of study.

Art. III.—The curriculum for the second section comprises ethics, Japanese and foreign languages, mathematics, natural philosophy, chemistry, geology, mineralogy, drawing, and physical culture.

In the case of students of zoology, botany, geology, or agriculture in the College of Physics, the study of zoology and botany shall be ordered, and for students of civil, mechanical, or electrical engineering, mining and metallurgy, ship building, architecture, mathematics, natural philosophy, agriculture, agricultural chemistry, or forestry, the science of surveying shall be added.

As to foreign languages either German or French must be selected in addition to English. But German must be exclusively chosen by students of electrical engineering, practical and manufacturing chemistry, mining, and metallurgy. Latin may also be introduced as an optional branch of study for scholars of zoology, botany, geology, and veterinary surgery.

Art. IV.—The third section embraces the study of ethics, national and foreign languages, Latin, mathematics, natural philosophy, chemistry, zoology, botany, and gymnastics.

As regards foreign languages either English or French must be chosen in addition to German.

Art. VII. The Director of a school may strike out one or more branches of study from the collegiate course by obtaining sanction of the Minister of Education.

Art. VIII.—These rules shall come into operation from the 1st of September in the 33rd year of *Meiji* (1900).

Art. IX.—With regard to students who are actually in the 2nd or 3rd year of the curriculum at the time of the operation of these rules, instruction may be given in accordance with the former regulations, or the new and old curricula may be combined to suit the purpose, provided sanction be obtained from the Minister of Education.

TELEGRAPH REGULATIONS.

We quote some of the more important provisions of the Telegraph Regulations recently published in the *Official Gazette*:—

Art. I.—Telegrams are classified in three divisions; viz. government telegrams, telegraph office (service) telegrams, and private telegrams.

Art. V.—Telegrams are transmitted in the following order:—(1) Urgent Government telegrams. (2) Urgent service telegrams. (3) Urgent private telegrams. Then follow ordinary telegrams of the three classes in their order as above.

Art. X.—Telegrams may be prepared in three different forms of language, viz. ordinary, secret, and cipher.

Art. XII.—In a European language each word used as cipher shall not contain more than 10 letters, and the choice is confined to the English, Spanish, French, Dutch, Italian, Portuguese, or Latin languages. In no case, however, shall proper nouns be used as cipher words with the exception of those which are enumerated in the code book published by the International Telegraph Bureau.

Art. XIII.—Words which are neither ordinary nor cipher words shall be regarded as constituting a secret language. Secret words in a European language must not contain letters and figures combined in one group.

Art. XVII. Romanized Japanese telegrams must not contain words consisting of more than 15 character continuously written, nor shall any division be made in a word or phrase.

Art. XXVII.—In every telegram the matters specified below shall be included in the number of words or characters constituting the telegraphic message:—(1) message proper; (2) name and address of receiver in the case of telegrams in a European language; (3) Name of receiver after the 2nd person mentioned in the case of telegrams in Japanese; (4) Name and address of the sender; (5) items specially mentioned; (6) Words attached to the name and address of persons specified in (2) and (4).

Art. XXX—Each word in a European language which does not exceed 15 characters, shall be counted as one word, and every additional character up to the number of 15 shall be computed as one word.

Art. XXXIV.—In telegrams in a European language in which both ordinary and cipher words are used together, each word shall not exceed 10 characters, and every additional character up to the number of shall be calculated as one word.

Art. XLI.—Fees for ordinary telegrams shall be collected at the following rates —

Telegrams to be transmitted with the limits of a city, district, town, or village—

1. In the Japanese language, for less than 15-characters in *kata-kana*..... *sen.* 10

An extra charge 53 *sen*, shall be made for each addition not exceeding of characters.

2. In a Europe an language, for less than 5 words ..... *sen.* 15

An additional 3 *sen* will be charged for each extra word.

Telegrams other than those mentioned above—

1. In Japanese, for less than 15 characters in *kata-kana* ..... *sen.* 15

An extra charge of 5 *sen* is made for each addition of under 5 characters.

2. In a European language for less than 5 words ..... *sen.* 25

Additional 5 *sen* will be charged for each extra word.

Art. LXVII.—Special delivery may be obtained by payment of 20 *sen* for a distance of 3 *ri* from the Telegraph Office, but 25 *sen* additional must be paid for every 2 miles or less above that distance.

Art. CIX. —The fees for urgent telegrams are as follows:—For Government messages, twice the amount of the ordinary change. For private telegrams, three times the amount.

Art. CXLIX. —These regulations shall come into operation on October 1st on the 33rd year of *Meiji* (1900.)

REGULATIONS FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE PRIVATE RAILWAY LAW.

Of the Regulations recently published in the *Official Gazette*, we quote some of the more important articles as follows:—

Art. III.—The prospectus of a private company must contain the following particulars:—(1) Object. (2) Commercial name and location of head offices. (3) The starting place and terminus of the railway, as well as the localities through which it will pass. (4) Class and gauge of railway. (5) Gross amount of capital. (6) Total number of shares and their face value. (7) Period of the continuance of the company, if limited. (8) Name and address of the projector. (9) Gross total of shares to be taken up by the projectors, and the amount to be accepted by each.

Art. XIV.—Application for the extension of the period for acquiring a permanent charter must be forwarded through the local Governor.

Art. XV.—Application for a permanent charter must be signed by the Director-General of the Company, and be presented through the local governor of the district where its head offices are established.

Art. XXX.—Application for a permanent or provisional charter for the extension of a railway must be accompanied by a record of debates and decisions of a general meeting, while a record of decisions must contain the following particulars:—(1) Gross amount of capital. (2) Total number of shares. (3) Total number of shareholders. (4) Number representing a quorum. (5) Total number of shareholders in attendance. (6) Amount of shares held by members present. (7) Rights of decision held by shareholders present.

Art. XXXIII.—The company on receipt of a permanent charter must immediately appoint an expert to take charge of the work.

Art. XL.—Application for official sanction for the issue of debentures must contain the following items: (1) Reasons for issue. (2) Gross amount of debentures, as well as face-value of each, together with the rate of interest thereon. (3) First and last period of securing subscription to debentures. (4) Method and period of redemption of both principal and interest.

Art. XLVI.—The company is required to report the following particulars of its debentures every year up to the end of February in the ensuing year:—

1. Amount of debentures paid up during the year, total payment made during the period from the first issue, and the balance in arrear.
2. Amount of redemption made during the year, total from the time of the first issue, and the balance in arrear.
3. Amount of interest paid.
4. Number of persons to whom debentures have been transferred and the amount of transfer
5. Actual number of creditors at the end of the year.

Art. XLV.—Application for official sanction with regard to the negotiation of a loan on the security of railways and their appurtenances, must contain the items specified below, and be presented through the local Governor:—

1. Reasons for contracting loan, and its amount
2. Method and period of redemption of both principal and interest.
3. Rate of interest.
4. Classification of securities in a catalogue form.
5. Copies of contracts.
6. Name and address of creditors.

Art. LXI.—These regulations will come into operation from the date of the enforcement of the Private Railway Law.

The Japanese chartered steamer *Fukui Maru* with 670 troops for Formosa left Moji on the 26th ult. On the night of the 28th her engines were damaged by the heavy seas, and she arrived at Keelung on the 30th where she landed her troops. She returned to Nagasaki on the 5th for repairs, which are expected to take about 10 days.

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THE CASSINI INVENTION.

COUNT CASSINI has been expressing some remarkable views to the Paris correspondent of the *Rossia*. He begins by betraying profound surprise that the Chinese have undergone such a metamorphosis as to military armament. He declares that he "once expressed his regret to a Chinese General after the Japanese war that his troops had not been supplied with modern arms," to which the Chinese General replied that "after all the old guns were the best, for they carried 50 paces and seldom hit anything, but then they made a great deal of noise." "Now," the Count proceeded, "everything in changed," and then he went on to detail all the excellent arms that had been sold to Chinese by Europe during 1899. Count CASSINI is a very naïve person apparently. His public expression of regret that the Chinese were not better armed when they fought with Japan is admirably frank. Of course we have no choice but to believe that a Chinese General did really address to him the extremely fatuous remarks he repeats with regard to a 50-pace-range gingal that never hits anything but makes plenty of noise. Inasmuch, however, as the Chinese are remarkably shrewd folks, not remarkably imbecile, the only possible conclusion is that the Chinese General took Count CASSINI's measure very accurately, and "filled him up" adroitly. The Russian diplomatist would do better to suppress the story, unless he intends to turn the laugh against himself We are disposed to think, however, that he was fairly befooled by the Chinese General, for the ignorance he displays about the weapons carried by the Chinese in the war of 1894-5 indicates a man who would be fair game for any jest. The truth is that the Chinese, when they fought in 1894-5, were much better armed than the Japanese, for they carried magazine rifles whereas the Japanese had Martini single-shooters. If Count CASSINI had followed the events of the campaign with any care or intelligence, he would know that whereas the Chinese had repeaters and smokeless powder from the beginning of the war, the Japanese had neither the one nor the other until a very late stage. The idea of imagining that the defenders of such fortifications as Port Arthur and Wei-hai-wei were armed with jingals! Count CASSINI openly avows his regret that Japan was not beaten. To that disappointment he is perfectly welcome. But he has no right to try to minimize Japan's success by grossly misrepresenting the Chinese armament.

The next allegations made by the ex-Minister in Peking are scarcely less remarkable. He says that "the insurrection began in the province of Shantung where the Germans have settled," and that the principal reason of it was the rough behaviour of the Germans. "The Chinese," observes the Count, "must be treated kindly and politely." Well, there is no doubt that the insurrection began in Shantung, neither is there any doubt, we venture to think, that Germany's seizure of Kiaochow inaugurated the series of incidents which culminated in the insurrection. But how does it happen that whereas the whole of the central and southern regions have remained quiet, Manchuria, where Russia has an unlimited opportunity of "treating the Chinese kindly and politely," is in a state of anti-Russian tumult from end to end? "Kindly and politely!" Well, we hope so. But the qualities of kindness and politeness attributed to M. CASSINI's nationals in North China during the past two months are not of an admirable type.

Another statement attributed to M. CASSINI by his interviewer deserves comment. He alleges that he contrived to get a Russian guard into the Legation in Peking by pleading precedent, but that Great Britain was "subsequently obliged to smuggle in her soldiers disguised in Chinese dress." Great Scott! if we may be pardoned the expression, does Count CASSINI imagine that all the world has as long a foot as he has himself. At any rate he is consistent. A Minister Plenipotentiary who resided in Peking for a considerable time, and who can yet gravely commit himself to the assertion that Great Britain smuggled soldiers into Peking disguised in Chinese dress, was indeed a fitting subject to be the butt of a Chinese General's jokes.

Here is this celebrated diplomat's conclusion:—

> In regard to the question of trusting Japan with the task of pacification, the Count remarked that if the interests of the different countries in China were expressed in figures, then the interest of Russia must be put down as 90 per cent., and the interests of all the others together as only 10 per cent. If Russia stultified herself in such conditions, and ceded the place to Japan, her prestige in the Far East would be lost. And in that part of the world prestige means 50 per cent. of power. If there is any country whose influence should be prevented from gaining ground in China it is certainly Japan, which is the one Power capable of realizing the ideas of Pan-Mongolism to the terror of all Europe.

It would not have been artistic on Count CASSINI's part to offer any demonstration of his stupendous statement that Russia's interests in China represent 90 per cent. of all foreign interests combined. Such an assertion may well be left to stand in solitary grandeur. Vulgar proof would be quite unbecoming. That the Count should conclude by avowing himself a victim of the Yellow Terror, seems natural and appropriate. We have always taken leave to doubt whether the "CASSINI Convention" was anything more than a CASSINI Invention, and our doubts are now converted into certainties.

THE QUESTIONS OF THE HOUR.

THE aspect of the problem now demanding solution in China may well perplex the ablest statesmen. Here are some of the questions that present themselves in the forefront of the matter. What commissioners on China's side will be considered sufficiently responsible? Whence are they to derive their plenipotentiary power? If from the EMPEROR, what assurance can there be that this helpless monarch's mandate will carry force with his nationals? If from the EMPRESS-DOWAGER, in what administrative capacity is she to be regarded? Will the Foreign Powers consent to negotiate with the Manchu statesmen or their creatures who (by attacking the Legations) have showed themselves indifferent to the first principles of international law, and by encouraging the Boxers have furnished a gauge of their own anti-foreign bias? On the foreign side, how are negotiators to be chosen? Will each Power demand to have a representative on the commission? If so, is there any reasonable hope of reconciling the conflicting interests which the motley body thus composed would represent? If not, if a commission is to be appointed not so heterogeneous and unwieldly as to preclude all rational hope of practical working, what countries are to appoint commissioners and what Powers will consent to entrust their interests to the care of others? And, suppose these difficulties overcome, suppose the commission actually constituted, what are to be the bases of its demands? The first thing will obviously be an indemnity. Whence is the money to be obtained? A foreign loan suggests itself as the most possible method. But who is to have the privilege of lending the money? Which Powers are in a position to lend it? Which would be permitted to lend it? Then as to the security. China will have to hypothecate something. If she hypothecates a part of her revenue, there must be a foreign commission to superintend its levying and to receive the monies. How could such a commission be composed? Must it include representatives of all the Powers interested? Again, that security alone would not suffice. The creditors will require to be placed in such a position as to coerce China should she fail to implement her engagement. In other words, they will demand the temporary occupation of territory. How is that to be arranged? Will each Power choose a convenient locality and sit down there pending the satisfaction of its claim, or will three or four of the Great Powers be delegated to act as duns for the whole. In either case, who is to pay the expenses of these coercive measures? China of course. But that will mean that, in addition to a big yearly payment on account of the indemnity, she will have to make large annual disbursements on account of the foreign occupation. Will the Chinese people quietly furnish such sums, and what confidence can be placed in the competence of the Manchu Government to administer the empire under these greatly altered conditions? Then, assuming that these difficulties about the indemnity are overcome, what guarantees are to be exacted for China's future observance of her treaty obligations and her abandonment of the policy of conservatism? What kind of government is to be entrusted with the task of making good those guarantees? Are the Foreign Powers to interfere strongly in the administration of

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China's internal affairs, and if they refrain from that step, which bristles with embarrassments, are they to return to the old system of fatuous trust? It will require some *fin-de-siècle* statesmanship to discover a path out of the labyrinth.

AMOY.

THE leading Japanese papers write strongly on the subject of Amoy. They point out very justly that Japan's interest in the preservation of peace and good order at Amoy is at least as material as the interest of any foreign Power in any part of China. It is not merely a question of commerce, though from that point of view Amoy is of cardinal importance, being, in effect, the emporium of the tea trade of Formosa. Nor is it merely a question of the protection of life and property, though from that point of view also Japan is exceptionally situated, seeing that she has 1,100 subjects in Amoy, whereas the residents of other nationalities aggregate only 300. The chief point is that the tranquillity of Formosa depends on the good government of Amoy, and that order cannot be preserved in the former unless the affairs of the latter are efficiently administered. The Chinese Government recognised these facts clearly when Formosa formed a part of the Chinese Empire. It was from Amoy that they governed the island. Amoy, in short, may be said to have been the port of Formosa and it remains practically in that relation to-day. There can not be the remotest doubt that if any Occidental Power possessed in Amoy even a moiety of the interests Japan has there, troops would already have been landed by that Power. But when Japan is in question, some special rule of procedure seems to be adopted towards her. She is not to be allowed, forsooth, to adopt the most ordinary precautions for her own security, whereas the Powers that prescribe such a law for her observance pay not the smallest attention to it in their own practice. We entirely sympathise with Japan in this matter, and we trust that she has by this time learned the fatuity of expecting that the procedure of Western Powers will be guided by recognised principles of morality or consistency in any emergency. Altruism, in the ordinary acceptation of the term, is not to be looked for in the behaviour of nineteenth-century nations towards each other, except in so far as each is strong enough to insist on being treated in accordance with altruistic canons. Japan is heavily handicapped by the fact that as an Oriental nation she is not fully admitted within the pale of even those very frail laws of morality which Occidental countries observe in their intercourse with each other. For her own sake, therefore, she has to exercise exceptional prudence. But if she seeks to trim her sails to every breeze of egoistical and capricious doctrine blown by Occidental arbitrariness, she will surely run the ship of State aground. She will never want strong friends if she shows that she has the courage to deserve them.

THE DEUS AND THE VICEROY.

SO it is true. Incredible yet true. Russia proposes that the allied troops should evacuate Peking and that the EMPRESS-DOWAGER'S guarantee of uninterrupted trade and restored tranquillity should be accepted in lieu of an armed occupation. And the United States' Government is said to be endorsing the proposition. Two days ago Washington was represented as being persuaded that 5,000 American troops must remain throughout the winter in Peking by way of security for the successful conduct of peace negotiations. Now the telegraph avers that Washington has made a complete *volte-face*, and is willing to withdraw its troops at once in deference to St. Petersburg's suggestion. We can scarcely credit the part assigned to America, but as for Russia, she is acting precisely as we expected and foretold. She is to be the *deus ex machinâ* once more and LI HUNG-CHANG is to be the agent. It is an old play, but perhaps it will go all the better for that. What will England and Japan say, however? It is an open secret that Russia does not want to see England at Peking. Still less does she want to see Japan there. With the greatest reluctance did she consent to the despatch of Japanese troops to the Chinese capital, and with the greatest alacrity will she endeavour to have them removed. Is she going to evacuate Manchuria herself? That would be a tolerable proof of sincerity. But no one anticipates that for a moment. The plain programme is to get the others out of Peking and remain herself in Manchuria. Of course it is quite right that Russia should play her cards for all they are worth. But she can not expect to take every trick in the game unopposed. The terms that must be imposed on China in the sequel of this affair will be very onerous. There is no help for it. She will have to pay a heavy indemnity; she will have to give substantial guarantees, and she will have to organise an administration capable of implementing those guarantees. Without strong pressure there is not the remotest chance of obtaining such terms from China. We do not see what form of pressure can be exercised if Peking is abandoned. Possibly Russia is prepared to accept a mandate for the re-occupation of Peking should the negotiations threaten to become abortive. Possibly she would not object to such a mandate. But it can scarcely be expected that the other Powers, having deliberately evacuated Peking, would send a second expedition against it should China prove obdurate. It seems to us that this is one of the most transparent shreds of diplomacy ever held up for public inspection. Russia got Port Arthur because Germany had appropriated Kiao-chow. Is she now to get Manchuria because the Allies, of whom she was one, have taken Peking? It is very clever; excellently clever, and were we Russians we should throw our hats into the air. But the thing has not the merit of a surprise. We have been looking for it all along. St. Petersburg and LI HUNG-CHANG pulled the strings very adroitly in 1895, and if they succeed now again in a precisely analogous performance on a much larger scale, with all the Powers for puppets instead of France, Germany, and Japan only, they will deserve a round of applause. What we hope is that Japan will look after herself. She will then have the best caretaker procurable.

A CHINESE TRIUMPH.

IT is stated that Chinese troops are rapidly assembling at Tai-yuen, whither the Imperial Court has retired. That is natural. Probably a very large force will have mustered there in a few days. Suppose, then, that the Court receives news of the evacuation of Peking by the allied troops. Very likely the Court will be sceptical at first. It will decline to believe that the Allies can have been so unique. It will say, "All these men did not march to the top of the hill in very hot weather, merely for the purpose of marching down again." But by and by confidence will replace incredulity. Then the Court and the braves assembled at Tai-yuen will set out for Peking. It will be a triumphal progress. From the EMPRESS-DOWAGER to the powder-monkey no one will believe for one little minute that the allies abandoned Peking merely to give the Chinese an opportunity of restoring order in their troubled household. Would such a thing be believed in any country under any circumstances? If the Germans had evacuated Paris in 1871, alleging that really they could not think of encroaching any longer on the privacy of the French Government, or of continuing to disturb its arrangements, would not Europe have raised a shout of laughter, and would not France have crowed? The Chinese are not more gullible than other people. They will know perfectly well that the Allies left Peking, not for the sake of China's pretty eyes, but simply because they could not agree to stay there. England has told them so; Germany has told them; America has told them so. They have been explicitly informed that each of these Powers thinks it a mad performance to evacuate Peking, but that each will be guilty of an act of lunacy rather than fall out among themselves. So the Chinese will march back in triumph. And afterwards? Oh! afterwards the Powers will present their little bill, and it will be docilely paid by China, of course. Will it, indeed? Will not the Chinese blandly inquire, "Which of you is coming to Peking to collect this bill; when do you propose to commence your journey, and how long do you intend to stay there? It costs you a great deal of bickering and jealousy to prepare for the trip; a great quantity of money to make the expedition, and you become very ridiculous with your dissensions when you arrive. But that is your affair. Do not let me interrupt you." The laugh

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will be all on China's side. Or, to speak more accurately, the laugh will be on the side of the Manchu Government, of Russia and of LI HUNG-CHANG. The old Viceroy will be the man of the hour; the master juggler who plucked victory from the jaws of defeat. The Manchu Government will breathe again. It will ridicule the idea of reform or progress. It will snap its fingers in the face of the Western Powers, and say, "When you have learned not to tear each other's eyes out, you may come again and preach to me about international amenities; and when you have acquired more respect for your grand principles of progress and civilization than for your own petty jealousies and ambitions, I shall be prepared to hear a new homily about your philosophy." But both the Manchu Government and LI HUNG-CHANG will bend the knee to Russia. Where had they been without the benevolent interference of St. Petersburg? They were beaten to their knees. Their capital, their treasuries, their palaces were in the hands of the foreigner. He might have sat quiet and dictated terms. But that most sympathetic, most compassionate St. Petersburg pointed a pin at the bladder of concert, and the bare possibility of its collapse caused a general stampede of the Allies. What is more, St. Petersburg invited the Powers to join in the solemn farce of pretending that they might have remained in Peking had they wished to do so, but that they thought it kinder not to incommode China. Can the Manchus and LI HUNG-CHANG find any sufficient means of requiting Russia for such services? However, we must not be jealous. We must rather try to emulate the magnificent spirit of Christianity shown by Western nations when they extend such fine forgiveness to a State which has just been butchering their fellow-countrymen, male and female, killing some of their Ministers, trying to kill the rest, and endeavouring to run every "foreign devil" into the sea. Such things will never happen again, of course. The Manchus, Prince TWAN, KANG YI and Company will be so grateful for their restoration to supreme power that they will never again turn against the foreigner who cast his pearls at their feet. But they have afforded the world one opportunity of making such a display of Christian magnanimity as will render the nineteenth century memorable for all time.

U.S. PORTS OF ENTRY.

The following list of new ports of entry is posted at the U.S. Consulate-General:—

HAWAII—Honolulu, Hilo, Mahukona, Kahuilui.

PORTO RICO—San Juan, Ponce, Mayaguez, Arecibo, Aquadillo, Humacao, Arroyo, Fajardo.

CUBA—Habana, Matanzas, Cardenas, Cienfuegos, Sagua, Caibarien, Santiago, Manzanillo, Unevitas, Guantanamo, Gibara, Baracoa, Trinidad, Santa Cruz, Zaza, Batabano.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—Manila, Iloilo, Cebu, Jolo, Zamboanga, Liassi.

GUAM—San Luis d'Afra.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

A writer in the *Rikugô Zasshi* discusses what he conceives to be the chief abuses of religion at the present time. The principal of these are classified under three heads. (1) *The blind prejudice and superstition displayed by professors and teachers of religion.* The belief in the divinity of Christ may be cited, says the writer we are quoting, as a case in point. We find American Missionaries who have received a University education and who are well versed in philosophy accepting this doctrine. Such men when opposing Buddhist superstition make use of all the learning they possess, but where Christian teaching is concerned the most illogical theories are accepted without question. On such occasions their knowledge of philosophy and science is of no use to them whatever. (2) *Sectarianism and its consequent narrow-mindedness.* The great desire of so many religious people is to advance the interests of their own sects to the detriment of other sects. There are few that realise how imperfect are all existing forms of religion and what a need there is for combining all that is strong and effective instead of wrangling over minor differences. (3) *The constant tendency to drift into pessimism and isolation from the world.* Christianity professes to be optimistic, but the tone too often adopted by its professors is decidedly pessimistic. A Christian believer who mixes freely in society and attempts to bring his influence to bear thereon is too often denounced by his fellow-Christians as worldly. Disgust with the world and separation from it is the attitude encouraged by most churches. Considering all the abuses connected with religion, one sees that what when used aright may become one of the greatest of benefactors when abused may become the source of serious evils, says the *Rikugô Zasshi.*

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In the *Bukkyô* appears an article from the pen of Dr. Murakami entitled "The Past and Future of Buddhism," of which the following is the substance:—That Buddhism should have prospered so much among a people far removed from the country where Shaka was born and should to-day be able to count its devotees by tens of thousands in this country is a fact that needs accounting for. The one great principle to which Buddhism owes its success in Japan is its susceptibility to change. Notwithstanding the great merits of its founder and the eminently rational character of the doctrines he taught, had not the system he founded been so framed as to adapt itself to the national peculiarities of alien peoples, it could never have succeeded in Japan. But when we say that Buddhism has changed we do not mean to say that it has lost its identity. Throughout the whole range of creation the law of change prevails, but in thousands of instances identity is preserved nevertheless. . . . Northern Buddhism has prospered more than Southern on account of the transformations to which it has been subjected. The Buddhism of Annam and Siam has no future like that which awaits the Japanese form of faith. The influences that have worked changes in our religion in the past may be enumerated as follows: (1) *Political influences.* Buddhism was greatly affected by the action of the Emperor Kwammu when he made Heian (Kyôtô) his capital. It was affected by all the chief events of the Kamakura and the Tokugawa ages. (2) *Times of great corruption have affected Buddhism.* They act as a stimulus. The light of our faith showed brightest during the dark days of the Gempei civil war and during the early years of the Kamakura era. (3) *Buddhism is greatly influenced by corruption within its own pale.* It is in times of the decay of faith that great reformers have arisen. It was the extreme worldliness of the Buddhist priests of their time that brought to the front men like Kôbô and Dengyô. The latter resented the manner in which Buddhism prostrated itself before royalty. The priests boasted that their faith bore the name of Palace-Buddhism. In opposition to this, Dengyô Daishi proclaimed the Buddhism of the mountains—a creed that required abstinence and self-denial. From this time date the Hiei-zan monasteries. Later times of ecclesiastical corruption gave to the world such men as as Hônen, Shinran, Nichiren, Yeisei and Dôgen. (4) *Buddhism has been affected by the development of human intelligence.* The teaching of great philosophers has changed Buddhism in many ways. There has been no wave of progress on which she has not ridden. At the present time the influences mentioned above are all making their power felt. Great political changes are taking place. There is corruption both inside and outside the Buddhist pale and knowledge is advancing at a rapid pace. All this will affect our creed. We shall see new transformations, to be followed by a new era of prosperity. There is every reason to hope that a man of genius, determination and courage will arise in our ranks and be acknowledged as a leader suited to the age in which we live.

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The *Taiyô* observes that both among Buddhists and Christians great efforts are being made to celebrate the beginning of the new century by active missionary work of an unprecedented kind. The Buddhists have set their minds on making great capital out of the arrival of the relics from Siam. They propose to collect one million *yen* and to begin by erecting a grand building as a repository for the sacred treasure, and after this has been done they propose to turn their attention to charity and education. A new Buddhist society called the Nihon Bodaikai has been formed in Kyôtô, in which all the principal sects are well represented. Great things are expected from this Association. But the *Taiyô* ridicules the whole proceedings. It says that the dry bone which has been conveyed from Siam to this country may have originally belonged to a horse for all its guardians know. To relegate education and charity to a secondary position while they spend huge sums of money on the erection of a building in honour of this relic shows how unenlightened these Buddhist are. The proposed Christian efforts referred to by the *Taiyô* are those of the Fukaindomei-Kai, which is collecting from native and foreign sources the sum of 5,000 *yen* to be expended in special mission work next year. The *Taiyô* thinks that these united efforts of various Christian sects will do much to destroy the sectarian spirit which has prevailed hitherto.

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On July 1st a new Buddhist magazine came into existence called the *Shin-Bukkyô.* It is the organ of the reform party known as the *Seito* (清徒) Dôshi-Kai. The object of the above association is stated under six headings as follows: (1) The fundamental principle of the Association is steadfast faith in the Buddhist religion. (2) The spread of religious knowledge, the teaching of morality, and the revival of faith in the creed and the means employed by the Association for the reform of society. (3) We are advocates of free investigation of the teaching of other sects. (4) We do not recognize the necessity of preserving either the traditional forms and ceremonies or the organisation of the sect. (5) We object to Government patronage and denounce all connection with politics. The *Taiyô* comments favourably on this programme, but thinks it may prove too radical to be carried into practice forthwith. For instance, when the new party asserts that it has no sympathy whatever with orthodox Buddhists, that it despairs of ever reforming them in any way, that all its hopes are with the rising generation, it is assuming an attitude towards existing Buddhist adherents that not even such men as Shinran and Nichiren ever ventured to assume. To us, says the *Taiyô*, the Seito-Dôshi-Kai appears to be attempting the impossible. This evidently is the feeling of Dr. Murakami also, who in a preface contributed to their magazine says, "In this world of ours the child that is parentless resembles a wandering spirit. With the new that has no connection with the old I find it hard to sympathise." Dr. Murakami is one of the most progressive of modern Buddhists, and yet he writes thus. The *Taiyô* takes this occasion for expressing its conviction that the attempt to reform Buddhism is next to hopeless. What makes any radical change in the position occupied by Buddhism in this country so improbable,

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says the *Taiyô*, is the fact that in no sense is this creed bound up with the life of the nation. The place it holds in the minds of the masses of the people is that of a time-honoured institution whose maintenance though burdensome is in some respects desirable. If Buddhism were swept away to-morrow, the only people who would suffer would be the priests. The people would lose nothing. The people do not take sufficient interest in the creed to wish for its reform. Luther succeeded because the Germans valued their Christianity enough to welcome his attempts to separate the gold from the dross. Society at that time felt that a new form of religion was the only remedy for evils whose presence they felt keenly. But there is no such feeling in Japan with regard to Buddhism. A religion that no longer plays any important part in the national life is in our view quite incapable of being renovated so as to become a powerful means of promoting good. We wish, says the *Taiyô*, the members of the Seito-dôshi Kai would turn their attention to this point.

In No. 10 the *Taiyô* has a great deal to say about the inefficiency of both Buddhism and Christianity and about the want of a fixed Government policy in reference to religion. But we find the article too full of commonplace remarks that have been repeatedly made to be worth reproduction here. The *Taiyô* takes the side of the advocates of the entire independence of native churches and thinks that the use of foreign money is responsible for a large amount of sycophantism in the Christian church an opinion which is very widely held. The *Taiyô* recommends the Eastern and Western Hongwanji to cease their squabbling and to work together. During the last 12 months, says the *Taiyô*, Buddhism has been in bad repute in the country as a whole. First the violent agitation in favour of more Government patronage and then the outburst of superstitious feeling over the Siam relics have created a good deal of new antipathy to the whole sect.

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To the *Tôkyô Maishiû Shinshi* (882) Mr. Shimada Saburô contributes an article in favour of the abolition of licensed prostitution. The subject has so often been discussed in these columns in years past that it is not necessary to reproduce what Mr. Shimada has to say in detail. He begins by giving a history of the movement, which began to take a distinct form some ten years ago when Messrs. Iwamoto and Ueki lectured on the subject in the Tsukiji Meiji Kaidô. A few years later Mr. Iwamoto drew attention to the importance of the matter at the Waseda Semmon Gakkô, but his address on this occasion caused a great uproar and aroused determined opposition. In Gumma Prefecture and in one or two other prefectures the question has been fought out in local assemblies and abolition has been tested in a partial manner. In arguing in favour of abolition, the ground taken by Mr. Shimada is that prostitutes do not enjoy the full amount of liberty granted to them by the Constitution. Mr. Shimada contends that the Japanese Government is opposed to slavery in every form and yet it allows prostitutes to be chained to a life which many of them dislike. The system, Mr. Shimada thinks, is illegal. He complains of the publicity given to prostitution in this country. When visiting the Kamakura Hachiman temple, right in front of the Shrine, he observed an advertisement informing worshippers that the Tôkyô Yoshiwara had opened a branch establishment in Formosa. Among views of the principal sights of Tôkyô that of the double bridges near the Palace stands first, then comes the Kudan Memorial Shrine and next the Yoshiwara, which shows the position this place occupies in the minds of the people.

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In the *Tôkyô Maishû Shinshi*, Dr. D. C. Greene states his views on the Chinese crisis in the following terms:—There are those who assert that what is happening in China has been caused by mission work. But to say that all the blame of the course things have taken is to be attributed to the missionaries is unfair. The missionaries have no doubt done great things in China in the way of supplying incentives to progress and reform and the influence of their converts in the country has for some time past attracted the attention and excited the enmity of the conservatives. These converts have taught the Chinese the value of the lives of individuals. Then there has been a reform party outside the church which no doubt has received an impetus from the missionaries to a greater or less extent. This reform party will be content with nothing short of a revolution. The effect of the literature circulated thoughout the country too has unquestionably been very considerable. Through perusing translations of western books the Chinese have found themselves breathing in a new atmosphere and have grown to regard their old life with aversion. It followed that the conservatives grew alarmed and that such societies as the Ihochuan were formed But the immediate cause of violence and bloodshed was not mission work, but the action of Russia and Germany in seizing Chinese territory. . . . . There are those who say that the disaffection will spread all over China, but such is not my opinion. The movement originated with the learned. The masses have followed them blindly. When the leaders are punished the commotion will subside. To blame the missionaries for what has happened is unjust. If China is to remain a great empire she must be reformed and as a means of bringing about this reform missionaries and their teaching play an important part, but they are not on this account to be held responsible for the outrages committed by the anti-reform party.

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In the publication from which we have just quoted, Mr. Okura Shôei attacks Mr. Fukuzawa and his system of ethics. Mr. Okura's chief complaint against Mr. Fukuzawa is that while he recommends occidental ethics he does not recommend Christianity, on which, according to Mr. Okura, occidental ethics is founded. Mr. Fukuzawa's perversity in this particular is attributed to his admiration for Mr. Spencer and his doctrine of the unknowable. There are two classes of people in Japan who do not welcome Christianity, says Mr. Okura (1) There are those who have not sufficient intelligence and knowledge to recognise the truth when they hear it. (2) There are those who though they know what is true have not the courage to openly confess their belief. Mr. Fukuzawa belongs to neither of these classes. Why then does he act as he does? A question in reply to which Mr. Fukuzawa would no doubt have a great deal to say.

Under the title *Shûkyô wa jutsu nari* (Religion is an Art) the *Maishû Shinshi* contends that religion is more a thing to be practised than to be learnt, and that a great many Japanese have failed to realise this and have entered the church just as they enter a school, with the idea of studying a set of doctrines. When they reach the end of their studies they lose interest in the creed. The writer goes on to contend that though Theology needs study, the mere intellectual acquaintance with the teaching of the Church is of little use.

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It is stated in the *Tôkyô Maishû Shinshi* that the Yokohama Kumiai Kyôkai, established in 1893, which has hitherto been receiving pecuniary help from the American Board Mission, has now become independent, having joined the Japanese Dendô Kaisha.

According to a recent issue of the *Toki no Koye*, the organ of the Salvation Army, this body, while making Tôkyô its head-quarters, has stations at Yokohama, Hachiôji, Okayama, Tamashima, Kasaoka, Kurashiki, Isezaki, Kumagaya, Tatebayashi, Sakai and other places. The Association has started reformatories, Sailors' Homes and other benevolent institutions in various places. The *Toki no Koye* has, we observe, reached its 111th number.

The efforts made by the higher classes in Tôkyô to collect money for the Indian Famine Relief Fund have been eminently successful. The concert given at Yeno on July 14th realised over 1,500 *yen* and the University professors and the Oriental Young Men's Society have collected some 2,000 *yen*. The response made to appeals for charity by upper class Japanese who believe in no religion is remarkable, says the *Tôkyô Maishû Shinshi*.

The *Fukuin Shimpô* states at considerable length the views of Mr. Kanamori Tsûrin, who used to be the pastor of the Banchô Kyôkai, but who was led by conscientious convictions to renounce the Christianity taught by the sects altogether. Since Mr. Kanamori is a man of considerable influence in the spheres in which he moves, and in view of the fact that his type of mind is by no means uncommon in this country at the present time, we give a full account of his opinions as stated to the editor of the *Fukuin Shimpô*, allowing him to speak for himself as follows:—Regarding Christianity as an outsider, as I now do, it seems to me to be like a big machine that has lost its motor power. Of late years if there has been no decrease in the number of adherents, the increase has been extremely insignificant. The influence which the creed exercised seventeen years ago is felt no longer. All the energy seems to have gone out of it, and it is retained only as a custom. Perhaps I myself am to a certain extent responsible for this state of things, but it can be traced to many causes which have nothing to do with me personally. The new theology has undermined the faith of a great many Christian converts. When, after men have put implicit faith in a certain doctrine, they hear that there is no rational basis for it, they naturally begin to doubt everything. Formerly I read the Gospel of John with delight, thinking it to have been penned by the disciple that was in constant fellowship with Christ. But when I was informed that the actual writer of the Gospel has no such claim to be listened to, the pleasure I had derived from the perusal of the Gospel was all taken away. A knowledge of advanced criticism reached us late, and that is why there has been so much falling off during the past ten or fifteen years. It is true that the strength of religion is not in knowledge but in faith founded on experience. In old times one used to see striking instances of men whose faith nothing could move. The influence exercised by such persons was very remarkable. A very young man known to me, about the year 1883, full of faith and zeal, called on the Governor of his province and in a most sincere and earnest manner addressed him as follows:—"The happiness of the people whom you govern depends upon the state of your heart. What is your attitude to Christianity?" He then went on to explain Christianity to the Governor. The Governor was so struck by the unction which the young man possessed that he listened with rapt attention and even raised no objection to being prayed for by another Christian present. In speaking of this episode some time after, the Governor said, "There was something about that young Christian that so awed me that I felt as though I were in the presence of the Prime Minister." This Governor did not become a Christian, but his testimony as to the power of real conviction is valuable nevertheless. Now what I complain of is that in the preaching of to-day one sees little of this. The rhetoric of sermons may be very good and the points treated may be reasoned out clearly enough, but the faith of the preacher, which alone can make sermons powerful,—this does not appear. In days gone by heaven and hell, the rewards and the punishments of the future life, all seemed real to the believer. Of course he accepted as true much that was false, but no shadow of doubt crossed his soul, and hence his faith worked wonders in the world. Strong faith and a certain amount of superstition are perhaps inseparable in this world of ours. The attempt to know what is true and what not too often undermines faith. The age of real faith as far as Japan was concerned was one in which God was believed in as a person, the Bible as the source of all truth, and the future life as a great reality. Now-a-days these things are explained away, and hence Christian zeal declines, and instead of preaching the doctrine of repentance and escape from the wrath to come, the Church of to-day is engaged in works of charity, in endeavouring to ameliorate man's worldly circumstances. If Japan had been christianized, attention to such subordinate duties might be excusable, but while the church is frittering away time in such works, its mission to the

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world is left unfulfilled. It is ten years since I left the church. I have sailed over the sea of politics. I have taken part in the bustle of the business world; I have encountered some very ugly specimens of humanity—fiends, gamblers and forgers,—but my mind has been in no way affected by my experience. I am no pessimist, but rather a confirmed optimist, notwithstanding the fact that I have had my share of trouble both before and since I left the church. Whether it is the result of my Christian training or whether it springs from natural disposition I cannot tell, but I am always hopeful and I manage to find a sunny side to all events. When I left the church to which I belonged, I was invited to join the Unitarians; I was also asked to become a member of the German Church. But I refused both offers and cut off my connection with the religious world altogether.

As we understand Mr. Kanamori, the position he takes is that real earnest faith in Christianity as taught by the strictly orthodox party, though desirable in the extreme, is only possible to those who refuse to reason about the dogmas of religion, and who refuse to test the assertions of ecclesiastics on religion in the same way that they test the allegations of laymen on all other subjects. This blind faith Mr. Kanamori was no longer able to retain after extensive study, and hence he felt it to be his duty to leave the church.

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According to the *Fukuin Shimpō*, the enthusiasm manifested by the Buddhists of Kyôto on the arrival of the relics from Siam was something extraordinary. The whole of the road from the Higashi Hongwanji to the Myôhô-in was covered in with cotton cloth, 1,200 pieces being needed, representing a sum of 3,200 *yen*. After this material had been used for this sacred purpose for one day, so great was the eagerness of the people to possess even a small portion of the cloth that it sold at 1 *yen* a foot, and so after allowing for waste the sum of 68,140 *yen* was realised by the sale. The fortunate possessors of this new sacred relic purpose handing it down as an heir-loom to distant generations. Let no one say that superstition is dying out in Japan.

The paper just quoted wonders why more sympathy is not shown to Chinese Christians by their brethren in Japan. While the Japanese soldiers have had presents sent to them from various quarters, the suffering Christians of China have not received as much as a public expression of sympathy from their Japanese *confrères*. The reason of this may be, says the *Fukuin Shimpō*, that we have our doubts as to the integrity of the course pursued by the majority of Chinese Christians. We have no sympathy with men who betray their country to foreigners, or who rely on foreign help to extricate them from the difficulties in which they find themselves. Whether the allegation made against the majority of Chinese Christians are true or not, we are not in a position to determine, says the organ we quote, and we are anxious to see the point investigated in a thorough manner, so that Japanese Christians may know how they ought to act. This is not a question that concerns Christians only; it is intimately connected with the relation of Western to Eastern civilisation, and its thorough elucidation is a matter of considerable urgency.

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The following recent Buddhist statistics appear in the *Meikyô Shinshi*—Number of Buddhist Temples—*The Main Island*. Central Part, 36,047; Northern Part, 8,666; Western Part, 18,750. *Shikoku*, 2,499. *Kyûshû*, 5,626; *Loochoo*, 16. *Hokkaidô*, 306, making a total of 71,910. The above figures do not include shrines (Butsudô). Divided according to sects, they stand as follows:—Shin, 19,186; Soto, 14,099; Shingon, 12,762; Jôdo, 8,323; Obaku (a sub-sect of the Zenshû) 6,005; Nichiren, 5,067; Tendai, 4,800; Rinzai, 613; Ji, 521; Yûzûnembutsu, 357; Hossô, 45, and Kegon, 21. The priests are classified as follows:—Heads of Sects, 38; Priest who teach in addition to performing ceremonies, 59,943. Priests who do not teach, 44,397. Students, 10,983.

ACCUMULATION OF GOODS.

The *Keizai Zasshi* devotes an article to the amount of goods accumulated in Tokyo in consequence of the universal depression in trade, caused by the disturbances in China. At the end of July the value of goods stored in the various warehouses owned by the Mitsui, Shibusawa, Nakayama, and Koto firms, as well as the 30th Bank, did not fall short of the following:—

		Yen.
Rice	domestic	1,415,748
	foreign	74,794
Wheat, barley, &c.		94,868
Peas, beans, &c.		194,210
Miscellaneous meals		12,854
Fertilizers	artificial and animal	770,262
	miscellaneous	117,348
Raw cotton	domestic and foreign	59,573
	for spinning	15,884
Cotton Yarns	domestic	253,378
	imported	60,820
	miscellaneous	1,016,525
Wool		715,562
Woven goods	flannel	127,309
	domestic	322,429
	foreign	905,233
Tobacco	Leaf, foreign and domestic	2,068,150
	Manufactured (foreign and domestic	371,170
Paper	Domestic	230,232
	Foreign	810,575
	Paste board	120,906
Sugar		191,782
Iron		1,086,964
Nails, zinc, and other metals		441,490
Rails and other railway materials		23,100
Cement		133
Hides and leather		143,627
Oil	Domestic	40,965
	Foreign	50,764
	Miscellaneous	2,937
Sundries		503,395

From the above it may be perceived that, although the amount of domestic staples is by no means insignificant, foreign goods are on the whole predominant.

FIRES IN YOKOHAMA.

Incendiaries appear to be particularly busy in Yokohama just at present. On Saturday morning, a little before 2 o'clock, fire was found to have broken out in an unoccupied house in Chinatown, a ramshackle two-storied building on lot 191. The Settlement Fire Brigade men, under Superintendent Morgin, with two stand pipes and hose reels, were promptly on the scene, while one of the steam engines was set to work from the fire-well at No. 76, and a hose laid to the scene of the fire. Unfortunately there was a quarter of an hour's delay in getting water from the hydrants, and when it was obtained the pressure was so slight that the streams thrown were not very effective. As a consequence the flames had obtained a good hold before anything could be done to extinguish them and three buildings in all, comprising thirteen dwellings, were destroyed. On the ground floor of one of the blocks was a fireworks shop, and the bombs and crackers stored there exploded with a noise resembling a rifle fire and cannonade. The police firemen from the Settlement station rendered assistance in fighting the flames, and the fire was well in hand by 3 a.m. It is believed by the police that the fire was the work of a gang of gamblers who had started operations in the unoccupied building. We understand that two foreign insurance offices were concerned in the property destroyed.

On Saturday night, at about 11.21, an alarm was received at the Settlement Fire Station of an outbreak of fire at the Yokohama Electric Light Works. Superintendent Morgin with the Brigade, hose-reels and standpipes, proceeded to the scene, as well as the Police Brigade. The buildings of the Works, consisting of the engine house, of one storey and a two-storey building containing stores and offices, were soon enveloped in flames and burned with great fury. In spite of a plentiful supply of water the whole of the Works and their contents were destroyed. One of the two boilers in the engine house blew up with terrific force, but fortunately no injury was done to life or limb by the explosion. The iron chimney of the Works was all that remained intact, but the fire was limited to the Electric Light Co.'s compound. The loss in stores and machinery must have been heavy, but we believe was covered in foreign insurance offices. The company has just completed new Works at Hiranuma and was shortly to have removed the plant from the Works now destroyed. It is anticipated that the supply of the electric light from the new Works to Yokohama will be effected with very slight delay.

Just as the firemen were reeling up their hose at the Electric Light Works, a little after 1 a.m., it was discovered that an attempt had been made to fire the Minatoza theatre, near by. A bundle of cotton wool from an old *futon*, soaked with kerosene, and alight, was found thrust through the lattice work of a dressing room at the back of the stage, and abutting on to a side street. Fortunately some workmen in the Theatre discovered it in time and put out the fire before it had done any damage. Had there been no one on the premises a big conflagration would doubtless have resulted.

The fire at the Electric Light Works, occurring as it did towards the close of a Saturday evening, found all the small theatres, story-tellers' and other places of amusement in full swing, and the sudden extinction of light in these and other houses of entertainment led to some scenes of panic and confusion. Fortunately few people have been reported injured, though queer stories are afloat as to the treatment received at some of the theatres ere guests were allowed to depart.

JAPAN'S 1899 TEA STATISTICS.

The British Foreign Office has issued a blue book on the trade of the consular district of Yokohama for the year 1899. The report devotes considerable space to a review of tea conditions in Japan last year, which will prove of interest to all tea dealers. Mr. Consul Bonar, in discussing this line of trade, says:—

"By the end of April no stock of old leaf remained on the market, and the Japanese dealers were able to avoid the objectionable course of mixing with the new teas the unsold balance of old leaf, as was the case in previous seasons.

"The new season opened at the end of April with less than usual eagerness on the part of foreign buyers to operate, and prices compared favourably with the early teas of last year, although the quality was hardly up to the standard expected.

"The duty of 10c. gold (5d.) per lb. imposed on teas by the United States Government in 1898, has not apparently affected the sale of Japan teas to any great extent in America so far as the total volume of business is concerned

"At the same time there has been less disposition to purchase in other than small quantities, country dealers finding themselves unable to carry as large a stock as formerly in view of the payment of duty to be made before delivery of the teas can be effected, to which may be added a feeling of uncertainty caused by occasional rumours that the duty would be removed at no distant date.

"Otherwise deliveries have continued good, and with light stocks in first hands, the position at the end of December was statistically very strong.

"The following is the total export from Yokohama from January 1 to December 31, 1899.

To	Quantity. lbs.
New York and East	8,742,635
Chicago and West	7,195,275
San Francisco and Pacific Coast	3,997,756
Canada	7,193,776
Europe, etc.	839,732
Total	27,969,178

"It is to be regretted that no efforts are being made by the Japanese tea growers and others interested in the trade to improve the quality of their teas. The crop of 1899 was the poorest that has yet been marketed in all respects. Indeed, each year appears to show worse results in quality and manipulation, and in face of the determined efforts of Indian and Ceylon growers to increase their hold on the American trade, the prospect for Japan teas is of a most unsatisfactory nature."

The *Sin Wen Pao* says that Chung Chi, Tutor to the Heir Apparent, committed suicide by hanging himself in his own house. There were none to pay visits of condolence on his account. The same newspaper says that Yü Lu, lately Viceroy of Chihli, committed suicide when he saw his army defeated. He was not killed in action.

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CHINA NOTES.

A correspondent, writing from Tangku on Aug. 12th, speaks of the unfortunate accident which happened at the taking of Yangtsun. "The American occupied the village," he says, "and the British artillery (12th Field Battery), not knowing they occupied it, opened fire, killing 10 and wounding 60 or 70."

A rather funny story has been going the round in Tientsin. During and after the taking of Tientsin City, looting among the civilians was prevalent, and strict orders had been given by the Provost-Marshal to the guard to seize all loot. A gentleman with several little silver things known as shoes was stopped by "Tommy A;" the gentleman in question happened to be a Consul, so became indignant and informed the guard who he was; the guard was, however, Consul-proof and answered: "I don't care if you are the blooming Emperor," and marched him and his perquisites to the proper authority. The Consul is said to have afterwards been allowed to pass with everything.

A message from Peking signed by Mr. Pethick, Li Hung chang's former secretary and henchman, dated the 10th of August, said:—"Chinese have closed every little inlet for food, hoping to starve us and drive a better bargain for peace. All foreigners have enough horses and rice three weeks —3,000 native Christians on starvation diet, bad rice and husks, their children dying. Li Hung-chang should be ignored. He represents the present hostile ministry and to avert their just punishment will misrepresent our position here. We can easily hold out here another 10 days or fortnight. Best course Foreign Governments refuse treat but strongly threaten vengeance if we are harmed."

The already large fleet of British and foreign warships in the neighbourhood of Shanghai has been augmented by three more vessels. They are the German 3rd class cruiser *Seeadler*, and the Japanese cruiser *Yayeyama*, and a Japanese armed transport, the *Toyohashi*. The German comes from Kiaochou, to which port she had been ordered from the South Pacific. She is a composite vessel of wood and steel, of 1,640 tons displacement, 2,800 i.h.p., and was built in Hamburg in 1892. Her armament consists of eight 4.1 guns and seven machine guns. Her speed is 16 knots and she carries a complement of 156 officers and men. There are also at Woosung the following warships, in addition to the British contingent; the American *New Orleans*, the German *Fürst Bismarck*, and the Russian *Admiral Korniloff*.

A Tientsin correspondent writes: — The first regiment of Germans have come in. I was at the Gordon Hall when they passed. They made a splendid show, great, tall, masterful fellows in fine condition after their month at sea. They are as good-looking if not better than the Sikhs, who look very finely in their khaki dress and tall head-wraps. The American horse, mostly from Oregon, are the finest lot of cavalry, however. We learn that the 9th cavalry (coloured) are soon to be here. They are said to be a fine lot of soldiers, very clean and very soldierly. The Russians are the dirtiest-looking, though the Hindoos have the liveliest odours. The little black coolies from Madras are the oddest, and the Brahmins with their clean brass water-bowls. One could never see elsewhere such a combination of soldiery as is seen here now.

The third lot of Indian troops landed in Shanghai a few days ago, the detachment being half of the 2nd Queen's Own Rajputs, which arrived by the steamer *Zamania*. The vessel drew too much water to come over the bar, and the men were landed at Hongkew wharf in lighters, towed up by steamers, under the direction of Lieut. Threlwell, of H.M.S. *Bonaventure*, transport officer. The camp for the Rajputs is near Messrs. Sassoon godowns at Yangtze-poo, a little to the east of the Waterworks. The men came ashore about 11.30 and fatigue parties were at once sent out to get the camp ready, the remainder of the troops resting for several hours with piled arms in Kungping Road. The Rajputs, who form one of the "swagger" Indian regiments, are a fine straight-looking lot of fellows, and they came ashore in first-rate condition, while their arms and equipment were quite fit for "general inspection." It is a good while since the regiment has been on active service, Burma being their last scene of operations.

The pitiful story of the massacre at Paotingfu has been confirmed by a messenger sent to Paoting to make inquiries. This messenger returned in ten days, having succeeded in escaping continuous peril. He got to within a half-mile of the American Mission and from personal friends heard the awful story. On the 30th of June the mob went to the American Presbyterian Mission and destroyed the place, shooting or killing all the foreigners and many natives on the place. The same day they destroyed the R.C. Mission in the city, which was opened with such brilliant auspices a few months ago by Bishop Favier. The following morning, after a great rain, the mob went to the American Board Mission in the south suburb. On breaking in the gate they were met in front of the chapel on the raised terrace by Mr. Pitkin, who fired at the crowd as they rushed in. He was shot at and fell wounded on the left side. The report is that he was at once beheaded. The two ladies who were there were then taken by the crowd and carried into the city to a temple which served as a sort of headquarters of the Boxers. Here they were killed, while a native Pastor was taken to the south west corner of the city, and killed at a temple. Mr. Bagnall, of the C.I.M., escaped from his home to a temple east of his residence. Here he was captured and killed. Of Mr. Cooper, the Superintendent of the Mission, returning from Shangsi, there was no definite word. Suffice it to say that every foreigner was cut down and all Christians who could be found at hand. Such is the story of the messenger.

Further information has come to hand as to the destruction of chapels in the Amoy region. During the pulling down of the new chapel at Hotien (200 miles N.W. of Amoy) two men were killed by falling débris. The large premises at Lunganchou were to have been burned as well as looted and wrecked, but the neighbours prevented this as they were naturally afraid that their shops would catch fire also; as indeed must have been the case, since the chapel was in a low narrow street on the bank of the river. In addition to the five places previously mentioned as destroyed, authentic messages have come of the wrecking of another seven, five in the North River district, belonging to the London Missionary Society, and two others, one belonging to the American Reformed Dutch Mission, and one belonging to the English Presbyterians. The five of the L.M.S. are at Enghok, Tehang, Chiang-ping, Sinkio, and Sinhi. All these have been first looted and then burned, and the preachers' lives have been threatened, though luckily they have escaped in safety. This seems to be the work not of bonâ fide Boxers, but of men belonging to two or three other secret societies under varying names. The orders issued by the heads are, not to harm or kill any native Christian unless they oppose the rioters, but to loot and destroy all Christian chapels and premises. The mandarins seem powerless either to prevent trouble or to punish the miscreants after the damage has been done.

A correspondent writes to the *N.-C. Daily News* from Kinmênchow, Hupeh:—There has so far been no disturbance in this place, but rumour has it that great battles have been fought in Shantung and Kuangtung between Chinese and foreign troops. Two Taoist priests, 200 years old, go forth to battle armed with magic fans, and are able to withstand myriads of shells, swords, etc. By fanning with these fans the foreigners' shells and bullets return and strike the foreign troops; hence it is that the Chinese are victorious in every engagement. There is a rumour here that the Hsien at Nganlu has recently seized a kidnapper, and during the examination it was said he was in the employ of a missionary. The missionary was immediately summoned to the Court and examined, but gave a denial, yet notwithstanding this, the kidnapper and the missionary were put in cages and done to death. Probably there is no truth in this rumour; nothing is known of such a case in Nganlu. In the villages, placards are everywhere posted up warning people against kidnappers. The following is a specimen:—"For the information of the public. Low and depraved men are now abroad kidnapping children. If you meet any men and in conversation with them find that they speak another dialect, make full enquiries respecting them before you allow them to depart. Should you find foreign drugs on their persons, then there is no doubt about their being kidnappers and you should immediately call the people together and beat them. If any Hanchuan, Hanyang, Hsiaokan, or Huangpi (these districts are all in the neighbourhood of Hankow) men come selling foreign dyes, foreign clothes, or foreign drugs, you must not buy from such men, and such suspicious characters must not be allowed to stay in the neighbourhood."

The report of the Hongkong Hotel Co., Ld., for the first half half of 1900 shows a profit on working account of $100,797, and an available credit balance of $94,795. The directors propose to pay a dividend of 8 per cent for the half-year, to write off from furniture, etc., and for repairs $30,000, to transfer $15,000 to reserve, and carry forward the balance, $1,795.

The statement of the accounts of the Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving, and Dyeing Co., Ld., with the result of the working of the mill up to the 15th of August, shows a debit balance at Profit and Loss of $144,588. The working account shows a loss of $69,638, and interest accounts for $74,630. The Directors have waived their fees, and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., General Managers, have waived their office allowance and commission.

Definite news has come from Hankow of the arrival there of another party of Shansi Missionaries. These include Mr. and Mrs. Lutley, Miss J. Hoskyns, Miss A. Hoskyns, Miss Johnson, Misses French, Gaunlett, Higgs, Palmer, Rasmussen and Mr. and Mrs. Dreyer. Two children of Mr. and Mrs. Lutley died on the way down. It is not thought that this party has suffered from ill-treatment, being known to have been under official escort all through Honan. The two children reported as dying would most likely have succumbed to the unavoidable hardships of travelling at this season of the year.

Lieut. Charles Gray Campbell, of the 4th Rajputs, died at the Shanghai General Hospital on Aug. 28th. The deceased officer arrived at Shanghai with the 2nd battalion, to which he was attached for service in China. On the voyage from India, Lieut. Campbell did not have any illness of a serious nature, but after leaving Hongkong in the transport *Zamania* he caught a chill and was ill on arrival at Shanghai. His condition became so bad that he was sent to the General Hospital, and despite the best care and attention he died. The cause of death is reported to have been pleurisy and an abscess on the liver. The deceased officer, who was born in 1868, obtained his lieutenancy in 1893, first entering the Scottish Rifles.

Lieutenant Keyes, R.N., who distinguished himself in the torpedo-catcher *Fame*, and who is now acting as naval aide-de-camp to General Gaselee, was one of the first men in the British Legation at Peking on the 14th August, and he reports, so says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that it looked as if a garden party were going on. A young lady who has been through all the horrors of the siege, writes to her mother:—"The British, in spite of international jealousy, were in first. I think we could not have held out much longer, but it has by no means been as bad a time as we thought it was going to be at times, or as it might have been. It is the loss of life that made it so sad, otherwise it was most interesting, and in spite of all, I am most thankful to have been through, and would not have missed having this experience for worlds." General Gaselee reports that when he arrived at the British Legation, Sir Claude Macdonald

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met him, and at once took him round, and showed him what he thought were the best arrangements for the comfort of the relieving force.

A special Thanksgiving Service for the Relief of Peking, in which all denominations joined, was held in St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, on Monday the 20th August. Amongst those present were H.E. the Governor Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., and Lady Blake; H.E. Major-General W. J. Gascoigne, C.M.G., with Captain the Hon. H. W. Trefusis, aide-de-camp; A. G. Romano, Esq., Consul-General for Portugal; R. Wildman, Esq., Consul-General for the United States, several members of the Legislative Council, and Military and Naval Officers. The Clergy were Rt. Rev. J. C. Hoare, D.D., Bishop of Victoria; Rev. R. F. Cobbold, M.A., Chaplain; Revs. W. Banister, E. H. Good, R.N., P. H. Jones R.N., J. H. France, T. Wright, W. S. Walsh, A. Iliff, Fong Yat Sau, and the Rev. G. J. Williams, pastor of the Union Church. The lesson was read by the Rev. G. J. Williams, and the sermon was preached by Bishop Hoare.

Though it was expected that the revenue collected by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs in the second quarter of 1900 should be less than that collected in 1899, surprise is naturally expressed that the deficit does not amount to 10 per cent., and that the total collection was more than a million taels larger than in 1898. The number of treaty ports has grown to twenty-nine, and two are included, Kiaochow (Tsingtao) and Yochou, which contributed nothing in the same quarter last year. The total receipts for the April-June quarter for the past three years are:—Tls. 6,385,596; 1899—7,001,548; 1898—5,330,880.

This year's collection has only been exceeded twice before in the decade; on one of these two occasions Formosa was still a revenue-contributing appanage of China. The comparative figures for ten years are:—

Year.	Hk. Tls.
1900 (including new ports)	6,385,596
1899 do	7,001,548
1898 do	5,330,880
1897 do	5,975,115
1896	5,981,871
1895 (including Formosa)	5,429,193
1894 do	6,025,264
1893 do	5,864,774
1892 do	6,113,677
1891 do	6,390,057

The opium duty collected this year includes no less than Tls. 145,582 from native opium, against nearly Tls. 93,000 last year, and under Tls. 78,000 in 1898. In cotton goods there was a decline at Shanghai in T-cloths, and American drills and sheetings, with an advance in English sheetings and some fancy goods. There was a very marked fall in Indian and an advance in Japanese cotton yarn, the comparative figures for three years being, in piculs:—

	1900.	1899.	1898.
English	1,506	5,244	12,306
Indian	126,006	271,254	178,701
Japanese	154,655	100,749	54,104

Shanghai is greatly fluttered. The Municipal Council, without consulting the military or consular bodies, ordered an illumination of the Settlements to celebrate the Relief of Peking, and fixed a date. Thereupon Major-General Creagh, acting under the advice of the Consuls, suggested indefinite postponement of the affair, fearing that the proposed demonstration would give occasion for the Chinese rowdies in the adjacent city to break out into riot. Then, to use a phrase of the moment, "the fat was in the fire." Indignant letters filled the columns of the local press and the newspapers also printed editorial protests. The *North-China Daily News*, contrasting the condition of affairs at Peking and Shanghai, said:

In Peking, at any rate, there were no hysterics and no panic; what will they say when they hear of our behaviour in Shanghai?

So shattered are our nerves by the sufferings of our fellow-countrymen all over China, that we are afraid to celebrate the Relief of Peking, lest it should give the local rowdies an opportunity to commit a breach of the peace. At the same time, the Taotai has posted in the city a proclamation forbidding Chinese to go to the illuminations; and in the teahouses it was freely reported that the real object of our rejoicings was to entice the natives into the Settlements, when the foreigners would catch them, cut off their queues, and make them into soldiers. They do not stop to estimate the value of soldiers thus manufactured wholesale. But if we are proud of our fellow-countrymen in Peking what are we to think about ourselves? Was there ever a more pitiable spectacle in China, than to see a Chinese city and the adjoining Foreign Settlements mutually so frightened of each other, that while these put off their proposed celebration for fear the other may make trouble, that same other is making up its mind to stay at home, fearing treachery and violence from the foreigners? It is hard on General Creagh that he should have been brought into this absurdity; as we said yesterday, he is a new-comer here, and had to act under advice.

The heroism that has been displayed in the North makes us proud of our birthright; but when we think of what has just occurred here, of the evacuation of Chungking and Wenchow, the sensational tales of destruction that were sent us from shell-swept Tientsin, which we hear now has quite recovered its former appearance, the recent alarmist news from Hankow and other incidents wherein unreasoning fears have lent new terrors to rumour, and caused Truth to hide her blushing features, then we begin to doubt whether we are after all of that stock which prides itself on meeting danger coolly and calmly, which keeps all unnecessary cause of nervousness from its women-folk, and generally speaking, does not let "inferior races" think they can intimidate us. The behaviour of many responsible persons here and at Hankow, as was pointed out by a correspondent at Hankow, has been such as to make us ask ourselves some disagreeable questions in all seriousness and humility. It would almost be worth while for us to have to meet an outbreak here, to enable us to recover our own self-esteem.

The condition of Major-General de Wogack is said to be very serious. He is suffering from an attack of congestion of the brain, and the latest news of him was not reassuring.

The first batch of Australians for service in China arrived at Hongkong in the *Salamis* on the 26th ult. The force consists of 250 bluejackets from New South Wales and 200 from Victoria. After a few days' stay in Hongkong, the men were to proceed north.

Several of the leading firms in Moscow have received news that their warehouses of tea and silk at Kalgan have been plundered and afterwards burned by Chinese rioters and troops. The goods taken away or destroyed are valued at 7,000,000 taels (about £1,167,060, reckoning the tael at 3s. 4d.)

The special correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing from Peking under date of August 15th, says—The British Legation had been fortified in the strongest way, thanks to an American missionary named Gamewell. An elaborate system of loopholed walls and deep trenches was devised to prevent the enemy mining. Notwithstanding this their condition was very critical, and in another day or two the relief would have been useless. The enemy had worked up to within a few yards of these trenches, and the defenders could even hear their officers urging and encouraging the troops to rush in and massacre the foreigners. Provisions had grown woefully short, and there was very little horsemeat remaining. The shortness of ammunition was another serious trouble. The defender's guns consisted of one Austrian, one Italian, one American colt, one old Nordenfelt, one old gun used in 1860 which had been found in a brazier's shop, a lot of old Crimean guns from the Russian Legation, besides modern rifles. The replenishing of the ammunition was done under the *Orlando's* armourer, and was accomplished with wonderfully ingenuity. Every available scrap of suitable metal—candlesticks, ornaments, and such valuables being freely used—was employed in the making of the ammunition. They even went to the extent of making one-pound shot. Ingenuity did not stop here, however, for a gun was actually constructed from two cylinders forming part of a fire extinguisher. This was not used, as the danger of being without an extinguisher should fire break out was realised. In addition to all this 10,000 sand bags were made, some of silk brocade and such valuable stuffs. It is impossible to overpraise the skill and bravery of Colonel Shiba, and the Japanese marines and volunteers, upon whom the main defence vested. It is a curious fact that Sir Robert Hart received a telegram from the Tsung-li Yamên during the siege of the Legations, officially reporting the Customs returns, as though nothing unusual had happened.

The German squadron, which arrived at Singapore on the 20th ult. and was expected to coal there, consists of nineteen vessels, of which no less than eight are first-class battle-ships, the rest being cruisers and torpedo-boats. This large fleet is to be known as the German East Asiatic Squadron, and will be under the command of Admiral Geissler, who is reported to have left Wilhelmshaven, with the majority of the vessels, on the 11th July. The leading ships of the squadron are the battleships *Kaiser Friedrich III.* and *Kaiser Wilhelm II*, of 11,030 tons displacement, 18 knots, and 34 guns each; the *Brandenburg*, *Kurfurst Friedrich Wilhelm*, *Wissenburg*, and *Wörth*, of 10,000 tons displacement, 16 knots and 20 guns each: and the *Sachsen* and *Wurtemberg* of 7,441 tons, displacement, 14 knots, and 14 guns each. The other vessels are the dispatch vessel *Hela*, 2,000 tons, 20 knots, 4 guns; the torpedo gunboat *Jage*, 1,254 tons, 20 knots. 4 guns; the third class cruisers *Niobe* and *Nymphe*, of 2,600 tons, 21 knots, 10 guns each; the second-class cruiser *Victoria Louise* of 5,650 tons, 19 knots, 20 guns; and the fourth-class cruiser *Sperber*, 1,120 tons, 13 knots, and 8 guns. Then there are five large torpedo-boats to complete the fleet, these being detailed off to act as dispatch boats to the squadron. The four large battleships will have 568 officers and men each, while the four smaller ones will have in all 1,087 officers and men. The squadron, with the exception of the torpedo-boats, will be manned by 5,815 officers and men. The *Kurfürst Friedrich Wilhelm* is the flagship.

The *Nagasaki Press* prints an almost incredible story, which it received from an American gentleman who has just passed through the districts of Siberia bordering on Manchuria. This gentleman says:—

After the Chinese attack on the city (Blagovestchensk) had been repulsed, the Russian commander thought it advisable that the Chinese residents of the town should be sent across the river into Manchuria, as he considered the presence of so large a body a menace to the safety of the town. The Chinese numbered some 3,500, and consisted principally of coolies, gardener's mechanics, and storekeepers. Notice to this effect was accordingly served on the Chinese and a strong force of Cossacks was dispatched to carry out the order. The unfortunate Chinese having been escorted some distance from the town were then called upon to surrender their money to their Cossack guards. Those who refused were speedily overcome, their money being forcibly taken from them.

Having robbed their victims the Cossacks brutally requested them to cross the river. The terrified Chinese asked for boats and in reply were again ordered to cross the river, the order this time being accompanied with threats.

There is no need to dilate upon the horrible scene that followed. It remains to be stated that out of the large body of Chinese who were forced into the river at the point of the bayonet, only fifty succeeded in reaching the opposite side.

When Mr. W——was at Blagovestchensk a week had elapsed since the committal of this atrocious outrage, but he had ocular proof on resuming his journey that the information given him was not at all exaggerated, for he himself counted no less than 197 dead bodies lying in the reeds at the water's edge, and this in a very short time. In addition, the low lying lands over which the river flows at high tide were dotted with dark specks, which by the aid of glasses were seen to be the corpses of human beings. The same melancholy sight was witnessed for many miles along the river banks.

It is hard to believe that the troops of an Occidental nation could be guilty of such insatiate savagery, but the conduct of the above troops is only in keeping with that of their comrades in Tientsin, who, when ordered to clear the villages in the neighbourhood of the city, ruthlessly butchered all, sparing neither women nor children.

Mr. W—— states that the news of the sad tragedy has reached St. Petersburg and that the military Governor of the district has been ordered to appear before his Imperial Master.

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AMERICAN TOPICS.

The representatives of the Interoceanic Canal Company have been unsuccessful in their efforts to get an extension of time for depositing with the Government of Nicaragua $400,000 gold and beginning the construction of a railroad and canal across the country.

Mrs. Samuel Swartwood, wife of a railroad engineer living in Wilkesbarre, Pa., has just given birth to her twenty-fifth baby, twenty of whom are living. She was married at the age of 15, twenty-nine years ago. The family gets along on the united income of father and children of $190 monthly.

The recent hot weather played havoc with the babies in Chicago. Here is a list of the deaths for four days only in August :—

	All ages.	Under 1 year.	From 1 to 5 years.
Sunday	91	26	11
Monday	139	52	25
Tuesday	74	45	13
Wednesday	89	28	16

Ex-Governor Jacob D. Cox, of Ohio, died at Magnolia, Miss., on August 5. He was Governor of Ohio during 1866-67 and was Secretary of the Interior under General Grant. He was 72 years old. He was made a brigadier-general at the outbreak of the civil war, and served with credit until 1865.

Mr. Roger Wolcott has accepted the President's tender of the post of Ambassador to Italy, Vice Mr. W.F. Draper, resigned, and his commission as such has been issued. Mr. Draper's resignation does not take effect for about six weeks, so that the new Ambassador will not assume his office until the fall.

The cost of the Spanish war, states a Philadelphia paper, and its sequel up to the close of 1899 is now estimated, roughly, at about $414,000,000, which includes, however, the $20,000,000 paid for the Philippines, and the increase of expenditures for shipbuilding and fortifications over those of the years immediately preceding 1898.

The Adjutant-General's office at Washington has issued its list of the organized militia force of the United States, together with the number of men available for military duty, but unorganized. The grand total of organized militiamen in the several states and territories at last report was 106,339. Those unorganized, but available for military duty, aggregated 10 443,142.

The Bethlehem Steel Company has received word from its foreign representative, who has been in St. Petersburg, Russia, for some time conducting negotiations, that he had closed a contract with the Imperial Russian marine for about 2,000 tons of Kruppized armour. This order for American made armour is for the three new Russian vessels, *Alexander III. Orobino* and the *Orel*, now building at St. Petersburg. It is understood that the Carnegie Steel Company has received a contract for a similar quantity.

The latest advices from Nome, in far Alaska, show that the reports of general suffering have not been exaggerated. Fully 4000 people have signed an appeal to the United States Government for transportation out of the country as they have no means to pay for passage. The rate of wages has fallen from $10 to $3 per day and at these prices there are 100 applicants for every place. Thousands of dollars' worth of valuable machinery is rusting on the beach. In a word, Nome as a placer camp is the greatest disappointment of the last forty years.

A phonograph has been manufactured in England, and it is in operation at Brighton, which reproduces sounds with an intensity so great that the words uttered may be heard distinctly for a distance of ten miles on land and still further on water. The record is made by a sapphire needle on a silver cylinder and it is transmitted to a small and delicate piece of mechanism like a whistle inserted in a trumpet four feet long. When the needle travels over the metal the vibrations cause the whistle to produce a series of air waves and the machine is converted into a talking siren which transforms the human voice into a deafening roar.

Business on the New York Stock Exchange during July was of the low-water mark order—that is, as far as volume goes. The figures of stock transactions show that July business was smaller than that of any month since April, 1898, and trading in bonds was the lightest of any month since April, 1897. Sales of stock during the month amounted to 6,274,439 shares, or 1,750,267 less than were sold in July, 1899. For the year to date a net decrease of 36,266,672 shares is shown. In July bond sales amounted to $23,196,200, less than half the sum sold in July one year ago. For the year to date transactions in this class of securities show a net decrease of $285,667,540 as compared with the same period last year.

The July record of incorporations in leading eastern States of companies of $1,000,000 authorized capital or more, although smaller than the average month thus far this year, runs ahead of the June figures by $19,500,000, the total capitalization of such companies during the month just ended being $185,700,000. The totals for the seven months are as follows:—

January	$203,750,000
February	124,350,000
March.....	502,900,000
April	325,250,000
May	261,600,000
June	166,200,000
July	185,700,000
Total, seven months	1,769,750,000

Mr. James J. Hill's scheme for a big steamship line to the Orient seems to have taken shape in articles of incorporation filed with the Secretary of State on Aug. 2 by the Great Northern Steamship Company, with a capital stock of $6,000,000. The purpose of the company is stated to be the building and operation of steamships on the high seas and other navigable waters. The incorporators and also the members of the first board of directors are :—James J. Hill, D. Miller, W. P. Clough, M. D. Grover and A. W. Clark, all officials of the Great Northern Railroad company. The officers are not named, but the date of the first annual meeting is fixed for Feb. 1, in St. Paul, which will be the headquarters of the company. The capital stock is divided into 60,000 shares of $100 each. The filing fee was over $3,000. The Hill system at present includes the lake steamship line between Buffalo and Duluth and the Transcontinental railroad. The new company will extend its business to Asia.

A remarkable escape from death is chronicled by a correspondent to *The Engineering News* from Tacoma, Wash. :—"In some manner the clothing of an engineer at the Olympic Iron Works of that city was caught in the revolving shaft of the engine and his body instantly drawn in and whirled around with the machinery. After a short time (variously estimated at from one to five minutes), the engine was stopped and the apparently lifeless body taken down, practically denuded of clothes and bleeding from many wounds on the face and on other parts of the body. Almost immediately, however signs of recovery were shown, and before the ambulance arrived the man was able to sit up and even to walk, with assistance. The remarkable feature of the accident lies in the fact that the man was whirled around with sufficient speed and force for his feet and legs to strike the floor and split one-inch boards, without breaking any bones or even badly straining or bruising them. As the shaft was revolving over 100 revolutions per minute, and the distance from floor to shaft is about three feet, his feet were traversing the circumference of a circle six feet in diameter at a velocity of approximately 2,000 feet per minute. We are all familiar with the phenomenon of shooting a candle through a board without damage to the candle, but that a human being can be caught by the shoulders and made to split wood with his heels without damage to the aforesaid heels seems well-nigh incredible."

CONSULAR FEES AND EXPENSES.

ORDINANCE NO. 3 OF THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

Rules relating to fees and travelling expenses to be collected by Consular officials have been published in the *Official Gazette* as follows —

Art. I.—All fees and travelling expenses that may be collected by Consular officials shall be determined in accordance with these rules, except in cases where special provisions are established by laws and ordinances.

Art. II.—Consular officials are empowered to collect fees as specified below :—

1. For the protection or supervision of actual or posthumous property as provided for in Article VI. of the Consular Office Regulations, 1 per cent. of the value of such property, the maximum amount of the fee being fixed at 50 *yen*.

Note.—No fraction of a *sen* shall be collected.

2. For the inspection of registers or other documents as specified in Article VII. of the Consular Office Regulations, 50 *sen*.

3. For delivery of copies of registers or other documents, of which authentication has been made, 50 *sen* to 5 *yen*.

4. Delivery of certificates of the receipt of copies of reports, bonds, ships' logs, etc., 50 *sen*.

5. For dealing with the wills of deceased persons, 2 *yen*.

6. Certificates of residence, 1 *yen*.

7. Measurement or re-measurement of ships' capacity, 3 *yen*.

8. Delivery of certificates as to ships' provisional papers, 3 *yen*.

9. Certificate as to launch of a ship, 3 *yen*.

10. Transactions in regard to the departure or arrival of ships :—

Vessels of 20 tons or over 200 *koku* burden 50 *sen*.
Vessels of 100 tons or over 200 *koku*, 1 *yen*.
Vessels of 200 tons, 1.50 *yen*.
Vessels of 500 tons 2.50 *yen*.
Vessels of 1,000 tons 4 *yen*.

11. Certificates for the departure or arrival of ships :—

Ships of less than 1,000 tons, 1.50 *yen*.
Ships of over 1,000 tons, 3 *yen*.

12. Delivery of certificate of ship's health, 3 *yen*.

13. Officia. authentication, as specified in Article XLII. of the By-laws for the Enforcement of the Navigation Encouragement Law, 3 *yen*.

14. Official authentication of additions to a ship's company, as specified in Article XXIX. of the By-laws above mentioned, 1.50 *yen*.

15. Issuing of passports, 2 *yen*.

16. Examination of the same, 1 *yen*.

17. Business in regard to certificates for the import of Japanese commodities into foreign countries, 1 *yen*.

18. Certificates or warrants, or acts of sanction or registration of all descriptions, for which application has been made by the public, 50 *sen* to 6 *yen*.

19. Proceedings connected with arbitrations or attempts to compromise, 2 to 30 *yen*.

Art. III.—With regard to matters which involve special expenses, each applicant shall be required to bear the amount actually incurred, in addition to the prescribed fees.

Art. IV.—The fees specified in Paragraph 1 of Article II. shall be remitted in case the value of the property does not exceed 200 *yen*.

Art. V.—The fees specified in Paragraphs 4 and 6 of Article II. may be remitted in case the applicant is unable to pay

Art. VI.—With regard to matters that have to be dealt with by Consular officials, which are not clearly defined in Article II., Consular officials, in accordance with usage or with the sanction of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, may undertake the collection of fees below 20 *yen*.

Art. VII.—Should it be necessary, upon an application from the public to deal with any matter by proceeding beyond the limits of the Consular district, the expenses of the journey shall be collected.

Such expenses are fixed at 2 *yen* for the first hour, with 1 *yen* increase for each additional hour, but the amount for each day is limited to 8 *yen*. Fractions of an hour shall be calculated as one hour, and any period over 6 hours and less than 24 shall be regarded as one day.

Art. VIII.—Fees and travelling expenses collected by Consular officials may be paid in foreign currency, the rates of exchange being determined by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Art. IX.—Fees and expenses of Consular officials may, in districts specially designated by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, be paid in revenue stamps.

Art. X.—These rules are equally applicable to fees and expenses to be collected by Commercial Commissioners.

Art. XI.—These rules shall come into force on the date of operation of the Consular Office Regulations.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A Korean named Kotetsu, living in a boarding house at Minami Sakumacho, Tokyo, was robbed on the 4th inst. of a gold watch, valued at 200 *yen*, and 75 *yen* of paper money.

Sotomaru Yasuzo, an *employe* of the Matsui Shoten, Otamachi, Yokohama, lost 30.6 *momme* (1 *momme* is 58 grains troy) of bar gold and other articles near Bakurocho, Tokyo, on the 5th inst.

The Japanese steamer *Taiyo Maru*, under Russian charter, left Nagasaki on the 5th instant with 100 tons of barley, 1,050 tons of coal, and 48 horses, for Port Arthur.

A man named Kanamoto Kinzo, formerly in the employment of Mr. Julien, has been arrested at Kobe on a charge of assaulting Mr. Waggott at the American Hatoba.

Trains were in collision on the 1st instant at Yatomi station on the Bisai Railway, the engine of a goods car colliding with a passenger car. Six passengers were injured.

A telegram has been received at Kobe to the effect that a fire has occurred in the forehold of the H.A.L. steamship *Silesia*, which left Kobe for Bremen on July 27th. The cargo from Kobe is reported to have been badly damaged.

We are informed by the Agent of the Pacific Mail, Occidental and Oriental and Toyo Kisen Kaisha Steamship Cos. that the rates of passage from Japan to San Francisco, and points in the United States and Europe, will be increased £5 on and after the 15th instant.

In consequence of suspicions having been aroused that a Chinaman in the employment of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., is in the habit of selling opium to keepers of houses where the drug is smoked, the Preliminary Judge, with a clerk and interpreter, proceeded to No. 1 on Thursday morning, and, having obtained the consent of a member of the firm, made a search of the suspected man's belongings. The result has not been made known.

Ogawa Daizo, a young lad lately in the employ of Ishi Wakichi, Ogicho, Itchome, Yokohama, has just been arrested on a charge of attempting to obtain money by false pretences. On the 1st inst. he went into the Sing Tai Exchange shop in Main Street and handed over the counter a letter purporting to come from the Kagacho police-station. In this letter it was stated that some counterfeit money had been traced to Sing Tai's shop, and could the proprietor give to bearer all the paper-money then in the place to convey to the station. Sing Tai, suspecting a fraud, at once sent a messenger to the police, with the result that Ogawa was immediately arrested.

Although details are not yet forthcoming as to the damage sustained by the tobacco crop in consequence of the recent storm, Kiushiu being the centre of the typhoon, the yield is supposed to have suffered greatly. In Kagoshima nearly four-fifths of the crops had been secured, and the damage will be comparatively insignificant. But in Matsuyama, Kotohira, Goto, Hiroshima, and Maiko, more or less injury is anticipated. In view of these circumstances the various Monopoly Offices are reported to have determined upon raising the rate of sale from 20 to 30 per cent. The 20 per cent. increase is to be enforced in Higashine, Matsumoto, Tsuruki, Osaka, Takeda, Maiko, Kobe, and Sukagawa (exclusively for Renge, Mito, Tate, and Takasaki), Oma (exclusively for Higashiyama, Sannohe, Tsugaru Akita, and Hitomoto), and Kumamoto (Shige and Tateha). The rest of the producing districts in the empire are to bear an addition of 30 per cent.

Count Matsukata is reported to have proposed the advisability of suspending some of the minor banks in the capital in view of the gross abuses inherent to them. The idea is that he will not grant permission for the organisation of banks the capital of which does not amount to half a million *yen*. With regard to the institutions already in existence, a period is to be fixed during which measures are to be taken to raise them to the new regulation standard either by amalgamation or by increase of capital. Investigations are now being made by the authorities, asserts the *Keizai Zasshi*, with a view to attain the end in view. It is said that Count Matsukata's idea is entirely endorsed by Count Inouye, who appears to have expressed the view in favour of increasing the capital to over one million *yen* for banks of all descriptions. The Yuraku-kwai has already appointed a committee to make necessary investigations on the subject. But the authorities themselves, adds our contemporary, are in no way free from responsibility for the abuses connected with the minor banks throughout the empire. They have utterly neglected the duty of inspection, which alone could prevent such abuses.

The general depression in silk has, remarks the *Kokumin*, decreased the purchasing power of Lyons and Fukushima to no small extent, and this has considerably affected the receipts of the Nippon Railway Company, though the accounts are still slightly in excess of the corresponding period of last year. Below are the comparative figures for the two years from July 1st to August 19th:—

	1900. Yen.	1899. Yen.
Passengers.....	617,422	566,742
Goods	419,860	347,246
Total.....	1,037,280	913,989

The above represent the receipts from the company's exclusive lines. The amount secured in conjunction with other lines is as follows:—

Passengers	105,959	.....	78,207
Goods	119,441	.....	88,467
Total	225,400	.....	166,674

Thus the daily average for this year stood at 25,253 *yen* against 21,613 *yen* last year, the increase being 3,640 *yen*.

The following Japanese war vessels are stationed at the undermentioned ports:—*Yashima*, *Yakumo*, *Hashidate*, *Heiyen*, *Soko*, *Chinto*, and *Chinhoku*, at Yokosuka; *Oshima* and *Iwaki* at Ninsen; *Izumi* and *Takachiho* at Amoy; *Tsukushi* and *Katsuragi* at Mako; *Takao*, *Yayeyama*, *Toyohashi*, and *Itsukushima* at Shanghai; *Yamato*, *Tenryu*, *Naniwa*, *Maya*, *Ikazuchi*, *Inazuma*, *Akebono*, *Sazanami*, *Fuji*, *Kongo*, *Hiyei*, *Akagi*, *Chiyoda*, *Fuso*, *Chinyen* and *Tokiwa* at Kure; *Tsukuba* at Yedajima; *Musashi* at Hakodate; *Suma* at Gensan; *Kasagi*, *Atago*, *Yoshino*, *Akitsushima*, and *Oboro* at Taku; *Akashi*, *Chinpen*, and *Chinchu* at Chefoo; *Matsushima*, *Kaimon*, *Chinnan*, *Miyako*, *Chokai*, *Yugiri*, *Usugumo*, *Shiranui*, *Shinonome*, *Murakumo* and *Sayen* at Sasebo; *Takasago*, *Asama*, *Kagero* and *Tatsuta* are cruising; *Asahi* and *Azuma* are on their way out from Europe.

Japan's foreign trade for the latter half of last month shows an excess in ordinary imports of 2,879,193 *yen*, and in the export of gold of 947,658 *yen*. Below are details:—

	Latter half of August. Yen.	Total from January. Yen.
Exports	8,010,515	126,481,907
Imports	10,889,708	207,563,084
Excess of imports	2,879,193	81,081,177
Excess of imports	1,413,600	1,343,667
Exports of gold	1,101,551	39,444,218
Imports	153,893	7,428,731
Excess of exports	947,658	32,015,487
Exports of silver	84,708	1,128,485
Import	1,498,308	2,472,152
Excess of imports	1,413,600	1,343,667

The above figures refer to nine leading ports—Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, Nagasaki, Hakodate, Niigata, Moji, Shimonoseki, and Kuchinotsu.

During the first half of last month the excess of imports really reached over 4 million *yen*, but this upward tendency seems to have slackened in the latter half, and the exodus of gold has considerably decreased. The import of silver, however, shows an excess to the amount of 1½ millions approximately. This is a fact worthy of notice, remarks the *Shogyo*.

YACHTING.

Four big boats started on Saturday to race round the Kawasaki Buoy and the Honmoku Buoy (a distance of 19 miles) for the P. & O. Cup and another prize, the first on arbitrary and the second on club time. *Mary* had easily the best of it, establishing a lead which secured her the first prize from *Spray*, the only other yacht that sailed over the course. *Haulee* and *Wanderer* gave up. The times were:—

	Finish. h.m.s.	Allce. Club. h.m.s.	Corrected. h.m.s.	Allce. Arb. h.m.s.	Corrected. h.m.s.
Mary	5.43.06	3.25	5.39.41	allows.	5 43.06
Spray.....	6.37.00	12.21	6.24.39	24	6.13.00

The 21 raters raced for a presented prize (on handicap) and a second prize (on club time) over a nine mile course. The times were as follow:—

	Finish. h. m.s.	All'ce Club. mns.	Cor'ted Club. h.m.s.	All'ce Arb. m.	Cor'ted Arb. h.m.s.
Stella	..gave up	—	—	11	—
Kodesu	5.32.10	1.23	5.30.47	6	5.26.10
Sugao	..not timed	1.23	—	7	—
Sodeska	5.26.10	2.58	5.23.12	9	5.17.10
Nandeska ...	5.28.15	2.58	5.25.17	7	5.21.15
Abunai	5.23.30	2.58	5.20.32	8	5.15 30

Abunai therefore wins first prize and 2 record points, *Sodeska* taking second prize and 1 record point.

The 12 raters raced for two prizes, the first of which was presented by Mr. C. S. Averill, *Vera* coming in first and taking 2 records, *Madelaine* second with one point. The other starters were *Dora* and *Albion*.

A race to Tomioka on Club time, allowance was held on Sunday by the Mosquito Yacht Club, for a very handsome aneroid barometer presented by the Hon. Sec., Mr. F. L. Taverner. The result was as follows:—

	Rating.	H'cap.	Start.	Finish.	Corrected
Kodesu	18	allows	10.05.06	12.51.04	12.51.04
Nandeska ...	17½	1'02"	10.05.02	12.59.30	12.58.28
Sodeska	17½	1'02"	10.05.04	12 53.08	12.52.06
Abunai	17½	1'02"	10.05.05	12.48.52	12.47 50

POSTAL MONEY ORDER RULES.

The above rules have been published in the *Official Gazette* (Ordinance No. 45 of the Department of Communications). Following are some of the more important articles:—

Art. II.—Postal money orders are limited to the following amounts, except in cases specially provided for:—

	Yen.
1. Ordinary remittances.....	50
2. Telegraphic remittances	50
3. Small remittances	5

Art. III.—The fees for a single order are fixed as follows:—

Ordinary remittances.	*Sen.*
Below 10 *yen*	6
„ 20 „	10
„ 30 „	15
„ 40 „	18
„ 50 „	22
Telegraphic remittances.	
Below 10 *yen*	30
„ 20 „	35
„ 30 „	40
„ 40 „	45
„ 50 „	50

For each small remittance a fee of 3 *sen* is imposed.

Art. IV.—The sender and the receiver of a money order must in each case be a single individual.

Art. V.—No order can be assigned at a person's own discretion. small remittances with no fixed addressee being excepted.

Art. XLVIII.—In cases where postal money orders for small sums are lost, repayment thereof shall not be made until after the lapse of 150 days from the date of issue. This provision, however, does not apply to cases where proper sureties are given in the application for repayment.

Art. LX.—The sender or addressee of a postal money order may apply for payment of the money at his private residence in districts specially designated.

Art. LXI.—In the foregoing cases a fee of 4 *sen* must be paid in respect of each ordinary or telegraphic money order, and 2 *sen* in respect of small remittances.

Art. LXIII.—An application for payment at a private residence may be forwarded to the Post Office free of charge, provided that the same contains the name and address of the receiver, and particulars as to the order held, and that stamps corresponding to the amount of the prescribed fees are affixed. No payment shall be made within three days after the receipt of the application.

Art. LXIX.—These regulations shall come into operation on the 1st of October in the 33rd year of *Meiji* (1900).

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A PEKING DIARIST.

(CONCLUDED.)

(BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE "TOKYO ASAHI.")

June 26.—Defensive measures undertaken within and without Prince Shu's Palace have rapidly progressed, and the volunteers who assumed the duty of guarding the Legation have closed the gate and assisted in defending the line kept by the Japanese. To-day the attack was rather slack.

June 27.—At 3 a.m. we were surprised by the enemy on all sides but the latter retired after a short time. At dawn they attempted to break through the northern wall of the palace, and for this purpose employed their whole strength. The wall was pretty thick, but not more than 3 feet. The enemy were engaged in demolishing it for three days, and it was probable that they might succeed in doing so to-day and rush in. We had, however, ample provision to oppose them, and were waiting for their onset. Unacquainted with these facts, they, at 2 p.m., broke through the wall, and, raising a wild cry, rushed in. The time had come for which we had long been waiting. We advanced to meet them at once, and they, taken by surprise, retreated in confusion leaving over 20 killed. Some of them tried to carry away the corpses by means of a hole which they cut through the wall. Mr. Matsuno Heiyemon was killed in the contest. When these incidents became known to the public, the English Legation sent a despatch to Lieut.-Colonel Shiba, intimating that all the staff were highly delighted at the success achieved by the Japanese. The victory won by us this day has to a certain extent compensated us for the handicaps which we have endured in successive skirmishes during the past few days.

June 28.—The enemy having completely failed to gain anything by their entry on the north of the palace, changed their plan this morning and attempted to breach the eastern gate by means of artillery. Any breach made by them was immediately repaired by us, but the hot fire poured upon us made it impossible to do as much as we desired. Finally, four coolies were wounded, and our troops had some hard fighting. The trees in the neighbourhood of the eastern gate were so completely shattered by bullets as to leave no trace of them—neither leaves, boughs, nor trunks. At night, reports of rifle fire were incessantly heard.

June 29.—The enemy have begun to use a greater number of guns, the shells used being of 7½ centimetres. To-day we lost ground and the Chinese rushed in from the gap produced in the north of the palace. They set fire to several rows of buildings. Not a few shells few in the compound of the Japanese Legation.

June 30.—Fighting was anything but furious during the day time, but from 10 p.m. until 3 a.m. on the following day, the Chinese continued to attack Prince Shu's residence, amidst thunder and rain. Lightning mingled with rifle fire turned the dark night into horrid day, and made the scene doubly terrible. Mr. Kamada Manjiro was killed. Rumours were circulated—how they started is unknown—that the Japanese Minister had obtained information to the effect that the Japanese troops would shortly advance from Tientsin to Peking. Many of the foreigners have come to us to ascertain the truth of this intelligence. But we were obliged to answer in the negative, as we had no information of the kind. We felt sorry for them.

July 1.—To-day the Americans, in their attempt to fortify the parapet on the walls of the citadel, had some or 5 or 6 coolies killed. These walls they had occupied prior to the fighting, with a view to frustrating the attack of the Boxers.

The post they held was in close proximity to the front gate, the Germans having occupied the space near the Hatai gate, for the purpose of defending the Kian-min street.

Since the enemy began to utilize guns, most of the breastworks which we had constructed with no small amount of care have easily been demolished, and we could do nothing to prevent it. Having secured to-day the assistance of the Italian and English troops, we attempted to seize the guns by a sudden attack, but we could not proceed on account of the hot fire. Mr. Isogai Kuwazo was killed and one of the Italians wounded. We failed to accomplish our object, and were obliged to retreat. "Few are no match for many," but how sad are we!

July 2.—The rainy season has set in, and not a day passes without fine, drizzling rain. The eastern gate of the Prince's palace fell to-day. Some of the volunteers, as well as the assistant diplomatic agent, Mr. Kojima Shoichiro, were severely wounded in the head while engaged in constructing breastworks, and were conveyed to a temporary hospital established at the English Legation. Last night search-lights were seen several times, and it was presumed to be a signal of the approach of reinforcements, the distance from the light being estimated at 20 to 30 miles. The northern wall of the palace having already been destroyed, the eastern shortly after met a similar fate. Prospects now became gloomy, and provisions stored in the precincts of the palace were removed to the English Legation.

July 3.—At 2 a.m. the English and American troops bayonetted many Chinese on the upper part of the castle, taking possession of rifles and ammunition. The Prince's palace remained calm. Mr. Kojima is now in a critical condition. Last night a signal fire was seen, and rumour ascribed it to the arrival of Li Hung-chang in Peking. To-night rifle fire was directed by the enemy on the English, French, and Japanese, but our troops, being reluctant to waste ammunition, did not respond. During the daytime the enemy had recourse to guns only, refraining from rifle fire. Their favourite stratagem was night attack. They construct parapets opposite ours, where, under cover, they fire to no purpose. They have not courage to emerge from their parapets to press us.

July 4.—A French Captain has informed us that he saw, last night, some electric lights in the direction of the east and south. In the forenoon the English Legation was bombarded.

July 5.—Many shells reached us. Two weeks had elapsed since the opening of the fight and since communication with Tientsin was entirely suspended. Our line of defence has been gradually narrowed, while losses on the side of the allies have amounted daily to 5 or 6 in killed and wounded. Moreover, ammunition has become scarce. What is still worse, the uncertainty of the time as to the arrival of the relief forces has heightened the gloom of the situation. Grief and indignation can be read on the face of every man.

July 6.—In successive battles fought in the Prince's palace we suffered seriously from the bombardment of the enemy, and it became absolutely indispensable for us to deprive the enemy of their guns. A sudden sally was again determined on. Our men, together with volunteers, rushed out at once, but unfortunately the Italian troops which were to join them in the arduous enterprise failed to come in time, while the Chinese converts which followed them hesitated to advance. One of our men succeeded in catching hold of one of the enemy's guns, but in spite of this the rest were prevented from advancing by a hot fire from the Chinese. With chagrin almost indescribable the man was compelled to withdraw. Captain Ando Tatsugoro, commander of the Volunteers, was killed in the sally. He had come to Peking at the time when Boxers had created a disturbance in the south of the city, and, being nominated to take command of the Volunteer troops, displayed no small tact and discretion in the defence of the place. To-night gun fire was occasionally heard.

June 7.—At 11 a.m. the French made a furious bayonet charge within their line of defence. The enemy has again begun to bombard the French Legation. In the palace ground there were still over 40 horses. In the beginning of the campaign all the riding and hack horses, together with mules found within the lines of the garrison, were taken into this palace ground to be used as food. These animals were poorly fed, and because so lean as to excite pity. The officer commanding the French and Austrian troops said that he heard guns in the west and south, from midnight till this morning. He doubted whether they might not have proceeded from the relief column which was anxiously expected. The Kwanon temple in the precincts of the palace was burned by the enemy in consequence of the Italians having relaxed their precautions.

July 8.—To-day a greater portion of the palace was set on fire. The enemy contrives to torment us by artillery and rifle fire, but we have no power to restrain them. The situation is growing daily more critical. At 10 p.m. we had a night attack. Fighting was extremely furious.

July 9.—Provisions are now getting scarce and gruel is given for breakfast. Sugar and soy are almost exhausted.

A native convert returning from reconnoitring outside reports that General Tung Fuhsiang's troops are in the avenue leading to the Hata gate: that Yung Lu's forces are stationed inside the Chi-hwa gate; that business is going on as usual near Su-hai-leu; that the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor are still in the Palace; and that there are no indications of the relief forces coming. We feel discouraged at the last item of the report.

July 10.—Rifle firing continues day and night, but there is no sign of the approach of a relief force. Many secret messengers sent to Tientsin have either come back after having gone halfway or have not been heard of afterward.

July 11.—Mr. Narabara, our Legation Secretary, while supervising the Chinese engaged on the defence works, was wounded in the feet by a splinter from one of the enemy's shells, which exploded close to where he stood. The besiegers gradually advanced their positions and their works and ours were brought very close together. Fighting with Chinese at such close quarters is not, however, such a serious business as fighting with a plucky race would have been. Indeed there were not wanting comical incidents. For instance, when the enemy succeeded in opening a breach in our defences, we would make such a furious charge on them through the opening, that they were fain to block it up again. Next time the enemy would make a wider opening, when we would place thick boards in the breach to prevent them from forcing their way in. They would then pour kerosene on the boards and try to burn them. Since the intelligence reached us that Admiral Seymour's expedition, which started from Tientsin on the 9th, had reached Langfang, no news has been forthcoming. This has caused us keen disappointment, and some spoke of this expedition as the "see-no-more" expedition.

July 12.—At 5 a.m. a party of the besiegers came up to our defence line. We repulsed the attack, and Mr. Kizo Kawakami, a young volunteer, under age, with rare pluck and in a short space of time cut down three of the enemy. Our rations to-day consisted of rice, millet, and peas. As the stock of tobacco was gradually running short we got to-day only 5 "Peacock" cigarettes each. The heat was scorching at noon, the thermometer reading 95°F. At dusk a refreshing shower fell. The sound of rifles was heard about midnight in the direction of the British Legation.

July 13.—The defence of the outposts beginning to press hard on our small number of guards, we got a few days ago some reinforcements from the British, Italian, and Austrian contingents. The Italians, who defended a small eminence were attacked to-day, and one was killed and two wounded. Of our 24 bluejackets who had arrived here early last month as guards, only 14 are available, the rest having been either killed or wounded. A Chinese captured to-day by the French stated that Prince Twang, Tung Fuhsiang, and Yung Lu held the reins of administration. At 6.15 p.m. the sound of musketry suddenly came from the direction of the French Legation, and soon after flames shot up against the sky. I afterwards learnt that a mine laid by the enemy under the wall of the French Legation had been exploded and that the Chinese had entered through the breach and set the building on fire. The German Legation also sustained an attack, which was repulsed however. The German guards killed over 20 of the enemy, and captured 800 rounds of ammunition. The fighting lasted two hours.

July 14.—To-day the noise of musketry had practically ceased. A Chinese messenger sent out on the 10th, came back to-day, and reported that shortly after he left the Legation he was captured by the Chinese and taken to the head-quarters of Yung Lu, whence he was sent back with a letter. It was addressed to the Foreign Ministers and bore the signatures of Prince Ching and other Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen. The writers of the letter said they regretted that the Ministers refused to respond to the proposal communicated a few days by means of a wooden placard, and that as the foreign guards fired upon Chinese offices this roused the hostility of the public against the foreigners. They were glad, however, to learn from some native Christians whom they had captured in a cathedral, of the safety of the Ministers. The relief expedition had retired, being opposed by the Boxers. The writers, in pursuance of their previous promise, wished to escort the Ministers outside, but as a large number of Boxers were between Tientsin and Peking, each Minister should take with him only his family and staff, but must leave the guards behind and go to the Tsungli Yamen, as the presence of an armed escort might arouse the suspicions of the people. The Government on their part would send the Ministers on their homeward journey under an escort of trustworthy officers. An answer should be sent by noon the following day and the writers thought that the above suggestion was the only course available.

July 15.—A conference was held to-day and an answer was sent to the Tsungli Yamên declining the offer, and declaring that it was a gross perversion of facts to blame the foreign guards, as it had done, for attacking the Government troops, the guards having acted purely in self-defence. The Ministers added that if the Government really wished to open peace negotiations it must send a trustworthy commissioner with a white flag. The quarters defended by the Japanese, German, and Austrian guards, were attacked to-day and at night by the enemy.

July 16.—The firing slackened to-day. The Tsungli Yamên sent another note to the effect that as the Ministers declined to come to the Tsungli Yamên, the Government, by increasing the number of regular troops, would reduce the militia to order. But the foreign guards must refrain from firing upon them, for that would provoke their hostility. Henceforward everything should be regulated in accordance with international usage.

July 17.—The British Minister on behalf of the *Corps Diplomatique*, replied that the guards would only fire in self-defence, so if the Chinese did not approach the Legations threateningly, they would not be fired on.

Matters were quiet to-day, and the enemy, as if they thought the fighting over, approached in twos or threes unarmed, nonchalantly fanning themselves. Our people beckoned to them and invited

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them within our works. They were questioned at our headquarters, and though their replies were generally vague and irrelevant, on one point they agreed, namely, in believing that the warfare was over. To-day a French volunteer was captured by the enemy, but afterward sent back by the Tsungli Yamen under escort—quite an unusual thing for the Chinese to do. A Chinese who visited the French quarters was reported to have declared that General Nieh had met with a serious disaster near Tientsin, and had committed suicide.

July 18.—A messenger carrying letters from General Fukushima and others arrived this afternoon. They said among other things that the Allies would probably appear in Peking by the end of the month. The intelligence was received with joy, and the faces of the guards were visibly brightened.

Regular soldiers and coolies come to sell eggs, vegetables, melons, etc., outside the eastern works. The defenders were eager in buying, and the front of our works looked like a market place. But an order came from the British Minister, Commander-in-Chief of the defence, ordering that nobody not on the Provisions Committee should make purchases. In the afternoon a messenger from the Tsungli Yamen arrived to inform the Ministers that the remains of Baron von Ketteler were decently enclosed in a coffin, but that the corpse of Mr. Sugiyama could not be discovered. This evening lightning flashed on the south-western horizon, and it was probably flashes of this kind that we had previously mistaken for the search-light of the relief expedition.

July 19.—Exactly one month has elapsed since the commencement of hostilities between the guards and the Chinese, and though an armistice has been agreed to, we have decided to devote ourselves during the temporary cessation of fighting to the work of perfecting our defences. Day and night we employ ourselves in increasing the height of our breastworks and deepening our trenches, and at last our position has become considerably strengthened. To-day a communication has been received from the Tsungli Yamen urging the withdrawal of the Americans and Germans from their position on the walls of the city. The request was rejected.

July 20.—Since the fighting ceased communications with the outside have been restored, and Imperial edicts issued during the last two months have been received. One of these said that as Nieh Tszecheng had been killed in battle his name had been removed from the list of those who are to be punished; another announced that Li Hung-chang had been appointed Viceroy of Chihli; another that the Boxers, being patriots, had been appointed to defend the country; another that China would hold herself responsible for damage sustained by foreigners since the opening of hostilities but notfor those previous to that event, and still another that the native Christians, being sons and daughters of the Empire, would be pardoned if they swore to henceforth renounce their religion.

Blood poisoning having set in, the condition of Mr. Narabara, our Secretary of Legation, has become very critical.

July 21.—Nothing of importance.

July 22.—Another eventless day. At night rain came down in torrents and the darkness was impenetrable, nothing being visible a few feet away. People came blundering inside our sentry line and cried despairingly for infomation as to their whereabouts.

July 23.—There is a Roman Catholic church, called the Northern Chapel, within the Tunghwa gate. It is in the charge of the well-known missionary, Bishop Favier. When the foreign guards entered Peking last May, French and Italian troops were detailed to guard the church But after the opening of hostilities it was surrounded by the Chinese and cut off from all communication with the legations. On many occasions the sound of artillery firing had been heard in the direction of the church, and to-night more firing was heard. There are said to be over 600 native converts with the missionaries in the church.

July 24.—Some stir has been noticed among the Chinese since day-break, and it is thought that the relief expedition being near, they must be preparing to retreat. On the other hand, however, a Chinese in the force of Tung Fuhsiang, who has been acting as a spy, brought a report that the strength of the enemy surrounding Kiao-min has been much augmented. We have in consequence increased our vigilance and keep a sharp lookout.

Secretary Narabara succumbed to his wounds today. He was a well known authority on the manners and customs of China: and his death is especially regrettable at this juncture.

The noise of a vigorous musketry fire heard last evening in the direction of the church, appears to have been made by 1,500 Boxers attacking it.

Our spy came in again with a report that the foreign forces had occupied Yangtsun on the 17th and had defeated Tung Fusiang's army on the 19th.

The enemy have lately moved their outposts forward and only a wall now separates them from ours, so that the distance between us is less than 20 metres at the nearest point; and they occsionally challenge us to an exchange of stones and broken bricks.

The casualties up to date among the allies are reported as follows:—

	Wounded.	Killed.	Total casualties.
Japanese	8	10	18
British	28	6	32
American	10	7	17
German	14	11	25
Russian	9	4	13
French	10	11	21
Italian	10	7	17
Austrian	4	4	8
Total	91	60	151

The day has been hot since the morning with scarcely a breeze. A native peddler came in front of the eastern wall of Prince Suh's palace and we got some eggs and green vegetables, which tasted heavenly. It is rumoured that the Chinese Government has sent to-day to the Ministers a communication demanding that they shall depart, but I do not know whether it is well founded or not.

I managed to compose a line of verse to-night:

"Thrice have I contemplated the new moon since I took up the duty of sentinel."

July 26.—The spy put in an appearance again today and has reported that 30,000 allied troops engaged the Chinese in battle three miles to the south of Tan-ping at 10 a.m. on the 24th and drove the latter to Matung. We have been expecting to be relieved by the end of this month at the latest and we cherish the belief that the information in question is reliable.

We heard to-day many fire-crackers going off in the enemy's camp but in celebration of what event we do not know. The comings and goings of the enemy to the east of the prince's residence have almost ceased,—owing, it is said, to the fact that the severed heads of some Chinese have been exposed on the ground that their possessors had been guilty of sending provisions to us. A great noise of drums, gongs, and bugles was heard in the enemy's camp during the night.

July 27.—The spy already referred to reports that the Chinese intend to check the allied forces by concentrating the Wu-wei army at Chankia-wan and the trained army at Tungchow; and that in the event of reverses at those places, the Empress Dowager and the Emperor are to retire to Si-an, escorted by Fuhsiang's army. Further, that coolies are being "commandeered" and trained in the use of musketry outside the front gate of the Imperial palace; and numbers are being sent out to Tung-chow.

To-day several waggon loads of eggplants, flour and *fogun* (*benincasa hispida*) have arrived at the British Legation purporting to come by order of the Empress-Dowager.

In the evening the sky over Prince Shu's compound became suddenly illuminated, being preceded by a noise of sky-rockets which called everybody's attention—and a fiery dragon made his appearance among the stars, followed by a representation of the moon. This was the work of our volunteers indulging in pyrotechnics.

The Tsung-li Yamen had long since refused to transmit cipher telegrams; but a communication has now been received from it saying that it will undertake to forward messages in plain words.

July 28.—A message that the relief expedition is coming was received to-day. The message was dated Tientsin, July 22, and was from the British Consul at Tientsin to his Minister at Peking. It was to the effect that there were 23,000 troops of the Allies at Tientsin; that General Gaselee was to arrive at Taku on the 29th, that Tientsin was then under military government; that the expeditionary army was about to start; that the foreign ladies had nearly all left Tientsin. Even the Britishers lost their habitual gravity, for the vagueness of the information was enough to make any one laugh. It seemed, however, that the expeditionary force had not left Tientsin up to the 22nd.

A Danish missionary by the name of the Nestigaard. Who for some reason or other had made himself disliked by everybody among the besieged, and is said to have become insane, ran out of the British Legation and has fallen into the hands of the enemy.

Artillery firing was heard in the direction of the Pehtang church and lasted from 8 o'clock on the night of the 28th till daybreak.

July 29.—Our spy reports that the foreign forces have taken Matung and that Tung's army has arrived at Peking. Nestigaard has been sent back by the Tsung-li Yamen.

July 30.—To-day it is reported that the foreign forces have occupied Chang-kia-wan and that the main body of the Wu-wei army in conjunction with the Boxers, making a joint force of 25,000 troops, propose to attack the international quarter.

Our stock of provisions will last us (Japanese) only two or three days more. Our meals for a fortnight past have consisted of 7 parts cleaned and 3 parts uncleaned rice, in addition to a dish of horse flesh and boiled beans. Even these will be exhausted in two or three days: and we are obliged to ask the British Provision Committee to assist us with rations.

August 1.—At 3 a.m. some of our people reported that they heard musketry firing to the south-east. Our spirits rose but we were again doomed to disappointment, our spy declaring that the foreign forces had been driven back.

All is quiet among the enemy stationed to the east of the Prince's residence: they have been silenced by the havoc made among them by the rifle fire of the French contingent. Several corpses of Chinese lie rotting in the sun on the other side of the wall, and dogs and crows feed upon them.

This morning, a tall fat Chinaman came walking up to our patrol line, shaking a white handkerchief as he advanced. He proved to be the man whom Lieut.-Col. Shiba despatched on July 18th with a letter to Tientsin and he now returned with a reply from Major-Gen. Fukushima. According to the latter's dispatch a great deal of difficulty having been met, the landing of our 5th Division was delayed beyond the prescribed date; but the bulk of the Division had arrived in Tientsin, and the rest were arriving. The letter went on to say that our critical situation in Peking had been made clear to the world by the communications sent out, and all nationalities had been much moved; that councils were being held with a view to the early despatch of the relief expedition; that within two or three days the expedition would be able to start; that news had been received of disquiet in the Yangtsze valley and of a rising in Manchuria, where the Chinese had destroyed 200 miles of the East China Railway. This intelligence at once showed us how badly we had been duped all along by the false reports of the spy in spite of the large sums we paid him.

The big Chinaman (not the spy) is a strange fellow. His name is Chang, he is a native of Shantung. He has rendered us great service by taking out an important letter and bringing back a reply. He would not accept any reward but instead wanted to go back to Tientsin within 15 minutes with another despatch. He was asked about the state of things along the route but he refused to say anything, only replying that he was rendering his services for the sake of his country.

To-day the Tsung-li Yamen has again communicated with the Ministers, renewing the request for their departure. But as the reasons which first actuated the Ministers still remain, it is clear that they will not accede to the request of the Tsung-li Yamen.

August 2.—The note sent by the British Minister to the Tsung-li Yamen stated that he would give a definite reply after consultation with the other Ministers. The spy who has been supplying us with fabricated news came here to-day. When we charged him with deceit he was astonished, and turned pale. However, we decided to employ him as before. Mr. Conger, American Minister, received to-day a letter from an American General in Tientsin, the letter bearing date of the 28th July. The allied troops, the letter said, would march out of Tientsin for Peking, probably on the following day. The same Minister received another letter from Tientsin dated July 30, which stated that 10,000 Allies would start from Tientsin for the rescue, to be followed shortly afterward by another force. It is clear from these letters that the relief forces which are expected to reach Peking have not yet started and that we must wait at least ten days for their arrival here. The London telegrams which appear to have been wired between July 21 and 24 have been conveyed to the besieged. Baron Nishi's communication of June 29 to his Government seems, judging by these telegrams, to have been widely disseminated abroad. One thing which we regard as strange is that the senders of the telegrams seem desirous of knowing whether the Chinese Government is protecting the foreign community and supplying them with food. To-day musketry was heard more frequently than yesterday.

August 3.—His wounds being healed, Zenji Kusanagi, one of our bluejackets, resumed his duty in the works. One side of his face is deeply scarred. I hear that Hsu and Yuan, two of the Tsung-li Yamên Ministers, have been executed by Imperial orders issued on July 28, on the ground that they had spoken thoughtlessly of foreign countries and in a way likely to breed dissension among the members of the Government. Some coolies have brought ammunition and rifles for sale outside the outposts. The native Christians within the defences are suffering from scarcity of food, and some have been obliged to eat leaves and roots to appease their hunger, on which diet, as might be expected, they look pale and wretched.

August 4.—Matters were quiet during the day but from about 8 p.m. when there was a heavy rainfall, the enemy's firing increased in force. The Chinese who began to approach our lines yesterday are not, however, hostile towards us, for some of them question our men in a friendly manner and ask when they are leaving Peking. This was probably because an Imperial edict was issued yesterday announcing the intention of the Government to send the foreigners out of Peking under an escort of Chinese troops.

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August 5.—At 2 o'clock p.m. we heard the cries of the Chinese which were soon half-drowned by the crack of rifles and the din that filled the air. The fight seemed hottest at the British Legation.

The Ministers declare they are in a position which renders it inadvisable for them to reject the demand of the Tsung-li Yamên that they and their staffs should withdraw from the capital, and they are therefore obliged to temporise pending the arrival of reinforcements. They therefore have answered to the effect that they could not withdraw from Peking without instructions from their respective Governments, and that they hoped the Chinese Government would notify the foreign governments of its wishes. As things now stand, the only means of communicating with the outer world is by messenger to Tsinan, the capital of Shantung, and thence by telegram via Shanghai. As the journey to Peking from Tsinan requires at least four days, no less than ten days must elapse therefore before any replies from the foreign governments can be received. It is believed that by that time, at any rate, the allied forces, which were on the point of leaving Tientsin at the end of last month, will have entered Peking.

Aug. 6.—It is said that a despatch has been received from the Tsung-li Yamen. Our Minister was, it appears, reluctant to make known its contents but rumours among the foreigners are that the Chinese Government is willing to convey by special messenger to Tsinan any telegrams the Ministers propose to send home concerning the demand for their departure from Peking. The communication also, according to the rumours, contained a passage to the effect that the Chinese Government hoped the disturbances which had been caused on the previous night by the foreign troops' attack on the Chinese soldiers would not be repeated. If these rumours are true, how should the Minister consider it desirable to kept the despatch secret?

The latest rumour in circulation is that, although the troops under General Tung Fuhsiang and the Boxers are on good terms, the Central Army of General Yung have a bitter feud with the Boxers.

Aug. 7.—To-day being the "Urabon" festival (All Soul's Day) according to the old calendar, a memorial service was held for the repose of the souls of the late Mr. Narabara and other martyrs. The ceremonies were of a pathetic nature. Eight new graves marked where our lamented compatriots have been laid to rest; over them the green grass is already growing. Some flowers in empty beer bottles and a few artificial flowers were the only tributes we could place over the graves of our dead. Altogether the scene was very touching. A little later the sound of musketry broke out in the direction of the British Legation.

Aug. 8.—An Imperial decree issued yesterday is said to state that Viceroy Li Hung-chang has been entrusted with the work of making peace with the foreign Powers.

It is reported that the enemy about the international quarter have decreased considerably, a large number having left the vicinity.

Two cases of dysentery are reported to have occurred at the British Legation.

A notification has been received to-day saying that Viceroy Li Hung-chang, who has been appointed Peace Plenipotentiary under the seal of all the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen, will open negotiations at Shanghai.

In spite of the precarious position in which they and the other members of the besieged force now are, some of the volunteers have contrived to amuse their graver companions by propounding and solving riddles.

The enemy again attacked us late at night depriving us of much-needed rest.

Aug. 9.—In the afternoon had a warm bath (the first for a long period) and felt greatly refreshed. Noticed much commotion among the Chinese in the vicinity of the princely residence: it appeared as if troops were being recruited. The converts declared that the cries of the new comers betrayed their Shansi origin. The enemy has run up an enormous flag on which are inscribed the ideographs "Fu-tung-chang."

Aug. 10.—About 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the noise of musketry was heard in all directions but it lasted only for a short time. Communications from the rescuers having ceased to arrive for several days, we had almost stopped talking about their coming, when a message was received from Major-General Fukushima who had arrived at Ro-kih Lo-chwan-ch'ang, which is situated to the north of Nantsai-tsun, at 8.20 in the morning of the 8th. The message stated that the forces of the Japanese, British, Americans, and Russians had reached that place after defeating the Chinese, that Colonel Shiba's letter besides showing the Allies the exact state of affairs among the besieged, had increased the desire to effect a rescue; and that it was the expectation of the relief expedition to arrive at Matung on the 10th, at Changkia wan on the 11th, at Tungchow on the 12th, and to attack Peking on either the 13th or the 14th. Naturally the intelligence inspired us with new hope and courage.

To-day the British Minister demanded from the Tsung-li Yamen an explanation of the enemy's attack of last night. The Tsungh Yamen replied that they had already punished the offending troops. The attack was by Boxers who had come out of their entrenchments and advanced on the British Legation. Five or six of them are reported to have been killed. On being informed of this our volunteers decided to carry with them a Japanese sword besides the usual firearms, when on patrol. Hitherto they had been armed with rifles only.

At 8 p.m. it began to rain and thunder, upon which the besiegers commenced all at once and at all points to blaze away with their guns.

The arrival of our rescuers now being merely a question of time, a proposal to have a Peking Defence Medal struck has been mooted among the besieged.

Aug. 11.—We had given ourselves up in despair to whatever fate might be in store for us when news of our rescuers had failed to reach us for some days, but now that in two or three days we may look for their arrival, the time drags slowly; each minute seeming as if drawn out into days.

The Tsung li Yamen have written proposing a conference at 9 to-morrow morning with the view of opening a market in the vicinity of the British Legation. The prospect of being once more enabled to eat fresh food is not unpleasant to us who have for so many weeks been living on scanty provender

Aug. 12.—The French Minister announced to-day, as news brought in by a coolie, that a great battle was fought at Changkia-wan yesterday and that 1,000 Chinese were wounded.

The Chinese have learned to aim at the loop-holes in our works and have in this way succeeded in causing many casualties among our sentinels. It has been decided therefore to keep the holes blocked except when looking out for the enemy.

I had indulged in the hope of hearing the distant roar of artillery to-day, but none was heard all day. Nor did the Tsung-li Yamen people put in an appearance. It is reported that Li Ping-heng was killed at the battle of Changkia-wan.

It was expected that the Chinese would make a final and determined attack on the Legations, when they were warned of the approach of the relief expedition. The expectation was correct. They began to fire their small arms at 5 p.m. to-day and continued almost incessantly until daybreak the following day. The attack was most determined in the neighbourhood of the British Legation. They even used their guns mounted on the Hata gate. The attack was the most spirited since the armistice was agreed upon.

Aug. 13.—Yesterday a communication was received from the Tsung-li Yamen to the effect that Prince Twan and other Ministers would visit the British Legation to-day at 11 a.m., to open peace negotiations. The hour arrived, but they never came. A note was sent us, however, to the effect that, while the Chinese Government desired the restoration of peace, the Allies had fired the previous night upon the Chinese soldiers, killing 62 of them. As the Foreign Ministers thus demonstrated that they did not desire the restoration of peace, the Tsung-li Yamen could not see that any good would result from meeting the Ministers. In the evening the Tsung-li Yamen sent telegrams to the Ministers from their respective governments. Though I do not know the contents of the telegrams, this much seems to be certain, that they do not instruct the Ministers to leave Peking. About 11 a.m. to-day the sound of artillery was heard to the south-east and as the firing was different from that of the Chinese, it was regarded as a sign of the approach of relief. This was verified in a startling manner at 10 p.m., when the enemy commenced a fierce attack on us. Meanwhile a thunder storm had come on, and the evening was terrible. Believing that this attack of the enemy must be their last effort, we redoubled our efforts to repel our assailants blowing bugles and raising, every now and then, war cries. After a while the firing ceased, but we doubled our sentries till dawn.

Aug. 14.—If all has gone well in accordance with the original plans, the Allies ought to be outside the walls to-day, and we are waiting for a signal of their approach with impatience. At length our expectations were, to our intense relief, realized. At 2 a.m. field guns and Gatlings opened fire in the direction of Kwangchuan tower, situated between the Tungche and Chaoyang gates. The roar of the guns was like a voice from heaven, and our joy was unbounded. At 8, similar sounds came from the direction of the Chao-yang gate, and continued almost without interruption. Meanwhile a report reached us that in the early dawn some 200 foreign troops had got within the walls by way of the Tungpien gate. Is it possible, then, that the reinforcements, for whom we have been waiting day and night for nine weeks, have really come? Yes, there can no longer be any doubt it, for at 2.30 p.m. we saw a column of dark faced, khaki-clad soldiers approaching us. They had gained entrance by creeping under the water-gate between the Hata and Chuen gates, and emerging in the dried-up bed of the Yuho creek. These were Sikhs, and to them must be accorded the honour of having first opened communication between the Legations and the Allies.

YACHTING IN YOKOHAMA.

We have been asked to print the following letters:—

THE COMMITTEE, YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

GENTLEMEN:—I beg leave to call your attention to the fact that nearly all the races for the 39-raters are now being subjected to arbitrary handicaps, and I wish to place on record my earnest protest against this abuse of the sport of Yacht Racing.

Referring to the programmes for June, July, August, and part September of this season, out of nine races no less than six are under arbitrary handicaps, and in the case of one other, viz., that on 4th July, the second prize was given under arbitrary handicap, so that only two races proper under club time allowance remain out of a total of nine races.

The Club Rules state that at least half the first prizes shall be sailed for under club time allowance, and I believe I am correct in saying that this rule was made specially with a view to check the abuse of the sport by arbitrary handicapping.

I want to race my yacht, but I want to race her on her merits, and therefore I will not enter her in any races where the prizes are distributed by arbitrary handicap. If I win a prize according to the Club Rules I consider that I am entitled to receive it—on the other hand I will not be beholden to the kind favour of a handicapper for a prize I can not win. There is a difference between a prize and a present, and I think that if the attention of those kind patrons of the yacht club who give such valuable cups for the encouragement of sport was called to this fact, they would prefer to see their cups raced for as prizes instead of being offered as presents by the handicapper.

I take it as a matter of shame that if I want to test the speed of my yacht in a race I should be reduced to the necessity of either sailing in the race without entering for it, or of submitting to an unjust and unprincipled arbitrary handicap.

This is strong language, but I have probably had as much, if not more, to do with the making and working of arbitrary handicaps as applied to yacht races than any other yachtsman in Yokohama, and I speak from experience. The arbitrary handicapping is unprincipled in that its direct tendency is to promote the survival of the unfittest, and it is unjust because its object is to minimize the chances of a winner receiving the prize to which he is justly entitled by "superior speed and skill."

If I remember rightly, I myself was the first to introduce arbitrary handicapping into our sailing races, but that was at a time when we did not know better than to attempt to race all our craft together in one class and when, as ascertained by subsequent experience, our club time allowance was so ridiculously small that it was practically valueless. As the Yacht Club has grown, and our knowledge of yacht racing has extended, there is no longer any necessity to nurse the yacht owners with the pap of arbitrary handicaps.

The "Promotion of Sailing and Sailing Races" is only to be attained by improving the standard of the sport. This may easily be done by the adoption of class-racing pure and simple, but never by such a demoralizing system as one that gives extra time allowance to the skipper who is too lazy to sweat up his peak halliards.

If there are any yachtsmen who have not confidence enough in the capabilities of their yachts to race them for sport, or who have not the grit to improve their craft, or build new ones if need be, surely they ought to be the ones to stand aside. The progress of the whole world is not to be stopped for the sake of the Chinese?

If it is possible that there are any who actually prefer the hunting of pots by playing hide-and-seek with a handicapper to racing according to the Rules which they themselves have adopted and approved, why should they not be relegated to a handicap class by themselves instead of the sport being spoilt for those wanting to race according to the Club Rules.

My remarks may appear to apply more particularly to the 39 raters' racing, because I am personally interested in that class, but they apply with even greater force to the smaller classes where the yachts are practically all built for racing only.

I beg you will kindly give this matter your earnest consideration. It is a subject which concerns all who take an interest in the promotion of true sport, and, as I am sure there are a great many in Yokohama who do so, I propose to send a copy of this letter to the local papers.

I am, Yours faithfully, ALAN OWSTON.

Yokohama, 29th August, 1900.

THE SECRETARY, YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

Dear Sir,—I have read with interest and surprise

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Mr. Owston's letter in to-day's *Mail* and would like to state my views upon the matter contained therein.

As I possess a 12-rater only I am not worried about the handicapper, whether he is going to give me a prize or not, etc., so I am perfectly unbiassed.

If Mr. Owston had confined his letter to the first two paragraphs I would not need to enter the lists on behalf of Arbitrary Handicaps.

If it is, as Mr. Owston states, that out of 9 races only 2 have been sailed under Club Time Allowance, as the Rules call for, then Mr. Owston certainly has a grievance but not against Arbitrary Handicap, but against your Committee for not conducting the races as the rules provide. Everybody, whoever he may be, certainly wishes to receive a prize after he has won it, whether it is a prize for sending in 279,182 soap wrappers or for guessing the correct result of a cricket match, or for anything else, and I am sure that if Mr. Owston has won a prize under Yacht Club Rules he will receive it in due course.

The Patrons of the Yacht Club often state under what conditions the race is to be sailed, and surely the Committee can not do otherwise than abide by the wishes of the donor of the prize.

Mr. Owston can easily remove all cause for shame on his part by entering for all Races under Club Time Allowance and not entering for any under Arbitrary Handicap: that brings the matter back to the original point, the number of races under Club Time Allowance which have been sailed. Truly that is a matter which your Committee can easily remedy. Mr. Owston's statement that he has to submit to "An Unjust and Unprincipled Handicap" infers that the handicapper is an unjust and unprincipled man, and then he goes on to say "that he has had more to do with making Arbitrary Handicaps than probably any yachtsman in Yokohama." He now rails against a thing as unjust and unprincipled which he admits having had more to do with than anyone else. There are many yachtsmen in Yokohama who have plenty of confidence and grit but not enough of either to build a yacht with.

Arbitrary handicapping is just the reverse of demoralizing as it gives the owner of a boat an incentive to compete against newer boats of finer lines and lighter construction, which would certainly beat him on Club Time.

Good sailing is not the only factor in a sailing race; the boat itself counts a good deal.

It is probable that there are many pot-hunters who only compete when they are sure of winning. It is for the very purpose of preventing this that the Arbitrary Handicap is made. If Mr. Owston does not wish to be clothed with the stigma of pot-hunting let him enter and sail in every race.

He begins by drawing your attention to the omission of certain races in the 39 rater class (correct), goes on to hurl anathemas at a universally recognised practice in all kinds of racing (no argument); admits that he himself originated and carried on "unjust and unprincipled" methods (foolish); goes on to say that a man who has an inferior boat must build a new one or stand aside (ridiculous); and finishes up by bringing in the Chinese; Ah Teek, I suppose (puerile). Like Mr. Owston I am sending a copy of this to a local paper.

Yours faithfully, E. M. BARNBY.

Yokohama, Sept. 1st, 1900.

THE W. C. T. U. IN EDINBURGH.

The following notes on the W. C. T. U. Convention in Edinburgh, sent to us by an old resident of Japan, should be of interest to a large circle of readers:—

The Convention, in the opinion of the Edinburgh people especially, seemed to be a great success. Being the first Convention after the death of the lamented leader, Miss Frances E. Willard, perhaps it is natural that there should have been considerable retrospection: but that does not mean that there were no plans for and looking out to the future.

The W. C. T. U. has branches in nearly sixty countries, with a constituency of about half a million women. Delegates from thirty or forty countries probably were present. The meetings were held in the beautiful Free Assembly Hall, capable of holding several thousands. It was always full and often-times crowded.

The first day's meeting was an all-day devotional meeting. The morning session was presided over by Mrs. Stevens, president of the Union of the U.S.A. She said "it was well indeed that the first public meeting in connection with the Convention should be a devotional meeting, as the first meeting ever held under the auspices of the Union had been one of prayer, and they should never be unmindful that they had been sustained and upborne during all those years of work by prayer." She was "glad that the key note of this devotional meeting was Christian courage, for she was sure there were no people in the world who needed more real Christian courage than temperance reformers—the Christian courage which had enabled their now promoted leader, Miss Frances E. Willard, to become the greatest reformer among women the world had ever known." Mrs. Nichols, of Australia, Mrs. Asa Gordon, from Canada, and Mrs. Barney from the U.S.A. and Rev. Dr. John Smith of Edinburgh all addressed the meeting.

Dr. Smith spoke of "the most incomprehensible indifference and paralysis of judgment on the part of multitudes of Christian people who should be side by side with them in this great work," and said "that although the evil of intemperance seemed at present to be rioting in its strength, the day would come when righteousness and love would triumph, and when through sheer display of its own odious tyranny the evil would fall off from the life of the nation and they would stand free."

The afternoon session was presided over by Lady Henry Somerset, President of the World's Union and of the British Woman's Temperance Association. The principal speaker was the Rev. Charles Sheldon, of Topeka, Kansas, U.S.A. He spoke of Kansas, a State with a prohibitory law, and said that after nineteen years experience they believed in it, not only because it satisfied their moral and religious conscience, but because they profited from its economic results. There were about 700,000 drunkards in the U.S.A. if Kansas had its proportion of that number it would have 16,000 drunkards, but Kansas being a prohibitionary State there were fewer than 3,000 drunkards in the entire State. It had been reckoned that if they cut down the actual number of drunkards in the different States of the United States the average number would be 10,000 to each State, so that Kansas saved 7,000 men who would otherwise be a loss to the community, and in this way, he estimated, also saved the State 35,000,000 dollars a year. He said the prohibitionary law was as well enforced as other laws, and he could prove it.

Mrs. Lente Stevenson, of Massachusetts, U.S.A., the Rev. H. S. Sanders Rector of Eastnor, and Lady Henry Somerset were other speakers. Miss Darling of Edinburgh, Miss Gorham and others conducted the sacred songs of the sessions.

On Saturday, June 23rd, the morning session was a memorial to promoted comrades, after the formal opening of the Convention with Roll Call, and appointment of committees.

Lady Henry conducted the memorial service. The comrades who had gone on before were—in the U.S.A., Frances E. Willard, Founder of the World's W.C.T.U.; Mrs. Burt, President, New York State, W.C.T.U.; Miss Lodie Reed, Superintendent World's Press Department; Mr. Gordon Gulick, Madame Demorest of N.Y. In Canada—Mrs. Middleton of Zoebec. In Great Britain—Mrs. Joseph Parker, Mrs Holden Byles, Mrs. Henry Robinson. In Belgium—Madame Chantraine, President, W.C.T.U. In Scotland—The Dowager Countess of Aberdeen, Mrs. Brown Douglas, Miss Wigham, the Rev. Dr. Blaikie. In China Mrs. Wan, President, Chinkiang W.C.T.U.

Lady Henry made a most beautiful address on this occasion, a tribute to the life, character and work of Miss Willard; it was the tribute of a loving, close, personal friend. During the course of it she took occasion to make the most full and complete retraction of the position she had taken, contrary to W.C.T.U. principles, in reference to the C.D. acts in India, which position had clouded the latter days of Miss Willard's life. She referred to it as the greatest mistake of her life, saying that did she not know that Miss Willard was conscious of her changed position before her death, all the rest of her life would have been one gray day. But she meant to do everything in her power to undo the harm she had done by her attitude at that time.

Saturday afternoon and parts of Monday and Tuesday were given to the reports of Departments of work, but I can only give the names of these branches, which will show somewhat the scope of the work of the W.C.T.U.—Scientific Temperance Instruction; Sunday School Work; Peace and International Arbitration; Loyal Temperance Legion; Social Purity; Young Woman's Branch; Humane Education; Schools of Method; Work Amongst Sailors; Petitions and Legislative Work, Evangelistic Work, Prison Reform; Franchise; World's Archives; Anti-Gambling; Food Reform; Anti Opium; Proportionate Giving; Flower Mission Work; Promotion of Good Citizenship; Household Helpers; Labour; Amusements; School Savings Banks; Work Amongst Railway Men; Anti-Narcotics. There were also reports from four Round-the-World Missionaries, that of Miss Parrish in Japan being especially interesting.

These reports showed growth all along the line, the general membership having grown and increased in numbers during the year, which was especially encouraging in the light of the fact that it seemed as if the organization had received an almost stunning blow in the death of Miss Willard.

On Sunday there were great mass meetings in the Cathedral and the Empire Theatre, and other places. Sunday is beautifully and quietly observed in Scotland, so street cars and omnibusses were not running. As I was later in the city of Boulogne and in some American cities, I felt that a little Sunday rest and quiet thus forced upon restless mortals might not be a bad thing. Special meetings were held in connection with the Social Purity Department, which has for its object not simply the uncovering and cleansing of moral cesspools, but the more positive work of holding up high ideals, education in, and speaking of the things that are pure, lovely, and of good report, and arousing in the minds of youth a reverence for all the powers of body as well as spirit, emphasising the sacredness and dignity of life, and the obligation of "a white life for two."

A large number of fraternal delegates from other societies were received, who made their addresses and then presented them done up in leather and gilt, and satin and velvet. Quite a feature of the convention were the numerous receptions and teas almost every day; but as I was alternate for Mrs. Yajima, the President of the Japan W.C.T.U., I represented her on the Executive Committee and was kept too busy and tired with its frequent meetings to attend many teas or receptions. I did attend that given by the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Council at the Museum of Science and Art. In honour of Japan, and at my hostess' request I wore a Japanese costume. To one counting her Anglo-Saxon parentage back for several centuries it was very funny to be taken for a genuine Japanese, to have the crowded rooms open everywhere a passage before me, to hear remarks and murmurs at my side about "native grace," &c., to be approached by total strangers asking if I could talk English. No mention of the Convention could be complete without acknowledgement of the generous hospitality of the Scottish ladies in their beautiful homes, they were most gracious and bountiful. As I looked into the sweet, strong, wholesome Scotch faces of our hostesses it seemed

As easy for the heart to be true
As for grass to be green,
As for skies to be blue—
'Tis the natural way of living

And the white ribbon of the W. C. T. U. which binds so many countries together, twining their flags in one great rainbow of colour and light, is a true emblem of our purpose and work. For were all these rainbow colours blended and united we should have only white true light. And whiteness and light are simply love—Christ's love for the whole world.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Sept. 1st:—

	Dr. Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	16,265,668
Amount of convertible notes issued	203,174,091
Government deposits	47,393,098
General deposits	5,891,724
Exchange liability	76,678
Total	302,800,635
Cr.	
Discount notes	80,735,232
Foreign discount notes	9,651,495
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	61,024,516
Exchange liability	1,437,790
Government bonds	52,403,558
Property	2,157,709
Bullion and Specie	73,390,332
Total	302,800,635

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	201,934,220
Bullion and Specie:	
Gold	69,464,408
Silver	3,000,000
Total	72,464,408
Securities:—	
Government bonds	28,870,563
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	10,407,303
Commercial notes	68,191,946
Total	129,469,812

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	475,626
Silver	—	—
General loans	256,576	—
Government deposits	229,838	—
General deposits	795,314	727,317

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THE "BELGIAN KING."

The steamer *Belgian King*, a constant trader at this port, had been in collision with the Norwegian steamer *Tellus* at a spot some miles south of Point Arena San Francisco. The casualty happened on the night of July 17th, and the force of the impact was such that the bows of both vessels were stove in. The water-tight bulkheads forward saved them, however, and it was found that the *Tellus* suffered the most. Immediately after the collision the steamer was deserted by Captain Pedersen, of the *Tellus*, and all hands, who took to the lifeboat and were picked up by Captain Weiss, of the *Belgian King*. The crew afterwards returned to the vessel. The *Tellus* was then taken in tow by the *Belgian King*, which took her to the nine fathom buoy, about five miles outside San Francisco harbour. At that point the hawser was parted, and both steamers came into port under full steam.

A $50,000 bond was filed in the United States district Court at San Francisco on the 10th August by G. B. Hunter and the Wallsend Shipway Company, owners of the steamer *Belgian King*, in connection with this affair. Subsequently to the accident suits for damages were brought against the *Belgian King* and the steamer was taken into custody by United States Marshal Shine. On the 10th ult., the bond was filed and United States Commissioner George E. Morse ordered the release of the steamer.

The Tellus Steamship Company brought suit against the *Belgian King* for injuries to its steamer and the R. Dunsmuir's Sons' Company libelled her for the damage to the coal it had on board. Forty-five thousand dollars of the bond filed is to secure the coal company and one thousand for court expenses. The bond was issued by the National Surety Company of New York. A suit now is pending instituted by the owners of the *Belgian King* against the *Tellus*.

NOTES FROM HOME PAPERS.

The admission of the Indian Government that the plague measures are a failure is a most uncomfortable fact, says the *Globe*, since it would seem that immense expense and considerable exacerbation of native sentiment has been incurred without any practical result. The Indian authorities are, of course, quite right frankly to admit the fact, but it is a pity the discovery was not made before.

Poor old *Belleisle*! Quite recently this fine, though antiquated iron-clad, was experimented upon with shot and shell by the *Majestic*. Now it is reported that she is to be taken out of Portsmouth Harbour, with the view of ascertaining the damage which can be done by a torpedo, if prematurely discharged by a shot from the enemy. It is proposed to place a live torpedo on board the *Belleisle* and to discharge it by means of shell fire.

During the recent Royal visit to Dublin, the Queen received a large number of letters from persons in straitened circumstances, asking for financial help on various grounds, but chiefly on account of services rendered to the State either by themselves or their relatives. After careful inquiry as to the circumstances of the applicants and the *bona fides* of their statements, Her Majesty forwarded a substantial sum from her Privy Purse, with directions that it should be distributed among those of the applicants whom she regarded as deserving of her generosity.

Scotland won the National Volunteer Challenge trophy at Bisley this year, with an aggregate of 1,844 points. England and Wales each scored 1,806 and Ireland 1,727. Scotland has won for 11 years in succession. The Kolapore Cup was won by the Mother Country team, Guernsey being second, and Canada third. The Volunteers were successful in the United Services match. The Chancellor's Cup fell to Oxford, who beat Cambridge by three points.

According to Mr. Henry Bradley, the distinguished philologist, writing in the new number of the *English Historical Review*, the Roman name Mancunium so long attributed to Manchester, is etymologically improbable, if not impossible. "Mancunium" is presumably a Roman form of a British place-name, but, according to Mr. Bradley, no Celtic consonant stem "man" is known, and "cunium" or "cunion" can only be interpreted as "height," which hardly fitted the low lying settlement at Castle Field. Mr Bradley prefers the alternative form "Mamucium" of the Antonine Itinerary, as agreeing better with the old English name "Mamecastre," or fourteenth century "Manchestre."

There is no country in Europe, with the exception of Monaco and San Marino, which spends less for military purposes than Switzerland. The annual cost of its army is only about $500,000, and yet, in case of necessity, it can put into the field within two days 100,000 trained soldiers and retain at the same time another 100,000 as reserves in addition to its militia, numbering 270,000 men. In Switzerland young men are trained to become good rifle shots, and there is not a hamlet in the country without a volunteer association formed for this purpose. Military service is also compulsory from the twenty-second to the thirty-second year, forty-five days' service being required during the first year and sixteen during every subsequent year. The soldiers keep their weapons and uniforms at their own homes and are held responsible for them by the Government, which inspects them carefully once a year.

The Church Missionary Society had an income last year of £404,906. That large sum, however, includes more than £80,000 from centenary gifts and £20,000 from special funds, the income from ordinary sources being £303,675, or a little less than that of the previous year. The outlay considerably exceeded the income, owing to the growth of the Society's works, and the excess was met by help from the centenary fund. With regard to the actual work of the C.M.S., we learn from the 101st annual report that it has 541 stations; and employs 1,239 European workers, including 86 medical missionaries, and 6,839 native Christian workers. It has 270,600 native Christian adherents, and 71,500 communicants. Last year there were 19,415 baptisms—8,478 adults and 10,937 children. The Society maintains 2,139 schools and seminaries, and has under instruction 104,197 native scholars and seminarists. On the medical work, which is now regarded as a most important feature, the report states that there were 11,557 in-patients last year at the various hospitals supported by the Society, and that 641,006 visits were paid by out-patients.

Breach of promise cases generally possess a good deal of latent humour for outsiders. A young optician in business in London made love to a pretty milliner. His feeling was reciprocated and a period of fervent protestations on the man's part then set in. He appears to have been a voluminous correspondent too, some 300 letters being written by him during the four years' courtship. Then his ardour cooled down, until at last the milliner discovered that another lady had supplanted her. Thereupon she took the matter into Court and to a scoffing and unfeeling world read aloud some of the love-letters. Among them was one which ran:—I am always thinking of you you are in my work, my walks, my sleep, and in fact you are always in my thoughts, and I pray to God every night to keep and defend you from all perils of this world. . . . From your ever-loving but broken-hearted, George Herbert. In another letter he said:—"You are my life and shining star, and I look to you every night and morning to guide me aright, and may the day not be far distant when I shall be able to say for better or worse, for richer or poorer, while life shall last, and then nestle you to my breast.' The jury assessed the damages at £200.

Mr. Henley stands up for Byron in his "Ex Libris" causerie in the *Pall Mall Magazine* for August. That is all right, but one fails to see why he should stand on the prone bodies of other poets whom he has first felled with epigrams. Tennyson's Adelines and Mianas are contrasted contemptuously with Byron's Gulnares and Zuleikas—a contrast of no literary value. Browning's poetry is described as a "mass of half inspired, half-realised, half uttered, and wholly perfunctory and futile gabble—some noble passages apart." Dark things are hinted about the fate of Keats, Shelley, Scott, and Coleridge when "some tests I know of" shall be applied to them. Concluding in a stronger—because more temperate—strain, Mr. Henley says:—"On the whole, it looks as though Matthew Arnold had but grasped half the truth when he said that Bryon and Wordsworth would head the procession of Nineteenth Century English poets into the 'mist and hum' of the Twentieth Century. It may be Shelley and Byron; it may be Byron and Keats; it may be Byron and Coleridge. But, whoever the one, the other will certainly be Byron."

Mr. Arnold-Forster continues in a weekly journal his criticisms of the British Army, which, for the most part, are sound and to the point. He has taught us that, generally speaking, everything which has been said by those who for years past criticised our military institutions was true. For years the War Office has been asserting that a particular set of arrangements were adequate and satisfactory. For an equal length of time outside observers have declared that all experience went to show that the arrangements were not adequate or satisfactory, and that when subjected to the test of war they would fail in certain essential particulars. War has come, the test has been applied to the conflicting opinions, and judgment has certainly gone against the officials. Mr Arnold-Forster gives the following as among the principal criticisms which have been passed on our military system: (1) That no combined plan of operation for the defence of the Empire in any given contingency has ever been worked out or decided upon; (2) that our organisation is unsuited to our national needs, and that it would fail when tested; (3) that no efficient body of men could be dispatched from this country without destroying the regimental system or calling up the Reserves; (4) that the Reserve would prove no reserve at all, because they would have to take the places of men actually serving who were unfitted for active service; (5) that the Militia and Volunteers were without the requisite organization or equipment. (6) that the supply of artillery, both horse and foot, was inadequate, and that the guns were insufficient and unsatisfactory; (7) that the field officers at home were insufficiently trained, (8) that there was no organised staff in peace time; and (9) that the War Office would be compelled, under the stress of war, to attempt to do in the face of the enemy all those things which it had refused to do in time of peace, and which it had declared to be unnecessary or undesirable.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Aug. 31.

Lord Robert reports that Buller occupied Machadodorp yesterday. The Boers made a poor stand, and retired northward, pursued by Dundonald, to Helvetia, where they occupied a strong position. French has ejected the enemy from Elandsfontein.

A later telegram says that Buller's casualties at Bergendal were 14 killed and 64 wounded.

KING HUMBERT'S ASSASSIN.

The murderer of King Humbert has been sentenced to perpetual imprisonment.

PLAGUE IN SCOTLAND.

Several cases of plague have occurred at Glasgow, and there have been three deaths.

ENGLAND AND CHINA.

Mr. Brodrick, speaking at Bramley, says that what is required from China is an indemnity and guarantees for the preservation of trade. He added that a young and vigorous Parliament is necessary to deal with the settlement of the South African question and Army reform.

THE UNITED STATES' FORCE IN CHINA.

It is announced in Washington that 5,000 American troops will winter in China as a precaution against the failure of the proposed peace negotiations.

CASUALTIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The total British casualties in South Africa up to the 28th August, exclusive of men in hospital, were 40,561.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Sept. 1.

General Buller, pursuing the Boers, joined Generals French and Pole-Carew at Helvetia. They drove the Boer rear-guard from the adjacent heights. The majority of the Boers are going to Barberton taking their guns with them, but a few have retired northwards.

The Boers, frustrated in their attempt to destroy the railway in Natal, have retired across the Buffalo river after severe losses

GERMANY ON THE YANGTSZE.

In reply to a request from the German residents of Hankow, who ask for the protection of German interests in the Yangtsze Valley, the Emperor William has telegraphed to the German Consuls on the river, that protection will be provided on the arrival of the nine warships now *en route* for China.

BOERS RELEASE MORE PRISONERS.

All the British prisoners at Nooitgedacht have been released and are rejoining Field-Marshal Roberts at Watervalboven.

PRESIDENT KRÜGER.

President Krüger and the Transvaal officials are now at Delspruit.

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THE CHINESE EMBROGLIO.

Russia has informed the United States of North America that the Empress-Dowager is willing to guarantee the security of trade and to prevent the recurrence of disorders America thereupon intimated that she was willing to withdraw her forces from Peking and to permit the Imperial Court to return.

An American note to the Powers strongly favours the idea of accepting Li Hung-chang as plenipotentiary to negotiate the terms of peace.

A CRICKET RECORD.

Prince Ranjitsinghi has scored twelve centuries, the record for this season.

RUSSIA PROPOSES WITHDRAWAL FROM CHINA.

Shanghai, Sept. 2.

Russia has notified the United States that, the Legations having now been relieved, she will withdraw her Minister and her troops from China, in order that an united and effective Government may be restored.

The United States has acquiesced, and suggests that the Commanders in Peking confer with a view to concerted withdrawal. It is understood that France also has acquiesced.

It is reported that the Powers are favourably disposed towards the Russian proposal.

The acceptance of the intervention of Li Hung-chang is under consideration.

It is believed that withdrawal from Peking is the only course to prevent fresh and dangerous complications.

THE PROPOSED WITHDRAWAL FROM PEKING.

Shanghai, Sept. 3.

The papers deprecate withdrawal from Peking, declaring that the moral effect would be deplorable. *The Times* says withdrawal would inevitably read restoration of the old regime. It urges continuance of the occupation even if some Powers should withdraw.

The German press is amazed, and expresses the belief that Germany will in no wise acquiesce.

The Russian notification to the United States disavowed any design of territorial acquisition, asserting that Russia's action in Manchuria was solely of a defensive character Her troops at Newchwang will withdraw as soon as order is restored, unless an obstacle should be created by the action of other Powers.

It is officially stated that Russia has ordered her Minister and her expedition to withdraw to Tientsin, and that she aims at maintaining the integrity of China and restoring legal control to the Government of that empire.

BRITISH TROOPS FOR CHINA.

Three hundred artillery leave London for China on Sept. 15th.

RUSSIA'S PROPOSALS.

Shanghai, Sept. 4.

The Russian circular issued to the Powers on Aug. 25th, notifying her intention to withdraw from Peking, promises that she will likewise withdraw from the whole of Manchuria as soon as order is restored and the protection of the railway assured.

The circular adds that foreign interests in Newchwang, and in the railways that have been repaired by Russian troops, remain inviolate.

MEDICAL OFFICERS NOT WANTED

Medical officers who had previously been warned for service in China, have now been informed that they will not be required at present.

EARLY END OF BOER WAR.

Burghers in Pretoria predict an early end of the war, as the British troops now control the Delagoa Bay Railway and are driving the Boers into the unhealthy and foodless bushveldt.

Buller has advanced fourteen miles along the Lydenburg Road.

THE TRANSVAAL ANNEXED.

Shanghai, Sept. 5.

A despatch has been received from Lord Roberts announcing that he has issued a proclamation annexing the Transvaal.

WAIT TILL MINISTERS REPORT.

It is improbable that Britain and the other Powers will decide on their action (in China) till the Ministers at Peking have reported fully.

[The above passage is obscure as telegraphed.]

PLAGUE INCREASING IN SCOTLAND.

The plague is increasing in Glasgow, and one death has taken place at Govan.

COAL AND FREIGHTS.

The Liverpool shipowners, in view of the present price of coal, have decided to increase freight rates.

THE WITHDRAWAL FROM PEKING.

An inspired *communique* to the *Temps* states that the proposal to withdraw from Peking is the natural corollary of the Franco-Russian programme.

America and Japan assent to the withdrawal; England is inclined to agree; but it is explained at Washington that the American reply meant strong disapproval of the withdrawal, the acquiescence of the United States Government being actuated by a desire to preserve unity of action.

TRANSVAAL NEWS.

Shanghai, Sept. 5.

Lord Roberts has sent a column to assist General Buller, who is advancing on Lydenburg. He found Botha strongly posted, with big guns. Buller was unable to turn the position.

HONOURED BY THE CZAR.

The Czar has conferred on President Loubet the Order of St. Andrew, accompanied by a most cordial autograph letter.

BOER ACTIVITY.

Five commandos have surrounded Ladybrand, and the garrison is hard pressed. General Hunter is hastening to the relief.

(TELEGRAM RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

Saigon, Sept. 2.

Russia has proposed to the Powers to withdraw the troops from Peking, in order to facilitate the negotiations with China. The Powers are examining the question, and considering the possibility of utilizing Li Hung-chang as intermediary.

Saigon, Sept. 4.

A circular from Russia to the Powers confirms that she will at once recall her Legation to Tientsin and retire her troops from Peking.

It is believed that Germany and England, which show themselves opposed to these measures, will be obliged to follow the example of Russia.

WAITING SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD'S REPORT

Saigon, Sept. 5.

It is affirmed in London that England will not take any final decision with regard to her course in the Chinese affair until she has received a report from Sir Claude MacDonald on the situation in China.

THE TRANSVAAL ANNEXED.

Lord Roberts has proclaimed the annexation of the Transvaal.

THE CZAR AND PRESIDENT LOUBET.

Saigon, Sept. 5.

Prince Ouroussof, Russian Ambassador in Paris, has handed to President Loubet the Order of St. Andrew, with a very warm autographic letter from the Emperor of Russia, expressing his Majesty's joy at sending this evidence of friendship at a moment when the Franco-Russian accord may exercise a beneficent influence for the maintenance of general peace.

THE CHINESE PEACE COMMISSIONERS.

Saigon, Sept. 6.

An Imperial Edict dated from Taiyuen-fu designates Li Hung-chang, General Jung Lu and Prince Ching as Peace Commissioners.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.)

CHINA.

Shanghai, Aug. 30.

This morning about 770 French troops landed here.

According to a telegram received from a Japanese in Szechuan, the Viceroy of that province and the Commander-in-Chief at Ching-tu have been reduced in rank for not sending troops speedily to Peking.

Amoy, Aug. 30.

H.B.M.'s *Isis* landed 60 marines and a gun at this place on the afternoon of the 30th August.

Söul, Aug. 30.

The Korean Government, considering that as a state of war exists beyond the Korean border disturbance may commence at any moment, is sending 100 soldiers from Kanghyok-fu to Kyöng-heung on the upper waters of the Tung-man. These troops are to proceed by land.

Shanghai, Sept. 1.

The following telegram has been received from Kan-chow:—The Customs Taotai, in obedience to instructions from the Governor of Chekiang, has intimated to the Consuls that there are disturbances in Kü-chow, and that as full protection can not be afforded to foreign life and property, the foreign residents are recommended to withdraw to either Ningpo or Sang-ching. The Consuls thereupon asked whether the Governor considered that there was any danger in the districts with which the Daito Kisen Kaisha's steamers communicate, and whether in naming Sang-ching the Governor intended to include Kung-shin-kiau. The Japanese Consul has returned to Kan-chow.

Vladivostock, Sept. 2.

The Russian troops at Nikalisk, after two days' fighting, took possession of Ningkutow on the 30th ultimo.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

Söul, Sept. 1.

The following telegram was received from Song-chin on the 28th ultimo:—"There has been no incident within or without the Settlement, but the Shoka insurgents are not yet quelled. The official sent to investigate the affair has been seized by them, and is being compelled to listen to their complaints. The local officials of Songchin are expected to arrive at the place in a day or two with troops from Puk-choyug. It is reported that the rioters are coming on the 1st to desecrate the grave of Confucius, and the people are much disturbed.

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CHINA NEWS.

Hankow, Sept. 1.

A British man-of-war (name undecipherable) having arrived here on the 29th ult., it was proposed to send the *Pique* away, but the British Consul has applied to have her remain.

It is reported that the Boxers have risen in Nan-yang-fu in Honan.

Vladivostock, Sept. 2.

The Russians have captured Tsitsihar

Shanghai, Sept. 2.

It is reported that Li Hung-chang has received an imperial edict from Hwai-lai, dated the 19th of August, according to which the Emperor and Empress Dowager, apprehending an attack of the Imperial City by foreign troops, had fled westward on the 15th of August, and had ordered Jung Lu, Hsu Tsung, Ching Ki, and others, to remain in the capital. The edict added that these international complications were the outcome of quarrels between the Christian and non-Christian sections of the people, but that the Chinese Government, loyally obeying its international obligations, had done everything in its power to protect the Foreign Representatives. Finally, Li Hung-chang was directed to spare no efforts for restoring peace with foreign countries.

Tientsin, August 30.

A merchant who arrived here this morning from Pao-ting says that the Emperor, the Empress-Dowager, Prince Twan, Jung Lu, the Prince Imperial, Tung, Kang Yi and the other Ministers are in Pao-ting, but they are prepared to fly at the approach of foreign troops.

Chefoo, August 30.

It is said that the cable between Chefoo and Shan-hai-kwan will be finished by the middle of September.

Hongkong, Sept. 3.

Three transports containing 1,800 Indian troops have passed this port going to North China.

Berlin, Sept. 2.

Referring to the *Kolnische Zeitung's* explanation of Germany's policy, the *Algemeine Zeitung* and *Lokalanzeiger* say that while they do not doubt the Czar's desire to restore peace, they question whether the policy recommended by him would conduce to that end. Just as Admiral Seymour's return to Tientsin was construed by the Chinese in the light of a foreign repulse, and furnished an incentive to fresh resistance, so the withdrawal of the allied forces from Peking would surely be misinterpreted, and might cause the anti-foreign insurrection to spread to the central and southern provinces of China Moreover, the Chinese Government would probably regard the withdrawal as a ruse, and would decline to return to Peking. In that event the Foreign Powers would have lost much and gained nothing Therefore the best plan to secure the interests of the Powers, while retaining their concert is to let Russia alone withdraw her troops from Peking, the forces of the other States still holding the city, by which means Russia will have a free hand to pursue her Manchurian campaign, and the Allies can follow up the Chinese Court to whatever part of the empire it retreats.

Hongkong, Sept. 3.

Two German transports with 1,531 men have passed this place *en route* for Kiao-chow.

Shanghai, Sept. 3.

According to a statement made by the German newspaper of this port, it was unanimously decided at the meeting of Consuls on the 15th ultimo that Germany should be asked to land troops at Shanghai. The German Consul has therefore taken steps to prepare suitable quarters within the settlements.

AN IMPERIAL EDICT.

Shanghai, Sept. 4.

The Chinese newspaper at this port publishes a copy of the Imperial edict of August 20th. In it the Emperor expresses sympathy with the sufferings of his innocent people, and calls upon his officials to act with loyalty and integrity. His Majesty says that he takes upon himself the whole responsibility of having brought the empire into this perilous condition; that he is profoundly gratified by the good health the Empress-Dowager has enjoyed since leaving Peking, and that he believes the nation shares his gratification; that the administrative officials are required to repair to the imperial place of sojourn for the purpose of receiving instructions; and that the Viceroys Chang and Liu are enjoined to protect commerce, communications and foreign life and property in the regions of the Yellow River and the Yangtsze.

ANOTHER RISING.

Foochow, Sept 4.

According to information received from a trustworthy source, insurgents have arisen in Chang-chow against the native Christians, and the gates of six towns in the neighbouring districts have been closed. Taotai Yang, having lost the confidence of the people, has been removed and replaced by Taotai Chin, of Foochow. The latter is to proceed to his new post as soon as order is restored in Amoy.

CHINA.

Shasi, Sept. 4.

Six battalions of Black Flags under Liu have arrived at Hanchow in Hunan, and are to pass Shasi *en route* for the north. It is further stated that ten battalions from Chintu have arrived at Fankang in Hupeh.

Hongkong, Sept. 5.

A transport carrying 243 troops from Calcutta has passed this port *en route* for the north.

Shanghai, Sept. 5.

British re-inforcements, of unknown strength, landed here on the 5th.

(Received at the Naval Department.)

NEW JAPANESE CRUISERS.

The first-class cruiser *Asahi* left Aden for Colombo on the 2nd instant.

The first-class cruiser *Azuma* has left Malta for Port Seyd

(From Rear-Admiral Dewa.)

Taku, Sept. 2.

Baroness Nishi and Mrs. Narabara and other ladies are on the way from Peking, and will proceed to Ujina in 4 or 5 days by the *Kokura Maru*, according to arrangements made with the military authorities. Captain Hara is expected to accompany them. A further telegram will be sent when they leave Taku

(Captain Hara was in command of the *Atago's* detachment during the siege of the Legations.)

(Received at the War Office.)

(From Lieut.-General Yamaguchi).

MARCHING INTO PEKING.

Peking, Aug. 28.

This morning, in commemoration of our victory, the troops filed through the Imperial City, entering at the South Gate and emerging at the north. The following forces marched in procession; 800 Russian; 800 Japanese; 300 English; 300 Americans; 2 companies of French; 1 company of Germans; one company each of Italians and Austrians. The English opened the southern gate; the Japanese and the French each fired a salute of 21 guns; and the various Foreign Ministers marched in front. After the troops had filed through, the staff officers and the Ministers inspected the Palaces. Arrangements having been made on the previous day, everything passed off quickly. The Chinese officials offered refreshments of tea and cakes.

The Secretary of the *Tsung-li Yamên*, who went to Hwai-lai to summon Prince Ching, has returned, and says that he is to proceed again to-morrow to Hwai-lai, and that the Prince will this time accompany him to Peking. He will probably arrive in Peking on the 2nd of September.

It is reported on good authority that Li Hung-chang will reach Peking within five days.

(From Lieut.-General Yamaguchi.)

Peking, Aug. 29.

Officers' patrols were sent to-day as far as Chang-ping on the north and Lukan on the south-west. Everything was found tranquil. Yu Lu, ex-Viceroy of Chi-li, and all his family, committed suicide after the defeat at Peh-tsang. Li Ping-han was killed at Tung-chow. Hsu Tung, a leader of the conservatives, has committed suicide. It is uncertain what has become of Prince Twan and General Kang Yi. The Chinese Ministers in Peking are to make calls to-morrow in their private capacity on the Foreign Representatives. A messenger from the Palace has come carrying thanks for the orderliness of yesterday's proceedings.

(From the "Asahi")

Shanghai, Sept. 1.

The Court was accompanied to Sian by Princes Twan, Shu, Chwang and Ching and others, as well as by Kang Yi, and Chao Shu-chiao. It is thus untrue that Chao has gone to Nankin by order of Prince Twan. Tung Lu is expected to go from Pau-ting to Shen-si. Thing are again becoming unsettled in the Yang-tsze Valley. Some of the workmen in the Hangyang arsenal have fled, and nearly all the wealthy men of Han-kow and I-chang have moved elsewhere

The China Merchants Steam Navigation Company is about to open its stores near Tong-ku for the purpose of selling rice at low rates to the people of the vicinity. Three hundred thousand *koku* are to be thus disposed of. This is in consequence of a memorial to the Throne from Liu Kun-yi and Chang Chi-tung.

(Apparently the rice is Government property.—Ed. *J.M.*)

Disturbances have been renewed at Wu-fu in An-hui. The Governor's troops have killed 100 of the rioters and taken 30 prisoners.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

(From the "Shanghai Mercury.")

Hongkong, Aug. 25.

The transport *Palamcotta* and the hospital-ship *Maine* have arrived here. The hospital-ship *Carthage* has been detained here for the execution of necessary alterations.

It is reported that the band of Black Flags which was recently reported as going up the North River is attacking native Christians on the way, but this requires confirmation.

News comes in that in the Heung-shan district, near Macao, clan fights are now of daily occurrence.

[From the "Ostasiatische Lloyd."]

GERMAN NEWS.

Berlin, Aug. 27.

The German Government declares emphatically that all attempts at mediation on the part of Li

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Hung-chang will be rejected, as he has not sufficient authority to warrant such negotiations.

H.M. the Emperor has cabled his congratulations to the German Legation at Peking. He has bestowed the fourth-class Order of the Red Eagle, with swords, on the First Secretary, von Below-Saleske.

The Secretary of War of the United States has ordered another 4,000 men to proceed from Manila to Taku.

The King of Sweden will shortly give his decision as to the compensation to be paid to the people who suffered during the recent troubles in Samoa. As will be remembered, the King was requested by the Powers interested in the matter (Germany, England, and the United States) to act as arbitrator.

The strike of the labourers at the coalyards at Berlin has come to an end.

The Russian General Rennenkampt has gained a victory over the Chinese at Mergen (north of Tsitsihar). His losses are small.

NEWS FROM BERLIN.

Berlin, August 27.

The *Kölnische Zeitung* learns from diplomatic sources that it is intended to institute a financial control in China to secure the payment of all claims against the Chinese Government.

H. M. the Emperor will on the 30th instant perform the official ceremony of nailing the colours which he has conferred on the German troops on the way to China.

The Emperor has sent his congratulations to the commander of the German legation-guard at Peking, Graf von Soden, bestowing on him the fourth-class order of the Red Eagle with swords.

The Czar has received Dr. Leyds, the representative of the Transvaal Republic, in audience.

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

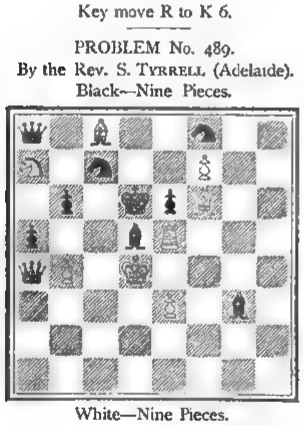
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 487.

Key move R to K 6.

PROBLEM No. 489.

By the Rev. S. TYRRELL (Adelaide).

Black—Nine Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 618.

The following game was awarded the first prize for brilliancy at the Paris Tournament.

VIENNA OPENING.

White—Mieses.		Black—Janowski.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	19 CstlsQR	KR Ktsq
2 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	20 PxP	PxP
3 B B4	B B4(a)	21 QR Bsq	K Ktsq
4 P Q3	P Q3	22 Q B7	R Rsq
5 P B4	Kt B3	23 QxP	QR Ktsq
6 P B5	Kt QR4	24 Q Kt7(f)	B Bsq
7 Q B3	P B3(b)	25 Kt B5	BxKt
8 P KKt4	P KR3	26 RxB	B Kt5
9 P KR4	P QKt4(c)	27 K Ktsq	BxKt
10 B Kt3	KxB	28 PxB	Kt Bsq
11 RPxKt	P KR4	29 KR KB1	Kt Kt3
12 PxP(d)	KtxP	30 Q Q7(g)	R Qsq
13 KKt K2	Q Kt3	31 Q K6	Kt B5
14 Kt Kt3	Kt B3	32 BxKt	PxB
15 B Kt5	B Kt2	33 R(B5)xP	Q B4
16 P R5	Kt R2(e)	34 R B7	Q Kt4
17 B Q2	CastesQR	35 R B8(h)	Q QB4
18 P R6	P Kt3	36 Q K7	Resigns.

(a) Black can play Kt takes P, followed by P to B4, with a very good game.

(b) If Kt takes B White gets an open file for his R after castling, but Black having embarked on this variation should have proceeded with it.

(c) He wastes too much time in exchanging the Kt for the B, and now weakens his Q side in the operation.

(d) Of course, if P to Kt 5, the Black Kt would become a fixture at Kt 5.

(e) If castles QR, R to R 6, and Black must suffer some loss.

(f) Brilliant play! When White took the P he evidently saw what Black did not see, viz., that Black could not play R to Kt 1, with effect. If now R takes Q, White wins by P takes R, followed by R takes Kt, &c.

(g) It is curious that the Q has been able to remain *en prise* so long. She has to be moved now because Black threatens 30 . . . R takes Q; 31 P takes R, R to Kt sq, 32 R to B 8 ch, Kt takes R; 33 R takes Kt ch, K to Kt 2; 34 R takes R, Q to Kt 8 ch, &c.

(h) A pretty finishing move. If R takes R, R takes R and Q takes P ch, &c.

GAME No. 619.

LUY LOPEZ.

White—A. E. Tietjen.		Black—R. Teichman.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	20 KKt Bsq	P B4
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	21 Kt Rsq	R B2
3 B Kt5	P QR3	22 BxKt	KxB
4 B R4	Kt B3	23 P B3	P B5
5 Castles	B K2	24 Kt B2	B Qsq
6 P Q3	P Q3	25 Kt Qsq	P Kt4
7 P KR3	Castles	26 Kt B3	P KR4
8 Kt B3	P QKt4	27 Kt Q5	P R4
9 B Kt3	Kt QR4	28 Kt Q2	Q Q2
10 Kt K2	P B4	29 P QKt3	Q K3
11 P B3	KtxB	30 K R2	K Bsq
12 PxKt	Q B2	31 R Ktsq	P Kt5
13 P B4	R Ktsq	32 P Kt3	PxBP
14 Kt Kt3	Kt Ksq	33 Q Bsq	P B7
15 Q K2	P Kt3	34 R Rsq	PxPch
16 B R6	Kt Kt2	35 KxP	Q Kt3ch
17 Kt Rt2	PxP	36 K R2	Q R3
18 KtPxP	Q Kt2	37 Q K2	B Kt4
19 KR Ktsq	B R5	Resigns	

This game illustrates "position play" instructive to the student. Against an opponent of average strength Mr. Tientjen's conduct of the game might have been good enough, but the master spotted the weak points and made his plan accordingly. The salient points concerning White are (1): 11. P. to B 3, in order to preserve the KB, if attacked with Kt to QR4 is a preferable variation; (2) 13 P to B4 leaves the QKt P weak; (3) 19. KR to Kt sq should have been 19. QR to Kt sq, followed by a King's side attack with P to KB4 at the earliest opportunity.

The fine points in Black's play are. fixing upon the weak Q Kt P first, then the withdrawal of 24...B to Q sq to support his weak Q R P with P to R4 and so release Queen and Bishop for the attack, and then advance the King's side Pawns, bringing the Queen and Rook into play, and then only to make the final assault. The whole game is played in masterly style by Mr. Teichman.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date
America	O & O Co.	Gaelic 1	Su. Sept. 9
Hongkong	O & O. Co.	Coptic	M. Sept. 10
Hongkong	P & O. Co.	Rohilla 2	M Sept. 10
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hamburg 3	Sa. Sept. 15
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 4	M Sept 17
Hongkong	M. M Co.	Indus	W. Sept 19
Hongkong	T K K.	America Maru	Th Sept 20
Canada, &c..... ..	C. P. R Co.	Em. of China	M Sept 24
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu. Sept 25
Hongkong	P M Co.	City of Peking	Th Sept 27
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Oct. 4

1 Left San Francisco on the 21st ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 2nd inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 5th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 29th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen	Sa. Sept. 8
Hongkong	O & O. Co.	Gaelic	M Sept 10
Shanghai	N Y K	Kobe Maru	W. Sept. 12
America ...	O & O. Co.	Coptic	W Sept 12
Europe, via S'hai.	M M Co.	Salazie	F. Sept. 14
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu. Sept. 18
Hongkong.... ...	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W Sept 19
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Sept 22
Hongkong	C. P R Co.	Em. of China	M Sept. 24
Hongkong...	P M Co.	China	W. Sept. 26
America	P. M Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Sept. 29
Canada, &c..... .	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Oct. 5

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 31st Aug.,—Kobe, 29th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, K. Nunome, 31st Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, 25th Aug., Mails and General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 31st Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 11th Aug., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 31st Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 30th Aug., General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sibiria, German steamer, 2,199, Braun, 31st Aug.,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 24th Aug., Genera.,—C. Illies & Co.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, Paterson, 1st Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 31st Aug., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Rathdown, British ship, 2,038, H. W. Dyke, 1st Sept.,—New York, 24th March, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 1st Sept.,—Kobe, 30th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Preussen, German steamer, 3,278, H. Kirchner, 2nd Sept.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 1st Sept., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Royalist, British steamer 2,024, S. Tierney, 2nd Sept., —Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 3rd Sept.,—Vancouver, B.C., 20th Aug., Mails and Genera .—C. P. R. Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 3rd Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 2nd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sultan van Langkat, Dutch steamer, 1,510, A. Blomberg, 3rd Sept.,—Moji, Ballast.—M. Raspe & Co.

Luzon, British steamer, 2,299, D Robinson, 3rd Sept., —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 2nd Sept., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Alex. Webster, 3rd Sept.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 2nd Sept., General.—Cornes & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 3rd Sept.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 2nd Sept., Mails & General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kubo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,164, S. Suda, 3rd Sept.,—Kobe, 1st Sept.,General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumiuye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 3rd Sept.,—Uraga, 3rd Sept., Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, W. W. Greene, 4th Sept.,—Kobe, 2nd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, H. Takeda, 4th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hector, British steamer, 3,005, John Barr, 4th Sept., —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 3rd September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Lindula, British steamer, 2,180 W. L. Stewart, 4th Sept.,—Madras via ports, and Manila, 29th Aug., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 4th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 3rd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,870, F. Davies, 4th Sept.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 3rd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Royalist, British steamer, 2,024, S. Tierney, 5th Sept., —Uraga, 5th Sept., Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, J. Rowley, 6th Sept.,—Taku via Kobe, 5th Sept., Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 6th Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 6th Sept.,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hioga Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 6th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 5th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 6th Sept.,—Kobe, 4th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 6th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 5th Sept., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Rokeby, British steamer 2,455, Jobson, 6th Sept., —New York via ports, 28th Aug., General.—Dodwell & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,084, R. Schmitz, 31st Aug., —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Wm. Frakes, 31st Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. —Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

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Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 31st Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 31st Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Yoshizawa, 31st Aug.,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 1st Sept.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 1st Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 2nd Sept.,—Australia and New Zealand via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Konoura Maru Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 2nd Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 2nd Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Carlisle City, British steamer, 1,894, Paterson, 3rd Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu and San Diego, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Royalist, British steamer, 2,024, S. Tierney, 3rd Sept.,—Uraga, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, K. Fuji, 3rd Sept.,—Hakodate via Kobe and West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 3rd Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 3rd Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 3rd Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tsurugisan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,438, I. Narasaki, 3rd September,—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 4th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 4th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 5th Sept.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Siberia, German steamer, 2,199, Braun, 5th Sept.,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Bergenhus, Norwegian steamer, 2,344, J. H. Svendsen, 5th Sept.,—Hongkong via Uraga, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 5th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, R. Nunome, 5th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,201, H. Takeda, 5th Sept., Kobe, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto 5th Sept.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lindula, British steamer, 2,180, W. L. Stewart, 6th Sept.,—Madras via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ixion, British steamer, 2,299, D. Robinson, 6th Sept.,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, W. W. Greene, 6th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sultan van Langkat, Dutch steamer, 1,510, A. Blomberg, 6th Sept.,—Hongkong, Coal and Box Wood.—M. Raspe & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Luis du Pronent, Mr. C Detrick, Mr. Suji Satori, Mr. Shimoda Kozo, Mr. Nagasawa Junichi, in cabin; Mr. Yasumura Kiro, in 2nd class; Japanese 21, Chinese 8, and Indian 3, in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. W. J. Chamberlain, Mr. and Mrs. Gaston Daurille, Dr. and Mrs. R. B. Erggelet, Miss L. A. Wells, Miss Hidie Yegushira, Mr. J. E. Conradt, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Abel and infant, Mrs. J. W. Cochran, Miss M. Cochran, Miss J. C. Cochran, Mr. H. J. Cochran in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. Oscar Fischer in cabin. For Hongkong:—Dr. F. E. Shine, Dr. J. E. McWhorter, Mr. W. C. Haswell, Lieut. J. H. L. Holcomb, Mr. C. Warfield, Mr. L. Reel, Dr. F. M. Wall, Dr. C. H Stoeckle, Dr. T. J. Strong, Dr. G. S. Dean, Dr. D. M. Laml, Dr. L. A. Spaeth, Dr. F. C. Griffith, Dr. W. M. Roberts, Dr. W. H. Tefft, Dr. J. W. Holland, Dr. C. C. Whitcomb, Dr. O. F. Davis, Dr. L. P. Slater, Dr. G. M. Van Poole, Dr. W. E. Chapman, Dr. E. E. Lamkin, Dr. R. B. Grubb, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Preussen*, from Bremen via ports. Mr. E. Debtmann, Mr. K. Pieper, Mr. P. Heidenreich, Mr. E. Hallier, Mrs. Inspector Meissel, Mr. R. S Speer, Mr. A. H. Duffner, Mrs. Dr. von Senab, Miss A. Stevens, Mr. R. Kupsch, Mr. W. Baine, Mr. Flessner, Mr. A. H. Cole Watson, Mr. E. L. Lubeaud, Mr. Schlichting, Mr. F. Grundmann, Mr. F Brasch, Mr. Bretschneider, Mr. G Philp, Mr. and Mrs. Justus Lemlike, 2 children and servant, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. N. Abbe, Mr. H. Aubert, Mr. W. A. M. Burden, Mrs. J. J. Cronin, Mr. D. J. Dupignas, Mr. J. L. Dearing, Mrs. J. L. Dearing, and two children, Mrs. C. Drummond, Mr. G. Boissiere, Mrs. G. Boissiere, Rev. R Emberson, Mrs. Emberson, Mr. A. K. Faust, Mrs. A. K. Faust, Miss Forest, Mr. H. W. Fraser, Mr. Z. Funahashi, Mr. Furlonge, Mrs. Furlonge, Mr Heffer, Mrs. Heffer, Miss Howie, Mr. Hafner, Mrs. Hafner, Mrs. R. Harris, Miss C. Hostetter, Mr. F. L. Higginson, Jr., Capt. H. Hiraoka, H.E. Prince Iwakura, Mr. S. Ikeda, Mr. A. A. Johnson, Mr. A. A. Jay, Jr., Mr. W. R. James, Miss K. M. Laing, Mr. B. P. Lalcaca, Mr. C. R. Morling, Mr. J. P. Mollison, Mrs. J. P. Mollison and maid, Master John P. Mollison, Miss Madeleine Mollison, Miss Nichols, Mr. A. D. Mamanoff, Mr. K. Matsuhara, Mr. N. T. Marquetti, Mr. H. E. Noorden, Mr. C. Nitta, Mr. W. McC. Osborne, Miss L. M. Powell, Rev. W. W. Prudham, Mrs. W. W. Prudham, Capt. C. U. Price, Mr. Sillem, Miss L. Norman, Mrs. E. J. Robinson, Count Yanagisawa, Mr. Y. Sugitani, Mr. Sophus Warming, Mr. J. L. Saltonstall, Mrs Sillem, Mr. N. Soma, Mrs. M. E. Safford, Mr. J. T. Swift, Mrs. J. T. Swift and three children, Mr. T. Aoki, Mr Wigham, Mr. B. Winthrop, and Mrs. Watts, Rev. A. Whittimere, in cabin; 4 intermediate; 239 in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. S. F. Maskie, Mrs. Adrain A fred, Mrs. C. M. Thomas and amah, Mrs. C. S. Linclon, Mrs. Carroll, Mr. A. H. Hewitt, Mrs. L. E. Alfred, Miss C. E. Thomas, Miss R. Thomas, and Mr. J. G. Russell, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. L. W Winton, Mr. W. R. Macpherson, Mr. C. S. Armstrong, and Mr. J. H. Claiborne, Jr., in cabin.

Per British steamer *Lindula*, from Madras via ports:—Mr. C. A. Fulcher, Mr. W. B. Atwell, Mr. J. W. Brooch, and Mrs. Earnshaw and child, in cabin; Mr. A. B. Stevens, Mr. J. Larson, Mr. J. Kondo, in second class; 2 on deck.

Per British steamer *Sukh*, from Taku:—Colonel Churchill, Miss Armstrong, Miss C. Smith, and Mr F. Squire, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports.—Lieut. Croft, U.S.A., Mr. W. J. Southam, Mr. R. A. Gubbay, Mr. J. Cooper, Mrs. and Misses (3) Jansen, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hawell, Capt. Cangley, Capt. Seber, Dr. Stuart, Miss Summers, Mr. G. T. Paul, Mrs. A. S. Palmer, Mr. G. D. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Brockhurst and 2 children, Capt. Clement, Mr. H. H. Esmail, Mr. and Mrs. R. Skeel, Mr. Morgan Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Geddes, Col. and Mrs. Craig, Master Craig, Dr. Lane, Mr. W. W. Campbell, Mrs. W. Schmidt, Mr. J. T. Hamilton Mr. S. Kishi, Mr. S. Donnesburg, and Mr. T. de Bergny, in cabin. For Vancouver.:—Mrs. and Miss Mast, Mrs. Shellabear and 3 children, Com. Patch, U.S.N., Rev., Mrs. and Miss Jellisen and 4 children, Rev. and Mrs. Ferguson and infant, Dr. and Mrs. Watson and child, Miss Watson, Mrs. and Miss Goddard, Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Mattox and child, Mr H. J. Hargreaves, Rev. and Mrs. Fee, Mr. and Mrs. Oppenheim, Mrs. Uperaft, Mr. Bradshaw, Mrs. Merrill, Miss Perrault, Mr. N. Oldham, Mr. Schlee, Mr. and Mrs. Palmer, and Mr. T. J. Harrison, R.N., in cabin; 21 in intermediate, 134 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Albert Stoph, Mr. Delbourgo, Mr. Kleinwort, Mr. G. E. Cordoza, Mr. Okolovitch, Mr Tillot, Dr. Ten Kate, Mr. J. Pennill, Mr. A. Tabbat, Mrs. Hoffman, Mr. de Litle, Mr. H. Wilmton, Mrs. Donnenberg, Messrs. J. M. and G. J. Apcar, Mr. and Mrs. Margre, Mr Y. Yokotake, Mr. T. Watanabe, Mr Iguchi, Mr. K. Yonekura, and Mr. and Mrs. Stanford, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong via ports.—Mr. L. H. Abel, Mrs. L. H. Abel, child and amah, Mrs. Beauchamp, Mr. W. J. Chamberlain, Dr. W. E. Chapman, Mrs. J. W. Cochran, Miss Jean Cochran, Miss Mary Cochran, Dr. O. P. Davis, Dr G. S. Dean, Mrs. C. G. Crant, Dr. P. C. Griffiths, Mr. R. P. Crubbs, Mr. W. C Haswell, Mrs. H. L. Hawthorne, Lieut. J. H. L. Holcombe, Dr. J. Holand, Mr. F. S. Jacott, Miss Jameison, Dr. E. E. Lamkin, Dr. D. H. Lamb, Miss Livington, Dr. J. W. McWhirter, Surg. Geo. Pickrell, U.S.N., Mr. L. R. Reel, Mr. Cahl Rabb. Dr. W. M. Roberts, Dr. Samuel, Dr. F. E. Shine, Dr. E. F. Slater, Dr. L. A. Sparth, Dr. C. H Strong, Dr. W. H. Tefft, Dr. G. M. Van Poole, Mr. R. Wade, Mrs. R. Wade, child and amah, Dr. F. M. Wall, Mr. C. Warfield, and Dr. C. C. Whitcomb, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is still no fresh demand, though deliveries are a shade better. The bountiful harvest which seems assured will possibly cause matters to brighten up. Speculative sales of Chinese cotton have been made as low as 20½ *yen*, and this has no doubt tended to further depress the market.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirting—8⅓ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.30 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	2.80 to 5.00
	PER YARD
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.21 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y.0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.20 to 11.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ..	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	1.45 to 1.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38, 42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	Y.170.00 to 175.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	170.00 to 185.00
Nos. 2, 60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2, 60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	353.00 to 365.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	26.50 *yen*
Indian Broach	23½
Chinese	20½

METALS.

The market is lifeless.

	PER PICUL
Round and square ½ inch and upward ...	Y.6.00 to 6.50
Iron Plates, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Sheet Iron	6.50 to 7.00
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.50 to 14.00
Wire Nails, assorted	8.00 to 8.50
Tin Plates, per box	8.00 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.95 to 3.10
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	7.00 to 7.40

KEROSENE.

The kerosene market is firm.

American	$2.86
Russian	2.80
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

The market has undergone little alteration.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y.5.30 to 6.10
Brown Manila	5.70 to 7.00
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined	8.00 to 9.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Increasing stocks have caused prices to weaken somewhat, but without attracting business to any special extent. The aspect all round promises still lower prices. Total Settlements from July 1st to date are 9,300 piculs, about half the quantity at the same time last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse...	Y. 920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	970 to 980
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse...	860 to 865
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	835 to 845
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	815 to 825
Common Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	820 to 840
Re reels—No. 1	815 to 830
Re reels—No 1½	780 to 800
Re-reels—No. 2	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	860
Kakedas—No. 1	825 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1½	770 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2½	760 to 770

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WASTE SILK.

There has been a fair amount of business at full rates, sellers holding on to prices with much tenacity. The market presents little prospect of lower prices, native spinners competing strongly for waste of all kinds.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	140 to 150
Noshi—Filatures, Good	130 to 140
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	135 to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	120 to 130
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	100 to 110
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	95 to 105
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	80 to 90
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 100
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	55
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	45

TEA.

Buying has been light and stocks have accumulated, but prices remain about the same as last week. Present holdings locally amount to some 5,000 piculs, mostly of inferior grades.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	39 & upwards
Choice	37 to 38
Finest	35 to 36
Fine	33 to 34
Good Medium	31 to 32
Medium	29 to 30
Good Common	27 to 28
Common	25 to 26

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, September 6.

Silver from London a farthing per ounce higher and sterling quotations ⅛ higher have again caused weaker rates locally on China, but no change otherwise, and rates for the outgoing mail per steamer *Empress of India* are as under:

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅜
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255
— Private 4 months' sight	261
— — 6 months' sight	262½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞@1
Germany—Bank sight	207
— Private 4 months' sight	212½@13
Hongkong—Bank sight	* 1% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*1½% dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 71
— Private 10 days' sight	* 73
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	28¾

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, September 6.

Breweries are obtainable at *yen* 150. Engine and Iron Works are steady at *yen* 210. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 240. Oriental Hotels—offers for founders, old and new shares, are wanted. Langfeldts have sellers at par. Helms were sold to-day at par. Laundries have sellers at par.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107. Laundry debentures can be had at par

Indo-Chinas were again purchased from Shanghai to-day at Taels 63.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	210 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 N
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 B
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	100 S.
Helm Bros, ¥50	50 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	210 St.
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	101 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	108 Sa.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N

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LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, September 6.

Langfeldts can be had at par. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 80. Helms are obtainable at par. Bretts have sellers at *yen* 10.

Y. U. Clubs are obtainable at *yen* 107.

Brett & Co. debentures are obtainable at par.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. Ltd. shares have been sold to Hongkong at $88 for old and $60 for new.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	210 Steady.
Grand Hotel	240 Sales.
Club Hotel	80 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Sales.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 15TH, 1900.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

PRESIDENT KRUGER has escaped to Delagoa Bay.

THE Powers are still undecided regarding China.

DYSENTERY is reported to be still spreading in Yokohama.

WE learn that the rice harvest has already commenced in Shimosa.

COUNT ITAGAKI started for Hokkaido on a pleasure trip on the 8th inst.

PRINCE CHING, Jung Lu, and Li Hung-chang have been appointed peace plenipotentiaries.

THE body of a coolie, which could not be identified, was found floating in the harbour in front of No. 3 Bund on Friday morning.

SOMEBODY stole one hundred and eight yards of telegraph wire on the evening of Sept. 8th from the vicinity of the Yokohama race-course.

FIRE broke out at about half-past one o'clock on Wednesday morning at Hanazakicho Gochome, Yokohama. A small house was partially burnt.

TWO Chinamen were arrested on the evening of Sept. 10th on a charge of gambling in a house at No. 148 in the former settlement of Yokohama.

THE German *Imperial Gazette* announces that the title of "Councillor of Legation" has been conferred upon Baron von der Goltz, interpreter to the German Legation in China.

IN consequence of the heavy rain on Sept. 9th the Nagara river in Gifu Prefecture, rose and broke through one of its banks, flooding several villages.

TRAIN-SERVICE between Tamaba and Otake, on the Sanyo Railway, which has been interrupted since the recent storm, was resumed on the 8th inst.

A TELEGRAM dated Washington, July 27th, says that arrangements have been practically completed for the purchase by the United States from Spain of the Sibutu and Cagayan Islands.

A POLICE constable was killed during a riot at Uchinomura Kambaragori, Niigata Prefecture the other day. The disturbance arose in connection with measures to prevent the spread of dysentery.

A RECENT official return gives the total number of barristers in the Empire as 1,577, of whom 363 are in Tokyo, 126 in Osaka, 52 at Nagoya, 51 at Niigata, 45 at Fukuoka, 45 at Nagano, and 41 at Kobe.

A SEAMAN on the steamer *Braemar*, while attempting on Thursday morning to fix a winch chain on the foremast, fell to the deck and was so severely injured that he had to be conveyed to the General Hospital.

MR. GEORGE JAMIESON, C.M.G., was to leave England for China on or about August 25th, to undertake an important and delicate mission in connection with an Anglo-Chinese company of which he is a director.

A YOUTH named Seo Mosuke, aged 17, employed in Mr. Goto's forwarding office at Kaigandori, Sanchome, Kobe, is reported to have absconded on the 4th inst. with *yen* 10,000 belonging to his employer.

A CHINAMAN named Chindza Tao residing at No. 187, Settlement, was detected by a tide-waiter trying to smuggle eight tins of opium which he had purchased from another Chinaman on the *Preussen*. Chindza Tao now languishes in prison.

THE cruiser *Valkyrie*, commanded by Prince Valdemar of Denmark, arrived at Copenhagen from the Far East on July 21st. As the vessel dropped anchor in the inner roads a crowd of several thousand people raised hearty cheers of welcome.

THE new torpedo-boat destroyer *Viper* the other day did the voyage to Portsmouth from Newcastle in the record time of twenty-four hours. During her recent trials on the Tyne the *Viper* worked up from a speed of 14 knots to 36.585 knots in 20 minutes.

HARADA KIMI, age 19, of Yechizenbori, Tokyo, threw herself before a Shimbashi-bound train on the night of the 5th inst. On examining her clothes a letter was found from which the police gather that she wished to commit suicide. She will probably succumb to her injuries.

A COLLISION took place between two trains close to Rome on the evening of August 11th. Fifteen passengers were killed and 40 injured. The Grand Duke and Duchess Peter of Russia were among the passengers, but were not hurt. The King and Queen speedily arrived on the scene and tended the wounded.

WE learn from the *Novoe Vremya* that the *Moskva*, of the Russian Volunteer Fleet, was to leave Odessa on Aug. 1st for the Far East. She takes out four large steam launches to be used in landing troops. Each launch can accommodate 100 men, or, in case of necessity, can be used as a powerful tug. On her arrival in Vladivostock the *Moskva* will be placed under the orders of the Russian naval authorities for use as a cruiser.

FIRE broke out at half-past eight on the 5th inst. at Yodobashi-machi Toyotama-gori, Tokyo, in premises occupied by Ogawa Ginjiro. Three houses were destroyed. Ginjiro's wife, while attempting to hang a kerosene lamp in the kitchen after dinner, capsized the article over her body. She was severely burnt.

FIVE or six sendoes who resented the obtrusive barking of a dog belonging to Mr. Shioda Yonekichi, in Okinacho, invaded the house of the latter on the night of Sept. 6th, and slightly injured his wife. The fate of the dog is not reported. The sendoes, who hailed from coal barges at the Yoshihama bridge, are still at large.

A MAN named Teramura Kinzaburo, clerk in the Nishijin Savings Bank, Kyoto, was observed to spend a large sum of money lately, though he only received 17 *yen* a month as wages. This induced Mr. Morwaki Sakaye, manager of the Bank, to examine his books, when a deficiency of *yen* 16,000 was found. The man was arrested.

PROFESSOR DR. ROBERT KOCH, the eminent bacteriologist, arrived in Hongkong by the Norddeutscher Lloyd steamer *Munchen* from New Guinea on August 26th. Dr. Koch proceeded home by the *Prins Heinrich*. The Professor has been engaged in scientific investigations in the German colonies, specially with regard to the malarial mosquito.

FIRE broke out at Ono, Kobe, on Wednesday evening and, before it could be checked, two warehouses were destroyed. In one, belonging to the China and Japan Trading Company, 400 bales of American cotton were more or less damaged. The total loss in both warehouses is estimated at *yen* 17,000. The C. & J. T. Co.'s risk was covered by the Phœnix & Norwich Union.

COLONEL S. S. SUMNER, late Military Attaché to the United States Embassy in London, left London on July 30th for Southampton, where he embarked for China. He goes to Taku to resume the command of his old regiment, the Sixth Cavalry. He is accompanied on the voyage by Mrs. Sumner, who will proceed to Yokohama. Major E. B. Cassatt, the newly-appointed Military Attaché in London, entered upon his duties on July 30th.

A PARCEL arrived by post at Kanda Police Station on the 6th inst. containing a promissory note, a silk *fukusa*, a visiting card, a purse with 20 *yen*, and a letter. The parcel was opened and also the letter. It ran:—"I stole a purse with *yen* 46 at Bansebashi. Please excuse me. I spent *yen* 26 and now return the remainder. Inouye Kinbei, Yokoamicho, Honjo." Upon inquiry being made it was found that the valuables belonged to Kubodera Kamataro of Ushigome.

A MAN named Kuragaki Utoda, employed at the Nishimura Hotel, Bentendori, Yokohama, was arrested on Sept. 9th by the Isezakicho Police. It appears that on Aug. 25th, a guest at the hotel, Mr. Hattori Shikajiro, handed to him *yen* 270 with which to purchase a first-class ticket for San Francisco. It is not specifically asserted that Kuragaki embezzled or stole the money but as he disappeared from the view of the intending traveller and has been in hiding since it may be concluded that he did not buy the ticket.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Sept. 8.

A transport carrying a thousand German troops reached Shanghai, and five hundred of them have landed there.

The China Association formed by the Germans in Shanghai is said to have telegraphed to Berlin a strong remonstrance against the unwisdom of evacuating Peking before the terms of peace have been settled.

A part of the German squadron has arrived at Woosung. It consists of three first-class cruisers and one despatch boat. Another first-class cruiser has gone to Kiaochow.

There is a rumour that Germany intends to land 2,000 men at Chefoo, and rumour says that the prospect has caused some excitement. We do not believe anything of the kind. Germany will probably distribute her forces between Shanghai, Kiao-chow and Tientsin. If Prince Ching, Viceroy Li and General Jung have really been appointed plenipotentiaries to negotiate peace, doubtless Tientsin will be the scene of the negotiations, unless the unhappy project of evacuating Peking be abandoned.

The Japanese are said to be withdrawing their artillery from Peking to Tientsin.

Lord Salisbury, it is said, has addressed a warm telegram of thanks to the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, praising the leading part played by Japan's troops in all the engagements, applauding the bravery shown by them, and acknowledging in earnest terms the service rendered to humanity by the rescue of the Peking community.

Monday, Sept. 10.

Rumour is now busy constructing statements of the reward that Russia is to get from China and the reward that Li is to get from Russia. It is premature to speculate on these things. Peace is not yet restored. And it is significant that England has ordered another brigade of troops from India. Many people were perplexed to understand what Germany meant by continuing her preparation for the despatch of a large force after receipt of news that Peking had been relieved. We ourselves saw no reason to be surprised. The relief of Peking did not end the Chinese crisis. At any rate, there is a marked difference between completing a programme already inaugurated and commencing a new programme. England does the latter when she orders additional troops from India to China at this stage

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We do not understand what our usually accurate contemporary the *Japan Times* means by saying that "the opinion of the press is divided on the subject of withdrawing the troops from Peking." Our own examination of the leading newspapers shows us one only in favour of withdrawal. That one is the *Nippon*, an eminently clever journal, but not conspicuous for the sobriety of its views as to foreign politics. We daresay that Mr. "Miyaki Setsurei" will presently enrich the columns of the *Nippon* with one of his bright and pungent articles on this subject, and we shall be greatly surprised if he endorses the opinion editorially advanced by the *Nippon*. But the hard fact is that the *Nippon* stands absolutely alone as an advocate of the policy recommended by Russia, and it can scarcely be said that "opinion is divided" when the contra has only one representative. Some of the other Tokyo journals admit that evacuation might be wise if certain conditions were attached, but the conditions make all the difference in the world.

We have expressed our ideas so clearly on this question of evacuation that we shall refrain from noticing the *Nippon's* arguments in detail. To one of them, however, attention must be drawn. Our contemporary says that the Chinese Court can hardly be expected to enter into peace negotiations while its capital is occupied by the enemy. Surely that is a wonderfully novel proposition. Why on earth, then, are the capitals of hostile Powers invariably made the objective point of an invading army? Does history furnish a single example of a conqueror withdrawing his troops from the enemy's capital before arranging the terms of a settlement?

The public would like to learn from the advocates of evacuation what guarantee there is that China would conclude a satisfactory peace after the evacuation of her capital: what guarantee that she would conclude peace at all. If she can not be brought into a reasonable mood by military pressure, will her mood become reasonable when the pressure is withdrawn? If so, it is not easy to see why force was employed at all.

A London telegram says that the Hon. J. Foster has been appointed United States Plenipotentiary to negotiate terms of peace. Mr. Foster has the highest qualifications for such a task, but it may be a little irksome for him to find himself discussing terms with Li Hung-chang, on whose behalf he acted so ably in 1895 at Bakan.

A telegram from Paris published by the *Shogyo Shimpo* attributes to M. Delcassé the view that the withdrawal of the Foreign Representatives and the allied forces from Peking may be undertaken at once, and that thereafter each Power should occupy some important position pending the conclusion of peace negotiateous That would be disunion with a vengeance. Short of the *fait accompli* it would be the nearest possible approach to the partition of China. We do not believe that M. Delcassé, who appears to be one of the astutest statesmen in Europe, has advanced any such theory.

It is reported that the Chinese Court, instead of pushing on to Si-an as was originally contemplated, will remain at Tai-yuen until the horizon either lightens or darkens definitely The whereabouts of the Court seems very hazy. One day we hear of an imperial edict issued from Tai-yuen, ordering the administrative officials to assemble there The next day we are told that the Emperor is in quite a different place.

A secret design is attributed to Germany. She is said to contemplate the seizure of some forts which we cannot identify in their transliterated guise. One would think that as the supposition of a secret understanding between Germany and Russia had been completely dispelled, the news-mongers would be careful about foisting fresh nonsense upon the public.

The ladies who suffered the pains of the Peking siege are beginning to arrive in Japan. The Japanese party's coming has been already reported, and the wives of the Russian and Italian Ministers are now said to have reached Nagasaki.

According to a report received from Lieut.-General Yamaguchi, dated the 3rd instant, Prince Ching reached Peking on that day. The Prince had intended to come earlier, but was prevented by bad roads and illness. It had been decided by the allied commanders that he should have an escort of Japanese troops, and that his own men should be deprived of their uniforms and arms on reaching the city. These measures were carried out under the direction of Lt.-Colonel Shiba, who commanded the escort. The Prince's family and suite numbered some 60 persons. He expressed himself pleased with the treatment given to him by the allies.

The Allies in Peking are patrolling the environs to a distance of 25 kilo. from their various posts. Order seems to have been completely restored, and the people are pursuing their avocations peacefully.

The Foreign Office in Tokyo has made public an imperial edict said to have been received by Li Hung-chang on the 28th of August. We have already alluded to this edict. Its exact terms are now known for the first time, however. They are very explicit. Li is authorized to conclude peace on whatever conditions he may consider advisable under the circumstances of the time. The Court declares that while the negotiations are in progress it will refrain from any attempt to interfere with them, but it calls upon the Viceroy to make a preliminary report embodying his ideas.

It is perhaps because the Viceroy awaits approval of this report, or possibly because he is engaged in compiling it, that his movements appear vacillating. Evidently to furnish such a report must be a matter of almost insuperable difficulty, for if Li attempts to convey to the Throne any idea, however, sketchy, of the terms he contemplates conceding, he may find that his calculations are wholly upset when he meets the foreign commissioners.

The answer made by the Japanese Government to Russia's proposal for the immediate evacuation of Peking seems to be of a somewhat indefinite character. Japan declares that she has no objection to withdraw her Minister, and that she is prepared to adopt, in connexion with such withdrawal, whatever steps may seem advisable in the opinion of the concerted Powers. But as to withdrawal of the troops, she confines her expression of assent to such portion of them as may be considered superfluous, and she accompanies even this qualified concession by an explanation that in making it it she has regard to her geographical position, which enables her at any moment to take prompt military action. The practical upshot of this programme, if it is carried out, would be, we presume, the withdrawal of one brigade, which would leave a force of 8,000 to 10,000 still in Peking, or distributed between Peking and Tientsin. It is obvious that if Germany, England and America supplied equal contingents, there would be in Peking an allied force of amply sufficient size to meet all emergencies. Meanwhile there are rumours that Russia's evacuation of Peking will be contrived so as to leave her still in a strong military position in Chili.

Tuesday, Sept. 11.

The *Jiji* publishes a strange statement from Shanghai, namely, that the Russian authorities have appropriated a quantity of timber at Tongku, belonging to the Anglo-Chinese Syndicate, and are transporting it to Port Arthur despite the remonstrances of the Syndicate. We can not think that the whole story is comprised in that version.

It would seem that the evacuation of

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Peking may possibly be made a condition of the peace programme. That is a very probable issue if the negotiations proceed rapidly, and the withdrawal of the troops is delayed on one pretext or another. It looks very much as though Lord Salisbury's policy was to trust to time, He is evidently in no hurry to give practical endorsement to Russia's proposition, whereas the Chinese are evidently in a hurry to negotiate for peace. If the peace plenipotentiaries meet and commence their negotiations before the troops are withdrawn, then we may confidently expect that the withdrawal will be used as a lever to obtain good terms. Prince Ching's arrival in Peking is obviously for the purpose of commencing negotiations, and his coming disposes completely of one proposition advanced by the advocates of evacuation, namely, that so long as her capital was held by foreign troops, China could not re-organize her administration sufficiently to appoint plenipotentiary commissioners.

The question now is why does Li Hung-chang linger at Shanghai in spite of Prince Ching's arrival in Peking. Ching is said to bear the imperial seal, which fact, if it be trustworthy, would be a conclusive proof of the plenipotentiary character of the commissioners. One reason assigned for Li Hung-chang's hesitation is that the commission appointing him does not bear the signatures of Prince Twan and General Kang Yi. But it is plain that an imperfection in the commission would affect Prince Ching equally with Viceroy Li. Yet Ching has proceeded to Peking, and would have reached that city earlier had he not been prevented by illness. It appears to us that another and a more subtle reason may be assigned for Li's delay, namely, his desire to see the allied troops withdrawn unconditionally from Peking, or his hope that the question of withdrawal may induce among the Powers complications which will materially strengthen China's hand. There can be no second opinion, we think, that by proposing the immediate evacuation of Peking, Russia has greatly impaired the prospect of a speedy and satisfactory peace. She has virtually informed China that the Allies dare not trust themselves to undertake any extensive programme, and she has further supplied to the Chinese a striking indication of the slenderness of the bond binding the Allies together. If Li Hung-chang be an astute statesman, and he certainly bears that character, his cue will be to place obstacles in the path of the negotiations until the Allies leave Peking. Apart from all the advantageous contingencies connected with a policy of delay, he owes it to his friend, Russia, to show that some basis exists for her proposal, and that so long as the troops remain in Peking, China can not put her house sufficiently in order to comply with the requirements of responsible peace negotiations. We shall be very much surprised if Li shows any alacrity.

America's proposed compromise is not a compromise at all. It means that the Allies would still remain in military possession of Peking. Their force would be reduced, it is true. But it would not be reduced to the dimensions of a mere Legation guard. We may be sure of that. It would retain the dimensions of an army of occupation, whether five thousand or ten thousand men And further, the communications between that force and the army in Tientsin would be so fully established that for all practical purposes Peking would be held by the Allies. There is nothing conjectural in this. If any force is to remain in Peking, all due military precautions must be taken to guard, in the first place, against the possibility of its being overwhelmed in a sudden crisis, and, in the second, against the peril of its being isolated. Thus, in effect, Peking would still remain in the hands of the allied troops. Russia may agree to that. She may be willing to escape a fiasco by recourse to a mere arithmetical compromise. But it would not be a compromise of any practical value from her point of view.

Rumours continue to be circulated about designs on Germany's part to possess herself of some favourable base of operations by way of preliminary to future doings in China. The *Asahi* publishes a report that the Chinese Representative in Berlin has secretly informed his Government of a German intention to land troops at Chinkiang on the Yangtsze, and at some point on the coast of Kangsi. We regard these stories as pure inventions.

It is stated that the Chinese flag has been restored to its old place above the Customs buildings at Newchwang.

Wednesday, Sept. 12.

Reports have been received in Tokyo from many quarters that Russian troops have engaged the Chinese at Peh-tang and Lutai, and have obtained command of that section of the Shan-hai-kwan Railway. Two railways meet at Tong-ku on the Peiho. One is the road to Tientsin and Peking; the other the line to Newchwang via Shan-hai-kwan. Russia may now be said to command both these lines, since in the case of the former she has the Tongku-Tientsin section in her hands, and in the case of the latter, the two terminal sections. The Tongku-Lutai Railway is the oldest in China, having been built for the purpose of establishing communications with the Kaiping coal mines.

It is reported that 500 Italian troops have landed at Shanghai.

There is a very singular rumour to the effect that Viceroy Liu has asked the British authorities to send troops to the Yangtze Valley, as he apprehends an attack by the Germans. Such a story is in consonance with the various canards now on the wing.

A telegram from Shanghai says that Li Hung-chang has postponed his journey to the north. We are not surprised to hear it. He would be greatly wanting in acumen if he hastened his movements in any way. Russia has created a situation in China such that the advantage of delay seems to be all on China's side. Things could not have been worse for her than they were immediately after the capture of Peking. The prospect is incomparably brighter for her now that Russia has thrown the apple of discord into the council of the allies, and a further delay of three weeks or a month may improve the situation still more.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a very circumstantial but not very credible telegram which says that immediately on his arrival in Peking, Prince Ching attended a meeting of the Foreign Representatives. The Russian Minister opened the meeting by saying that, as he had received instructions from his Government to withdraw from Peking, he did not feel justified in taking any part in the proceedings. The German Chargé d'Affaires followed with an explanation that since the newly appointed Minister was *en route* for Peking, he, the Chargé, could not take any responsibility. The meeting thereupon adjourned. We can not reconcile that statement with the telegram published by the Tokyo Foreign Office on the 10th, to the effect that Prince Ching arrived in Peking on the 3rd, and that he was expected to call on the Foreign Representatives in a few days. Neither can we understand in what capacity the Prince could have attended a meeting of the Foreign Representatives. The *Shogyo's* information is generally excellent, but we suspect that in this case its correspondent drank from the fountain of Shanghai inspiration

Shanghai informs the public that though the Russian troops have not yet evacuated Peking, the Russian Minister has certainly retired to Tientsin, where he will meet Li Hung-chang before the latter seeks a conference with any of the other Foreign Ministers. Nothing is easier than to manufacture forecasts of this nature, but the wily Li Hung-chang has not yet reached Tientsin.

A telegram to the *Chiuo* avers that Prince Ching's instructions are to confer with the Foreign Representatives not collectively but individually. If the Prince can manage that, the chances of a settlement will be much improved. It is difficult to conceive any body of negotiators less likely to fall into line than a conference composed of the Ministers of all the Foreign Powers.

Thursday, Sept. 13.

Intelligence begins to arrive from various quarters that Russia is increasing her forces in Chili. The *Jiji Shimpo* has a telegram which seems to have been mutilated in transmission. It suggests that Russia, in spite of her proposal for the evacuation of Peking, is adding largely to her troops there. That, surely, is incredible. We shall not be surprised to learn that Russia sends more men to Chili and posts them between Shanhai-kwan, Taku and Tientsin, but it can not be supposed that she is increasing her garrison in Peking at this moment. How greatly the public mind would be relieved if the manufactory from which all these canards emanate could be closed for a time!

Prince Ching called on the Foreign Representatives on the 6th instant. He was escorted by Japanese cavalry. It need scarcely be again observed that there can be no truth in the report of a conference having been held between the Representatives and Prince Ching, at which the Russian and German Ministers declared themselves unprepared to act. Prince Ching will certainly attend no conference until he is accompanied by Li Hung-chang. The rumour that a conference had been held was doubtless an erroneous rendering of Prince Ching's visit to the several Ministers on the 6th.

The allies are evidently employing as much tact as possible in their dealings with the Chinese. Prince Ching, when making his round of visits to the Foreign Representatives, was accompanied by an escort of 30 men of the Eight Banners cavalry, and by a party of Japanese officers. Had a foreign escort alone been provided, the Chinese inhabitants of Peking must have assumed that the Prince was a prisoner, and the Prince himself would have had a similar feeling. But a body of Japanese officers doubtless presented the appearance of a guard of honour only in the presence of the escort of Chinese cavalrymen.

If the Chinese reflect seriously, they must be struck by the contrast between the treatment Prince Ching receives at the hands of the Allies and the treatment the Foreign

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Representatives received at the hands of the Government of which Prince Ching was a member. It does not seem to have occurred to them that Prince Ching could be in any danger though he repaired to a city actually in the possession of foreign troops.

There is a report that Governor Yuen and the Customs Taotai of Tientsin are adopting vigorous measures against the Boxers, and that the mystical invulnerability of these poor misguided folks is proving very mythical. The Boxers are out of favour just now.

The *Chugai Shogyo* publishes a telegram to the effect that the Emperor of Germany has given most explicit assurances to the British Ambassador in Berlin that under no circumstances will Germany interfere with England in the Yangtsze Valley, that she will not land troops there, and that unless England seeks her assistance, she will not take any military step. The Emperor may have considered it expedient to make this declaration, but we imagine that sober-minded people paid very little attention to the reports which credited Germany with secret designs against that district of China. Shanghai continues to ventilate such reports, but they fall flat.

Rumour says that Austria's reply to Russia's proposal for the evacuation of Peking is that Austria's forces in China having been already placed under the command of Field-Marshal Waldersee, it is impossible for her to agree to Russia's suggestion.

Russia's military operations in Manchuria continue. Her troops are now said to have received orders to march against Mukden and Kirin. These movements must entail great expenditures, which will doubtless be added to the bill presently submitted to China.

Friday, Sept. 14.

It was of course to be understood that pending the settlement of Russia's proposal for the evacuation of Peking, her Minister would not be prepared to take part in the peace negotiations, especially if they were held in Peking. In fact, it is stated by telegram that M. de Giers has already left Peking for Tientsin. The German Chargé d'Affaires, also, must await the arrival of the newly appointed Minister, but that is only a very temporary delay. Russia is the great and serious difficulty. Unless some compromise can be effected, we do not see how the negotiations can proceed. Russia and France will not take part in them while Peking is in military occupation by the Allies, and it looks as though England and Germany would not take part in them if the programme of evacuating Peking unconditionally were insisted on. We have already expressed the opinion that Russia's action has not only deferred the discussion of peace terms but has also greatly enhanced the difficulty of a satisfactory settlement. There is now talk of holding the conference in Europe. It would be difficult to get China to agree to that, we imagine.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has a London telegram which attributes to Lord Salisbury a laconic and very decided answer to the Russian proposal. The English Minister is said to have replied that with a view to the restoration of peace and good order in China, it was too soon to think of evacuating Peking. This story is scarcely credible. Lord Salisbury, as the telegraph recently told us, had decided not to give any final answer until he had received a report from Sir Claude MacDonald, and the latter has not had time, we imagine, to make such a report. However, it is becoming daily more evident that Great Britain does not intend to retire. She shows wise statesmanship, we venture to think, and if the issue of her resolve should be to convict her of ignorance of Chinese affairs as compared with Russia's knowledge, a suggestion made by a Tokyo contemporary, we shall be very much surprised.

General Jung Lu is said by some people to be at Paoting-fu, where he assists in expediting communications between Peking and the Imperial Court. It will be seen, however, by the Saigon intelligence which we publish this morning, that the Allies were to send an expedition against Paoting on the 7th instant. If that resolve was carried out, General Jung has probably been obliged to betake himself elsewhere.

This expedition to Paoting is, in one sense, a curious incident. Paoting lies nearly due south of Peking at a distance of 88 miles, and is connected with the latter by rail. Being the capital of Chili, it is a place of considerable importance, and if the Chinese Minister of War has retreated thither with a large portion of the troops which opposed the Allies' advance from Tientsin, it is quite natural that steps should be taken to reduce the town. But of what elements does the "international expedition" consist? Does it include Russian and French contingents? Probably it does. We can not readily assume that the combination between the Allies has already been dislocated so far as to cause the abstention of Russia and France from such an expedition. On the other hand, if those Powers still hold to their policy of evacuating Peking, how are we to understand their pushing still further a-field? It will probably suggest itself to our readers that the Paoting-fu expedition is a myth. That is what we are disposed to think. It is as far from Peking to Paoting as from Tientsin to Peking, and an expedition of the kind in question would not be lightly undertaken. We cherish the hope, however, that the news is true and that Russian and French troops form part of the expeditionary force.

Tranquillity having been completely re-established in Amoy, it is reported that the men-of-war hitherto stationed there are gradually withdrawing. There was quite a squadron—4 Japanese ships, 1 French, 1 English, 1 American and 1 German. It must appear to casual readers when they peruse this list, that the business of watching each other gives the Allies as much trouble as the business of watching the Chinese insurgents.

It is stated that a small force consisting of Japanese and Italian troops left Tientsin on the 9th instant to disperse a body of Boxers near Tsing-hai, a place on the south-west of Tientsin. The Japanese numbered 230 infantry and 2 sections of artillery.

PARADING THE FORBIDDEN CITY.

Some amusing accounts are published in Tokyo papers—especially the *Yomiuri*—about events in Peking after the capture of the city by the allies. The grand parade of troops through the Imperial City is said to have been proposed by the Russians and strongly opposed by the Japanese, who could not conceive any advantage to be gained by such an idle display, and who felt assured that it would greatly offend the Chinese. However, as the other commanding officers were induced to agree, the Japanese ultimately fell in with the project. Then arose the question of order. The Russians offered to let the Japanese march at the head of the column, provided that the chief command was given to the Russian General. Baron Yamaguchi replied that both matters were completely indifferent to him, and that the Russians might not only march in the van but also command the parade, if they pleased. They did please.

The Imperial City proved to be a magnificent place. One correspondent declares it worthy to be called the capital of the world, but he does not give any definite reasons for that verdict except a vague statement of splendid stuffs, glowing colours, glittering tiles, and so on. Great commiseration was felt by the Japanese when they observed the dejected mien of the few Chinese officials and guards that remained in the palace.

The appearance of the troops is much commented on. The Russians looked particularly huge. They carried heavy rifles with long bayonets; they swaggered in a manner appropriate to their bulk, and they wore uniforms baggy enough to permit the fobbing of two or three bottles of beer. In fact, they represented in their own persons and ways a big country. The Indian troops presented a grand appearance in their picturesque uniforms and with their lofty stature. Meanest and most contemptible looking of all were the Japanese, with their dirty be-drabbled white clothes and their stunted stature.

The *Yomiuri's* correspondent says that for all the concert of Powers, it was easy to see in the field that two separate alliances existed, a Franco-Russian and an Anglo-American-Japanese. This was vividly illustrated as the column emerged from the Imperial city. The Russians, who were in the van, ranged themselves on each side of the street beyond the gate. They suffered all the other troops to pass unnoticed until the French came, when vehement embracings, handshakings and vociferations ensued. The demonstration was so marked that it disturbed the calm of the English, Americans and Japanese, who, by way of response, repaired to the American encampment and had a jollification on their own account.

THE SPECIE BANK.

The Specie Bank held its half-yearly meeting on the 10th instant, and the following report was adopted:—

	Yen.
Gross Profits	6,243,618
Brought over from last account	349,501
	6,593,119
Expenses, &c.	4,964,722
	1,528,347
To Reserves	130,000
„ Dividends	985,150
„ next account	163,691

Mr. Soma, the President, in his speech when presenting the report, noted that although there had not been any diminution of the export trade during the past half year, there had been a remarkable increase of imports, greatly disturbing the balance. The excess of imports over exports had been 68 million *yen*, and there had been an outflow of specie amounting to 26 millions.

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THE JAPANESE LADIES IN PEKING.

Saturday, Sept. 8.

The ladies of the Japanese community in Peking have reached Tokyo. There are five ladies and three maids. We do not suppose that they will take any notice of the charges preferred against them by certain newspaper correspondents, but it may be noted here that the failure of some of the ladies to act as nurses is fully explained, since they were either sick or had little children to look after. Baroness Nishi had been confined to a sick bed for some weeks before the terrors and privations of the siege supervened to still further prostrate her. Madame Narabara, after nursing her wounded husband and finally burying him, had to care for two little children. Madame Ishii was similarly cumbered with two children, and it need scarcely be said that during such a time of trial and semi-starvation small children occupied the full attention of their mothers. The remaining two ladies, Madame Nakagawa and Madame Ogawa, according to Madame Narabara's statement, spent their whole time making bandages, loading cartridges, filling sand-bags and nursing the sick. This account seems tolerably full. We fail to see where there is any room for the accusations preferred by the yellow journal of Tokyo and some of its *confrères*.

Monday, Sept. 10.

Miss MacDonald, daughter of Her Majesty's Representative in Peking, has granted an interview to a member of the *Asahi's* staff. She says that it would be impossible to describe the feelings of the ladies when they found that, in consequence of the murder of Baron von Ketteler, they were to remain in Peking in the very midst of a hostile population. They all then and there solemnly agreed among themselves that they would die rather than fall into the hands of the Chinese. Very often the enemy's shells and bullets pierced the walls of the Legation and imperilled the lives of the ladies. But their most terrible moment was when Prince Shû's *yamên* caught fire. They then believed that all was over, for if the Boxers had gained possession of Shû's *yamên* it would have been impossible to defend the British Legation any longer. The defenders fought splendidly. That was to have been expected of the marines, but what attracted special attention was the valour of the volunteers, particularly the Japanese. The Chinese assailants may have been poor fighters, but to the ladies it seemed that the courage and energy of the defenders were the real factors of safety. Mr. Murai, the *Asahi's* correspondent, won universal praise, not only for his activity in the defence but also for his unfailing cheerfulness. Miss MacDonald speaks in most feeling turns of Mrs. Narabara, whose husband died of his wounds. When the fire of the Chinese slackened, the beleaguered folks organized a social entertainment to keep up their spirits, and feasted upon the water-melons sent by the Empress-Dowager, no other kind of food or drink being available.

Tuesday, Sept. 11.

Baroness Nishi, interviewed by a representative of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, has shown a little gentle resentment in consequence of the wholly unjustified attacks to which her country women have been subjected by yellow journalists and sensational newsmongers. She says, or is reported to have said, that many of the foreign ladies showed great courage and activity during the siege, and that in vigorous usefulness the Japanese must yield the palm to them. But there were others who did not command so much admiration. When the enemy relaxed the attack, these ladies would appear in the garden and behave just as if the situation presented no unusual features. But so soon as the firing recommenced, their demonstrations of solicitude and alarm were quite striking, and they would cling to their husbands in a manner not at all calculated to promote the latter's military efficiency, Baroness Nishi arrives at the sensible conclusion that the difference between Japanese women and foreign women in these matters is that the former are trained not to exhibit their feelings by violent gestures or expressions, whereas the latter do not put any such restraint on themselves. Certainly that is true. We have all observed it. In fact, it has betrayed many observers into the erroneous inference that the Japanese are deficient in natural feeling.

THE SOCIAL-EVIL QUESTION.

Saturday, Sept. 8.

The Police Authorities have made important changes in the regulations relating to houses of ill-fame. Hitherto when a girl desired to give up her unhappy profession, she was required to send in a petition bearing the signature of her employer or his legal representative. That condition was fatal in practice, for if the employer wanted to retain the services of the girl, as he generally did, he had only to refuse his signature. The new regulation directs him to append his signature, and further provides that, in the event of his refusing to do so, the petition may be forwarded without his signature. In the latter case, however, the petitioner is required to state that the signature has been refused and also to set forth the alleged reasons for its refusal. It will be seen that, by these changes, a girl is enabled under all circumstances, to obtain an official hearing for her application.

Another important change relates to the liberty granted to the girls. Under the old regulations they were never permitted to leave the precincts of the *Yoshiwara* except in case of the death, illness, &c, of a near relative, and if they desired to walk within the enclosure they had to be accompanied by a species of guard. It need scarcely be said that in the former case also a guard was added. The amended regulations allow free movement within the enclosure without an attendant, and further provide that if a girl desires to leave the enclosure, she has only to obtain a permit from the police. Apparently in the latter event no reason need be assigned, nor is any attendant attached. These changes are radical. The old system evidently resulted in something very like slavery. It was not founded, however, on any such purpose. The idea of its framers was that the social evil should be confined within the narrowest possible limits, and that the girls should not be allowed to go abroad into the streets. But the measures adopted for purposes of wholesome restriction have led to the still greater abuse of reducing the women to the position of slaves. Hence the present modifications. We may be permitted to hope that the ultimate effect of the new system will not be to disfigure the streets of Tokyo by scenes such as are witnessed in too many Occidental capitals.

On the same day when the *Niroku Shimbun* and Miss Ayaginu's complication was occurring at the Asakusa Yoshiwara in Tokyo, two officers of the Salvation Army, seeking to gain access to the prostitute quarter in the Susaki suburb, were roughly handled. The Salvation Army had received a letter of entreaty from a girl called Misao in the Kaimeiro. In response to it Major Druce and another officer proceeded to Susaki. Apprehending trouble, they asked the police to summon the girl for interrogation. That, of course, being impossible, the police declined, but sent a constable with the Salvation officers. The latter went to the Kaimeiro, but were induced to postpone seeing the girl until the following morning as the hour was then late. Immediately on emerging from the Kaimeiro an assault was attempted but it failed owing to the activity of the police. The two officers remained for some time at the police station, and were then escorted homeward by six constables. *En route* they were vehemently attacked and received a somewhat severe beating before the police succeeded in restoring ordered and arresting the ringleaders.

The proprietors of brothels are naturally much excited. They are said to be holding meetings and organizing all kinds of measures. The proprietors of the 260 houses in the Asakusa Yoshiwara claim that they have lent 650,000 *yen* to the 3,200 *joro* in their establishments, and they want to know how they are to recover their money.

Monday, Sept. 10.

The roughs who assaulted Major Duce of the Salvation Army and his companion have been sentenced to 10 days' detention, and those that assaulted the *Niroku Shimbun's* representative to 7 days. Meanwhile another member of the Salvation Army, by name Hayashi Mataichiro, was severely assaulted on the 7th instant, as he passed the neighbourhood of the Yoshiwara. The police warned him that his uniform would probably provoke attack, but he explained that he was on business quite unconnected with the burning question. A constable then escorted him, but they were set upon by 20 or 30 roughs, and Mr. Hayashi was dragged from a wood-store whither he had fled and badly beaten. We say "badly beaten" because the vernacular newspapers use that expression, but it is evident from the sentences passed on the assailants of Major Duce and the *Niroku* editor that the injuries suffered in these encounters were trifling. Intimidation rather than injury seems to be the object of the assailants. Be that as it may, there is evidently great excitement among those who gain their livelihood in connexion with licensed prostitution, and it appears probable that the efforts of the police to preserve order may not be altogether successful. The *Mainichi Shimbun* is conspicuous for its writing on the subject. It devotes whole columns day after day to denouncing the system, but we are bound to say that its zeal seems to be stronger than its judgment. The *Asahi Shimbun* has a caricature which is certainly good fooling though it will hurt the zealots. The Salvation Army and the *Niroku Shimbun* are depicted as "the Allied forces" and the brothel keepers and roughs as "Boxers," and the engagements that have taken place are described in terms which vividly recall the advance of the Allies against Peking, even the names of places being rendered according to the Chinese sounds of their ideographs. We read in the *Mainichi* that Major Duce and his companion were to pay another visit to the Kaisei-ro on the 9th instant, and that a serious disturbance was anticipated. Is not that pushing matters a little too far? The police have made radical changes in the regulations. We should think that the duty of the reformers is to await

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the results of those changes instead of forcing a situation which abounds in elements of disturbance. *Apropos* this subject, the *Jiji Shimpo* publishes the latest statistics as to the number of *joro-ya* and *joro* in Tokyo :—

	Women.	Houses.
Yoshiwara	2,935	168
Susaki	1,775	121
Shinagawa	659	60
Shinjuku	530	59
Itabashi	227	14
Senju	432	36
Hachioji	167	Uncertain
Fuchu	53	"
Chota	57	"
	6,835	458

Some of our readers may remember a discussion that took place in these columns three years ago, when certain missionaries made public statements with reference to the number of prostitutes in Japan. We found their figures greatly exaggerated, but they declined to accept our correction. We invite their attention to the above statistics.

Tuesday, Sept. 11.

The Yoshiwara roughs made a visit on Sunday to the head-quarters of the Salvation Army and subsequently to the residence of Major Duce, their object being to recover possession of the documents relating to the release of one of the *joro*. They would probably have proceeded to take violent measures, but happily the police managed to control them effectually.

Such is the excitement in the Susaki quarter that to mention the question of releasing a *joro* is to incur the risk of a beating. One incautious youth, half in jest, offered to convey a girl's application to the office of the *Niroku Shumbun*, and the next incident in his career was to find himself, with a broken head and without any garments, in a police-station. In the Shinjuku quarter a still worse disturbance occurred on Sunday, but it ended in one of the roughs being mistaken for an emissary of the Salvation Army, and getting a terrible beating. From Yokosuka, Hachioji and Yokohama also comes news of commotions. Altogether a state of serious unrest has been produced.

Wednesday, Sept. 12.

The emissaries of the brothels have wreaked their vengeance upon the *Shin Nippon*, which has been a conspicuous advocate of the *haisho-ron*. They invaded the premises of the newspaper; smashed everything breakable, beat the employés and had a general walk-round. The police did not arrive in time to make any arrests. These gentry were understood to have planned a similar raid upon the office of the *Mainichi Shumbun* in Ginza, but the police took measures to guard the latter, and the scheme did not mature. The *haisho-ron* folks have certainly sown a storm.

KOREA.

The unhappy Korean capital is again disturbed by political complications. Several arrests are reported. How long Korea will continue to be a menace to the peace of the East is a curious question. She certainly does not owe her independence to any merits of her own.

A report has been received that seven Russian railway engineers working beyond the Korean border were attacked by the Chinese, and that three of them were killed, the rest escaping to Wi-ju, whence they were sent to Chunnanpho.

JAPAN AND AMOY.

Saturday, Sept. 8.

The *N-C. Daily News* and the *Hongkong Daily Press* both given currency to a statement, doubtless from the same correspondent, to the effect that the burning of the Amoy branch of the Hongwan-ji was purposely contrived by the Japanese in order to furnish a pretext for landing troops. This correspondent is particularly astute in his communication to the Shanghai journal, for he says that the incendiarism was partly because the temple was in debt and partly because a political pretext was needed. He might at least have chosen one reason or the other, for it is imposing too heavy a burden on public credulity to ask people to believe that the Japanese Government entered into collusion with some priests in a project of committing arson to cloak the latter's debts We can not doubt that our contemporaries' correspondent is the person who, from time to time, has penned extraordinary accounts of Japanese doings in Formosa. Gentry of that class need only be given time—they show the cloven hoof inevitably in the long run. The incident reminds us of a story recently told of the Boers. Somebody asked an old Boer how his countrymen could reconcile themselves to such hypocrisy as to rise from prayers to take part in horse-stealing. After a moment's reflection the Boer replied :—"You are worse, for you steal the horses and don't say any prayers." The Japanese may be disposed to retort in this case :—"You land troops at Shanghai and yet you haven't had any temples burned." It is impossible to be more miserably suspicious than are some of the writers in Far-Eastern journals. The exposure they make of their own moral natures is very pitiable.

Monday, Sept. 10.

The state of affairs at Amoy is said to be getting worse. A telegram to the *Chino Shimbun* alleges that arms and ammunition for the Chinese are being secretly imported from Hongkong, and that unless the Chinese Authorities interfere, the whole adult male population will soon be armed, or at least such of them as can afford to buy a repeating rifle for 35 dollars. This may be an exaggeration, but it must have some substratum of truth. Should there be any disturbance at Amoy, the public will doubtless be informed by correspondents who see everything through the mist of their own prejudices, that it is all because Japan landed men there. Nothing can be more comical that the actions into which the Powers are betrayed by their mutual jealousies. One of them sees, or thinks that it sees, good and sufficient reason to land a body of men at some particular place for the protection of its nationals' lives and properties. The others at once cry out "Oh! if you do that, the Chinese will give trouble and the present precarious tranquillity will be disturbed." The Power in question takes this perilous step in spite of their remonstrances, whereupon all the rest hasten to follow its example It is like a party of urchins who have just sufficient morality to behave themselves decently until one of their number breaks out, whereat all the others run to join in the sin, exclaiming the while against its naughtiness.

The Chinese Authorities are reported to be increasing their forces at Amoy and getting the armament of the forts into good order. There are now 2,500 Chinese soldiers there.

A detailed account is published of the burning of the Hongwan-ji branch at Amoy, but we learn nothing from it except that two of the priests were absent, and that the third, with an attendant, had retired to rest when they were disturbed at midnight by the crackling of flames. In making their escape they found a Chinese mob at the back, one of whom wounded the attendant slightly. The affair does not seem to have caused any commotion among the foreign residents. The conflagration happened on the 24th of August. A party of marines were at once landed from the Japanese ships in harbour, but these were withdrawn on the 30th. With regard to the projected landing of soldiers, it appears that a force was actually assembled at Taipeh on the 27th, and that it embarked for the purpose of proceeding to Amoy, but its despatch was countermanded at the last moment, and the troops returned to their quarters.

The *Jimmin* publishes a facsimile of the proclamation placarded by the Boxers in Amoy. The document sets out by claiming supernatural gifts for the Boxers: they are invulnerable to sword or bullet; they can ride upon the clouds and bestride the storm. They number several millions, and they are determined to expel the intolerable foreigner. Meanwhile the moment is opportune for recovering possession of Formosa, the alienation of which fair island from China's dominions has angered heaven and humanity. From this grand climax the millions of invulnerable Boxers descend to the puerility of inviting a few of their vulnerable countrymen to aid them in driving out the Japanese.

How will the Amoy correspondent of the Hongkong and Shanghai newspapers account for this proclamation? Will he say that it was composed by the Buddhist priests before they set fire to their temple

A telegram from Amoy published by the *Chino Shimbun*, says that the officers commanding the British and Japanese ships at that place accepted an invitation from the Taotai to visit and inspect the preparations he had made against possible disturbance. The two officers found that a thoroughly satisfactory system had been established.

A TALL ORDER.

The leading Shanghai journal lays out a remarkable programme for Field Marshal Waldersee when he arrives in the East "To every city, every town, and every village" in Shantung, Pechili, Shansi and Honan he is to send "a body of foreign troops who should be instructed to take exemplary vengeance upon all and sundry who are found to have been guilty of inhumanity in any shape—those in authority especially Those, on the contrary, who offered only the proverbial cup of cold water to our perishing friends should in no wise lose their reward." No doubt that would be very satisfactory were it within even the most distant range of human possibility But surely no one imagines for a moment that Occidental Powers will put their hands to such a task? It would mean nothing more or less than a series of massacres. By no possibility could any foreign machinery be devised and operated for sifting the guilty from the innocent in the interior of China. The undertaking would be hopeless. Yet how hard it is for human beings to reconcile themselves to the scathless escape of the brutalized people who have murdered our unfortunate countrymen and countrywomen without mercy!

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A NEW ASSOCIATION.

A new association has been formed in Tokyo. It is called the *Kokumin Daidomei-kai* (Great National Union), and among its promoters are the names of Prince Konoye, Counts Shimazu and Satake, Viscounts Matsudaira, Honda and Nagaoka, Baron Date, Major-General Sato, Messrs. Sasa, Kommuchi, Saito Shuichiro, Kuga, &c. It seems to be composed of men from both the *Toa Dobun-kai* (Oriental Common-literature Society) and the *Shina Kiyokai* (Chinese Association). The first meeting, for purposes of organization, was held on the 11th instant, when a manifesto, couched in very strong language, was read and approved. It is unnecessary to translate the document in full. Its purport is that while the object of the Powers is to restore tranquillity in the East, Russia's military proceedings in Manchuria constitute an element of danger in the situation, and remove it from the realm of calm diplomacy. Further the condition of Manchuria reacts upon Korea so that, at any moment, that empire may be thrown into a state of confusion. The main objects of Japan's foreign policy are to preserve the integrity of China and to maintain the independence of Korea. The time has come when she must follow these objects unflinchingly, making them publicly her own, and not shrinking from the consequences of pursuing them, whatever those consequences may be. The Great National Union is formed without respect to distinctions of party or of official and private. Its purpose is to support the Government in attaining the ends for which Japan fought five years ago, and to unite public opinion in the cause of the country's best interests. This association is generally regarded as a demonstration against Russia, and undoubtedly its manifesto implies very clearly that Russia's doings in Manchuria are regarded as incompatible with the restoration of tranquillity, and with the maintenance of China's integrity and Korea's independence.

The meeting was practically unanimous. Only one dissentient voice was raised; that of an editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, Mr. Ishikawa Yasujiro. This is the gentleman who followed the military operations in Chili, and wrote some scathing articles in denunciation of barbarities alleged to have been perpetrated by Russian troops. He stood up in the meeting and asked whether it was to be understood that when the manifesto spoke of pursuing the national purpose whatever might be the consequences, war was included in these consequences. "Certainly" was the chairman's laconic answer. "Then" said Mr. Ishikawa "I oppose the manifesto." "This association," retorted Prince Konoye, "does not seek the cōoperation of those that oppose it." Whereupon Mr. Ishikawa left the meeting. We presume that he is one of the peace-at-any-price party. His question was injudicious and unnecessary. There could only be one answer, for however anxious a nation may be to attain its purposes peacefully, it has no chance of attaining them at all if it declares itself resolved not to fight for them.

RUSSIA IN PEKING.

The question of the action taken by the Russian troops at Peking continues to be discussed. It has been brought again upon the *tapis* by the publication of a probably incorrect version of the Russian General's report, and by the erroneous statements of the Port Arthur newspaper. The Peking correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* now enters the field. He avers that so long as the campaign was in progress, it seemed advisable to make no reference to this affair, but he no longer hesitates in view of the misleading story now published. According to him, the plan of attack was mapped out by the allied Commanders in Tungchow on the night of the 12th, and there was no idea of delivering the final assault until the morning of the 14th. (We have always understood that the 15th was the day). The Japanese were to attack the two gates on the eastern face of the Tartar City, and the Russians, English, Americans, &c., were to operate further south. At noon on the 13th, when the allied forces had reached a point mid-way between Tungchow and Peking, the Russians, under pretence of making a reconnoissance, sent forward two companies and made a strong attack on the Tung-pien Gate. It was raining heavily at the time, and the Russians probably expected that the state of the weather would help them to surprise the Chinese, from whom, at any rate, they did not expect a stout resistance. The sequel is known. For our own part, we think that the less said about this matter the better. It was really a very venial sin on the part of the Russians to make a rush for the first place. That kind of thing has happened again and again where forces of mixed nationalities were in the field, and if the Russians had succeeded, the laugh and the glory would have been all on their side. They did not succeed. They lost many brave fellows, and the punishment—if we may use such a term—fell entirely upon them. Had their eagerness jeopardized the safety of their allies or seriously dislocated the plan of campaign, there might be more to say, but the fact is that they took a bold risk and were the only people to suffer. If they had got through and relieved the Legations on the night of the 13th while the rest of the allied forces were preparing to attack, would the latter have ventured to complain that a march had been stolen on them? As for the Port Arthur newspaper, the *Nichi Nichi's* explanation is probably correct: the Russian correspondent saw with his ears and not with his eyes. And as for the rumour that the Russian General's despatches deliberately misrepresent things, we regard it as absolutely unworthy of credence. No Russian officer would be guilty of such action.

MARQUIS ITO.

We do indeed most unequivocally agree with the *Japan Times* that no necessity whatever exists for Marquis Ito's resignation of the duties he has been discharging on behalf of the Imperial Family. Our contemporary seems disposed to set up a distinction to the effect that the posts now resigned by Marquis Ito are not official. We go further. We say that though they were a hundred times official there is no valid reason why they should not be held by the leader of a political party. When is the monstrous doctrine to be abandoned in Japan that membership or leadership of a political party constitutes a kind of bar sinister disqualifying a man for office? The theory is preposterous, and the men that hold it must be regarded simply as uninstructed fossils No one has any right to put such a stigma upon political parties, and it is very much against the public interest, for the sooner that political parties can be placed on a really honourable footing the better for the country.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Captain Hiraoka, who followed the British operations in South Africa, has returned to Tokyo. It would be interesting to see his report but of course that pleasure will be denied to the public.

According to a statement made by the chief engineer of the *Futami Maru*, she ran ashore at midnight on the 17th of August during a storm of wind and rain so thick that a man could scarcely see his own hand. There were 27 first-class passengers, 5 second-class, and 33 third-class, all of whom were safely landed. The vessel sunk in a few hours. The passengers and crew spent six days encamped at the scene, and were then taken off by a steamer bound for Hongkong. It says much for the discipline of the crew and the management of the officers that no loss of life took place under such circumstances. The mails were saved, as were also boxes of specie containing 300,000 *yen*. There were a number of women. They escaped, for the most part, without any clothing except what they wore. The captain is undergoing examination at Manila. It appears that when the shipwrecked people left the place, only a small portion of the *Futami's* bow was above water.

The electric railway from Odawara to Kozu and Yumoto is likely to be extended to Kiga. Two companies have been competing for the privilege of making a line to what are called the Seven Spas of Hakone, but they have adopted the wise course of amalgamating, so that there is a prospect of work being quickly commenced. A power of 1,500 horses can be obtained in the neighbourhood of Dogashima, and this will suffice not only for the railway but also for purposes of electric lighting. Miyanoshita, Hakone and their neighbourhood will thus become more fashionable than ever.

There is further trouble at Yokosuka. A Lieut.-Colonel and two clerks are said to have been arrested on a charge of taking bribes.

Mr. H. W. Denison left Vancouver for Japan on the 10th instant.

Roports have been received of the organization of an association in Korea calling itself the Hwal-pin-tang. Its aim is socialistic, namely, to take the goods and gear of the wealthy and distribute them among the poor. The Korean Government is taking steps to check this disagreeable propaganda

The Liberals held a general meeting of their branches in Tokyo on the 8th instant. It was unanimously agreed that the Party should be dissolved. The feature of the occasion was a speech by Mr. Hoshi Toru, who undertook to demonstrate that all the hard things said by Marquis Ito in his manifesto about the conduct of Japanese political parties were addressed to the Progressists, and had no meaning for the Liberals. It was the Progressists who had been corrupt; the Progressists who had prostituted offices of state to the advantage of individuals; the Progressists who had impeded the progress of the great work of the Restoration, and so on. Finally, as to the accusation preferred by the Progressists, that the Liberals had struck their colours after a twenty years' combat, and had surrendered to their old enemies, Mr. Hoshi said that from Marquis Ito's point of view the case might present itself in that light, but from the point of view of the Liberals the thing was the other way about. He concluded by

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recommending his hearers to emulate the magnanimity of Iyeyasu, who gave his protection to the orphan of Hideyoshi—an ominous piece of advice, seeing that Iyeyasu ultimately destroyed the orphan and confiscated all his possessions.

Japan is a strange country. There is certainly a great deal of the outside of the cup and platter in the field of politics. Compare this speech of Mr. Hoshi's with Marquis Ito's manifesto. They present a curious contrast.

There have been several changes of Local Governors. Mr. Chikami Kiyoomi goes from Niigata to Kagoshima; Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi from Ibaraki to Niigata; Mr. Kono Tadakatsu from Shimane to Ibaraki; Mr. Kano Ryogen is appointed to Shimane, and Viscount Kano Kyugi, of Kagoshima, resigns.

There is a report of a heavy flood in the Kiso River. Tsu in Ise is said to have suffered severely, and over 100 persons are rumoured to have been killed or injured. But we can not find that any official account of the catastrophe has been received, and it may very well be a great exaggeration, intended to influence the rice-market.

It is stated that the Prefectural Authorities of Niigata have almost concluded arrangements to borrow a sum of 1,400,000 *yen* from the Standard Oil Company. The rate of interest is 6 per cent., and the commissions will add another 1 per cent.

The Oriental Society of Japan (*Toyo Kyokai*) has adopted very strong resolutions with regard to the withdrawal of the troops from Peking. It declares that Russia's proposal is not sincere, but is to be compared simply to the thrusting of a lantern into a dark place to see what the latter is like; it ridicules the idea that the presence of the troops in Peking can in any way impede the re-organization of the Chinese Government or the appointment of peace plenipotentiaries; it predicts that the evacuation of the city would probably lead to a worse state of anarchy and anti-foreign disturbance than that existing before the city fell into the hands of the allies, and it notes that at this season of the year retrograde steps must be regarded as virtually final. The resolution is couched in very strong terms, much stronger than might have been expected from an association such as the *Toyo Kyokai*.

Several further arrests have been made at Yokosuka: two engineers, an assistant-engineer and a merchant. All are charged with giving or receiving bribes, and a court of inquiry is investigating the case.

Marquis Ito has resigned all his appointments in connexion with Imperial affairs—namely, the presidency of the Imperial Constitution Investigation Bureau and the Tutorship of the Prince Imperial. The Marquis evidently considers that the tenure of these offices is inconsistent with his new position as head of a political party.

According to statistics published by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the yield of barley this year in the three city districts and in 17 prefectures was 8,422,416 *koku*, against a crop of 7,643,570 *koku* in the same regions last year. The increase, therefore, is over 10 per cent. as compared with last year, and is 819,958 *koku* greater as compared with the average yield. The Department expects that the total crop for the whole empire this year will be 21 million *koku*. The only districts from which a bad report comes are Akita and Ishikawa, where too much rain and too many rats effected some injury. It is estimated that the total yield will be from 5 to 10 per cent. over the average.

Troubles are again reported from Formosa, where the difficulty of completely subjugating the bandits seems to be immense In consequence of rumours indicating unrest in the Takham district, some 200 coolies engaged in the camphor industry were recalled from that place. They were attacked *en route* by a party of bandits, and several are reported as killed, wounded or missing. The intelligence received from Formosa does not contain any clear statement as to the nationality of these coolies. They were, however, under a Japanese overseer.

Both of the centres of depression that were moving in the neighbourhood of Manila and Riukiu a few days ago, have taken routes which free Japan from any further apprehension of their advent. Thus the 11th instant saw fine weather restored throughout the empire. The 11th was the 220th day—the *nihyaku hatsuka* of Japanese farmers. This year, the country has enjoyed the exceptional experience of serene skies on the 210th and the 220th days alike.

A penny-in-the-slot telephone has been opened for communications in Tokyo. The terminals are Shimbashi and Uyeno. Persons desirous of using the telephone are warned that they must ring up the exchange before putting in their money. Having obtained from the exchange an assurance that there is no obstruction, the applicant puts three nickels into the left-hand slot, or a silver 10-*sen* piece into the right and one nickel into the left.

Forty-four Chinese military students received graduation certificates at the Seijo Gakko in Tokyo on the 11th instant. General Nozu, Lieut.-General Terauchi, the Chinese Minister, and many other distinguished persons were present. Of the 44 graduates, 19 were from Hupeh, 14 from Fukien, 8 from Chili, and 3 from Chekiang. Some had been 2 years in the college and others one year and a half. They had made great progress in their studies on the whole, including the acquisition of the Japanese language, but mathematics was reported as a weak point. Thirteen passed with honours. The Hupeh youths were the best, those from Fukien second and those from Chekiang the worst. They were all remarkable for their fine physique. They will now have a short course of military training at the barracks of the Guards and will then enter the Officers College.

The Japanese appear to have had quite a sharp brush with the bandits in the Tak'ham Valley in Formosa. A considerable force marched out to attack the insurgents. Captain Fujioka commanded the main body, numbering 130 troops; an officer of gensdarmes, Mr. Senokuchi, commanded a mixed party consisting of 10 constables, 40 Formosan troops and 204 coolies, including 50 Japanese; and Mr. Beppu of the gensdarmes headed a reserve of 100 Formosan troops and 150 coolies. When the expedition reached the neighbourhood of the hills held by the enemy, it was subjected to a heavy fire. Captain Fujioka and Mr. Senokuchi were killed, and it was found impossible to make any impression on the insurgents, who were completely protected by the ground whereas the Japanese found no cover whatever. A retreat finally became necessary, with the loss of 5 killed and 5 wounded. Military measures on a larger scale were at once organized.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce estimates that this season's crop of cocoons will be 1,355,895 *koku*, against 1,199,327 *koku* for last year; or an increase of 156,568 *koku*, being 13.1 per cent. In Aichi prefecture there is a decrease of 1,261 *koku* and in Ishikawa a decrease of 208, attributable to a defective crop of mulberry leaves. But on the whole the result is most satisfactory.

The Korean Government is said to have refused an application presented by a French citizen for mining privileges. But of course the matter has not ended there.

Rumour says that a German syndicate has sought permission to construct a railway between Sōul and Gensan, but that the Korean Government has peremptorily refused to entertain the application.

There have been some ministerial changes in Soul, but the names convey no significance, nor does it appear that any political importance attaches to the event.

In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find a translation of an article published by the Russian newspaper at Port Arthur. The writer of the article believes that the appointment of Count von Waldersee clearly indicates a Russo-German *entente* in the Far East, and observes that if Japan can be induced to throw in her lot with the new allies, a powerful opposition to England will be created; an opposition which will compel England to reflect seriously. If a Russian newspaper adopts such a view, it is not wonderful that outsiders also should have taken it. But, for our own part, we never believed in the much talked of "secret understanding" between Germany and Russia. It has always been our belief that Germany and England are much more likely to clasp hands, though we confess that the extraordinary outburst of anti-English feeling in Germany in connexion with the South-African war has staggered us considerably.

It is rumoured that the new Korean Representative in Tokyo has submitted his proposal for the neutralization of Korea but that the Japanese Government's reply is not favourable. Mr. Cho is said to have adduced the cases of Switzerland and Belgium as precedents, but we may be permitted to observe that when the Koreans have shown themselves comparable with the Swiss or the Belgians, it will be time enough for them to claim such a classification. To provide an international guarantee for a country so ill-governed as Korea, would be like drawing a ring-fence round a pest-stricken community and leaving them to perish gradually. Japan's answer is said to have been that there is no hope of obtaining a hearing for such a proposition at present.

The return of Baroness Nishi and the other Japanese ladies who went through the siege of Peking, evoked quite a demonstration in Tokyo. The party reached Shimbashi on the morning of the 11th and were met by some hundreds of friends, who received them with many expressions of joy and sympathy. Among their belongings was a sad memento of the terrible ordeal through which they had passed; a box containing the ashes of those that lost their lives during the siege.

A meeting of the Yuraku-kai was held

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on the 12th instant. This association includes a majority of the great business men of the capital, and the purpose of its assembly was to determine whether it should cast in its lot with the new political party. Count Inouye spoke strongly in favour of that step, but Baron Shibusawa opposed it on the ground that the members of the Yuraku-kai had many business associates and friends among the Opposition, and that to enrol themselves definitely in the ranks of any party might greatly embarrass their affairs. Mr. Amenomiya urged that all should join or none; that if the association did not amalgamate completely with the Constitutional Political Association, no particular amalgamation should take place. The meeting finally decided that while approving of political parties and appreciating the necessity of support being extended to them by men of business, it was better to leave to individual choice the question of joining or not joining.

A centre of depression showed itself near Riukiu on the 12th. This accounts for the rain that fell in Tokyo and Yokohama on that day. Kiushiu and Shikoku will probably be found to have suffered more or less, and the risk of a hurricane in this district is believed to be still imminent.

BANK OF FORMOSA.

At a general meeting of the Bank of Formosa held on the 1st instant, Vice President Tagyu, in the course of his speech, remarked that the operations of the Bank had made considerable progress, in spite of the fact that a year had scarcely elapsed since its foundation. The accounts for the term under review, when compared with those for the last, namely to the end of December, 1899, were by no means unsatisfactory, the aggregate total business having reached 144,133,052 *yen*. These figures show an increase by three-fold on the amount recorded last year—54,787,818 *yen*. Loans issued had been almost doubled as against last period (6,097,375 *yen*), while deposits amounted to 1,833,646 *yen*, being also double the amount (965,408 *yen*) for last year. The circulation of bank notes, too, was quite satisfactory. At the end of the previous term the figures stood at 1,834,911 *yen*, but in the present period they had swelled to 5,398,093. As to the financial administration of Formosa, the Vice-President entertained the view that as the island had only been recently placed under Japanese jurisdiction, banking operations there cannot be regulated by ordinary principles of economy. The vicissitudes of a bank conducting business in Formosa can hardly fail to affect the general working of the administrative machinery. The utmost discretion was, therefore, necessary to maintain such an institution in harmonious working with the administration. The Bank of Formosa had in some degree proved useful in this respect. The progress it had made during the term under review was partly due to the ample protection afforded by Government, and partly to the untiring efforts displayed by its staff. These two conditions, which virtually constitute sources of success, were most satisfactory. Still the goal lay yet far away, and immense difficulties would have to be encountered. These difficulties, it might confidently be asserted, could only be overcome by official protection to a greater extent than at present, as well as by redoubled energy on the part of the Bank's officials.

With regard to the money market, it might be noticed that the first half of the year remained as quiet as ever, there being no tendency towards an increase in the demand for capital, and the depression of trade to a certain extent in tea and sugar had naturally intensified the dullness. Formosan trade with Japan proper and abroad had shown a tendency to increase in the volume of imports, and exchange business was becoming disadvantageous to business on the island. The bankers were supposed to be the greatest sufferers in this respect. The only means to improve the situation was to develop productive power by providing the organisation necessary for export trade.

The staples of export at present are sugar, camphor, and tea, which are in themselves sufficient to influence the financial operations of the island. Sugar is produced chiefly in the southern part of the island, and is exported to Japan proper. The output last year, however, decreased considerably in consequence of storms, the quantity secured not exceeding three-fourths of that of ordinary years. For the sugar trade accommodation has hitherto been chiefly given by the Tainan branch of the Bank. Measures are being taken to increase the amount of funds in Tainan so as to meet the demand from the sugar manufacturers.

Camphor and camphor oil have been monopolized by Government since March last. When, at the end of last year, rumours of the intended monopoly were circulated, some of the European and American merchants made speculative purchases on a large scale, and prices rose extravagantly for a while. But a reaction soon set in and a corresponding depreciation became apparent.

On the whole, however, values have an upward tendency. In view of these circumstances the Bank has seized every opportunity to afford facilities for accommodation in connection with the camphor industry.

The trade in tea had really fallen into a grievous condition in consequence of bad methods of manufacture, the alteration of the customs tariff in America, and the heavy downfall of rain at the beginning of the season. Hopes are entertained, however, for the restoration of its former prosperity. The export of tea has of late been undertaken though Japan proper, but the greater portion is still shipped direct from Amoy. The opening of a branch in that port became absolutely indispensable, therefore.

Besides the industries above mentioned, which require steady improvement, there are others of equal importance, such as agriculture generally, forestry, mining, salt manufacture, reclamation, etc., as to which bright prospects may reasonably be entertained. These facts have induced many enterprising men, both native and foreign, to devote their attention to the future of the island, and the number of such men is rapidly increasing—a fact which is a matter of congratulation in the interests of Formosan trade. As to means of communication, the Government had taken no small pains to secure their development, the capital laid out for this particular purpose having already reached 4½ million *yen* approximately. This amount had been furnished by the Bank, in addition to about one million *yen* worth of Public Undertakings Bonds which had been accepted. The Kobe branch of the Bank was also progressing towards success, arrangements for its smooth working having nearly been completed. The branch in Amoy was opened on 1st May last, and steps were being taken for the establishment of branches in Foochow and other place of commercial importance. Not only with Japan proper, but also with the central parts of Europe and America, had correspondence increased and the operations of the Bank been steadily extended. Transactions with the natives and foreigners were also on the increase: the former showing numerical superiority in deposits and loans, but the latter were conspicuous in respect of amount. Fluctuations in silver, it was true, seemed destined to affect the interests of the Bank to no small extent, and the utmost precautions were always necessary on this point. Silver had shown an upward tendency since last year, its legal value having been altered from 94 to 95 *sen* in April of that year. The Chinese disturbances, which broke out at the end of the fiscal period under review, fortunately had no effect whatever upon the general transactions of the Bank, owing to the absence of direct relations between Formosa and North China; the only consequences experienced being an abnormal appreciation of the white metal, caused by a sudden demand from all quarters. But as this boded no good for the financial organization of the Bank, the President proceeded to Tokyo and took vigorous measures for the prevention of the evil with which it was threatened. Having thus passed the term without experiencing difficulties affecting the institution, a proposal for the declaration of a dividend had been submitted to the assembly.

The Vice-President concluded by saying that although the results alluded to above might not have been perfectly satisfactory to the shareholders, yet as the Bank had been in operation only nine months the success it had so far achieved must be recognised as a promise of prosperity for the future.

Y. C. & A. C.

An extraordinary general meeting of members of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club was held on Wednesday afternoon in the Pavilion. The business was to consider a proposed amendment of Rule 15. The clause in Rule 15 which it was proposed to amend read as follows:—"That an active membership of at least one month on the day of the match or contest be necessary to qualify, but that members on the absent list be qualified immediately on their return provided they have resumed their active membership. That in the event of a change of residence after 1st July for cricket or baseball, and after 1st January for football, and a player qualifying for both ports, the visiting team shall have first claim on his services."

The proposed amendment as suggested by the Kobe Cricket Club read as follows:—"That the qualification for a player in an inter-port match be that he should be a resident of the port which he represents for one month prior to the date of the match, and also that he should be a member, or a candidate for membership of the club which he represents, but that members on the absent list be qualified immediately on their return, provided they have resumed their active membership."

The CHAIRMAN in introducing the business before the meeting said that at their last meeting they passed a rule on this subject but on reference to Kobe it appeared that it would not act fairly as in one of the competing clubs in Kobe a candidate must be up for a month before election, whereas with the Y. C. and A. C. a candidate may be proposed and elected right off. Therefore it was proposed in terms almost identical with those of a suggestion sent down from Yokohama to change it. He added that as, in the case of a man going from one port to the other within a month previous to a match, it would be impossible to play on either side, it might be worth while to add a sentence to this effect:—"Should a member of a competing club change his port of residence during the month before the match or contest, he shall be considered qualified for the port and club which he leaves."

Mr. LIAS objected very strongly to the proposed amendment, apart from the suggested addition. In 1890 it was laid down from Kobe that any man playing for Yokohama or Kobe in football should be a member of one of the Kobe or Yokohama competing clubs. He did not see why they should now allow themselves to be influenced by Kobe and allow men not members to play.

The CHAIRMAN said whatever was laid down in 1890 was over-ruled by the rule passed at the last meeting.

Mr. BATHGATE proposed the amendment as posted, exclusive of the suggested addition.

Mr. BLAKE seconded.

Mr. LIAS moved that the words "or a candidate for membership" be left out.

Mr. BUGBIRD seconded.

After some discussion the amendment of Mr. Lias was put and lost, the amendment as posted (proposed by Mr. Bathgate) being carried.

This was all the business.

We note that Captain John Inokay, of the British barque Valkyrien, has been presented with a handsome pair of cloisonné vases, by the Chief Civil Administrator in Formosa, as a reward for rescuing two Formosans off the south coast of Formosa in November, 1898.

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THE RUSSIAN PROPOSAL.

WE observe with regret that the *Japan Times*, echoing, doubtless the views of a certain section of the Japanese public, supports Russia's proposal for the evacuation of Peking by way of preliminary to the opening of peace negotiations. Our contemporary's arguments permit very simple statement. In the first place, while admitting that the opportunity created by the occupation of Peking, offers an unique opportunity for introducing progressive reforms in China, the *Japan Times* considers that all hope of utilizing the opportunity must be abandoned, since there is no possibility of sufficient cōoperation on the part of the Powers. So slender, indeed, is our contemporary's confidence in international union for such a purpose, that it regards even the open-door policy as visionary, since no State would fight to maintain it. Having premised thus much, having, in short, laid down the proposition that agreement between the Powers for a really useful purpose is out of the question, the *Japan Times* makes this deduction :—"Where there is so little prospect for any efficient unity of action among the dozen interested Powers, it should clearly be the aim of practical statesmen to confine the sphere of common action within the narrowest possible limits, and be contented with a solution which may be incomplete and inadequate, but which may best obviate the danger of protracted anarchy and complications." It must be admitted that we have here a very disheartening declaration. The Powers, in our contemporary's opinion, must confine themselves to a programme so narrow that it will afford no scope for any exercise of their mutual jealousies. They must be content with an "incomplete and inadequate solution" of the problem rather than run the risk of disagreeing about what is complete and adequate. They must give up all idea of leading China into the path of civilized progress, since in showing her the way, they would certainly fight among themselves. They must be content to revert to the old regime, must agree to the restoration of the anti-foreign conservatives, since Europe and America can not so far forget their petty jealousies as to work in unison for one of the greatest ends ever contemplated, the rescue of an immense nation from a condition of unenlightened stagnation.

Before we go any further, let us set down clearly what this means. It means, first, that the policy of cōoperation may at once be abandoned by the Powers in the Far East, since that policy proves wholly abortive for any useful purpose. It means, in the second place, that the Powers issue a mandate to Chinese conservatism, since they publicly declare their inability to disturb it.

We arrive now at the immediate question, the evacuation of Peking. The Powers, having recognised that the less they try to accomplish, the better their chance of not flying at each other's throats, are asked to conclude that the "first step toward the speedy restoration of normal relations with China is to enable her to establish her Government, which can not be done anywhere more quickly and effectively than at Peking." The expression "normal relations" is vague. Normal relations exist between two States when the usual machinery for friendly intercourse is in operation, and when they do not unduly interfere with each other's affairs. It is impossible that normal relations can be re-established with China until peace is restored and until foreign troops are withdrawn altogether from her territories. The restoration of peace and the withdrawal of the troops must be preceded by negotiations for fixing the penalties to be suffered by China and the guarantees to be given by her. Will those negotiations be facilitated by the evacuation of the Chinese capital? When has the proposition been established that the docility of a vanquished party is increased so soon as the grasp of the victor is removed from his throat? It is not intelligible that China, having recovered Peking triumphantly, and having received an explicit and most practical assurance that the Powers can not agree to treat her resolutely, should show herself more tractable than she did prior to that triumph and that assurance. Neither is it intelligible that the mechanism of negotiation would move more smoothly and expeditiously if the Chinese Court were in Peking than if it were in Tai-yuen. The negotiations will not be with the Court: they will be with its plenipotentiaries, and whether the latter hold their conferences in Peking or in Tientsin does not matter at all. But the Court must ratify the act of its plenipotentiaries, and there may be a vast difference between the complaisance of a Court that is banished from its capital until it ratifies and the independence of a Court that has recovered its capital without ratification. Suppose that this difference asserts itself at the crucial moment; suppose that the Court withholds its endorsement of the terms formulated by the conference. Who, then, will undertake to coerce the Court? What Powers will again send troops to Peking for such a purpose?

In short, let the bases of negotiation be what they may, let them be reduced to such narrow dimensions that all ground for mutual jealousy is removed, they will still have to be accepted by China, and no one has yet attempted to show that her acceptance will be promoted by the preliminary evacuation of Peking. Must the terms formulated while the Allies are still in occupation of Peking be necessarily more drastic and radical than the terms formulated after Peking has been abandoned? We have heard of a man who averred that he stammered worse in London than in New York, because the former was a bigger place. Are we to understand that the exultation caused in the breasts of the Allies by holding Peking renders them incapable of reducing their demands to working dimensions? An unparalleled and most humiliating fiasco is proposed, and its proposers fail to assign a single intelligible reason for the proposition.

THE RUSSIANS AT THE CAPTURE OF PEKING.

ADMIRAL ALEXIEFF is said to have forwarded to his Government a telegram received by him from Lieut.-General LINIEVITCH, describing the assault of Peking. According to this account, the Russians were the first to enter the city, and the Russian flag was the first to float over the battlements. The Lieut.-General's report gives the night of the 15th of August as the date of the capture, but that is probably an error for the 14th. He says that the fighting lasted 14 hours, and that the enemy made a desperate resistance, inflicting heavy loss on his men, namely 1 colonel killed and 4 officers severely wounded, among them being a Major-General, the Chief of Staff, and 29 rank and file killed and 102 wounded. The *Kwanto Shimbun*—we do not know the Russian name of this Port Arthur journal—gives a still more circumstantial account. It says that Lieut.-General LINIEVITCH, keenly anxious to succour the Foreign Legations, hurried forward a brigade of troops, who after a sharp fight lasting 30 minutes, blew up a gate of Peking and forced their way into the city. On the following morning, the main body of the troops arrived and entered Peking. This newspaper adds that the English had nothing to do with the relief of the Legations. Japanese papers publish the above telegrams and comment briefly but severely upon their flagrant untruth. It is well known, say our contemporaries, that the Russian troops, disregarding the plan of operations which had been formed with their own approval, attempted to steal a march on their comrades of other nationalities, and assaulted the city on the night of the 13th. It is well known that they failed to effect an entry until the afternoon of the 14th, and that, even after forcing the Tung-pien Gate, they did not pass the Hata Gate into the Tartar City until after the Japanese had marched in. It is also well known that the British troops reached the Legations six hours earlier than any other force. Under these circumstances, the report attributed to Russian military sources and the statements contained in the Port Arthur journal are obviously incorrect. But it remains to be seen whether Lieut.-General LINIEVITCH forwarded any such report. It is to us (*Japan Mail*) quite incredible that a Russian Lieut.-General can have been guilty of any intentional misrepresentation. Certainly these incidents are most regrettable. The Russians have fought splendidly and suffered heavily. They have done all that could have been done under the circumstances, and the Tientsin community at least owes its salvation to them. They were unfortunate on the whole, since they found themselves inevitably in positions which prevented them from pushing into the first fighting line, and they seem to have made at Peking an essay to "get even" which was very comprehensible. But the thing to be remembered is that they were comrades with our own people in an arduous and sanguinary campaign. That fact should suffice to rob all petty jealousies of their sting.

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THE EVACUATION OF PEKING.

WE have read with much interest the reason advanced by the *Japan Times* in support of its contention that the evacuation of Peking by the Allies would conduce to the re-establishment of peace. In using the word "reason" in the singular we observe strict accuracy, for our contemporary gives only one reason, so far as we can discover. In its original article on the subject it adduced several considerations; namely, that any attempt to fully utilize for purposes of reform the opportunity offered by the occupation of Peking, would inevitably overtax the cōoperation of the Powers; that they must therefore be content with an "incomplete and inadequate programme;" that they must "confine the sphere of common interest within the narrowest possible limits;" and that the first step towards restoring normal relations with China must be to enable her to establish her Government, which "could not be done anywhere more quickly and effectively than at Peking." These, we say, were considerations, but they could scarcely be called reasons. For the dimensions of the programme adopted by the Powers do not depend in any degree on the locality where it is compiled. A moderate programme can be drafted in Peking just as well as in Tientsin, and the negotiations can be conducted with equal sauvity at either place. Again, as to the restoration of normal relations, the most essential preliminary is to arrange terms of peace; and since the Chinese Government is already sufficiently "established" to take whatever steps are necessary for that purpose, the Powers are absolved from the duty of providing exceptional facilities. Thus these contentions could hardly be held to have the force of reasons. But our contemporary now advances a definite and intelligible reason, namely, that so long as the Chinese Court remains fugitive from the capital, it is under the control of the reactionaries, and can not venture to ratify any convention signed by its plenipotentiaries in Peking. The Powers should endeavour, says the *Japan Times*, to "free the Court and the moderate section of its advisers from the fatal yoke of the reactionary leaders," which "desirable end can not be attained so long as the Imperial personages are wandering in remote corners of the Empire under the almost sole charge of the very reactionaries from whose hands they are to be released."

That is, at all events, a point of view. Nor is it without force at first sight. If the moderates are weakened by the exclusion of the Court from Peking, there is a strong argument in favour of the evacuation of that city by the Allies in order to allow the Court to return. But let us examine the matter a little more closely. We need not pause to enquire whether our contemporary's estimate of Chinese statesmen and the Chinese Court has not undergone some change; whether in claiming, as it now does, that a section of the personages composing the Central Government are admitted by all candid observers to have been opposed to the disastrous policy of the reactionaries, and in denying that there is any "tangible proof of the EMPRESS DOWAGER'S having been an active and voluntary accessory to the anti-foreign disturbances," it does not contradict its own language of July, when it said:—"That the Boxers have from the beginning enjoyed the sympathies and approval of those in power at Peking is now an established fact, being proved beyond all possibility of doubt by the way in which they have been suffered during the past few months to make their way gradually to the capital without let or hindrance, and also by a series of edicts in which Imperial sympathy and favour for their cause were plainly discernible in every line." There would be, we think, some difficulty in reconciling these statements, but we are quite content to let them pass since our contemporary's present view is the one always hitherto maintained by ourselves. The question is, does the absence of the Court from Peking weaken the hands of the moderates; does it strengthen the reactionaries' control over the EMPRESS-DOWAGER, and would the evacuation of Peking by the Allies improve the situation. What suggests itself first in attempting to answer is that the policy of the reactionaries is directly responsible for the Court's compulsory flight from Peking, and for all the embarrassments of the situation. There can not be the slightest doubt about that. If ever statesmen ought to have been discredited by the disastrous consequences of their actions and advice, the reactionary statesmen of China are now in that plight. Nor has there been wanting an object lesson to illustrate their errors The Southern Viceroys, by pursuing the policy of the moderates, have been able to save their districts from all the horrors of war, and, as the *Japan Times* justly observes, the Central Government must thus possess a clear knowledge of the limitations under which hostilities have been conducted by the Allies. The crushing defeats that the Imperial troops have suffered, the fall of Peking, the capture of the Forbidden City itself and the driving of the Court from the capital, all these things stand to the discredit of the reactionaries, and will stand more and more vividly to their discredit the longer Peking remains in foreign occupation and the longer the Imperial personages continue to be fugitives. But suppose that the Allies unconditionally evacuate Peking for the avowed reason that they shrink from the complications likely to be caused by remaining there, and suppose that the Imperial Court thereafter returns to the city, is it not plain that a great part of the reproach now resting on the reactionaries will be removed? Will they not then be able to say, and with truth, that they were wise in counselling defiance since the Powers evidently can not trust each other sufficiently to punish defiance? It is not the Court alone and the moderates that will return to Peking. The reactionaries will return. Prince TWAN will return, and General KANG YI will return. The troops also will return—"the notoriously anti-foreign troops under TUNG," as our contemporary calls them. There are no other troops. We do not know of any pro-foreign troops in China, unless, indeed, Governor YUEN, or Viceroy LIU undertakes the duty of garrisoning Peking. Thus all the old "crowd" would come back; and so far from the reactionaries being weakened by the incident, they would save their face and hold up their heads once more. It is incomprehensible to us that any other view should be taken; incomprehensible that the Chinese Government and the Chinese reactionaries should be expected to prove more tractable after they have escaped from a part of their punishment, than they are while the whole punishment still impends. We regret to say that with all possible willingness to be persuaded, we can not credit the sincerity of Russia's proposal until some one is sufficiently ingenious to offer an intelligible explanation. As to the belief of the *Japan Times* that "the statesmen in St. Petersburg are certainly the best informed of all European Governments about China in general and the present state of things in particular," it appears to us to be simply a case of *omne ignotum pro magnifico.*

HOKKAIDO JOTTINGS.

(CONTRIBUTED.)

Speaking generally, it may be said that the abolition of the Kaitakushi in 1881 marked the opening of a new era in the history of the northern island. The progress made by places like Hakodate and Otaru during the fifteen years has been something phenomenal. The Kaitakushi undoubtedly conferred some benefits on the inhabitants of Yezo, but the good accomplished was not in proportion to the enormous expenditure involved. Most things were done on an expensive scale and without regard to the ability of local taxpayers to keep in repair what the Government had provided. The roads made were wider than was required and hence are now in a horrible state of repair, the local taxes being quite insufficient to allow their being kept in order. The model farms were very costly affairs and answered their purpose only to a very limited extent. In the Kaitakushi days private enterprise in Hokkaido was killed. What it has effected in Hakodate alone in recent years is a cause for wonder to all who knew the town in the seventies and the early eighties. It was then a poverty-stricken place. The houses were flimsy structures apparently built for burning. The shops were of the meanest description, ill-supplied and ill-served. Now one sees signs of money everywhere. Not only is there a large sale of the necessities of life, but luxuries hailing from Tōkyō, Yokohama, and even more distant places are displayed in such abundance that the passer-by has no doubt as to the purchasing ability of the citizens of this growing place. Land in the main street that twenty years ago fetched 10 *yen* a *tsubo* now changes hands at 150 *yen* a *tsubo*. The country around Hakodate reminds one of the Biblical phrase, "He will make her wilderness like Eden and her desert like the garden of the Lord." This is what the hard-working Japanese peasant has done for the plain beyond

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Kameda that not so many years ago was a dreary waste with nothing either in winter or summer to relieve the eye or to gratify the mind. Even the character of the Hokkaido peasants seems to have changed now that they are thrown on their own resources. In former days there was no push or go with the people. The peasant jogged along easily, seeing no need for hurry. What could not be finished to-day could be done to-morrow. He was a poor sleepy, half-alive creature, who might be seen at the head of some ten or twelve half starved, and hence half-dead, pack horses crawling at a snail's pace towards Hakodate to sell his few bags of charcoal or his bundles of *daikon*. But now this race of human beings has been replaced by a set of farmers that are as pushing as the Australian or the Californian. At all hours of the night as well as the day these hustling peasants may be seen with their sleek, well-fed and finely-shaped ponies pushing their way to or from Hakodate, with big loads of stuff on their carts, over the most terrible roads that ever horseflesh has been required to cross. At dead of night, often with a wife or daughter jolting in the cart with them, they cheerfully plod along with the air of men who have got a purpose in life and see their way to fulfilling it. With peasants of this class pouring their produce into Hakodate, and with an equally enterprising set of fishermen out on the deep in all weathers, it is not surprising that Hakodate should prosper. Fifteen years ago a well-built cart was rarely to be seen anywhere, now they are owned by hundreds and the sturdy little steeds that pull them are well harnessed too. Hakodate has now its water works, its Public Gardens, its three tram lines, its electric light, its well-laid out roads, its hospitals, museums, numerous schools, and its industrial and commercial companies. It only needs a railway to connect it with other Hokkaidô centres to make its prosperity complete and unrivalled in the northern island.

The Hakodate-Otaru Railway Company has existed some years. Its capital is set down at eight million *yen*, divided into 160,000 fifty *yen* shares. But the enterprise hangs fire owing to the inability or unwillingness of the shareholders to pay up calls. Nothing more than the surveying of the route, which is to be by way of Mori, Oshamambe and Yoichi, has been done. According to the original rules of the company, foreigners were not debarred from taking shares in it. But as recently as May 17th last, a revision of the rules was ordered by the Department of Communications which included clauses expressly excluding foreigners from share ownership. The reference to foreigners is in Arts. 7 and 8 of the Rules of Association, of the Company. One of the objects of the Railway being to convey troops to and from Hakodate if necessary, the Government has promised a certain amount of support. But the relation of the Government to the Company does not seem quite clear as is evidenced by a meeting of promoters held in Hakodate last month at which it was decided to memorialise the Government in favour of a speedy carrying out of the enterprise. In the draft of the memorial which appeared in the *Hakodate Mainichi Shimbun* the Company pleaded inability to collect money at the present time owing to the financial conditions caused by the Chinese crisis. The Company has its headquarters in Tôkyô and a large number of the shareholders are residents there. While the Hadodate shareholders are keen on pushing the concern the Tôkyô shareholders are said to be holding back. The building of the railway when completed will no doubt affect Otaru unfavourably in drawing much of the produce that is shipped there down to Hakodate, which has better shipping facilities and whence freights are much cheaper.

But if Hakodate has gone ahead at a rapid pace in recent years, the same cannot be said of Fukuyama and Esashi. The present writer visited these places about 18 years ago and has just returned from a second visit to them. Fukuyama has gone back and Esashi is just what it was twenty years ago. In neither place is there a single *jinrikisha* in this 33rd year of *Meiji*, nor a single shop where bread is sold. In Fukuyama they had run out of the common Japanese lemonade to be seen in every country village near Hakodate. There may be some exceptions, but as a rule all over Japan the towns that were formerly the seats of *daimyô* are characterised by a great want of enterprise. The country around Fukuyama is so hilly that agriculture is next to impossible, so that the people are dependent on what little fishing there is. Last May there was a large fire in Fukuyama in a busy part of the town, but not even in the middle of August was there the least sign of preparation for rebuilding and in many places even the débris had not been cleared away. The solitary inn that accommodated the few stragglers who visited the place twenty years ago is still the only place fit to put up at in the town. What was formerly the castle has been used as a Primary school for some little time The three stories of which the tower consists are now filled with desks. Dark and unsuitable as are these rooms for teaching and difficult as is the ascent to the upper story, hitherto Fukuyama has been unable to provide better quarters. In the upper storey of the castle tower a large hole is to be seen which was made by one of Admiral Yenomoto's cannon-balls in 1869. Thanks to the munificence of a private citizen very fine school buildings are in the course of erection, which are to be opened this autumn. Fukuyama has not yet aspired to a single Middle School. A High Class Primary School is the acme of its attainment in the educational line.

The journey from Fukuyama to Esahi by land is one that few foreigners have ever taken. Even by Japanese the road, if road it can be called, is almost forsaken an account of its difficulties. The distance is only 18 *ri*, but owing to the difficulties of the road it is not easy to accomplish the journey in a day with the same horse. Most of the way there is nothing but a bridle path which winds up and down steep and stony hills or along a very rough sea-shore track. On the hills not a soul is met and the way is by no means easy to find. But the scenery is a sufficient reward for all the trouble taken, and the route is comparatively cool in summer owing to the sea breeze and the shade of the many deep ravines passed through. The path from Haraguchi to Ishizaki is the stiffest part of the whole journey. There is a *bassha* road between Hakodate and Fukuyama, but the *bassha* do not go nearer to Fukuyama than Shiriuchi, the rest of the road having been allowed to get out of repair. The Hakodate-Esashi *bassha* service is kept up winter and summer, though the roads are in some parts beyond description for roughness. It is a case of holding on with both hands must of the road, and some of the passengers say that it takes 3 or 4 days, to recover from the effect of a day's ride, with *anma* hard at work the whole time. Near Esashi the agricultural settlement of Tate is well worth a visit. It is about 2½ *ri* from Uyura, which is on the road to Hakodate. The place was formerly the residence of the Matsumae daimyô, but is now an extremely prosperous farming centre. The land here is very rich, and water is plentiful. Encircling a fertile plain are ranges of hills thick with woods, which when cleared, as many of them have been, make excellent runs for cattle. Tate grows year by year and its proximity to Esashi, where steamers call regularly, promises to give new life to the latter place, which has hitherto depended solely on fishing, a very uncertain source of wealth on this part of the coast. There is one drawback to Tate and that is its malaria; from which we were told nobody escapes. The mistake the farmers have made has been to erect houses on the plain instead of on the adjoining hills. There is no difficulty about water as wells can be sunk anywhere on the hills. More magnificent views than are to be had on the summits of some of these hills it would be impossible to find in Yezo, and the hills are high enough to be out of range of the malaria. A small episcopal church has been built in Tate and formerly a cathechist belonging to the Church Missionary Society used to reside there. Perhaps there are few prettier rides in Yezo than that between Hakodate and Esashi. The village of Nakayama is very high in situation, free from mosquitoes, and very cool even in the middle of August. Persons fond of fishing might spend a pleasant week there. In order to show how Hokkaido has progressed of late years we append a list of the principal industrial and commercial companies that have been formed, together with the date of their establishment, in some cases. For the information here given we are indebted to two Japanese guide-books published last year, one on Sapporo and the other on Hakodate.

SAPPORO COMPANIES.

The Hokkaidô Tankô Tetsudô Kabushiki Kaisha.—Established 1889. Capital, 12,000,000 *yen*. Capital not yet paid up 2,420,000 *yen*. 15 per cent. dividend paid to shareholders in 1898.

The Hokkaido Seima Kabushiki Kaisha.—Established 1887. Capital 1,600,000 *yen*. Capital not yet paid up 283,020 *yen*. This company has five flaw and henys factories situated at Koriki, Kotoni, Tôbetsu, Shintôtsukawa and Kuriyama. They employ over 500 hands.

The Sapporo Beer Kabushiki Kaisha.—Established 1887. Capital 300,000 *yen*; not yet paid up 102,000 *yen*. Dividend on shares (30 *yen* each) in 1898, 18 per cent.

The Hokkaidô Mokuzai Kabushiki Kaisha.—Established 1897. Capital 150,000. Paid up capital 52,500 *yen*. Dividend in 1898, 25 per cent. The prospects of the lumber trade carried on by this company are said to be excellent.

The Sapporo Dentô (Electric Light) Kabushiki Kaisha. Established 1896. Capital 50,000 *yen*. 25 *yen* on each share paid up.

The Sapporo Seibei Kabushiki Kaisha.—Established 1898. Capital 30,000 *yen* all paid up. It imports rice in large quantities and deals in other grain.

The Gyo-in Kabushiki Kaisha.—Established in 1897. Capital 10,000 *yen*. This Company deals in fish, birds, drugs and the like. The meaning of Gyo-in is Fish Seal, or sign. The above, it will be observed, are all Joint-stock Companies.

The Hokkaido Bokuchiku Gôshi (合社) Kaisha.—Established 1897. Capital 22,000 *yen*. Paid up capital 7,000 *yen*. The Company breeds horses, pigs and cattle. It has a run near the Yusutsu lake in the Ifuri province.

The Hokkaidô Kaitate (介立) Gôshi Kaisha.—Established April, 1899. Capital 10,000 *yen*. This is a kind of Commission Agency which negotiates loans, purchases building, contracts and the like.

The Goto Gômei-Kaisha.—Established March, 1899. Capital 20,000 *yen*. This is a company that was founded by two well-known business men, Messrs. Goto and Marunaka and a few others. It deals in corn and works sawing mills, and has branch offices at Poronai, and other places.

The Sapporo Shuzo (Wine-making) Gomei Kaisha.—Established 1897. Capital 40,000 *yen*. Paid up capital 36,250 *yen*.

The *Tani Sôko Gumi* (a godown Association owned by Mr. Tani Sanchitarô and others) Established 1894. Capital 20,000 *yen*. The profits of the Association in 1898, fourth year were 3,600 *yen*.

HAKODATE COMPANIES.

The Hakodate Senkyo Kabushiki Kaisha—Capital 1,200,000 *yen*.* Business, Ship-docking.

The Hakodate Kisen Kabushiki Kaisha—Capital 100,000 *yen*. Business, Marine Transport.

The Nihon Kombu Kabushiki Kaisha—Capital 250,000 *yen*. Business, Collecting Preparing Seaweed for Shipment.

The Hokkaidô Kyodô Kabushiki Kaisha—Capital 10,000 *yen*. Business, Commission Agency.

The Hakodate-Kameda Bassha Tetsudô Kabushiki Kaisha—Capital 150,000 *yen*.

The Kabushiki Kaisha Hakodate Torihiki-jo (Local Stock Exchange)—Capital 60,000 *yen*.

The Shuyu (酒友) Gôshi Kaisha.—Capital 20,000 *yen*. Business Wine and Spirit Commission Agency.

The Gôshi Kaisha Hakodate Sengu Kaisha—Capital 10,000 *yen*. Business, Supplying Rigging to Ships.

* The dates of the establishment of the Hakodate companies are not given in our source of information, the Hakodate guide book, neither is the list it gives in any way complete. Compared with the Sapporo Guide the Hakodate Handbook is a very meagre affair.

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The Hakodate Seishi Gôshi Kaisha—Capital 10,000 *yen*. Business, Paper-making.
The Hakodate Sumidofu Seizô Gôshi Kaisha—Capital 10,000 *yen*. Business, the preparation and export of what is called Jiyo-dofu.
The Hokkaidô Sangyô Gôshi Kaisha—Capital 100,000 *yen*. Business, Sale of Products on Commission.
The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and many other Companies have branches at Hakodate.

ASAMA.

Murray's Hand-book of Japan calls this "the largest active volcano in Japan." Certainly it is the one best known by foreigners. The three hundred or four hundred foreigners who spend a part of the summer in Karuizawa come to love this peak, and manifest their interest in it by using it as the common subject of conversation; by gazing at it when no sign of life is visible, as well as when it is in magnificent display; and by laborious ascents by night and day.

All this summer, when the clouds and mists of Karuizawa permitted, the mountain did its best to entertain us. Day after day it sent up great black columns of vapour and dust, some of which seemed to stand out against the sky. 10,000 ft. high, for they appeared more than twice as high as the mountain itself.

I often wished that some geologist would appear and give us a lecture on this volcano, its formation, its eruptions, the nature of its rocks, and especially the story of its lava beds. There are some very able Japanese geologists among the professors and graduates of the Imperial University, and nothing would delight the foreigners who frequent Karuizawa more than the presence of such a scholar, who would favour them with an illustrated lecture or two on this subject.

In the hope of drawing out others far better qualified, I venture, though very ignorant, to make the barest sketch of the character of Asama.

Asama is not a lava-cone, it is a cinder-cone. At least the upper part is, although the base, buried thousands of feet, may be of lava formation. Had lava played an important part in shaping this mountain, its sides would have had a far more gentle slope, not averaging over eight or ten degrees, like Mt. Loa in Hawaii. Volcanoes with steep and high sides are cinder and tufa cones, built up by scoria blown out from the crater, thus forming slopes from 30 to 40 degrees. Of course, if lava happens to break out from fissures near the top, the molten stream will follow the slope and consolidate at almost any angle. The lava also penetrates every fissure of the softish cinder-cone, forming powerful dykes and seams that bind the cone into one strong whole.

It is impossible to tell how many such lava dykes and beds are buried deep beneath the cinder-top that Asama has built up. While building its own top, it has deluged the neighbouring region down into the Joshu plains with its storms of scoria, so that cutings in Karuizawa reveal everywhere a stratum of this light "rock-froth," so light that it will float in water.

In riding near Takasaki and Maebashi passengers can see here and there little mounds about the size of a small hut. These are the scoria that was hurled from Asama over the rice-fields, and then scraped up in piles by the farmers in order to recover their buried farms.

The upshooting of immense columns of apparent smoke thousands of feet into the sky was the most fascinating sight of the summer. One could see the huge black curls roll over each other in their race to rise the highest. It looked as though there were a mighty combustion of something going on in that crater ten miles away. So everybody naturally spoke of smoke, and when the leaves of the trees were found to be covered with a fine powder, it was naturally spoken of as *ashes*. Of course there is no fuel burning in Asama's crater. The water that soaks down until it reaches the molten lava generates steam, which rises to the surface of the lava, and explodes with fearful power, tearing the light frothy surface foam into finest dust, and sending it high with the condensed vapours, thus making those most magnificent eruptions of seeming smoke. The burning of sulphur or of any other substance forms an insignificant proportion of the lofty pillars of cloud.

The lava beds, said to have originated in 1783, puzzled us all. How was it possible that blocks of rock of every size and description could have been piled up in such strange confusion? It seemed impossible that an ordinary stream of lava should act so. The descriptions of most lava eruptions speak of them as flowing like rivers of molten iron, congealing with more or less scum on their surfaces.

Now there is little that resembles a river about Asama's lava beds. The sharp and ragged rocks lie piled up on each other in elevations and in hollows, resembling neither the flow of rapids nor heavy cross-seas. Probably this awful confusion was brought to pass in this way:—All lavas that break out of their mountain homes are more or less filled with steam. It is the steam that causes the eruption, not the lava. All flowing lavas are "impregnated with superheated steam," which, in escaping from the cooling surface tends to shatter it. When exceptionally charged with aqueous vapour the explosions all along the beds are truly fearful. The British Encyclopædia says:—"An area thus flooded with lava is perhaps the most appaling scene of desolation anywhere to be found on the surface of the earth." Dana also says, "Whenever the stream of lava stops, it rapidly hardens over its surface. If it is then made to move again, from another accession of lavas, the hardened crust breaks up like ice on a pond, but makes black and rough cakes, 100 to 10,000 cubic feet in size, which lie piled together over acres or square miles—great clinker-fields, horrid exhibitions of utter desolation."

These brief statements, if measurably correct, only put us on the track of the story of Asama. If not correct, or if inapplicable to Asama, no one would be more pleased to see the scientific account than myself.

J. H. DE FOREST.

Sendai, Sept. 4.

YACHTING.

There were no fewer than five yacht races on Saturday, four under the auspices of the Yacht Club, and one participated in by boats of the Mosquito Yacht Club. The 39-raters raced over a ten mile course, starting at 2 p.m., with the result that in the good strong breeze that prevailed *Golden Hind* slipped first out of the harbour entrance and created a lead which nothing could afterwards wipe out. It is only fair to *Mary* to mention that her owner and usual sailing master was on board *Haidee*. Following were the times:—

	Finish.	Club Allowance.	Corrected.
	h.m.s.	m.s.	h.m.s.
Haidee	3.59.30	—	3.59.30
Mary	4.02.20	1.48	4.00.32
Golden Hind	3.58.20	3.40	3.54.40

Thus *Golden Hind* won the first prize and two record points, *Haidee* being second and taking one point.

The cruising class sailed over a six mile course with the following result:—

	Finish.	Club Allowance.	Corrected.
	h m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.
Dawnyo	3.54.10	—	3.54.10
Svanhild	3.53.55	—	3.53.55
Mosquito	4.07.45	18.00	3.49.45

Mosquito therefore won the first prize, and *Svanhild* the second.

The 17-raters also had a race which resulted as follows:—

	Finish.	Club Allowance.	Corrected.
	h.m.s.	m.s.	h.m.s.
Wettinge	4.21.35	—	4.21.35
Daisy May	4.26.20	—	4.26.20
Eclair	4.26.56	—	4.26.56
Devonia	4.33.15	1.24	4.31.51

Wettinge therefore won and took two points, *Daisy May* being second with one point.

Four 12-raters started but only two were timed at the finish, *Vera* and *Madelaine*, the former taking first place with two points and the latter second with one point.

A Mosquito Yacht race took place over the six mile course, with the result that *Sodeska* won, coming in 3m. 06s. ahead of *Abunai* second, *Kodeva* third. *Nandeska* gave up after carrying away a stay.

THE LATE MR. DIACK.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. John Diack, which took place on September 7th, at his residence, No. 111, Bluff. Mr. Diack had been ill for about a month, the effects of an attack of influenza, combined with supervening pneumonia and a weak heart, proving at length fatal. Mr. Diack, who was a native of Aberdeenshire, Scotland, came out to Hongkong in Government service about 1864, but, after a brief stay in Shanghai, found his way to Japan in the early seventies, being employed in connection with the building of the Kobe-Kyoto line and other railway work. Subsequently he entered upon business in Yokohama as an architect, and some of the finest buildings in the former settlement attest his taste, skill and thoroughness. Among these we may mention the pile in Main Street which has borne the name of Keil's Buildings, and in which up to a recent date all masonic meetings were held; and the present premises of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation—the latter of which cost Mr. Diack a painful accident to one of his hands. The buildings of the Japan Brewery Co. were also erected under his supervision. Though of a somewhat reserved character, Mr. Diack was esteemed and respected by all who had relations with him, and his removal will be a source of deep regret to a large circle of friends. The deceased gentleman had attained the age of 73.

The remains of Mr. J. Diack were interred in the General Cemetery next morning, being followed to the grave by a large number of residents. The pall bearers were Messrs. W. R. Bennett, A. Patterson, A. Keyser, W. N. Watt, J. Stewart, and Dr. Wheeler. Rev. E. C. Irwine conducted the funeral service, and at the close addressed a few sympathetic words to the assembled mourners. He thanked them in the name of the late Mr. Diack's relatives and family for their kind presence there that morning, showing their fraternal feelings—those of them who belonged to the Society of which he was a member—and also those to whom his work was better known than he—Mr. Irwine—could express by any words of his. They all felt the loss of an old and respected resident, and trusted that he rested in peace after his labours.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Inasmuch as the nominations for President and Vice-President of the United States are probably all made, I desire, in behalf of the *Chicago Record*, to take a poll of the American citizens in Japan. I shall be greatly obliged, therefore, if all legal voters will kindly send me word, either by postal card or by letter, how they would vote, if they were to be in the home-land on the election-day. As an evidence of good faith, and as a protection of the integrity of the ballot, I request further that each voter will be so kind as to sign his name, give give place of residence in Japan, and name of State from which he hails. But this information will all be regarded as confidential, if so desired. I call for a full vote, as prompt as possible; and append a list of the nine tickets now in the field:—

Republicans—McKinley and Roosevelt.
Democrats—Bryan and Stevenson.
Populists—Bryan and ———*
Middle-of-the-Road Populists—Barker and Donnelley.
Prohibitionists—Woolley and Metcalf.
Socialist Labour—Harriman and Hayes.
Social Democrats—Debs and Harriman.
Socialists—Malloney and Renimill.
United Christians—Swallow and Sheldon.

* Towne has declined nomination.

I trust that no one will neglect this opportunity, but that each one will snatch a moment to send off a vote.

Sincerely yours, ERNEST W. CLEMENT.

Tokyo, Sept. 7th, 1900.

A case was set down for hearing on Thursday in the Yokohama Ku Saibansho, in which Mr. A. E. Fischer claimed payment of *yen* 90 from Madame M. D. Francois. The hearing was postponed.

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CHINA NOTES.

Admiral Skrydloff was to leave Europe to take up the command of the Russian Pacific Squadron on or about Aug. 6. He was to embark at Marseilles for the Far East.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* asserts that Yau Li, the Black Flag Chief, has not left Canton with his band of braves who are now on their way north, but has remained behind with the bulk of his forces. In all probability the wily leader wishes to remain in touch with outside events in order that he may suit his actions to circumstances.

Already the troubles in China have had the effect of closing down seven cotton mills in Bombay and the stoppage of others is expected to follow. Shares have fallen in value, and are for the most part unsaleable. Shares of one mill, generally regarded as first-class and difficult to obtain at Rs. 2,900 a share, are now below Rs. 1,500.

According to the estimate of Baron Richtoften, the famous geologist (as quoted by a writer in the *North American Review*) the province of Shansi alone can supply the whole world with coal at the present rate of consumption for 3,000 years. Then, in most cases, beds of iron lie in close proximity to those of coal, and can be easily worked and smelted.

The Canton authorities on Aug. 28th took possession of the premises of the three native newspapers—the *Pok Man*, *Ling Hoi* and *Cheang Sai*—and suppressed the publications. Eleven members of the staff of the *Pok Man* and *Ling Hoi* were arrested and their personal effects were looted. It is presumed that the seizure was occasioned by the publication of the news of Chinese defeats and the capture of Peking.

The first man of the Relief Column to enter the Legations was Major Scott, of the 1st Sikhs, followed by General Gaselee, and as the latter came into the Legation garden he found time to stoop down to kiss a puny, siege-starved child, and tell her he had a little girl at home. Major Parsons, of the Staff, afterwards guided the 24th Punjab Infantry to the Temple of Heaven, where they were the first to enter.

At the beginning of the siege, when the Japanese Minister called for volunteers to assist in the defence of his Legation, no less than thirty-five officers of the Japanese army, who had been scattered about Peking in various disguises, responded to the call. One had been the foreigners' barber, and it was then explained why he had been such an inferior Figaro, another had been the leading photographer, etc., which perhaps accounts for the excellent information about things in China that Japan possesses.

Mr. Huberty James met his death early in the siege. He went out alone to seek some person of influence with whom to expostulate. He met a party of soldiers on a bridge to the north of the Legation and threw up his arms to show he was unarmed, but they shot him down. Mr. Huberty James stood well with the high Chinese officials. He, well furnished in all things Chinese, was or seemed to be a trusted adviser to whom they not infrequently turned.

The conduct of the small French garrison was particularly gallant, and they suffered very severely during the siege. Out of the three naval officers in charge, two, Messrs. Henry and Herbette, were killed, and they lost 25 out of the 90 marines. Notwithstanding this heavy loss Lieutenant de Vaisseau Darsy, who commanded the French contingent and was the only officer spared by shot and shell, managed to keep everybody of what was left of the force under his command in working order until the relief reached Peking.

Four French priests and a number of followers have arrived, said the Bhamo correspondent of the *Rangoon Gazette*, writing under date Aug. 10th. They were escorted from Talifu to Nampaung by 20 armed soldiers. They were 26 days on the road and suffered much from the heat, wind and rain; but strange to say they are all looking remarkably well, except their elder or bishop, an elderly gentleman, who is very much reduced. It was through the kindness of the military officers at Tali that they obtained their pass and escort of troops. They report the country unsettled and trade at a standstill. They met with no opposition or insults until they came near the frontier, where they would have had some trouble had it not been for Mr. Hobson.

The *N.-C. Daily News* publishes the following "Madrigal in C Major" (after the Immortal Bard) with reference to the postponed illuminations at Shanghai:—

Take, oh take those lamps away,
All rejoicings are forsworn,
And those poles which flaunt the day,
Take them down to-morrow morn!
But our fears we'll hug again,
Once again.
Welcome woe, since mirth is vain,
Very vain.

Prominent members of the Reform Party state that if the British Government would only say that she will not grant peace unless the Emperor be restored to power and he himself allowed to personally direct negotiations, this demand will be hailed with joy by the whole of China. Moreover it will stop all further dissension between the various political parties and restore peace throughout the country. Riots, etc., will soon cease and the foreigner will not be hereafter regarded with suspicion. As it is now, Chinese everywhere only know that the Powers are intent on partition; the people do not know who is to be the real head of China; they are loyal to Kuang Hsü and under present conditions consider it their duty to "rescue the Emperor," which means fight the foreigners.

Wholesale executions are still going on in Hupeh province, it being reported that, since the 21st ultimo, no fewer than eighty-two insurgents have been summarily executed in various parts of the province within the past ten days. Per contra, says the *North-China Daily News*, there are now reported to be three distinct insurrections, one at Hsinti, or New Dyke, just above the provincial capital, Wuchang; one near Lake Tseho, in the same prefecture, and the third at Puchihsien, near the Hunan border; the majority of the rebels are natives of the last-named province. The authorities appear to be most energetic and seize and decapitate anyone who they think "looks like a suspect." Further, to simplify matters, and to make sure that each captive cannot escape from his doom, the Viceroy Chang has ordered that all found guilty are to be henceforth decapitated on the spot, without being sent to Wuchang for the carrying out of the sentences, as is the custom during ordinary times, for fear of the friends of the intended victims intercepting them while crossing over the Yangtze. Finally, it is reported among the officials that the insurgents of Puchihsien and those now holding the important position at Lake Tseho are more formidable than the usual run of insurgents, being much better armed with modern rifles and guns. Their numbers are also large, some 7,000 and more in all, so that the high authorities of Wuchang are now compelled to send their best regiment to try to suppress these rebels.

The China papers to hand by the *Coptic* contain copious accounts from various pens of the Siege of the Legations. We have only room for a few extracts, the *N.-C. Daily News* being principally drawn upon:—

Throughout the siege and during the arduous work of barricading and entrenching, Sir Robert Hart was a notable figure. He sank his position as Inspector-General entirely, holding himself as a plain man and no more. He worked hard and gallantly with the rest, drawing the same rations, and showing himself at all times a man of strength and fortitude in danger or trouble. As to the rations, they were all too short. The ordinary food soon gave out, and there remained the looted rice—and the horses. About 80 of these were eaten, and rice and horse-flesh was the diet of the garrison during the greater part of the siege. Wine there was in reasonable quantity, and champagne was a staple drink. Whisky was plentiful, too, though brandy ran very short. Next to food, perhaps guns and ammunition take rank in importance. The stories already to hand in regard to the manufacture of ammunition are borne out. There is one amusing story in this connection. One of the guns used was an ancient piece, a relic of 1860, rescued from a brazier's shop, and this came to be called the "International Gun." It rested on an Italian carriage, it was worked by an American, the powder used was Chinese, the projectiles were Russian—the recital of the nationalities represented in its working would be tedious. It was fitly named. The defenders, one and all, have practically lost everything, so far as personal effects are concerned. Those who have reached Shanghai have little else but the clothes they stand in. All the archives of the Imperial Maritime Customs are destroyed, though Sir Robert Hart has rescued his diary. This last should be interesting.

AMERICAN NOTES.

An immense forest-fire broke out in Wyoming during August and before it burnt itself out devastated an area 8 miles by 10, including two towns. Some thousands of sheep were burnt to death.

The total wheat crop of Oregon, Washington and Idaho for 1900 is now estimated at from 32,000,000 to 35,000,000 bushels. This is a reduction of about 5,000,000 bushels from the earlier estimates. The wheat is said to be of a very fine quality.

The capacity of the great electric power plant established on the American side of Niagara falls is to be doubled. The work is now in progress. Possibly an enlargement of the plan on the Canadian side will follow. It is certainly within the range of the possibilities of the next ten years that the entire volume of the waterfall will be diverted for the transformation of its energy into electricity. If so, one of the world's greatest natural wonders will become extinguished in obedience to the demands of an utilitarian age.

Work has been begun in Baltimore on the silver service for Rear-Admiral Winfield Scott Schley, to be made from the silver coin captured on the Spanish cruiser *Christobal Colon*. The service will consist of eighteen dinner plates, one gravy boat and ladle, four vegetable dishes, one game platter, one fish platter, one entree platter and one soup tureen. The total weight of the silver is 2000 ounces, and the cost when completed will be between $7000 and $9000.

The great boom in manufactures which the McKinley era of prosperity has brought to Providence, R.I., has increased the growth of that city, as shown by the census returns of its population, just published, at a much higher ratio during the past decade than during the ten years ending in 1890. In the decade last named the gain was 27,289, or 26.92 per cent in the decade just closed it was 43,431 or 32.88 per cent. Providence is the only Eastern city whose returns have been completed which shows an increase in numbers as well as in ratio in comparison of the census of the last two decades. The present population of Providence is 175,597; it had 132,146 in 1890.

Perhaps the most remarkable discovery ever made in America was the diminutive race of horses found recently near a great lake in the wilds of Wyoming. The tiny equines, though less than two and a half feet high, were perfect specimens of fully matured horses. Exact images of fine horseflesh as seen to-day, they were nevertheless smaller than any pony living at present. Amazement filled the minds of the scientific men who found the little animals. Thousands of them inhabited the shores of the lake, yet they have never been found elsewhere. Perhaps some choice food peculiarly adapted to their needs grew only along its shores. It is doubtful if they were ever ridden by man, and certainly a human of normal size would never have attempted to bestride so small a creature. If dwarfs rode upon the lilliputian steeds, no traces of their presence have yet been found.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We read in the *Fiji* that Capt. Shiraishi (who it will be remembered, was reported to have been the first to enter the Taku Forts), is to be court-martialled for beating a non-commissioned officer so severely that he afterwards died.

The funeral ceremony of the well-known story teller Sanyutei Encho took place on Sept. 11th at Zenshoan, Yanaka, Tokyo. Many of his pupils, and a large company of the general public attended. Among those present was Surgeon-General Baron Ishiguro.

General Voyron, Commander-in-Chief of the French expeditionary corps in China, (whose arrival at Saigon is reported by telegraph) is accompanied by all the officers of his staff, as well as General Bailloud, Commander of the Second Brigade of the Expeditionary Corps.

A blind shampooer named Kamada Katsutaro, staying at a boarding house at Miyoshicho Nichome, Yokohama, is alleged to have stolen a silver watch from one of the guests at a hotel in Yeirakucho Nichome, on the 8th inst. He was arrested the following morning.

An affray occurred in the vicinity of the Ubari coal mine, Hokkaido, on Aug. 28th, about a hundred gamblers who had fallen out fighting among themselves with swords and other weapons. Two were killed and a number of others more or less severely wounded before the police could settle matters.

A prize offered by the *Academy* for "an invented poetic quotation which, if introduced into print would be likely to gain currency," was won by the following :—

SELF-PRIDE.

Lost to all sense but that of inward pride,
Wrapt in himself, he needs no other guide ;
No magnet points him to a distant pole—
Himself the chart, the compass, and the goal.

Vice-Admiral Pottier, who has been appointed to the command of the French naval force in the Far East, left Cherbourg with his flagship the *Redoubtable* on Aug. 2nd. The *Redoubtable* was launched in 1876. Her displacement is 8,857 tons, and her engines 6,070 h.-p. She carries eight 10.6 in. and five 5.5 in guns. Her complement is 700 officers and men. The cruiser *Chasseloup Laubat* left Cherbourg in company with the Admiral.

Since the outbreak of the present disturbances in North China, the principal Powers of Europe have been and are still reinforcing their navies on the Asiatic station. Upon arrival in the Far East of all the warships despatched by their respective Governments, the Asiatic squadrons of the Powers will show the following tonnage :—British, 180,000; German, 100,000; Russian, 100,000, and French, 80,000. The tonnage of the Japanese Navy is now reported to have reached 200,000.

A slight error crept into our translation of Art. LXIII. of the recent Postal Order Regulations. It should read :—

Art. LXIII.—An application for payment at a private residence may be forwarded to the Post Office free of charge, provided that the same contains the name and address of the receiver, and particulars as to the order held, and that stamps corresponding to the amount of the prescribed fees are affixed. *Payment shall be made within three days after the receipt of the application.*

We italicize the corrected portion.

News is reported to have reached Chemulpo a few days prior to the 25th of August, of the murder of an Englishman employed at the American gold mine up north, by name Mr. Bland, brother of the well-known Mr. Bland of Shanghai. Some 25 Koreans came from the next mine, owned by Koreans, and with axes cut the unfortunate man almost to pieces. The part of the American mine on which Bland was working belonged before it became part of the American concession to the owner of the mine from which the men came, and for some time (according to a correspondent of the *Kobe Herald*) there had been considerable bad feeling exhibited by the Korean owner and his men.

It is stated that the present site of the K. R. and A.C. boat house, Kobe, along with the building thereon, has been sold for 52,500 *yen*.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha have placed an order for a steamer to replace the lost *Futami Maru*. She is to cost *yen* 1,000,000, and is to be finished within 12 months.

On Wednesday afternoon 281 boxes of horse shoe silver captured by the Japanese in North China arrived at Shimbashi, and were at once conveyed to the War Department.

The steamer *Hoko Maru*, which was lost in the Korean Straits some weeks ago, has been sold at auction at Kobe. The hull, with 13,500 railway sleepers, was knocked down at *yen* 4,460.

When Captain Thom of the ill-fated steamer *Futami Maru* reached Sydney last voyage, he received news of the death by drowning of his only son. Troubles never seem to come singly.

A man named Nishizawa Asanami, who alleged that he was commissioned to represent the Okayama Emigrant Company, put up at the Hisagoya Hotel, Chojamachi Shichome, Yokohama, and proceeded to enlist coolies for service in China. He secured 5 *sen* a piece from 216, men and then decamped without paying his board bill.

Another Japanese coasting steamer, the *Matsura Maru*, has been chartered for service in North China by the German Navy, through the medium of the Nagasaki German Consulate. The vessel has left Nagasaki for Taku. She is of 246 tons gross, and is to be employed as a transport between Taku and Tientsin.

On Thursday morning, while a fireman named Doril, aged about 30, belonging to the M.M. steamer *Salazie*, lying at Yokohama, was working in the coal bunkers a quantity of coal suddenly slid down and buried him. He sustained severe injuries on the head, and was conveyed to the French Hospital, Bluff, for treatment.

The following are the crews selected for the Junior Fours :—

SWAN.		SEAMEW.	
Str.	J. Helm.	Str.	E. J. Moss, Jr.
3	F. Pollard.	3	A. Marsh.
2	L. R. Ellson.	2	C. H. Thorn.
Bow	H. Gorman	Bow	A. E. Pawsey.
DARTER.		FLAMINGO.	
Str.	T. Herlihy.	Str.	F. G. Bromley.
3	H. Temme.	3	F. Herb.
2	C. Moss.	2	C. Aslet.
Bow	C. Roth.	Bow	H. Russell.

Some progress is being made, says the *Kobe Herald*, in the preliminaries of the important project for the construction of a street railway or electric tramway in Kobe, spoken of several months ago. Messrs. Fujita and Honda, the Committee appointed on the matter from the city office, returned from a visit to Kyoto some days ago, where they were sent to make a thorough investigation regarding the electric railway system of the city. As the result of their labours it is probable that an electric railway will be established and worked by the Kobe municipality.

Luton straw hat makers ridicule the fear that their trade will be "paralysed" by the Chinese crisis. There is nothing like scarcity in their supplies, they state, for besides shipments afloat they have 8,000 bales of plaits in London and large stocks in the factories. Moreover, enormous supplies are obtainable from Japan. Its output has doubled within the last three years, and the Japanese plait is much lighter, of greater brilliancy, and more refined texture than the Chinese.

The Hamburg-America Line is still acquiring new vessels on a large scale. On 21st ult., an 8,000 tons boat was launched from the wharf of Blohm and Voss, and was named the *Segovia*. She will be employed in the cargo and passenger trade to the Far East. Besides this boat a splendid yacht-styled boat, the *Princessin Louise*, a 10,000 tons vessel, is nearly finished, and will leave on Sept. 25 on a pleasure excursion to San Francisco, whence the passengers go by rail to New York, and thence by Hamburg-America crack to Hamburg.

For the first time in the history of the use of torpedoes by the United States navy, a Whitehead, fitted with a war head and charged with ninety pounds of gun cotton, was recently fired for a test. The firing was off the south end of Prudence Island, in Narragansett Bay, the target being a rock on the shore, and the range was 600 yards. The torpedo made a fine run, striking the rock under water. Besides blowing it all to pieces, it sent a column of water high up in the air. The test cost the Government 2,500 dollars.

The following table shows the number of foreigners who, as the result of the fighting in China, were residing in Kanagawa Prefecture in August last, including soldiers and others in the hospitals :—

PRIVATES AND CIVILIANS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Great Britain	32	13	45
United States.....	10	3	13
Germany	6	5	11
France	1	0	1
China.....	2	2	4
Total	51	23	74

OFFICERS.

United States Naval Officers.....	6
,, Marines	7
,, Army Officers	2

The latest addition to the N. Y. K. fleet, the *Shinano Maru*, built and engined by Messrs. D. and W. Henderson, of Partick, Glasgow, went out for her Teishinsho trial trip in Yokohama Bay on Tuesday. The weather was not particularly favourable, the sea being rough and the breeze strong, but over the measured course an average speed of 15.391 knots was made in the three up and down runs, 18 miles in all.

The *Shinano Maru*, which is in command of Capt. G. E. Pugh Cook, formerly of the *Bingo Maru*, is intended for the Seattle run, but owing to the unfortunate loss of the *Futami Maru*, near Manila, will have to run down to Australia until another vessel can be provided. She is a splendid vessel of some 6,100 tons, has accommodation for 38 first class passengers, and is fitted with all the latest improvements and conveniences.

Information has been received in Shanghai, says the *Mercury*, that the following missionaries, who were stationed in Chihli, met their death in the latter part of July.

Station Fengchowfu, near Paotingfu: Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Price and one child, Rev. and Mrs. E. R. Atwater, and two children, of the American Board Mission, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Lundgren (Danes) and Miss A. Eldridge (British) of the China Inland Mission.

Stationed at Taiku: Rev. and Mrs. D. H. Clapp, Rev. G. L. Williams, Rev. F. W. Davis, Miss R. Bird and Miss M. L. Partridge, all of the American Board Mission.

The Fengchowfu party had left their station under escort on the 15th of July, and lost their lives whilst en route to a place of safety, whilst the Taiku party are said to have met death at their station on the 31st of July.

The above news was brought to Tientsin by a trustworthy native messenger.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week :—

	Air Temp. Max	Min	Lake	State of Weather	Remarks a General
Sunday, 2nd	76°	69°	71°	Fine....	...
Monday, 3rd	75°	68°	71°	Fine.....	
Tuesday, 4th	74°	68°	71°	Fine	
Wed'sday, 5th	78°	70°	71°	Fine..	
Thursday, 6th	74°	69°	70°	...showers...	
Friday, 7th	71°	66°	70°	Fine .....Rain in aft'n	
Saturday, 8th	68°	66°	70°	Fine..Rain till 11 a.m.	

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PRIVATE TELEGRAPH REGULATIONS.

Regulations relating to private telegraphs have recently been issued as follows :—

Art. I.—The term "private telegraphs" in these Regulations means telegraphs and telephones specified in Article II. of the Telegrapas Law.

Art. II.—Private telegraphs specified in the 2nd clause of Art. II of the Telegraph Law are limited to such as are to be employed exclusively by the enterprises enumerated below :—

1. Railways conforming with the Private Railway Law; railways or permanent ways designed for general transport business in accordance with the Permanent Way Regulations or other special laws and ordinances; railways constructed for the exclusive use of a private individual or company.

2. Canals, irrigation works, works designed to guard against inundation or fire, water works, works for protection against disasters by sea or river, works for meteorological observation.

3. Enterprises in which electricity of high voltage, or of specially high voltage is to be employed.

4. Enterprises requiring the use of special private telegraphs, apart from those enumerated above.

Art. III.—Of the private telegraphs specified in paragraph 5 of Article II. of the Telegraph Law, that which is designed for one particular business must be constructed only between the places where business is carried on, or between such places and the residences of persons having charge of the same.

Art. IV.—Any person desiring to establish a private telegraph must apply to and obtain permission from the Minister of Communications. This provision, however, does not apply to telegraphs to be laid between stations and offices or places for signalling for the exclusive use of railway enterprises specified in the Private Railway Law.

Art. V.—Such application must be accompanied by documents containing the following particulars :—

1. Reasons for construction.

2. Statement whether telegraph or telephone, and the number of lines to be laid.

3. Name of place where machinery is to be erected (with indication of territorial divisions as to *Do, Fu, Ken, Gun, Shi, Ku, Cho, Son*, and other minor sections), and of the localities through which the line will pass.

4. Date of completion.

The items specified in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the above Article must be accompanied by maps or plans.

When private telegraphs are to be established between adjoining cities, districts, towns, or villages, or between points as to which it is considered unjustifiable to conform to paragraph 4 of Article II. of the Telegraph Law, documents furnishing evidence of these facts must be presented, in addition to those specified in paragraph 1.

Art. VI.—Persons desiring to alter the items specified in any of the paragraphs of the foregoing article after obtaining permission as prescribed in Article IV. must apply to the Minister of Communications.

Art. VII.—On the completion of a private telegraph line after obtaining permission as specified in Article IV. or VI., a report containing the following items must be presented to the Minister of Communications within seven days.

1. Date of completion of the work.

2. Memorandum showing the class as well as the number of instruments used, length of the line, whether over head, under ground, or submarine, form of the lines laid, class, size, and length of the wires, as well as method of conservation. Any alteration in the last paragraph must also be reported as prescribed in the foregoing article.

Art. VIII.—Any person laying a private telegraph line as prescribed in the additional clause of Article IV. must report to the Minister of Communications, within seven days after the completion of the work, the particulars specified in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of Article V., and in each of the paragraphs of Article VII. The same procedure is necessary in the case of alterations. With regard to telegraphs designed for the transmission of public messages, however, no alteration can be made without obtaining permission of the Minister of Communications exclusively in connection with paragraph 2 of Article V.

Art. IX.—When a private telegraph line is to be assigned or transferred, an application by both the parties concerned must be forwarded to the Minister of Communications, except in cases where the transaction is between two railway companies with respect to lines specified in the additional clause of Article IV.

When the delivery of a private telegraph line has been effected after obtaining permission as specified above, or a private telegraph line as mentioned in the additional clause of Article IV has been assigned between two railway companies, a report signed by the parties concerned must be forwarded to the Minister of Communications.

When a private telegraph line has been acquired by lineal succession or by other means, the fact must be reported to the Minister of Communications within seven days.

Art. X.—Private telegraph lines designed for public utility shall in no way be abolished or suspended without permission of the Minister of Communications.

When private telegraph lines other than those specified above have been abolished, the fact must be reported to the Minister of Communications within seven days.

Art.—XI.—When communication is about to be opened, abolished, or suspended on a private telegraph line as specified in paragraph 4 of Article II. of the Telegraph Law, the fact must be reported by the proprietor to a Post and Telegraph Office or a Telegraph Office 15 days previously.

Art. XII.—In case of the abolition of a private telegraph line the wire and instrument must be removed within 30 days, except when the period has been specially indicated. This provision applies also to cases where official permission has lost its validity or is withdrawn. Suspension of a private telegraph for more than one year shall be regarded as abolition, and the foregoing provisions shall be applied.

Art. XIII.—A private telegraph wire to be laid along a highway is amenable to the following restrictions except special sanction is obtained from the Minister of Communications under special circumstances :—

[Here follow a number of technical provisions which are of no general interest.]

Art. XX.—The work of securing, preparing, or maintaining private telegraph lines to be established in connection with Post and Telegraph Offices or Telegraph Offices in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article II. of the Telegraph Law shall be undertaken by the Department of Communications. Any person establishing a private telegraph line, however, is required to supply the materials as indicated by the Department of Communications, and to pay the expenses of the work as well as of its maintenance. The procedure for payment of maintenance fees as well as the amount thereof shall be specially determined.

Art. XXI.—Whenever it is deemed that the establishment of private telegraphs is likely to obstruct other telegraphs or to create a source of danger, the Minister of Communications may cause the same to be altered or special arrangements to be made.

Art. XXII.—The Minister of Communications may at times despatch officials to examine the method employed in laying private telegraphs, as well as the nature of the messages sent.

Art. XXIII.—When any person who has established a private telegraph line acts contrary to the provisions of these regulations, or fails to comply with the directions issued in accordance with the same, the Minister of Communications may suspend the use of such telegraphs or withdraw the permission granted with respect to them.

Art. XXIV.—All documents to be presented to the Minister of Communications in accordance with these regulations must be transmitted through the local authorities of the district where the private telegraph line is established. With regard to private telegraph lines specified in the additional clause of Article IV, however, documents must be presented through the local authorities having jurisdiction over the district where the company's head offices are situated.

Art. XXV.—Violation of Article VI., or the additional clause of Article VIII or the 1st clause of Article IX or of Article X shall be visited by a fine of not less than *2 yen* and not more than 25 *yen*.

Art. XXVI.—Any person failing to present a report as specified in Article VII. or VIII. or paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article IX., or paragraph 2 of Article X., or to give notice as specified in Article XIX., or refusing to allow inspection as prescribed in Article XXII., without substantial reason, shall be liable to a police fine of not less than 10 *sen* and not more than 1.95 *yen*.

Art. XXVII.—With regard to private telegraphs specified in paragraph 1 of Article II. of the Telegraph Law, the provisions of Articles IV., XIV., XX., and XXIV., shall be applied.

APPENDIX.

Art. XXVIII.—With regard to telegraph bells or telegraph lines established for the purpose of signalling, the provisions of Articles XIII., or XIX., or XXI., or XXIII., shall be applied.

If wires for telegraph bells are to be laid from Post and Telegraph Offices or Telegraph Offices, for the purpose of transmitting information as to exact noon, the provisions of Article IV., VII., IX., XII., or XX., shall be applied in addition to the foregoing clause.

Art. XXIX.—Any person who has obtained permission for the establishment of telegraphs or telephones in conformity with the Telegraph Regulations, prior to the operation of the Telegraph Law, shall apply for fresh permission to the Minister of Communications within six months from the date of the enforcement of these rules, in accordance with the provisions of Articles IV., and V., persons falling within the purview of paragraph 1 of Article II of the Telegraph Law being excepted. Any person coming under the additional clause of Article IV is required to forward a report within the same period, in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII. Any person who has obtained the aforesaid permission shall present a report as provided for in Article VII.

With regard to persons who have failed to apply within the period specified in the 1st clause of this Article, or having applied, failed to obtain permission, the provisions of Article XII. shall be applied. With respect to those failing to forward reports as specified in the 1st and 2nd clauses above given, Article XXVI. shall be applied.

Art. XXX.—Whenever it is found with respect to private telegraphs for which permission has been obtained or a report duly made in accordance with the preceeding article, the works already completed are incompatible with the provisions of these regulations, the same must be altered within 3 years from the date of their operation. This period, however, does not affect the validity of the direction based on Article XXI.

The foregoing provisions are also applicable to works already completed in connection with telegraph bells or wires designed for signals.

Art. XXXI.—These regulations shall come into operation on the 1st of October in the 33rd year of *Meiji* (1900).

The rules for the establishment of private telegraphs and telephones embodied in Ordinance No. 4 of the Department of Communications issued in March of the 22nd year of *Meiji* (1889), and all other enactments which may conflict with the present regulations are rescinded.

—

In respect of the above regulations, rules showing the procedure of payment as well as the amount of the charges specified in Article XX. of the Private Telegraph Law have been established as follows :—

Art. I.—The amount imposed for maintenance of telegraphs, as prescribed in the 2nd clause of Article XX. of the Private Telegraph Regulations, is as follows :—

	Annual amount. Yen
For telegraph apparatus, each	160
„ telephone „ „	80

Art. II.—The amount of the charges for maintenance must be paid to the Post and Telegraph Office with which the private telegraph line is connected. If private telegraphs are connected with Telegraph Offices or with 3rd class Post and Telegraph Offices, the money shall be paid to 1st class Post and Telegraph Office having jurisdiction.

Art. III.—The annual charges for maintenance shall be divided into four portions payable in the following four periods, each installment being paid prior to the 10th day of the 1st month of each period :—

1st	period,	from	April	1	to June	30.
2nd	"	"	July	1	" September	31.
3rd	"	"	October	1	" December	31.
4th	"	"	January	1	" March	31.

Art. IV.—In case communication is to be opened during one of the above periods, the charges for maintenance shall be calculated by multiplying the number of months from the date of the commencement of communication till the last month of the period in question, and then dividing the product by 12, and the amount thus obtained shall be paid within 10 days from the commencement of business.

Art. V.—Even when business has been abandoned or suspended before the expiration of the term, fees for maintenance during the prescribed period must be disbursed.

In case of the abolition or suspension of business from the 1st day of any period, if a report such as is specified in Article XI. of the Private Telegraph Regulations has not been presented, the entire amount of the charges for maintenance has to be disbursed.

Art. VI.—Even when apparatus is altered before the expiration of the period, fees for maintenance shall be collected at the rate enforced prior to the alteration. If, however, the alteration will involve the payment of higher rates, the balance shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of Article IV., and the money be paid within 10 days from the date of alteration.

Art. VII.—For information of exact noon by means of electric bells connected with Post and Telegraph Offices or Telegraph Offices, a sum of 12 *yen* must be paid annually.

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LAMB'S INTERNATIONAL GUIDE.

We have to acknowledge receipt of a copy of the eleventh edition of the "International Guide to British and Foreign Merchants and Manufacturers." The information included in this bulky volume has apparently been classified with careful regard to the convenience of those who are expected to consult it, there being three sections devoted to British, to Continental, and to American and Colonial firms suitably grouped according to trade or manufacture, with indexes of names in four languages and tables of reference to trade marks. We note that in his preface Mr. Lamb refers to "the large amount of labour and correspondence necessarily involved in the collection, arrangement, and printing of such a vast number of names in one volume." We can well believe that great pains have been taken to secure both fullness and accuracy of information, and have therefore no hesitation in calling the attention of the compiler to the defective character of his Japan lists. They include the names of firms that have long passed away and they omit others the absence of which does not speak well for the value of the information given. Dodwell & Co., find no place in them but the long defunct firm of Adamson, Bell & Co., do. Sargent, Farsari & Co. are a relic of past years, and who were "Rasch and Ruyter, piano importers, Yokohama"? Mr. Lamb should get his lists revised.

TIENTSIN'S DAMAGES FROM BOMBARDMENT.

After a suspension lasting for two months the *Peking and Tientsin Times* re-appeared on Aug., 25th. The following list of the damages inflicted by the bombardment of the city by the Chinese is interesting :—

BUILDINGS DAMAGED SERIOUSLY.

Hongkong Bank.	Taku Tug & Lighter Co.
Chartered Bank.	W. A. Forbes & Co.
British Consulate.	Messrs. Liddell & Co.
French Consulate.	Mr. Kliene's house.
Japanese Consulate.	Mr. Susemihl's house.
Messrs. Philippot & Co.	Messrs. Collins & Co.
Railway Office.	Tientsin Club
Messrs. Tallieu & Co.	Messrs. Wilson & Co.
Messrs. Watson & Co.	St. Louis Cathedral.
Tientsin Hotel.	Gordon Hall.
Astor House Hotel.	Temperance Hall.
Clearance House.	

All the above had more than one shell, and many up to eight and ten. Our contemporary does not pretend that any of these lists are complete.

SLIGHTLY DAMAGED.

Five houses Victoria Terrace.
Mr. McLeish's house.
Mr. de Linde's house.
German Club.
Dr. Irwin's house.
Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Messrs. Telge Shroeter & Co.
Mr. Anderson's house.
Messrs. Carlowitz & Co.
Tientsin Water Works.
Tientsin Gas Works.

TOTALLY DESTROYED BY SHELL AND FIRE.

Russian Consulate
Yokohama Specie Bank.
Woollen Mill.
Railway Station.
Taylor's and neighbouring stores.
Messrs. Butterfield & Co.'s godown.
Messrs. Mackenzie & Co.'s godown.
Mr. Detring's house.
Mr. John Dickinson's house.
Grand Stand, Racecourse.
Mr. Ballauf's house.
Mr. Ash's house.
Mr. Montell's house.
Mr. Ward's office.

Also the whole of the Chinese houses on the opposite side of the river; all Chinese houses and small shops in Tze-chu-lin, and all Chinese houses in and around the Foreign Settlements, Taku Road and Extra Concession.

Mr. Onslow Ford, it is announced, has accepted the commission to carry out the memorial which Mr. Ruskin's many friends desire to erect in Westminster Abbey. The Dean is entirely in sympathy with the scheme, and has allotted to the monument a site in Poet's Corner, just above the bust of Sir Walter Scott.

CHINA.

The following sonnet has been awarded an *Academy* prize:—

Type of the changeless, thou; yet not of Good,
Whose high immutable is but the chime
Of waves that ceaseless throng the shores of Time,
Conquerors of fate and all vicissitude.
For thee, thy calm is of the enchanted wood
And wizard spell, a trance that—countless years—
Has sealed thy heart to love, thine eyes to tears,
And blasted so thy flower of maidenhood.
Is there no charm to rouse thee save the word
Of impotent hate, whereby thy sleep is stirred
To fevered dreams, not life? Across that sea
Whose waters, circling all, encircle thee—
The eternal Good—shall not a voice be heard—
"Ephphatha! break thy bonds! be strong and free!"

MARY A. WOODS.

THE WRECK OF THE "FUTAMI MARU."

Full details of the loss of the *Futami Maru* are contained in the *Manila Times* of the 25th ult. It appears that the accident occurred shortly after midnight on August 16th, in the midst of a terrific wind and rain storm, closely approaching a typhoon. The ship ran ashore on Pantokomi Point on the south-east side of Paluan Bay. The driving wind and rain, together with the W.N.W. gale, had driven the vessel ten miles off her course. No officer, whatever his ability as a navigator may have been, could have averted the disaster.

Just after eight bells the ship struck, or rather stopped. She must have touched a coral reef and then run up on the sandy breach beyond. The vessel's position at this time was somewhat sheltered and preparations were at once made by Captain Thom to land his passengers and crew and to save all the baggage, mails and specie on the ship. The Japanese crew were ordered to work by the Captain. They rebelled at first and attempted to take to the boats, but were soon put to work by the officers. With her big passenger list, including a large proportion of women and children, it reflects the utmost credit upon the admirably drilled Japanese crew.

Two aged ladies who were passengers from Australia, neither one being younger than seventy years of age, were safely landed. With marvellous precision, the officers in charge of the eight boats saw that every man was at his post to assist in taking off the passengers. There was no hurry or excitement displayed in the hazardous work of transferring the passengers to the lifeboats. Captain Thom himself superintended the lowering of each boat, and the safe transference of the passengers into each.

All the passengers are unanimous in their praise for the untiring work of Captain Thom, the Chief Officer Mr. Pine, and the Second Officer Mr. Takeda.

The first few hours were consumed in landing the passengers, and then the officers directed the landing of the thirty-seven sacks of Japanese mail and the sixteen boxes of gold specie. A large portion of the cabin baggage and other personal effects belonging to the passengers were saved.

A few hours after she was abandoned the *Futami Maru* became a battered hulk. With a heavy beam sea, lying as she did directly in the path of the fierce west-north-west wind, she began to break.

Captain Thom did everything in his power to make the rescued passengers comfortable. Tents were erected, and the sailors belonging to the crew worked with a will to house the castaways. As daylight dawned the natives came down to where the shipwrecked community were staying and showed hostile intentions until assured that the castaways were from a Japanese steamer. The native chief behaved most nobly. Two oxen were brought down to the camp, and slaughtered. The natives also assisted in building nipa houses for shelter. Early in the morning Chief Officer Pine took one of the boats with eight sailors and safely made a trip across the Paluan Bay to the south, to communicate with the natives at this point, so that signals of distress might be displayed. They were well received by the natives. They were compelled to walk around the beach as their boat was broken up in the surf.

The *Futami Maru* had eight lifeboats, and it speaks well for the Japanese Government that the able equipment demanded of their ships enabled every soul on board to be saved. Of the eight lifeboats there are but three left whole. The others went to pieces. All the oars, thwarts, water butts, etc., were washed away. It is a most extraordinary occurrence that there was no loss of life.

For six long dreary days did the shipwrecked people keep up an anxious look-out, for some passing vessel. Within only a day's run from Manila it seemed passing strange that no ship hove in sight to take them away from their difficulty. During all these fretful hours and nights of worry, when the hearts of women and children quaked with the fear of native hostility, Capt. Thom, Chief Officer Pine, Second Officer Takeda and the Chief Engineer, together with many of the female passengers, kept up the spirits of the crowd. The natives during all this time were more than hospitable.

The bewildered Japanese passengers, after the first worry, seemed to take things as a matter of course. They did not bother themselves to any great extent. The Chinese passengers held a great pow-wow; yet the admirable discipline which was exercised by the officers and crew made itself felt.

It was not until the 22nd that a vessel was sighted, and she was so far off to the northward that she failed to see the distress signals displayed on the island, but on the following morning about half-past five a large steamer was seen by the look-out coming rapidly from the southward within only a few miles of shore.

At first it was thought the officer on the bridge had failed to see the signal of distress. For fully half an hour the stranger continued on her course, and then she began to come about and made her way slowly in towards the bay. By this time the little community had been apprised of the approaching rescue, and all were ready when the good ship *Australian* dropped her anchor and awaited the transfer of the Robinson Crusoes from their rude but habitable quarters. Many were the expressions of regard showered upon the venerable commandante, who is the chief of that section of the island.

All the passengers were safely taken off the island and tenderly cared for on the *Australian*. At 6.30 on the 23rd the ship left for Manila, arriving in the bay about eleven o'clock on the morning of the 24th.

Captain Thom, Chief Officer Pine, Mr. Moore, Chief Engineer, together with all the sailors, comprising 46 in number, stopped at the camp close to the wreck. The Second Officer, Mr. Takeda, with the assistant engineers and firemen, came on in the *Australian*.

Mr. Takeda proceeded at once with the mails and gold specie to Hongkong. It is estimated that the gold carried by this officer was $300,000.

The place where the steamer *Futami Maru* went ashore at 12.15 on the night of August 17th is on the south-east side of Pantokami Point, which is the high mountain on the north-west side of Paluan Bay. From the official log the vessel when she struck was in latitude 13.12 north and long. 123.28 east.

BETTER EDUCATIONAL METHODS.

To His Excellency Count KABAYAMA,
Minister of State for Education.

DEAR SIR,—In response to the request of Professor Ueda, Chief of the Bureau of Special Education, I submit the following observations and suggestions relative to the study and teaching of English in the Chu Gakko and Koto Gakko.

My reason for venturing to comply with this request is that I am thoroughly interested in the very practical questions.—

1st. How to increase the effectiveness of the teaching of English by Japanese teachers.

2nd. How to lessen the total length of time now devoted to the study of English without lowering the standard or lessening the amount acquired.

THE DIFFICULTIES AND MISTAKES STATED.

While teaching in the Chu Gakko in Kyoto, first in connection with my work in the Doshisha, and now in the Dai San Koto Gakko, I became much impressed with the need of more co-operation between the Japanese teachers of English in the Government schools. Nearly every one seemed to be teaching quite on his own hook, with little or no reference to what the pupil had had before or was to have afterward, or to what his colleagues were doing. The idea of co-ordinating work in English study and teaching as is usually done in mathematics, for example, seems nearly if not wholly absent. Of course, in the lower classes, where American or English readers of any one series are used, there is necessarily a certain degree of connection between the work in translation from one year to another even when taught by different teachers, but, with certain individual exceptions, that seems to be about the limit of co-operation even in the same school. When we consider the teaching of grammar, so-called conversation, and composition work, there seems to be little attempt to utilize the work done and the vocabulary gained in the year or years before, except in a very general way, nor is there any definite and systematic preparation for the work of the succeeding year or years. As for unifying the courses of study for different schools of the same grade, there appears to be no general recognition of its need, and yet as we shall see, the lack of such unification has a very deleterious effect upon the progress of classes in entering schools of the next higher grade.

Again, I found almost no use of spoken English in the class-room by Japanese teachers, even by those who could do so. Everything, explanations, questions

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and all, were done in Japanese. Thus the students were not hearing English except a very little perhaps once a week. The consequence is that all the study is done by the eye and all the knowledge is gained through the eye, that is, the knowledge is almost exclusively that of abstract symbols or words; the mind of the pupil is constantly and habitually passing from the abstract English symbol through an abstract Japanese symbol to the idea expressed by both, or to the concrete object represented by both, hence there is, there can be, no *thinking* in English, and progress is slow, exceedingly laborious and tedious.

Again, there was a disproportionate amount of time given to so-called translation work, explaining the meaning of English classics in what I may call Japanese-English instead of in English, and, then, the translation attempted was often not translation at all, but a kind of transliteration, and the sentences formed were neither idiomatically correct nor smooth either in Japanese or in English.

When I began teaching in the Koto last fall I found, what I anticipated I should find, a very great inequality in the 1st year classes. Some could understand hardly a single word of spoken English, while others understood a great deal. This marked inequality cannot be due to some having the advantage of foreign teaching (except perhaps in three or four cases) for, so far as I could learn, no other government Chu Gakko except one here in Kyoto has had a foreign teacher for several years past, and those showing superior ability in understanding spoken English were by no means confined to the graduates of the Doshisha or of the Kyoto Chu Gakko of the last two years.

It seems, therefore, the cause or causes lie mainly in the difference of ability and methods among the Japanese teachers of English in the various schools whence the students came.

The main reason for calling attention to this inequality is its bearing upon the teaching of English in the Koto. Where there is such disparity much time is required to equalize the classes, and this, of course, wastes more or less time and makes progress correspondingly slow.

That the comparatively meagre and unsatisfactory results now obtained and generally admitted are due, in general, to the inefficiency of the instruction in the higher primary and middle schools (the Koto Sho Gakko and the Chu Gakko) will be granted by nearly every one, even by the thoughtful teachers themselves.

The manner and amount of training, or more exactly the lack of training, given these teachers, the small salaries offered, the scarcity of available men, are causes that combine to keep many of these schools supplied not only with poorly equipped teachers but also with teachers of inferior grade for *language* teaching.

Please note the emphasis, for language teaching is the most difficult of all kinds of teaching, difficult, I mean, to do well. The too common idea that any body can teach language, either his own or a foreign one of which he may have a smattering knowledge, has worked and still is working untold injury in this country; educationally it is a wrong, a vicious idea through and through.

It would be easy, if there were time and need, to show that, more than all other studies, the teaching of a language demands those qualities that characterize the born teacher as distinguished from the lecturer or mere imparter of information. The single fact that in all countries, language has been and still is the study chosen for its disciplinary or training possibilities, even more than mathematics, proves that it imperatively demands for its successful teaching men and women of exceptional ability and training to drill students and at the same time to inspire them with a generous enthusiasm for study, while implanting and cultivating right principles and correct habits of study.

The principal aim of all genuine study of the English language (which is a usable command of understanding, speaking and writing English) is gained only by drill, discipline, practice, and not by pouring out information in the ordinary meaning of the term. Of course no small amount of information will be necessarily imparted in all teaching of language, but it should be tributary and incidental to the discipline and practice, not an end in itself.

Unfortunately right here is one of the most serious obstacles: very few Japanese teachers and almost no Japanese students, have any adequate conception of teaching and study as an educating (*e-ducting*, leading out)—process. The well-nigh universal idea in practice, if not in theory, seems to be that of giving out information and explanation by the teacher and the swallowing or cramming down of the same by the pupil.

The very name in Japanese for a recitation room *Kyo jo*, means, literally, "teaching" or "lecture" room. I once asked a teacher for another Japanese name for "recitation room," one more from the student's standpoint, and the name given me was *Hikae Sho*, waiting room. This was a mistake, of course, but it was a mistake that has a singularly pat significance. The two names "lecture room" and "waiting room" very aptly and accurately represent the too common misconception or, more properly, inadequate conception of the recitation room by both teachers and pupils, and the prevailing attitude of mind of both while in it. Very few students have the slightest idea, or are made to think, that they have anything to do in the class-room except to listen. To them it is emphatically a "waiting room", and too often to the teacher it is merely a "lecture room."

I believe that this inadequate conception of what true education means and of the part that the highest and best teaching of language has in education, is very largely responsible for a number of the mistaken methods now prevailing in the teaching and study of English. To this is due largely the disinclination to use easy books in English literature for reading purposes, hence the practice of assigning writings for translation that are far beyond the ability of the student to understand, and not infrequently of the teacher also, hence the excessive use of so-called translation for the purpose of getting at the meaning; hence the word-for-word method of translation so prevalent even yet, which for young students or any beginners not already trained linguists or philologists is very dry, laborious, and unproductive, except to the mere verbal memory, indeed, this process and the habits of study and thinking it cultivates really tends to stultify the untrained or growing mind, for it increases the mere memory for words—abstract words—at the expense of the vastly more important powers of discrimination, of judgment, of reason, of analysis and synthesis in thought which are so essential to accuracy, force taste and elegance in the use of language, and even in the mere understanding of written discourse.

Again, the frequent changes of teachers from one school to another is undoubtedly a very great obstacle to organizing courses and methods. Inside of my first year in the Chu Gakko every teacher of English but one changed, some twice, and in the second year all but three changed. This makes it well nigh impossible to create an *esprit de corps*; and, not only does it hinder systematic and consecutive work, but it creates and fosters a spirit of unrest and expectancy on the part of individual teachers which tends to make them indifferent to forming any system and renders it impossible to test and improve a system when formed.

Another reason for the inequality is the custom of making English optional in the last year of the Koto Sho Gakko. This tends to make the classes entering the Chu Gakko uneven in English from the very start.

In the second place, the length of time devoted to the study of English, when compared with the actual attainments made, seems altogether too much.

The average student spends nine years in studying English by the time he graduates from the Koto Gakko, and yet the examinations seem to show that a large per centage of the students who have thus spent nine years in the study of this language are not prepared to pass into the University courses because of inefficient knowledge of English. Now nine years is a long time to give to any one study, if at the end of that time the chances are against its enabling a student to pass an examination to enter the University.

Or take the graduates of the Chu Gakko. I suppose nearly all have had six years of instruction in English, and, yet, scarcely one can write a sentence of ten words correctly or speak one of six.

If, as is generally thought, the average of the graduates of the Imperial University is from two to three years greater than it should be, then, surely no inconsiderable part of that time is due to the overtime devoted to the study of English.

The questions "How to increase the efficiency of the Japanese teachers of English," and "How to lessen the total amount of time devoted to the study of English" are thus seen to be of very practical, very vital importance and of far reaching significance and bearing upon education in general, and upon the welfare of the State.

If the difficulties and mistakes and actual shortcomings I have observed are real difficulties, real mistakes and actual short-comings, then they suggest the means of overcoming, correcting and doing away with them to a large extent at least. My object in pointing them out is in no sense to find fault or to blame. I have a genuine sympathy with the Japanese teachers of English in their arduous and difficult task: and my very object in pointing out what seem to me mistaken methods and the like is that the way will thus be prepared for removing the obstructions in their path and the lightening of the burdens under which they are staggering.

SUGGESTIONS, GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

1st.—To begin with, then, I would suggest that greater care be exercised in selecting teachers of English, both Foreign and Japanese, so as to secure not only educated, trained men but also men with a positive love for teaching language.

The time is past when everybody and anybody should be employed to teach English. Such a course is not merely detrimental to all efficient progress of the students, but also is positively belittling to the whole profession. I am prepared to say that thoroughly trained college men can be obtained provided there be some guarantee of employment for a term of years sufficient to warrant coming.

2nd.—What is imperative y needed is the establishment of one or more well manned schools for the training of teachers of languages, similar to the ones in London and Boston. At first, special courses might be opened in the Universities in Tokyo and Kyoto, or special temporary departments established for the purpose, but ultimately separate schools should be formed. In these schools, or departments, men who feel drawn toward language teaching as a life work could be systematically and thoroughly trained not only in the fundamental or psychological principles of language study and teaching, but also in the practical application of those principles; and, what is of equal importance, in those special modifications and adaptations of theories, methods and principles to the peculiar needs of individual students and classes under actual instruction.

I thoroughly believe in method, and, in particular, in the two methods known as the Gouin and the Berlitz methods, but I also believe that, no matter how fine a system may be or appear in theory, it requires certain modifications in its actual application to teaching in different lands, and in the hands of different teachers. Students of this country, for example, need to have the subject matter of their lessons and, to a certain extent, the form adapted to them. It is a distinct loss to try to plunge them at the very beginning into foreign scenes and life in America or England, it requires too great an effort of the constructive imagination and thus divides attention and energy.

Again, no two teachers can teach in exactly the same way without more or less of personal loss though both may teach in general according to the same method*; but please notice that this fact in no wise militates against the wisdom, the great advantage, nay the essential necessity of teachers being thoroughly trained in some one system by men of recognized ability and successful experience in teaching language. In such schools theory and practice should go side-by-side and hence they should be in close proximity with a Koto Gakko and a Chu Gakko, or should at least have daily classes of these grades in which the Professors should teach in the presence of those studying to teach.

3rd.—In the meantime, however, before such a school be established, much can be done to improve the present teaching force by holding of local and general teachers' conventions, at which methods and other topics could be discussed in an interesting and profitable way.

Standing committees should be appointed to arrange beforehand for topics, speakers and leaders of discussion so that time be not wasted. Such meetings should be held in vacations that the regular work of the school be not interrupted. Again, summer schools for teachers could be encouraged, where many helpful suggestions would be made and received. It would be especially desirable to have some of these conferences or conventions attended by teachers from both the Chu Gakko and the Koto Gakko that they might come to understand their mutual needs and dependences.

To take up the particular items, I would suggest:—

4th.—That steps be taken to persuade the teachers of English in individual schools to co-operate more with each other, so as to co-ordinate the courses of study and instructions in English, not of course, to the end of reducing all to the level of a dead uniformity, but to preserve the individual in the living organism.

5th.—Urge teachers to use spoken English in the class-room, as much as possible, asking questions in English, encouraging pupils to ask questions in English, to which answers in English be given by the teachers. This practice need not occupy much time at first but should be begun and kept up very gradually and yet very systematically and persistently. To help teachers do this was the main purpose of publishing "Foundation Exercises in English Conversation and Composition."

6th.—Less time should be devoted to translation work and more time given to oral drill, and reading English explained in English. Experience has

* In this connection allow me to quote from William James, Professor of Philosophy at Harvard University, in his very suggestive book, "Talks to Teachers on Psychology," in confirmation of my statement that two or any number of teachers may teach according to the same method and yet differ much among themselves, so that there is no danger of a live teacher losing his originality and becoming a slavish copyist by adopting another man's method, "for substance of doctrine": Professor James says:—"You make a great, a very great mistake, if you think that psychology, being the science of the mind's laws, is something from which you can deduce definite programmes and schemes and methods of instruction for immediate schoolroom use. Psychology is a science, and teaching is an art and sciences never generate arts directly out of themselves. An intermediary inventive mind must make the application, by using its originality. * * * A science only lays down lines within which the rules of the art must fall, laws which the follower of the art must not transgress, but what particular thing he shall positively do within those lines is left exclusively to his own genius. One genius will do his work well and succeed in one way, while another succeeds as well quite differently, yet neither will transgress the lines. The art of teaching grew up in the school room, out of inventiveness and sympathetic concrete observation. * * * And so everywhere the teaching must agree with the psychology, but need not necessarily be the only kind of teaching that would so agree, for many diverse methods of teaching may equally well agree with psychological laws."

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proven that by the Gouin system or by the Berlitz method pupils can and do learn to understand all explanations in the language studied after three or four months of study; and, when a pupil can do that it is not a gain but a distinct loss to explain a new English phrase or word in Japanese, so far, I mean, as getting at the meaning is concerned. If the exercise be for practice in translation, then, of course, the use of Japanese is all right; but in this case;

7th.—Let translation be pure, idiomatic translation not word-for-word except, of course, for purely philological purposes or in advanced work. The fatal error of the word-for-word translation is that as a system or method it is psychologically wrong. We not only speak idiomatically but we think idiomatically, far more frequently than logically and to attempt a word-for-word translation for an idiom is to attempt the impossible and the result is an absurdity, pure nonsense so the far as intelligence is concerned. To translate the simple question, "Is that all" by the non-used Japanese, *sore ga subete de aruka?* as is commonly done, instead of by the usual idiom, *Sore dake desuka?* is without justification educationally considered.

The confusion and other detrimental effects of this sort of mechanical transference of abstract words, miscalled translation, are apparent to the intelligent and thoughful English teacher every day in ways and examples too numerous to mention. One ill-effect is the lack of discrimination of the use and meaning of words where even ordinary intelligence or a moment's reflection upon the context would serve to show the right meaning. For example, one whole class in the third year in a Koto Gakko not only could not explain the difference in meaning between the words "celebrate' and "admire," but they actually did not think there was any difference. Many examples of a similar nature might be given, all pointing to the same fault; for this strange lack of discrimination is directly traceable to their habit of word-for-word translation, the same character often standing in the Japanese dictionary for two or more words in English.

8th.—It is well known that the English language is very rich in words of similar, or closely allied, meanings, due to its composite character, and an accurate and skilful understanding and use of such words must be gained, not so much from the use of dictionaries, though these are necessary—as from a wide and discriminating reading of English writers, and hence the necessity of much reading, but to do this, the selections read must be well within the reading vocabulary of the student at every step, hence the necessity of reading easy books and absurdity of struggling with difficult selections. The latter course, which unfortunately is the one commonly pursued, may be more pleasing to the vanity of the student and the supplied dignity of the teacher but for genuine and rapid progress it is the worst possible course. The student struggles and stumbles along under the millstone of a dictionary hung about his neck, and vainly fancies he is making excellent progress when too often he is merely marking time.

The study of literature is thus confined to the elementary exercise of reading buried under the study of mere words, to gain the meaning, whereas it should also be associated with inspiration of thought and sentiment and beauty, the discipline of all the highest powers of mind and soul, especially of the reasoning powers.

The drawing of simple logical conclusions necessitated in determining the meaning from the connection is a most excellent disciplinary process of thought, and offers an inexhaustible source for questions to the alert teacher. It is by such questions of literary interpretation that a good teacher can retain the interest and respect of a class in reading what otherwise would be considered beneath their notice because too easy.

9th.—The whole question of the teaching of English Grammar is a broad one and would take too much time to be thoroughly treated here. I am quite sure, however, that too early and too much time is now devoted in the Chu Gakko to the study of formal Grammar. The small gains are inadequate to compensate for the loss of time that might be spent to better purpose in other kinds of drill. The points really needed by the beginners and for the acquirement of a usable command of spoken and written English are very few indeed, and can be very much better gained by studying them in connection with reading and exercise work, making it, as the Committee of Fifteen in the States recommends, "subordinate and auxiliary to the study of English literature," leaving the really systematic study of Grammar (which is largely of the nature of a science and ought to be studied historically) till the Koto course, where it can be best studied scientifically, for then the students will have a sufficient foundation knowledge of the facts to form a basis for such a study.

TWO CLOSING SUGGESTIONS.

10th.—In closing let me make two suggestions which I hesitate to make lest they seem too radical for even partial adoption, but which, nevertheless, I consider of the very first importance. I am not sure which is the more important, the first naturally leads to the second, though to a certain extent the second would make the first far more possible of execution.

(a). Concentrate the study of English into a less number of terms by increasing the time per day devoted to this study, during the first two years especially.

Whatever may be true of other studies, it is undoubtedly true of the rapid and thorough acquiring a foreign language that the almost undivided attention of the youth be given to that language for the first one or two years. The mind needs to be soaked, so to speak, in the language by hearing it and studying it for at least three hours a day. It is a great mistake, psychologically, to spread the study of English over a length of time on the principle that as much can be gained by studying it one hour a day for two years, say, as by two hours a day for one year. The accumulative gain is vastly augmented by concentration. If the number of subjects taken by the pupils during the first two years could be reduced one half, and an additional hour or two a day could be devoted to English rightly taught a very great gain would be noticed.

In this way the Chu Gakko student would have a fairly good command of both spoken and written English and the start thus gained would make the subsequent progress very much more in comparison and with a vastly less expenditure of time and energy on the part of the student (and teacher also).

(b.) Reduce the number of subjects studied at one time and thereby the number of hours spent in the recitation room in both the Chu Gakko and the Koto Gakko.

I am sure I voice the deep conviction of a large number, nay the well nigh unanimous conviction of all well-informed and trained teachers when I say that no really great improvement can be made or is to be looked for so long as the energies of the students continue to be exhausted, as they are now day by day, by the number of hours of recitation. The students simply have no time or strength for hard study and thought and meditation upon their studies. As it is now, lessons given out are not and cannot be learned thoroughly, and therefore progress is of necessity slow and unsatisfactory.

Respectfully submitted, C. M. CADY,
Dai San Koto Gakko.

Kyoto, August 31, 1900.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

MORE BRITISH TROOPS FOR CHINA.

Shanghai, Sept. 7.

The Fourth Indian Brigade has been ordered to China forthwith.

BOERS LOOT LADYBRAND.

The Boers occupied and looted the town of Ladybrand, but abandoned the siege The garrison was entrenched on the hill side.

CASUALTIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The casualties in South Africa for the week ended August 28th were 26 officers and 504 men,—mostly sustained during the advance on Machadodorp.

CARRINGTON AT BULUWAYO.

Sir F. Carrington has arrived at Buluwayo.

GROBELAAR NEGOTIATING.

Grobelaar is still negotiating surrender.

NO WITHDRAWAL.

Shanghai, Sept. 8.

It is understood in Washington that the Germans will remain in Peking even though Russia withdraws. It is expected the other Powers will act similarly.

STEYN AND KRUGER.

President Steyn is still with President Kruger, and is believed to be persuading him not to surrender while De Wet is able to remain active

Buller and Botha are both inactive. Reinforcements have reached Buller.

GENERAL VOYRON.

General Voyron has arrived at Saigon.

LADYBRAND.

The Ladybrand relief column fought an action with the Boer rearguard in the Platbergs. After an artillery duel the Boers retired.

HIGHER THAN NANSEN.

The Duke of the Abruzzi has returned from the Arctic regions, having reached a point nineteen minutes higher than Nansen. The ice nearly stove in the ship.

THE CHINA QUESTION.

Shanghai, Sept. 9.

It is stated in Washington that Germany has proposed a compromise in the Peking-withdrawal affair, suggesting that a contingent representative of the Allies should remain in Peking, the remainder camping at Tientsin until peace is secured; the Imperial family and Ministers to be protected.

It is expected that Russia will acquiesce.

Great Britain has not yet replied, but Lord Salisbury returns to London next week to consult with his colleagues.

THE KAISER AND THE FAR EAST.

Shanghai, Sept. 10.

In a speech delivered by the Kaiser Wilhelm at Stettin, while attending the German army manœuvres, his Majesty said, that he was convinced that order would be restored in China. He felt no anxiety for the future, for his plan was bound to succeed.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA PRAISES JAPAN.

The Emperor of Austria, in bidding farewell to Colonel Fujii, Japanese military *attaché* at Vienna, eulogised the gallantry of the Japanese troops in China.

RUSSIA AND FRANCE.

The American Ambassador in Paris telegraphs that France supports Russia in the Peking policy.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The British have vacated Ladybrand.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Sept. 10.

Lord Dundonald and General Brocklehurst occupied Lydenberg on Thursday. The Boers retired to the north and east.

The end of hostilities is about in sight.

The Portuguese are guarding the frontier at Koomatipoort to prevent the retreating Boers from crossing into Portuguese territory.

THE PEKING QUESTON.

The United States of North America have drafted an alternative proposal upon the lines of Germany's plan.

THE CHINA QUESTION: GREAT BRITAIN'S POSITION.

Shanghai, Sept. 11.

Lord George Hamilton, in a recent speech, said that the Powers are agreed in opposing a partition of China, or territorial acquisitions. They will demand reparation for the recent outrages and guarantees for a non-recurrence of such acts. The British Government was resolved upon not giving away any of the advantages gained or of retreating from the positions won.

AMERICAN ORDERS.

General Chaffee, U.S.A., has been ordered to prepare, in the event of a withdrawal of the troops from Peking, to return to the Philippines.

BOER ACTIVITY IN THE SOUTH.

The Boers have reoccupied Bethlehem, Fouriesberg, Senekal and Ladybrand, which the British had evacuated.

SIR ROBERT HART AS PEACE-MAKER.

It is stated in Washington that two European powers have approached Lord Salisbury suggesting that Sir Robert Hart should be appointed peace plenipotentiary.

BRITISH ARMY REFORM.

The *Morning Post* urges the appointment of Field-Marshal Lord Roberts as Secretary of State for War, urging that since 1895 the

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Commander-in-Chief has been merely an administrative puppet.

DESERVED PROMOTION.

Capt. Halliday, of the Marines, has been promoted Brevet-Major for his gallant services at Peking; Commander Stewart is promoted Captain; and Commander Cradock is noted for promotion for services at Taku

THE GALVESTON CYCLONE.

Three thousand persons were killed in the Galveston hurricane. There has been an enormous destruction of property in Texas.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

PEKING

Saigon, Sept. 8.

General Frey telegraphs under date of the 29th of August that Peking and its environs are calm. The inhabitants are returning to their houses and the citizens are working.

Saigon, Sept. 9.

General Frey telegraphs that tranquillity continues in Peking. The health of the troops is excellent. The Government of the United States will ask that the Powers maintain at Peking a small international detachment

The exchange of notes on the subject of the evacuation of Peking continues at Berlin.

LYDENBURG OCCUPIED.

Buller occupied Lydenburg on the 6th of September.

THE FORBIDDEN CITY.

M. Pichon telegraphs from Peking under date of August 28th that the Corps Diplomatique entered with the troops into the Imperial Palace on the 28th and were received by officials, several of whom were Ministers. After the troops emerged the gates were shut.

PRINCE CHING.

Saigon, Sept. 11.

M. Pichon telegraphs under date of the 29th ultimo, that Prince Ching, after being assured that he would be received, announced that he would be in Peking on the 2nd of Sept.

TERRIBLE CYCLONE IN AMERICA

A terrific cyclone has swept over Galveston. There are 3,000 victims.

REPORTED MILITARY EXPEDITION.

Saigon, Sept. 12.

Li Hung-chang having been entrusted with the duty of negotiating for peace, will leave Shanghai on Friday the 14th instant.

The international military expedition set out on the 7th instant for Pao-ting fu.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE)

CHINA

Shanghai, Sept. 6.

A body of German troops has landed here.

Chefoo, Sept. 4.

The Union Telegraph Company opened its line to Port Arthur last evening.

GERMAN OPINION.

Shanghai, Sept. 9.

The German Association of Shanghai has telegraphed to the Berlin Government that the proposal of Russia to evacuate Peking would, if carried out, inflict permanent injury on German trade and the security of German life and property

THE KAISER AND CHINA.

Berlin, Sept. 7.

The German Emperor speaking at Stettin to-day said:—"I firmly believe that by the efforts of the German troops sent to the Far East solid international relations will be re-established with China, resulting in full security for German life and property and the prevention of any further disturbances. I entertain no solicitude for the future, and have no doubt whatever that my purpose will be fully accomplished."

TROOPS FOR CHINA.

Hongkong, Sept. 9.

A British transport carrying 500 of the Hongkong garrison, a French transport with 970 men from Marseilles, and a German transport from Bremen, have passed this place *en route* for North China.

PRINCE CHING TO RESTORE ORDER.

Shanghai, Sept. 9.

An Imperial Edict of August 27th orders Prince Ching to proceed to Peking for the purpose of taking affairs in hand, and directs that Li Hung-chang shall proceed north to consult with the Prince.

Well informed Chinese officials say that the Emperor and Empress Dowager are at Tatung.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

Fusan, Sept. 10.

Thirteen men, apparently leaders of the Hwal-pin Society, who came down the river at Fusan, their followers having been dispersed by the military, escaped to Kulje island and were there apprehended.

Shasi, Sept. 10.

A hundred of the local troops were despatched on the 5th instant to a place 350 Chinese *li* distant, to attack a party of bandits, the so-called "reform party." No intelligence of the event has been received as yet.

FUKHIEN.

Foochow, Sept. 10.

The Chang-chow insurgents are almost quelled, and tranquillity has been restored in Fuhkien.

KOREA.

Sōul, Sept. 10.

According to a report received from the officer commanding at Cha-song, the two Japanese, Kurata and Nakata, who were recently seized by the Chinese insurgents and taken to Tung-hwa, have been assassinated together with several hundred Chinese and Korean converts.

THE COTTON MARKET.

London, Sept 9.

Owing to a great and rapid rise in the price of American cotton, many mills have to close down or reduce their working time.

NEWS FROM CHINA.

Taku, Sept. 8.

Tientsin is gradually becoming tranquil. The fugitives are returning, but daily necessaries only are in the market. The want of houses and hotels is causing the greatest inconvenience to Chinese and foreigners alike It is already getting cool, and with the exception of a few cases of dysentery, there is nothing in the shape of an epidemic.

Shanghai, Sept. 12.

Li Hung-chang has received an imperial edict from Kinchow in Shansi, dated the 8th instant, to the effect that General Jung Lu has been appointed an additional peace commissioner. Li has telegraphed this fact to the Chinese Representatives abroad for the information of the Governments to which they are accredited.

(RECEIVED AT THE WAR OFFICE.)

Peking, Aug 30.

Ching Hsin and six other Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên called at the Japanese Legation to-day. The inmates of the Imperial City being short of provisions, we have given them a portion of the rice captured by us

The Russians occupied Ma-kia-po station two or three days ago and the British occupied Hwen-tai.

[Ma-kia-po is the station nearest to Peking on the Tientsin line; Hwen-tai is the next beyond it.—ED. *J.M.*]

Twenty officers and men of our force left to-day for Japan.

(From the same.)

Peking, Sept. 1.

Prince Ching is to arrive at Tsing-ho on the 3rd, and will be escorted thence by our cavalry to Peking. It appears certain that the Emperor is at Siuen-hwa.

[North-west of Peking, in Chili.—ED. *J.M.*]

(From Baron Yamaguchi.)

THE PEACE PROSPECTS.

Peking, Sept. 4.

A council of the Foreign Ministers took place to-day. Prince Ching will probably call on the Ministers in a few days. The Empress-Dowager has kept one of Prince Ching's children as a hostage.

CHINESE ACTIVITY,

An English patrol came into collision with the enemy at a point 10 miles south of Lutai, and a Russian patrol was surrounded by the enemy on the south of Nan-yuen. The Russians at once sent a company to rescue the patrol.

(From Lieut.-General Yamaguchi.)

CHINA NEWS.

Peking, Sept. 6.

The Emperor's Chamberlain arrived here to-day at 8 a.m.

Prince Ching sent the following telegram to-day to Li Hung-chang *viâ* Taotai Shên:—"I have received orders to negotiate for peace in conjunction with you. I trust you will come here quickly, taking the sea route."

Prince Ching visited the various Foreign Ministers to-day.

Admiral Alexieff came here to-day from Tientsin.

Nothing has been heard from the Russian troops sent to Nan-yuen.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

Shanghai, Sept. 12.

The Empress-Dowager is said to be at Soh-chow, and will probably proceed thence to Tai-yuen, where she will decide whether to return to Peking or to remain at Tai-yuen.

Li Hung-chang has been ordered to proceed at once to Peking for the purpose of consulting with Prince Ching. On arriving at Tientsin he is to assume the duties of Viceroy of Chili and to take steps for quelling the Boxers.

The allies sent an expedition to Paoting-fu on the 7th. It seems that Sung with 30,000 men and Nieh with 6,000 are there, as well as a great number of Boxers.

The Russian troops are proceeding to Chin-wan, evidently for the purpose of getting command of the Taku-Shanhaikwan Railway.

The allies are planning to send a force of English, Japanese, Russian and Italian troops into Shantung to deal with the Boxers.

Prince Ching is negotiating an armistice on the bases, first, that Tientsin shall be regarded as neutral; secondly, that Manchuria and Liaotung shall be converted into a buffer State; thirdly, that if the Foreign Powers see any reason to protect the lives and properties of their nationals at the Treaty Ports, they may station troops there; fourthly, that the leaders of the Boxers shall be punished.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.)

THE "AZUMA."

The *Azuma* left Suez on the 10th for Colombo.

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CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

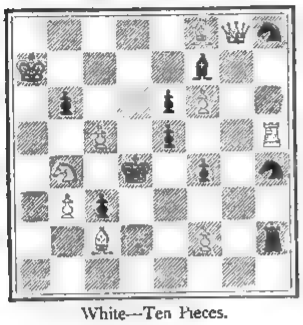
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 488.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Key-move.	Q. to Kt. sq.

PROBLEM No. 490.

By the Rev. J. JESPERSEN.

Black—Ten Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 620.

(From the *Westminster Budget*.)

Mr. N. E. Meares writes: "I have great pleasure in sending an historical and at the time sensational game, if you think it would be *à propos* to revive it. It was played by telegraph in 1845 between London and Gosport." It has taken half a century to play by cable. The players for London were H. T. Buckle, Captain Evans, George Walker, Perigal, and Tuckett. Gosport was led by Captain Kennedy and Howard Staunton. Space compels us to cancel comment.

BISHOP'S OPENING.

White—Gosport. Black—London.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	23 P Kt3	Kt Kt5
2 B B4	B B4	24 R K2	P Kt3
3 P QB3	Q Kt4	25 Kt K3	P R4
4 Q B3	Q Kt3	26 R Qsq	PxP
5 P Q3	Kt QB3	27 KtxKt	P Q6
6 B K3	B Kt3	28 R KB2	PxKt
7 BxB	RPxB	29 Kt Q2	P KB4
8 Kt QR3	Kt R2	30 PxP	PxP
9 Q Kt3	QxQ	31 RxP	R K6
10 RPxQ	P Q3	32 R B2	P Kt4
11 P B4	Kt R3	33 Kt Bsq	R K7
12 Kt B3	P KB3	34 R Q2	QR Ksq
13 K Q2	B Kt5	35 Kt R2	KR K6
14 P Q4	Castles QR	36 KtxP	RxP
15 P B5	P Q4	37 Kt B6	QR K6
16 BxP	BxP	38 KtxB	RxKt
17 Kt R4	B Kt5	39 R B3	R Kt6
18 Kt B2	KR Ksq	40 R(Q2) KB2	R K7
19 QR Ksq	Kt B3	41 RxP	RxKtP
20 BxKt	PxB	42 RxR(K7)	RxR
21 K Bsq	B K3	43 R Q2	R K4
22 K B3	B Ktsq	Draw.	

The opponents are all celebrated men:—Buckle, the author of "The History of Civilisation;" Captain Evans, the inventor of the Evans Gambit; George Walker, a famous writer on the game; and the other two well-known amateurs of the period Captain Kennedy was also a well-known writer and player, and Staunton's fame has not faded yet.

The forty-seventh annual dinner of the City of London Chess Club on Wednesday, at the Grand Hall of the Hotel Cecil was made the occasion of an interesting function, viz., the presentation of a substantial testimonal to the English veteran master, Mr. J. H. Blackburne. Sir George Newnes, president (in the chair), presented a cheque of £400, the amount subscribed by the clubs of the United Kingdom. Sir George, who started the testimonial after last year's London international tournament, dwelt on the services rendered by Mr. Blackburne to the progress of the game in this country, and to his success as representative of English chess in the numerous tournaments on the Continent and abroad in which Mr. Blackburne had competed during nearly thirty-eight years. The recipient of the testimonial replied in suitable terms.

GAME No. 621.

Game played in the final round of the City of London Chess Club Tournament:—

KBP OPENING.

White—L. van Vliet. Black—S. Passmore.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P KB4	P K3	15 P B3	P B5
2 P K3	P Q4	16 B B2	Q B2
3 Kt KB3	P QB4	17 Q Kt3	KR Ksq
4 P QKt3	Kt KB3	18 P Q4	PxP e.p.
5 B Kt2	B K2	19 KtxP	Kt R4
6 B Q3	QKt Q2	20 Q R3	B R3
7 Castles	P QKt3	21 R B2	BxKt
8 Kt K5	Castles	22 BxB	QxP
9 Q B3	B Kt2	23 BxKt	KPxB
10 Q R3	P Kt3	24 P B4	Q K3
11 Kt QB3	KtxKt	25 PxP	QxQP
12 PxKt	Kt Ksq	26 R B3	R B7
13 Kt K2	R Bsq	27 QxPch	Resigns
14 Kt B4	Kt Kt2		

Mr. Passmore has a decided advantage, and he had only to play 27... B to B sq. or P to B 3 with fair prospects of a favourable issue. Of course he overlooked the pretty trap of 28—Q takes P, ch K takes Q; 29—R to R 3, ch, K to Kt sq; 30—R to R 8 mate.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Sept 8th:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	16,321 062
Amount of convertible notes issued	198,198,178
Government deposits	43,146,031
General deposits	5,626,339
Exchange liability	23,249
Total	291,314,860
CR.	
Discount notes	74,305,804
Foreign discount notes	9,651,495
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	58,248,386
Exchange liability	1,616,534
Government bonds	52,433,711
Property	2,158,118
Bullion and Specie	72,900,810
Total	291,314,860

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	199,788,386
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	68,865,215
Silver	3,000,000
Total	71,865,215
Securities:—	
Government bonds	27,769,704
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	10,394,153
Commercial notes	65,759,314
Total	125,923,171

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	599,193
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	4,776,130
Government deposits	—	4,247,067
General deposits	—	265,385

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Salazie, French steamer, 2,089, Negrè, 7th Sept.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 6th Sept., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 7th Sept.,—Kobe, 5th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Marburg, German steamer, 3,887, Von Binzer, 7th Sept.,—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai, 3rd Sept., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 7th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 6th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 9th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 9th Aug., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Alsternfer, German ship, 2,598, R. Neef, 9th Sept.,—New York, 1st May, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Machrihanish, British ship, 1,641, J. Cain, 9th Sept.,—New York via Shanghai, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Sofala, British ship, 2,160, Auld, 9th Sept.,—Cardiff, 6th April, Coal.—R. Isaacs & Bro. (Arrived at Yokosuka).

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, C. Christiansen, 10th Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Wm. Watt, 10th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 8th Sept., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 10th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 9th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, H. Takeda, 11th Sept.,—Kobe, 9th Sept., General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alcinous, British steamer, 4,278, J. Pulford, 11th Sept.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 10th Sept., General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Machaon, British steamer, 4,276, W. T. Hannah, 11th Sept.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 10th Sept., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, C. H. S. Tocque, 11th Sept.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 10th Sept., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,873, J. W. Wale, 11th Sept.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 10th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 11th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 10th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pax, Dutch barque, 1,391, S. E. Reiners, 12th Sept.,—New York, 27th April, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Muke Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,060, S. Kawamuro, 12th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, E. G. Andrews, 12th Sept.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 11th Sept., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 13th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 11th Sept., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 13th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 13th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 12th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 7th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 7th Sept.—Vancouver, B.C., via Victoria, Mails and General. C. P. R. Co.

Preussen, German steamer, 3,278, H. Kirchner 8th Sept.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 8th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,782, J. S. Thompson, 8th Sept.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kubo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,164, S. Suda, 8th Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Royalist, British steamer, 2,024, S. Tierney, 9th Sept.,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hector, British steamer, 3,005, John Barr, 9th Sept.,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 9th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 10th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

County of Edinburgh, British ship, 2,078, F. W. Tode, 10th Sept.—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 10th Sept.,—Hakodate via Kobe and West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 10th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Alex. Webster, 11th Sept.,—Moji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Wm. Watt, 11th Sept.,—Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Marburg, German steamer, 3,887, Von Binzer, 12th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 12th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 12th Sept.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajuma, 12th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 12th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 13th Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,201, H. Takeda, 13th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, from Marseilles via ports:—H.I.H. Prince Kanin, Mr. G. Noma, Count Fujishiro, Count Matsui, Mr. Hirata, Mr. F. Romeo Cadra, Mr. R. P. Kappfer, Mr. Abbe Gagtehe, Mr. L. Cocke, Mrs. Wilbur, Mrs. Wang Tso Yuen, 2 children and amah, Mr. Young, Mr. Richter, Mr. Ladislas de Laborowsky, Mr. M. A. J. Apcar, Mrs. Kauffman, child and governess, Mr. M. Allix, Mr. S. Reich, Mr. and Mrs. T. Osada, Mrs. H. Stone and amah, Mr. Komiya, Mr. Saito, Mrs. Martin and amah, and Mr. Delbourgo, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Admiral Kimotsuki, Mr. Kaemenesor, Mr. Yoshisuye, Mr. Collily, Mr. Yakayanagi, Mr. Hayao, Mr. Bramullon, and Mr. J. G. Duff, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Christiansen, Miss Ninomiya, Mr. Nagamatsu, Mr. Hong Chio, Master Sonamo, Mr. Shimobayashi, Mr. Hayashi, Mr. J. M. Sumiltu, Mr. Yuen Ching Yeo, Masters Shoda (2), and Mr. Nakamura, in second class; 60 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Rev. J. E. Knipp, Mrs. J. E. Knipp, and Mr. C. C. Sowden, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. George Watrons, Mrs. Geo. Watrons and infant, Rev. A. V. Bryan, Rev. F. A. Lombard, and Mrs. A. V. Bryan and children, in cabin. For Nagasaki.—Mr. C. M. Fassett, Mrs. C. M. Fassett, Mr. Lewis Fassett, Miss K. Fassett, Mr. A. P. Bouvier, Mr. John Bouvier, Mr. H. E. Stewart, Mr. J. M. Reynolds, Mr. J. D. Lowman, Mrs. J. D. Lowman, Mr. H. A. Noble, and Mrs. H. A. Noble, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Ensign Thos. T. Graven, U.S.N., and Mr. L. H. J. Schmidt, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Dr. F. A. Dale, Dr. J. M. Feeney, Dr. James Kenan, Mrs. H. L. Landers, Mrs. W. S. Mapes and son, Dr. D. W. Overton, Dr. H. Peddicord, Dr. Joseph Pinkard, Dr. F. M. Wells, Mr. William Whiley, Dr. A. W. Dumm, Dr. G. E. Henson, Mr. C. Kinck, Mrs. A. M. Ryland, Mr. G. Middleton, Dr. L. W. Pease, Dr. T. W. Perkins, Dr. J. W. Thornton, Miss Marie Rush, and Mr. H. R. Lewin, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. R. Allison, Mr. S. Asahina, Mr. G. H. Burrow, Mr. G. C. Bayley, Mrs. A. P. Bouvier, Mr. John Bouvier, Mr. A. W. Brewin, Rev. A. V. Bryan and 2 children, Miss Bryan, Mr. W. W. Campbell, Mrs. W. W. Campbell and 2 children, Rev. C. E. Comford, Mr. J. Cooper, Ensign Thos. T. Craven, Dr. F. A. Dale, Dr. A. W. Dumm, Mr. C. M. Fassett, Mrs. C. M. Fassett, Mr. Lewis Fassett, Miss K. Fassett, Dr. J. M. Feeney, Miss Mary V. Glenton, M.D., Dr. R. J. Hale, Mr. J. R. Harding, Mrs. J. R. Harding, 3 children and maid, Dr. G. E. Henson, Mr. T. F. Hughes, Mrs. T. F. Hughes, 2 children and governess, Miss Hughes, Dr. Jas. Kenan, Mr. C. Kinck, Mrs. L. H. Landers, Mr. H. R. Lewis, Rev. F. A. Lomoard, Mr. R. Masujima, Mrs. W. A. Mapes and son, Miss E. I. McCook, Mr. S. Middleton, Mr. G. C. Murray, Mrs. G. C. Murray, infant and amah, Mrs. M. L. Ogden, Miss P. A. Osgood, Dr. D. W. Overton, Mrs. F. Parsons, Dr. L. W. Pease, Dr. H. Peddicord, Dr. T. W. Perkins, Mr. Morgan Phillips, Dr. Jos. Pinkard, Mr. J. M. Reynolds, Miss A. B. Richmond, Rev. L. B. Ridgley, Miss Marie Rush, Mrs. A. M. Ryland, Mr. L. H. J. Schmidt, Mr. H. R. Stewart, Dr. J. W. Thorton, Mr. Geo. W. Watrons, Mrs. Geo. W. Watrons and child, Dr. F. M. Wells, Mr. W. M. Whiley, Mr. W. P. Wise, and Miss E. Wood, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss Hunter Brown, Mr. Nuuro Abe, Mr. Konye, Miss Pasley, Mr. Saito, Capt. Shinomiya, Dr. Tanaka, Dr. Takazawa, Mrs. Jephson, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Singleton, Miss MacPhail, Mr. Okabe, Mr. Yayu, Mr. Ochiai, Mr. Ozaki, and Mr. Matsuma, in cabin; 12 steerage; 56 stewards and firemen, passengers and crew of the *Fulana Maru*. Miss Roberts, Dr. Roberts, Mr. Forbes, Mr. J. R. Dadds, Mr. C. E. Dadds, Mr. James, Mr. Seymour, Mr. Ah Chee, Mr. Matsubayashi, Rev. and Mrs. Goodrich and 3 children, Mr. Kata, Mr. Kotch, Mr. Morse, Mrs. Hoggs, Miss Bell, Miss Robins, Col. J. Weir, Dr. and Mrs. Ingram and 3 children, Mr. Steadman, Miss Andrews, Mr. Townsend, Mrs. and Miss Woodward, Miss Payne, Mr. McCashin, Mr. Wilkinson, and Mr. Lockhead, in cabin; 19 on deck.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Qong Sing Lang and native servant, Mr. A. H. Mancell, Lieut. Leonard, U.S.M.C. Sergt. U.S.M.C., Miss Strain, and Miss Kerr in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. Charles Coy, Miss Steger, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Fenn and 2 children, Miss Dow, Miss Rutherford, Miss Brown, Miss Gowans, Rev. F. D. and Mrs. Gamewell, Mr. F. Brown, Mr. C. E. Oliver, Master J. Oliver, Master L. Oliver, Miss Dudgeon, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Chapin and 2 children, Capt. S. E. Smiley, Mr. W. H. Henry, Mrs. J. A. Gaither, Miss Ida Anderson, Miss Anderson, Mrs. H. M. Wood and family, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Park and daughter, Mrs. M. I. Lambuth and daughter, Mr. B. G. Tsang, Mr. L. S. Tsu, and Master Chapin, in cabin; Mr. Henry Davenport, in European steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. R. Arai, Miss Baggaley, Miss E. Baggaley, Mr. S. Ban, Mr. T. Ban, Mrs. A. Bauer, Mr. J. Bieber, Mr. Bradshaw, Capt. K. R. Campbell, Miss R. Chamberlain, The Earl of Drogheda, Rev. J. E. Fee, Mrs. J. E. Fee, Rev. D. Ferguson, Mrs. D. Ferguson and child, Dr. Dingwall Fordyce, Mr. C. A. Fulcher, Mr. E. W. George, Mrs. Goddard, Miss Goddard, Mr. H. J. Hargreaves, Mr. T. F. Harrison, R.N., Lieut. R. P. Hobson, U.S.N., Mr. J. H. Jeffreys, Rev. Jellison, Mrs. Jellison and 4 children, Miss Jellison, Miss Loche King, Mr. B. Kobayashi, Mrs. W. A. Main and child, Mrs. E. Mast, Miss Mast, Rev. F. L. Mattox, Mrs. F. L. Mattox and child, Mrs. N. Merrill, Mr. John Monty, Mrs. D. W. Nichols and 3 children, Mr. H. Oldham, Mr. Openshaw, Mrs. Openshaw, Com. Patch, U.S.N., Mr. F. Palmer, Mrs. F. Palmer, Miss E. C. Perault, Mr. A. K. Rhoden, Mr. J. Sakabe, Mr. C. Schlee, Mr. H. Schrocter, Mrs. Shellabear and 3 children, Mr. F. R. Smith, Mr. F. Strahler, Mr. Leonard M. Thomas, Mr. Trigalet, Mrs. Upcraft, Miss Varnum, Dr. R. Watson, Mrs. R. Watson and child, Miss Watson, Dr. C. H. Wood, Mrs. C. H. Wood, Miss S. Wood, and Mr. O. Yamanka, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Preussen*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. W. H. Henry, Mr. R. A. Dowler, Mr. Chas. Albertson, Mr. M. Weiss, Mr. Ch. Block, Mr. Dettmann, Dr. Kempte, Mr. R. Pohl, Mr. Silvestri, Mr. E. Toepfer, Mr. H. Hoyer, Baroness Lihencron, amahs and Chinese boy, Mr. D. W. Cory, Mrs. M. A. Cory, Mr. A. H. Heath, Mrs. E. Fuchs, children and amah, Dr. W. E. N. High, Mr. G. Baur, Mr. Th. Goerk, Mr. R. W. Essex, Mr. W. Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Shier, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. H. Haden, Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Brokaw and child, Mr. P. Reinmann, Mr. F. Ribeiro, Mr. O. Inagaki, Dr. T. Fujishiro, Prof. Y. Hoga, Dr. Natoume, Mr. K. Totsuka, and Mrs. Trojel, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kawachi Maru*, for London via ports:—Dr. and Mrs. C. Butler, Mr. J. P. Warren, Mrs. Oiso and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. H. Kadota and 3 children, in cabin; Mr. U. Kaneko, Mr. S. Sakamoto, Mr. R. Onishi, Mr. J. Takahashi, and Mr. K. Inatome, in second class.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Braemar*, for Portland, Org.:—

TEA.

	Canada	Chicago and West	New York and East	Pacific Coast	Total Packages
Colombo ..... } Hongkong ..... }	—	—	—	269	269
Shanghai ..	-	2,399	—	643	3,042
Kobe	-	392	722	—	1,114
Yokohama ...	1,223	1,335	100	1,322	3,980
Total ..	1,223	4,126	822	2,234	8,405

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer	Date
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hamburg 1	Sa. Sept. 15
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 2	M. Sept. 17
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Indus 3	W. Sept. 19
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Sept. 20
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Sept. 24
Hongkong.....	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	M. Sept. 24
America	P. M. Co.	China 4	Tu. Sept. 25
Hongkong...	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th. Sept. 27
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Oct. 4
America	O. & O. Co.	Dorie	Th. Oct. 4
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa. Oct. 6

1 Left Hongkong on the 5th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 29th ult.
3 Left Hongkong on the 11th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 6th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu Sept 18
Shanghai ..	N. Y. K.	Sado Maru	W. Sept 19
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	W Sept 19
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa Sept 22
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Hamburg	Sa Sept 22
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M Sept 24
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	W Sept 26
Europe, via Shanghai	M. M. Co.	Indus	F Sept 28
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa Sept 29
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F Oct 5
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Dorie	F Oct 5
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu Oct 9

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is some demand for Lancashire spinnings, but importers refuse to sell at current prices ruling in Japan owing to the phenomenal rise that has taken place in cotton. Telegrams from Manchester quote Middling American at d.7½, whilst in Shanghai the market for cotton is excited owing to large continental buying. By reason of the probable good rice harvest the prospects of trade are improving.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds. 45 inches.	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels ...	Y. 0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches ...	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches ...	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches ...	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles ...	Y. 145.00 to 150.00
Nos. 28, 32, Singles ...	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles ...	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles ...	170.00 to 175.00
Nos. 42, Doubles ...	180.00 to 120.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain ...	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain ...	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain ...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed ...	270.00 to 280.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed ...	353.00 to 380.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed ...	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling ...	Nominal
Indian Broach ...	Nominal
Chinese ...	Nominal

METALS.

There is some business at slightly lower prices.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted ...	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron ...	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets ...	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted ...	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box ...	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3 ...	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1½ inch) ...	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

The kerosene market is firm.

American ...	$2 86
Russian ...	2.80
Langkat ...	No Stock

SUGAR.

The market has undergone little alteration.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao ...	Y. 5.30 to 6.10
Brown Manila ...	5.70 to 7.00
Brown Daitong ...	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton ...	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang ...	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined ...	8.00 to 9.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been another fall in the raw silk market with considerable business at the decline. Holders assert that they will not lower the market any further, but it remains to be seen whether *force majeure* will not compel them to do so. Advices from foreign markets remain very dull, and there is no encouragement for exporters to operate, even at the present range of prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine ...	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse...	Y. 880 to 900
Filatures—No. 1, Fine ...	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse ...	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine ...	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse ...	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, Fine ...	730 to 840
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse ...	770 to 775
Common—Coarse ...	
Re reels—Extra ...	790 to 800
Re reels—No. 1 ...	780 to 785
Re reels—No. 1½ ...	765 to 770
Re reels—No. 2 ...	750 to 755
Re reels—No. 3 ...	
Kakedas—Extra ...	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 1 ...	790 to 800

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Kakedas—No. 1½	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 2	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2½	735 to 740

WASTE SILK.

In waste silk there has been a quiet market with prices unchanged. There is a small amount of business doing. Values should recede a little during the next month.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	140 to 150
Noshi—Filatures, Good	130 to 140
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	135 to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	120 to 130
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	100 to 110
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	95 to 105
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	80 to 90
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 100
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	55
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	45

TEA.

There is a good demand. The market is high, 5 to 7 *yen* above last year's prices. The new crop will probably be short about 10 per cent.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	39 & upwards
Choice	37 to 38
Finest	35 to 36
Fine	33 to 34
Good Medium	31 to 32
Medium	29 to 30
Good Common	27 to 28
Common	25 to 26

RICE MARKET.

Fukagawa Godowns, Tokyo, Sept. 12.

Sold, Japanese rice 10,278 hyo; arrived, Japanese, 114 hyo; in stock, Japanese, 321,920.

Retail per *Yen*—First quality 5 sho 1 go; second, 5 sho 5 go; third, 5 sho 8 go; fourth, 6 sho 5 go; fifth, 7 sho 1 go.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, September 13.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/16
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.61½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
Private 4 months' sight	50⅝@51
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
Private 4 months' sight	2.13
Hongkong—Bank sight	*¾% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*1½% dis.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 71
— Private 10 days' sight	* 73
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	28¾

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, September 13.

Breweries—A few shares can be had at *yen* 155. Engine and Iron Works are steady at *yen* 210. Helms are steady at *yen* 52.50. Langfeldts have sellers at par. Laundries have sellers at par. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 240.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107. Laundry debentures can be had at par.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	210 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	155 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd, ¥100	240 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	100 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	52.50 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	110 N
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	101 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	108 N
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.

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LOCAL SHARE LIST

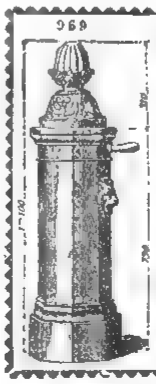
Yokohama, September 13.

Japan Breweries are in steady demand at *yen* 150. A few shares are obtainable at *yen* 155. Langfeldts can be had at par. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 80. Bretts have sellers at *yen* 10. Offers are wanted for Helms.

Y. U. Club Debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107 Brett & Co. Debentures are obtainable at par.

YEN.

Yokohama E. & I. Works	210 Steady.
Grand Hotel	240 Sales.
Club Hotel	80 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	100 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Buyers.



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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 22ND, 1900.

DEATH.

On the 20th Sept., at No. 8, Bluff, Yokohama, JESSIE PATON, the beloved wife of Thomas Thomas.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE first hoar-frost this season was reported from Hokkaido on the 18th inst.

DYSENTERY still continues in this prefecture. There have been 2,190 cases since the outbreak.

EX-PRESIDENT KRUGER has accepted the offer of Holland to proceed to Europe on a Dutch war ship.

A WOMAN named Nishio Fusa, living at Nishi-torikoye, Tokyo, committed *seppuku* on the evening of 15th Sept.

THE train service between Odate and Takanosu on the northern O-u line of the Japan Railway was opened on the 17th inst.

ROBERT FITZSIMMONS beat Thomas Sharkey in a prize fight at Coney Island on Aug. 24th, knocking him out in the second round.

THE Kwanto Fire Insurance Company, Tokyo, decided upon dissolution on the 24th ult. The company's liabilities are over *yen* 70,000.

A LARGE number of missionaries who came over to Japan as refugees from China left Shimonoseki for Shanghai on the 16th Sept. by the *Kobe Maru*.

A COOLIE named Ito Kamekichi, accused of stealing seven iron rods from the Custom House on Aug. 26th, was arrested on Sept. 12th.

THE first-class battleship *Asahi* left Colombo on the 12th Sept. and is expected to arrive at Yokosuka on the 10th Oct. She will be stationed at Yokosuka.

THE body of a man apparently aged about 30, was found in the harbour off the Eastern hatoba on Thursday. It could not be identified, and was buried by the authorities.

GERMANY has made a very strong representation to the Powers that the persons who instigated the massacres in China must be punished before terms of peace can be discussed.

FIRE broke out at Kami Hadano, Ashigara Kami district, Kanagawa Ken, in a house occupied by Morohoshi Gihei, a farmer, on the evening of 16th inst. Three houses were destroyed.

THE Japanese war-vessels *Matsushima*, *Chiyen*, *Suma*, *Chitose*, *Saiyen*, the torpedo-boat destroyer *Sazanami*, and three torpedo-boats left Itsukushima on the 17th inst. for Miyajima.

FIRE broke out on the 14th Sept. at Narashino, Shimosa, Saitama prefecture. Eight empty barracks and two class-rooms belonging to the Military Department were burnt. The cause is unknown.

SIR REDVERS BULLER reports the death from wounds of Captain Welby of the Eighteenth Hussars, well known for his explorations in China and Thibet. Last year he explored parts of Abyssinia.

A MAN named Kawanishi Seitaro, a deliverer in the service of the Fukutomi-cho Branch Post Office, Yokohama, was arrested on the 16th Sept., charged with stealing *yen* 7.50 (a cheque) from a registered letter.

CAPT. KUROMIZU KIMISABURO, 10 officers and over 200 bluejackets, forming the second portion of the crew of the first-class cruiser *Iwate*, building in England, left Yokohama on the 22nd Sept. by the *Bingo Maru*.

THE master of the Japan Whaling Company's steamer *No. 12 Kyodo Maru* telegraphs to Count Yoshii, President of the Company, that the steamer caught several whales off Kinkwazan a few days ago. One whale's head weighed eight tons.

A POLICE constable named Yoshida Yoshijiro, belonging to the Isezakicho Police Station and living at Kumoicho Ichome, Yokohama, severely injured his wife on the head during a quarrel. It seems he objected to his wife cutting her hair.

A MAN named Tsuchiya Kametaro, living in a boarding house known as the Ookaya, Nakamura, Yokohama, was arrested at Bandaicho, Yokohama, on a charge of stealing some telephone wire in the vicinity of Yokohama race-course a few days ago.

A BLIND man named Yamaizumi Kotaro, living in a boarding house at Miyoshicho, Nichome, Yokohama, has been arrested by the Kotobukicho police station for stealing two *kwamme* of dried fish belonging to Kobayashi Hatsugoro, Ishikawa-machi, Sanchome.

H.E. GOVERNOR SUFU, of Kanagawa prefecture, has been elected President of the Nippon Tokwa Kyokwai (Japan Painted Porcelain Society) which intends to send 1,500 articles to the exhibition at Totsuka in October. The society numbers 392 members.

THE nine American artists receiving the gold medal at the Paris exposition are James McNeil Whistler, John Singer Sargent, John W. Alexander, Edwin A. Abbey, Cecilia Beaux, George DeForest Brush, William M. Chase, Abbott Thayer and Winslow Homer, of whom four live in Europe and five in America. It is somewhat significant that American artists receive more medals than those of any other country except France.

A MAN named Osuga was arrested by the Isezakicho Police on Saturday in Fukutomicho, Yokohama, on a charge of stealing a bicycle belonging to the Aizawa bicycle shop in Horaicho. It appears that he sold it for *yen* 14.50 to an American at No. 121, Settlement.

A WOMAN named Hana Akimoto, aged 25, residing at 62 Fukutomicho, Nichome, tried to choke her daughter with a towel, and afterwards to cut her own throat with a razor on Saturday, but failed in both attempts. The woman, who is insane, is now in the custody of the Isezakicho police.

THE Japanese Government have made the following grants to the families of officers who died during the siege of the Japanese Legation at Peking:—Mr. Nakagawa Tsunejiro, first-class Secretary *yen* 2,783, Mr. Kojima Seiichiro, *Attaché*, *yen* 560; Mr. Sugiyama Shin, Assistant-Secretary, *yen* 375.

IT is said in insurance circles that the late King Humbert carried insurance policies on his life aggregating £5,000,000. His was a remarkable business record and one to be proud of, when it is remembered that the enormous burden of debts inherited from his father was liquidated through his own exertions.

A FISHERMAN named Okada Yashichiro, living at Isoga, Byobugaura, Kanagawa Ken, caught a fish-torpedo in his net while fishing off Negishimura, on the 16th instant. He reported his find at once to the authorities. It is stated that this torpedo was lost by the *Fuji* during the manœuvres at Shinagawa in November of last year.

A PARCEL was received through the post by the Tobe Police Station on the 17th inst., which on being opened was found to contain a silver watch and gold chain. The parcel came from Kyoto, but the articles belong to Mr. Kato Katsu, Onoyecho, Ichome, Yokohama, who lost them in a train between Yokohama and Tokyo on the 4th inst.

ON the evening of the 13th inst. a number of *soshi* and gamblers assaulted Mr. Horiya Sajiro, member of Yokohama Municipal Assembly. They also beat his mother and his wife. Fifteen were arrested the following morning. Tomihari Genichi, proprietor of the *Kenkin Shimbun*, was arrested on the 15th inst. for instigating the riot.

FIRE occurred in a dairy belonging to Inomata Yensuke, a member of the District Assembly, Nagasumicho, Yotsuya, Tokyo, at midnight on the 18th inst. Three houses and two stables were destroyed and three houses partly damaged. A Japanese stable-man was burnt to death and two were injured; two cows also fell victims to the flames.

MR SAITO MATSUZO, Assistant Mayor of Yokohama, was assaulted and beaten on the face with a stick in Hanazaki-cho on the evening of Sept. 12th. Some trouble about the Gas-works is believed to have led to the assault. Later the same day *soshi* assaulted Dr. Sato, of the Yokohama (Japanese) hospital, and injured the building. No arrests have been made.

SOONER than was perhaps anticipated, says the *Engineer*, the carrying capacity of the Siberian Railway has been put to the test, and its weakness became at once apparent, for it proved to be unequal to the task of conveying large bodies of troops. Breakdowns of every kind are very frequent throughout its entire length, and the initial faultiness of its construction becomes more and more manifest.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Sept. 15.

Some very vague intentions are attributed to Admiral Alexieff, whose recent visit to Peking has naturally caused some conjectures. The Admiral is said to have stated that his purpose was to effect an arrangement according to which each Power should occupy and extend the positions secured by it between Taku and Peking, and should ensure uninterrupted communication by rail Under such an arrangement the positions held by Russia would be incomparably larger than those held by any other Power, for she alone has been using her troops independently. Her last move was to gain possession of the Taku-Shanhaikwan railway. It may be said that she now holds all the railways in Northern China, except the line from Peking to Paoting.

It would seem that Prince Ching did really attend a meeting of the Foreign Representatives on the day of his arrival in Peking. We supposed that such a step was out of the question, first, because it should have been preceded by an exchange of visits between Ching and the Foreign Representatives, and secondly because the Prince was not likely to open negotiations without his colleague, Li Hung-chang. The reports now say that when he attended the meeting he was advised to call on the Representatives, which he subsequently did; and was further advised that if the Chinese Government would undertake to punish the leaders of the anti-foreign movement, namely, Prince Twan and General Kang, and would further tender an apology to the Foreign Powers, the prospects of a satisfactory settlement would be materially promoted. It is exceedingly difficult for Prince Ching to make any such recommendation to the Throne, seeing that Prince Twan is the father of the recently chosen Prince Imperial. Nothing can be more perplexing than Prince Ching's position. It is pretended that he has plenipotentiary power, yet his son is held as hostage for the Prince's method of conducting the negotiations. We are much surprised that this point has not been raised by the Powers. Some of them appear to have unofficially signified their approval of Ching's appointment, yet it must be evident that to call a man a plenipotentiary while the life of his child depends on the nature of the terms he negotiates, is a pure farce. A mandate with such a terrible condition attached to it is in no sense plenipotentiary. It would perhaps be hypercritical to infer an absence of sincerity on the part of the Chinese Government, but it certainly is not extravagant to say that if China decides to hold serious conference with Foreign Powers she ought to abandon these old-fashioned barbarities. To send into council with the plenipotentiaries of Western States a prince who dare not obey the dictates of his own intelligence without sacrificing his child, is a proceeding against which every civilized nation should protest.

There is a report that Russia has made a concession in deference to Germany's resolute attitude: she has announced that it is not her intention to withdraw all her troops from Peking, and further that she proposes to station forces at all the important positions between Tientsin, and the capital. Now it must be quite plain that Russia's original proposal admits of no sort of compromise. Either Peking must be evacuated altogether, or a force must remain there sufficiently strong to be master of the situation in a military sense. It will not do to leave a thousand men in Peking and, at the same time, to allow the whole of the Chinese army to flock back to the city. If foreign troops are stationed there throughout the winter, they must have command of the city, they must hold the gates, and they must have full communication with Tientsin. A moment's consideration of these points will show that no compromise is possible. It is out of the question to effect any arrangement which, while providing for the presence of a foreign garrison sufficiently strong to be secure against all contingencies, would nevertheless be sufficiently weak to allow of the return of the Imperial Court. If, then, Russia has agreed to leave a portion of her troops in Peking, she may be said to have definitely abandoned her position. Japan, it will be observed, announced that she had no objection to withdraw such part of her forces as might seem superfluous, thus by implication indicating that her purpose was to leave the remainder An idea is now gaining ground that each Power will keep a brigade in Peking. If so, there would be a total force of twelve or fourteen thousand But even one half of that number would signify, in Chinese eyes, a foreign military occupation of the city, and would effectually prevent the return of the Court. There is no room for a compromise

Mr Oka Seiichi, Peking correspondent of the *Jiji Shimpo*, says that when the troops paraded through the Imperial City on the 28th ultimo, every one had an opportunity of entering the Palace and viewing it. They found it very magnificent, though, of course, in a state of more or less neglect. Certain officers and newspaper correspondents appropriated several of the gold and jade ornaments set out in the Palace. One man tried to carry off a gold *nioi*, but was detected by Sir Claude MacDonald The Japanese made themselves conspicuous by not taking anything.

That is a pretty story. Apparently there was a general mania for thieving.

The same correspondent gives a circumstantial account of the misconduct of a party of Russian soldiers who had been sent to obtain forage. After loading the forage into carts, they proceeded to rob, pillage and violate. One old man of 63 was killed by them; another man of 34 was wounded, and of six females, ranging in age from 5 to 27, some were violated and all slashed with swords. The names of these unfortunate people are given, and Mr Oka says that the Russian brutalities were checked by the Japanese, who arrested the non-commissioned officer in charge.

Mr. Oka enlarges this indictment. He declares that every place visited by Russian troops is converted into a scene of desolation. Their doings between Taku and Tientsin have been already described, but it remains to be added that they behaved in precisely the same manner on the march from Tientsin to Peking, and that they continued their lawless conduct in Peking. The Chinese dread living in the quarter where Russian troops are stationed. Many have sought refuge in the district which is under Japanese control. If a Chinese, man or woman, meets Russian troops in the streets, the former is at once despoiled of everything; and up to the 29th of August, when Mr. Oka's letter was written, not one shop had been opened by the Chinese in the Russian quarter.

We reproduce these statements, not having any proof of their error and being persuaded that the best remedy for such excesses is publicity Russian officers can not possibly approve of these outrages, but if the stories that have now been told by several Japanese and foreign correspondents are true, Russian officers can not escape the charge of failing to enforce proper discipline among their men.

In the same correspondence we find it stated that some American soldiers, while under the influence of drink, burned the Tsien Gate and its towers This is the chief gate of Peking. It is in the centre of the southern face.

Monday, Sept. 17.

A terrible account of the state of Peking is given by the *Chuo Shimbun*. The great city is virtually cut off from the country of which it is the capital. Under ordinary circumstances it depends upon the Peiho river for transporting the chief part of its supplies. But the Peiho is now completely occupied by junks carrying provisions for the various forces quartered in the city. There is not room for a solitary vessel plying in Chinese service. Land traffic is almost as thoroughly interrupted. The long lines of camels that used to come daily from the north and east are no longer seen and the carts plying from the south have been stopped. The rice stored in Tung-chow has fallen into Japanese possession; the salt accumulated at Tientsin has been appropriated by the Allies; the supply of coal from Kaiping has ceased since the railway fell into Russian hands. As for the city itself, a considerable portion of it lies in ruins; women are afraid to venture abroad lest they be insulted by the Indian troops and the Cossacks; householders have to incur heavy expense in order to obtain guards of Japanese soldiers to protect them against depredation. It is a gloomy picture, but it contains one feature which leads us to hope that there is exaggeration. That feature is an assertion that auctions of looted property take place at the British Legation. Finding that incredible, we are induced to discount the rest, though there can not be any doubt that in the matter of the city's communications our contemporary's correspondent speaks correctly.

It is stated that the Russian Representative and his staff left Peking on the 7th and are now in Tientsin, but an idea prevails that M. de Giers will again visit Peking. If it be true, as we have little doubt it is, that England has definitely refused to evacuate Peking pending the arrangement of satisfactory terms of peace, the situation will become very embarrassing for Russia. She will have to consider whether to sacrifice her openly avowed opinion for the sake of preserving the concert of the Powers, or to proceed independently. The latter is by no means an unlikely course. We can not suppose that Russia attaches much value to the concert. If she did, she would have consulted her colleagues before publicly enunciating her evacuation policy. What is involved in independent negotiations we do not care to speculate.

In pursuance of her announcement that she was ready to withdraw from Peking whatever portion of her force might seem superfluous, Japan, it is said, has issued orders for the return of somewhat less than a moiety of the troops now under Lieut.-General Yamaguchi's command. They will leave Peking on the 20th. There will thus remain a Brigade, together with the Divisional forces of cavalry, artillery and land transport, altogether a body of from 12,000 to 15,000 men. Japan's course in this matter is intelli-

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gible. Her purpose in despatching a larger force than that sent by any of the other Powers was to effect the speedy relief of Peking. That object having been attained, there is no longer any reason why she should maintain an exceptionally numerous force in the Chinese capital. On the contrary, she would not only incur needless expense by doing so, but also expose herself to injurious suspicions. If this analysis of her motives be correct, it would appear that the Great Powers, England, Germany, France and Russia, contemplate the maintenance of an army of from 12,000 to 15,000 men each in Northern China until peace is concluded. The total force of the Allies would thus muster from 48,000 to 60,000 men, quite sufficient to garrison Peking and Tientsin, and to preserve communications with the sea.

A telegram says that the United States Government does not approve of the Paoting-fu expedition. Not a few will be of the same opinion we imagine. Yet, after all, it has to be remembered that no armistice has been concluded in North-China, and that a body of from thirty to forty thousand Chinese troops assembled at a point within four hours of Peking by rail, constitutes a serious menace to the tranquillity of the city and the safety of its garrison. It is the plain duty of the allied commanding officers to disperse this force, nor can we see that the action would be a dangerous extension of the sphere of operations. If peace negotiations had actually commenced, the case would be different, but since the Chinese are employing the interval to assemble their forces in such a position that a peace conference could not be securely held in Peking, the question assumes a purely military aspect.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that the expenses incurred up to the present in connexion with the expedition to China may be safely reckoned at eleven or twelve million *yen*, of which about 10 per cent. will be found to have definitely left the country. There will be considerable additional outlays for bringing the troops back and for maintaining a mixed brigade in Peking.

A telegram says that the whole of Hsu's family committed suicide immediately after the self-inflicted death of the old man. It is impossible to read of such events without a feeling of profound sympathy. Naturally Occidentals who believe in progress and are ready to reject the old at any moment in favour of the new, can not but regard with astonishment and even contempt the bigotted conservatism of the Chinese. But were any of us to change places with an unit of that nation, what would be our sentiment towards foreigners? Should we be liberal and tolerant, or should we not rather be disposed to oppose by every conceivable means the aggressions and exactions of the masterful alien? It is not difficult, then, to understand the feelings of an old statesman like Hsu, who sees the capital of his country occupied by foreign troops, the Imperial Court fugitive, and the empire on the verge of being subjected to what he regards as fresh humiliations. It is inexpressibly sad to think of an old man of eighty choosing death rather than life among such circumstances, and to see him followed to the grave by his whole family, his children, his grandchildren and his household. These are the sacrifices demanded by what we call "progress." Very true is the old Chinese proverb, "Every good has its evil."

Tuesday, Sept 18.

A telegram from Taku dated the 13th says that there are signs that Russia is bent upon withdrawing her troops from Peking as quickly as possible. The telegram attributes her action to the state of affairs in Manchuria, where she needs a larger army than she can supply without drawing on her Chili force. We do not find that explanation convincing. Everything points to an intention on Russia's part to maintain a large force in Chili whatever she may do about the Peking garrison. She is now in a very perplexing situation, for the announcement of Great Britain's resolve not to evacuate Peking until terms of peace have been arranged, renders the St. Petersburg proposal abortive. Yet Russia has gone too far to abandon her project altogether. It is difficult to see how the shattered concert of Powers can be pieced together again. There can be no question, however, as to where the responsibility for the rupture lies.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent telegraphs that the Imperial Court, yielding to the urgency of Prince Twan, is going farther westward. There is so much uncertainty about the movements of the Imperial Court that we can not place great reliance on the rumour, but it deserves attention as an indication that the Court is still under the influence of Prince Twan. We commend the fact to the notice of those that advocate the evacuation of Peking, and invite them to reflect upon the light in which Twan and his colleagues would construe such a step on the part of the Allies.

It is stated that the greater part of the Boxers are concentrated at Paoting-fu and that numbers of these insurgents as well as of unattached Chinese soldiers are committing excesses within the city of Peking. By the light of this intelligence and of other news received within the past few days, we begin to understand more clearly the purpose of the expedition to Paoting. Here again the advocates of evacuation ought to find food for useful reflection. Within a few hours after the evacuation had been completed the Chinese troops and the Boxers now at Paoting would flock back into the capital, and if any unit of the Chinese nation failed to regard their movement as a triumphal entry, he would be a singularly discriminating individual.

Shanghai says that Russia has raised a loan of 20 millions sterling for the purpose of the Manchurian campaign, but the great emporium of intelligence does not condescend to explain whether it is a foreign loan or a domestic loan, or to tell us anything about the manner of obtaining it.

Rumours are now beginning to circulate about the peace-terms proposed by Foreign Powers. Little credit attaches to these stories, we think. One of them, for example, says that the Powers want to be put into common possession of Manchuria and Tientsin, which is more amusing than convincing.

The *Cologne Gazette* is reported to have published a semi-official *démenti* of the rumour that Germany has designs upon the Yangtsze Valley. The report is declared by the German journal to be entirely baseless.

Count von Waldersee left Singapore on the 13th instant. He is expected to reach Shanghai on the 22nd.

Prince Ching is reported to have addressed to the Viceroys and Governors of provinces a strong caution that as he and Viceroy Li are about to open peace negotiations, any violent or lawless conduct towards foreigners would be particularly prejudicial at this juncture. The Prince urges all local authorities to exert strong efforts for the protection of foreign life and property, of Christian places of worship and of native Christians.

Wednesday, Sept. 19.

From conversation with officers who have just arrived at Moji in the *Ikai Maru*, Japanese newspapers report that since the 7th instant the Russians have been actually engaged in removing their troops from Peking. At a conference of Foreign Ministers held in Peking, Baron Nishi is said to have suggested that pending the decision of the allied Powers things should remain *in statu quo*. The Russian Minister replied that being already in receipt of unequivocal instructions from his Government, he could not exercise any discretion. Baron Nishi then put the very pertinent question whether, in view of such independent action, it was the purpose of the Russian Representative to consider himself disqualified for taking part in future conferences of the Ministers with regard to united proceedings. M. de Giers replied that he had no such intention. Nothing is less desirable than a final disruption of the concert of Powers, yet it must be confessed that Russia having now shown herself resolved to act without any reference to her colleagues' opinions, her place at the council-board becomes anomalous.

One of Baron von Ketteler's murderers has apparently been apprehended. The Japanese police are said to have seized a man who was endeavouring to sell the Baron's gold watch. This capture may lead to interesting developments.

With regard to the expedition from Tientsin against Tsing hai, where a number of Boxers and imperial troops were said to be assembled, accounts differ as to the force employed by the Allies. Some say 2,000 Western troops and 1,000 Japanese; others say, 7,000 Japanese and 2,000 foreigners. We incline to believe the former estimate, for the Japanese have not such a force at Tientsin just now as would enable them to despatch 7,000 men. Moreover, from the moment when the troops leave the Peiho, the difficulties of transport become very serious, and although a column of 3,000 men might be marched against Tsing-hai without great embarrassment, the management of supplies for 9,000 would be a very different matter. It is that consideration also that makes us sceptical as to the Paoting expedition. True there is a railway to Paoting, but a railway is a very uncertain means of communication in a hostile country, and, so far as we can see, the Allies are not provided with transport animals, carts or coolies in sufficient numbers to strike away 80 or 90 miles from the river.

Appearances are said to indicate that Russia is taking steps to establish military communications with Newchwang and Liao-tung from Taku *viâ* Shanhai-kwan, and that her recent seizure of the Tongku-Kaiping Railway was a part of that programme. It is very interesting to observe how completely Russia's military independence seems to be recognised by the Allies. She does just what she pleases. In Manchuria she is carrying on a great campaign all off her own bat, and now she is adopting measures in Chili which would enable her at any moment to pour a large force of troops into that province. In

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fact, if things continue in their present groove, Russia, after the pacification of Manchuria, which can not be very far distant, will have the whole of northern China at her mercy, for she can then direct fifty thousand men from Manchuria into Chili

Major Yui, of the Staff, who is one of the passengers by the *Ikai Maru*, says that Major-General Fukushima had embarked at Taku on the 13th instant with the intention of returning for a time to Japan, when Mr. Uchida, chief of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Department arrived, and after consultation with him, the Major-General decided to return to Peking

Two regiments of German infantry, a squadron of cavalry, and a battery of artillery have landed at Taku, and others are expected to follow in rapid succession. These troops arrive at a time very happy for themselves from a climatic point of view. The hot weather is over, and the millet will soon be off the ground. A campaign in Chili in October is ideal. Cool, bright weather and vast plains, every inch of which is good marching ground. After November, however, the cold become severe.

The Germans are said to be much troubled about horses. Apparently they did not expose their cavalry and artillery horses to the dangers of the long voyage from Europe, and they are now endeavouring to procure a supply in Japan as China offers no facilities We take this statement from Tokyo journals, but it appears to us that if the German Government had decided to despatch the troops without a sufficient number of horses, measures would long ago have been taken in the East to supply the want. It is not a German habit to leave important matters unsettled until the eleventh hour.

Another report, which we deem much more trustworthy, is that Russia desires to support the Empress Dowager, and that she is using all her influence in that sense. The evacuation of Peking unconditionally would be the best thing that could happen in the interests of the Empress Dowager, and Russia is well aware of that. Further, it is plain that Li Hung-chang can not possibly lend himself to any programme pointing to the overthrow of the Empress Dowager, who has been his unfailing patron and protector throughout the whole of his official career.

A telegram from Shanghai alleges that Germany, France and America have agreed to evacuate Peking. The telegram undertakes to give America's reasons in detail, but the whole story is so apocryphal that we need not reproduce it in full.

Things are said to be growing very unquiet at Anking, and it is alleged that the power and influence of Viceroy Chang Chih-tung are declining, and that the regions in his jurisdiction are getting out of hand.

At a grand entertainment in Stettin in connexion with some military manœuvres, the Emperor of Germany is said to have advanced in front of the senior Japanese officer present, and to have proposed in a loud voice the health of the Japanese troops now fighting in North China. The incident attracted much attention

Thursday, Sept. 20.

The Japanese Consul at Amoy is reported to have had a meeting with the leading Chinese officials at that port, and to have explained fully the reasons of Japan's recent action, adding assurances that she did not aim at anything beyond the protection of life and property. The Chinese officials are said to have been entirely satisfied with the explanations offered.

The Russian troops at Taku and Tientsin are said to be making extensive preparations to give Li Hung-chang a demonstrative welcome. That, again, is scarcely credible, unless indeed Russia has thrown prudence to the winds and resolved to act the part openly of Li's patron.

Judging from the telegrams that are passing frequently between Prince Ching and the Imperial Court, the latter is still at Suenhwa. It is expected, however, that the Emperor and Empress Dowager will soon remove to Tai-yuen, where preparations for their journey have been made.

The *Nichi Nichi* says that including recent arrivals, the strengths of the foreign contingents in Peking and Tientsin at present are, Russia nine thousand, England eight thousand, France four thousand, Germany four thousand, and Italy two thousand, or twenty-seven thousand in all. If to these we add twenty-two thousand Japanese, we have a total of fifty-one thousand. Meanwhile rumour continues to assert that Germany, France and the United States—whose forces are not included in the *Nichi Nichi's* estimate—have agreed to withdraw their troops from Peking and that England will probably find it necessary to join the general debacle. What seems to us more probable is that contingents will be left to hold Peking while the bulk of the troops retire to Tientsin.

The German officers in Peking and Tientsin are said to have held a council at which it was decided that as Chili is not suitable for winter quarters, the troops should be withdrawn to Kiaochow and Shanghai. The recommendation will be submitted to the Field Marshal on his arrival. We think the whole story very apocryphal, for it is evident that the German contingent will not withdraw from Chili leaving the forces of the other Powers in quarters there. At the same time, it is unquestionable that the difficulty of procuring supplies at Tientsin after the Peiho becomes frozen is very serious.

Rumour continues to attribute large designs to Russia with regard to railways in China. There can be no doubt that she is possessing herself of the line from Tong-ku to Kaiping, and that she will very soon be in possession of its continuation to Shanhaikwan and Newchwang. She already holds the Tongku-Tientsin road, and thus the position will be that the whole system in Manchuria and from Manchuria to Chili is under her control. We do not perceive any sinister indications in these proceedings. Russia has been left an entirely free hand eastward of the Peiho and it is natural that she should secure the railways. But there can be no doubt that their possession will place her in a very strong situation. At present it seems as though all the advantages of this complication—very large advantages too—will accrue to her.

The story that Mr. Sugiyama was thrust into the ground head downwards is now contradicted. The corpse was wrapped in a blanket, placed in a coffin and buried. The place having been pointed out, exhumation was effected, and identification proved easy, the face and hair being still in a state of preservation. There were 18 wounds on the body. The remains were burned, and the ashes have been sent to Tokyo, where a funeral ceremony will be held on the 22nd instant.

Friday, September 21.

The latest news from Peking is that as neither the judicial organization nor public peace has yet been restored, the allied forces can not withdraw from the city.

It will have been observed that during the past few days four thousand Indian troops have reached China. Of these one thousand touched at Shanghai and proceeded thence on the 18th to Taku; the remaining three thousand are to arrive in Shanigha on the 22nd. A portion of them will land there, the rest going north.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

Saturday, Sept. 15.

The Imperial Decree issued by the Emperor of China on the 8th instant, ordering Li Hung-chang to proceed at once to Peking for the purpose of opening peace negotiations, alludes to the fact that Russia has proposed the withdrawal of the allied forces from Peking, and declares that the opportunity thus afforded must be taken advantage of, and must not be lost. This declaration should be perused with attention by those that favour evacuation.

Monday, Sept. 17.

Li Hung-chang has at length embarked at Shanghai for the north. We shall be very much surprised if Li shows any alacrity in opening the peace negotiations. As the Chinese Emperor's last decree truly remarks, Russia's proposal for the evacuation of Peking creates an exceptionally favourable opportunity. The old Viceroy will doubtless be of the opinion that the best way to utilize that opportunity is, not to grasp it hastily as the decree suggests, but to suffer it to mature quietly. Of course if any one of the great Powers, England above all, decides that Peking shall not be evacuated, or if the Powers agree to a so-called compromise providing for the tenure of the city by a comparatively small force, then the "opportunity" referred to in the decree will at once disappear. We entertain no doubt that such will be the issue, and we are obliged to say that we can not believe that Russia ever contemplated any other issue. Had she been sincere, had she honestly intended to bring about the evacuation of Peking and the restoration of the city to the Chinese, she would have adopted, we venture to think, a different method of procedure. She would have approached the allied Powers privately before making any public announcement of her own intentions, and she would have thus secured such a consensus as would have made certain the accomplishment of her purpose, or she would have discovered that the programme did not recommend itself to her confederates, and that her own open espousal of it would only prove an apple of discord. These considerations must have been perfectly apparent. When a man is pursuing an enterprise in cooperation with others, his adoption of a distinct line of action without consulting them lends itself to one of only two interpretations, namely, that he has ceased to value their alliance or that he perceives the hopelessness of securing their endorsement of his new procedure. Russia's attitude must be construed in that sense. If she really intended to evacuate Peking, she foresaw that the step would have to be taken

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independently of her Allies. The alternative hypothesis is that she did not really intend to evacuate it, but that she merely sought to place herself in a position of apparently exceptional sympathy with China. We are well aware that a plain straightforward rendering of the acts of men and States alike generally gives the true solution, and that the reading of sinister motives into the conduct of others is, for the most part, in a false route. But we find it incredible that Russia can have expected to induce the Allies to evacuate Peking pending some understanding with China, and we are therefore driven to suppose that in proclaiming her own desire for evacuation without consulting them, her purpose was mainly selfish. It may be that the negotiations resulting from her proposal will detach her still further from the Allies; a result which China earnestly desires. It may be—though we do not in the least anticipate such an issue—that they will be induced to endorse her programme of evacuation; a result which China desires still more earnestly. At any rate Li Hung-chang's course is plainly mapped out—he must make haste slowly.

The latest story about Li Hung-chang is that he doubts whether the naval commanders at Taku will afford facilities for his journey north, and that if they place any obstacles in his path, he will have recourse to the good offices of Russia to accomplish his journey secretly. A silly tale surely? Why should the naval commanders make any difficulty about letting Li pass? They will, on the contrary, render him every assistance. If such fancies have been put into his head, it must have been done by persons interested in misleading him, and if he believes them, then his plain course is to resign the office of peace plenipotentiary, for if the Powers regard him with so much disfavour as to oppose his journey to the place of conference, he is not likely to accomplish much when he gets there.

It goes without saying that all kinds of rumours are circulated about Li's intentions and proceedings. Everything, however, is profoundly vague except that he is supposed to have already concluded some secret agreement with Russia, and that his behaviour is so strange as to perplex even his immediate followers. One telegram alleges that the Powers, being convinced of the reality of some secret understanding between Li and Russia, are disposed to radically change their attitude towards China. At all events Li has embarked in the *Anping*, but whether he has actually commenced his journey or not is uncertain. A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* from Shanghai dated the 15th says that the *Anping* is still in the river, and that the Viceroy is holding conferences on board with a French staff officer and a Russian naval officer.

Tuesday, Sept. 18.

Up to the 16th instant Li Hung-chang had not started from Shanghai. He was still on board the *Anping* in the river. There is now a report that he intends to take passage northward in a Russian man-of-war. Of course the rumour that a secret understanding exists between him and Russia grows more and more persistent, and it must be confessed that his proceedings are not calculated to dispel the idea. It is right, of course, to give due consideration to the alternative construction of Li Hung-chang's delay, namely, that he is determined not to open the negotiations until the Court has definitely purged itself of all further complicity with the reactionaries. Obviously he can not entertain any serious hopes of bringing his labours in the cause of a peace to a satisfactory termination so long as Prince Twan and General Kang occupy leading places at the imperial councils, and he would be acting a wise and patriotic part if he insisted on the removal of these personages from office. The reasons that we have set forth in previous issues are in themselves quite sufficient to account for the Viceroy's delay, and though they are reasons not pleasant to contemplate from a foreign point of view, we fully recognise that it is Li's duty to be influenced by them. But it would be much more agreeable to conclude that the deliberateness of his movements is prompted by a resolve to purify the atmosphere surrounding the Court before proceeding to the grave work of negotiation. In confirmation of that view there comes a statement that Li, Chang, Liu and Yuan forwarded to the Throne on the 14th instant a memorial denouncing the Ministers whose advice has plunged the empire into its present troubles and praying that they be dismissed from office. Evidently the great obstacle in the Court's path is that Prince Twan is father of the newly chosen Prince Imperial. That, indeed, may be regarded as the dark cloud on the horizon of all endeavours to find a satisfactory solution.

Wednesday, Sept. 19.

A report is said to be current in Chinese official circles that in answer to inquiries from Russia, Li Hung-chang replied that the restoration of the Emperor to power would not be difficult, but that the punishment of Prince Twan and General Kang could not be compassed. The Viceroy is supposed to have added that he feared designs on Germany's part against the Yangtsze Valley, and that he trusted to Russia to prevent anything of the kind. Russia answered that she had received assurances from Germany in a contrary sense. We need scarcely say that we give these stories for what they may be worth.

Thursday, Sept. 20.

The *Anping*, carrying Li Hung-chang, left Woosung on the morning of the 17th. She will reach Taku on the 20th, and if the Viceroy uses expedition, he may be in Peking on the 22nd. He certainly has not hurried himself, considering that Prince Ching has been in Peking since the 3rd. Moreover, it remains to be seen whether Li will not spend another interval in Tientsin.

It is stated that the *Korniloff* was about to accompany the *Anping* and had actually taken a pilot on board when a telegram came from St. Petersburg vetoing the escort. We are surprised to learn that it was ever contemplated. Such a public flaunting of the Viceroy's Russian connections would have been singularly tactless.

It is stated that the British Government has informed Li Hung-chang that the return of the Emperor to Peking is an essential preliminary to the conclusion of peace. His Majesty will receive full pledges of security, and will be guarded just as Prince Ching now is. The Viceroy has been further advised by Lord Salisbury that the ring-leaders of the Boxers and the officer in command of the troops that attacked the Legations should be handed over to the Foreign Powers.

Friday, Sept. 21.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a telegram to the effect that Viceroy Liu Kunyi has addressed a piece of very sensible advice to Li Hung-chang. Liu says that Li had much better abandon any idea of going north by a Russian man-of-war, as such a proceeding could not fail to provoke the distrust of Foreign Powers. If the assistance of a man-of-war is absolutely necessary, Liu recommends that Japan should be asked to lend one. It is almost inconceivable that occasion for sending such a telegram should have been furnished. Li Hung-chang, if he really entertained any idea of embarking in a Russian man-of-war or obtaining the escort of one, must have been quite reckless as to the impression produced upon outsiders. However, he seems to have gone north in the *Anping* without any Russian assistance, and it is possible that all this talk about a man-of-war may have been pure invention.

It is stated that the house which Li Hung-chang desires to use during his residence in Tientsin is occupied by the Japanese commissariat department, and that it can not be vacated. The Japanese, however, are ready to make all possible provision for the old Viceroy's accommodation. We presume from this statement that the Viceroy's *Yamên* has been destroyed. It also looks as though Li contemplated stopping in Tientsin, whereas if he were honestly anxious to expedite the restoration of peace, he ought to proceed as speedily as possible to Peking.

General Yung Lu is reported to have declined to act as peace-commissioner, his reason being that some of the troops under his command were engaged in the attack on the Legations in Peking. Yung being the commander-in-chief, it may be said that all the troops engaged in the attack were under his command. At any rate, so many objections have been based on the story of his previous career that his refusal of the commission may be regarded as an act of grace. He is probably Prince Twan's nominee.

Rumour says that the Viceroys Chang and Liu have been appointed peace-commissioners on the same footing as Li Hung-chang. Foreign publicists have frequently urged that the commission should include these Viceroys as well as Prince Ching. Thus composed, not only would its engagements be viewed with confidence, but also the settlement effected might be regarded as the best obtainable.

PRINCE TWAN.

We quite agree with the *Japan Herald* that there are many differences between the procedure of Prince Twan and that of President Kruger, and that from the European point of view death would be a just punishment for the man who instigated the massacres of missionaries in China. But the point of view is much. There was a time in Europe itself, nay in fair England, when to slaughter the propagandists of an alien creed seemed the duty of every genuine Christian. The Boxers are fanatics. In the present state of Chinese civilization, we have no right to expect better things of them than were expected of our own nationals in mediæval times. They are also patriots in the sense that their demonstration is against the aggressions to which their country has been subjected by foreigners. Assume, then, that a Chinese statesman, equally exasperated against foreigners and equally anxious to vindicate his country's dignity, had to choose between joining hands with the Boxers and turning his back upon them, could we wonder if he chose as Prince Twan did? Even when we

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come to estimate the degree of blame attaching to the assailants of the Legations, we must not forget that there were guards of foreign troops stationed there, and that, in Chinese opinion, a state of war existed. Frankly speaking, it appears to us not less abominable, not less a departure from all the rules of civilized warfare, to derail a train as the Boers did recently, than to attack a Legation which had a guard of marines. Prince Twan used, in accordance with his own lights, the instruments he found under his hand. Our elementary passions would be greatly soothed did we see him hung on a gallows as high as Haman's, but our sense of justice would be offended. One more fact has to be observed. There is not the remotest chance of getting Twan executed unless the Allies capture him and kill him themselves. The present Chinese Government will never consent to regard the father of the Prince Imperial as a felon. That, of course, is a point entirely apart from the justice of taking Twan's life But it is a point worth considering. For nothing could conduce less to a satisfactory settlement with China than to prefer demands which she can not possibly concede.

GRAF VON WALDERSEE.

Monday, Sept. 17.

The arrival of Field Marshal Waldersee at Shanghai is expected about the 22nd. His movements will be watched with much interest because of the somewhat mysterious utterances of the German Emperor as recently reported by telegraph. The Emperor has conceived some plan which he regards as absolutely certain to effect a satisfactory settlement of the Chinese complication. Confidence of that kind can scarcely have any basis except the employment of overwhelming force. China is a difficult Power to deal with. She has not sufficient control of her own affairs to be certain of making good any pledges given by her to foreign Powers. Indeed the chief difficulty in the past has been the impossibility of placing any reliance either on her sincerity or on her competence. It would seem that the only effectual method of removing that difficulty is to employ such force as shall bring about a complete reorganization of her systems. The German Emperor must be well aware of all these things. Hence, when he declares before the world that he has elaborated a plan which will infallibly secure the desired ends, he naturally excites much curiosity and raises many hopes. We have not the smallest idea as to the nature of his Majesty's programme, but we sincerely trust that it will be attended with success, and we shall be glad to see British troops cooperating under Field Marshal Waldersee's orders if such ends be in sight. The only doubtful point is that Germany alone cannot undertake to apply a remedy of which the sole ingredient is force. The assistance of other Powers would be necessary, and there is no indication that such assistance has been secured.

Major Tachibana is to be attached to the staff of Field-Marshal Waldersee, as well as Major-General Fukushima. Both these officers are proficient German scholars and have studied the art of war in Germany. The *Asahi Shimbun* echoes the doubts often expressed in these columns as to the objects that the Field-Marshal will set himself to accomplish. We need not recapitulate arguments of this nature. Presumably the Emperor of Germany has found something for Marshal Waldersee to do, but what it is no outsider can conjecture.

Wednesday, Sept. 19.

According to the *Frankfurter General-Anzeiger* the object of Count Von Waldersee's mission is this :

"The object is not merely the liberation of foreigners in Peking, but the complete subjection of the Chinese forces. Until this is accomplished and peace definitely concluded, not by diplomatists, but by the military commander-in-chief, the troops of all nationalities will be subject to Count von Waldersee's authority. He will have the right to dismiss officers guilty of disobedience and to summon courts-martial in aggravated cases. He will amalgamate bodies of troops of different nationalities and regulate the transport on a common basis, so that the provisions of one contingent may be appropriated for another in case of necessity His instructions provide for the permanent occupation of the most important Chinese centres until the Powers are completely reimbursed for the expenses of the war."

If the Frankfort journal's statement of Field-Marshal Waldersee's instructions is correct—namely, that they "provide for the permanent occupation of the most important Chinese centres until the Powers are completely re-imbursed for the expenses of the war," it is very plain that Germany is not likely to accede to Russia's evacuation proposals. But our contemporary's synopsis of the Field-Marshal's functions are evidently exaggerated. The question of occupying important Chinese centres until an indemnity is paid will be settled by diplomacy not by the General in the field.

It is right to note that the German press did not approve very warmly of the idea of appointing a German to the command. The *Tages-Zeitung* and the *Post* showed plain reluctance The former thought that the only Power which could appoint a commander without arousing jealousies was France, and hoped that a French General could be found; the latter believed that the German Government had received the suggestion rather coolly, inasmuch as it would throw upon Germany "responsibilities much in excess of her present interests in China."

A REMARKABLE SUTRA.

Mr Kawakami, a priest of the Hongwan temple, who has been for some time in China conducting religious researches, reports the discovery of a ponderous sutra at a temple in Peking. The existence of the sutra had been known to Mr. Kawakami, and he had obtained leave to see it. When the city fell into the hands of the allied forces on the 15th of August, this temple was included in the Japanese section, and Mr. Kawakami sought permission to convey the sutra to Japan. It is written in the Thibetan language, having been translated from Sanscrit, and such is the size and weight of the volumes that three would make a horse-load. As there are 300 volumes, 100 horses would be required to transport them. We presume that the bulkiness of the volumes is not due to the quantity of matter they contain, but rather to the method of writing, the elaborateness of the illumination, and the quality of the binding and the paper. General Yamaguchi refused to allow the sutra to be carried to Japan. He said that permission for such an act might be temporarily given were the sutra in danger of destruction, but that the volumes would have had to be returned as soon as possible The account, which we find in the *Hochi Shimbun*, seems to indicate that this is the most remarkable sutra in the world.

THE SOCIAL EVIL.

Monday, Sept. 17.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* and the *Shin Nippon* have both become the objects of actions at law in consequence of charges preferred by them against the police in connexion with the social-evil question. Both journals have been very intemperate in their language, and the *Mainichi*, though awaiting trial, continues its invectives unabated. We can not tell how much justification there may be for our contemporary's accusations, but we greatly double whether such violence can further the cause which the *Mainichi*, at all events, has honestly at heart.

Wednesday, Sept. 19.

It is alleged that Major Duce has received application from over 100 prostitutes in Tokyo, who seek to be rescued from a life of shame. This is not at all surprising. We should imagine that of all the girls engaged in the profession, not a hundred could be found who would not desire to abandon it could some arrangement be made with regard to conditions under which they found themselves originally. But undoubtedly those that advanced money to the parents or guardians of these women in due accordance with law, possess interests which can not be ignored. Major Duce is said to have adopted the wise course of consulting the police as to whether he ought to continue his crusade at once, or to defer it until things shall have quieted down a little. The police naturally recommended the latter plan. It is said that the question has created much excitement in every part of Japan, and that some foreign marines, being mistaken for Salvation Army men, barely escaped assault a few days ago.

THE PEST.

Eight cases of pest are reported to have occurred in Osaka within the past few days, and fears seem to be entertained that the disease may be on the eve of another outbreak.

The pest appears to be increasing in Osaka. From the 11th to the 17th there were 12 cases, of which 8 were diagnosed as true pest. It is supposed that some cases are concealed. Stringent measures of sanitation are being adopted.

The pest continues to spread in Osaka. Another case is reported. It will probably be a long time before the disease is eradicated in Japan, but medical experts are said to be of the opinion that with proper precautions its ravages will never be extensive.

In connection with the renewed outbreak of plague at Osaka, the *Kobe Herald* reports the following incident :—Mr. Kikuchi, Governor of Osaka, had issued invitations for an entertainment dinner to the medical officers of Osaka in token of his appreciation of their services in stamping out the plague on the 15th instant. The disease was of course supposed to have been wiped out, but it had reappeared before the day of the celebration and of course after the issue of the invitations. But the banquet could not conveniently be cancelled, though it was meant to celebrate the disappearance of the plague. It was therefore held and the Governor delivered a short speech stating that the dinner was merely an offer of some refreshments to the guests who were present, and not in celebration of the cessation of the epidemic. Mr. Tamura, Mayor of Osaka, declined to be present in view of the renewal of the plague, and the Japanese papers commend his action.

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THE CONSTITUTIONAL POLITICAL ASSOCIATION.

The ceremony of inaugurating the Constitutional Political Association took place at the Imperial Hotel on the afternoon of the 15th instant, amid enthusiasm. Proceedings commenced in the forenoon, when a meeting was held for purposes of inauguration, Marquis Ito being in the chair, and all the members of committee in their places. The precincts of the Hotel were crowded, twelve or fifteen hundred people being present. A report as to the progress made in organizing the Association was read by the Chairman of Committee. The most important fact was that the Association had already been joined by 152 members of the House of Representatives, thus possessing a plurality of the whole House. A draft of Regulations was then read and adopted. Its remarkable feature was that it invested the President with extraordinarily full powers. Upon him devolves the duty of appointing the members of General Committee, and fixing their number. Upon him devolves also the duty of appointing the Chief Manager and the Managers, and directing their performance of financial and business functions. Upon him also devolves the discretionary right of appointing an extraordinary committee should occasion require. Upon him devolves the further duty of calling one general meeting annually in Tokyo, and of summoning extraordinary meetings if he deems it necessary. Upon him finally devolves the power of summoning meetings of Party members of the Diet during the latter's session. The Regulations contain nothing as to the election of a President, an omission which, though very easily understood, seems likely to cause some comment. Marquis Ito delivered the following speech, which we reproduce from the columns of the *Japan Times*:—

His Excellency expressed to the meeting his heartfelt thanks for the cordial and enthusiastic manner in which they had responded to his appeal for the organization of a new political association based on the principles and aims laid down in his recent Manifesto. It was his sincere wish to carry out those principles and aims, with the hearty co-operation and support of his fellow members of the Association. He was especially in need of their advice and assistance, for having hitherto served the country in office, he had no experience in the conduct of party affairs. He was far from taking any undue credit for his experience in the management of State affairs, but he might safely say that his experience had been sufficiently long and varied in this respect to convince him of the truth that nothing was more difficult than the government of a country. Keenly sensible, as he was, of the immense difficulties attending the task of governing a country, he had always been and would ever be averse to offering any hasty criticisms on the conduct and policy of statesmen in power at any time, but was rather inclined to extend his sympathy to them, be they his friends or foes. Consequently, numerous and supremely important as were the questions of which the present situation demanded a solution at home and abroad, he hoped, together with his followers, to refrain from any action that might inconvenience those now in power, but rather to afford them such assistance as lay in his power and in the power of his fellow members. He trusted that in this respect he would be able to count upon the hearty support of his followers. In calling upon them to muster under his banners, his object, as they knew very well, was not to get into office, the object aimed at by him being thereby to contribute to the successful working of the constitutional system. Whether in office or out of office, that was the aim always kept in view by him. He was gratified to know that this aim was shared by all present. No man, however, wise or great, could be faultless, and being conscious of his own shortcomings, he feared that he might very liable to mistakes. He would conscientiously endeavour, with their help and advice, to avoid mistakes as far as possible. But should any of his fellow members feel dissatisfied with any detail of his conduct or policy such member would always be free to leave the Association for nothing would induce him to insist on the unwilling allegiance of anybody however highly valued by him. Only he trusted that his followers would not grudge him their whole-hearted support so long as they believed his line of policy was the most conducive to the interests of the country. In conclusion his Excellency exhorted all present to bury in oblivion the remembrances of whatever differences they might have had with each other in the past, and be henceforth united heart and soul by their common zeal for the promotion of the country's civilization and welfare and for rendering the Association a model and example for all parties.

In the afternoon the Marquis and his colleagues received their friends at a garden party which was attended by many notables, and by not a few foreigners of Tokyo and Yokohama. The Prime Minister and six of the Cabinet Ministers were among the guests. Fireworks and refreshments occupied a considerable part of the guests' attention, and in spite of somewhat unfavourable weather the party proved a signal success.

FEMALE MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

The story of the sufferings endured by the little party of foreign missionaries—ten adults and six children—in the flight from Ping-yao to Hankow has evoked some strong journalistic protests against the employment of female missionaries in China. This is an old question. We can scarcely endorse the principle to which certain writers lend their support, namely, that every missionary should be celibate, for it admits of no question that immense good has been done by ladies in the field of propagandism. Indeed, for our part, we are strongly in favour of allowing women to take their due share in missionary work. But when, in 1885, the China Inland Mission began to employ a number of girls and women who had not received any training or given any indication of possessing the necessary qualifications, who undertook to support themselves on salaries so small that hardship and suffering were inevitable, who went into the interior without any protection of any kind, and who often adopted methods of propagandism that must have perplexed and even shocked the Chinese, it seemed to all thoughtful onlookers that a great and unwise risk was being taken. We wrote very strongly on the subject in 1886, and our only wonder is that trouble did not occur much sooner.

THE EMPEROR AND MARQUIS ITO.

The Emperor has accepted Marquis Ito's resignation of the various appointments held by his Excellency in the Imperial Household, but has addressed to the Marquis an autograph message said to be of an exceptionally gracious character. His Majesty, while acceding to Marquis Ito's request to be relieved of these offices, declares that his confidence in the Marquis is, if possible, strengthened, and that as his Majesty will have occasion to consult the Marquis, the latter should be prepared at all times to submit his views to the Throne in the frankest manner The text of the message has not been published, but rumour says that his Majesty's language indicates almost filial respect for the eminent statesman

Baron Ito Miyoji tendered his resignation of his position as member of the Committee of the Imperial Organization Investigation Bureau, but the Emperor has not been pleased to release the Baron from his duties, which is very natural, seeing that Baron Ito's presence on the Committee must be of the highest importance to the progress of its labours.

It is believed that Count Hijikata will succeed to the position vacated by Marquis Ito.

THE CAUSE OF THE OUTBREAK IN CHINA.

The President of the Society of Christian Endeavour, the Rev. F. S. Clark, strongly combats the theory advanced in some quarters that missionary activity is responsible for the Boxer uprising. He asks whether any disquieting influence exercised by the missionary can be compared to the effect of the aggressive measures taken by foreign Governments for the nominal purpose of punishing anti-missionary outrages. Evidently this is a question that can not be fully discussed within the limits of a newspaper article. We may say, on the one hand, and we should be speaking the truth, that had not the Chinese been driven to desperation by the series of aggressions commencing with Kiao-chow, the Boxer rising would never have occurred. But it may be retorted, on the other side, that Kiao-chow would not have been seized had not a missionary been murdered. Mr Clark, however, is not disposed to admit the latter view. He thinks that if the missionary pretext were not forthcoming, some other excuse would be found for doings like those at Kiao-chow. For ourselves, we think that Lord Salisbury diagnosed the matter accurately when he said that the Chinese people have gradually learned to form an entirely erroneous conception of the missionary's true function. They have come to regard him as an instrument employed by the secular government for its own ambitious purposes rather than as an agent for propagating religion. That is exactly what happened in Japan in the sixteenth century. But in Japan's case the erroneous conception was based partly on the violent methods adopted by the missionaries themselves and partly on the false character that rival foreign nationalities attributed to each other. In China's case the missionaries are not directly responsible nor has the purpose of their presence been misrepresented by traducers of their own race

THE PACIFIC OIL COMPANY.

The Pacific Oil Company is a temporary organization registered under the laws of Japan for the purpose of facilitating the organization of a permanent company which will be composed of prominent Japanese gentlemen of capital and standing associated with American gentlemen, equally well-known in regard to financial standing and prominence in their country.

Owing to the unavoidable delay occasioned in the preparation of the Articles of Association of the permanent Company, and the care required to ensure harmonious working of the contemplated union of Japanese and American capital and enterprise in the industrial field of Echigo, it was deemed expedient, in order to economize time, to form the Pacific Oil Company, as a temporary organization, for the purpose of acquiring property and material and establishing, beyond a doubt, the good faith of the American promoters of this enterprise in their willingness to submit their capital to the protection of the laws of Japan and their desire to join with prominent Japanese in the development of the Echigo oil industry.

The Managers of the Pacific Oil Company desire most emphatically to state that they have no object in view that can be in any way detrimental to the business interests of any company, corporation or individual in Echigo or any other part of Japan. Their object is to develop and perfect what in time they believe will be a great industry. It is hoped that the petroleum business of Japan may

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eventually develop sufficiently to render the importation of foreign oils unnecessary. If they are successful every oil interest in Echigo will become more valuable and every enterprise there will derive benefit from that success. This success, in addition to the direct benefit it will bring to Japan, will do much to encourage the investment of foreign capital in this country.

UNDER WHICH FLAG?

Tuesday, Sept. 18

We were surprised to observe in a recent issue of the *Japan Times* an assertion that the opinion of the vernacular press was divided with reference to the evacuation of Peking as proposed by Russia. It appeared to us that "divided" was a very misleading expression, inasmuch as only one journal, the *Nippon* had expressed itself unequivocally in favour of evacuation. Considering the interest of the subject we briefly intimated our inability to find warrant for our contemporary's statement. The *Japan Times* now undertakes to justify its version, and after suggesting that either our honesty or our intelligence must be at fault, recommends us "to be more careful the next time we condescend to challenge its statements." If the matter lay between a general assertion of the *Japan Times*, and a similarly general criticism on our part, no satisfactory decision would be possible. But our contemporary quotes chapter and verse, and there is consequently no difficulty in arriving at a conclusion.

Three journals are cited by the *Japan Times* as advocates of the evacuation policy. The first in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. From its columns the *Japan Times* makes the following translation :—

"Being of all the Powers the most intimately connected with China and being also the Power which has thus far sent the largest army to that country, Japan ought to have anticipated Russia in proposing the withdrawal of troops. Did the Government think that the time was not yet ripe for such a step? If so, why did it not at once take measures to point out to Russia the unwisdom of the proposal?"

From this extract the *Japan Times* pronounces the *Yomiuri* "in favour of the Russian proposal." A more unwarrantable inference we have never seen. The *Yomiuri's* article does not make the remotest attempt to discuss the merits of Russia's proposal, nor does it pronounce the most shadowy opinion of its own as to the wisdom or expediency of the proposal. The article is headed, "Government ought to have a foreign policy of its own," and the sole object to which the writer devotes himself is to prove that the Foreign Office, as at present directed, follows in the wake of other Powers. What it says about the evacuation of Peking is that Japan was in every way qualified to take the initiative in making the proposal, and that if she considered it premature, she should have replied at once to Russia in that sense without waiting to learn what other Powers would do. How can such a criticism possibly be construed as an approval of the proposal? It might with equal justice be construed in the sense of declaring the proposal premature. We venture to affirm that the writer in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* will be profoundly astonished to learn that on the strength of such an article, he is ranged among the supporters of immediate evacuation.

The next journal referred to by the *Japan Times* is the *Chugai Shogyo*. In this case our contemporary does not translate verbatim. It contents itself with saying :—"As to the desirability of withdrawing the troops from Peking, our contemporary has no manner of doubt." This allegation is even more astonishing than that with regard to the *Yomiuri*. So far from advocating the immediate evacuation of Peking as proposed by Russia, the *Chugai Shogyo* unequivocally condemns it. As to the general principle of evacuation and as to the reasons advanced by Russia, the *Shogyo* unquestionably declares approval; but it nevertheless condemns the step at this juncture. Here are some extracts from its article :—

Nevertheless, if the procedure of the very Power making the proposal is not sincere, however desirable evacuation may be in the abstract, we regret that we cannot by any means express approval of it. (Then, after quoting several facts which in the writer's opinion show Russia to be untrustworthy, and after declaring that Li Hung-chang is notoriously pro-Russian and has had close relations with Russia ever since the signing of the Shimonoseki Treaty, the *Shogyo* proceeds) :—"Although this fine proposal that Russia makes to-day may be nominally carried out, there will be no reality about it. * * * In view of Russia's present actions, it is impossible to say that she is not actuated by some ulterior scheme, and it is for that reason and for no other that the Powers will not listen to her proposal. * * * So long as the Powers do not agree, let evacuation be never so right it cannot possibly be put into practice, and consequently it would be premature to give effect to the proposal (Russia's).

In a word, the *Shogyo* would endorse the policy of evacuation had it come from some quarter not open to suspicion, but it declines to approve it as coming from Russia. Yet the *Japan Times* quotes the *Shogyo* as one of the journals supporting Russia's proposal.

We come now to the third and last journal cited, namely, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which, according to the *Japan Times*, "approves, on the whole, of the Russian proposal." That qualifier, "on the whole," is wisely introduced. The *Nichi Nichi's* article is long. But the writer has taken the trouble to mark certain portions as containing the views for which he claims special attention. We translate them :—

The one difficult thing is that if the Powers withdraw their forces completely from Peking, remove their Ministers to whichever of the open ports seems convenient, and then await the return of the Chinese Court to Peking, it is to be feared that the result will be to furnish a pretext for rekindling the flame of rebellion among the ignorant Chinese. When we reflect that the persons guarding the Chinese Emperor are of that class, and when we recall how great was the encouragement given to the Boxers by the return of Admiral Seymour, it becomes impossible to foretell what danger might not result from the complete withdrawal of the Allies from Peking. Therefore the withdrawal must be made contingent at least on an earnest request from the Chinese Emperor, and must be subsequent to the issue of an edict by his Majesty clearly declaring his intention of returning to Peking, apologising to the Foreign Powers for his wrong doing and announcing his sincere desire for the restoration of peace. Unless that is done, China will despise the Powers, cunning fellows will seize the opportunity to stir up trouble, and it will ultimately become necessary to employ a larger force even than that sent originally against Peking. Moreover, it is not impossible that foreigners may be subjected to outrages in Southern China also. Hence, if Russia desires the withdrawal of the troops, the consent of the Powers should be conditional on the retention of a force sufficient to guard the city.

The conditions existing in Peking and in China to-day do not permit the complete evacuation of the city, &c."

If an article containing the above expressions can be construed as an endorsement of Russia's proposal, we are greatly mistaken.

Thursday, Sept. 20.

Since it is pretty plain that the unconditional evacuation of Peking by the allied forces is not likely to become an accomplished fact, Great Britain, Germany and Japan being better advised than to adopt such a policy, little is to be gained by continuing to discuss the disadvantages of the proposal. But we must enter a gentle protest against the adroit manner in which the *Japan Times* contrives a door of exit through our arguments. When a controversialist states a proposition for the purpose of refuting it, we have never heard that he can be held to have thereby admitted the proposition. The *Japan Times* writes :—

In its rejoinder to our reply on the question of the Peking evacuation, the *Japan Mail* admits that, "if the moderates are weakened by the exclusion of the Court from Peking, there is a strong argument in favour of the evacuation of that city by the Allies in order to allow the Court to return." That is the very thing which we endeavoured to point out in our last article. * * * * The *Mail*, while acknowledging that our "point of view" is not without force, seems still inclined to believe that the restoration of the Imperial Court to Peking by the withdrawal of foreign troops, would only serve to save the face of the reactionaries and enable them to hold up their heads once more.

No one reading these words could fail to imagine that we had admitted something, or acknowledged something, and, in short, that we had altogether weakened. As a matter of fact what we did was to give the gist of our contemporary's contention, as clearly and as briefly as we found possible, and then to declare most emphatically that we totally and wholly disagred with it, our conviction being that the unconditional evacuation of Peking by the Allies, so far from weakening the reactionaries, would greatly strengthen them. In short, our views are as wide apart from those of our Tokyo contemporary as are the poles asunder. We did not even write that the *Japan Times'* view was "not without force." What we said was, "not without force at first sight." The omission of the words "at first sight" is a very important inaccuracy.

Before dismissing the matter we want to ask two questions. First, what is the reason for unconditional evacuation? To strengthen the hands of the moderates, is the *Japan Times'* last contention. Yes, but not its only contention. What it told us originally had a very different significance. It told us that the bonds uniting the Powers would evidently be unable to bear the strain of carrying out any large programme of reform in China. Even the "open-door" policy seemed visionary to our contemporary since no State would fight to maintain it. Hence, argued the *Japan Times*, "where there is so little prospect for any efficient unity of action among the Powers, it should clearly be the aim of practical statesmen to confine the sphere of common action within the narrowest possible limits, and be contented with a solution which may be incomplete and inadequate, but which may at least obviate the danger of protracted anarchy and complications."

Now here are two explanations: first, Peking is to be unconditionally evacuated because the accord between the Powers is not strong enough to warrant them in formulating a reform programme commensurate with such a signal measure as the retention of the Chinese capital; second, Peking is to be unconditionally evacuated because that concession would strengthen the hands of the Chinese moderates. Which of these explanations are we to take? Perhaps we shall be told that both are relevant; that the one reinforces the other. That brings us to our second question :—

What would the Chinese infer from unconditional evacuation? Would they altogether ignore the reason advanced by the measure's foreign advocates themselves—*inter alios* the *Japan Times*—; namely, that the Powers cannot trust each other sufficiently to attempt anything complete and adequate in the way of reform? Would they thrust that phase of the matter out of sight,

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and be content to believe in the moderate-strengthening euphuism? Are they fools?

We arrive at this then—that a step taken by the Foreign Powers in consequence of their avowed inability to accomplish anything adequate or complete in the way of Chinese reform, is to be construed as a device for strengthening the hands of the Chinese moderates, *alias* the reformers.

THE WEATHER.

Saturday, Sept. 15.

The centre of depression reached Nafu on the morning of the 13th. The storm there was very violent. Oshima and part of Kagoshima were visited by heavy rain. The barometer at Nafu read 739 m.m., and the atmospheric conditions were of an exceptionally disturbed character. It is thought probable that Kiushiu and Shikoku were yesterday invaded by the hurricane, but the course of its travels can not yet be certainly predicted.

Monday, Sept. 17.

The Riukiu Islands suffered severely from a typhoon on the 13th instant. Many houses were blown down or otherwise injured. We mentioned in our last issue that the course of this typhoon was uncertain, but that it would probably visit Kiushiu and Shikoku It appears to have passed out westward, however, and no further apprehensions are felt as to its devastating Japan. The oppressive, damp heat felt in Yokohama and Tokyo on the 14th instant was evidently due to this atmospheric disturbance in the south. The 20th will be the *Higan-setsu*, corresponding with our equinox. It almost seems as though this part of Japan was to escape a hurricane altogether this year.

Tuesday, Sept. 18.

A telegram from Taipeh, despatched on the forenoon of the 16th, says that a hurricane had been raging there since the 14th. This is a perplexing piece of news. A typhoon blowing at Taipeh on the 16th cannot be identical with the typhoon which visited Riukiu on the 13th and thence passed out to sea westward. One would suppose that the course of the Taipeh typhoon was still a matter of interest to Japan. The Meteorological Authorities, however, have withdrawn all warnings and seem to think that, for the present at all events, tranquil weather is assured.

Wednesday, Sept. 19.

The typhoon in Formosa blew from the evening of the 14th to the morning of the 15th. Much damage was done. Nine hundred and twenty-two houses within and without Taipeh were inundated, the Tamsui river overflowed, railway traffic was interrupted, and it is believed that several lives were lost. It was during this storm that the *Taichiu Maru* went ashore. She was lying in Kelung harbour when the *Seiko Maru*, a steamer of 1,513 tons, belonging to the Kogyo Kaisha of Setsu, dragged her anchors and fouled the *Taichiu*—3,316 tons, Osaka Shosen Kaisha. Whether this collision was the cause of the *Taichiu's* getting adrift the telegram does not say. At all events she went ashore—not on a sunken rock as we stated in our last issue. It does not appear that she sustained serious damage. The *Seiko Maru* ran ashore on an island, and her fate is not reported. The *Taichiu* is partially insured with Lloyds. The whole insurance is 613,000 *yen*, but what proportion is borne by Lloyds we do not know. The *Seiko Maru* is insured in a Japanese company for 60,000 *yen*.

The storm which reached the Riukiu Islands on the 13th, and which was subsequently reported to have passed out to sea westward, appears to have behaved in a very peculiar fashion. It struck the coast of Chekiang, and made an incursion into the continent, after which it countermarched to the south-west, and emerging from Chekiang at a point nearly opposite Ishigaki island—the most southerly of the Riukiu group—it impinged upon Formosa, where it blew with great violence from the evening of the 14th until the morning of the 15th. During its overland journey in China the typhoon developed a great increase of force and the meteorological authorities suppose that it must have been felt with terrible severity in Formosa. What became of it ultimately there are no means of ascertaining, the telegraphs having been injured, but the Meteorological Bureau's report assumes that a centre of depression is in the neighbourhood of Formosa, and that it may yet make its way to Japan.

Thursday, Sept. 20.

The typhoon which made its appearance originally at Riukiu on the 13th instant, and subsequently, after an excursion into Chekiang, turned to the south-west and invaded Formosa on the 15th, has now approached Japan. It reached Ningpo on the 16th, and then turning to the north-east, made its presence felt at Tsushima on the 17th. The Meteorological authorities do not anticipate a very severe storm or expect that a large section of Japan will be involved, but the motions of the storm are so capricious that its performances can not be predicted with any approach to confidence.

Friday, September 21.

The behaviour of the weather perplexes meteorologists. We have already explained that a centre of depression which declared itself at Riu-kiu on the 13th instant, subsequently entered the mainland of Chekiang and then, turning upon its tracks, struck the north of Formosa on the 15th instant, whence, travelling north, it made its appearance at Tsushima on the 18th. It was generally supposed that the heavy rain which fell in Tokyo and Yokohama on the 19th was caused by this typhoon as it travelled up the Sea of Japan. But the Meteorological Bureau now states that another and independent depression was developed in the Pacific ocean far to the east of Formosa on the 12th instant; that, after going north-west for two days, it passed to the south of Riu-kiu, and then suddenly diverging southward, swept over the north of Formosa on the 16th. Thereafter, changing its course to the north-east, it swept along the Chinese coast, and from a point in the vicinity of the mouth of the Yangtsze, divided into two branches, one of which held its path to Korea and the other, trending eastward, followed a course which took it past the south of Kiushiu and thence over the Pacific on the east of Japan. It will be observed that, according to this theory, Japan lay between two centres of depression, one of which reached Korea on the 19th instant, and the other was in the Pacific opposite Owari Bay at the same time. Experts are not disposed to think that we have yet seen the last of these unwelcome visitors.

Mr. Horiya Sajiro, a member of the Municipal Council of Yokohama, was called to the Local Court on the 19th inst., and interrogated concerning the recent *soshi* assaults. He was accompanied to the Court by three or four *soshi*.

JAPAN AT AMOY.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* has a species of lamentation over Japan's procedure at Amoy. It calls her action "precipitate"; says that its results have been disastrous, inasmuch as the Chinese have been thrown into a panic and fled until it is estimated that the exodus amounts to no less than fifty thousand; declares that the Japanese "have utterly failed to convince foreigners that there was any necessity for landing troops, have awakened a fear and a distrust in the minds of the Chinese which it will require years to eradicate and have drawn the attention of the European Powers to their evident designs upon Fuhkien province."

There is just one flaw in our Hongkong contemporary's reasoning: its basic fact is erroneous. The Japanese did not land any troops in Amoy. They landed a detachment of marines. That is a very different matter, and the *Hongkong Telegraph* knows the difference, for it is careful to describe as "marines" the men landed by the British. It appears to us that this outcry about Japan's action is one of the most curious example of prejudice hitherto furnished. Every one of the Treaty Powers makes a practice of landing marines at any port in China where the lives and property of that Power's nationals are threatened. The lives and property of Japanese nationals were undoubtedly threatened at Amoy. Placards were published inciting the people to rebellion against foreigners, and urging that an unique opportunity offered for recovering Formosa. Moreover an act of incendiarism was committed against a Japanese temple. Under the circumstances of the time, any Power, above all a Power having such special interests as Japan has in Amoy, would have landed marines if it were in a position to do so. Great Britain, Germany, France, the United States—not one of them would have hesitated for an instant, and in their case the act would not have been held to justify any suspicion of sinister designs. But the fact is that the average foreign critic has one rule for his own nationals; another and quite a different rule for Japan. Nothing is hinted about the Chinese having been scared, shocked or impelled to fly because other Powers—England among them—followed Japan's example in landing marines. Not a word. They could not possibly be wrong. There might have been no reason for Japan's procedure but there must have been a good reason for theirs. They had not been specially threatened nor had their people been the victims of any direct act of lawlessness. Still their landing marines was beyond censure. But Japan, who has a very difficult task in quelling Formosa, who has had to increase her garrison there because of these Boxer troubles and in view of the very danger which the recent Amoy placards indicated—Japan, if she lands a detachment of marines, is at once accused of *mala fides* and of "evident designs upon Fuhkien province." The prejudice of the thing is magnificent. We should imagine that Japan will soon get tired of listening to these one-sided sermons.

FRENCH LITERATURE.

It is curious but nevertheless true, according to Mr. R. Davey, who writes in the *Fortnightly Review*, that although France produces such large quantities of pornographic literature, she does not read it herself. It is a commodity for export. She sends it abroad to Germany, Austria, Italy, England, Spain, the United States, and especially to

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the South-American Republics. Comparatively few of these books are sold in Paris or in the large provincial towns, and "in the cathedral towns it is not easy to find a single copy." That is remarkable. We do not know how to reconcile it with the fact that fifty thousand copies of Marcel Prévost's "Demi-Vierges" were sold in a few months in France; which result has been generally described as a *succès de scandale*. Neither can we easily reconcile the inference it suggests that the extraordinarily popular plays of M. Lavedan are considered the most *risqué* work ever seen in a boulevard theatre.

THE EMPEROR AND THE TROOPS.

The Emperor of Japan has addressed the following message to the Army and Navy:—"Fighting amid great heat in a strange land, our Military and Naval forces, in co-operation with those of Foreign Powers, have overcome obstacles and conquered a stout resistance, discharging their duty ably, and finally reaching Peking and accomplishing the object of saving the Ministers. We strongly applaud this achievement, and we trust that our forces will continue their zealous discharge of our commands and their careful observance of discipline to the further enhancement of Our Empire's military reputation."

This message was accompanied by various presents for the troops and was conveyed by an Imperial Chamberlain to the officers commanding at sea and on shore, by whom suitable replies were made.

YUNG LU.

A short time ago the Chinese journal of Yokohama published a long account of Yung Lu's doings and tendencies. It was an account highly unfavourable for Yung. He was represented as essentially anti-foreign, and it was contended that he must be held accountable for the attack on the Legations and the Boxer movement in general, since he possessed full power to prevent the former and check the latter, neither Twan, nor Tung, nor Sung, nor Kang being anything more than subordinates of Yung. It is interesting to find that the *North China Daily News* publishes a lengthy sketch of Yung's life, of his intrigues, of his treachery and of his unscrupulousness. If the two articles do not emanuate from the same source—which is by no means improbable—, Yung's appointment as a peace-commissioner is a misfortune, and the belief prevalent at one time that he exerted his influence to save the Legations, must be abandoned as a myth.

THE BUDGET.

The general figures of the Budget for 1901-2 are published. They stand thus:—

	1901-2. Million Yen.	1899-1900. Million Yen.	Difference. Million Yen.
Ordinary Revenue ...	201	193	Inc. 8
Extraordinary	52	60	Dec. 8
Total	253	253	...
Ordinary Expenditure	165	150	Inc. 15
Extraordinary	87	100	Dec. 13
Total	252	250	2

Thus the total expenditures exceed those of the current year by 2 million *yen*.

THE SHIRT-WAIST.

There is a tendency among men in the large cities of America to discard their coats and vests in the dog-days, and go about in what is called "shirt-waist" style. The costume is copied from the fair sex. Women wear that kind of rig; why should not men? Not a few courageous persons have braved the proprieties, and their attempts to enter theatres and fashionable restaurants have caused much perplexity. One strongly urged argument against the innovation is that it would condemn men to the "baleful and uncomfortable suspension of clothing from the waist,' which is one of woman's greatest afflictions, involving "breathlessness, backache, pads of whalebone and metal strips, pressure of leather and of stiffened cords." But the expounder of this tremendous objection does not explain why the "shirt-waist man" is precluded from wearing braces. Anyhow we folks living in the East never do wear braces in the hot weather, and we do not find it such a cruel thing to suspend our trousers from our waists alone; in fact, it is far more comfortable than to suspend them from the shoulders when the thermometer reads high. Some quaint verses on the subject are published by the Boston *Globe*:—

Once Woman took a hint from Man,
And at the same time took his shirt;
If now he takes a hint from her
And take her shirt-waist, too, who's hurt?

Shall he be shamed? Shall Woman show
More courage and more sense than he?
Since her shirt doesn't, why should his,
Uncovered, shock propriety?

Shall Women now monopolize
The comfort that a shirt confers
On humid, hot humanity
When it is worn as she wears hers?

Why should he swelter on, nor dare
To dream that he's for dinner dressed
Until his shirt is all but hid
From sight beneath a coat and vest?

Must he still like a mummy swathe
Himself to suit Convention's rule,
While Woman—in the shirt she took
From him—contrives to keep so cool?

"Twas thus one mortal quelled till
A roasting day, and then he ran
The gauntlet of the guyers as
The bold, unblushing shirt-waist man!

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The Liberals have finally cast the die. On the 13th instant they held their last meeting, and unanimously voted to dissolve the Party for the purpose of entering the ranks of the new association organized by Marquis Ito. They agreed to hand over their offices, fixtures, furniture, etc., to the Constitutional Political Association, and they voted to elect a committee which should wait upon Count Itagaki for the purpose of expressing the Party's profound sense of the services rendered by him to the cause of Liberalism in Japan. As to the exact steps taken, the decision was that the Party's nominal roll should be handed to the Constitutional Political Association as a definite act of amalgamation, provided that it should be competent for any one to signify the withdrawal of his name. Secondly, a winding-up-committee (*sanmu-iin*) was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Hayashi, Hoshi, Matsuda, Kataoka and Baron Suyematsu. Thirdly, this Committee was entrusted with the duty of compiling a history of the Liberal Party.

On the 16th instant the remains of two of those that lost their lives in Peking were interred in Tokyo. The funeral of Mr. Kojima, son of the former Chief Justice, took place at the temple Kaian-ji in Shinagawa, the rites being an accordance with the *Shinto* ritual. Mr. Narabara's remains were carried first to the temple Seisho-ji at Atago-shita, where a Buddhist service was performed. The interment was in the Aoyama cemetery. Both obsequies were largely attended.

Three representatives of Japanese newspapers—the *Nichi Nichi*, the *Chuo* and the *Japan Times*—attended the Journalists International Meeting in Paris on the 30th of July. This was the 7th meeting. The attendance numbered 500, and the countries represented were 24.

The drought in India seems to have at length come to an end. Heavy rains have fallen everywhere, and there are prospects of good rice and cotton crops. The Punjaub alone appears to be outside the circle of improvement.

The *soshi* have been making themselves prominent in Yokohama affairs. Nothing had been heard of these pestilential gentlemen for some time, and it was hoped that they had disappeared from the scene. But they are still to the fore. The complication which has brought them on the stage in Yokohama is connected with the sale of a small lot of land in use by the Gas Company but owned by the Municipality. The Gas Company sold the land, probably by mistake, without obtaining the consent of the Municipality. On discovering their error, an attempt was made to rectify it by introducing in the Town Assembly a bill sanctioning the sale of the land as a transaction not yet completed. This led to a vehement dispute, the assembly dividing into two parties, and the polemic being kept up after the meeting, as is not infrequent in Japan. Both sides seem to have employed *soshi*; or, at any rate, *soshi* have used cudgels in the alleged interests of both parties. It is a discreditable affair.

A collision is reported to have occurred on the evening of the 16th instant at Nikko between a passenger and a luggage train. Four employés were hurt more or less seriously. No details are given.

According to a second report issued by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce and based on returns collected during the 5 days subsequent to the *nihiyakuto-ka*, the rice crop this year will be even better than was formerly anticipated. The total yield is now estimated at 45,153,446 *koku*, or 5,450,000 *koku* more than last year's crop, and 6,180,000 *koku* more than the average. Saga and Miyazaki prefectures are the only places where fine results are not expected. With the exception of 1898, there has been no such crop for 17 years.

The Industrial Bank announces its eighth issue of *wari-mashi-tsuki* bonds, amounting to a million *yen*. The interest is 5 per cent., payable semi-annually, and the drawings for prizes and redemptions take place twice each year. About 1 bond in every 8 receives a prize, the highest being 1,000 *yen*, and the bonds are 20 *yen* each.

The new Shrine of Daijin-gu at Ise has been completed—it was burned down last year—, and the ceremony of consecration will take place on the 2nd of October. Prince Iwakura will represent the Emperor, and a body of troops will be sent to assist at the proceedings.

Conferences held between some of the principal owners of coal-mines in Kiushiu

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seem likely to eventuate in the formation of a trust. We have often expressed surprise that some step of the kind was not taken, in order to check not merely the ruinous competition now existing, but also the abuses resulting from market rates that do not pay for the extraction of good coal.

A telegram from Newchwang published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, says that the number of Russian troops operating in Manchuria has now become very great. They have advanced from two directions, from Siberia on the west and Vladivostock on the east, and have captured many important positions, as Kaitarof, Stretchinsk, Tsitsihar, Sansing, Ningtow, Hunchung, Takushan, and Inkow, and are now threatening to advance to Mukden. It is very evident that if the concert of the Powers is abandoned, and if the Powers negotiate independently, Russia will be in a fine position for playing her own game.

The terrible calamity by which Texas has been visited is reported to have completely ruined the cotton crop in that State. A telegram to the Foreign Office in Tokyo reports that the damage is widespread and that numerous bankruptcies will result. The crop prospect in Texas was exceptionally good prior to the hurricane.

The new National Union is attracting much attention. On the 18th instant the Council of the Constitutional Political Association decided that the platform of the Union is contrary to the nation's best interests and must be strenuously opposed. What that platform really is the public may be dubious, but the *Kokumin Shimbun* has no manner of doubt. It declares that under the pretext of preserving China's integrity the Union really entertains designs upon Korea, and that its policy points to that very alliance of the yellow races which excites so much apprehension in the Occident, and which would be so little in accord with Japan's national policy. Japan can not separate herself from the Powers of the West. If they abandon the idea of maintaining China's integrity, it would be ridiculous and suicidal for Japan to attempt to assert that idea in the face of the world. The policy of the Union may be described as ultimately anti-foreign, and no serious person can propose such a programme to Japan in this year of grace.

These are Japanese views of the Union's aims and aspirations. It is significant, however, that the organs of the Progressists support the Union. They even allege that several members of the Constitutional Party, being in sympathy with the Union, would have joined it had they not been deterred by the adverse decision of the Constitutional Party alluded to above. These Progressist journals say that the attitude of the Council will probably cause a split in the ranks of the Constitutional Party, to which they now apply the epithet *jidai-ha*, or "creatures of the big" (*i.e.* trucklers to strength).

On the 24th instant the Prince Imperial is to entertain at lunch in the Shiba Detached Palace the Austro-Hungarian Chargé d'Affaires and others of his nationals, in recognition of the receipt of an Austrian Order. This recognition had been deferred until the cool weather set in.

The draft Budget for next year is said to have been adopted by the Cabinet with very little discussion. Increases of expenditure are provided for on account of the iron works at Yokosuka; an addition to the salaries of local officials raising the monthly average from 18⅓ *yen* to 22 *yen*; improvement in the communications service; appointment of health officers (*yeisei-kwan*) in the localities, and carrying out the ten-year programme in Hokkaido. These items are not large, and, on the whole, the Budget does not exhibit any remarkable features.

Marquis Yamanouchi—formerly feudal chief of Tosa—is to be married to the second daughter of His Imperial Highness Prince Fushimi in the beginning of December.

"What would the world say," asks the *Washington Times*, "of an alleged first-class Power, possessed of ample military and financial resources, which, having been compelled to land an army and fight battles with the regular forces of a hostile nation in order to save its envoy and his family, staff, guests, and guards from massacre, should immediately turn tail and run after accomplishing that initial purpose, and continue to preserve the fiction of amicable relations with the enemy's country?" That is the case in a nut-shell. If Peking had been captured by the troops of one Power at war with China, would any person dream of advocating its evacuation before terms of peace had been arranged? The true reason of the evacuation proposal is not to be found in any straightforward considerations of military strategy or international diplomacy.

In this context we may note one reason advanced by an American journal which advocates evacuation:—"If our troops should be kept there any length of time, we should get into the same kind of trouble we experienced in the Philippines."

There was a very remarkable consensus of opinion among European journalists as to the reason why a Japanese General would not be eligible for the command-in-chief of the allied forces in North China. "The Russians object to a Japanese," said the *Handelsblad* of Amsterdam. "It is vain to suppose that the jealousy of Russia can be overcome," said the *Ost-Asien* (Berlin). "The Russians oppose the choice of a Japanese," said the *Daily Chronicle* (London).

KOREA.

The Korean Government is considering the question of granting to Japanese subjects fishing privileges for the space of 20 years on the Kyang-kwi-do coast. The matter is now before the Cabinet and will probably be favourably viewed.

Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Chargé d'Affaires in Sôul, is said to have informed the Korean Government that Japanese subjects will not withdraw from Ulneung so long as foreigners are allowed to reside in other parts of the Korean empire. It will be remembered that this withdrawal from Ulneung was required in consequence of the Korean Authorities having granted a lease of the island to Russians for timber-cutting purposes.

The Korean Minister is to present the highest rank of the Korean Order to the Prince Imperial at the Shiba Detached Palace on the 26th instant.

OPENING CEREMONY OF OKAYAMA COLLEGE.

The Dai Roku Koto Gakko (Sixth High School) was opened on the 15th inst. under favourable circumstances, the weather being fine and comparatively cool throughout the day. H. E. Count Kabayama, Minister of State for Education, arrived at Okayama station at 4 a.m. on the 14th inst., where he was welcomed by officials of the prefecture and city, as well as by professors and teachers from the School, the Normal, Medical, Commercial, Middle, and other schools, who escorted H. E. to the Jiyusha, where he put up during his stay in Okayama.

The opening ceremony commenced at 10 a.m. on the 15th by the playing of the National Anthem by the band, the unveiling of the Imperial portraits, and salutation of the same. The Director of the School, Prof. Sukeyasu Saku, then read the Imperial Rescript on Education, after which Count Kabayama made a speech suitable to the occasion, followed by speeches by Messrs. Saburo Yoshihara, Governor of the Prefecture; C. Takasaki, Governor of Kyoto Fu, and former Governor of Okayama Prefecture; Y. Oda, Mayor of Okayama; S. Ikeda, President of the Okayama Prefectural Assembly; and by the Director of the College. The veiling of the Imperial portraits then took place while the band again played the National Anthem, and fireworks announced that the ceremony was over.

About 250 guests were present, and all were entertained with a cold collation in the Art Studio of the School, after which wrestling matches took place in the presence of the Minister of Education and the guests.

In the afternoon, at the invitation of the mayor, all were entertained at the Park with *Kibisaka*, an ancient style of dancing or posturing peculiar to Okayama Prefecture, the subject of which was the parting of Kusunoki Masashige from his son. The *koto* music accompanying it was very sweet, and contained an unusual number of major chords and strains totally different from *koto* music in general. When this was over a sumptuous repast was served in a large hall in the park. The festivities were brought to a close in the evening by a display of fireworks at the School grounds.

The new building is a neat wooden structure of ordinary appearance outside. The entrance gate is very fine being built of large pillars of solid granite, and the internal arrangements of the building are excellent. The building and ground are situated at the foot of a pretty wooded hill just outside the east end of the city. The first year commences with 136 students, distributed as follows:—Law 25, Literature 20, Engineering 27, Science 10, Agriculture 11, Medicine 43. The professors are as follows: Sukeyasu Sakai, *Rigakushi*, Director; Toraki Seto, *Rigakushi*, physics and mathematics; Kisaburô Okano, *Bungakushi*, English and logic; Katsutoyo Onogi, *Bungakushi*, Japanese literature; Kenkichi Adachi, German; Akira Iizuka, *Rigakushi*, zoology, botany, and German; Shinzô Mitsuda, *Bungakushi*, Chinese literature and oriental history; Tamaki Maruzama, *Bungakushi*, German language; Edward Gauntlett, English language and literature: Tetsutarô Matsuo, drawing; Yôkichi Aoki, English language; William Bishop, German language and literature.

LORD ROBERTS AND YOKOHAMA.

After Lord Roberts took Pretoria, the British residents of Yokohama sent through the British Consul a telegram of congratulation to the Field Marshal. A reply was received on Saturday as follows:—

Headquarters, British Army
in South Africa,
Pretoria, July 9th, 1900.

DEAR SIR,—I have received a telegram of congratulation from the British residents in Yokohama, and would be much obliged if you would convey to them, on my own behalf, as well as that of the splendid force I have the honour to command, my grateful thanks for their kindness.

Believe me to be yours faithfully, ROBERTS.
To the British Consul, Yokohama.

A despatch from Washington states that General MacArthur will continue to act as Governor of the Philippine Islands until such time as Judge Taft, the President of the Commission now sitting at Manila, reports to the President of the United States that the Islands are in a fit condition to be wholly entrusted with civil government.

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PUNITIVE MEASURES.

IT is urged by the Peking correspondent of *The Times* that the Powers should insist upon the execution of Prince TWAN and "the other organizers of the massacres." Naturally those that suffered the pains and perils of the siege of Peking are inclined to advocate strong measures of retaliation. But what has Prince TWAN done to deserve execution? Presumably the "massacres" referred to are those of missionaries. Certainly if the perpetrators of such inhuman murders can be apprehended, they deserve the gallows. Prince TWAN'S case, however, belongs to a different category. Let us grant what is very generally assumed, namely, that he favoured the Boxers. Is that a capital crime? The Boxers are an association of men unquestionably patriotic in their notions and objects. It is their belief —and who shall deny that they have ample grounds for the conviction?—that the masterful methods of foreigners, the aggressions made by them and the concessions exacted, must, if left unchecked, ultimately destroy the independence of China. Against that disaster, a disaster which every good Chinese subject is bound to avert in any and every way, the Boxers have taken up arms, and sought, with blind bravery and pitiable helplessness, to make head against foreigners. Unquestionably their mode of procedure has often been very brutal. They have slaughtered unoffending and unarmed folks, both alien and native, and have perpetrated other enormities. But, on the other hand, they have not hesitated to march up to the cannon's mouth, and to sacrifice their lives on the altar of the cause they represent, namely, China for the Chinese. Why should not a Chinese imperial prince have sympathised with and encouraged such men? There was only one reason against his doing so, namely, that he ought to have understood the futility of the attempt and the certainty of its involving useless bloodshed. We should think worse of the Chinese than we do could we doubt that the vast majority of them, not excluding the Southern Viceroys, sympathised at heart with the object of the Boxers, namely, the assertion of Chinese manhood against the encroachments and arbitrariness of foreign nations. So far as the action of the Chinese troops is concerned, we must never lost sight of the fact that they did not turn their arms against foreigners until after the fall of the Taku Forts. We hold it to be beyond all question that when historians come to write the story of this complication, they will decide that the step taken by the Allies at Taku on the 16th of June, forced the hands of the Chinese military authorities, leaving them no alternative but to fight, and everybody holds, we may assume, that once the fighting had begun, the Chinese, whether led by Prince TWAN, or by General TUNG, or by General KANG, were bound to stand to their guns manfully. That being so, what crime has Prince TWAN committed that calls for his execution? One might as well denounce ex-President KRUGER as a fit subject for the gallows. KRUGER induced his countrymen to take up arms in order to check aggression which he and they regarded as a menace to the independence of the Transvaal —we are putting the best possible construction on his motives—and the troops of the republics at once proceeded to lay siege to towns defended by small military garrisons and inhabited by a great many peaceful folk, including women and children. Where is the difference between KRUGER and TWAN; a difference so radical that while TWAN should be executed, KRUGER, if captured, would be pensioned off and allowed to live in peace, comfort and idleness? If by any possibility the average Englishman could persuade himself to lay aside his anti-Oriental prejudices in judging between the East and the West, his verdicts would be very different.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

THERE is a very remarkable article from the pen of Baron PIERRE DE COUBERTIN in the last number of the *Independent*. The Baron declares that his faithful sympathy with England used to make it almost impossible for him to conceive the notion of a Franco-English war, but that he has learned now to regard such an event without surprise. Two things tend to bring it about. The first is that a party of politicians and financiers in England are labouring to set the two countries by the ears; the second, that the newspapers on each side write in such a bitter strain as to wear out the patience even of the best disposed. The Baron, being a Frenchman, naturally lays all the blame on England. The scheming politicians and financiers are in England only, and it is by English journals that the example has been set of "exploiting all sorts of irritating incidents, falsehoods and calumnies against France." We should let these assertions pass without comment did not the Baron accurately fix the limit of time within which the malevolent influences making for war have been in operation. It is a year. To-day, he sees that war is among the probable events of the near future; a year ago, it would have seemed to him "the most extraordinary and most improbable event that could be expected." Now the South African war has been going on for just a year. During that time on which side has the press been most bitter, most prejudiced, most hostile? There can not be any hesitation in answering. However, it is by Baron DE COUBERTIN'S estimate of the results of such a war that we are chiefly interested. He thinks it would be indecisive so far as the belligerent operations between the two Powers are concerned; but, on the other hand, England would have Russia on her shoulders and Germany would profit largely at the expense of British commerce. The English imagine that whereas it would be impossible for France to employ her army against Great Britain, it would be easy for the latter's fleet to crush France's naval power, bombard her towns and appropriate her colonies. Baron DE COUBERTIN holds a different opinion. He thinks that although the British fleet is far stronger than the French in number of ships and weight of armament, the balance would be redressed by the scientific superiority of the French naval officer. He has no practical evidence in support of that view. It is conjectural. "We know now," he says, "through having seen British officers at work in the Transvaal that they are totally lacking in military science," and since this deficiency is due to their being recruited from a class of society which despises science, and since British naval officers are drawn from the same class, "a maritime war would furnish Great Britain with a number of disagreeable surprises." Doubtless any attempt to combat these views vehemently would be construed by the French critic as a proof of the "unmeasurable pride which takes the place of knowledge and is a great preparer of defeats in the modern world." Yet we can not but think sometimes that if French officers and German officers had ever been required to fight under conditions such as those that existed in South Africa, and if they had acquitted themselves successfully in despite of such conditions, they would have a better right to sit in judgment. They have never in all their history had similar work to do so, so it is hard to tell how they would do it. Nevertheless no thoughful Englishman can deny, we think, that M. DE COUBERTIN has the truth on his side when he speaks of the immeasurable pride of British officers and of their tendency to despise their profession. It is not so many years since a British military officer regarded his uniform with dislike and was anxious at all times to put it off and get into "mufti." He never thought of making his profession a business. It is well to lay to heart the comments of an intelligent and friendly observer like Baron DE COUBERTIN.

ASIATIC CHARACTERISTICS.

THE *Spectator* enjoys considerable influence. Some folks call it an old woman's journal, but it has many admiring readers, and it deserves to have them. Yet from one point of view it is probably the most mischievous journal in England, for it possesses the knack of enunciating blind prejudices in terms of clear-sighted wisdom, so that a casual reader lays down its articles with the conviction that he has been perusing the dicta of a profound philosophy. We do not mean for one instant to assert that the *Spectator* is logical, or that its pronouncements will bear intelligent scrutiny. Its gift is neither logic nor consistency, but a kind of graceful sententiousness which, without being so obtrusive as to provoke contradiction, is sufficiently confident to deter rejoinder. Everyone that has passed middle age must have observed what a large measure of docility is among the components of the human mind. In ninety-nine cases out of every hundred assurance alone is needed to gain an assenting audience,

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and if assurance is supplemented by a well educated faculty of couching a proposition in scholarly terms prettily marshalled, there is no limit to the vogue that may be obtained for a doctrine however fallacious. The *Spectator's* strength lies in the possession of a highly trained faculty of self-confidence. It speaks always with the semblance of calm conviction, and we are bound to confess our faith in the sincerity of its convictions, for we believe that it can talk itself into entertaining any theory or espousing any doctrine provided that some arraignment of Orientalism be the business in hand. Its latest essay is on "Oriental Massacres," an essay which was written under the erroneous impression that the whole of the foreign community in Peking had been deliberately butchered. It will not make any difference to the *Spectator* that no such massacre took place, for certainly it would have taken place could the Chinese have overcome the resistance of the foreigners. Therefore the *Spectator's* thesis stands. Now, we want our readers to compare two extracts from this remarkable essay:—

> Asiatics not only think before they act, but are more capable than Europeans of continued self-restraint. They govern themselves almost completely, and will, if they think it wise, continue to act submissiveness when they do not feel submissive for a lifetime.
>
> Asiatics join in a massacre when the order is given as Englishmen join in a game of football, and get carried away by their own evil excitement till they are more like maniacs than human beings. Modern sceptics question the assertion, but no one who has lived in Asia does, that there is such a thing as a delirium of wickedness, which in certain outbreaks carries heathen men away into acts that Christians do not even understand, and set down as lunacy or "fanaticism."

How is it possible to reconcile these statements? In one sentence we are told that the Asiatic governs himself completely and is more capable of continued self-restraint than the European; in another we are told, that, as distinguished from the European, he gets carried away by his evil excitement till he is more like a maniac than a human being, and that the delirium of wickedness drives him to acts which Christians do not even understand. Of course if the editor of the *Spectator* saw these extracts side by side he would be shocked at the inconsistency of his own assertions. But in the original they are separated by a whole column of solemn theorizing: one is at the head of the article; the other at the tail. The first was penned for the purpose of exhibiting the Asiatic in the light of a cold, calculating incarnation of cruelty; the second was constructed to show him a mad monster, victim of the most devilish passions. However, both pictures are anti-Asiatic. That is enough.

But only think of saying that Christians can not even understand the mood which drives an Asiatic to kill and slay; Christians to whose account stands a stupendous list of ruthless cruelties, savage torturings, barbarous burnings and pitiless massacres! We Christians have an awful past. The lunacy of religious intolerance has impelled us in bygone ages to crimes so shocking that the capacity of human beings to be thus dehumanized is beyond modern conception. Yet the smug editor of the *Spectator* is convinced that the bloodthirstiness of the heathen Oriental is quite incomprehensible to the Christian European, and further has the assurance to declare that "the quality of pity is completely a product of Christianity!" The editor of the *Spectator*, with his profoundly stubborn and unreasoning anti-Asiatic prejudices, is himself a representative of the times of the Crusades, when a follower of the Cross regarded every non-Christian as a dog of an infidel, fit only to be spat upon, trampled upon and exterminated.

To one more passage we beg our readers' attention:—

> Asiatics love their own children, but kill them ruthlessly, as in Rajpootana, when convenient, and for children in the abstract they have no feeling.

"For children in the abstract they have no feeling!" Is not that a remarkable assertion? The editor of the *Spectator* ought to travel. He ought to visit Japan.

THE NATIONAL UNION.

THE Association (*Kokumin Dômei-kai*) formed by Prince KONOYE and Messrs. INUKAI and SASA, has attracted a very large share of public attention, partly because of the platform enunciated by it, and partly because the *Rikken Seiyu-kai* (Marquis ITO's party) has considered it necessary to make an open declaration of hostility to the *Dômei-kai's* views. The gist of the matter, briefly stated, appears to be this For several years the sentiment generally prevailing in Japan was in favour of preserving the integrity of the Chinese empire, and the declarations made in that sense by Great Britain and the United States tended to strengthen the sentiment. But of late it has become apparent that concert among the Powers for any practical purpose such as the maintenance of China's integrity can not be expected. Russia is chiefly responsible for the growth of this latter conviction. No one can be blind to the fact that she is suffered to enjoy an absolutely free hand in Manchuria, nor can any one discover in her past history even the shadow of a precedent for supposing that, having obtained full possession of Manchuria by force of arms, she will abandon it voluntarily for the sake either of concord between the Powers or of China's integrity. Russia then must be regarded as a force making plainly for the partition of China. If she alone pursued that line of policy, there might be less ground for uneasiness. But she will certainly have France with her whatever she does. Thus Russia and France being practical advocates of partition, can it be reasonably hoped that the other Powers will draw the sword to oppose them? Is it not, on the contrary, much more probable that other Powers also will reluctantly adopt the same policy, for assuredly they can not stultify themselves so far as to pretend that the programme of integrity is preserved after Russia has been permitted to cut off an immense slice for her own aggrandisement? Hence it has become necessary for the Japanese to consider what course this country ought to adopt in the event of Western Powers' abandoning the policy of integrity and adopting that of partition. Here it is that the National Union has been called into existence. A section of Japanese statesmen, whose views may be said to have the support of the *Rikken Seiyu-kai*, hold the opinion that it would be suicidal and fruitlessly quixotic on Japan's part to place herself in opposition to Western Powers, and that if the latter adopt the policy of partition, her only wise course is to throw in her lot with them. To persons of that persuasion the Japanese, always skilful in devising epithets, have applied the name *Jidai-ha*, which literally signifies "a party that follows the big," in other words, trucklers to force; and Prince KONOYE and his friends, stepping into the breach, have organized the National Union, which takes for its platform the preservation of China's integrity at any cost. Of course, if we look a little deeper, it becomes quite plain that the leaders of the National Union do not contemplate ranging their country's force in battle against the whole of the Occident. Their ultimate idea is that only one Power seriously threatens the policy of integrity, and that with that Power alone would Japan have to reckon. But it is scarcely possible for them to be explicit on such a subject, and their inability to be precise lays them open to many attacks, more or less disingenuous—as that they are reckless enough to contemplate pitting Japan against the world; that their programme, if pursued, would end in a combination of the yellow race against the white, and so on. Prince KONOYE himself explains that the purpose of the Association is merely to strengthen the hands of the Government by supplying a solid backing of public opinion, and that, in openly advocating the preservation of China's integrity, he and his fellows do but adopt the policy openly embraced by the Foreign Powers themselves It happens, however, that the Progressists, by indications not the less significant because they are covert, have shown a disposition to support Prince KONOYE's Association, and thus the bitterness of party spirit has already emphasized the issue. Many people insist that the National Union is a political association; that it can not possibly be regarded in any other light since a question of foreign policy is the avowed basis of its platform, and that the Government ought to treat it as such by applying to it the rule for the control of political organizations. Marquis ITO, on his side, is understood to maintain that at no period of Japan's foreign intercourse has it been necessary for her to walk with more circumspection than at present, and that her circumstances do not allow her to adopt the heroic line indicated by men whose gorge rises against the notion of swimming with the stream or marching with the crowd. He has thought it necessary to dissociate himself and his Party in the plainest manner

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from all sympathy with the National Union, and thus an issue has been raised which naturally excites the public considerably, not merely because of the national importance of the problem, but also because Prince KONOYE's position in the country gives prominence to any movement with which he connects himself. At the back of it all, too, there is a notion that the National Union is favoured by the present Cabinet, and that the Progressists, who seem to support Prince KONOYE, may thus be striking into a new route.

BASEBALL.

YOKOHAMA C. & A. C. v. YOKOHAMA COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

A capital game of baseball was played on Saturday between teams representing the Y. C. & A. C. and the Yokohama Commercial School, the visitors being beaten by a run and one innings. This is the first time these Clubs have met, and we hope that a series of similar matches will be arranged, for the Y.C.S., though lacking in some of the smartness of the Tokyo players, put up a very good game. Sides were as follows:—

E. C. Swan..... .....Catcher .....Nagahama.
D. H. Blake .....Pitcher.....Hasegawa.
E. W. Kilby ..... 1st Base .....Tanakn.
W. L. Merriman .....2nd Base .....Furuhashi.
E. B. S. Edwards ..... 3rd Base .....Ito.
H. K. A. Onderdonk.....Short Stop.....Amano
L. E. McChesney .....Left Field .....Uyeno.
G. Braess .....Centre Field..... ..Kono.
W. C. Read .....Right Field.....Honuchi.

The visitors went to bat and made 3 runs in their first innings. Yokohama followed and lost Onderdonk to a fly—and here it may be remarked that the Japanese fielders never missed a catch throughout the game—but it was not till Edwards went to bat that a run was scored, this batter by a two-base hit bringing in two men. Nothing further resulted that innings. The next two innings for the Japanese resulted in a run apiece, Yokohama only getting a run in the third. Then followed three innings in which neither side scored owing to the smartness of the fielders and the good pitching of Hasegawa. In the fourth innings this man's play was particularly noticeable Yokohama had every base filled and a run was looked upon as a certainty, but Hasegawa struck out at the plate three men in succession and the side retired disgruntled. In the seventh innings a change came over the play. Edwards, with a tremendous hit, sent the ball to the fence—a home run—and during the demoralization that temporarily fell upon the Japanese as a consequence, Yokohama piled up 5 runs. Another funny thing happened in the eighth innings. The visitors lost two men, then filled every base and it looked a sure thing for Yokohama putting the side out for nothing. But the unexpected happened. Hasegawa made a capital hit into the long field and brought in two men. This was the last point scored in the game, the other innings producing nothing in the way of runs. On the whole the game was noticeably free from errors. Score:—

Y.C & A.C.	at bat	runs.	Y. C. S.	at bat.	runs
Onderdonk.....	5	0	Tanaka	5	1
McChesney.....	5	2	Kono	5	1
Swan	5	2	Furuhashi	4	1
Blake	5	1	Honuchi	4	1
Edwards	4	1	Uyeno	4	1
Read	4	1	Hasegawa	4	1
Merriman	4	1	Amano	4	1
Kilby	4	0	Ito	4	0
Braess	4	0	Nagahama	4	0
		8			7

INNINGS.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Y. C. S.....	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	=7
Y.C. & A.C. ...	2	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	†	=8

A KOREAN IDYLL.

"Esson Third" writes as follows to the *North-China Daily News*:—Far greater than all anxiety about China, or local disturbances, or the future of this troubled Kosmos, is Lady Om's distress about her son, whose name is Yung-wang, meaning Blossom King, or English King, but just which of the two he will prove himself to be, we must leave the future to determine. Some of the wise men think that when the oracle pronounced this name it had in view for him a wide prospect, with distant islands beyond the sea included, but that is another story. The lad is three years old and his mother sees him stil. unmarried. Crushed by the thought of it she has come, Esther-like, to jog the Emperor's memory, and there have been conferences of d viners and fortune-tellers in the palace, hastily brought together, in order to find a wife chop-chop for Yung-wang. The daughter of Min Yung-chu, who is aged three, is mentioned, and still another of like maturity whose name we have not learned. The gods must decide in a matter so important. Lady Om is anxious that not a day be lost, in making sure of this most glorious succession.

The Emperor's eldest son is out of the question as future King; his second son is over the seas and far away in America. This second son, Eui wha Kun, has unfortunately, for name the first two characters of the Boxer Soc ety, and this has been preying on the Emperor's mind especially since the Boxers are on the run. For this reason, at one of the recent séances in the Palace, Prince Eui-wha's cognomen was changed to Eui-wang, Righteous King. The Prince, who is a very agreeable and sensible young fellow, is doubtless all unaware of how his name has metamorphosed. At any rate he is looked upon as a rebel, so the only successor, especially in Lady Om's mind, is the English King. May he have much joy in his marriage, and may he fulfil all the wishes of his gifted mamma.

THE SHANGHAI MISSIONARY MEETING.

The following telegram embodying the substance of the Resolutions passed at the meeting of missionaries held at Shanghai as to the peace settlement, was transmitted to the various Home Governments:—

400 Protestant missionaries representing 20 Societies public meeting Shanghai earnestly appeal fellow-countrymen, home governments, secure thorough, lasting settlement crisis following grounds.

Movement throughout empire, outrages, massacres, destruction property, attacks Legations, long-planned ordered encouraged Empress Dowager in Imperial Edicts. Origin present trouble official not popular. Friendly progressive natives afraid act without support.

Respectfully suggest settlement aim at

First—Restoration of Kwang Hsu rightful sovereign.

Second.—Fulfilling treaty obligations Missions.

Third.—Honest protection by native officials law-abiding converts and removal religious disabilities.

Fourth.—Prompt adequate punishment on spot all official instigators Empress downwards but spare lives property common people.

Fifth.—Two years proclamation terms settlement every city essential.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Air Temp. Max	Min.	Lake	State of Weather.	Remarks in General
Sunday, 9th	76°	68°	72°	Fine.	
Monday, 10th	74°	66°	73°	Fine.	
Tuesday, 11th	75°	66°	73°	Fine.	
Wed'sday, 12th.	71°	64°	73°	Rain	
Thursday, 13th	74°	65°	73°	Fine.	
Friday, 14th	71°	66°	73°	Rain	
Saturday, 15th	70°	66°	73°	Shower in afternoon.	

Arrivals this week at Nikko.

CHINA AFFAIRS.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* of the 1st instant, contains the following interesting cablegrams:—

Telegram from Her Majesty to Sir Claude MacDonald:—"Warmest congratulations on your safety after such a terrible time of anxiety to us all. Trust you, Lady MacDonald and children are well, as well as all the others.

VICTORIA R.I."

DITTO TO OFFICER COMMANDING BRITISH MARINE GUARD (CAPT. WRAY).

"I thank God that you and those under your command are rescued from your perilous situation. With my people I have waited with the deepest anxiety for the good news of your safety and a happy termination to your heroic and prolonged defence. I grieve for the losses and sufferings experienced by the besieged.

VICTORIA R.I."

Writing on Sept. 10th, the *N.-C. Daily News* said—The condition of things in Peking seems to have been a disgrace to every army that is represented there. Looting was the order of the day, the scandals at Tientsin being repeated at Peking, and what we are told makes it difficult to believe there were any officers at all there with any control over their troops, while civilians have been eagerly joining in the game, and some of them have been victims. Mail bags were cut open to see if they contained anything of value, and the contents scattered about. "Loads of spoil," says one correspondent, "are pouring into the quarters of both officers and soldiers, though in the case of the latter they are frequently made to feel that what is a deadly offence if committed by a private, is quite pardonable if done by a superior." Was there no authority in or out of China that could prevent the continuance of this disgrace to our vaunted civilisation? It should be mentioned that during the first week after the relief at any rate, the loot taken by the British troops was brought to the British Legation and sold by auction for the general benefit.

The accounts of S. C. Farnham and Co., Ld., Shanghai, for the year ended 30th June last, show a divisible profit of Tls. 229,126, and the directors propose to pay a dividend and bonus of thirty per cent. or Tls. 30 per share. The reserve fund now amounts to Tls. 470,000.

The chartered transport *Ballaarat* of the P. & O. Co.'s fleet arrived at Woosung on Sept. 10th from Taku via Wei-hai wei and Nagasaki with a large number of survivors of the siege of Peking among them being Mrs. Arthur Brent and Mr, Mrs. and Miss Bredon. Mr. Bredon, who is Deputy Inspector-General of Customs, is to take charge of the newly established Shanghai Office of the Inspector-General.

A Peking correspondent writing to the *N.-C. Daily News* on Aug. 30th, said:—Newspaper correspondents are leaving, some disgusted with everything, some disappointed that there were so many to keep diaries throughout the siege. A few are planning to get away with some of the furs and silks which are to be had cheap—by those in the swim. One enterprising man distinguished himself by borrowing a fountain pen from a lady who had lost all her possessions and lived through a siege of two months, and then forgetting to return it. Newspaper correspondents are almost always gentlemen, but as the above proves, there are exceptions.

The Kuangming district, in the western part of the Province of Kuangtung, which had hitherto been quiet, became the scene of tumultous disorder and bloodshed during the early part of last month. This information was gleaned by the *Daily Press* from a few refugees who have been fortunate enough to reach Hongkong in safety, after a perilous journey of over one hundred and fifty miles. They tell the same tale of pillage, incendiarism, personal torture and murder, horrible to contemplate, much less describe. As if by a murderous signal raised at the four cardinal points of the district, soldiers and civilians, the poorest and the richest of the residents, rose as one man, and

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gave the cry of "Death to the foreigner." Unfortunately only a few could successfully flee from the fury of the almost instantly aroused populace, who, in their eager desire to carry out what to them was a long-expected edict, slaughtered score of native Christians, and tortured others till a cruel lingering death put an end to their sufferings.

We give a recent leading article of the *N.-C. Daily News* in full, without comment :—

The latest news from Peking is to the 31st of Aug. when the allies were doing nothing except a little spasmodic looting, the systematic looting having been done by the Japanese and Russians. The Russians have apparently taken charge of Peking, the Japanese, disgusted with what they regard as our insincerity and weakness, having it is concluded come to an arrangement with Russia. The triumphal march through the Imperial Palace at Peking was a Russian triumph. It was arranged and personally conducted by General Linevitch. He proposed that each Power should send ten per cent. of its force, and though the Russians and French only contributed 8,000 and 500 men respectively to the relieving force, these contingents had grown for the purpose of the triumphal march to 15,000 and 3,000 respectively, ten per cent. of whom made quite a respectable display. While sending only some 1,500 men to the triumphant force, the Russians massed a number of men at the entrance to the Imperial City and at the exit, thus making a really fine display, and putting the other Powers entirely in the shade, while their bands played the national air of each detachment as it marched past them. The obvious intention was to make it clear to the Chinese as well as to foreigners that Russia is the predominant power in North China, with France, Germany, and Japan as her admiring satellites and Great Britain an unwilling attendant on her grandeur. Sir Claude Macdonald is still in Peking and Sir Walter Hillier is with him, but they seem to have little or no influence. General Gaselee regards himself merely as a soldier who has done his duty in relieving the Legations and is now waiting for fresh orders. The British troops were in Peking five hours before the Japanese, but it never struck Sir Claude or any one else to go to the Board of Revenue, and the two million taels or more of treasure in the coffers of that Board were taken by the Japanese, whose officers were all provided with maps of Peking with every house or yamên where it was probable that treasure would be found marked on them. It was quite right that the Japanese should have this treasure as they have done most of then fighting and wanted it most ; but it would have been better if we had gone at once and taken it and the handed it over to the Japanese. It might, owing to our customary neglect, have fallen into other hands. Another of the succession of blunders that have marked our action North, was the case of the Machiapu railway terminus at Peking. The Russians have seized the Tientsin-Peking railway from Tientsin as far as Yangtsun. This railway is, as is well-known, hypothecated to British financiers, and by holding the Peking terminus we kept some control over it. It was taken and held by some Indian cavalry, and some-one came and told the officer in command that there were 20,000 Boxers about to attack him. Nobody knows to this day whether there were even twenty hostile Boxers anywhere near Machiapu, but our officer evacuated the terminus, and the Russians marched in and took it. In an endeavour to repair their error, the British troops then took possession of the station at Fêngtai, leaving the Russians in possession of the two ends of the line—an undignified capture on our part.

It was a very great pity, and it has handicapped our operations all through, and placed us in the unworthy position which we have now achieved at Peking, that it was found necessary to divert portions of General Gaselee's intended force to Hongkong and Shanghai. He was to have had ten thousand men to march on Peking and the Japanese were ready and anxious to march with but after our men. But when the force available for the relief of Peking under General Gaselee's command dwindled down to between two and three thousand men the Japanese were nonplussed. They had at once to increase their own force to a contingent larger than that for which they had provided transport ; and then, instead of our taking the principal position as we ought to have done, and as the Japanese gladly expected us to do, we had to fall in behind both Russia Japan. If it had been intended by our authorities to take away what little prestige we had left in the North of China and give it to Russia, they could not have taken more effective steps for that purpose than they did. It would seem that there is a section of the British Cabinet anxious to hand the whole of North China over to Russia, and that this section has been for a time controlling the action of the whole Cabinet.

The German proposition that a representative force should be left at Peking, and the main force withdrawn to Tientsin is tolerable under certain conditions. The first of these is that the Imperial Palace at Peking, after whatever art treasures there are left in it have been carefully removed, should be entirely destroyed. It is there that the Grand Council met and the extermination of foreigners in China was plotted by the Empress Dowager. Princes Ching, Tuan, Kang Yi, Chao Shu-chiao, and Li-Ping-hêng, as recorded by our native correspondent at Peking early in May last. It is there that the decrees were drafted ordering the Viceroys and Governors to kill all foreigners, decrees carried out by miscreants like Yü Hsien with such devilish and bestial atrocity that the details cannot be printed. It was there that the assassination of the genial and lovable Baron von Ketteler was planned, so definitely determined on that the news that he was actually killed reached home at least two days before his assassination was consummated. The Palace at Peking shouldbe destroyed because so far we have done nothing to impress the Chinese people as a whole. We have killed thousands of Chinese, and thousands have had their houses burnt and been robbed of all they possess, but so little public destruction has been done that even in the North the Chinese believe that foreigners are afraid to destroy anything official. Russia wants Peking to remain the capital of China so that she may have the Chinese Government under her thumb, and she is therefore fighting as hard as she can to capture the railway from Peking to Tangku and on to Shanhaikuan. We, however, do not want the capital retained at Peking ; if it is, the forbidden City should be made the Foreign Reservation and the city walls should be destroyed, so that never again can the foreign community be shut up in a trap as it was this year.

Mr. J. G. Austin, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Hongkong from 1868 to 1878, has just died at Brighton at the age of 88.

Our far northern contemporary has the following naïve paragraph :—

The auction sales of loot held in the British Legation fetched excellent prices, the result of one being $1,314 and another twice as much.

Lieut. J. R. Gaussen of the Bengal Cavalry has been presented with a Maxim gun and horse attachment by Admiral Alexieff, commanding the Russian forces at Tientsin ; a most courteous present and a very useful one for a cavalry officer.

The death has occurred at Nagasaki of Mrs. Scott, wife of the Bishop of North-China. She was suffering from dysentery when she arrived at that port, and died three days after landing. The Bishop and Mrs. Scott were at Tientsin during the siege, and then went on to Wei-hai-wei. They were on their way home, viâ Japan, to rest.

In and about Taku all is now working in proper military order. The cargo coolies are marshalled in squads morning and evening and each man has the flag of the nation by whom he is employed on his coat sleeve. They are working well and receive payment far above what they would get in ordinary times. Everything is going along smoothly and well.

The following telegram, says the principal Shanghai paper, was recently received from Urumtsi, the provincial capital of Chinese Turkestan (Kashgari and Iti) :—Owing to news of troubles with Foreign Powers at Peking having become known here and to the fact that the Tarantchis (Kashgar Mahommedans settled in Ili) were beginning to become restless, Jao, Governor of the province, sent a large force of cavalry from Urumtsi to Kuldja to overawe the malcontents. On arriving at the Pass dividing Urumtsi from Ili, however, the force was stopped by officers sent by the Tartar General Ch'ang Keng, commanding at Kuldja, stating that he had received a dispatch from the Russian General commanding on the Russo-Ili frontier that "any reinforcements sent into Ili would be taken as an act of war, and that the Russians would invade Ili if the arriving Chinese force did not return to Urumtsi." The Chinese troops have therefore temporarily retired to the Urumtsi or Eastern side of the Pass, and will await further orders from the Viceroy at Lanchou.

The following is a list of the higher Court officials who either accompanied, or followed, the Empress Dowager to Shansi, according to a vernacular paper :—Princes Ching (since left for Peking), Tuan, Chuang, Su, and Na Yen-tu, 1st Order ; Princes Lun and Su, 4th Order ; Dukes Kuei (father-in-law of Emperor), Hsün P'u, K'ung (Descendant of Confucius), Chih, and Lan ; the Assistant Grand Secretaries Kan Yi and Wang Wên-shao ; Chao Shu-ch'iao, President of the Board of Punishment, Ying Nien, Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, several members of the Board of Comptrollers-General of the Imperial Household Department, all of the members of the Imperial College of Physicians, and about one half of the Imperial Bodyguard of the Presence doing duty at the Chientsing Gate of the Imperial Palace. The following military officers in command of brigades accompanied the Empress Dowager as escort : General Su Lu-tai (Manchu), with a brigade of the Peking Field Force ; Duke P'u with a brigade of the Hushêng Army Corps (Prince Tuan's own troops) ; General Ma, with brigade of General Sung Ching's Army Corps, and General Ts'ên, with two brigades of General Tung Fuhsiang's Kansu Army Corps.

The Linching-chou correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* gives the following pen-picture of Peking as it is now :—

"Vae Victis." This seems to be the banner under which the allied army has marched and fought. Peking is fast becoming a desolation. The Southern City has lost its ornament and pride—the great shops south of the Chien Gate.

The British troops quarter themselves in the magnificent Park of the Temple of Heaven, while the Americans are just across the great street in the Temple of Agriculture. Looting is still the main business of many—some not connected with any army. It is difficult to find a single compound in some sections which has not been gutted. Loads of spoil are pouring into the quarters of both officers and soldiers, though in the case of the latter he is frequently made to feel that what is a deadly offence if committed by a private is quite pardonable if done by a superior.

A walk through the deserted streets is a surprise to the old-timer. There are the same old dogs, but more have died than are left alive, and the good condition of all is very suggestive. No Chinese are to be seen except those accompanying carts seized for various purposes, or squads of coolies being conducted to their place of labour under guard.

Reports keep coming in of whole families who have committed suicide. Even the beggars have departed, and a strange quiet rests over the entire city. It is only a few day since the siege was raised, yet in that time the people have found a way to appeal for mercy or claim protection. Wherever there is a single Chinaman, there is seen, either one of the flags floating over his home, or more often, a white piece of cloth is hung out, on which are the two words, "obedient (loyal) people," and usually mentioning some "great" country to which they are "obedient." As the Japanese have been quick to use the knife, the number who state themselves to be loyal to Japan outnumbers all the rest put together.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* alleges in a leading article that the murder of the late Baron von. Ketteler was deliberately planned and organized by certain members of the Tsung-li Yamên, if not by the Empress Dowager herself. Our contemporary then proceeds :—The Minister and his Secretary, Mr. Cordes, left for the Yamén in good faith, in spite of the somewhat suspicious terms of the Ultimatum sent in to the Legations giving them 24 hours to leave, and neither of them carried arms. They were accompanied by a guard, but half way to the Yamên, when the Minister hoped to be able to reason with the Chinese, they were met by a Chinese guard who volunteered to escort Baron von Ketteler, and requested him to send his own men back. Believing it was all right he ordered his guard to return, and no soocer were they out of sight than the Chinese guard treacherously fired a volley into the Minister's chair. The narrative of Mr. Cordes who, after receiving two or three shots in his thigh, effected his escape is little short of marvellous. Half stunned he ran blindly up a side street, half conscious as he went that the guard considered his case hopeless and would not follow. stumbled on through crowded by-ways, the Chinese staring silently at him but offering no hindrance, only one remarking "there goes a foreigner who had got his deserts." Hatless and weakening rapidly from his wounds, his run soon became a walk, and he believes he stumbled,

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ond in stumbling must have caught a piece of wood, as he presently found he was shading his eyes with a piece. Before he reached the compound of the American Mission he had been reduced to crawling, and only remembers with great difficulty dragging himself within view of some native converts who were building a parricade against Boxer depredations, and these men seeing him fall took him into the Mission whence he was carried to the German and subsequently to the British Legation.

AMERICAN NOTES.

According to the San Francisco papers, the U.S. Government intends to fortify the island of Guam.

King Oscar of Sweden has formally agreed to act as arbitrator of the claims for compensation for losses sustained by British and German subjects and American citizens in Samoa.

The population of Philadelphia, according to the count just completed at the census office, is 1,293,697. The population in 1890 was 1,046,964. The increase during the past ten years was 246,733, or 23.57 per cent.

Some idea of the importance given to athletics in American colleges and universities may be gathered from the fact that Yale, Harvard, Columbia, Princeton, Pennsylvania and Cornell spent $304,243 for that purpose last year.

The Russian Government has ordered from a San Francisco firm a large consignment of winter supplies for their troops, and an order has been placed with an outside firm for the supply of 1,200 horses for shipment across the Pacific.

Eighteen hundred horses to be used as remounts by the German cavalry in China have been purchased by a San Francisco firm for the German Government. The three steamers impressed to transport the horses are the *Alesia*, *Nurnberg*, and *Bosnia*.

The new military post to be built at the mouth of the Nome river, Alaska, has been named Fort Davis, in honour of the late Jefferson Columbus Davis, Colonel of the Twenty-third Infantry. He commanded the first troops ever stationed in Alaska.

The Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Agriculture figures out that the value of live stock in the United States has increased $501,444,474 since 1896. California's share in the increase amounts to $3,081,062. Old states like Ohio and New York have profited most by the rise.

The Belfast Harbour Commissioners on August 22nd entertained the officers of the United States cruiser *Baltimore* at a public luncheon. Responding to the toast of his health, Rear Admiral Watson said he personally rejoiced at the extreme friendliness now existing between Great Britain and the United States.

Wireless telegraphy is now in operation between Honolulu and the island of Maui. The company which is operating the system has not yet begun to accept commercial business, because it has not yet a force of trained operators to man the several stations. The experts sent by Marconi to install the system have begun the training of operators, and it is expected that the system will be in operation for commercial business between all the islands except Kauai in about three weeks.

Professor Riggs of the Field Museum of Chicago recently made an important scientific discovery on the banks of the Gunnison river, near Grand Junction, in western Colorado. By accident he unearthed one of the bones of a dinosaur and subsequent excavations have brought to light nearly a perfect skeleton, which will be shipped to Chicago in a few days to be mounted. One of the bones is nine feet long, and others are so large that it is almost beyond the strength of one man to lift them. One-half of the skeleton has already been taken from the ground.

The power of Matthew Stanley Quay in Pennsylvania politics is broken, according to the Philadelphia *Press* (Rep.). *The Press* prints returns from more than three-fourths of the districts in the State, and finds that the number of pro-Quay Republicans in the next State Legislature has been cut down to 52 from 82 in the last, while the anti-Quay Republicans increase from 33 to 62. The Democrats will number 64, as against 63 in the last Legislature. Mr. Quay, therefore, who failed of re-election to the United States Senate in the last legislature, will at least have no better prospects in the next one.

For the fiscal year ending in June, 1899, the official records show that there were 245,550 foreigners added to the population of the United States through New York. In the fiscal year just ended this total has been increased by nearly 100,000 souls. The exact figure is 341,711, which is the greatest number since 1893, and nearly reaches the large total of 1892. The eight countries from which the majority of immigrants came the past year were: Austro-Hungary, 114,847; Italy, 100,125; Russian empire, 90,887; Sweden, 18,507; England, 17,254; Japan, 12,806, and Norway, 9,575.

During Mr. Bryan's speech at an Irish festival at Chicago the other week some one in the crowd called out "Your name should be O'Brien." To this Mr. Bryan replied: "My friend has tried to ingratiate me into favour by suggesting that my name is O'Brien and not Bryan. If the gentleman knew as much about it as I do, he would know that 'Bryan' is the original name and 'O'Brien' a derivation. When 'Bryan' became king, he put on the 'O,' and the 'O'Briens' are the descendants of the king, while the 'Bryans' are the common people, and never got stuck up about a relative being a king."

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Two-hundred and ninety Russian troops from Port Arthur left Nagasaki for Vladivostock on Sept. 13th.

The Russian Volunteer steamer *Odessa* arrived at Nagasaki on the 17th instant with ten wounded men.

An exhibition of products of Kanagawa prefecture will take place at Totsuka-machi, Kamikura-gori, on October 10th.

A Russian steamer with 200 bluejackets arrived at Nagasaki on the 17th inst. from Vladivostock and left for Port Arthur the same day.

In the estate of the late Mr. F. Townley, the house and property known as No. 120-B, Yamatecho, were offered by Mr. Jno. W. Hall on Monday afternoon, at public auction. The bidding went up to *yen* 19,000, when the property was withdrawn.

Some sensation was caused in Main Street on Saturday by the electric light wires between Messrs. Lane, Crawford's premises and those of Mr. Schneider becoming alight. The spectacle, as curious as unusual, was closed by the turning off of the current.

The British transport No. 8, the *Ztbenghla*, arrived at Nagasaki on Sept. 11th from Taku. During the day a body of Indian troops (Sikhs), dressed in khaki and with peculiar head gear, came ashore (says the *Nagasaki Press*) and visited the Japanese stores, their dusky faces and tall figures exciting the admiration of the Japanese.

On the evening of the 14th inst. a Japanese junk laden with about 300 tins of kerosene oil anchored near the goods station on the Sumidagawa, belonging to the Nippon Railway Company. Two *sendos* with small lamps began counting the tins, when one dropped a lamp. Immediately the oil was set on fire. The *sendos* were burnt to death, the junk was destroyed.

A Rural Dean was going the round of the churches in the deanery, and found that the majority were kept close barred and bolted during the week. At last, to his great delight, he found a church whose doors were always open. Addressing the clerk, the Rural Dean said, "Do you find that people retire here for prayer and meditation?" The clerk smiled—"They did try that game at fust, but I pretty soon bundled 'em out, I can tell 'ee!"

Cases of dysentery reported in Kanagawa Ken from the beginning to the 15th inst. are—2,225 cases, 510 deaths, 1,720 recoveries; 505 under medical treatment.

The Japanese Government on Tuesday paid over the sums granted to the families of the officers and men of the army who died during the siege of the Japanese Legation at Peking.

At All Saints Church, Kobe, on Thursday Miss May Williams, daughter of Captain Williams of Thursday Island, was united in marriage to Mr. William Campbell (Bowden Bros, Yokohama), the ceremony being performed by Rev. G. H. Davies, Chaplain. The bride arrived by the *Australian*.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Saturday an appeal by Mr. Delbourgo against the decision given in his absence some time in October last, ordering him to pay the sum of *yen* 150 to Mr. P. Collaco, as house-rent, came on for hearing. The appellant was represented by Barrister Minagawa. After examination judgment was given against the appellant.

Colonel de MacMahon, Duke of Magenta, having volunteered for service in China on the staff of General Voyron, his wife, Princess Marguerite of Orleans, has determined to accompany him and will probably make her headquarters at Shanghai, while her husband, until now in command of the One Hundred and Ninth Infantry Regiment, is in the field. Colonel de MacMahon is a son of the late Marshal MacMahon.

The H. A. L. S. S. *Hamburg*, which arrived in Yokohama on Saturday evening, brought an Oberstabsargt (Staff Surgeon), three assistant doctors and sixteen nurses, sent out by the German Red Cross Society, for the Red Cross steamer *Savoia*. The latter will return to Yokohama shortly, when probably Baroness von Kettler, the widow of the murdered German Minister to Peking, will be a passenger. The doctors and nurses will join the *Savoia* here.

A suburban property comprising 300 *tsubo* of land, held under a superficies title for 1,000 years, with a two storey house, situated on Sage-yama, on the way from the Rifle Range to the Yokohama Racecourse, was put up for sale by Messrs. Eyton and Pratt on Tuesday morning. The bidding commenced at 2,000 *yen* and went up to 2,650, when the vendor's bid of *yen* 2,975 was put in. As no bid above this amount was forthcoming the property was withdrawn.

The hearing of a suit brought by Mr. Fujii, a Japanese living at No. 2523 Fukiai Mura against Mr. J. L. Pereira, Jr. No. 35, Nakayamate dori, Nichome, claiming *yen* 300, balance of the value of goods delivered, took place before Judges Ohshima, Nozawa and Hiyawa at the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Sept. 17th. The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Yamada and the defendant by Mr. Yamashita. After the hearing the case was adjourned to Sept. 26th.

Rev. A. H. Smith, the author of "Chinese Characteristics," has an account in the *N.-C. Daily News* of the relief of the Legations, which concludes thus:—The sudden revulsion from death to life was almost too much for human nerves. "And there was great joy in that city." The next day the 7th verse of the 124th Psalm was telegraphed home as a summary of the situation: "Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken and we are escaped."

A case instituted by Mr. Fukami Shukichi, No. 248, Motomachi, Sanchome, against Mr. George H. Whymark, claiming the cancellation of a registration of a superficies on lots of ground in Nakayamate-dori, Sanchome—153 *tsubo* at No. 67, 4 *se* 7 *bu* of cultivated land at No. 70, 2 *se* 4 *bu* do. at No. 71, 2 *se* 5 *bu* of marsh at No. 70,

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381 *tsubo* 5 *go* 6 *seki* at No. 68—was heard before Judges Oshima, Hiyama and Nozawa at the Kobe Chiho Saibancho on Sept. 17th. The plaintiff was represented by Messrs. Okada and Wakabayashi and the defendant by Mr. Masujima. Judgment was reserved till the 24th inst.

On Tuesday night a woman named Mochizuki Kiwa, aged 43, keeping a lamp shop at Kotobukicho Sanchome, was murderously attacked by her divorced husband, Ito Sannosuke, 42 years old. It appears the man, who was only divorced on the 2nd inst. receiving *yen* 120 from Kiwa, proceeded to her house and asked her to again marry him. The woman, however, refused. He then took up a knife and stabbed her in the left temple. He at once gave himself up to the Kotobukicho Police and was sent to the Court on Wednesday. The woman's recovery is despaired of.

The monthly match of the Yokohama Shooting Club was held at Tsurumi on Sunday. Mr. J. Eyton secured first prize (gold medal), and Mr. Matsumura second. In the match for a gold medal presented by Mr. G. Hewett, the prize was secured by Mr. L. W. Eyton. The final match for the gold cup presented by Messrs. Curtis and Harvey, Limited, through their agents, Messrs. Eyton and Pratt, also took place at the Tsurumi Shooting Club grounds on Sunday. This cup is given for the best aggregate score made during the season, the competitors to use only amberite cartridges. At the conclusion of the last series Mr. Leonard W. Eyton had the highest score, leading his brother, Mr. John Eyton by one point. On Sunday, however, the latter made two points more than Leonard and thus secured the prize.

The Dutch barque *Pax*, which arrived in Yokohama from New York on the 12th inst., was the scene of a serious disturbance on Thursday night. It appears that four German seamen, named respectively H. Jhlan, W. von Schmidt, Carl Brand, and Paul Goedeke, when more or less under the influence of liquor, broke into the cabins of Mr. Anderson, First Officer, and of the Second Officer. Armed with revolvers and knives they threatened the lives of the officers, slightly injured them, and then broke glass and articles of furniture in the cabins. The Master was absent at the time. The Water Police have since arrested the men: they complain of ill-usuage on the voyage.

Our Tientsin contemporary complains that the troubles of the residents were by no means ended with the cessation of the bombardment. It explains:—"It may not be generally known that as a community we are still without fresh meat and other supplies, and the prices of anything procurable are exceedingly high. Chickens when obtainable, which is rare, 50*c.* to $1; Eggs 2*c.* to 5*c.* each; bread 20*c.* a pound; peaches 5*c.* each." We write under correction, but 50 cents for a chicken does not strike us as a famine figure; nor even 5 cents for an egg. It is a very rare chicken that one can get in Yokohama for less; and white eggs of doubtful respectability may be procured for 3 cents, none which it is designed to set forth upon the breakfast table can now be had under 5 cents.

We have received from Mrs. Edward Bickersteth, Honorary Treasurer of the Committee carrying on "Church Work among Japanese Seamen in British Ports," a copy of the second annual report of the Committee. The opening of a cottage club at Tilbury and the labours of a mission-worker appear to have been productive of considerable good among Japanese bluejackets and seamen, but it is regrettable that lack of funds should hamper the operations. We note that a stall will be held in aid of this object at the Home and Foreign Missions Sale in London on Nov. 14th and 15th and that contributions of Japanese articles are asked. They will be in time if sent by the C.P.R. parcels post of Oct. 3 to Mrs. Bickersteth, 101, Sloane St., London, S.W.

From Araki-mura, Nitsuna-gori, Fukuoka Prefecture, comes a terrible story. It appears that the farmers of the neighbourhood, rejoicing in the promise of rich and heavy crops this autumn, decided to celebrate the event by holding a village *shibaya* (amateur theatricals) in the grounds of the Kurotsuchi Shrine. The young men of the village readily took up the idea and were impressed for service on the boards. Beginning at an early hour, the theatricals continued all day and at nightfall fully 1,000 persons were still enjoying the antics of the village buffoons and eke tragedians. Lights were accordingly sent for and a tin of kerosene oil, being forthcoming to replenish them, was placed upon the stage. Then some one thoughtlessly placed a light upon the tin, which, communicating with the oil, caused an explosion. Losing his presence of mind, a man on the stage picked up the blazing tin and threw it into the temple yard, among the spectators, where it caused a panic, in the course of which some 80 persons were killed or injured. The theatrical performance and the harvest rejoicings, needless to say, came to a sudden end.

The following is an official return of the total losses during the war up to and including the week ending July 28:—

	Officers.	N.C.O.s and Men.
Killed in action	271	2,502
Died of wounds	73	681
Missing and prisoners (excluding those who have been recovered)	76	2,718
Prisoners died in captivity	1	85
Died of Disease	141	4,836
Accidental deaths	1	72
Sent home as invalids	1,044	24,058
Total	1,607	34,952
Total Losses (exclusive of sick and wounded men now in British hospitals in South Africa.)	36,559	

We publish below a statement of the receipts and expenditures connected with the two performances given by Yokohama Amateurs on June 5th and 8th for the benefit of the Stage of the Public Hall:

RECEIPTS.	Yen.
1st Performance	761.20
2nd Performance	222.95
Discounts	6.50
	990.65
DISBURSEMENTS.	Yen.
Properties	140.61
Advertising	38.50
Refreshments	71.62
Expenses	122.17
	372.90
Profit	617.75
	990.65
Stage debts paid for	601.50
Balance, cash in hand	617.75

Committee:—C. F. McWilliams, W. K. E. Vincent, A. R. Owen, E. W. Maitland, G. G. Brady, and E. Beart.

The hearing of a civil suit brought by Mr. Ota of Tokyo, against Mr. Arai Kildoyle was resumed in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday before Judge Sato. The plaintiff was presented by Mr. Hino and the defendant by Mr Koga. The plaintiff stated that he entered into a contract with the defendant in April, 1898, for the supply of materials for the building of the Nagasaki Hotel at a cost of *yen* 1,600. He received *yen* 1,540 in four instalments the same year, but the defendant failed to pay the remaining *yen* 60, though the plaintiff called for payment several times. The defendant alleged that the saw mill at Nakamura was disposed of to a man named Uyeda Gizo in March, 1898, but examination at the village office in November, 1898, showed that the property was registered in the name of the defendant. The defendant said the plaintiff entered into the contract with E. Leopold, and therefore he was not called upon to pay the amount. The Judge stated that E. Leopold and Toda Gisaburo, whom at the previous hearing the defendant asked to be called as witnesses, did not appear. The former declined to appear despite the fact that a summons was served on him, and therefore he was fined *yen* 5. The hearing was adjourned till the 22nd inst.

A TALK WITH PEKING REFUGEES.

A correspondent of the *Kobe Herald* has had some conversation with the Rev. F. D. Gamewell, of the American Methodist Mission, who is both a missionary and a skilled civil engineer, and who planned the whole of the defence works about the British Legation. This gentleman gave some interesting stories regarding the siege. Among other things he said:—One of the officers in the British legation had charge of the stables of horses and mules and he decided each day which and how many should be killed for food. In connection with this there was an incident both amusing and pathetic. A lady member of the Methodist Mission brought her pet mule into the place of refuge, and when it came to the day that this mule was killed, all the Methodist ladies refrained from eating meat in order to show their sympathy for their friend who was really grieved to see her pet thus disposed of.

For sometime after the siege began we were able to secure eggs from Chinese soldiers, but they were so scarce that they were kept for the children and sick people. One day Major Conger, United States Minister, came walking slowly across the tennis court to where some of the ladies had charge of the Commissariat Department, and said.—"I am sick to-day, please let me have one egg." He took it in his hand gratefully and went back to the house looking as pleased as if he had found a treasure.

When the great Confucian library (the world-famed Hanlin College) was burning a half dead tree that stood between it and the legation caught fire and a party was detailed to cut it down before it fell burning. A Russian priest, a Roman Catholic priest, and a Protestant clergyman were seen taking turns with an axe cutting down this tree. All religious differences sank out of sight in face of a common enemy. Another incident of the same nature occurred after the relief came. Some one in the British legation, not a missionary, called for a prayer and thanksgiving meeting. Everybody joined with a hearty will including Roman and Greek Catholics, Protestant missionaries, Legation people, Customs officials and others. For once there was a meeting with one accord.

Until this siege, Dr. Morrison of the London *Times*, had never been a special friend of Missionaries or of native Christians, but he was strangely drawn into doing them a great favour. His "boy" was a Catholic Christian, and when the persecutions began he persuaded Dr. Morrison to help to save his father and mother who were also Christians. From this the famous *Times* correspondent got interested in the work of rescuing the native Christians, and it was he more than any one else, perhaps, who was instrumental in getting permission from the Ministers to allow some marines to go across the city to bring over seven hundred native Christians from a besieged mission compound into the lines of defence. These Christians afterwards proved a great help in building the breast-works and in other ways. They stayed in a palace near the British legation.

SHOOTING AFFAIR IN SINGAPORE.

On the August 31st, a shooting affair, revealing a romantic state of affairs, took place on board the Japanese mail steamer *Kanagawa Maru*, lying in the Roads of Singapore and homeward bound, says the *China Mail*. About seven o'clock in the evening Captain McKenzie heard two pistol reports. He rushed up on deck and discovered a lady passenger lying on the deck wounded and covered with blood, whilst near by was a young Siamese, with a revolver placed in his mouth, evidently with the intention of blowing out his brains. The captain dashed the revolver from the hands of the would-be suicide and then proceeded to astertain the condition of the wounded lady, whom he found to be in a very serious state, with two pistol wounds on the forehead. The lady was removed to the Hospital and the Siamese was placed under arrest. It appears that the Siamese met the lady in London while studying there. A runaway match resulted, but the girl's parents, on hearing of the marriage,

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cabled to the Siamese Government, and the prisoner is understood to have been ordered to return to Bangkok, which he did. The young lady arrived in Singapore on 27th August by the *Sanuki Maru* and met her husband, who desired his wife to proceed to Bangkok with him, but she decided to return home and had booked her passage by the *Kanagawa Maru*. The husband and wife had been dining together on board and afterwards proceeded on deck.

TELEGRAMS.

THEIR TRANSMISSION AND RECEIPT.

In connection with the enforcement of the new Telegram Regulations, instructions concerning the transmission and receipt of telegrams in accordance with Article LXXV. of those Regulations or by means of a telegraphic or telephone service connected with a Post and Telegraph Office or a Telegraph Office, have been issued as follows:—

I.—Should a telephone subscriber desire to send off a telegram, he will first call up the office where the telegram is to be dealt with, and having intimated his intention to have a telegram transmitted give information about the telegram in question in the order specified below, and await a reply:—

TELEGRAMS IN JAPANESE LANGUAGE.

1. Nature of telegram (whether official or private).
2. Number of characters in telegram.
3. Name and address of receiver.
4. Name and address of sender, in case it is necessary to fill in the same on the face of the telegram form.
5. Instructions: ("urgency," "prepayment of fees for reply," "verification", or "special delivery.")
6. The message proper.
7. Name and address of the sender, to be given at the end of the message.
8. Name and address of the sender as well as the telephone number.

TELEGRAMS IN A EUROPEAN LANGUAGE.

1. Nature of telegram.
2. Number of words.
3. Instructions.
4. Name and address of sender, if required to be stated on the face of the telegram form.
5. Name and address of receiver.
6. The message proper.
7. Name and address of sender, to be stated at the end of the message.
8. Name and address of sender, and his telephone number.
9. Particulars, if any, to which attention is desired to be directed with regard to the telegram.

II.—In transmitting a telegram to a telephone subscriber by means of the telephone service at an office where telegrams are dealt with, a reply of assent shall be given after transcribing the telegrams in the following order, questions being put to the sender whenever it is found that there is some mistake or inaccuracy in respect to the number of words or characters of a telegram:—

FOR TELEGRAMS IN JAPANESE.

1. Name and address of receiver.
2. Name and address of sender when stated on the outside of the telegram form.
3. Nature of telegram.
4. Name of the transmitting office.
5. Serial number of the telegram.
6. Month, day, and hour of receipt.
7. Number of characters in the telegram.
8. Instructions.
9. Message proper.
10. Name and address of sender when mentioned at the end of the message.
11. Remarks, if any.

FOR TELEGRAMS IN A EUROPEAN LANGUAGE:—

1. Name and address of receiver.
2. Name and address of sender when the same are stated on the outside of a telegraph form.
3. Nature of telegram.
4. Name of transmitting office.
5. Serial number of telegram.
6. Number of words in telegram.
7. Month, day, and hour of receipt.
8. Instructions.
9. Message proper.
10. Name and address of sender, where mentioned.
11. Remarks if any.

III.—In transmitting a telegram through the telephone service, cipher and other words which it may be difficult to comprehend shall be indicated or communicated by means of the following table. Telegraphic messages are characterized by simplicity, and as the characters ナ and ン, イ and エ, a and e, m and n, are liable to be confounded even in ordinary messages, it is advisable that they should be communicated through the tables referred to so as to secure exact accuracy:

FOR KATA-KANA.

Side number.	Upper number. 1	2	3	4	5
1	ア	キ	タ	ヒ	ヤ
2	イ	ク	チ	フ	ユ
3	ウ	ケ	ツ	ヘ	ヨ
4	エ	コ	テ	ホ	ラ
5	オ	サ	ト	マ	リ
6	カ	シ	ナ	ミ	ル
7	キ	ス	ニ	ム	レ
8	ク	セ	ヌ	メ	ロ
9	ケ	ソ	ネ	モ	ワ
10	コ	タ	ノ	ヤ	ヲ
11	サ	チ	ハ	ユ	ン
12	. (period)	— (new line)	° (impure sound)	( ) (parenthesis)	[ ] (brackets) / (oblique line)

FOR ROMAN LETTERS.

Side number.	Upper number 1	2	3	4	5
1	A	B	C	D	E
2	F	G	H	I	J
3	K	L	M	N	O
4	P	Q	R	S	T
5	U	V	W	X	Y
6	Z	Ä	Ä	Ë	Ñ
7	Ö	Ü			
8	(period)	, (comma)	; (semi colon)	- (hyphen)	' (apostrophe)
9	! (exclamation mark)	¶ (new line)	— (continuation)	? (interrogation mark)	(,) (parenthesis)
10	" (quotation mark)	— (under line)	/ (oblique line)		

In telephoning, for instance, for "c/o" call out 1 to 3, 10 to 3, and 3 to 5; for "by," 1 to 2 and 5 to 6.

IV. Telegraphic messages to be transmitted or received by means of an official or private telegraph or telephone line connected with a Post and Telegraph Office or Telegraph Office shall be governed by the rules specially established by the Department of Communications.

V.—When a telegram is to be transmitted over a telegraph line, the message shall be drafted beforehand, and the number of words or characters accurately calculated, so as to render it fit for examination without the least trouble.

[Articles VI to VIII deal with the forms to be observed in regard to the prepayment of fees, and other matters of detail.]

Mr. Christie, the Astronomer Royal, has found that the star "Goat" is double, that is, it consists of two stars turning round each other. This body, as observed by Mr. Newall, of Oxford, approaches to and recedes from the earth in a period of 104 days.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. CONGER AND THE MISSIONARIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—During the last few days friends who experienced the terrible weeks of siege at Peking, have been arriving in considerable numbers. Your readers will be interested in the accompanying letter and resolutions, which I obtained from one of these friends. A letter from Sir Claude MacDonald was received by the missionaries recognizing their very important service, but I have no copy. I understand the missionary body had already dispersed to such an extent when Major Conger's exceedingly kind letter was received, as to render a reply impossible, but the opinions of the friends I have met may be assumed as an index of the feeling of the entire body and show that an enthusiastically appreciative and equally cordial letter would have been sent to reply to the Minister, save for the above circumstance.

Yours,
ARTHUR W. STANFORD.
American Board Mission,
Kobe, 12th Sept., 1900.

Legation of the United States of America,
Peking, China, Aug. 18th, 1900.

To the Besieged American Missionaries:

To one and all of you, so providentially saved from threatened massacre, I beg in this hour of our deliverance, to express what I know to be the universal sentiments of the Diplomatic Corps, the sincere appreciation of, and professed profound gratitude for the inestimable help which you and the native Christians under your charge have rendered toward our preservation.

Without your intelligent and successful planning and the uncomplaining execution of the Chinese, I believe our salvation would have been impossible.

By your courteous consideration of me and your continued patience under most trying occasions, I have been deeply touched and for it all I thank you most heartily.

I hope and believe somehow in God's unerring plan, your sacrifices and dangers will bear rich fruit in the material and spiritual welfare of the people to whom you have so nobly devoted your lives and work.

Assuring you of my personal respect and gratitude, believe me.

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) E. H. CONGER.

Resolved: That the Americans who have been besieged in Peking, desire to express their hearty appreciation of the courage, fidelity and patriotism of the American marines, to whom we so largely owe our salvation.

By their bravery in holding an almost untenable position on the city wall, in the face of overwhelming numbers and in cooperating in driving the Chinese from a position of great strength, they made all foreigners in Peking their debtors, and have gained for themselves an honourable name among the heroes of their country.

Voted to draft this resolution and present it to Major Conger.

Voted: To adopt the following resolution and to send a copy to Sir Claude MacDonald.

Resolved: That the missionaries who have been in the British Legation during the siege that has just ended, desire to express their appreciation of the uniform courtesy and kindness that have been shown them by Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald and all others connected with the Legation; and we would recognize with gratitude, the heroism of the British marines and those of other nationalities, together with the civilian volunteers, who, against such fearful odds, risked and in many cases, laid down their lives in defence of the many who were committed to their care.

INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly acknowledge the following amounts received for India Famine Fund?

Previously reported	¥1,537.12
W. E. Williams	20.00
S. Furuzawa	1 68
Miss Ida A. Sifton	7.00
Mrs. O. Risaburo	2 00
Sapporo Fujin Jizen Kwai	2 00
Dr D. D. Schneder	3 58
E. C. Fry	20.00
	1,593-31

Sincerely,
V. W. HELM.
Young Men's Christian Association,
Tokyo, September 18th, 1900.

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BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Sept. 15th:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders...	16,425,189
Amount of convertible notes issued ...	191,946,274
Government deposits	41,619,797
General deposits	7,867,448
Exchange liability	8,859
Total	287,867,569

CR.

Discount notes	69,246,285
Foreign discount notes	9,651,495
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	57,037,264
Exchange liability	1,844,891
Government bonds	52,433,711
Property	2,168,741
Bullion and Specie	73,485,179
Total	287,867,569

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	192,505 387

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	68,714 715
Silver	3,000,000
Total	71,714,715

Securities:—

Government bonds	26,595,204
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	10,180,286
Commercial notes	62,015,173
Total	120,790,663

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	150,500
Silver	—	—
General loans	788,878	—
Government deposits.	—	1,526,234
General deposits...	2,241,109	—

PRIVATE POST BOXES.

Rules relating to the leasing of Private Post Boxes have recently been published in the *Official Gazette* as follows:—

Art. I.—Any person desiring to make use of a private post box shall apply to and obtain permission from the relative Post Office in accordance with these rules.

Art. II.—When a Post Office grants permission for the use of a private post box it will furnish a key to open or close the same.

Art. III.—Fees for the use of a private post box shall be paid in advance for two periods, the one extending from April 1 to September 30, and the other from October 1 to March 31 of the ensuing year. In case, however, the use of the box commences in any part of one of the periods specified above, the fees shall be collected by calculating the rate by months with respect to the period in question.

Art. IV.—The amount of fees for the use of a private post box for each of the periods specified in the foregoing article is fixed as follows:—

	Yen.
At the Post Offices in Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Hakodate, Niigata, Sendai, Hiroshima, Kanazawa, Kumamoto, Nagoya, and Fusan Wonsan, and Inchhon in Korea ...	3
In Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki, Shanghai ..... large box	15
In Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki, Shanghai ..... small box	8
At other places	1

Art. V.—If any person using a private post box fails to pay the fees in advance for a period, he shall be liable to have the use of the box suspended.

Art. VI.—When the use of a private post box has been abolished or suspended, the key must be immediately returned. Failure to return the same shall involve the collection of fees at the daily rate according to the number of days during which such failure continues.

Art VII.—If a private post box is damaged or a key lost or damaged through the fault of the person using the same, proper expenses may be collected.

Art. VIII.—These rules shall come into operation on October 1st in the 33rd year of *Meiji*.

KOBE WATERWORKS BONDS.

Mr. J. Blackmore has published in Kobe a letter of which we quote the following:—

"Some years ago the city, through the foreign press of Japan, invited tenders for Kobe water-works bonds, the bait held out being an annual interest of 6 per cent. I bit. My impression at the time was that the interest, like that of most, if not all municipal bonds issued at home, was free of income tax. Soon after the abolition of extraterritoriality I found that the bonds were subject to income tax, which is deducted by the bank that cashes interest coupons. The city is empowered to levy a tax up to 70 per cent. of the amount of any government tax and, acting on these powers, has taxed me with respect to income tax paid on my matured coupon warrants, or in other words *the city has taxed its own bonds*. What sane man would intrust a bank with money on fixed deposit and bearing interest if the directors of the bank reserved to themselves the right to milk the depositor more or less, but chiefly more, according to the exigencies of the bank's monetary needs? Yet something akin to this has been done, but only the fact of being in the dark anent the up-the-sleeve powers, so to speak, of my imaginary directors saves me from perplexity, like the doubt that beset Dogberry, regarding the signature I ought to append to this communication. The irritating part of the matter is that, in compliance with the tax laws, it is compulsory on me if I leave Japan to appoint an attorney, who bi-annually, when ordered, must attend the tax office, wait his turn and pay in the tax—*not a fixed one*—which the city levies on its own bonds. Who, residing out of or about to leave Japan, knowing this, would care to invest in or hold Kobe water-works bonds? Certainly I would not,—that is if I could unload at par. Notwithstanding what I have written I am willing to increase my holdings of city bonds if the city would guarantee a fixed rate of interest, I mean free of all taxes, payable in Kobe and or London without vexatious formalities; and except this straightforward and business-like course be adopted, the city, on the security of its bonds, will never obtain cheap foreign capital,—nor dear capital for the matter of that."

A translation is also published of a letter from the Director of the Waterworks Department, Kobe City Office, which states that the Government is entitled to levy the Income Tax on the bonds by virtue of the Income Tax Law, No. 17 of the 32nd year (1899), Art. 3, and the Kobe City Office is authorised to levy an additional tax by the City Regulations, Art. 90, Law No. 1, the 21st year (1888). The bonds, whether issued in Kobe or elsewhere, are equally liable to be taxed on their interest, which is thereby reduced by a certain amount. The official adds:—"The payment of the interest on the bonds and the levying of the additional tax are quite separate matters and we believe they belong to two different questions. We therefore made no mistake in connection with the issue of the Bonds some time ago and we desire that you will kindly think the matter over once more."

Mr. Blackmore, however, remarks that legally he does not contest the city's right to levy the tax of which he complains, but morally he very much questions the city's wisdom and sense of justice in enforcing payment of same. These remarks, he adds, apply more especially to the foreigner who from the first expected, and was for years actually paid, 6 per cent. per annum without deduction of any kind.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

NEW COMMAND FOR SIR W. BUTLER.

Shanghai, Sept. 13, 0.35 p.m.

Sir William Butler has been appointed to the Aldershot district command.

FRENCH AND BULLER ADVANCING.

General French, advancing on Barberton from Carolina, has captured three successive positions with small loss.

General Buller on Saturday carried a precipitous ridge, 1,500 feet high. The enemy retreated

THE GALVESTON CATASTROPHE.

The damage to property by the hurricane at Galveston is now reported to amount to ten million dollars gold. Fifteen hundred persons perished in the city. Eight steamers were wrecked.

The storm swept and ruined the Texas cotton belt.

BADEN-POWELL CHIEF OF POLICE.

Shanghai, Sept. 13, 7.18 p.m..

General Baden-Powell has been appointed Chief of Police in the Transvaal.

BULLER STILL ADVANCING.

General Buller on Sept. 9th occupied Manchberg. The enemy resisted, but were dislodged by the King's Royal Rifles supported by artillery.

General Buller is now moving on Spitzkop.

THE PROPOSED WITHDRAWAL.

France and Russia have called on their Ministers to arrange for withdrawal to Tientsin. It is expected that the United States and Japan will imitate Russia's action regarding withdrawal from Peking.

THE COTTON CRISIS.

It is expected that the stoppage of cotton mills, which has taken place in Lancashire, owing to the high price of cotton, will become general.

PRESIDENT KRUGER.

Shanghai, Sept. 14.

President Kruger arrived at Delagoa Bay on the evening of the 11th inst.

THE TEXAS DISASTER.

A later telegram from Galveston says that the deathroll reaches 10,000. Ghastly scenes are reported, and negroes are pillaging the dead.

Martial law has been proclaimed in the stricken districts.

DEPARTING FOR EUROPE.

President Kruger and several Transvaal officials are staying with Consul Pott at Delagoa Bay. It is stated that he sails for Europe on the 24th.

THE ST. LEGER.

Following is the result of the St. Leger:—

Diamond Jubilee 1
Elopement..... 2
Courland 3

Eleven horses started.

RANJI'S BIG SCORING.

Prince Ranjitsinghi has completed 3,000 runs this season. This is the second time he has done so and the feat is unprecedented.

KRUGER GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Shanghai, Sept. 15.

The official version of President Kruger's departure from the Transvaal is that he has received six months' leave of absence, during which he is to work in Europe for the intervention of the Powers.

Schalkburger is the acting President.

BRITAIN'S REPLY TO RUSSIA.

Great Britain replied to Russia on Tuesday declaring that she is unable to agree to the withdrawal of the troops from Peking before satisfactory terms have been arranged.

AMERICA'S ATTITUDE.

It is declared in Washington that unless the negotiations in China develope more unity among the Powers than those anent the evacuation of Peking, the United States will negotiate with China independently.

LORD SALISBURY.

Lord Salisbury has returned to Hatfield from Germany.

OPERATIONS IN THE TRANSVAAL.

Shanghai, Sept. 16.

General Hart has surprised a Boer force and re-occupied Potchefstroom.

General Buller has captured the Boer positions at Spitzkop, with a large quantity of supplies.

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BOTHA RESIGNS.

General Botha has resigned supreme command of the Boer forces on the ground of ill-health. General Viljoen replaces him.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

The Times urges the reinforcement of the British squadron on the China station, which is now inferior to the German squadron, and the strengthening of the forces in Peking.

THE VATICAN AND CHINA.

Shanghai, Sept. 17.

It is stated that the Vatican has decided to demand sixty million francs through France as an indemnity from China.

THE TRANSVAAL.

General French has occupied Barberton.

Steyn has retired to Heolverspruit.

GERMANY'S EXPENSES IN CHINA.

Germany is placing four million sterling worth of Treasury Bonds at 4 per cent to cover her expenses in China.

PORTUGAL AND KRUGER.

The Portuguese Government has telegraphed authorising the departure of Kruger, but saying that the Governor of Mozambique must assure himself that Kruger proceeds for Europe, and must protect him meanwhile.

COLONIALS TO GO TO ENGLAND.

Contingents representing the Colonials will accompany the first troops home and be the guests of the nation.

The Queen will probably inspect them and present colours to them.

HOLLAND OFFERS KRUGER SANCTUARY.

Shanghai, Sept. 19.

The Dutch Government has telegraphed offering Kruger passage to Holland in a war ship.

KRUGER'S COUNTER-PROCLAMATION

Kruger proclaims that Lord Roberts' proclamation is null. The Transvaal Republic, he asserts, is unconquered and refuses to submit to British authority.

DE WET'S DEATH REPORTED.

It is rumoured that De Wet is dead.

PARLIAMENT.

Parliament dissolves on Sept. 25th and the new House meets on Nov. 1st.

ROYAL VISIT TO AUSTRALIA.

The Queen, on the recommendation of Lord Salisbury, has consented that the Duke of York shall visit Australia in the Spring to open the Federal Parliament

GERMANY SPEAKS OUT.

Shanghai, Sept. 20.

Germany has issued a circular to the Powers in which she states that she considers the delivering up to punishment of the instigators of the outrages in China a necessary preliminary to the opening of negotiations with the Chinese Government.

She suggests that the Ministers in Peking should be instructed to indicate the personages whose guilt is indisputable As it is impossible to punish the numberless instruments who executed outrages, it is necessary to strike the instigators.

Germany expresses herself as convinced that the Powers will agree to this, since indifference in regard to the exacting of rightful atonement will be equivalent to indifference as to repetition of the outrages.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

PRINCE CHING.

Saigon, Sept. 15.

Prince Ching has had an interview with Sir Robert Hart. The result is not known.

KRUGER ARRESTED.

Saigon, Sept. 17.

A telegram from Lourenzo Marquez dated Sept. 14th says that President Kruger has been taken prisoner by the Portuguese. It is currently reported that he will be handed over to the British.

PRESIDENT KRUGER.

Saigon, Sept. 19.

The Portuguese Government will allow President Kruger to leave Delagoa Bay provided that he proceeds to Europe. The Dutch Government has offered a frigate to take him to Holland.

PRINCE CHING.

The Ministers and Generals in Peking have decided that they are not qualified to carry on negotiations with Prince Ching.

THE FRENCH IN NORTH AFRICA.

Saigon, Sept. 19

The French Minister of War has received from the Oasis of Sahara a despatch announcing serious combats on the part of Captain Falconette against the Berbers at the end of August. The French had 26 killed and wounded, including 2 officers killed. Reinforcements were sent from Elgolea.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

INDIAN TROOPS

Hongkong, Sept. 12.

A transport with 347 men from Calcutta passed to-day *en route* for the north.

CHINA.

Shanghai, Sept. 15.

The following telegram has been received from Kon-chow:—According to a report from the Governor of Chekiang, the foreigners at Kung-shin-kiau will be able to remain there in peace; and as the route between Shanghai and Kon-chow is patrolled by Chinese gunboats, it is improbable that there will be any interruption of communications. Things are quiet here. Since the report previously sent, trade has been good. Raw silk has fallen 8 dollars (American) in the 100 taels, and silk stuff 20 cents per foot, but there is not yet any demand.

Hongkong Sept 17.

A British transport with Indian troops, and a French transport, have proceeded north.

Chefoo, Sept. 17.

The cable between Chefoo and Shanghai was opened for use on the 17th instant.

Hongkong, Sept. 18.

Three thousand Indian troops have sailed for the north.

Shanghai, Sept. 18.

The cable between Shanghai and Taku has been opened

Yung Lu is expected to arrive at Paoting on the 18th.

Hongkong, Sept. 18.

Field-Marshal Waldersee arrived this morning and sailed northward in the evening in a German man-of-war.

Hongkong, Sept 19.

A French transport from Marseilles with about 1,100 troops, and a German transport have gone north.

Shanghai, Sept. 19.

According to trustworthy information, the Viceroys Chang and Liu have been added to the peace commission. It is said that they will remain at their posts and take part in the negotiations by telegrams and letters.

Admiral Seymour leaves for the north to-day.

(Received at the War Office.)

PEKING.

Peking, Sept. 5.

Prince Ching is said to have received a plenipotentary commission to negotiate for peace, and is awaiting the coming of Li Hung-chang. The Prince is to call on all the Ministers to-morrow.

To-day the Russian railway corps was attacked by the enemy in the neighbourhood of Nan-yuen, and 5 were wounded. Reinforcements were at once sent.

Peking, Sept. 7.

It appears that Tung and Jung Lu are at Paoting-fu and that the Court is accompanied by only 6 or 7 persons, including Prince Twan, Prince Chwan, General Ma, Mr. Wang. It is reported that Kang Yi is hiding in Peking. There is no doubt that Sung (?) and Hsu have committed suicide. The Russians killed 200 Boxers in the neighbourhood of Nan-yuen.

(From General Yamaguchi.)

Peking, Sept. 16.

A part of our battalion at Fen-tsung attacked 200 Boxers at Heh-lang-fang on the 15th, and dispersed them, killing over 20. We had no casualties.

Yung Lu is said to have been appointed a peace commissioner.

Prince Ching sent the following telegram on the 16th instant, to be handed to Li Hung-chang on his arrival in Tientsin:—"I have received your telegram. You will be protected by the Foreign Powers, and you ought therefore to proceed to Peking immediately on reaching Tientsin."

A thousand Russian troops with 8 guns camped on the south of Tungchow on the 15th, and early on the 16th proceeded south *viâ* Mutao.

Peking, Sept. 17.

The force of Japanese, English and Americans who proceeded to Shishan on the 16th, invested Taisz to the south-west of Mantentsun on the 17th. No Boxers were found, however, and the troops are to return on the 18th.

Peking, Sept. 15.

There are many sick among the allied troops. General Frey is about to return to Tientsin on account of illness.

Two brigades of German infantry with 6 guns proceeded some days ago to Lianghiang, and after dispersing the Boxers in that district, pursued them to Chahchow, and returned to Peking on the 13th.

(Non-official)

Taku, Sept. 19

The *Anping*, with Li Hung-chang on board, reached Taku on the evening of the 18th, and proceeded to Tongku at 5 a.m. on the 19th. Li went on to Tientsin at once, and will remain there two or three days before going to Peking. His party numbered 200.

(Received at the Naval Department.)

THE "ASAHI."

Sept. 14

The *Asahi* arrived at Colombo on the 12th.

THE "AZUMA."

The *Azuma* arrived at Aden on the 16th.

(From the "Ostasiatische Lloyd.")

NEWS FROM BERLIN.

Berlin, Sept. 7.

In a speech at Stettin, H.M. the Emperor said that he was convinced that the army sent to China would succeed in restoring order. The merchant would henceforth be in absolute safety and able to attend to his bnsiness without danger; he need have no fears for the future.

The last transport of the German Asiatic expedition has left to-day.

A French transport has left Algeria for China with 1,000 men,

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(FROM THE "NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS.")

EXPEDITIONS IN PROSPECT.

Peking, viâ Chefoo, Sept. 6.

The Battery of Royal Artillery from Lucknow having arrived, a mixed force of four thousand men is to leave on Friday for a town seventeen miles distant, where there is a force of Boxers fifteen thousand strong. Afterwards in about a week or a fortnight there are rumours of an advance on Paoting-fu simultaneously from Peking and Tientsin, the expedition lasting three weeks. The Americans will probably accompany the first expedition, but it is doubtful if they will accompany the second, a feeling existing that their mission is accomplished.

Peking, viâ Chefoo, Sept. 7.

The expedition is postponed, the inclement weather making the country impracticable for the artillery.

NEWS FROM BERLIN AND ELSEWHERE.

(FROM THE "OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD.")

Berlin, September 10.

The Austrian Parliament has been dissolved by Imperial decree; the new election will take place on December 4th.

Mr. McKinley has now formally consented to be the candidate of the Republican party for the Presidency of the United States of America.

Peking.

Prince Ching returned to Peking at the beginning of this month, and is now trying to open negotiations with the representatives of the different Powers.

A detachment consisting of English, Japanese, Russian, and Italian troops has undertaken an expedition in a southwesterly direction from Tiensin, in order to disperse the Boxers who have assembled there.

Baroness von Ketteler and the detachment of German sailors under the command of Captain Pohl have arrived in Tientsin from Peking.

The negotiations for the prohibition of the export of cattle from Shanghai after the 15th inst. have failed.

Berlin, Sept. 12.

France and America have now also consented to the evacuation of Peking; Germany has, however, decided only to remove her Legation from the capital to Tientsin. The Japanese will also remain in Peking.

No decided objections against Li Hung-chang as Peace Commissioner seem to exist here

The Amoy question has been settled.

President Krüger has escaped, but General Botha has surrendered.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer		Date.
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	1	M. Sept. 24
Hongkong.....	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	2	M. Sept. 24
America	P. M. Co.	China	3	Tu. Sept. 25
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	4	Th. Sept. 27
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Sachsen	5	Sa. Sept. 29
Hongkong.....	M. M. Co.	—		W. Oct. 3
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan		Th. Oct. 4
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric		Th. Oct. 4
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic		Sa. Oct. 6
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru		Th. Oct. 11
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru		M. Oct. 15

1 Left Vancouver on the 11th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 16th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 6th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong.....	N. D. Lloyd	Hamburg	Sa. Sept. 22
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Su. Sept. 23
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Sept. 24
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Nagato Maru	W. Sept. 26
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	China	W. Sept. 26
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Indus	F. Sept. 28
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Sept. 29
Hongkong.....	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	W. Oct. 3
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Oct. 5
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. Oct. 5
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Oct. 9
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	F. Oct. 12

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 489.

Key-move Q to Kt 8

Correct solution received from the Rev. C. F. Sweet.

PROBLEM No. 491.

By JAN KOTRC.

Black—Eight Pieces.

White—Eight Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 622.

RUY LOPEZ.

A good game from the Paris Tournament:—

White—M. Didier. Black—Herr Maroczy.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	19 B K3	QR Ksq
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	20 Q Q2	B B3
3 B Kt5	P QR3	21 Kt B3	R B2
4 B R4	Kt B3	22 P KKt3	KR K2
5 Castles	KtxP	23 QR Ksq	Q R3
6 R Ksq	Kt B4	24 Kt Kt5	Q R4
7 KtxP	B K2	25 P KR4	P R3
8 BxKt	Q PxB	26 Kt R3	P KKt4
9 P Q3	Castles	27 K R2	PxBP
10 Kt QB3	P B3	28 PxP	QxP
11 Kt Kt4	B Q3	29 R Ktsq ch	K R2
12 P B4	Kt K3	30 B B2	Q R4
13 R Bsq	Kt Q5	31 RxR ch	RxR
14 P KR3	P KB4	32 B K3	Q B6
15 Kt R2	B Q2	33 R K sq	R Kt2
16 Kt K2	P B4	34 R K Ktsq	R Kt6
17 P B3	KtxKt	Resigns	
18 QxKt	Q B3		

9—P to Q 3 is too tame, the usual move being P to Q 4. M. Didier adopted Winawer's notion of making Black a double pawn and try to prevent him from undoubling it. With B to Q 4 Black is met halfway for the purpose of undoubling; but the text move has other drawbacks.

12—P to B 4 was no good either, as it compelled the withdrawal of the Rook from the open file to KB sq, thus ceding the attack to Black. Two indifferent moves in any game against an opponent like Maroczy are sufficient to give the lead into Black's hands, even if no further weak moves occur. But this is not the case in this instance: for 15—Kt to K 5 is again preferable to 15—Kt to R 2 and later on 20—Q to K B 7 to Q to Q 2. He drifted naturally into a losing position; Black's attack, supported by two well-posted Bishops, could not be withstood. Maroczy's part of the game is instructive.

GAME No. 623.

PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

Here is another game from the Paris Tournament which we only give to show that most experienced players are liable to incredible oversight. Surprise has been expressed at Didier having left his Queen *en prise* in a winning position with Pillsbury, and here Showalter leaves a Rook *en prise* and a mate on the move:—

White—Géza Maroczy. Black—J. W. Showalter.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	10 PxKt	PxP
2 Kt KB3	Kt KB3	11 BxP	B K3
3 P Q4	KtxP	12 BxB	PxB
4 B Q3	P Q4	13 Q Kt3	Q Bsq
5 KtxP	B Q3	14 B R3	P B4
6 Castles	Castles	15 QR Qsq	P QKt3
7 P QB4	P QB3	16 R Q6	R Ksq
8 Kt QB3	BxKt	17 Q R4	Q R3
9 PxB	KtxKt	18 QxR mate	

Fire broke out in a silver-smith's shop at Kawase Kokucho, Nihonbashi-ku, Tokyo, at 12.15 a.m on the 19th inst. Six houses were destroyed and eight damaged. The fire started in a kitchen.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 15th Sept.,—Kobe, 12th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 14th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kiuho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,164, S. Suda, 14th Sept., — Hakodate, General. — Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 14th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, 8th Sept., Mails and Genera..—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Andreta, British ship, 1,635, Ritchie, 15th Sept.,—New York, 4th Sept.,—Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 15th Sept.,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hamburg, German steamer, 6,597, Krech, 15th Sept., —Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 14th Sept., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 16th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 29th Aug., Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Asturia, German steamer, 3,405, Th. Hilderbrandt, 16th Sept.,—New York via ports and Shanghai 11th Sept., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Ashmore, British Transport, 1,574, J. Murray, 16th Sept.,—Wei-hai-wei, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co,

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, H. Fraser, 16th Sept.,—Kobe, 14th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer 1,551, F W. Horton, 17th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, Hadley, 18th Sept.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 16th Sept., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 18th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 17th Sept., General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 19th Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Duke of Fife, British steamer, 2,416 J. S. Cox, 20th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 19th Sept., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

DEPARTURES.

Salazie, French steamer, 2,089, Negre, 14th Sept.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 14th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Shuzan Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, G. E. P. Cook, 14th Sept.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 14th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 15th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Muke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, A. Fraser, 15th Sept.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Machaon, British steamer, 4,276, W. T. Hannah, 15th Sept.,—Sydney, N.S.W., Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 16th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 16th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kiuho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,164, S. Suda, 16th Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, C. Christiansen, 17th Sept.,—Otaru via Kobe and West Coast, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 18th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Alcmous, British steamer, 4,278, J. Pulford, 18th Sept.,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, K. Nakajima, 18th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, C. H.S. Tocque, 19th Sept.,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

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Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 19th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 19th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, F. W. Horton, 19th Sept.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Malacca, British steamer 2,615, E. G. Andrews, 20th Sept.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Asturia, German steamer, 3,405, Th. Hildebrandt, 20th Sept.,—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—C. Illies & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. F. P. Kuling, Mr. H. Bisman, Jr., Mr. C. Benmek, Rev. A. C. Ewing, Mr. and Mrs. Pandus, Mr. E. G. Arme, Mr. and Mrs. E. Gaffinet, Mr. Latrana, Mr. Pyne, Mr. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Miller and 3 children, and Mr., Mrs. and Master Yamagishi, in cabin; Miss Uchida, Mr. and Mrs. Yukawa, Miss Kondo, Mr. Takahashi, Mr. A. J. Bathero, Mr. U. Shimasaki, Mr. K. Mori, Mr. K. Yeto, Mrs. K. Kuriwara, Mr. S. Hongo, Mr. Yoshikawa, Mr. R. Takeda, and Mr R. Mikami, in second class.

Per German steamer *Hamburg*, from Europe via ports;—General and Mrs. Sumner, Miss Hastings, Mr. Wm. Friedlander, Mr. K. Halvorsen, Col. and Mrs. Heistand, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Bruttan and child, Rev. W. Bundfield, Mr. Th. Meyer, Mr. G. W. Noel, Major Bruce and family, Mr. D. J. Nakworsin, Mr. Wickham, Dr. Woodworth Poole, Madame de Giers, Miss Muller, Mr. Orlovsky, Mr. de Reurs Mr. H. Sykes Thompson, Mr Wolf and daughter, Mr. O. D. Ferculd and family, Mr. P. Kleinwort, Mr. H. Waiss, Mr. Benn, Miss Wastdrop, Mr. and Mrs. Tresege, and Mr. E. Sloper, in cabin; Mr. Niels Kahnberes, Mr. Koike, Mr. H. A. Adamson, Miss Arosworth, and Mr. T. Ikeda, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Count Mutsu, Mr. H. Oki, Mr. H. Noguchi, Mrs. Mary Exerby, Mr. A. Noorhoy, Mr. Geo. T. Marsh, Master B. Marsh, Mr. T. Nagao, and Miss H. Nagao, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. Frank Hamsa, Dr. and Mrs. E. K. Pak, and Mr. Wm. A. Steehler, in cabin. For Nagasaki Major V. R. Hoff, Dr. Geo. K. Sims, Mr. R. H. McComyn, and Mr. Fred. E. Troll, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Bishop D. H. Moore, Mrs. Moore, and Miss M. Moore, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Rev. W. E. D. Claybrook, Miss Ida Ellis, Dr. T. W Force, Mr. A. Macondray, Mrs. Macondray, Mr. R. H. Morley, Mrs. H. H. Rutherford, Miss Dorothy Rutherford, Mrs. E. P. Wolf, Mrs. W. H. Winters, and Mr. Fred. E. Kelly, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. A. G. M. Weale, Mr. de Bengny, Mrs. Boosnetzeff, child, infant and servant, Surgeon E. S. Tuck, Mr. W. M. Treglown, Mr. W. J. Kenny, Mr. A. J. Welch, Miss Agnes Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. J. Lembke, child and servant, Mrs. T. W. Hoffmann, child and governess, Mr. A. D. Rice, Mr. Em. Bisset, Mr. Sagidico, Mr. C. Lang, Mr. and Mrs. M. Spieler, Mr. G. Richarme, Mr. T. K. Lang, Mr and Mrs. J. Marino and infant, Mr. Rodriguez, Mr. G. Shibiya, Mr. J. W. Cuming, and Mr. Aregi Ota, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss C. Anderson, Miss Ida Anderson, Miss M. E. Anderson, Mr. H. R. Bostwick, Rev. F. Brown, Miss Brown, Mr. F. M. Chapin, Mrs. F. M. Chapin and 2 children, Master F. Chapin, Mr. Chas. S. Coy, Mr. R. Dawson, Mr. J. Deuss, Miss Douw, Miss Dudgeon, Mr. C. H. Fenn, Mrs. C. H. Fenn and 2 children, Mrs. J. A. Gaither, Miss Gowans, Mr. S. Hattori, Mr. K. Hayami, Mr. F. Hellyer, Mr. Mr. W. H. Henry, Dr. H. Ingram, Mrs. J. H. Ingram and 2 children, Mrs. M. L. Lambuth, Miss Lambuth, Mr. Alfred J. Marcus, Mrs. Alfred Marcus, Mr. C. H. Oliver, Master J. Oliver, Master L. Oliver, Mrs. A. S. Palmer and servant, Mr. W. H. Park, Mrs. W. H. Park, Miss Park, Miss Cecyle Payne, Miss Ruthford, Miss Clara E. Steger, Capt. S. E. Smiley, U.S.A., Mr. R. S. Speer, Mr. W. G. F. Squiers, Mrs. Stokes, Mr. S. Strauss, Dr. Chas. S. Terrill, Mrs. Chas. S. Terrill, Mr. B. G. Tsang, Mr. L. S. Tsu, Mrs. C. W. Van Petten, Miss R. J. Watson and 2 servants, Mr. J. Weir, Mrs. H. M. Woods and 2 children, Miss Woods, Mrs. M. S. Woodward, Miss Woodward, Mr. S. Yoshiye, and Dr. W. F. Becker, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinano Maru*, for Sydney via ports:—Gen. J. M. Bell, U.S.A., Mrs. S. M. Mills, Miss Bryant, Miss B. Ferord, Miss Shaw, Miss Helen B. Wilson, Mrs. Wardell, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kernan and baby, Lieut. W. L. Jolly, U.S.N., Capt. R. Beatty, Mr. H. L. Wheeler, Mr. E. W. Naudin, Rev. A. R. Fuller, Mr. Nokolai, Mr. J. Sturche, Mr. B. J. Brown, Mr. T. Miyoshi, Mr. I. Yezaki, and Mr. H. Sayeki, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. L. H. Abel, child and amah, Mr. H. A. Andreare Miss L. Adam, Miss A. Adam, Mrs. W. H. Andrews, Mr. J. Percy Bruce, Rev. W. F. de Claybrook, Lit. Edw. Croft, U.S.A., Mr. W. S. Culver, Miss Ida Ellis, Dr. F. W. Force, Mr. Frank Hamsa, Major J. V. R. Hoff, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Howell, Miss M. C. Huntington, Mrs. C. S. Lincoln, Mr. Arthur Macondray, Mrs. Arthur Macondray, Rev. W. A. Main, Bishop D. H. Moore, Mrs. D. H. Moore, Miss M. Moore, Mr. R. H. Morley, Dr. Mrs. E. K. Pak, Mr. L. E. Phipps, Mr. E. Pastor, Mrs. E. S. Rendall, Mr E. Rogers, Lt.-Com. J. M. Rooper, U.S.N., Mrs. H. H. Rutherford and child, Dr. Geo K. Sims, Mr. Wm. A. Steehler, Mrs. W. E. Thurston, Mr. S. Togo, Mrs. W. H. Winters, and Mrs. E. P. Wolf, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Master Cheong Chee, Master Cheong Lum, Mr. A. Wing, Rev. E. S. Wilkinson, Mrs. Wilkinson, Miss Mitchell, Mr. E. Bauer, and Mrs. Ah Sam, in cabin; 1 Indian, 8 Chinese and child, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Bowen and child, Mrs. Bourne and 2 children, Miss Johnson, Rev. G. H. Melone, Mr. P. Kaemmerer, Mr. F. G. Keeling, Miss Kerr, Surgeon S. M. Stuart, U.S.A., Master Walter James, and Mr. I. Shimadzu, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. C. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. U. Ozawa and 3 children, and 2 Chinese, in second class.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Marseilles via ports.—Raw Silk for Europe, 407 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 159 bales.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 145 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 65 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The improvement reported in our last still continues, in sympathy with the rise in home values. Quotations continue to advance. A fair business has been done in gassed spinnings, of which some 850 bales have been sold from stock and to arrive immediately.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches .	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine, Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	180.00 to 185.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	180.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos 2, 80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2, 100, Plain	Nominal
Nos 2 60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.50 to 30.00
Indian Broach	Nominal
Chinese	

METALS.

There is some enquiry at very low prices.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward ...	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (¾ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

The kerosene market slightly weaker. From Aug 29 to the middle of September imports of American amounted to nearly 316,000 cases, the total import from July 1st being 667,240 cases American and 219,500 Russian. It is estimated that since Aug. 29 137,580 cases American and 34,650 cases Russian have changed hands.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.80
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

Quietness reigns in the sugar market. The total import from July 1st to the middle of this month, exclusive of White Refined, was 159,800 piculs, of which 16,370 piculs came in during September. Of White Refined 199,160 piculs were landed since July 1st, of which 36,171 piculs arrived in the present month. Total sales in September have run to 5,500 piculs.

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	Y. 5.30 to 6.10
Brown Manila	5.70 to 7.00
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined	8.00 to 9.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market continues its downward course, sellers being in need of money. Advices from abroad still continue very dull and a further fall appears likely in the near future.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse .. .. Y.	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse...	790 to 800
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	820 to 830
Filatures—No 1½, Coarse	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse...	740 to 750
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	780 to 790
Re reels—No. 1	770 to 775
Re reels—No. 1½	760 to 765
Re-reels—No. 2	740 to 745
Re-reels—No 3	
Kakedas—Extra	810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 1 .. .	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 1½	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 2½	710 to 720

WASTE SILK

Very small business; prices weak; limits from consuming markets are below present quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	135 to 140
Noshi—Filatures, Good...	125 to 130
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium...	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filatures, Best.	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	50 to 52½
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	40 to 42½

TEA.

The market continues high with a very good demand for this time of the season. The teas on offer are mostly low grade, quality being unsatisfactory as compared with last season.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	39 & upwards
Choice	37 to 38
Finest	35 to 36
Fine	33 to 34
Good Medium...	31 to 32
Medium	29 to 30
Good Common	27 to 28
Common	25 to 26

FISH OIL.

There are small sales at unchanged prices. There are small quantities in sight, but apparently sufficient for the demand. From September 5th to the 14th about 35,760 piculs were exported.

COPPER.

There is nothing to report in copper. Exports from Sept. 5th amounted to 3,300 piculs.

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(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per N.Y.K. steamer *Riojun Maru*, for New York, via Seattle, Sept. 12:—

	Bales.
Yokohama Kiito Gomei-Kwaisha	51
Doshin Kwaisha	41
Total	92

Per M.M. steamer *Salazie*, for France, Sept. 14.—

	Bales.
Dent, H. & Co.	25
Dourille, P.	15
Longin & Co.	79
Nabholz & Co.	60
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	168
The Robison Silk Trading Co Ltd.	20
Siber, Wolff &C o.	119
Sieber & Co.	9
Yokohama Kiito Gomei-Kwaisha.	2
Total	497

Per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, for New York, via San Francisco, Sept. 14.—

	Bales.
Averil & Co.	10
C. & J. Trading Co., Ltd.	10
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	107
Pila, Ulysse &Co.	40
Vivanti Bros	62
Doshin Kwaisha	31
Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha	56
Total	316

To 17th September, 1900.

	Bales.
Averill & Co.	425
Bavier & Co.	268
Chauvin, Chevalier & Co.	10
C. & J. Trading Co., Ltd.	120
Dent, H. & Co.	208
Dourille, P.	50
Findlay Richardson & Co.	40
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	687
Longin & Co.	258
Middleton & Smith	170
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	283
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	619
Reimers, O. & Co.	543
Robison Silk Trading Co.. Ltd.	183
Siber, Wolf & Co.	861
Sieber & Co.	397
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd	101
Varenne & Co.	210
Vivanti Bros.	544
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	1,605
Doshin Kaisha	359
Mitsu Bussan Kaisha	455
J. Ishu	68
Total	8,524

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, September 20.

Silver from London $\frac{1}{16}$ higher and discount $\frac{1}{8}$ higher, but locally rates have not been affected.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0$\frac{9}{16}$
— 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞@51
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.13
Hongkong—Bank sight	*2% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	* Par.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 71
— Private 10 days' sight	* 73
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	28$\frac{1}{16}$

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, September 20.

Marusan Breweries were sold to-day at *yen* 37.

Breweries can be had at *yen* 52.50. A few Helms can be had at *yen* 55. Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 240. Langfeldts have sellers at par. Engine and Iron Works are quiet at *yen* 210.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107. Laundry debentures can be had at par.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	210	Sa
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	155	S
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240	Sa
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80	S
Oriental Hotel, Ltd ¥ 00	150	S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12 50	500	S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100.	Nominal	
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	115	N
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9	N
Langfeldt & Co. Ltd., ¥100	100	S
Helm Bros., ¥50	55	S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50	S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	110	N
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	107	S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	101	Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	108	N
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	99	Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥95	40	N.

RICE MARKET.

Fukagawa Godowns, Tokyo, Sept. 19.

Sold, Japanese rice 11,903 hyo: arrived, Japanese, 434 hyo; in stock, Japanese, 262,275.

Retail per *Yen*—First quality 5 sho 3 go; second, 5 sho 7 go; third, 6 sho 1 go, fourth, 6 sho 8 go, fifth, 7 sho 5 go.

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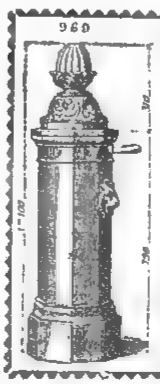

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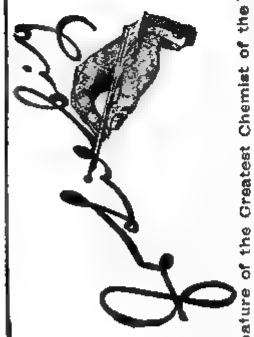

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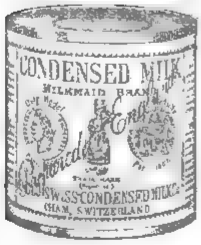

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT 29TH, 1900.

MARRIAGE.

At All Saints Church, Kobe, on the 13th September, by the Rev. E. K. Davies, WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Yokohama, to MARION WILLIAMS, of Sydney. No cards.

DEATHS.

On Sunday, 23rd inst., at the British Royal Naval Hospital, WALTER EWEN TOWNSEND, of H.B.M. Consular Service, China, son of A. M. Townsend, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, New York, aged 21.

At Smithtown, Long Island, U.S.A., on Saturday, the 22nd instant, RICHARD B. SMITH, elder brother of N. F. and E. R. Smith

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

BARON FUKUHARA MINORU died on the 24th Sept

MR. IKEDA SEISUKE, a famous curio dealer in Kyoto, died on the 20th inst.

THE Takaoka Rice Exchange, Oita Prefecture, was suspended on the 24th Sept.

MR. T. H. B. BRENNAN, a British subject, was naturalized in Japan a few days ago.

A NEW daily newspaper entitled *Shin Hokkai* was published at Sapporo, Hokkaido, on the 25th Sept.

PENDING the arrival of Li Hung-chang in Peking the peace proposals hang fire. The Chinese Court is said to be even more bitterly hostile to foreigners.

A SEVERE typhoon blew in Yokohama on Friday doing some damage in the town and neighbourhood.

SIX chartered steamers of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha were released by the Government on the 24th inst.

MARQUIS YAMAGATA and his Cabinet have resigned. It is expected that Marquis Ito will be at the head of the new Ministry.

CONSIDERABLE damage is reported to have been caused by storm at Ogasawara-jima on Sept. 9th, many houses being destroyed.

WE understand that Mr. W. W. Till was the purchaser of Poker Flat, the pretty seaside residence between Katase and Kamakura.

THE first snow of the present season was seen to fall on the mountains of Kamikawa, Otaru, on the 20th inst.; 12 days earlier than the average.

A MAN named Ikeda Naoji, residing at Ishikawa, Nakamura, Yokohama, hanged himself early on the morning of Sept. 22nd in his own house.

THE first snow in the present season fell on Mount Fuji on the 24th Sept. The mountain looked very lovely in the early morning of Wednesday.

SOME 3,000 coolies in Yebari Coal Mine, Hokkaido, struck work on Sept. 15th against an attempt of their employers to cut down their wages by 20 to 30 per cent.

THE packing of a carboy of acid in a freight wagon along with a lot of silk stuffs led to a fire on Sept. 22nd at Shinagawa Station and considerable damage to the costly goods.

A COLLISION occurred between a passenger train and an engine at Omiya station on the Nippon Railway, on the evening of the 9th inst. Five passengers were more or less injured.

A CONTRACTOR named Miura Asakichi reported to the Fujisawa police on Sept. 24th that he had lost two thousand *yen* in ten *yen* notes early on the morning of Sept. 24th in hotel at Fujisawa.

THE foundation stone of the new Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation building on the land at Kobe was laid with some ceremony on Tuesday afternoon by Sir Thomas Jackson.

A BRICKLAYER named KIZE, while working at the top of a scaffold at No. 128, China town, on Thursday afternoon, missed his footing and fell to the ground, being seriously injured by the fall.

WE are informed that a solemn service for the repose of the soul of His Majesty, Humbert I, the late King of Italy, will be celebrated in Tsukiji Cathedral on Monday, the 1st prox., at 9.45 a.m.

THE reappearance of the electric light on the Bluff roads on Tuesday night was very welcome. The Company are to be congratulated on getting their system into working order so soon after their disastrous fire

A NAKED burglar entered a kerosene shop Ishikawa, at Hiranuma, Yokohama, early on the morning of Sept. 23rd and by means of a knife, five inches long, persuaded the inmates to yield up *yen* 56 and a pistol—presumably unloaded.

ABOUT one hundred and thirty farmers of Uyesugi-mura, Naka-kubiki-gori, Niigata Prefecture, crowded around the District office on the 20th inst. Additional police were summoned and the rioters were dispersed. The removal of the village school to another site was the cause of the disturbance.

THE new King of Italy has bestowed the rank of Commander of the Order of St. Maurice and Lazarus upon the Italian Minister at Peking, the Marquis G. Salvago Raggi; while Sig. Catani, the Italian Attaché, has been created a Knight of the same order.

ON Tuesday morning, in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, judgment was given by Judge Sato in favour of the plaintiff in the suit brought by Mr. Ota against Mr. Kildoyle. The defendant was ordered to play *yen* 60, as claimed, and the costs of the Court.

THE Hon. Hugh Grosvenor, who was a member of the British Legation at Peking only a year ago, and recently of the British Embassy at Vienna, committed suicide at Vienna on the 6th August, at the age of 31. An unfortunate love affair is given as the reason.

A MAN named Seki Tadao, 30 years old, a printer by trade, was arrested on Friday for assaulting near No. 206 Yokohama a woman whom he supposed to be a girl with whom he had formerly been on terms of intimacy. The woman, however, proved to be a total stranger

IN a collision between a goods and a ballast train on September 23rd at the Abiko station on a branch line of the Nippon Railway Company, a brakesman named Kosaka Sahei was killed by being crushed between two cars. Another man was slightly injured and a brake van was smashed.

THE merchant mariner in the pursuit of his calling runs a pretty big risk. Last year, out of a total of 221,107 masters and seamen employed in the merchant service 1,708 lost their lives, 1,503 of these by drowning or wreck. This makes the striking proportion of one out of every 129 men in the service.

ACCORDING to the *Indépendance Belge* a congress in connection with the saving of life at sea is to be held shortly at Paris, one of the duties of the congress being to adjudicate on inventions sent in as the result of a prize of 100,000 francs offered by the heirs of M. Antony Pollok, one of the victims of the *Bourgogne* disaster.

THE N.Y.K. chartered steamer *Toto Maru*, 1,968 tons, which left Oginohama for Yokohama on the 22nd inst., ran ashore off Yawata promontory, Awa province, at 11 o'clock on Sunday morning. She sustained damage to her bows. The passengers and crew were landed at Katsura. The *Kumamoto Maru* has gone to her assistance.

CARTRIDGES to the number of 3,100, valued at *yen* 300, stated to have been imported from New York by the steamer *Australia*, which arrived on the 16th inst. were thrown into the sea off Nagahama on Thursday. The authorities are said to have taken this step because the importing firm, the American Trading Company, is not licensed to deal in fire-arms and ammunition.

TWO men who were evidently there with burglarious intent were surprised by a constable early on the morning of Sept. 22nd in a tobacco shop at Okinacho, Nichome, Yokohama. He attempted to capture them, but they resisted stoutly and the officer, who got considerably knocked about in the encounter, had to be content with one prisoner, a *sendo* named Watanabe Matsugoro.

THE family of Mr. Kojima Seiichiro, late *attaché* to the Japanese Legation at Peking, who died during the siege of the Legation at Peking, received many gifts from his friends to defray the expenses of his funeral. The family have resolved to devote the whole of these gifts to charitable purposes, and have therefore donated 150 *yen* to the Red Cross Society and 150 *yen* to the High Commercial School, 100 *yen* to the Tokyo Poor Asylum, and 100 *yen* to the Oimura Primary School.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Sept. 22.

The state of the country outside Peking is said to be very unsettled, many Boxers being engaged in depredations.

From Japanese sources it is reported that the arrangements for civil administration made by this country in China are working excellently and that the Chinese show a strong inclination to live within the districts governed by Japanese.

A telegram has reached Shanghai to the effect that eleven Belgian miners have been assassinated in Mongolia. If the statement be true, the outrage was probably the work of banditti, for the people of Mongolia have never shown a disposition to commit such excesses.

Admiral Alexieff has returned to Port Arthur. No doubt inferences will be drawn from the fact that this step coincides with the return of Admiral Seymour to Taku.

Intelligence recently received from Peking said that Chinese women in the capital were resorting to a curious device to avert insult at the hands of foreign soldiers. They daubed dirt on their faces, painted wrinkles there, and made the most unbecoming and squalid toilettes possible. They have now washed their faces and dispensed with sackcloth and ashes.

The Russian and French forces are said to be evacuating, or to have evacuated Peking, not leaving even a detachment. The Americans seem disposed to follow suit. The English and Japanese contemplate leaving one brigade each to guard the city, but they had not yet began their preparations on the 16th instant. It is expected that the Germans will await the instructions of Count von Waldersee. At any rate the evacuation of the city seems likely to be very partial.

The German reinforcements are all proceeding to Taku. This disposes of the theories current in Shanghai as to Germany's intentions in the Yangtsze Valley.

There is a strange rumour that the Chinese Governor of the Amur has collected several thousands of the troops defeated in recent encounters with the Russians, and is about to undertake a campaign against the invaders on his own account.

The Tsing-hai expedition seems to have been prompted by an application from the Chinese inhabitants of that place, who sent to the officer commanding the Japanese at Tientsin a statement that Tsinghai was the head-quarters of the Boxers, and that the people were suffering terribly from their depredations. The inhabitants offered to pay the expenses of an expedition if one were sent to quell the Boxers. The Japanese at once took counsel with the British commander, and the result was an expeditionary force of 1,000 Japanese and 2,000 of other nationalities. It started on the 9th of September, but there was no fighting, as the Boxers fled on the approach of the troops. The force returned to Tientsin on the 12th.

Baron Nishi is said to have expressed an opinion with which, we think, all thoughtful persons must agree in the main. It is that if the Allies continue to occupy the city in their present force, the result for the citizens may be a famine, all the usual sources of supply being interrupted. Hence the Baron —and he is understood to be expressing the views of nearly all his colleagues—thinks that no time should be lost in conferring with the Chinese peace-commissioners for the setting up of a government under enlightened Chinese, who should have the support of a strong body of troops at first to enable them to restore order. Thereafter evacuation should follow. The difficult feature in this programme is the employment of foreign troops for purposes of Chinese administration.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio thinks that foreign nations are very much mistaken about China. They regard her as a sleeping tiger, and imagine that she would be a terrible menace to the world were she roused to employ her immense resources and her four hundred millions of people. But she is not a sleeping tiger; she is not even a sick tiger; she is a defunct tiger. Mr. Ozaki deems it extravagant to attempt to preserve the integrity of an empire which is not competent to do anything towards asserting its own independence.

Monday, Sept. 24.

To France is attributed the opinion that since it would be quite impossible to collect a sufficient indemnity from China without undue interference with her domestic affairs, and since no indemnity, however large, would fully satisfy foreign Powers, the best plan will be to agree to a comparatively small monetary payment, and to insist on large extensions of the settlements as well as concessions for mining industries and railway-building purposes. But, when all is said and done, mining, industrial and railway concession are only territorial aggressions in another form. No foreign company could undertake to engage in mining, start factories or build railways in China at present, or for several years to come, without ample military protection. What that means we can easily estimate from Russia's experience in Manchuria. The Boxers have not accomplished much so far as the expulsion of foreigners from China is concerned; but they have effectually demonstrated that the prosecution of mining, industrial or railway enterprises by foreigners in the interior of China is an extremely hazardous business, so hazardous that capitalists will think twice before embarking in it unless their Governments are prepared to organize sufficient military arrangements for their protection.

A London telegram to the *Shogyo Shimpo* attributes a strange statement to the German Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; namely, that if Li Hung-chang enters Peking and discovers the state of the foreign troops there, he may devise some very embarrassing scheme when he leaves the city. The best plan, therefore, will be to keep him at Tientsin We need scarcely point out that the Vice-Minister can not have made such a thoughtless statement. In the first place, there is nothing in the state of the allied forces to suggest an opportunity to Li; in the second place, if there is anything, Li knows it already; and in the third place, if Li is not to be allowed to go to Peking, why should Prince Ching be suffered to remain there.

It is stated that Prince Li having been obliged to resign his post at the Ministry of War, Prince Twan has been appointed to succeed him; and further, that Twan has strongly urged the Court to move westward from Tai-yuen—probably to Si-an. These things tend to accentuate the hopelessness of inducing the present Government to surrender Twan to foreign vengeance. In fact, to press such a claim would be equivalent to demanding the subversion of the Manchu dynasty. That might be a very good thing for China, but are the Foreign Powers prepared to carry it through?

In consequence of the condition of Tientsin, it was not possible for Li Hung-chang to put up at an inn there *en route* for Peking. He therefore applied to the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the latter, acting through the War Department, instructed Lieut.-General Yamaguchi to make the necessary arrangements. Chambers in the Coast-defence Bureau were prepared for the Viceroy's reception, and it is said that he has telegraphed his thanks to the Foreign Office in Tokyo.

A telegram describing Li's entry into Tientsin says that the only Foreign Consul who welcomed him was Mr. Tei, the Japanese Consul, and even he went, not in his official capacity, but as a private friend of the Viceroy's. Li was escorted from the station to his lodging by 30 Cossacks. Probably he has abandoned his attempts to preserve the convenances of his position.

The foreign troops wintering in Peking and Tientsin will require an ice-free harbour for purposes of communication. The bay opposite Chinwang island, near Shanhaikwan, seems to afford the best facilities. But the railway from Shanhaikwan to Tongku is now in Russian hands. Thus a question is predicted.

During his stay in Shanghai Viceroy Li is said to have made arrangements for organizing and equipping a body of troops, 8,000 strong, from the provinces of Anhui and Kangsi. This force is now moving northward under the command of General Chang.

A new element of doubt is introduced into the Chinese question by the latest news that the Russian Minister's departure from Peking has been countermanded, and that the German Legation staff has been ordered to withdraw. Previous intelligence stated that the Russian Minister had already retired to Tientsin and that Germany was opposed to the idea of withdrawal If the German Government is resolved to adhere to its suggestion that peace negotiations shall not commence until the instigators of the outrages are handed over to the Powers, the withdrawal of the Legation staff to Tientsin as a temporary measure would be intelligible. But, in truth, it seems as though a game of cross-purposes were commencing.

Li Hung-chang is said to be looking strong and well. It is expected that he will spend four or five days in Tientsin before proceeding to Peking.

It appears that the defenders of Peh-tang numbered 3,000, and that they were under the command of General Li. They seem to have made a stubborn resistance, for the Russians are said to have had over 50 killed and wounded and the Germans 38. A French contingent took part in the attack, but its losses are not stated. It is expected that Lutai will be the next objective point of the allies. Its garrison numbers only a thousand.

The *Asahi* has a telegram saying that the Russian Government has abandoned its idea of evacuating Peking, and that it will leave a sufficient garrison there, withdrawing only such forces as may be thought in excess of garrison requirements.

A telegram from Newchwang says that the Russian troops, which were recently re-

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ported to be advancing into Manchuria from two directions, have now captured Mukden and Kirin, and are in complete possession of Manchuria.

It is stated that the Customs Taotai of Shanghai has been transferred to an inferior position in Kiangsi and that his successor is Ching, a notoriously bigotted, anti-foreign official. This change is said to be due to the influence of Prince Twan, who is evidently supreme in the councils of the Court.

Tuesday, Sept. 25.

It is stated that Li Hung-chang has made a protest against the attack on Pao-ting but that his objections have been disregarded. Another telegram says that in view of the danger threatening Pao-ting, General Yung Lu has applied to the Viceroys and provincial authorities for aid It is to be observed, however, that although there was talk some time ago of an expedition against Pao-ting, no news has arrived of steps being taken to carry out the enterprise, and the general opinion is that it has been deferred.

An anti-Christian outbreak is said to have occurred at Shikiang in Kwantung, resulting in the murder of several missionaries and native converts.

A telegram from Shanghai to the *Jiji Shimpo* seems to indicate that the Chinese Government is by no means in a yielding mood. Prince Twan is said to have been appointed to the supreme place at the Board of War, Prince Chun to be a member of the Board, and Prince Tsai to be Household Minister. Moreover, instructions are reported to have been issued for assembling troops and preparing to offer fresh resistance. It will be well to receive this news with reserve. But apparently there appears to be little doubt that Prince Twan holds a strong place in the councils of State. Whether, under such circumstances, any terms of peace negotiated by Prince Ching and Viceroy Li can hope to obtain the endorsement of the Court, is evidently dubious. The whole situation is most perplexing, nor will any clear light be visible until an armistice has been agreed upon and the peace conference is actually sitting.

The *Jimmin* has a telegram stating that according to intelligence received at a certain legation, the reinforcements which will reach North China by the end of the month —which means, presumably, in the interval between the 21st and the 30th—are as follow:—

	Men.	*Guns.*
German	11,500	34
Italian	10,000	20
Russian	8,900	24
American	2,300	24
English	1,600	—

In addition to the above, Russia is expected to add 37,000 men and 108 guns to her Manchurian Army, and 43,000 men to her Amur Army.

Mr. Ariga, the well known writer on international law, contributes to the *Gwaiko Jiho* (*Diplomatic Review*) a powerful article denouncing the idea of evacuating Peking. Many of the arguments used by Mr. Ariga have already appeared in our own columns. But one novel point is strongly emphasized by him. It is that Russia's real design in making the proposal is to exclude Japan from the comity of Powers. We confess that we do not follow Mr. Ariga's exposition of this point. It lacks convincing clearness. We fail to see how the evacuation of Peking, if undertaken by all the Powers in conjunction, would prove a means of ejecting Japan from the coalition. At all events, if, as is now believed, the evacuation proposal emanated from the Czar himself, no one will be willing to read into it any invidious motives. It was doubtless just as sincere as his Majesty's peace-congress project.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* from Shanghai alleges that Germany's proposal with regard to the surrender of the instigators of the anti-foreign *emeute*, has obtained the consent of all the Powers. It is quite evident that Shanghai can not possibly be in a position to make such an announcement, nor do we see how newspaper correspondents can persuade themselves to waste money on telegrams so obviously worthless. Had the correspondent stated that Shanghai was in favour of the proposal we could readily credit him, for the seizure and punishment of the instigators are precisely the objects that all foreigners in the Far East must desire to see achieved. But if any one will sit down and attempt to reduce the proposal to a working programme, he will immediately discover its total impracticability. Nothing can be gained by grasping at the impossible. Even though Prince Twan, General Kang, Prince Chwang and General Tung were actually in the hands of the Foreign Powers to-day, their punishment could not be undertaken without evidence which there are no conceivable means of collecting, and surely no intelligent person imagines that the Chinese Court will give up these men so long as it commands a company of infantry or a battery of artillery. Besides, it is exceedingly doubtful whether the conduct of any one of the so-called instigators, not excluding Prince Twan himself, has been of a criminal character. They have employed instruments which seemed competent to vindicate their country's honour and check foreign aggression, but the world is not agreed that such conduct constitutes a crime. Is there not a little hysteria in all this outcry against the Chinese?

Wednesday, Sept. 26.

It appears that General Yung Lu is to take an active part in the peace negotiations. He is about to proceed to Tientsin for the purpose of conferring with Li Hung-chang. Yung Lu's case illustrates the difficulty that would attend any attempt to give practical effect to Germany's latest proposal. According to accounts published by his own countrymen, he could have put a stop to the Boxer movement as well as to the attack on the Legations at any moment, had he been so minded. Thus he stands in the position of an instigator. Yet now he figures as one of the trusted plenipotentiaries of his Government

A Taku telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* tells a strange story. Two priestesses of the Boxers, girls of 23 and 18 respectively, were found concealed in a boat and arrested by the Chinese authorities. They had in their possession cards of worship sent to them by Yung Lu and other distinguished Chinese, and they had also many presents from prominent persons in the Government. What particular function these girls discharged on behalf of the Boxers, the telegram does not explain.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes the following letter said to have been addressed by the officer commanding the *Barfleur* to a friend in Yokohama:—

August 23, 1900,
H.M.S. *Barfleur*, China Station.

Dear Sir,—Very many thanks for your letter.

We have taken Peking and saved the Legations.

I dare say you have already heard of the magnificent conduct of the Japanese Troops.

Their organization, their marching and bravery when fighting have been superb and elicited the admiration of all the other Nations without exception.

I am very glad to say that the traditional friendship between Japan and England has been fully maintained by the extremely friendly co-operation of the two Nations out here.

Hoping to see you soon again,

Yours faithfully, GEO. WARRENDER.

It is stated that the Japanese Government has replied to Germany's proposal in the sense that China should be required to punish the instigators and to give security for doing so before the peace negotiations are commenced. This answer, if correctly stated, evidently eliminates the extremely unpractical suggestion that the instigators should be handed over to the allied Powers, and that the Foreign Representatives should indicate the men to be handed over.

Thursday, Sept. 27.

The Emperor of China is said to have issued an edict ordering Li Hung-chang to organize a force of troops for the recovery of Peking. The story is scarcely credible, Li being already charged with the duty of conducting peace negotiations. We observe, too, that the intelligence emanates from Shanghai.

A telegram published by the *Nichi Nichi* from Taku says that appearances indicate a resolve on Germany's part to undertake an expedition against Paoting single-handed. That would strike away the last stone from the foundations of interstate union Nothing was wanted to proclaim the disruption of the alliance except that each of the allies should undertake military operations independently. Much more explicit intelligence is needed, therefore, before credit can be placed in such a rumour.

It is stated that, according to present appearances, Li Hung-chang is likely to remain for some time at Tientsin, instead of proceeding to Peking. We shall not be at all surprised skould this news be confirmed. Li must clearly see that every day's delay weakens the cohesion of his country's opponents.

The rumour that Russia was about to raise a loan in Paris is now contradicted.

Report says that Yung Lu's appointment in connexion with the peace conference is not that of plenipotentiary. He is to be adviser to Prince Ching. Meanwhile people are naturally beginning to inquire who the principal peace plenipotentiary is, and when China will have succeeded in organizing a commission satisfactory to herself.

The question has now been brought up of control of the railways required by the troops in North China during their winter occupation of Chili. Russia holds the lines at present; namely, that from Tongku to Tientsin and that from Tongku to Shanhaikwan—the latter being necessary for access to an ice-free port. It is proposed that they should be placed under joint management and Russia will apparently raise no objection to such a step.

Rumour is again busy with the idea of a secret understanding between Russia, Germany and France in China. It is stated, among other things, that representative staff officers of these three Powers repaired to Peking to receive Field Marshal Waldersee, whereas the officers commanding the American, English, Japanese and Italian contingents took no notice of his coming. That is very doubtful. We imagine that all Powers

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—except, perhaps, the United States—took an equal part in welcoming such a distinguished officer. At any rate the British officers attached to his staff must have proceeded to Tientsin to meet him.

Field Marshal Waldersee's doings will now be the centre of interest. We hear constantly of some plan of campaign which he is about to put into execution, though no one undertakes to say what it is. Certainly if he inaugurates any active aggressive operations questions will at once arise as to the limits contemplated by the Powers in agreeing to his command-in-chief. On the other hand, it will be exceedingly irksome for him to remain entirely inactive.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent sends an account of another instance of horrible cruelty attributed to Russian soldiers in North China. There has probably been a great deal of exaggeration on the part of the writers preferring accusations against Russian troops, but it is impossible to suppose that the charges are all false. In this case, as in several others, the *Kokumin's* correspondent declares himself to have been an eye-witness of the atrocity. Well-informed persons allege that it is the habit of Russian officers to ignore complaints against their men. They simply decline to believe that Russian soldiers could possibly be guilty of such things.

In Europe and America we hear a great deal about the maintenance of China's integrity and the open-door policy, but how either of these objects is to be attained, or what they mean, exactly no publicist seems disposed to discuss. The Japanese, however, are busy at present with considerations of the course that should be adopted in order to consummate the programme of integrity-maintenance, and it must be confessed that the progress of the controversy strongly accentuates the difficulties of the problem. There are those who contend that Russia is the great and most serious menace: that she stands towards the Chinese empire in the East in the same relation formerly occupied by her towards Turkey in the West, and that it is Japan's duty to protect China by force of arms as England protected Turkey. There are others who allege that Germany is the real danger. These publicists take the view that America and England are quite sincere in their protestations of non-aggressive aims in the Far East, and that France is almost sincere. With regard to Russia, they think that her steps are directed by two parties, one aggressive, the other pacific, but that, at any rate, her financial condition forbids her to undertake anything on a large scale. Germany, however, being controlled and guided by a monarch whose ambition is evidently boundless and who sanctioned the Kiao-chow coup, must be regarded as the really dangerous Power. Against Germany alone these publicists would erect a barrier by uniting the other States in opposition. Yet another party, and these the most radical, insist that the *status quo* of 1895 ought to be reverted to, Germany giving up Kiao-chow, Russia Liaotung, and England Wei-hai-wei, the rehabilitated Chinese empire being thus guaranteed by common convention against renewed dismemberment. It is suggestive that these persons take 1895 for the limit of their retrospect, thus excluding the notion that Japan should restore Formosa. Then there are men who allege that the best and only hope of preserving to China the semblance of an empire lies in each Power's mapping out for itself a sphere of influence and forbidding any aggression therein. Finally there are publicists who frankly declare that Japan has no business to attempt the casting of an independent programme, and that she should merely follow in the wake of the West. We imagine that all this conflict of views is a tolerably true reflection of what Europe and America are thinking but not saying.

Friday, Sept. 28

The latest rumour is that Mr. Chang, Viceroy Li's right-hand man, is negotiating to raise money in Russia to redeem the railways in North China which are hypothecated to the Anglo-Chinese Syndicate and are now held by Russia.

It is stated on the alleged authority of officers forming part of Count von Waldersee's staff, that Germany intends to push the punishment of China to extreme limits; that she will make no distinction between military and civilian, official and private, in dealing with those that have shown anti-foreign feeling, and that she will not commence peace negotiations until all arms and war equipment have been surrendered by the Chinese. The *Asahi* publishes this rumour. It is obvious, however, that in agreeing to place their troops under Field-Marshal Waldersee, the Powers did not extend to him the right of deciding how China should be treated, and what new reprisals should be undertaken against her. We may be permitted to hope, however, that if Germany is disposed to adopt this stalwart policy, she will not find England, France and Japan backward in joining her, for it must be the conviction of all close observers that no good results can possibly attend a peace patched up on the basis of the restoration of the Empress Dowager and Prince Twan to unlimited power. To his naturally earnest and through-going disposition the Emperor of Germany adds the courage of inexperience, and it may be that he will furnish precisely the element needed to save the Powers from making a fiasco of this opportunity.

It is alleged that German and Russian troops are to be sent against Pao-ting, the Russians assigning as a reason that they consider the measure necessary for the protection of the Lu-Han Railway, and the Germans that they apprehend another outbreak of the Boxers unless Paoting is reduced. But an impression is entertained that Germany's real object is to establish a line of communications between Shantung and Peking. Whatever be the truth of the expedition, if it is undertaken by the Russians and the Germans alone, there will be an obvious end of the union of Powers. But we greatly doubt the rumour.

The Germans are said to be erecting extensive temporary barracks at Kiaochow, their intention being to make that place the winter quarters of the greater part of their forces in North China.

There is said to be a rumour among Chinese officials that the attitude of the Chinese Court on the 19th instant was resolutely anti-foreign. Secret instructions are reported to have been issued in that sense, and it was intimated that any person opposing the Imperial purpose would be treated as a felon; that all his relatives down to the ninth degree would be involved in the consequences of his crime, and that his ancestral tombs would be desecrated. This guilt of nine degrees is a terrible threat. Three degrees used to be the usual limit in the mediæval Orient. It included the culprit, his wife, their children, their relatives, their parents, and their parents' relatives. Nine degrees means extermination of every person connected with the condemned man, however remotely. Of course all this may be a baseless canard.

The Imperial Court is said to have issued orders to all the Viceroys to assemble their forces at the new capital. In moving thither they are instructed to choose routes that will not expose them to foreign observation.

Another evidence of the temper of the Court is furnished by the fact—if it be a fact—that the Imperial decree praises in strong terms the loyalty of Generals Li and Chung, who were killed in battle with the allied troops, orders that tombs shall be erected to them at public expense, and directs that rewards shall be given their families.

Sir Robert Hart is reported to have expressed the opinion that the continuance of military operations by the allies in China would throw the whole empire into a ferment, unite all its forces against foreigners, and lead to indescribable disorder, which would be immensely difficult to quell. He therefore thinks that not a moment should be lost in negotiating peace. China can afford, he believes, to pay an indemnity of forty thousand pounds sterling, and that ought to be sufficient to cover the outlays made by the allies and the losses entailed by outrages in the provinces.

Certainly the world was never more exquisitely comical than it is at the close of this nineteenth century. The *Svet* of St. Petersburg, writing about the settlement of China's affairs, says:—"England will not be driven from the council of nations, but she must behave with due modesty. No one will throw up her deeds in South Africa; but everyone will remember that the pride of her apparent majesty is more than half dyed in the guiltless blood of men fighting for freedom." That declaration could not have come with equal effect from any paper save a Russian. When a Russian editor begins to be indignant because some other Power dyes its hands in the blood of men fighting for freedom, we understand that he has a right to protest against such a violation of his own country's monopoly.

GERMANY'S PROPOSAL.

It seems that Germany has modified her proposal by omitting the condition that the instigators must be handed over to the Powers. That clause being struck out, the proposal assumes a very different form. It assumes the form of a condition which would probably have been formulated by the Powers in the natural sequence of the negotiations. China must be required to inflict due penalties in a public manner upon the men directly responsible for the flagrant violations of her treaty engagements that have occurred within the past few months. In that modified shape it is probable that none of the Powers will see reason to refuse its endorsement of the proposal.

It certainly would have been more conducive to the reputation of German statesmanship had this now celebrated proposal received closer attention before being formulated. Rumour says that it emanated from the Kaiser direct, just as the evacuation proposal emanated from the Czar. We can readily believe that the Ministers of the Crown were not fully consulted in either case.

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SOUTH AFRICA.

Ex-president Kruger's departure from South Africa at the moment when the cause of his nationals has become desperate will certainly be counted a craven act. It lends itself to that construction. Yet it is perhaps the wisest step the old man could take in the interests of the people whom he has so gravely misled. We do not think that it would be easy to find in all the pages of history a statesman of less enviable reputation than Mr. Kruger. Up to a certain point he deserved and received hearty applause. A great ambition moved him, the ambition of driving every Englishman out of South Africa and extending the Boer republics to the ocean on the south and east. He had a fine pretext for putting his purpose to the test of practical essay and he availed himself of it. That was fair enough. It is not a sin to be ambitious, nor has the civilized world agreed to call a man criminal though the pursuit of his ambition entails wide-spread suffering. What stands to Kruger's charge, what marks him as one of the most culpable leaders of men since the days when galley-slaves were taken into battle chained to their benches, is that, long after he knew the Transvaal's cause to be hopeless, he betrayed his countrymen into continuing the fight by a system of deliberate and gross deceptions; by manufacturing and publishing bulletins which totally perverted the truth, and induced the unhappy Boers to persist in a struggle that they would certainly have abandoned had they understood the facts. The morality of this age is very singular. Were a private individual convicted of circulating lie after lie as Kruger did, he would be ostracised from society. And were a private individual convicted of compassing the deaths of hundreds of men by a system of deception, he would be branded as an unconscionable rascal. Ex-president Kruger did all those things, and yet he holds his head as high as ever, and a civilized Power honours him by sending a man-of-war to carry him from the scene of his crimes. The whole affair is a study for philosophers. But as to Kruger's departure at this stage, it may look like flight from a sinking ship, yet it is, perhaps, his duty. He probably thinks himself bound to make a personal appeal to some of the Sovereigns of Europe on behalf of the stout-hearted burghers whose blood is on his hands. It is a forlorn attempt, but unscrupulous as Mr. Kruger has shown himself in the past, he may recognise that he owes this attempt to his nationals. We wish that there was some feasible method of satisfying the desires of the Boers. A few years hence they will be living a freer and a happier life than they have ever led in the past. But in their ignorance of British administrative methods they find the outlook very bitter, and the loss of their independence pains them sharply in the present. They are fine fellows. They have shown many of the admirable qualities of Dutch character. Even their foes must sympathise with them in their dark hour. Unfortunately, however, there is no golden bridge. Ex-president Kruger will not succeed in building one, but we do not choose to entertain the theory that he is aware of the fruitlessness of his present attempt and that it serves him merely as a pretext for contriving his own safety Until time convicts him definitely, we have no right to accuse him of an act so despicable.

RUSSIA.

The *Yomiuri's* Peking correspondent, Mr Umayama (or Bazan) sends a most detailed and circumstantial account of devices said to have been resorted to by the Russians in connection with the Chinese crisis. The statement may be epitomized thus:—When the allied forces entered Peking, the Russian Minister alone possessed information as to the whereabouts of Prince Ching. He therefore despatched a secret letter to the Prince, setting forth that China might count on the firm support of the Russian Government to extricate her from her difficulties; that, at the proper moment, the withdrawal of the foreign troops from Peking would be proposed from St. Petersburg: that France and Germany would assuredly accede to the proposal, and that England and Japan would be reluctantly obliged to follow their example. The letter went on to assert that Russia could practically control the situation, inasmuch as Great Britain's attention was concentrated on the Yangtsze Valley and Japan's on Amoy; that Prince Ching might safely return to Peking and undertake négotiations for the restoration of peace, confidently counting on the support of Russia, who pledged herself to extricate China successfully from the scrape. The messenger bearing this letter reached Prince Ching in Hwai lai—which lies outside the Great Wall to the north of Peking—, delivered the document and received a favourable answer from the Prince, who thus became Russia's coadjutor as Li Hung-chang already was. Meanwhile the Russian Minister in Peking was speaking of increasing his country's forces in the capital, and was displaying a warlike and uncompromising front. By and by, he communicated to his colleagues information, said to have been just received, that Prince Ching was in Hwai-lai, and he suggested that as the northern part of Peking was in the hands of the English and Japanese, these should give safe passage to Ching if he came to negotiate for peace. Of course the proposition was received with acclaim. Prince Ching arrived, and all precautions were adopted to avoid creating suspicions of his *entente* with Russia. He called first on the English and Japanese Legations, making a long visit there, whereas his visit to the Russian Legation was almost rudely brief. It was arranged that his telegrams to Li Hung-chang should pass through Japanese hands, and, in short, every device was adopted to "cover up the tracks" of the secret understanding. But so soon as Ching was safely in Peking and in full communication with Li Hung-chang, Russia suddenly put forward her evacuation proposal, to the consternation of her allies and the great indignation of the British Representative, who is said to have lost his temper at the Conference of Ministers and to have shouted out that Russia had deliberately broken up the union.

This story is too detailed to be altogether ignored, but it strikes us as being from first to last a pretty fabrication. Russia's proposal for the evacuation of Peking was addressed to the Powers in a circular note on August 25th. Prince Ching entered Peking on Sept. 5th. It is evident, therefore, that the evacuation scheme must have been known in Peking long before Prince Ching's return. That is a fatal flaw in the story. The proverbial grain of truth may, perhaps, be found in the probability that the attitude of M. de Giers after the fall of Peking did not in any way prepare his colleagues for the policy of which he subsequently became the exponent. But there is an easy explanation of that discrepancy; namely, that M. de Giers had no foreknowledge of any such policy. It is stated in well informed circles that the evacuation of Peking was the Czar's own idea, and that he desired it to be put into effect without consulting any of his Ministers beforehand If that be the case, it is quite conceivable that M. de Giers in Peking was quite as much surprised as any one else, and it follows that though his procedure underwent a change which lent itself to sinister interpretations, he may have been acting throughout with perfect good faith.

JAPAN AND THE CHINESE QUESTION.

Public-opinion in Japan continues to be somewhat perturbed about the Chinese question. Rightly or wrongly an impression has been created that a difference of opinion exists between the leaders of the Rikken Seiyu-kai and the Cabinet, and that a Ministerial crisis impends. It is easy to see, however, that this forecast is formed chiefly by politicians who desire to see it realized, and that the circulation of false rumours is among the devices resorted to. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, for example, publishes an speech alleged to have been delivered by Viscount Aoki to representatives of the To-hoku-kai. Some parts of the speech are probably correct. For example, the Viscount is represented as insisting that the attitude assumed by him towards Russia's evacuation proposal is by no means one of assent. He agreed merely to reduce Japan's forces in Peking, not to withdraw them. The difference is radical. It involves retaining possession of the city instead of abandoning it. Further, the Viscount pointed out that Japan's situation in China differs essentially from the situation of Powers like Russia, France, England and Germany. They all possess *pieds à terre* in China, and thus, if they withdraw their troops from Peking, it is rather a re-distribution than a retreat. But Japan does not enjoy any such advantage. She must ship her troops home if she withdraws them from the front. These statements are attributed to Viscount Aoki by the *Mainichi*, and it is very likely that he is correctly reported But other assertions are attributed to him which most unquestionably he never made; assertions obviously put into his mouth with the explicit purpose of creating a feud among the elder statesmen. These are contemptible manœuvres, but experience has rendered them familiar.

Meanwhile Prince Konoye has explained himself to a number of journalists who invited him to the Maple Club for that purpose. Sixteen journals and periodicals were represented by 30 editors. The Prince made a speech the gist of which was that the National Union, recently organized by him, has no connection whatever with political parties, and that its unique object is to consolidate public opinion in the sense of the policy professed openly by the Great Powers of the West, namely, the preservation of China's integrity No Government could be strong without the nation at its back, and it was the purpose of the Union to assist the Government by marshalling public opinion. That purpose accomplished, the National Union would cease to have any *raison d'être*. The journalists assembled at the Maple Club passed a resolution approving of the object of the National Union, and deciding that the newspapers throughout the empire should be invited to organize a combination in support of the Union. It is significant that the majority of the editors present were of Progressist persuasion.

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MATERIALS FOR JAPANESE HISTORY.

A most interesting seance was held at the Imperial University on Saturday afternoon, when a number of the journalists of Tokyo attended in response to an invitation from the President, Professor Kikuchi, in order to view materials that have been collected for the purpose of compiling a history of Japan. This work has been going on for a long time, though not exactly in its present form. In 1868, when one might suppose that the minds of Japanese statesmen would have been fully occupied with matters of a very different kind, they nevertheless found time to make arrangements for the compilation of the empire's history. The work was carried on with more or less success for seventeen years, though it did not emerge from the preparatory stage. Then, in 1885, the authorities decided that instead of actually writing a history, the more orthodox duty of the Government was to collect materials, for though the task of synthesis and compilation might properly be left to private individuals, it was evidently beyond the latter's competence to bring together all the necessary materials. In fact, such a task almost exceeds official strength, for not only is it necessary to consult all books hitherto published, but also the documents kept in temples and the archives of private families, as well as of the houses of former feudal chiefs, have to be copied and collated. This is evidently a stupendous undertaking, and its difficulties are intensified by the fact that many persons are reluctant to give publicity to their family records A committee of Professors of the Imperial University toiled resolutely for eight years, and then, in 1893, the Diet, conceiving the idea that such work ought to be left to private enterprise, stopped the scanty appropriation granted for the purpose. Wiser counsels utimately prevailed, however, and in 1895 the grant was renewed. Since then there has been unremitting effort, and the Committee having digested the enormous mass of materials collected from all parts of the country, finds its work represented by over three thousand bulky volumes of manuscript. The task of printing is now to be undertaken. It is estimated there will be 300 volumes, each of 1,000 pages, and these will be supplemented by 200 volumes containing verbatim copies and facsimiles of important documents. It is expected that 15 years will be required for the printing. In other words, 20 volumes of the main work and 13 or 14 of the appendix will issue yearly from the press. Only 500 copies are to be published, and the price will be 3 *yen* per volume of the principal work and 2 *yen* per volume of the appendix. Professor Kikuchi, in a speech describing the history of the undertaking, explained that great difficulty has been experienced in finding funds for the printing and even in getting any office to undertake the work. Finally the Government Printing Bureau agreed to do the printing, provided that the order came from the University, since the Bureau is not allowed to execute private commissions. Further, the University pledged itself to take 80 copies, and three publishing houses of Tokyo were found sufficiently enterprising to take the remaining 420 copies, though it is evident that the prospect of finding a market for such a work is not bright. A history compiled under circumstances so favourable to accuracy would doubtless be in request. But this is not a history: it is only materials for history. To take the character of ordinary history it will have to be reduced to narrative form after careful collating and digesting. Indeed the task of boiling down such an immense mass of material will be almost as arduous as the task of collecting it, and will require even more ability. Probably special periods and special subjects will be first written up, and by and by some one with exceptional power of pen and synthetical ability will compile the whole history. Japan is the only country in the world that has ever undertaken such a task. Great histories have been compiled in China under official auspices, but they are all histories of the stereotyped kind; that is to say, volumes dealing with wars, dynastic changes and inter-state occurences; whereas the *Dai-Nipon Shiriyo* will embody manners, customs, commerce, industry, art, literature and, in short, everything that goes to make the life of a nation. Not the least interesting part will be the pictures. Some most curious and unique drawings have been collected, affording information on points that would otherwise remain obscure. Many of the documents that will be reproduced in facsimile can not fail to delight students. There is a paper containing Hideyoshi's instructions, written with his own hand, to his adopted son Hidetsugu, and there is an exact reproduction of the document sent by the Emperor of China to the *Taikô*, conferring on him the sovereignty of Japan. Tradition says that when the *Taikô* learned the import of the document, he was so enraged that he tore it into fragments under the eyes of the ambassadors. But that tale is now proved to be a myth, for the commission was written on thick, strong silk, which would have defied any attempt to tear it. Fifteen years is a long time to look forward The 300 volumes of materials may suffer many vicissitudes in that interval. But we sincerely hope that the unique work will be brought to a successful termination. It is to be remarked, however, that the task is in reality interminable, for at the end of the 15 years there will be a quantity of fresh material to put together.

SIR ERNEST SATOW.

Sir Ernest Satow's promotion to Peking will doubtless be considered by his friends a matter for congratulation. He himself is understood to have been very anxious to go to the Chinese capital, partly because an exceptional occasion offers for winning distinction, but partly also, we imagine, because Peking may be regarded as a stepping stone to Europe. His removal from Japan appears regrettable, when we remember his remarkable knowledge of the Japanese language and his intimate acquaintance with everything Japanese. Undoubtedly he is a *persona gratissima* to the statesmen of this empire. They feel that they have a share in his career, and that he possesses a full measure of the sympathetic knowledge which is so essential to intelligent friendship. But Sir Ernest himself probably perceived that his unique qualifications for representing his country in Tokyo involved a danger that he might be left there indefinitely, and from that point of view he was glad to get away. He spent only a few hours in Yokohama on Monday *en route* for China, and there was thus no opportunity of giving him such a "send off" as he would otherwise have received from both the foreign and the native inhabitants of a country where he has won so much distinction during a long career.

FIELD-MARSHAL WALDERSEE.

Field-Marshal Waldersee was to leave Shanghai by the *Hertha* on the 23rd inst. It is stated that he has elaborated a plan of campaign which will be put into operation immediately on his arrival at the front, but that statement is not intelligible. There is, of course, a possibility that the Field-Marshal may be required to lead another expedition against the forces guarding the Imperial Court, but such a step will not be taken without the gravest reflection, for it would probably throw the whole of China into a ferment. We do not see how it would be possible for the southern Viceroys to remain inactive in the event of a campaign in pursuit of the Court. They had an excellent excuse for holding aloof so long as the objective of the allied forces was the rescue of the Foreign Representatives and community of Peking. But if the troops of the allied Powers were set in motion with the definite purpose of pursuing the Emperor and the Empress Dowager and getting possession of their persons, no loyal Chinese official could abstain from aiding his Sovereign. It is evident that if the southern Viceroys moved to the support of the Court, not only would their restraining influence be withdrawn in the regions where they govern, but it would become the right and duty of all persons within their jurisdictions to take arms against the foreigner. No doubt Europe, America and Japan could deal effectually with even a crisis of that magnitude, but it may be taken for granted that they would gladly avoid such a stupendous undertaking. They stand now at the parting of the ways. Unless peace negotiations can be speedily commenced on a satisfactory basis, the outlook is decidedly gloomy.

On Friday, Sept. 22nd, the tender *Bremen* brought to the French Mail jetty at Shanghai—past men-of-war who saluted its chief occupant—Field-Marshal Count Von Waldersee, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces now engaged in North China. Count von Waldersee was to stop at Shanghai on his way to Taku, and Shanghai, military and civil, turned out to do him honour. The Bund, from the French Mail jetty to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, was lined with waiting troops. First the French and their Annamite battalion held the way as far the Yangkingpang Bridge. Then, in a line straight as a ruler, came the German force, and the German volunteer company. From that point a red line of English volunteers, Rajputs, and Sikhs stretched on to where the Baluchis showed in green, and further still the Ghurkas, Japanese, and our Indian cavalry. Behind these, and on the opposite side of the Bund, a moving crowd of Europeans and Chinese waited to catch a glimpse of the distinguished visitor. Shortly after five the tender was sighted, and soon the figure of the Field-Marshal, surrounded by his staff, could be discovered. At the jetty there waited Brig.-General Creagh, V.C., and a numerous group of lesser officers of all nationalities. These received Count von Waldersee as he stepped ashore, and formed up behind him as he commenced his walk down the line of waiting troops. He walked swiftly, saluting as he went, received everywhere with the general salute. Reaching his carriage he was driven off to the German Consulate, followed by the Indian cavalry, who acted as his escort.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

PEST.

There have been 21 cases of pest in Osaka since the recent recrudescence of the malady. A fresh case was reported on the 25th.

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JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY.

A slight commotion in the ranks of the new political party has been caused by the Committee's open condemnation of the National Union's platform. The Party includes men like Mr. Inagaki Shimesu, a former leader of the Progressists—who retain a *penchant* for a strong foreign policy, and are consequently disposed to endorse rather than to oppose the attitude of the National Union. It was indeed predicted that these politicians would resent the action of the Committee even to the extent of seceding from their new allegiance, a result that would have shaken the *Rikken Seiyu-kai's* credit at this early stage of its career. The storm has blown over, however. A meeting was held on the 21st in the Kaika-tei at Kanda, and Mr. Hoshi Toru, being invited to state the Committee's reasons for condemning the National Union's declaration, delivered a brief speech, the gist of which was that it would be absurd, and even suicidal, on Japan's part to stand forth as the champion of China's integrity, if the Foreign Powers declared in favour of partition. Mr. Hoshi drew a sharp distinction between the policy (*shugi*) of a political party and its procedure (*seisaku.*) We must confess that we have hitherto regarded these Japanese terms as virtually synonymous, but Mr. Hoshi insists that whereas a man's policy may be of a fixed and definite character, his procedure must be adapted to circumstances and most change with them. In other words, though the *Rikken Seiyu-Kai* might desire to preserve China's integrity, its practical pursuit of that desire must be within the limits of reasonable possibility. Therefore the *Rikken Seiyu-Kai* could not but condemn the policy of a party which declared itself in favour of preserving China's integrity at all hazards.

In connection with these questions the *Jiji Shimpo* publishes some statements attributed to Viscount Aoki. The most important of them is that Japan did not agree to Russiae' proposal for the evacuation of Peking: shs only consented to withdraw such part of her forces as might be considered superfluous. With reference to the fact that European Powers are sending out additional troops even since the capture of Peking, the Viscount attributed it to their possession of spheres of influence which they seek to enlarge, and hinted that Japan is in an unfavourable situation, since the only portion of China not included in these Occidental spheres is a part of Fuhkien. The *Jiji Shimpo* criticises this last assertion, but before commenting on the statement or the criticism we should like to be assured of the former's accuracy. At all events, the main fact stands clearly in view, namely, that the possibility of Japan's being committed to a policy of partition in company with Western Powers is viewed with much uneasiness by a section of the nation.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio is the most outspoken opponent of the National Union's ideas. In fact he may be described as a frank advocate of partition. He is strongly disposed to think that anti-foreign sentiment is the basis of the National Union's resolution in favour of China's integrity, and he scouts the idea that Japan would have anything to fear from the partition of China among Western Powers. Even in the event of trouble, some of these Powers would surely be on Japan's side, whereas if China developed her strength and became possessed of a great navy and a great army, she would be a really serious menace to this empire's security. As for the notion that foreign Powers could not govern the Chinese, Mr. Ozaki is disposed to ridicule it. He points to Shanghai, where the Chinese are governed with the greatest ease, under circumstances not at all calculated to conciliate them. He might have pointed with even more effect to Hongkong. Further, he insists that it is extravagant to talk of maintaining the integrity of a country which has no ability whatever to assert itself. A man can not be made to stand upright if he has lost his vertebræ. Mr. Ozaki concludes that the result of letting China drift back into her old condition of fictitious independence and impotent administration will be another outbreak of trouble and a fresh spilling of blood four or five years hence.

THE KILLER OF BARON VON KETTELER.

Saturday, Sept. 22.

Particulars are published with regard to the seizure of one of Baron von Ketteler's murderers on the 7th instant. It appears that the Japanese police, making a round in the streets, observed a Chinaman trying to dispose of a gold watch which seemed much too valuable to be in the possession of a man of his station. They proceeded to investigate the matter, and found reason to suspect that the watch had belonged to the murdered Minister. When the man was searched, he was discovered to be a soldier of the corps under the command of Prince Chwang, and there was found on his person a secret order signed by the Prince, directing that the Foreign Ministers were to be attacked *en route* and all put to death, together with those accompanying them. It will be remembered that the Ministers had agreed to leave Peking under Chinese escort on the 21st of June, and that they were actually engaged making preparations when the murder of Baron Ketteler on the 20th convinced them that they must abandon the plan Apparently, then, Prince Chwang's instruction related to an attack on the Ministers after they had commenced their retreat to Tientsin. The *Nippon* is responsible for the story of the secret document found on the soldier's person, but one finds much difficulty in crediting it. Evidently an order from Prince Chwang would not have been conveyed direct to a common soldier and even supposing that the fact of such an order's having been received were made known by a commanding officer to the men under his leadership, written copies would not have been distributed. We apprehend that Prince Chwang's order will prove a myth.

Monday, Sept. 24.

From particulars furnished by Mr. Umamura, correspondent of the *Nippon* in Peking, it appears that the man who was arrested on the 6th instant when attempting to sell the watch taken from the person of Baron von Ketteler, is not a soldier of the regular army, but one of the Boxers. He is a man of about 52, named Wan Hai, and he held among the Boxers a rank corresponding to that of Sergeant-Major. The tale about a secret order from Prince Twan being found on his person now disappears. We read that after the capture of the city by the Allies, Wan lived, for some time, disguised as a merchant, bnt finding his resources reduced and being anxious to escape farther a-field, he attempted to sell the watch. Interrogated by the Japanese gendarmes he confessed the deed with the utmost frankness. His story was that Prince Chwang—who has lately been appointed to the Board of War—issued orders that all foreigners should be killed. Subsequently, as Wan and a party of Boxers were going round the city, they met Baron von Ketteler and his people. Wan says that the first shot came from the side of the foreigners, and that fire was then opened on Baron von Ketteler, who fell to a bullet fired by Wan himself. Having concluded this statement with perfect *sang-froid*, Wan asked to be put to death.

THE CABINET.

There appears to be very little doubt that Marquis Yamagata and Count Matsukata have tendered their resignations, and that Marquis Ito will undertake the task of forming a Cabinet. Marquis Ito has been indisposed for some days, the injury he received a few years ago when thrown from his *jinrikisha*, having produced one of the attacks of pain which have since then been of periodical recurrence. But he had recovered sufficiently to return to Tokyo on the 26th instant. Some authorities allege that the Emperor asked Count Inouye to use his influence in persuading Marquis Ito to step into the breach, and that Count Inouye agreed. It is generally believed that this change is proximately due to a difference between Marquis Ito's views as to foreign policy and the views of the present Cabinet. But there can be no doubt that Marquis Yamagata would have resigned some months ago had not the Chinese trouble intervened. The Marquis is said to be of the opinion at present that since the military operations in China have been brought to a termination, there is no reason why the duty of managing the subsequent phases of the complication should not be undertaken by another statesman. Whatever be the exact causes of the Ministerial crisis, however, it can scarcely be doubted that there is a crisis, and that a new Cabinet will be formed under Marquis Ito's leadership.

THE ATTITUDE OF THE CHINESE COURT.

With reference to Reuter's telegram which announces that the Chinese Minister in London has been instructed of the issue of an Imperial Edict ordering the extermination of the Boxers, the *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent wires that an Edict was indeed promulgated on the 17th instant desiring that the Boxers should be dispersed and sent back to their agricultural occupations, but not authorizing the use of military force against them. That is very different from "extermination. It looks as though the Chinese Court were playing fast and loose with Foreign Powers. So far as Sir Lo Feng-lo is concerned, the message received by him from his Government has probably been exaggerated by rumour, but it is plain that if the Chinese Court still hesitates to use military power against the Boxers, the sincerity of its alleged willingness to restore peace and protect foreign life and property is very doubtful. Everything seems to indicate that the sinister influence of men like Prince Twan, Prince Chwang and General Kang is still paramount at Court.

THE BARLEY CROP.

We recently published an estimate of the barley crop for this year. The actual yield is now known to have been 20,320,000 *koku*, being 980,000 *koku*, or 5.1 per cent., greater than last year's crop, and 1½ million *yen*, or 8.1 per cent., greater than the average.

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PRINCE TWAN'S CRIMINALITY.

It appears to us that in criticising our estimate of Prince Twan's criminality, the *Japan Gazette* has not clearly apprehended the limitations we had in view. Prince Twan's responsibility on account of the Boxers' doings cannot justly be held to have begun until they were employed in cōoperation with the Imperial troops. If it could be proved that he encouraged them to murder missionaries, or that he fomented an *émeute* having for one of its objects the murder of missionaries, his guilt would be beyond question. But, up to the time when the Boxers were encouraged to fight side by side with the Imperial troops direct personal responsibility for excesses committed by them, does not fairly attach to a Prince whose participation in their doings did not extend beyond dissuading the authorities against quelling them by force. In fact, up to that time, nothing seems established against Prince Twan beyond a sin of omission. He gave general encouragement to an anti-foreign party, just as Parnell gave general encouragement to a home-rule party, and since it has never been contended that Parnell should be required to atone in his own person for the crimes of arson, assault, mutilation and murder perpetrated by his followers, we do not see why Twan should be judged by a different law. So much for events prior to the association of the Boxers with the troops. There remains the indictment concerning the siege of the Legations. "The attack on the Legations, which if successful would have undoubtedly ended in massacre, was surely criminal," says our contemporary. We do not suppose for a moment that the *Japan Gazette* intends to attach any importance to what *might* have happened in a certain eventuality. That a massacre would have taken place—the Ministers alone being saved alive as hostages—is highly probable But then it did not take place, and conjectures of the wickedness that might have been perpetrated in a given case are valueless as evidence of criminality. The foreign community of Peking took refuge in the Legations, where they were guarded by a foreign military force, the foreign Ministers having declined to withdraw from the city under Chinese military escort. It is an open question whether, under similar circumstances, the course adopted by the Chinese in attacking a place garrisoned by foreign troops, even though it held the Ministers, would not have been adopted by many Governments calling themselves civilized. At all events we do not think that it can be called a criminal course. As for the murder of the German Minister, undoubtedly it was a heinous crime. But did Prince Twan endorse or prompt it? We must remember that it took place at a time when the Chinese Government was under a pledge to escort the German Minister with his colleagues safely to Tientsin Are we justified in assuming, then, that this brutal assassination had the approval of the Government or of Prince Twan? It appears to us that the criminality of Prince Twan rests mainly on conjecture and hypothesis.

CAPTAIN GUNJI.

Captain Gunji's expedition, which has so often been ridiculed as a romantic, unbusiness-like undertaking, seems to be at last succeeding. Reports have been received that great quantities of fish have been shipped by the little colony and that its affairs are flourishing.

PALACE OR SHAMBLES?

If accounts that have appeared in China may be credited, the Empress-Dowager of that empire resided while in Taiyuan-fu in a building which, little over one month before her arrival, witnessed the butchery of over eighty Foreign and Chinese Christians. The deed of blood is described in the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, which states that the facts "have been carefully gleaned from a native Christian, authenticated by those from whom he came, and vouched for by missionaries knowing him well, who reached Tientsin last Saturday. His story is related clearly and concisely, and there is no reason to think it unreliable in any detail, as he has been particularly careful as to date, and the way in which news was forthcoming of the sad events he relates."

It appears that towards the end of June all the Protestant missionaries in Taiyuan-fu after having been attacked by soldiers, collected in the house of Mr. Farthing, English Baptist Mission, and there they stayed until summoned to Governor Yü's Yamên on July 9th under a promise of escort to Tientsin. This party consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, Hsouyang Mission; Mr. and Mrs. Beynon, with, it is believed, two children; Dr. and Mrs. Wilson, C.I.M., Pingyang-fu; Dr. and Mrs. Levitt; Dr. and Mrs. Piggott, child and tutor, Hsouyang Mission. About the same time the English missionaries at Hsouyang had fled to the mountains, there being serious signs of trouble, and then for some reason not quite clear, they returned there. "They were immediately arrested by the Magistrate, who put them in chains with iron collars round their necks, and sent them in carts to Taiyuan-fu, refusing any food on the way. The informant knew this because, on reaching Taiyuan-fu, they told their story to the missionaries and it became known among the native converts. Among these was a photographer who went to Taikow and the missionaries there wrote to those at Yenchowfu. It is worth noting how the informant thus substantiates his story. On arriving at Taiyuan-fu about the 10th of the sixth moon, 6th July, they were sent to Governor Yü's Yamên, and then sent by him to the District Magistrate's Yamên, where they were shut up, the men and women being kept separate, and the husbands and wives being refused all intercourse. Within a few days, as a matter of fact it was the 9th, all Protestant missionaries were ordered to go to the Governor's Yamên, and hopes were held out that they would all be sent to Tientsin under escort Including the Hsouyang party from Mr. Farthing's house already mentioned, their total number was 33. When they were all in the Yamên the doors were closed, and the wretched inmates must have realized in sickening despair that they had been trapped. They were not kept in suspense long. The Boxers were ordered to enter and slaughter them, the Governor's troops mounting guard while the ghastly deed was being done. No particulars are positively known about the massacre beyond the fact that the heads of all the victims were displayed outside the Yamên later in the day; but it is believed the work was done with swords, and it is probable that death released each promptly. On the same day 40 native Christians were killed, and on the following day 10 Catholic priests, it is presumed in the same place and manner."

On August 14th Peking was relieved by the allied troops and the Empress-Dowager, fleeing westward with the hapless Emperor, arrived at Taiyuan-fu. The Imperial party were housed in the Governor's Yamen, where the murders had been committed. This we learn from a Taiyuan-fu despatch which, reporting that some 30 or 40 leading notables of the city had presented a petition to the Governor, Yü Hsien, requesting him to memorialize the Throne for the punishment of the high Ministers of the Court who had originated the disturbances, mentions that the Governor's Yamen was being used as the Empress-Dowager's temporary palace Think of the Imperial Court of China holding its state within those blood-stained walls!

KOREA.

The additional fishing privileges granted by the Korean Government to Japanese subjects are not unconditional. The *quid pro quo* is that the Japanese shall hereafter refrain from dealing in Korean ginseng.

We stated in a recent issue that the Japanese Representative in Sōul had insisted that so long as foreign missionaries were permitted to reside in the interior of Korea, Japan could not consent to withdraw her subjects from Ulneung. It now appears that the Representative referred to missionaries in Ulneung only.

The limits within which Japanese fishermen will be allowed to ply their trade by the Russian Authorities are to be from Lazareff to the mouth of the Tumen. Nine fishing stations are sanctioned within that district; and the rate of license fee will be largely reduced, foreign fishermen being placed on the same footing as Russian in this respect.

The Cabinet is said to have decided that State aid shall be given to the Sōul-Fusan railway project to the extent of guaranteeing interest up to 6 per cent. on a capital of 25 million *yen*. Nothing is stated, however, as to the time for which the guarantee will be given—obviously a vital point. The railway will have to be commenced next year, but, in this era of wars and rumours of war, it is difficult to see where funds can be found.

On the 26th instant at noon the Korean Representative presented to the Prince Imperial at the Shiba Detached Palace the Order sent by the Emperor of Korea. After the ceremony the Korean Representative, Viscount Aoki, Baron Sannomiya and other distinguished persons had the honour of lunching with the Prince.

Baron Shibusawa is about to pay a visit to Korea to preside at the inaugural ceremony of the Sōul-Chemulpho Railway. It is expected that the Emperor of Korea will attend the ceremony. The railway has been working for some time, but the bridges were completed only recently.

THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY.

The tobacco-growers of Japan have arranged to hold a general meeting in Tokyo on the 20th or the 21st of next month. Their objects are two; first to devise some means of checking illicit transactions in tobacco, and secondly to agitate for a reduction of the rate imposed by the Government monopoly. Out of the twenty million *kwan* of tobacco grown yearly in the country, it is alleged that fully one-third escapes the payment of any tax to the Government. As for the rate imposed by the State Monopoly, it has been three times raised Originally it was 84 per cent.; then it became 100 per cent., and it is now 130.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Mr Chamberlain is said to have stated that the main issue before the constituencies in the impending general election will be the South-African war, its rights and wrongs, its advantages and disadvantages. We should think that there can be no manner of doubt about the result of the elections. The English people have much respect for the wholesome maxim that it is ill work swapping horses before the river is crossed.

The King of Siam presented a very beautiful sword to Mr. Otani Koyen, who called at Bangkok recently on his way home from a tour in the West. The sword has gold and silver mountings and is richly jewelled It is now on view at the Hakubutsukan in Uyeno Park.

Baron Kodama is said to have resigned his position as Governor-General of Formosa, and it is generally believed that his resolve is due to the sudden countermanding of the troops which had been assembled at Kelung for transport to Amoy. The Emperor has sent Baron Yoneda, a Chamberlain, to induce the Baron to withdraw his resignation.

The pest continues to claim victims in Osaka, but there is no sign of the malady's spreading rapidly.

The heat on Thursday the 20th was something extraordinary. Nothing of the kind stands on record during the thirty years covered by Japanese meteorological observations. In 1890, the thermometer rose to 83° F. at the Central Observatory on September 20th, but on Thursday last it registered 89.2°. It will be understood that if such readings were found at the Observatory, which is one of the coolest spots in Tokyo, the temperature in the streets must have been much higher.

The Tokyo Municipality has received permission from the Home Department to inaugurate a system of special taxes for city improvement. We shall publish a list of the taxes in an early issue.

Another accident has occurred on the Hoku-yetsu line. A train was derailed on the 19th instant near Nagaoka (in Echigo). The engine and carriages plunged into a rice-field. Fortunately the passengers suffered only a few bruises. The cause of the accident is said to have been a decayed sleeper, and the *Jiji Shimpo* alleges that the road abounds with these dangers.

The Progressists have decided to change their organization. They will now have a President, a Vice-President, a Political Committee (*Seimu-iin*) of three, and a Council (*Hyogi-in*) of ninety. All these are to be elected at a general meeting. The other officials, namely three Managers, the Business Committee, &c., will be appointed by the President.

Japan has conferred a large number of decorations—26 in all—on various civil and military officials who rendered services to her officers or judicial experts when they visited Europe. The decorations range from the Second Class to the Sixth. Two second-class Orders go to Frenchmen—a Colonel and a Public Procurator—and one to a German Major.

Some sections of the *Rikken Seiyu-kai* seem to be moving in unison with the policy of the National Union. It is difficult to discern how much importance attaches to these doings, for the Opposition journals are evidently magnifying them in the hope of creating a breach between the new political party and the present Cabinet, and thus drawing the latter into the camp of the Progressists.

A telegram from Shanghai says that the steamer *Tangchow* has blown up, and that her captain, Mr. Hill, and 24 others were killed, a number also being wounded. Nothing is stated as to the cause of the accident or the place where it occurred.

Several local officials, numbering over 40 persons, have been arrested in the Motoyoshi district of Miyagi prefecture, on a charge of embezzlement. It appears that none of the money subscribed for the relief of the sufferers in this district after the tidal wave of 1896 found its way into their hands. Some of it was used for sanitary purposes and some for local expenses, but the bulk is unaccounted for. The forty men have been lodged in Miyagi jail.

On Friday afternoon three convicts attempted to escape from Sugamo prison. They seem to have behaved with great determination, their idea being to effect an exit by main force. The warders were finally obliged to draw their swords, with the result that one of the convicts was killed and one wounded. The warder who killed the ringleader received five wounds from a club carried by the latter.

Some years ago it was reported that Mr. Shimose had invented a smokeless powder of excellent quality. Nothing more having been heard of the matter, the public concluded that further trials had exposed some defect in the powder. From statements contained in Tokyo journals we gather that such was the fact. It was found impossible to employ the powder for loading shells, as the fuzes in ordinary use caused serious accidents. The problem then to be solved was the invention of a fuze which would correct this fault. Major-General Ijuin is said to have accomplish the task, and the Emperor has rewarded him with a third-class decoration and a sum of a thousand *yen*.

The German Emperor, in a sermon delivered on board the *Hohenzollern*, dwelt very strongly on the efficacy of prayer. "The prayer of the just man is mighty when it is sincere" said his Majesty. "God has not withdrawn a syllable of all his promises. Even to-day the banner of the dragon can be hurled into the dust by faithful prayer and the banner of the cross placed upon the ramparts." We foresee that these utterances will impart fresh vitality to the controversy recently waged in Germany about the reasons why the prayers of the Boers were not heard. If the discussion be renewed, we trust that some one will have the moral courage to suggest the possibility of English prayers having been preferred.

It is expected that the Diet will be assembled this year, on the 10th, or, at latest the 15th, of November, inasmuch as the Budget has been passed through its preliminary stages with more than usual rapidity.

The resolute attempt made by some of the coal-mine owners in Kiushiu to establish a trust have proved abortive. All the owners can not be induced to join, and the Bank of Japan is not disposed to grant the necessary financial accommodation. We can not doubt that the recusant owners know their own business thoroughly, but to outsiders it seems a pity that some better system of organization can not be devised to cheapen the cost of coal while, at the same time, checking the cut throat competition now existing. The advisability of a combination on the part of the mine-owners was long ago advocated in these columns.

There is to be a high mass in the Tsukiji Roman Catholic Cathedral for the late King Humbert. It is to take place on October 1st, and will doubtless be very imposing.

The *Yawata Maru*, which recently entered Nagasaki from Australia, had on board the crew of a 315-ton schooner which had been sold by her Japanese owner to an United States citizen. The vessel, after taking on board a cargo of coal and other matters at Moji, proceeded south, but on reaching a place 200 miles from Manila, she was seized on the ground that her dimensions and equipment did not comply with the navigation regulations. Ultimately her Japanese master had to dispose of her and return with his crew as best he could, the American purchaser having declined to pay for her.

The strong-foreign-policy section of the *Rikken Seiyu-kai* are not disposed to remain quiescent under existing circumstances. They have presented a series of questions which they beg the President, Marquis Ito, to answer. The gist of these questions is that Russia, Germany and France seem bent upon pursuing an aggressive programme in the Far East, and that the balance of power seems likely to be disturbed. Russia in Manchuria troubles the questioners considerably. They want to know what is to be done about Amoy, and they want to know further why the troops that were to have proceeded to Amoy, received orders at the eleventh hour to refrain from going. They have no confidence in the present Cabinet's management of foreign affairs, and, reading between the lines of their queries, we seem to see that they are equally indisposed to trust their own President. These three gentlemen are not members of the National Union, but they evidently are regarded with much favour by the Progressists, for the latter's organs applaud them strongly. We presume that the matter will end in their withdrawal from the Rikken Seiyu-kai. Mr. Inagaki Shimesu, their leader, was once an adherent of the Progressists, and his present conduct makes us wonder that he ever abandoned that allegiance. However, it is wholesome that the very serious questions of foreign policy now confronting Japan should be fully considered by the public.

The National Union has held another meeting. Princes Konoye and Nijo were present, as well as a number of prominent politicians. The meeting decided that no officers should be elected as the association was merely of a temporary character. Prince Konoye's speech was the feature of the occasion. We have already explained that the avowed object of the Union is to consolidate Japanese public opinion on the subject of the integrity of China, and that several critics have denounced the Union as futile and dangerous, since Japan can not possibly propose to enter the lists as China's champion with all the Occident for opponent. Some have even gone so far as to declare that the Union was actuated by anti-foreign spirit, and that its policy, if carried into practice, would lead to a coalition of the yellow races against the white. Prince Konoye combatted these attacks, but we shall not follow him into details. The salient point of his speech was a disavowal of any such quixotic inten-

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tion as the pitting of Japan against the world. The Union, he said, did not propose to place their country in the position of the proverbial "athlete under the verandah" whose labour is all wasted. In other words, the Prince admitted that if partition became the *mot du jour*, Japan would not be found its solitary opponent. After that declaration the Union resolves itself simply into an association for promoting the integrity of the Chinese empire, *if convenient*.

It appears to be thought that there are indications of trouble in Ministerial circles. Even the *Jiji Shimpo* lends its columns to ventilate this theory. The first symptom of disturbance came from Baron Kodama, Governor-General of Formosa, who tendered his resignation because of the countermanding of the troops for Amoy That incident furnished an indication that the Cabinet's foreign policy is of a vacillating character, and illustrated the theory that whereas the Minister of Foreign Affairs is ready to act vigorously and on his own responsibility, he is subjected to outside influences which disturb the continuity of his doings. He himself would gladly dispense with such interference, but Marquis Yamagata has not sufficient confidence in him to suffer him to walk alone. Then, when Marquis Ito undertook to organize the *Rikken Seiyu-kai*, certain old-fashioned officials of the Household Department talked about the necessity of his resigning all his offices in connexion with the Court. The Prime Minister might have silenced this clamour, but he did not. Finally, the National Union is supposed to be more or less inspired by the Cabinet, whereas the *Rikken Seiyu-kai* has assumed a hostile attitude towards the Union. Such is the *Jiji Shimpo's* analysis. The gist of it is that the relations between Marquis Ito and the Cabinet have become strained—"a centre of depression has declared itself" is the *Jiji's* way of putting the case, "but whether it will end in rain or storm, we can not tell"

It need scarcely be said that the opinions of the vernacular press are divided on this subject. The Progressist organs endeavour to widen the breach which they think they discern between Marquis Ito and the Cabinet, whereas the independent and pro-Government journals condemn the procedure of the National Union. One of the Progressist organs, the *Hochi Shimbun*, goes so far as to call Marquis Ito a traitor on the ground that he interferes with the Cabinet's foreign policy. In short, the incident threatens to become the origin of one of those agitations that periodically disturb Japanese politics for a time, and disappear presently, leaving no trace of their influence.

The battle-ship *Asahi* left Colombo on the 21st instant for Singapore.

It is expected that the torpedo-destroyer *Niji*, which sunk lately off the Shantung coast, will be successfully raised. The *Ryojun Maru* and the *Higo Maru* have been engaged in attempting to float her.

It is stated that the expenditure hitherto on account of the North-China expedition has been 12 million *yen*, of which 2 millions remain to be paid out. By the time of the Diet's assembly in November, the outlay will be 15 millions. This money has been taken as a temporary measure from the reserves set aside on account of Naval Maintenance, Famine Relief and Educational Aid. It must therefore be replaced, unless those three programmes be abandoned, or, at any rate, radically modified. Ultimately Japan may hope to obtain repayment from China, but her wisest plan is to conduct her finances independently of that expectation.

There is said to be great distress among the sericulturists of Japan. Twenty-six thousand bales of silk have accumulated in Yokohama, and the market is closed owing to the exceptionally low prices now ruling. Application has been made to the Bank of Japan for assistance, but as the Bank has already made considerable advances to the silk-men, it declines to give any further accommodation, and no resource offers unless an improvement takes place in the market.

The Sapporo Sugar Company is at last obliged to wind up its affairs. It has been doing little or no business for some years; but hopes of better times induced the directors to refrain from taking the final step dictated by such conditions. They have now concluded, however, that to delay closure would be to incur irreparable loss. This decision was taken at a meeting held on the 24th instant, when liquidators were appointed. There will be another general meeting on the 21st of October. The Imperial Estate owns some shares in this company.

It is stated that the war in the Philippines has cost America 186¼ million dollars (373 million *yen*), up to the present, as well as 2,394 lives. The expense is certainly immense, If the United States Government had devoted ten million dollars at the outset to buying the complacence of the Filipino leaders, the purchase could doubtless have been satisfactorily concluded, and the result would have been the saving of 176 million dollars and over 2,000 lives. But of course the world would have denounced such a procedure as highly immoral on the part of the United States. 'Tis a strange world.

The gale in Formosa on the 14th instant drove 4 ships ashore, and did great damage at Takuchan, injuring over 9,000 houses and reducing 1,200 persons to a state of destitution. From other districts also reports of considerable loss are to hand.

A concert of Japanese and foreign music is announced by the Meiji Ongaku-kwai, to take place next Sunday afternoon at the Uyeno Hall. On this occasion, the orchestra elects to perform without the assistance of a foreign conductor.

There has been a big fall of snow on Fuji-san. This is about 8 days earlier than the average.

HONOURING BRAVE MEN.

The following letters have been sent to us for publication :—

[COPY.]

THE PRESIDENT, NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

MR. PRESIDENT,—We, the undersigned passengers of the S. S. *Futami Maru* wish hereby to express our sympathy with Captain Thom in his present misfortune, and to record our deep appreciation of the unsparing devotion and indefatigable energy, displayed by the Chief Officer, Mr. Pyne; the other ship's Officers; the Chief Engineer, Mr. Moore; the Purser, Mr. Koaze; and the Boatswain Mr. Ishii; in rescuing the Passengers, the Crew and baggage from the wreck, and in affording all assistance to us during the five days we encamped on shore.

It is not too much to say that we are firmly convinced that it was mainly owing to the self sacrifice and self-denial of the above mentioned officers, especially of Mr Pyne, that we have come out of such an experience without the loss of life.

We are, Dear Sir, Yours truly,

H. A. COOPER,
HUGH L. HEBER PERCY,
Chairman of the Committee,
W. E. CLARKE,
EDW. G. ORME,
B. HAROLD SMITH,
W. N. SPRAGUE,
F. W. FRANKS,
R. W. HENDERSON,
R. G. D. SINGLETON.

[COPY OF LETTER FROM MR. HEBER-PERCY.]

Gen. Post Office, Colombo, Ceylon.

THE PRESIDENT, NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA S.S. CO.

DEAR SIR,—Enclosed please find the original letter, also a printed copy of same, which we passengers on the unfortunate *Futami Maru* signed.

To my mind, however, enough has not been said as to the great bravery shown by your chief officer, Mr. Pyne, and the Ship's boatswain, Mr. Ishii, nor of the indefatigable zeal shown by your Purser, Mr. Koaze. Mr. Pyne knowing little rice or flour had been saved (I believed only 3 bags of rice), boarded the *Futami Maru* at the height of the gale and after having a line made fast to his waist dived down into fully 10 feet of water in the hold, with casks and broken doors floating on the surface, and with the assistance of Mr. Ishii succeeded in recovering 8 more bags of rice, and 2 bags of flour.

Mr. Pyne also on sighting the S.S. *Australian* put off in the small boat, and notwithstanding she got her bottom stove in whilst crossing the coral reef, he succeeded in rowing out 2 miles to her, stopping the leak with his shirt.

Of your Purser, Mr. Koaze, it is impossible to speak too highly, he seemed to be at the beck and call of every one during the day, and at night kept more than his share of the watches to guard the camp. His untiring zeal, good temper, and tact, saved us, I feel sure, from much unpleasantness, if not actual danger.

Your chief engineer, Mr. Moore, also worked untiringly in boarding the wreck, and in watching and working at the landing camp.

I trust you will not consider I am intruding in bringing these men to your notice; my reason for doing so is that only those on the spot could possibly know or appreciate what they did.

I am, Dear Sir, yours truly,

HUGH L. HEBER-PERCY.

YACHTING.

A race for 39-raters took place on Saturday afternoon, the course being round the Tsurumi Mark, the Lightship, the Honmoku Spit Buoy and home, first prize, the *Kingfisher* Cup. All the boats in the class started except *Kingfisher* and *Wanderer*. *Mary* got out of the harbour first, *Maud* second, *Haidee*, which made an inconceivable blunder about starting time and lost over three minutes, last. *Golden Hind* went very well in the strong southerly breeze and passed the Lightship ahead of *Maud Marion* on the way down the bay, though the latter might have taken her former place on the run back had she been handier with her topsail. In the result *Mary* took first prize and two points, *Golden Hind* taking second and one point. Following are the times:

	Finish.	Allowance.	Corrected.
	h.m.s.	m.s.	h.m.s.
Haidee	4.20.17	—	4.20.17
Mary	4.07.15	1.58	4.05.17
M. Marion	4.17.14	3.22	4.13.52
G. Hind	4.15.58	3.22	4.12.36
Spray	Gave up.	7.09	

The 17-raters competed for the *Eclair* Cup round the usual course. *Eclair*, sailed very creditably by a new hand, held the leading position all round the course, but *Daisy May* took the first prize on arbitrary handicap, thus depriving *Eclair* of the usual privilege of foregoing her own prize.

The times were.—

	Finish.	Arb. Allce.	Corrected.
		m. s.	
Wettinge	4.14.29	—	4.14.29
Eclair	4.09.15	—	4.09.00
D. May	4.10.30	1.30	4.09.15
Decoma	4.18.52	6.00	4.12.52
Shamrock	Gave up	10.00	—
Peruta	4.21.28	5.00	4.16.28

The second prize was given on Club Time, and so went to *Eclair*. *Wettinge* and *Shamrock* protested that the start was not regular.

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GERMANY'S PROPOSAL.

NOTHING is more natural than that a strong desire should be felt to place in the very forefront of negotiations with China the summary punishment of the men who instigated the recent outrages against foreign life and property in China. But, at the same time, nothing is more unpractical. If the Chinese Government failed, as it did signally fail, to check these outrages, above all if it countenanced them, as there are strong grounds for believing, how can it possibly be expected to apprehend and punish the instigators? Nor is it a question of mere punishment. China is not to cite these men before her own tribunals and try them according to her own laws. She is to deliver them over to Foreign Powers for punishment. We can not think that there is the remotest chance of such a programme's being consummated. Who are the instigators? Is it not universally believed that the anti-foreign movement received encouragement from the Throne itself? Does not the public feel absolutely convinced that Prince TWAN was the head and front of the trouble? But Prince TWAN is father of the Chinese Prince Imperial. It is altogether extravagant to imagine that Prince TWAN will be given up, and we can not but think that were such a condition declared to be an essential preliminary to peace negotiations, peace negotiations would never commence so long as the EMPRESS-DOWAGER remained in power. What adds to the unpractical character of the proposal is the suggestion that the Foreign Ministers in Peking should be instructed to indicate the persons whose guilt is indisputable. The Foreign Ministers are not in a position to do anything of the kind. They have no means of conducting a thorough investigation. Documentary evidence is inaccessible to them and they are without competence to summons Chinese witnesses. In short they cannot approach such a task with any of the aids or appliances that are everywhere considered essential to the proper discharge of official functions. The indications made by them would have to be conjectural. On the other hand, the Chinese would justly require that proofs should be furnished of the guilt of the persons whose surrender was demanded, and the Foreign Governments, on their side, even if they arbitrarily insisted on the surrender, could not proceed to inflict any punishments in the absence of such proof. From every point of view this proposal is profoundly astonishing. It would at once create a deadlock of the most hopeless character. Nor can we lose sight of the fact that it comes from Germany. Every proposal emanating from such a source is entitled to respectful consideration, and can not be rejected without grave consequences. It is out of the question that Germany's ideas, publicly formulated, should be lightly set aside, especially after the Powers have agreed that a German officer shall have the supreme command of their forces in the field. All this is well known in Berlin. Why then has Germany made this proposal on her own account without previously consulting her colleagues? That is certainly not the way to preserve concord. It is a proceeding on all fours with Russia's proposal for the unconditional evacuation of Peking. We can not close our eyes to the fact that the Chinese problem is growing more and more complicated owing to the disunited action of those charged with the duty of solving it. LI HUNG-CHANG does well to avoid hurry.

AMERICA AND GERMANY.

THE United States Government has assumed towards Germany's proposal exactly the position that might have been expected from a Power which, fortunately for itself, is able to obey the dictates of sound, straightforward statesmanship without regard to their possible effects on international susceptibilities. It would have been easy to allege the obvious impracticability of the proposal, for no reflecting person can be blind to the fact that to insist on China's surrendering the men whom foreigners regard as the instigators of the recent disturbances would be to create a certain deadlock. But there is a more fundamental objection to the scheme; namely, that the punishment of the supposed instigators by the hands of foreign Powers would merely secure for them the sympathy of their own nationals. Instead of being regarded as criminals they would be counted martyrs. For the satisfaction of foreigners' craving after vengeance it would be agreeable to have the privilege of putting these individuals to death; but for the sake of the ends that statesmen are bound to keep in view, their punishment by their own Government will be far more effective. The Washington Authorities have thus adopted a dignified and statesmanlike view. Japan is understood to have taken virtually the same line in her reply, and we may therefore trust that all danger of the Berlin proposal's becoming a programme of common action is past. It was an ill-considered proposal, and we venture to doubt whether it had the full approval of German officials.

Concerning Count VON WALDERSEE also Washington has shown not less insight. So long as any definite objective was in sight—the capture of Peking, for example—there was no valid reason why the allied forces should not be placed under the sole command of one officer, empowered to control all their movements; especially an officer of Count WALDERSEE'S distinction. But to invest any one officer with such authority under present circumstances when no operation is in sight demanding concerted action, would be to delegate to him not only military functions but also diplomatic. He would have competence to determine not alone the method of carrying on a campaign but even the advisability or necessity of undertaking it. The Powers can scarcely be expected to give a mandate so extensive to any General. We think it very likely that if Germany's proposal with regard to the instigators of the Chinese trouble were carried out, another campaign would speedily become necessary; a campaign having for its purpose the capture of the EMPEROR or the EMPRESS DOWAGER. In the meanwhile, however, there is no offensive project for the allied troops to pursue, and it would be extravagant to expect that the Powers should commission an officer to discover or manufacture a project.

FREE-MASONRY.

LAST June we received from a correspondent a pamphlet containing a vehement attack upon free-masonry. The pamphlet consisted chiefly of addresses delivered by the Rev. ALEXANDER DOWIE in the Zion Tabernacle of Chicago, and the accusations preferred against free-masonry were that it encourages drunkenness and debauchery and that it pledges its members to perform horrible crimes if required to do so. We rebutted these most unjust and unwarrantable charges, and in doing so we employed terms which naturally betrayed something of the indignation we felt on finding such slanders circulated against a system which we know to be based on principles of charity and high morality. We have now received a copy of the Zion Tabernacle's organ, "Leaves of Healing," and we find that we are there charged with using "disgraceful and utterly unworthy weapons," with a lack of "common honesty," and with having opened our columns to a "shameful attack." To none of these accusations can we plead guilty. The Rev. Mr. DOWIE, who enjoys the reputation of being a just man and a sincere Christian, and who stands at the head of a great movement making for the spread of religious influences, must be well aware that the privilege of reply belongs to those that are attacked, and that if free-masonry is innocent of the sins laid by him at its door, its disciples are not guilty of anything "shameful," "disgraceful" or "unworthy" when they protest in strong language against such libels. "Leaves of Healing" says that our article was "evidently written by a free-mason," and has no doubt that "this unchristian power will fight Zion in Japan as elsewhere." Yes, the article was written by a free-mason. It was written by the editor of the *Japan Mail*, who is a free-mason of 20 years standing, and who knows free-masonry, as practised in England, to be something wholly different from Mr. DOWIE'S conception of it. When we examined that gentleman's indictment of the system, and observed that his charges were supported by what seemed, in our opinion, very slender evidence; when we further observed that Mr. DOWIE believed himself capable of working miracles and addressed an audience holding the same conviction; and when we also noted that his accusations were accompanied by a great deal of declamation not as con-

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vincing in print as it may have been on the platform, we were disposed to treat the whole lightly, and even to doubt the sincerity of the arraignment. In that respect we appear to have done an injustice to Mr DOWIE, who is evidently a man of very genuine zeal, and who is accomplishing results that command admiration, although his methods of working may not appeal to universal sympathy. It is painful that such a man should be so egregiously mistaken, and we are persuaded that he himself would be much more distressed than are the men he attacks did he know how greatly he misjudges them. It is quite within the bounds of possibility that free-masonry may have been abused by evil folks in some parts of the world, and that instances of such abuses may have come under Mr. DOWIE's notice. No human institution can escape that danger. But as applied to the orthodox practice of English free-masonry Dr. DOWIE's charges are inexpressibly unjust, and there will be a moment of very great distress for him should be ever discover how greatly he has been misled.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The *Nippon Shugi* has breathed its last, to the regret of a few conservatives. The *Keiô-gijuku Gaku-hô*, commenting on the decease of the representative of nationalism, says, though the early death of our contemporary is somewhat painful to us, it furnishes a proof of the decline of anti-foreign prejudice. The *Teikoku Bungaku* observes that the *Nippon Shugi* was misunderstood on all sides. Some of its articles went to extremes, but there were others that were written by men well versed in Western learning and whose tone was eminently calm and philosophical. Its supporters were far in advance of the old school of nationalists.

Mr. Uchimura Kanzô's organ, the *Tôkyô Dokuritsu Zasshi*, has ceased to appear. The *Taiyô* thinks that the world has heard enough of Mr Uchimura's views and that his publication will not be missed.

There seems to be some doubt as to the reappearance of the *Sekai-no-Nihon*. Mr. Takenokoshi Yosaburô, its editor, announced a few months ago that the magazine would not be issued during his absence from home. "Is this the prelude to its death?" asks the *Teikoku Bungaku*.

Writing on the despatch of students to Europe, the *Teikoku Bungaku* says that the choice of Mr Haga, a man who has made a special study of Japanese literature, indicates that the Department of Education has inaugurated a new policy. Hitherto most of the students who have been sent abroad have possessed little knowledge of the literature of their own country. Mr. Haga's object is to prepare himself for writing the history of Japanese literature by paying special attention to the methods of western scholars. To us it seems this might be done as well in Japan as in Europe.

An Association for promoting Industry in Japan called the 工談會 Kôdan-kai has been in existence since 1887. For more than ten years this Society has published a well-printed and well-edited monthly magazine called the *Kôdan Zasshi*, which contains full reports of various industries and discusses proposed industrial projects of all kinds, both Japanese and foreign. The Kôdan-kai is in a very prosperous condition, having a membership of over 2,000. A full sketch of the history of the Association is published in the May number of the magazine.

One of the striking characteristics of Japanese current literature is the prompt attention that is paid by newspapers and magazines to articles on Far Eastern affairs appearing in European and American periodicals. Dr. Morrison's letter to the *Times* entitled, "Russo-Japanese Rivalry in the Far East," which was published in London on June 8th, and caused a good deal of sensation there, appeared in full in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* in its issue of July 17th and two successive numbers. The same promptness was shown by the *Nichi Nichi* in the case of Mr. Henry Norman's attack on England's Far Eastern Policy, published in the July number of the *Nineteenth Century*. The *Nichi Nichi's* translations are first-class and furnish abundant proof, if proof were needed, of the adequacy of Sinico-Japanese for expressing Western thought in an accurate and telling manner. Another instance that may be mentioned in this connection is the translation of Mr. Sydney Low's interesting article on Government by the minority, which appeared in the *Forum* a few months ago, and is now reproduced in the pages of the *Meiji* (No. 3).

The *Meiji*, which has reached its fourth number is, it will be remembered, an advocate of non-party Cabinets. Although most of its articles are penned by two lawyers, Messrs. Iwada and Inoue, it seems to manage to attract to itself a good deal of attention from other magazines, which is attributed to the popularity of the view it has undertaken to defend, a view held by the New Political Association, the Rikken Seiyûkai. The *Meiji* is publishing a series of articles on the Japanese Constitution and also an account of the political questions which are engaging the attention of Western Governments.

* * *

In an article on the Chinese crisis, which does not contain much that is new, published in his periodical, the *Gwaikô Jihô*, Dr. Ariga predicts that the alliance cannot last, as the interests of the Powers are not identical. Now that Peking has been relieved they will begin to act independently and there is no saying that, notwithstanding the strong objection to dividing up the country and governing it, this may prove the only course feasible, since it is uncertain whether the Powers will ever agree as to the kind of central government required to meet the situation. Dr. Ariga thinks that Russia's action at Honchun, Newchwang and Kinchow was justified by the outrages committed by the Chinese, and that no Power can reasonably object to the attitude she has assumed. What Dr. Ariga insists on is that Japan should make use of the occasion for pushing her interests in Korea. If it comes to dividing up China, then it will be important to determine whether Japan should go on acting with the Allies and take her share of the spoil or whether she should leave Western Powers to do as they please and set about furthering her interests in an entirely different manner.

* * *

It seems that one of the last utterances of the deceased *Nippon Shugi* was to the effect that it had the greatest sympathy with the Boxers and their anti-foreign demonstrations. A correspondent of the *Taiyô* writes, in a very excited manner, on this subject, asking the editor of the *Nippon Shugi* whether his patriotism makes him wish to see Japan humiliated as China is being humiliated by the occupation of its capital by foreign troops, since did Japan allow her anti-foreign bias to go to the lengths this feeling has gone in China, nothing could save the country from ruin. For the *Nippon Shugi* to join the Boxers before its death was a significant fact, says the *Taiyô's* correspondent. It is gratifying to know that the *Nippon Shugi* failed to find sufficient support to allow of its continuance.

* * *

Dr. Revon, who was for some time Legal Adviser to the Department of Justice and Professor of Law at the Imperial University, has been lecturing at the Sorbonne University, where he occupies a chair, on Japanese Civilisation. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has stated the professor's views at considerable length and the *Taiyô* has given a somewhat full epitome of them.—From the latter we make the following extracts. Though the Japanese have imbibed a great many Western notions, they have given to all the thoughts they have borrowed a distinct character, which is traceable in all lines of life. The Japanese have their own peculiar ways of looking at all subjects—there is a something about them that differentiates them from all other nations. To pass from the abstract to the concrete, we may say that in religion they are lovers of simplicity, prizing above all things a pure heart, sincerity and obedience to the individual conscience. In philosophy they set no value on the mere discussion of abstract questions. Such subjects as infinite space and infinite time have no interest for them. In ethics it is the practical only that engages constant attention. The Europeans who knew the Japanese before they had any real contact with Western thought, such men as Xavier and Kaempfer, speak in the highest praise of their moral life, even asserting that in some respects it surpasses in loftiness of ideal that of the best Christians. In religion, philosophy, and ethics the Japanese resemble the sages of antiquity rather than any modern school of thinkers. In all things they are lovers of simplicity, moderation and extreme politeness. In both their literature and their art this characteristic appears. Neither their tales of over ardent love nor the vendetta stories represent a normal state of the Japanese mind. The heroes of these tales give way to emotion in a manner that is not approved of by the nation at large. So great is their love of simplicity in art that to them our Gothic buildings appear too showy, and the elaborate decorations of some of our rooms excite anything but admiration in their minds. To them these rooms resemble bazaars more than anything else, where the chief thought is to make as great a display as possible. The same feeling of aversion is felt by them when they look at those European pictures whose leading characteristic is the elaborate mixture of colours. To them our music appears too noisy and our solemn and precise dancing to resemble the diversions of barbarians. If the life and ways of modern Europe could be subjected to the criticism of the ancient Greeks, the conclusion reached by the Greeks would not differ from that arrived at by the Japanese. In character the Japanese resemble the ancient Greeks, possessing numerous qualities that are rarely to be found in modern Europe. Japanese civilisation is of its kind a very perfect specimen and in the matter of simplicity and unostentatiousness is beautiful beyond comparison. If like the Greeks the Japanese possessed a knowledge of religion and philosophy, and in addition to this were to make themselves thorough masters of all the results of modern research and science, there would be nothing left in our Western life for them to covet. The Japanese are extremely attached to nature and their love of the natural cools their ardour in studying what is artificial. This is a defect undoubtedly, but notwithstanding this, Japanese civilisation has merits and peculiarities that no student of the world's history can afford to overlook.

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In the *Rikugô Zasshi* Mr. Yamamoto Ryôkichi discusses the question of the decrease of maid-servants in Japan and its consequences. His conclusions may be thus briefly stated: (1) The principal cause of the decrease of maid-servants is the use of women in factories. (2) The decrease in the number of low-class women available for domestic service has resulted in the increase of wages and the introduction into households of a better educated class of servants. (3) The duties of a domestic servant have become more clearly defined and she has become a more distinct personality than heretofore. But at the same time her responsibilities have increased. (4) The rise in wages has necessitated the employment of fewer hands by people of moderate means; and one consequence of this is that the wife has been obliged to undertake duties that she formerly entrusted to servants. (5) The increased participation in household duties of the wife has had a beneficial effect in the education of the children, they learning how to do things from their mothers. (6) The flocking together of a low class of women in work rooms and factories has produced many evil effects. This subject demands the attention of the authorities.

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The irony of the *Nippon Shimbun* is often very keen. In its issue of August 8th it discusses the pleas under which Occidentals compass their ends. What is not done in the cause of humanity is done in the cause of civilisation. But there are times when not even these pleas can be used. The *Nippon* finds it difficult to define the meaning of humanity as used by Western Powers. Japan sinned against humanity when she did not at once despatch a large force to Peking, but the seizing of territory at the point of the bayonet on the slightest pretence is apparently no offence against humanity. It becomes the unenlightened Chinese to die without complaint on such occasions, as their destruction helps forward the cause of Occidental Civilisation. The ethics of Westerners are to the *Nippon* very inexplicable. The *Nippon* proceeds to quote Chwangtze against the European politicians. The Sage was asked whether morality existed among thieves. He replied much as follows:—"Is there any place where morality does not exist? The five virtues are all exemplified by thieves. In perceiving that there are treasures in people's houses they show sagacity. In each striving to be the first to get into a house they display courage. In not striving to be the first to escape from the house they show a regard for what is right. In determining whether a house should be entered or not they display intelligence, and in the consideration they show to each other when dividing the spoil they display benevolence. Without these five virtues no big robbery could succeed." This applies to the doings of Europeans on the neighbouring continent. As for the humanity about which they talk so much it means simply what they are pleased to so name from time to time. If their conduct is to be the standard of humanity a pretty low level will be reached, concludes the *Nippon*

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An edition of Mr. G. M. H. Playfair's "Cities and Towns of China: A Geographical Dictionary," is to be published in Japan by the Kyôyeki Shôsha, Takekawa-chô, Kyôbashi, Tôkyô, under the title of the *Ethun Shina Chimei Jisho*. The work contains the names of 10,000 places printed in Romaji and Chinese, with an index at the end containing the characters arranged according to radicals. The subscription price of this work is 2 *yen* per copy. It should prove invaluable as a key to the Roman letter equivalents of the Chinese names appearing in Japanese newspapers every day.

The Sankôsha has published an interesting historical work entitled "Letters Written by English Residents in Japan." The letters referred to were penned at the commencement of the seventeenth century. The work covers 307 pages and sells at 3 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy. Mr. Murayama, B.A., has furnished notes and explanations, which greatly help to a thorough understanding of the original letters.

Mr. Yamaguchi Kôshu, teacher at the Military Academy and at the Peeress' School, some years ago published an elementary German phrase book called The *Doitsugo-dokushû* (German Without a Teacher), which has reached its third edition. The English and French languages have now been treated in the same way by Mr. Yamaguchi and the titles the new works bear resemble that of the successful German text-book These works are for sale at Okazakiya Shoten at 25 *sen* per copy.

The *Tôyô Kinseishi* (A History of Recent Times in the East), the first volume of which has appeared, is designed to furnish a full account of the connection of Europeans with Eastern countries. Mr. Tanaka Suiichirô is the author and the work is being issued by the Tôhô Kyôkai. A short account of the periods covered in the ten chapters of which the history consists will give some idea of the extent of the work. Chap. I. treats of the intercourse of Europeans with Asiatics between the yeart 1498 and 1595. Chap. II. deals with the consolidation of China (1585-1697). The title of Chap. III. is "The Second Period of the Contact of Europe with Asia" (1595). Chap. IV. deals with Russia's encroachments eastward between the years 1581 and 1732. Chap. V. is concerned with the rise and fall of the Mongols (1526-1748) Chap. VI. treats of England's connexion with India in the eighteenth century and down to 1823. Chap. VII is on Western Manchuria and its political and commercial development (1697-1832) Chap. VIII. gives an account of the incursions on China from the Indian side of the Continent (1708-1852. Chap. IX treats of the rivalry of England and Russia in the Far East. Chap. X. deals with the events that led up to and followed what is known as the Opium War. Dr. Inoue Tetsujirô in his preface to the work testifies to its value. He says that there is a great deficiency of reliable books on Eastern political history, and that since Japan has found herself suddenly plunged into the midst of a very complicated state of affairs, it is important that her politicians should have a clear idea of the events which have led up to the present situation. Dr. Ariga adds his testimony to the reliableness of Mr. Tanaka's work.

The *Jiji Shimpô* has for some months past been publishing a series of short articles entitled *Nihon no Fûzoku* (Japanese Customs), which will no doubt be issued in book form later on. No. 71 has already appeared, and the series seems to be by no means finished. The articles are valuable as records of the doings and ways of Japanese society at the present time in its transition state. Some of the sketches are very amusing. There is hardly a phase of modern Japanese life that has not been touched upon. No. 71 deals with the sale of girls to brothels and the security (*Teiô*) relied on in such cases. In the discussion of the question of prostitution in its leading columns the *Jiji Shimpô*, while maintaining that its abolition would certainly produce worse evils than now exist, approves of the recent changes in the regulations and strongly advocates the relegation of all brothels to special quarters in out-of-the-way parts. The *Jiji* reminds its readers that no country has been able to get rid of prostitutes, and maintains that Japan's licensing system has saved the country from many of the evils prevailing in Europe and America. The *Jiji* would make government control still more strict, leaving no special power in the hands of the brothel keepers.

* * *

Professor Ume Kenjirô writes in the *Kokka Gakkai* on the tendency to over-legislation in Japan. The case on which he specially comments is the Anti-smoking Law passed last session He maintains that the principle on which the restriction is based is entirely false. It assumes that it is the duty of the legislator to take cognisance of and regulate the private lives of individuals—an absurd assumption. If this view of the function of legislation were correct, then there are other things that would need to be forbidden besides smoking. The measure is a mere temporary make-shift that can never effect any lasting good. To expect the law to act the moral censor over every act of private life is unreasonable. Man's life would not be worth living were he bound down by a multitude of petty rules.

The *Kyôiku Kôhô*, commenting on the above, defends the regulation against the use of tobacco by very young boys on the ground that neither parents nor school teachers effected anything against this abuse before the law was passed. The *Kyôiku Kôhô* acknowledges that the remedy resorted to is not thorough, but thinks that in the case of great evils half cures are better than leaving them untouched.

The *Kyôiku Kôhô*, under the title of "Students Sent Abroad to investigate Æsthetics" makes the following remarks. Mr. Otsuka Yasuharu returned from Germany in July, where he has been studying Æsthetics. Messrs. Takayama and Kaneko are about to go to Germany with the same object in view. These writers have made a name for themselves by the attention they have paid to the Fine Arts. Alongside of these the name of Mr. Onishi Shuku, now studying philosophy in Europe, is worthy of mention, whose articles in the *Kokumin no-tomo* entitled *Hi ai no Kwanshan* (The Pleasant Impression Made by the Pensive) attracted a great deal of attention at the time they were published. Messrs. Tsubouchi Shôyo and Mori Ogai have also done much to cultivate in their readers a taste for beauty. The latter is a devout follower of Hartmann, whose views he has embodied in his novels. But Mr. Otsuka has the honour of being the first Japanese who has made a speciality of studying and comparing foreign and Japanese Æsthetic theories. And he has accomplished this task in a most scientific manner. Though Mr. Takayama's studies have not been so extensive as those of Mr. Otsuka, he wields a more powerful pen and has in the past few years made the best use of it, as is known by the readers of his essays entitled *Gekkô-biron* (Beauty of Moonlight) *Rekishi-gwaron* (Historical Pictures), *Chûshô Biron* (Abstract Beauty) and *Risôbi* (Ideal Beauty). Mr. Kaneko made his name at the Waseda Semmon Gakkô and has for many years past been known as a very influential member of the Akamon-ha (Imperial University party).

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The lectures delivered in Tôkyô last year by Professor Ladd, of Yale University, have been published in Japanese under the title of *Kyôiku ni Oyô-shitaru Shinri-gaku* (Psychology Applied to Education). The lectures were translated by Mr. Ukita Kazutami and revised by Dr. Nakajima Rikizô. The work has been issued by the Teikoku Kyôiku-kai and sells at 90 *sen* per copy. Under the title of *Bankoku Kokuryoku Hikaku* one of Mulhall's recent works on Statistics has been published by the Tôkyô Senmon Gakkô. The translators are Messrs. Oishi and Maegawa and the work sells at 2 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy. Another very bulky work recently issued by the same press is the *Hikaku Gyôsei-hô* (Methods of Administration Compared). It covers 750 pages and is the translation of an American treatise, Mr. Ukita Kazutami being the translator. The work gives a very full account of the different methods of administering government in vogue in Europe and America.

The last volume of Mahan's "Sea Power" has appeared. It covers 591 pages and sells at 3 *yen* a copy. The Tôhô Kyôkai are the publishers.

The *Saishin Keizai* contains an account of the views of new schools of economists in England and Germany. It is an original work written by Mr. Natsuaki Kameichi, a post-graduate of the Imperial University, is 540 pages in length and sells at 1 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy.

Professors Motora and Nakajima have just published the 2 last volumes of Wundt's Psychology. The work is for sale at 55 *sen* per volume at the Fuzambô, Ura-Jimbô-chô, Kanda, Tôkyô.

A very lengthy book entitled *Tôyô Rinrigakushi* (History of Oriental Ethics) has been published by the Shôyei-dô. The writer is Mr. Kimura Takatarô. Dr. Inoue Tetsujirô contributes a preface. The work sells at 2 *yen* 80 *sen* a copy.

Shina Tetsugakushi (Chinese Philosophy) is is the title of a book of which Mr. Endo Rûykichi, teacher at the Higher Normal School, is the author. It gives a thorough history of the development of philosophic thought in China and discusses the merits of the leaders of the various schools. The price is 1 *yen* 20 *sen* and the publishers are the Kinkô-dô.

Siberia Mongolia Ryokô is the title of a work of Travels translated by Mr. Osada Shûtô. The book is praised by the *Teikoku Bungaku* as being the best of its kind published in recent years.

* * *

Various accounts of the life of Enchô, the great *hanashika*, have appeared in the newspapers, from which we cull the following particulars. His father Entarô, whose occupation was roof-making, was very much opposed to his son's taking to public speaking and with a view of changing his mind apprenticed Jurôkichi, as Enchô was then called, to the famous painter Kuniyoshi. But the boy made no progress in his new study and his father at length reluctantly allowed him to follow the bent of his own genius. For some time he lived with his father in Asakusa and trudged all the way to Shinagawa time after time to speak at *yose* there. For some time his remuneration was very small and his early days were full of hardship and privation. He gradually became a great reader and made a special study of Buddhism. He was no less clever with his pen than with his tongue. It was his habit to visit the scenes of his stories and to take notes of all special features of the place he was at.

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To the *Kyūshu Club* Mr Machida contributes an article on the progress of education in Formosa, from which it would seem that many of the difficulties encountered by Mr. Izawa Shūji and other pioneers five years ago have been overcome. The elementary schools designed for Formosan boys are attended by some 1,200 pupils. Two-thirds of these are Formosans; the rest Chinese. Japan has established 16 or 17 schools in various parts of the island. From the graduates of these schools students for a normal school have been selected. Great efforts have been made to induce the Formosans to study Japanese. At first considerable opposition was met with, but the situation is said to be daily improving. Mr. Machida is of opinion that what are called the savages of Formosa have been exasperated very much by the treatment that they received from the Chinese for a very long time, but that if dealt with kindly they are by no means a difficult people to manage. Any one who would be prepared to go and live among them with the determination to comform to their mode of life and eat their food would be quite free from the harm. Intellectually they are on a very low level. They have great difficulty in counting, and can not perform the simplest arithmetical calculation. If 5 articles of food be given to 2 persons, they will after appropriating two each throw the remaining one away, not knowing how to divide it.

YOSHINO, KANAGAWA PREFECTURE.

The charms of Kanagawa Prefecture have not been—can not be—appreciated until one has paid a visit to this most picturesque hamlet, ensconced among the peaks of a range of low hills and overlooking the rapid Katsura river, famous for the size and delicacy of its *ayu*. Here the nights are cool, and the days not unpleasantly warm. The great difficulty lies in the approach to Yoshino, which is situated on the confines of Kanagawa Prefecture, only a few *cho* from the boundary of Yamanashi. From Hachioji—1 hour and fifty minutes from Iidamachi Station, Tokyo—the road leads through an undulating country, past Kawaraji and Takao-bashi, to Yamashita, three and a half *ri* to the north-west. This road leaves much to be desired, cut up as it constantly is by heavy loads of brick and stone borne by clumsy *nigurumа*. The charge for one seat in a rickety and almost springless coach, is fifty *sen* for the distance from Hachioji, and the panting, trembling ponies have all they can do to draw the lumbering vehicle to its destination. A brief halt is made at Takao-bashi, near which lies the celebrated though very ugly Takao-san shrine. This place used formerly to do a thriving business in a sort of wooden comb, the virtue of which lay in the fact that the user had no need to apprehend alopecia, as the sacred wood kept one's hair from falling out and produced a new, luxuriant growth. Shades of Mrs. Allen! Why did not a few chips of this beneficent wood find their way into her world-famous Hair-restorer? But the modern lack of credulity has sadly interfered with the one-time prosperity of Takao-san, and few be the bald devotees that now find their way to the deserted shrine.

From Yamashita the road grows decidedly worse, being cut up into deep ruts, which become veritable quagmires after a rain-fall. A stiff walk of ten *cho* brings one to the top of the Kobotoke Pass, celebrated in song and story. Just across this Pass, coaches used, in former years, to await the advent of footsore pedestrians; but the road has now become so "inhuman" that the ride is a perilous one, and the wretched vehicles await victims fully 5½ *ri* farther on—at Uenohara, a thriving townlet on the confines of Yamanashi Prefecture. From Yamashita one walks to this place—Yoshino—a distance of 3½ *ri*, over a most stony-hearted, dusty and altogether unsatisfactory road, whereon constant attempts are being made to repair the worst places in the approved Japanese fashion of dumping cart-loads of cobblestones into the ruts and sloughs until something distantly resembling a level is arrived at. It is not—I speak from personal experience and emphatically repeat, it is *not*—advisable to attempt this long and wearisome track in ordinary shoes. In many places the road is so slippery and the descent so abrupt that—well, I measured quite a decent fraction of the journey with my back, reaching Yoshino in such a tatterdemalion condition that tears started unbidden at the first glimpse of my dusty, ragged self in a mirror. With the hot August sun overhead, the reddish dusty road glows and trembles with heat with most satisfactory results as to the keeping up of a "sharp moisture on the skin." Several villages of more or less picturesque appearance and sordid reality are passed. About 18 *cho* away from Yoshino the path leads off downhill to the rushing Katsura, which, by twice fording or crossing in a ferry, saves a detour of nearly 5 *cho*. Every now and then one comes across the road being built by the Kobu Railway Company from Hachioji to Kobu. The twelve-mile line between Kobotoke and Hachioji is now completed, and will be opened to the public in September or October of the present year. A fine bit of engineering, and picturesque to a degree. From Kobotoke there is a long series of tunnels, the road-bed being nearly 500 feet above the level of the Katsura-gawa. The tunnel under the Kobotoke Pass is a little more than one mile long, and will have taken three years to hollow out when completed. Here the rock is comparatively soft, but farther on, the tunnel beneath the Sasao Pass—the one under the celebrated *Saru-hashi* or "Monkey Bridge"—will take fully seven years to exacavate, the granite being of peculiarly unyielding nature. Here at Yoshino one constantly hears the low rumble of subterranean blasts, sometimes three or four in rapid succession. For from Hachioji to Kofu—about 25-26 *ri*—the country is extremely hilly and presents many obstacles to the railway engineer. Yet nothing could be more effective than the view on all sides. From the window of the cleanly-matted room in which these lines are written, one can count the peaks of thirteen hills, each and every one covered with luxuriant verdure and dotted with miniature farms, or orchards of small mulberry-trees. For this is a great silk worm breeding place, and in every second house one hears the whirr of the wheel whereon the glistening threads are unwound from the cocoon. It is pretty, cleanly work, although I personallly should not chose this particular form of exercise.

Frankly speaking, Yoshino is not much of a place. There is only one really good inn—the Sakamotoya—whose kindly host is averse to the practice of charging Europeans more than his Japanese guests. The rooms, especially those to the rear, are clean and command a magnificent view, which is best at moonlight or when a thin veil of mist seems to fall gently from the low clouds which crown the verdant peaks. The *metbutsu*, a famous product of this out-of-the way hamlet, is the *ayu*, and of a size that would astonish one accustomed to those of the Tamagawa. Some of these delicious fish run up to nearly a pound in weight, and afford delightful sport to the disciple of Isaak Walton. I could not get a "rise" though I tried several sorts of fly, and was finally compelled to resort to the Japanese method, which is unique in the present writer's experience. A lively *ayu*, technically and locally known as the *tane*—the "seed" or decoy fish—is fastened to a stout horse-hair line, by means of a thin bit of wire passing through his snout. To the line just beyond the *tane* are fastened two other short pieces of horse-hair, to which hooks, two in number and of a somewhat curious shape, are attached. When the *tane* is lowered into the rapid stream, these hooks hang close by his side; the *ayu* being a gregarious fish, others soon come to bear the *tane* company, and, rubbing up along his silvery sides, swallow the unbaited hook for some metaphysical reason that I have been wholly unable to discover. The water being always more or less *nigotta* or turbid, it often happens that one has to wait an hour or more for a "bite"; yet so "contrary" is the wily *ayu* that a stalwart fisherman, standing in the rapids not twenty feet away, got two fine fish in less than ten minutes, while I signalised my initiation into the art by losing even the *tane* itself among the sharp boulders. The stream is so swift that even an expert swimmer can make no headway against it; even in the shallows it is all one can do to keep in the same place. In the centre, the depth varies from ten to fifteen or more feet. But the river is none the less magnificent, narrow though it be. In the course of thousands of years it has hollowed out for itself a beautiful passage through the sheer rocks, clad with hydrangea, the meadow-sweet, and lilies of every hue and sweetest perfume. I counted five species of hybiscus within half-a-mile's walk. Gorgeous butterflies are everywhere, the principal species being *Papilio agamemnon*, *P. bianor* and *P. xanthus*, the last-named larger than I have seen anywhere else. Beetles of surprising size and lustrous colouring are abundant. Two species of kingfisher haunt the more solitary reaches of the stream, while the snowy egret and pretty dabchick are frequent visitors. The granite rock is, in most places, a trachytic formation, with veins of intrusive quartz. This granite, when water-worn, takes a greyish tinge that is singularly beautiful when contrasted with the dark-green of the ever-present ferns or the striking hues of the lilies—the *oni yuri* and *hime-yuri*.

With regard to the *ayu*-fishing, mine host of the Sakamotoya guarantees a boat with two men—one to pole and one to fish—for the whole day for the modest sum of two *yen*. June is *par excellence* the month of the year. In that month the *ayu* come in veritable shoals from the higher breeding-grounds, and are more than usually delicious. With regard to prices, one large fish commands a value of say, ten *sen*; but this is rare. The average prices for fish of good size is from 3 to 8 *sen*. In my own case, these prices were so attractive that I speedily had a large basket of fish, to show in triumph on my return. It was not until some hours later that this excusable ruse of the disappointed angler was detected, when I became the butt of much good-natured laughter.

From Yoshino the road leads over a very precipitous route, to Uenohara. This is a regular little town, two or three times the size of Yoshino, and prettier in everyway. I can recommend the Wakamatsuya as a good inn, although the bill of fare is strictly confined to eggs and occasional scrawny beef. Ice and beer are obtainable as at Yoshino, and these two, properly mixed, serve to pass the time away with not-too-great monotony. This little discovery of my own I offer for the general good of the public; it is hardly worth taking out patent-rights.

"Oh, goy!" to quote Artemus Ward. The smiling landlady informs me that to-morrow morning a . . . . . horse will be at my disposal, to bear me Kōfu-wards. This is pleasant news indeed, fully outweighing the corollary that "there is no saddle—nothing but a blanket." Well, anything better than walking those two *ri*.

F.W.E.

THE CEMETERY OF GENOA.

(By F. Staniland.)

In journeying from the Far East to the Far West the traveller passes through a variety of climates, and becomes familiar with strange people and stranger scenes. Travelling educates, puts the finishing touch to scholastic acquirements, expands the sympathies, broadens the ideas on men and things, and takes off the edge of national prejudices. The world is not so big, after all, as one is apt to imagine it to be, and it is getting geographically less every year, and men and women are very much the same the world over. Steam and electricity have brought the East and West together, and Shakespeare's prophetic utterance finds its almost literal fulfilment to-day in the submarine cable. We can "chain the lightnings" and almost "put a girdle round the earth in 40 minutes."

Most of your readers are familiar with the various and picturesque scenes *en route* from West to East. The animated scenes around the recently anchored vessel, the curious methods of the natives, especially in trading their various commodities, the interesting cities, ports of call—these are all familiar to the ordinary traveller; but it falls, perhaps, to the lot of the favoured few to view the ruins of Pompeii, to gaze upon the belt of flames which crown the summit of Vesuvius, to fish in the Suez Canal, be swindled by the jewellers of Colombo,

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or to gaze upon the magnificent statuary which adorns the sepulchres of the wealthy in Genoa's cemetery.

It has been said, expressive of the beauties of Naples, "see Naples and die." But before one decides upon so momentous a matter, I would suggest that he should first take a glimpse at Genoa. Travelling by sea is becoming every year a matter of greater comfort, and the magnificent vessels of the Norddeutscher Lloyd, on one of which I travelled, seem to have reached the high water mark in this direction. Officers and crew seem, by their uniform courtesy and consideration, desirous of doing all that is possible for the comfort of their passengers.

The one thing which impresses a passing traveller in frowsy, shoddy, and voluptuous Naples is the apparent poverty of the people. Around the largest and best shops in the Peter Robinsons of Naples, are seen little crowds of women, buying their few yards of dress material, and most of the customers are evidently poor, whereas, one of the first impressions which Genoa conveys is that it is a city of wealth. It is beautifully situated, and is studded with noble mansions and stately cathedrals. Broad streets and sweeping crescents enhance its beauty, and its suburbs extend along the bay several miles, crowning the cliffs and hill sides with stately residences and charming villas. Luxuriant foliage and rich vineyards, on which the Italian sun is shining, make up a scene of beauty, as it seems to pass, in panoramic stateliness, astern of the vessel slowly steaming along the coast.

The one place of interest above all others to a passing traveller at Genoa, is the magnificent cemetery. To land at Genoa, and not see this wonderful exhibition of Italian statuary, is to miss the one thing which makes Genoa famous. It is one of the many wonders of Italy, and perhaps of the world.

To describe the cemetery is impossible. Language alone can convey but a faint conception of its beauties, nor can an artist's pencil limn its charms of chiselled beauty.

In the central avenue of a quadrangle there stands a colossal figure of Hope. Her eyes are directed heavenward in anticipation of the coming dawn. Her drapery falls around her in graceful lines, and the figure stands some 25 or 30 feet high.

The cemetery consists of double corridors of arched and embellished masonry, surrounding a quadrangle, and a cross section separates the quadrangle from another graveyard of circular form—an emblem of eternity. The corridors face inward, and at the back of the figure of Hope there rises a classic building, with pillared front, somewhat resembling a Grecian theatre. In the open spaces: open to heaven's sunshine and rain, lie the bodies of the poorer classes, and they are surrounded by all the lavish expenditure of the wealthy. They lie in mother earth, and over the simple mounds are small tombstones, some 30 inches high, and generally in the form of a cross, intersecting a wreath of flowers.

Flowers and foliage grow in rich profusion in the thickly interred graveyard, and the atmosphere is laden with the scent of them.

Noticeable too, is the odour of the living and the dead, for some flowers breathe the fragrance of fresh life while mingled with them is the smell of decayed and decaying wreaths.

Thus do the sunny hours of mortal life,
Blend into one the living and the dead.

The arched and groined corridors are studded with the emblems of immortality in sculptured marble. They are lofty, and for the most part the recesses are occupied and sealed with mural tablets and inscriptions.

The vaults are like the catacombs of Rome, which is not far away, and the walls are solid masses of masonry, the outer surfaces containing, or consisting of, shelves long enough and deep enough to lay a coffin in the recess. These shelves rise one above another to the number of six from floor to ceiling. The casket is placed in and sealed up, sufficient surface space being left for the insertion of mural tablets. When sealed the recesses are practically air-tight; no moisture can even enter, for the corridors are arched and roofed. Both sides of the corridors are built in this way, but there are family tombs, where the entire archway is one mass of marble statuary, Others are filled in single tombs, and each rectangle has some new design, some new conception in marble. Not a solitary vault is plain; each is a work of art, and they would extend for several miles if laid in a single row.

The flooring of the spacious corridors is also full of vaults. The marble pavement is so inlaid that rectangular slabs form the centre pieces as well as the covering of a grave.

Ribbons of black silk, with illuminated texts in Italian, are festooned over many of the tombs, and flowers and plants are so numerous and lavish in quantity, and so costly and rich in variety and artistic arrangement, that it is like walking through the conservatories of a florist or a decorated marble hall.

A very pathetic feature is a children's gallery. Here small receptacles are ranged for infants of a little day as well as those of a few brief sunny years. In the centre of these galleries were monuments of exquisite design.

Candles and lamps are placed before most of the tombs, and globes and shades protect the flame which burns before the sepulchres and shrines. Some of these candles were 3in. in diameter and 3½ to 5 feet high, and would probably burn night and day for a month.

But I must leave general description and select a few out of the many thousands of sculptured monuments which demand, not the inspection of a few hours, but a careful and studious interest of many days. The tombs display the innate artistic instincts of the Italian. The cemetery is a museum of art, and it is no exaggeration to say that the statuary and sculpture of Westminster Abbey. St. Paul's Cathedral, and St. George's Chapel at Windsor, put together, would convey no idea of the delicate beauty of these monuments in the cemetery of Genoa. They would sink into utter insignificance in the comparison.

One of the monuments was the figure of a mother supporting on her arm a dying child. She has her right hand over the child's heart, and the anxiety and intense solicitude of the mother are vividly expressed in every lineament of the face. Every detail of the scene is delineated, every fold of the little night dress, every bit of frilling and embroidery on coverlet and pillow, makes up a realistic scene which can readily be imagined to have taken place in that sick chamber. The child is in a bassinet of basket work, and even the tapes which hold the lining are carved with fidelity and care.

In an archway, and occupying the entire space, is a tragic scence. Rising above a fallen man stands a giant warrior like a gladiator. With poised spear, and merciless rigidity of expression, he is about to hurl his javelin into the heart of the prostrate man. The details of the scene are forgotten in the general effect of a passing scrutiny, but here, too, everything is in perfect harmony, nothing is strained, nothing out of proportion; all is in perfect symmetry, a work of genius and of art

Francesco Bonini is depicted in another arched recess as lying upon his couch, with the death sweats upon his brow. His last moment has come, and the cross which he has been holding has dropped with his right hand upon the disordered coverlet, now trailing upon the floor. His eyes are wistfully looking out into the ocean of futurity. Hope and trembling, fear, faith, prayerful yearning, are all expressed by the artist's chisel, and above the couch, with wings poised for flight, and with hands waiting to receive the immortal essence of the man, there stands, or rather floats, an angel of queenly beauty and exquisite grace. Benignity and calm assurance, combined with sympathetic interest in the anxiety of the dying man, are all pourtrayed; but no hand is laid upon him, no touch of that pure angel can be permitted to reach the crumbling tenement of fallen humanity. It is for him alone to cross the barrier; but angel hands and angel wings are waiting to bear away the emancipated spirit. The whole conception is divine. It is the expression of the immortal instincts of the human soul engraved in beautiful and imperishable marble.

In a recess in an outer corridor, into which the warmth and light of the Italian sun is streaming, is a little girl of three or four years old. It has on a lace and embroidered frock, low at the neck, and the arms are bare to the shoulder. Bows of ribbon across the shoulder hold the under garments in position. The child's shoes and socks are delineated in every fold, and the ribbed upper part of the sock is faithfully carved. The curling hair is fluttering around the child's head, and it has secured from somewhere a piece of ribbon, and with this and a string of lovely flowers it has innocently woven its own death wreath. Could anything be more pathetic? And all the surroundings show the child to have been playing in a beautiful home.

Death is represented in its most pathetic aspects. It is depicted also in its terrors. Its inexorableness is realised in marble black and white. It is dignified. It is the herald of peace. It is the messenger of wrath. It is a fiend of hate. It is the gentle touch of love. All are here in living sculpture. It is poetic. It is the realisation of immortality. It is the benignant harbinger of heaven's sunrise, the everlasting spring and never withering flowers of heaven's vast conservatories. Galleries upon galleries, tier above tier, sepulchre upon sepulchre, these tombs are ranged in seemingly endless variety of immortal art. Here beauty reigns in living stone to adorn the caskets and perpetuate the memory of the dead. You can apprentice men to stonemasons, and they may become good workmen; but you cannot apprentice men to sculptors. Artists, poets, musicians, orators, sculptors, rise into being at the touch of inspiration—and the inspiration of genius.

Here is a tragic scene. A young and beautiful woman in evening dress of clinging drapery, her neck and shoulders bare, and her hair dressed in the elegant Italian style, has been suddenly seized by a gaunt and ghastly spectre. Through a thin fold of drapery are disclosed the rigid form and horrible skull and skeleton of death. It is like an erect and rigid corpse, from which the flesh is gone, and only the shroud remains upon the form. With one hand upon the woman's shoulder, the other grasping her right wrist, he has locked her in his deadly embrace. She is young and she is strong. Life holds out the promise of sunny years, and she struggles to be free. But death has laid his hands upon her, and she is struggling against inexorable fate. Her left hand is free, and she is holding herself off from that rigid corpse. Death stands with stony eye sockets, relentless, without pity, and the sequel to that awful struggle is in the epitaph below. Death conquered. The statuary is in black marble, and the whole conception is pourtrayed in startling reality and terrible vividness.

Some kindlier spirit, viewing death but as the passing of the human soul from dim obscurity to the immortal radiance of sunless day, has stamped his conception in marble of purest white. The design fills the whole arched recess, and occupies a space some 12 or 15 feet by 25. A dying woman is sinking, and the artist has taken the moment of the spirit's flight as his conception. An angel has just received her charge, and is poised for flight to bear away the disembodied spirit of the woman, whose earthly tabernacle is left for other hands to care for and other hearts to mourn.

Immortality breathes with every inspiration of the human soul. The yearning for a life beyond the soiled and rotten cerements of earth is a divine and an inalienable instinct of humanity, and it will find its realisation as surely as the swallow finds the southern clime. Italy has expressed these aspirations in living statuary. Men see not art who see not Italy.

One more scene, and I have done. Here is a family tomb, and on a handsome couch, upholstered with embossed velvet, is carved the silent form of one who has just passed away. A covering is placed over the recumbent figure, and leaning over it is a woman of some 28 or 30 years of age. She is attired in some material resembling heavy velvet, whose folds fall in natural grace and beauty around her stooping form. Across her shoulders, and falling to her waist, is a costly mantilla of magnificent lace, which is partly thrown over her head in Italian style. With left hand poised, as if to enjoin silence, and with head slightly inclined, she has raised, with her right hand, the covering from the dead man's face. She has raised it just sufficient to disclose the features of a young man of

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30 or 35 years of age. It is her husband, who has been dead perhaps an hour, and she has crept in to steal another glance at the loved face. Her own face is a pathetic study—awe, solemnity, and even fear is there, mingled with love, sorrow, and deep distress of heart. Her lovely face is full of pain, and her distress inspires a feeling of sympathy, and a desire to lead her away from a scene she loves, with fearful pain, to gaze upon and weep.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense, responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

MECRE *v.* MUNRO: AN EXPLANATION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—From public, as well as from personal considerations, I beg to open the subject which led to yesterday's surprise party at the Yokohama Saibansho.

The following letter, written in June, after the presentation of the first claim, explains the position of affairs. *ab initio*.

[COPY.]

A. O Gay, Esq., Chairman,
Committee of General Hospital, Yokohama.

Sir,—I beg to lay before the Committee of the Yokohama General Hospital, a statement of the question at issue between Dr. Mecre and myself, regarding certain financial matters connected with the institution. In order to present the matter to you in, what seems to me to be, its proper proportions, I venture to briefly state the facts from which it has been evolved.

Dr. Mecre leased the old Hospital building free of rent, on the condition that he would pay ground rent, fire insurance, and keep the Hospital buildings and their contents in a state of thorough order and repair. This latter condition was not fulfilled. The buildings fell into a state of partial decay, and their contents deteriorated.

When the lease expired, Dr. Mecre undertook to erect a new hospital and to satisfy the committee that it would be properly equipped and conducted. An agreement was entered into whereby Dr. Mecre received a free lease for fifteen years and the right to sell the old buildings. He undertook to erect a new building "planned and fitted for a hospital of the most approved type, with a view to the best sanitary conditions." In the event of failure in this, or in any of the other conditions, he agreed to forfeit his rights over the said Hospital, which would thereupon "become and remain the property of the committee in trust for the Foreign Community of Yokohama."

Dr. Mecre also agreed to retain the services of an English speaking physician, and accordingly I entered on my work in the Hospital in October, 1896.

The new Hospital building was not well adapted to hospital requirements and the sanitary arrangements were very bad. Considerable alterations had to be made, part of the expense being borne by Dr Mecre and part by the public of Yokohama.

A proper operating room was not provided, and this, together with a sterilising room, cellar and other accommodation were built by public subscription.

Excluding the cost of the Insane Ward, at least six thousand *yen* have been subscribed for the improvement of the construction and fixtures, and it may now be said that the Hospital building is now well adapted for its purpose.

The furnishing of the Hospital was, at this time, as faulty and incomplete as the building itself. Ordinary room furnishings there were, including beds, but utensils and instruments were sadly deficient in quantity and quality, and there was no apparatus which could be used for the toilette of surgical cases. For fifteen years the aseptic treatment of wounds has been an absolute necessity in surgery, but there was no apparatus for this purpose. Neither were there any nurses, so that patients had no proper attention or care. Dr. Mecre told me that it was his intention to supply these deficiencies in time, when he could better afford it, but as they were absolutely necessary from the beginning, I arranged with him to pay the nurses out of my pocket and that he would provide their food.

For fourteen months I paid the nursing staff, besides supplying instruments and utensils.

As you are aware, other difficulties regarding the feeding of patients, and supplies in general, arose, and at the end of 1897 it was arranged that I should undertake the Hospital control. I regret very much that it has been found impossible to conduct the Hospital within the limits of assistance which were then indicated. Had the Hospital been properly fitted and supplied from the start, and had it not been under the necessity of paying rent to Dr Mecre, it might have been possible to have carried it on within the limits of yen 2,000 annually. Last year was an especially hard year, as, owing to the diminished shipping in Yokohama there was a dearth of paying 3rd class patients; while it was impossible for us to diminish the trained staff which was reserved for them, nor other expenses in this connection.

The Hospital was, in fact, handicapped in a manner not usual to such institutions, and in considering the present deficit, I would ask you to note that besides the sum of six thousand yen spent in improving the buildings and fixtures, between yen 3,000 and yen 4,000 had to be spent in furnishing and in supplying utensils, apparatus, instruments, surgical stores, and in repairs.

A very moderate valuation was placed on the stock in hand, namely yen 2,400, and Dr. Mecre was asked to take this over. The electric light and other fixtures were not included in the estimate nor was Dr. Mecre asked to pay for them. He was not asked to pay for the operation room, which he ought to have supplied, nor was he asked to pay the balance of the bill incurred in making the Hospital habitable. Dr. Mecre agreed to take the stock over, but it appears that he afterwards made the proviso in writing that he should only pay for it in installments.

In the beginning of this year, and before the return of Dr. Mecre, I had notice from his representative, Mr. Coye, and his legal advisor that the rent was overdue, and that a sum of about *yen* 40 on fire insurance had not been paid. *Yen* 300 was paid on account, and a delay was asked for, as the Hospital was in a bad financial condition.

I resigned in February, but agreed to continue my medical services until the arrival of Dr. Mecre. He arrived in the end of March, and I left on the 15th of April. I spoke with him several times during that time, but he has never once mentioned to me the matter of the rent, nor insurances being overdue, nor has he written to me on the subject.

You can imagine my astonishment therefore, when I received a notice from the Yokohama Saibansho to appear therein and shew cause why I had not paid yen 40 for fire insurance. It was only quite accidentally that I found out, after receipt of the notice to appear in court, that my name had been given to the *Yorozu Choho* newspaper four days previously, as the defendant in an action to be taken against me in the Saibansho. I have since received another order to attend court to pay arrears of rent and have been forced to incur legal expenses in order to defend the same.

During all this time Dr. Mecre has had security to the extent of yen 2,400 in the Hospital. Since the 15th day of April, he has been using the material representing the above amount and has paid nothing for it up to the present time.

What motives lie behind this affront, or have prompted Dr. Mecre to transgress so violently the world-wide rules of common politeness, not to say professional courtesy, are questions to be settled before the proper tribunal.

I shall only ask the indulgence of the Committee when I say that I have acted throughout towards Dr. Mecre in a spirit of fair play. Owing to my consideration for his position, he has been saved much heavy expense. I paid nurses out of my own pocket, and also for many instruments, in order to diminish his expenses. It was I who organised the improvements, which, through the beneficence of the Yokohama Public, have brought the Hospital to its present state of utility, nor did I consider my pocket nor grudge time in the weightier matters connected with the sick within its doors.

During three years Dr. Mecre enjoyed a rental from the Hospital, instead of working it at a loss, and has received from this source considerably more than the whole of the Hospital deficit. It was only toward the end of last year that there was a shortcoming, in the matter of rent whereas his own shortcomings in matters of construction and fitting, were known from the beginning, and had it not been for my help, he would long ere this have had to incur serious loss.

I say that now he is under a moral, and it would seem a legal, obligation to see that the Hospital is fitted according to the most approved type. The material, which was purchased at a very much higher figure, is there, and his purchase of it would greatly diminish the indebtedness of the Hospital, and enable Dr Mecre to rectify a contract which, up to the present time, has not been fulfilled.

Yours faithfully, N. GORDON MUNRO.

In answer to this, I received a note from the Chairman of the Hospital Committee, asking if I were willing to submit the matter to arbitration. I agreed, and, acting on advice from the same source, I got a postponment of the trial till after the summer holidays, and instructed my counsel in the meantime not to put forward my counter claims for *yen* 2,400.

It would seem that the negotiations did not progress owing to the fact that Dr. Mecre sought to have the question reopened—as to the amount of his indebtedness to the Hospital Committee.

It never occured to me that hostilities would be resumed without due notice having been given to me that the proposed arbitration had fallen through.

Such a procedure is not quite consistent with our ideas of fair play, and I am quite sure that the Committee of the Hospital did not anticipate it.

Yours faithfully,
Neil Gordon Munro.

Yokohama, Sept. 21st, 1900.

PRINCE TWAN AND CHINA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The sagacity and penetration with which your paper dealt with the Chinese crisis has won the admiration of those most familiar with the situation. It is on this account that the writer feels the more impelled to call in question your estimate of Prince Twan as expressed in an editorial of Sept. 17th, entitled "Punitive Measures." This editorial was suggested by the Peking correspondent of the London *Times* demanding the execution of Prince Twan and other organizers of the massacres. You admit that the perpetrators of the murders of foreigners deserve the gallows, but hold that Prince Twan's connection with them was at the most in that he "favoured the Boxers," that he "sympathized with and encouraged them." No one would urge that every misguided Chinese patriot who sympathized with the Boxer patriots should be punished as accessory to their crimes. But when the encourager of murderers is a leader in the Government the case is altered. And further Prince Twan's relation to the Boxers can hardly be styled that of mere sympathy. Nor is it a case of a Chinese statesman having to choose between joining hands with or turning his back upon a patriotic society already organized as you imply in the issue of Sept. 20th. This would appear from the following considerations.

The first suggestion of raising a sort of militia to assist in driving out foreigners was made, some two years ago, in a memorial by Gen. Tung Fu Hsiang, then just returned from suppressing the Mohammedan rebellion in Kansu. Prince Twan eagerly seized on the suggestion and secured an edict calling on the people to unite in practicing the Boxer gymnastics for the purpose of "home protection."

Prince Twan proceeded to foster the anti-foreign ideas among his own troops and called in the Boxers mesmerists to work among them. So successful was he that last April when the movement was just reaching the common people around Peking, having spread gradually from Shantung, where Gov. Yü Hsien started it a year before, it was commonly said that Prince Twan's troops were already Boxers to a man and that he was himself the chief of the organization. He was said to have announced his purpose to have a "bed mat made of foreign devils' skins."

A few days before the attack by the Boxers on the railways, May 28th, the common report was that the orders had come from the Empress Dowager "to breed disorder with all speed," and that the Imperial troops were to assist if the Boxers met with any reverse. Prince Twan was said to have issued orders to the Boxers in harmony with this edict. The Prince's influence seemed to increase and soon after an edict was sent out to kill foreigners throughout the empire. Chinese scholars tell us this edict was Prince Twan's composition, and the Southern Viceroys according to reports from Shanghai refused to obey or promulgate this and other edicts on the ground that it emanated from Prince Twan, who had usurped the throne. Doubtless the *Peking Gazette* for the last few months will reveal the fact that Prince Twan as the adviser of the Empress Dowager secured repeated edicts for the extermination of the foreigners, and as Head of the Boxers has issued orders for particular massacres and attacks upon the Peking Legations. The documentary evidence on this point of the Government's relations to the Boxers is abundant and conclusive. An example of such evidence outside the *Peking Gazette* is Yü Hsien's report to the throne of having carried out orders to the extent of killing 51 foreigners in his own yamen.

We can hardly avoid the conclusion that the relation of Prince Twan, as well as of the Empress and her party, to the crimes of the Boxers is that of commanding officer to the acts of obedient subordinates. He and they have the same sort of guilt as Herod for the beheading of John, or Yü Hsien for the massacre in his yamen at Tai-yüen. Just as it would be unequal justice to punish the red-handed Boxers in Shanhsi and let the Governor go scot free, so it would be to punish the Governor and let Prince Twan go free.

But from the Occidental point of view the punishment of Prince Tuan and his party is just. From an Oriental point of view it is essential. The heathen Chinese can understand justice but not mercy. He also understands the responsibility to higher authority

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and the responsibility of those in highest authority. Unless these leaders be punished the mass of Chinese will never believe that the Powers were able either to mete out justice or even to defend themselves. Until the *literati* and commoners are convinced of this power of the nations to mete out justice there can be no safety or peace for foreigners in China. The punishment of the leaders in some form, whether by banishment to Saghalien or execution, will carry more weight than the slaughter of myriads of Boxers. It will, moreover, render that slaughter unnecessary.

For the present Government to consent to the punishment of these leaders is of course impossible, for it is self-condemnation as well as censure of the father of the future emperor. But it would be the vindication of the rightful emperor in the eyes of the people. It would do more than all else to suppress the Boxers into submission where voluntary submission to the inevitable presence of the foreigner is impossible. It would win the large class who are ready for reform as well as a larger class who have suffered at the hands of the Boxers and are revolting against them. Such punishment could not be accomplished except by tedious and expensive military operations. But such operations could hardly be more expensive than would be a repetition of the present conditions a generation hence.

Some punishment must be rendered these leaders so conspicuous that all the nation shall know it. The fact that it satisfies our elementary passions and has been proposed by those who have borne the horrors of the siege should not blind us to the fact that such punishment is also just, rational and expedient too in the long run. It is not revenge they call for, nor even justice for the sake of pure justice, but rather a guarantee of safety and peace in the future.

Respectfully, GEO. D. WILDER.
Karuizawa, Sept. 21st, 1900.

NOT A FAIR START.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Last year about this time I remember to have seen in your paper notice called to the fact that game of various kinds was to be found on the tables of diverse and sundry, inhabitants of Yokohama, previous to the commencement of the shooting season.

This morning, about 9 a.m., I noticed a servant carrying quite openly on the Bluff a brace of young pheasants, and two, or two and a half couple of snipe; the birds were partially picked, but their heads were untouched.

Have the police no eyes? Or no intention of carrying out the law?

What would they to say to me if they caught me in the act of purveying an equally good dinner for myself before the season commences.

Yours truly, GERVAS HOLMES.
Tokyo, Sept. 22nd, 1900.

THE GAME QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Referring to the subject of Mr. Holmes' letter in your to-day's issue, what is to be said of the blindness of the local Police to infringements of regulations referring to game protection, when I tell you that to my personal knowledge pheasant and snipe have appeared on the menu of two of the principal hotels in Yokohama for the past two weeks, and the local purveyor to one of the leading steamship companies has supplied his patrons with game at least since the 15th?

Why don't the police prosecute the buyers of game? This would soon put a stop to the killing of game out of season, and I am sure they would have the blessing of all good sports.

I am, faithfully, etc. "SPORTSMAN."
Yokohama, Sept. 24th, 1900.

AN ANTIPODEAN ASPECT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There are two sides to every question, and the "Chinese Question" is no exception, as the two following extracts from recent Australian newspapers will prove. For the information of those unacquainted with the topography of the city of Melbourne, I may mention that "Little Bourke St." is the Celestial quarter of that city.

Yours, etc., "AUSTRALIAN."

The Chinaman is not generally credited with an enlarged sense of humour, but there is a Chinese proprietor of a cook-shop off Little Bourke-street who is evidently something of a humorist in his own Oriental way. Arguing over the Chinese war with an intrusive band of young journalists the other night, he said:—"Wha' for Eulopean go steal my country? Lussian come cut off big lump, say 'That mine.' Flenchman cut off nother lump, Engliceeman, Germanman, cut off lot more. Wha' for? Plesently leave no bit for China. Wha' for Eulopean sen' missionary up China? Wha' for Austlalian sen' him too? Big cheek! Chineeman no sen' missionaly to Australia. What you say my go up China, my callee gedder lot Chineeman, say: 'Austlalia lot savagee, lallikin welly bad, beatee Chineeman, tlow stone, killee poo' Chineeman, you go be missionary, teachee lallikin better, convet him, makee him good fellow'? How you likee that, eh? Why no makee you nussionary man stop here, convetee lallikin, eh? S'posee my go out tly convertee lallikin, what happen me? Five pong costee me for funeral. Missionary man get buried in China fi' shilly." With this flattering comparison the cook retired triumphantly.

There is one little Bourke-street philosopher who has an intellectual grasp of the Chinese difficulty, and whom it would pay the Celestial Dowager Empress to have at her right elbow as first adviser to the mother-in-law of the sun and grand-aunt of the moon and stars. This parncular Sin Fat has been in Australia many years; he is a politician, and has a vote as a British subject, but is still a patriot and true to the bones of his forefathers. His sympathies are all with the Chinese cause as against the Foreign Devils. "Yah!" exclaims the pigtailed diplomat with fine contempt; "Chineeman over China heap fool letee Eulopean man Melican man come long sit down on top China, do what him likee. Why no keep him out all-a-gedder? Why for no? Easy that if Chinaman knew politics same me. Me keep em outsi', my word. Me do what Austalee man do keep Chineeman outsi' Austalee—me put him big poll tax on evely one Englicee soldier man, every one Lussian soldier man, evely one Melican soldier man. Me keepee all outsi'—my word!"

CONFERENCE OF MISSIONARIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly insert the following notice in behalf of the Coming Conference of Missionaries?

It has been suggested by a friend that there are a number of Missionaries from China staying at present in Japan who would like to attend the Missionary Conference, but are not quite certain whether they would be welcome.

In behalf of the Committee of Arrangements I feel free to state that our brethren and sisters from China will be most heartily welcome to attend the Conference, and take part in the deliberations as far as is consistent with the nature of the meetings. We are sorry that we cannot at the same time make provision for their entertainment, but such has not thus far been possible even for all the Missionaries located in Japan.

We trust this notice will be brought to the attention of the Missionaries from China by any one who reads it and is in contact with said Missionaries.

Yours truly, ALBERT OLTMANS,
Chairman of Committee.

Saga, Sept. 24th, 1900.

CRICKET.

BORN IN JAPAN *v.* THE REST.

The Outlanders of Yokohama went down again before the Native-Born—to use Kipling's expressive phrase—on Saturday, making the third defeat for this season. The losing team contained some of the best and most experienced cricketers left in Yokohama, so the outlook for the Interport match cannot be said to be very bright. Among the bowlers for the Native-Born E. W. Kilby came out best with the splendid average of 2.2 runs per wicket, taking 6 wickets for 14 runs. The top score was made by G. Braess, his 68 including six 4's; and six 3's. Score:—

THE REST.

Mr. F. H. Bugbird, b. P. B. Clarke	7
Mr. E. G. Fradgeley, b. E. W. Kilby	17
Mr. A. Scott, run out	3
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. Strome, b. E. W. Kilby	30
Mr. C. M. Duff, not out	18
Mr. K. F. Crawford, b. E. W. Kilby	0
Mr. L. S. Hudson, c. Abbey, b. E. W. Kilby	4
Mr. H. A. Stewart, b. E. W. Kilby	0
Mr. F. O. Stuart, c. and b. P. B. Clarke	5
Mr. A. W. Read, st. H. W. Kilby, b. P. B. Clarke.	4
Mr. G. G. Brady, st. H. W. Kilby, b. E. W. Kilby.	1
b, 7, w. 2	9
	100

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. G. Braess	36	14	1	—	—
Mr. P. B. Clarke	72	40	1	3	1
Mr. S. Wheeler	24	31	—	—	—
Mr. E. W. Kilby	64	14	4	6	1

BORN IN JAPAN.

Mr. P. B. Clarke, c. and b. Stuart	26
Mr. G. Braess, c. Scott, b. Stuart	68
Mr. F. H. Abbey, b. Edwards	0
Mr. G. C. Allcock, b. Brady	17
Mr. E. W. Kilby, b. Stuart	6
Mr. H. W. Kilby, not out	3
Mr. S. Wheeler, not out	7
Mr O. Strome, Mr. W. S. Moss, Mr. E. B. Clarke, Mr. F. Pollard. } did not bat.	
b. 5, w. 1	6
	133

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. E. G. Fradgeley	36	27	1	—	—
Mr. F. O. Stuart	66	34	—	3	—
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards	24	18	—	1	—
Mr. F. H. Bugbird	18	16	—	—	—
Mr. H. A. Stewart	6	11	—	—	1
Mr. G. G. Brady	42	21	—	1	—

A telegram was received on Saturday by the Secretary of the K.C.C. from the Shangha. Cricket Club intimating that in accordance with the invitation from the Kobe Club a team will visit Japan, leaving Shanghai on October 10th. Three Cricket matches will be played, commencing on the 15th—Kobe *v.* Yokohama, Yokohama *v.* Shanghai, and Kobe *v.* Shanghai. The Interport Baseball match will follow, Kobe *v.* Yokohama. —*Kobe Herald.*

CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAYS ABROAD.

The following Imperial Ordinance has recently been issued in regard to the construction of railways in foreign countries:—

Art. I.—In the case of joint stock companies organized by Japanese subjects in the empire with the view of engaging in transport business by the construction of railways in a foreign country, the provision of the Commercial Code and its relative laws and ordinances shall be applied except in cases specially provided for in these regulations.

Art. II.—The projector (of such a scheme as the above) shall apply to the Minister of Communications for permission to organise a company, submitting to him before the first call is made on the shares, the regulations of the company, the prospectus and a plan showing the routes actually surveyed, together with the estimates of the working expenses. The aforesaid application must be accompanied by forms of application for shares and other essential documents and plans.

Art. III.—A company may raise the total amount of its capital in several installments provided that the amount for the first period shall not be less than one-fifth of the aggregate capital.

Art. IV.—The first calls on shares may be as low as one-tenth of the gross amount of the same.

Art. V.—When the first calls on shares have been secured against the capital raised for the first period, the projector may take steps to convene a general meeting for organisation.

Art. VI.—No resolution for the alteration of the company's regulations shall be of effect unless sanction is obtained from the Minister for Communications.

Art. VII.—No issue of debentures can be undertaken by the company without the sanction of the Minister of Communications.

The gross total of debentures may be raised or increased to ten times the amount of the shares paid up, provided that it does not exceed four-fifths of the aggregate capital of the company.

Art. VIII.—No prospectus or estimates of working expenses can be altered by the company without the sanction of the Minister of Communications.

Art. IX.—A company is not allowed to amalgamate with another or undertake voluntary dissolution without obtaining the sanction of the Minister of Communications.

Art. X.—In case a company it found to have acted contrary to the provisions of this ordinance or to the conditions connected with its charter or the official sanction, the Minister of Communications may direct the re-election of officials or may withdraw the charter or sanction in question.

The withdrawal of a charter as prescribed above shall involve the dissolution of the company.

Art. XI.—The provisions of Articles VI., IV., and X., shall apply to joint stock companies organised within the limits of the empire in accordance with the former Commercial Code, with a view to engaging in transport business by the construction of railways in a foreign country.

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CHINA NOTES.

News has been received in Shanghai of the murder of eleven Belgian missionaries in Mongolia by bandits.

Telegraphic communication between Shanghai and Taku over the Cable Companies new cable was opened on Sept. 17th.

The long talked-of amalgamation of Boyd and Co., Ld., and S. C. Farnham and Co., Ltd., whereby all the docks in Shanghai come under the control of one organization, has been finally arranged.

The many friends of Dr. Wykeham Myers will learn with great pleasure, says a Shanghai contemporary, that he will probably be mentioned in dispatches "for his excellent work when in charge of wounded after the battle of Yangtsun, when the junk sank in the Peiho at dead of night with twenty-five wounded on board, all of whom were safely got out by Dr. Myers."

It appears from statements in the *N.-C. Daily News* that H. E. Li Hung-chang had accepted the proffered escort of a Russian man-of-war from Woosung to Taku, but it was pointed out to the Russian authorities by Admiral Seymour that the *Anping*, on which he travelled, was sufficiently protected by her British flag, and the intention to escort her was promptly dropped.

A telegram was received in Shanghai on Sept. 17th by the Director of the China Inland Mission from Mr. C. H. S. Green, who, with his wife and family and Miss J. G. Gregg (of the C. I. M.) were attacked at Huailuhsien, three days' west of Paotingfu, about the 13th of July, and who had been since then at the mercy of Boxers, and in the gravest danger in Chihli. The telegram was sent from Paotingfu, dated Sept. 13th, and announced that they were all safe in the Nieh-tai's (Provincial Judge) yamên at Paotingfu.

General Voyron, General Railland, Colonels Chanteaume, Crave, Sucellon, and Arlabosse arrived in Shanghai on the M.M. steamer *Indus*. General Voyron goes North to take supreme command of the French forces, both naval and military, and a large staff accompanied him. General Voyron was not long in Shanghai, as he left by the same boat for Nagasaki—and so on to Taku—but he found time to review the French troops now stationed there and the French company of volunteers.

An official telegram received from Shansi via Chinanfu reported the arrival at Tatungfu, Shansi, on Sept 9th of 8,000 Hunan troops, led by the Manchu Provincial Treasurer of that province, Hsi Liang, who was granted an audience immediately upon arrival. The Empress Dowager expressed her gratitude, and said she was most pleased at the loyalty shown by the Viceroys and Governors of the Empire, and especially commended Governor Lu Chuan-lin of Soochow, he having been the first of them to come to the rescue of the Refugee Court. Hsi Liang replied that other troops are rapidly coming from the South to guard her Majesty.

A Soochow dispatch received in Shanghai on Sept. 18th stated (according to the *N.-C. Daily News*) that the Acting Governor of Soochow has already sent over Tls. 300,000 to Shansi since the fall of Peking, and that the local authorities of this portion of Kiangsu province are still busily collecting funds for transmission to Shansi, as it is unlikely that the Court will return to Peking yet awhile. On the other hand, a deputy of the rank of a district magistrate who was sent to Peking with Tls. 100,000 in July by the Governor at Soochow, has returned in rags to that city, having been robbed of all, money and baggage alike, by Boxers, near Techou, on the Shantung Chihli borders.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs that the French naval forces eventually to be collected in Chinese waters under Admiral Potier's command are composed as follows, the figures indicating the tonnage:—The battleship *Redoubtable*, 9,372, the cruisers *D'Entrecasteaux*, 8,123; *Admiral Charner*, 4,778; *Guichen*, 8,282; *Descartes*, 4,003; *Jean Bart*, 4,109; *Pascal*, 4,015; *Friant*, 3,944; *Chasseloup-Laubat*, 3,885, and *Bugeaud*, 3,870; the dispatch vessel *Bengali*, 591; the gunboats *Zélé*, 647; *Vipère*, 486; *Lion*, 503; *Surprise*, 627; *Décidée*, 647; *Comète*, 495; and *Avalanche*, 141; the transports and steamships *Nive*, 5,989; *Vinh-Long*, 6,094, and *Caravane*, 1,714; and the dispatch-vessel *Alouette*, 507. The ships are manned by 256 officers and 5,480 sailors. A report by M. de Lanessan, Minister of Marine, fixes the extra pay to be given to the forces in China. The *Peiho* was to leave Marseilles on Aug. 26 for Taku with 74 officers, 975 men and 1,000 horses.

The *China Mail* reports the death of Mr. Frederick Taylor Simpson, who, as a trooper in Plumer's Horse, was severely wounded in the action at Gaberones on 12th February and died at the base hospital the following evening. Mr. Simpson was formerly employed in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at Hongkong, and was well known in athletic sports from 1890 to 1892. The following is from a home paper:—Mr. Simpson was born in 1859. He was educated in Aberdeen, at the Grammar School and King's College, after which he entered the service of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. He was obliged, from loss of health, to return home. In 1897 he went out to Cape Town in the service of the Standard Bank of South Africa. Subsequently he was transferred to Bulawayo, where he occupied an important post in the same bank at the time the war broke out. He at once volunteered for the front, and was a trooper of Plumer's Horse throughout the campaign until his death.

AMERICAN NOTES.

Reports from the state auditor's office show that the negroes have increased their holdings in Virginia to a surprising degree in the past few years. That race owns two-twenty-sixths of all the lands in Virginia. This does not include farms upon which the coloured people have made only partial payments. The race owns about one-sixth of all property in several counties in the state. The significance of this showing is that should property ownership be adopted as a requisite to the right to vote, thousands of negroes would retain their franchise.

The annual report of the U. S. Commissioner of Pensions, just issued, shows that the number of pensions allowed on original applications during the year ended on June 30, 1900, was 40,645, and the number restored to the rolls was 4,699, making a total of new names added to the rolls of 45,344. The number of prisoners dropped from the rolls during the year by reason of death, remarriage, and other causes was 43,334, showing an increase of 2,010 on the rolls, as compared with the close of the fiscal year 1899 The number of pensioners on the rolls June 30, 1899, was 991,519, and on June 30, 1900, 993,529. The annual cost of the rolls at the close of the year 1890 was $131,617,961, while at the close of the fiscal year ended June 30, 1900, it was $131,534,544.

Mr. Franklin Allen, Secretary of the Silk Association of America, and member of the International Jury of Awards at the Paris Exposition, has this to say regarding the Japan silk exhibit.—"It is a noticeable fact at the Paris Exposition of 1900 that the countries which do not follow the lead of Paris fashions in designs and styles of silk fabrics confine their productions to their own countries' demands, which necessarily are very limited. For instance, the silk fabrics of Greece, Bulgaria, Roumania, Servia, Algeria, Portugal, and Russia (outside of Moscow), while admittedly unique and interesting, and showing considerable skill both in weaving, design and coloring, have no abiding interest except to purchasers in their own countries. Because they do not adopt world fashions, they are not world-competitors in these products. The one notable exception to this rule is Japan. She has made at the Exposition a wonderful display of habutayé, brochee, damassee, surah, taffeta and printed tissues. Naturally, the productions are "sui generis," and are examples of silk fabrics made and sold in her own country. Nevertheless, the commercial fact is that the Japanese are exporting annually to Europe and the United States over one million dozens of silk handkerchiefs and thirty million yards of piece goods. Among hundreds of picture-like draperies, emblematic of Japanese art at the Exposition, one very beautiful specimen of a silk embroidered landscape (about 10 x 18 feet in size) was reported sold to Madame Sara Bernhardt for 2,400 francs."

The following table shows who are the best customers of the United States, and the amount of exports to each during the past two fiscal years, including both domestic and foreign goods:

	1899. Yen.	1900. Yen.
United Kingdom	511,778,705	533,829,374
Germany.....	155,772,179	187,370,199
British North America..	89,570,458	97,041,772
Netherlands	79,305,998	89,376,676
France	60,596,899	83,312,687
Belgium	44,158,033	48,307,011
Mexico	25,483,075	34,974,361
Italy	25,034,940	33,256,620
Japan	17,264,688	29,087,642
British Australasia.....	19,777,129	26,725,702
Cuba	18,616,377	26,513,613
Denmark	16,605,828	18,487,991
South Africa	15,155,610	16,269,482
China	14,493,440	15,258,740
Hawaiian Islands	9,305,470	18,509,148
Spain	9,077,807	13,399,680
Brazil	12,239,036	11,578,119
Argentina	9,563,510	11,558,237
Sweden and Norway...	12,218,289	10,436,467
Total to 19 countries..	1,146,017,471	1,305,793,579
Total to all countries..	1,227,023,302	1,394,186,371

It is of interest to note that Great Britain alone takes 38 per cent. of all the exports from the United States, and Great Britain and Germany together buy more than one half of all the United States sell abroad.

The U.S. cities already counted by the census collectors show the following results, the returns for this year being placed beside those of 1890, with the percentage of increase:—

Cities.	1900.	1890.	Percentage of increase.
New York City—			
Manhattan ...	1,850,093	1,441,216	28.38
Brooklyn	1,166,582	838,547	39.14
Bronx	200,507	88,185	127.84
Queens	152,999	87,224	75 34
Richmond.....	67,021	51,693	29.65
Totals	3,437,202	2,506,765	37 15
Buffalo	352,219	255,664	37 77
Chicago..... ..	1,698,575	1,099.850	54.44
Cincinnati	325,902	296,908	9.77
Cleveland	381,768	261,353	46.07
Columbus	125,560	88,150	42 44
Hoboken	59,364	43,648	36.01
Jersey City.....	200,433	163,303	26.64
Louisville	204,731	161,129	27 06
Milwaukee	285,315	204,486	39.54
Minneapolis	202,718	164,738	25 05
Omaha	102,255	140,452	*26.98
Philadelphia	1,293,697	1,046,964	23.57
Providence	175,597	132,146	32 88
St Paul	163,632	133,156	22.89
Toledo	131,822	81,434	61.88
Washington	278,718	230,392	20.98

* Decrease.

In the life-insurance business first honours belong to the United States, as American companies have in force insurance amounting to $7,759,789,521, while the British companies are next with less than half, or $3,671,484,706. Germany stands third with $1,709,418,566. The French companies have in force risks aggregating $693,449,000, the Australian companies $566,381,000, the Austrian $449,854,322, the Canadian $245,109,870, Norway and Sweden $148,115,713, Russia $134,532,631, Holland $128,040,255, Switzerland $86,780,860, Denmark $38,699,111, Italy $37,794,685, Balkan States $10,100,248, Belgium $3,769,581. The aggregate is $15,692,320,079. Policies written by assessment orders in this and other countries are omitted from the foregoing.—*Bradstreet's*.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A telegram from Taipeh, Formosa, reports that the steamer *Taichu Maru* was refloated on Sept. 25th.

Singapore mean time is to be adopted for the whole of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States from Jan. 1st next.

A traveller on the Tokaido lost *yen* 290 and three seals on Sept. 26th between Shimbashi and Oiso. Pickpockets are suspected.

A dog reported to be mad bit four persons in Ginza, Tokyo, on Sept. 25th. It was slain by the authorities the following day.

A dispatch in the *Jiji* states that at Muroran on the 26th Count Itagaki became unconscious. He is now under medical treatment.

The Government of Siam has abolished transit dues on tobacco. A tax of ten per cent. on value of the crop is now levied on tobacco planters.

Telegraphic intelligence from London is to the effect that a new issue of Treasury Bills to the amount of £2,000,000 was to be offered on Sept. 21st.

A paymaster of the Imperial Bodyguards was arrested on Sept. 25th and will be court martialed on a charge of mis-appropriating *yen* 380 of official money.

A ticket seller at the Matsuzaka station of the Sangu Railway was arrested in Honjo, Tokyo, on Sept. 26th on a charge of embezzling money received for tickets.

Yorkshire is the champion county in cricket for the season. It has not once been beaten. Last year the County Championship was won by Surrey, Middlesex being second, and Yorkshire third.

For the second time within a few weeks the *Box of Curios* printing office has been visited by a burglar. The impudent fellow left a long letter of explanation behind him this time.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Kumamoto Maru* has brought to Yokohama the damaged cargo of the *Toto Maru*, which went on shore at Yawata a few days ago. The *Toto Maru* will arrive at Yokohama on the 27th inst.

A woman named Nakamura Hana, living at Kitagata, Yokohama, attempted to commit suicide on the evening of Sept. 24th by piercing her throat in three places with a pair of scissors. Police and doctors were soon in attendance and medical treatment was given to the patient, who may live.

We note that the German Government in contracting the loan in New York of £4,000,000, have the option of a larger amount. The loan is for five years, and the rate of interest, as already reported, four per cent. per annum.

The cruiser *Archer*, for some time guardship at Singapore, has had £17,000 expended on her. She is now to be commissioned from the Medway Fleet Reserve for the Australian Station. There she will replace her sister-ship, the *Mohawk*, now in Chinese waters.

An appeal is made in the home papers on behalf of Signor Piccolomini, the composer of "Ora Pro Nobis" and other popular songs who, with his family, was lately discovered destitute in a London garret. The talented musician is now an inmate of Hanwell Asylum.

The case against Mr. Ferrari, of Nagasaki who some time ago called certain police officers "fools" with a strong adjective, came up on Sept. 25th in the Nagasaki Chiho Saibansho with the result that a sentence of a month's imprisonment and a fine of *yen* 15 was passed. The decision is to be appealed against.

On the afternoon of Sept. 22nd a man about 30 years of age borrowed a bicycle from a shop in Shibaicho, Shiba, Tokyo, alleging that he wanted to take a spin to Kawasaki for two or three hours. As he did not return that day, the bicycle owner reported the matter to the Shiba Police Station. The researches of the police, however, were rendered useless by the fact that the borrower turned up next day with the machine, somewhat shocked to find himself an object of suspicion.

Among the passengers on the *Empress* steamer which arrived on Monday were Sir Ernest Satow, H.B.M. Minister to Japan; Mr. H. W. Denison, of the Foreign Office, Tokyo; and Mr. and Mrs. Abell, and family of Kobe. Also Prince and Princess Ouchtousky and Prince Dizenchtousky.

The *Nagasaki Press* states that General Barry, of the U.S. Army, is lying seriously ill in the local St. Bernard's hospital. He arrived a few days ago from Taku in the U.S. transport *Port Stephen*. His condition on Wednesday was such that the doctors refused to allow anyone to visit him.

The young European lady who was shot by her husband, Nai Moint, a Siamese, on board the *Kanagawa Maru* at Singapore a few days ago, under circumstances already reported in these columns, was well enough to appear in court at the magisterial examination, when the prisoner was remanded for further evidence.

The committee of the Church Missionary Society have taken a wise decision with regard to the Society's work in China. They have resolved that, with two exceptions, no missionaries are to be sent to China this autumn, and that lady missionaries in that country whose furlough is due between this and next spring are to come home at once.

The M. M. steamer *Indus*, which arrived in Yokohama on Friday, brought thirty nine wounded Frenchmen from China. On the steamer coming alongside the pier the patients were visited by Mr. Rinoiye, Secretary of the Kencho, and Mr. Kuroiwa, Chief of Police. The wounded were removed to the General Hospital.

The Governor of Niigata Prefecture has reported to the Home Department that an accident happened to the down train which left Nagaoka at 12.30, when about 6 miles distant from Shimojo. The locomotive, tender, and a passenger car left the rails, but the rest of the train remained on the track. No persons were injured.

Residents who remember the *Patroclus-Melpomene* collision in Yokohama harbour in 1897 will read with interest that "the O. S. S. *Patroclus* broke adrift from her moorings in Hongkong on Sept. 10th, at midnight and was successfully drifted all through the harbour by Captain Dickens." It is somewhat of a coincidence that on Sept. 9th, just three years and one day earlier the *Patroclus* underwent a similar experience in Yokohama.

An old man named Hirose Masanao, living at Tobe, Yokohama, employed by Dr. Masuda Tsuneo, of Otamachi Roku-chome, was attacked by a cold a few days ago, and on the 21st inst. was given a bottle of medicine and another bottle containing carbolic acid. The old fellow took the carbolic acid by mistake and within an hour was dead.

Judgment in the important lease case instituted against Mr. G. H. Whymark was given in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Monday morning. The claim made by Mr. Fukami Shukichi, plaintiff, was dismissed and costs were given against him. Plaintiff sought to have defendant's right of superficies over a series of plots of land annulled, but he failed to support his claim.

Five seamen entered a saloon known as the Tivoli House, No. 133, Yokohama, kept by a Swiss, on Sunday evening. Shortly afterwards a quarrel was started by them, in the course of which the keeper of the house was assaulted by the seamen with empty beer bottles. He received a wound in the forehead about three inches long and another in the back of the head about the same size. A policeman attracted by the noise attempted to arrest the seamen and was struck in the face. He, however, succeeded after much difficulty in arresting one man, who is named J. H. Murphy, and belongs to the American sailing-vessel *Rathdown*. Meanwhile the other seamen took to their heels, but later one of them, named George Orend, was arrested.

A large number of residents assembled on Saturday afternoon to pay the last tribute of respect to the late Mrs. Thomas, wife of Mr. T. Thomas of No. 8 Bluff. The funeral ceremony was performed by Rev E. C. Irwine. The chief mourners were the deceased lady's husband, Mr. T. Thomas, and Miss H. L. Thomas and Miss M. I. Thomas, her daughters. The following gentlemen acted as pall-bearers: Mr. L. J. Healing, Dr. Wheeler, Mr. J. C. Budd, Dr. Eldridge, Mr. J. D. Hutchison, Mr. J. P. Mollison, Mr. A. O. Gay, and Mr. D. Jackson. There were a great number of floral tributes.

A fatal accident occurred at Kumamoto on the 16th inst., during the drill of a squad of reservists belonging to the Sixth Division. Sergeant Jizo Tokudayu was in charge of the men and after putting them through various exercises with the rifle, called out "fire." He was seen to drop at once. It was then discovered that a magazine rifle which a private named Hidaka had used the previous day at the rifle-range, had a ball cartridge left in its magazine, unknown to its subsequent user. The sergeant died at once, the bullet penetrating his head and emerging at the ear.

Mr. Walter Ewen Townsend, whose untimely cutting off at the age of 21 we chronicle this morning, was a promising cadet of H.B.M.'s Consular service in China, and the son of the well-known New York manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. He went through the recent siege at Peking, during which he was twice wounded, and had come to Japan to recuperate. Unfortunately he developed typhoid fever after landing at Yokohama, and having no reserve of strength, after his experiences in the Chinese capital, wherewith to combat the fell disease, he gradually sank, dying on Sunday morning.

A man named Matsumoto Yuzaburo, Tochigi Prefecture, promised to buy counterfeit paper money to the alleged value of 3,000 *yen*, paying *yen* 500 for the same, from Yebizawa Chokichi, who lives at Kakigaracho, Tokyo. This information came to the knowledge of the Tochigi police, and they devised a plan to catch the counterfeiter. A telegram was therefore sent to Yebizawa which said, "Bring at once stuff promised yesterday waiting office." The unsuspecting man went to Tochigi, only to be arrested, and the police found the counterfeit paper money in his pockets.

Somewhat of a tragedy occurred at the Zoological Gardens, Asakusa, Tokyo, on the morning of Sept. 23rd. A woman named Naito Yone, who had been accustomed to feed some of the animals, put her hand into one of the serpents' cages when a snake seized her by the arm. The women swooned away, but bystanders were at hand to rescue her and send her to hospital. The report does not state that the reptile is venomous. A few minutes later a monkey, which, rendered restive by the delay in serving breakfast, had broken loose and was careering about the gardens, became the prey of a tiger, which enticed him within range and then summarily despatched him.

The following persons were accidentally killed or committed suicide on the Government and private railways of Japan from January to July this year:—

	Suicides.		Accidentally killed.	
	men.	women.	men.	woman.
January	3	1	2	—
February	3	1	2	
March	5	0	3	—
April	9	4	4	—
May	9	4	4	—
June	8	0	0	1
July	6	2	2	—
	43	12	17	1

The annual dinner of the Harvard Club of Japan was held on Thursday evening at the Koyo Kwan (Maple Club), Shiba Park, Tokyo. Baron

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Kaneko, LL.D., President of the Club, presided, and the Club had as guests Messrs. Higginson, Winthrop, Jay, Sattonstall, and Burden, who are recent graduates of the University now on tour round the world. The dinner given was in Japanese style. The mouth to mouth speeches, and the "Maple Dance" the "Fisher Woman," &c., took the place of the usual post-prandial speeches. "Fair Harvard" was sung and the party dispersed, having passed a most enjoyable evening.

The members present were Messrs. Gardiner, Griffin, Ikeda, Kaneko, Kasahara, Kitashima, Knapp, Kozaki, Muto, Nakashima and Sakai.

An American correspondent in a long letter describing the relief of Peking said:—"The last five days' marching was the worst. It was a terrible strain. The thermometer kept near 100 and was sometimes above that figure. The country was deep with sand and the route lay through shadeless fields of tall corn. The Japanese possessed the greatest endurance, and, being provided with the best transport, they made the pace. The Russians held second place most of the time. The Americans and English were pushed to the utmost to keep up. General Fukushima said the Japanese might have reached Peking two days before. He probably spoke the truth. They seemed never to rest. Their cavalry and scouting parties were threshing the country ahead and on their flanks, and their outposts kept in constant contact with the enemy, pressing the latter so closely that they threw away their pots, sleeping mats and clothing."

The following table shows the extent to which dysentery has prevailed in Kanagawa Prefecture from the beginning of the present year to September 24th:—

	Cases.	Deaths.	Recovered.	Still under Treatment
Shima Ashigara...	494	130	281	83
Yokohama	278	42	158	78
Kami Ashigara ...	470	97	307	66
Taka	336	84	205	46
Aiko.....	265	58	669	38
Tsukui	122	22	66	34
Koza	131	37	62	32
Kuragi.....	78	27	33	18
Kamakura	98	21	62	15
Miura	62	16	37	9
Tachibana	56	11	41	4
Tsutsuki	2	—	1	1
Total 2,392		548	1,422	425
Previous year 2,518		599	1,584	335

We have received from Mr. H. Bullard, Colonel commanding the Salvation Army in Japan, a copy of what we understand to be a circular letter describing the work of the Army locally during the past six months. We learn with pleasure that in the period mentioned the number of officers has been increased by 20, and that new corps have been established at Yokosuka and Azabu. Also, interest in the work of this organization may be gathered from the fact that the circulation of the *Toki-no-Koye*, or *War Cry*, has risen from 3,600 at the beginning of the year to 7,250—that is, if we are correct in supposing the distribution of copies is not gratuitous. The Naval and Mercantile Home at Yokohama appears to be doing good work under the control of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis, Staff Captains. The home for released prisoners has 26 inmates, and it has been necessary to secure larger premises. Under the heading "Rescue Home" Mr. Bullard reports the action taken by the Army for the relief of inmates of the Yoshiwara, and a leaflet containing a reprint of an article in the *Yorodzu Choho* on this subject accompanies the letter.

EUROPEAN NOTES.

As Chief Justice of England, the late Lord Russell, remarks the *Saturday Review*, was in almost all respects the antithesis of his immediate predecessor Lord Coleridge. The latter, somewhat unfairly described by Disraeli as silver-tongued mediocrity, was a courtier and a gentleman of very high ability, whose interests lay rather in style than in matter, in literature than in law. As a judge, when awake, he represented the *suaviter in modo*, as Lord Russell, never asleep, represented the *fortiter in re*. Neither will Lord Russell be remembered for great achievement in the moulding and development of English law. Indeed of the two Lord Coleridge both by the form of his judgments and the longer period of his judicial service has probably done the more in that direction. Still, while each in his own way was incomparably above all his puisnes, in the view of the litigant and of the general public, Lord Russell undoubtedly surpassed his predecessor. It is as a great advocate that Lord Russell's claim to be remembered can stand. All his real successes were in advocacy, whether before English or international tribunals. He was not a conspicuous success in Parliament nor great as a platform speaker or an after-dinner orator.

Something like two and twenty years have elapsed since the island of Cyprus bulked very largely in the public eye, but now and then there occurs solid evidence of the steady improvement gained in this, as in so many other cases, by the prevalence of British administration. It would not be so very far wrong to say of British government, since by its treaty with the Porte, the administration by the Colonial Office is to continue so long as Russia retains Batoum and Kars, and the chance of her relinquishing either of those places becomes more shadowy year by year. The latest testimony to the increasing prosperity of the island occurs in the report of the High Commissioner for 1898-9 just issued. The elements of monetary prosperity are the good cereal harvest and the fair prices which have been obtained for the produce. The progress of material returns is not surprisingly rapid, but the system upon which it is based is eminently sound and business-like. When it is considered what was the condition of the place when Great Britain took it over in 1878, the change is in the highest degree creditable to British rule. Terror and wretchedness, as one authority testifies, alone were visible where to-day contentment and prosperity reign. When Lord Beaconsfield first selected it for the Indian troops, "pest-house" was the best word his opponents could find for it. Now its death-rate is nearly as low as that of any European country.

A scheme, which has the approval of the Marquess of Granby, Sir Herbert Maxwell, the Dean of Winchester, Mr. Justice Kennedy, Mr. Justice Lawrance, and many well known anglers in England and in America, has just been inaugurated, for the purpose of placing in Winchester Cathedral a stained-glass window in memory of Izaak Walton. The remains of Walton rest in Prior Silkstede's Chapel, and the proposed window will overlook his grave.

Zionism is the name of a movement to procure a home in Palestine under the guarantee of public right for those Jews who are unable or unwilling to assimilate in their native country, and who suffer from civic disability and persecution. The starting point was the publication, in 1896, of a pamphlet by Dr. Herzl, entitled "The Jewish State." In 1897 the first Zionist Congress met at Basle, at which 204 delegates—Jews from all parts of the world—were present. This Congress has since met each year subsequently at Basle, with the exception of this year, when it met for the first time in London. At present more than 180,000 Jews, in all parts of the world, have formally joined the Zionist organisation. The majority of so-called representative Jews—that is, the heads of the organised congregations—hold, as yet, aloof from the movement, but the mass of the Jewish people has most enthusiastically joined it. It answers the aspiration of the majority of persecuted Jews, but it is important to those Jews who have become completely assimilated to their Christian surroundings, and who ought to have an interest in the raising of the economic, moral, and intellectual status of the mass of their unhappy brethren, which raising of status will necessarily be the first outcome of their gathering in the land of their forefathers.

An excellent red tape story comes from Kimberley. A patrol was sent out breakfastless at four a.m. At noon the sergeant went into a small shop and bought food for his men to the amount of 2s. 6d. In due course the shopkeeper sent in his bill. Six weeks elapsed, and then the money was given him, together with eight foolscap pages of reports made by fifteen colonial and imperial officers. And what is more, officers would have still been writing reports if the commanding officer had not put his foot down. There is nothing like doing things in a thoroughly business-like way.

The parishioners of East Bergholt, Suffolk, are distressed because the village chimes have gone wrong, and the vicar (the Venerable Archdeacon Lias, father of Mr. F. J. Lias, of Yokohama) wants £100 to put them right. The fine tenor bell is cracked, the clapper having in the course of three centuries beaten its way almost through the metal. It is one of five, renowned as being the only rolling bells in existence. The ringers swing them by handling the headstock. The bell-cage in which they are hung is also unique. Moss-grown and quaintly latticed in oak, tradition says it was, far back in the fifteenth century, first erected in another corner of the churchyard, but the squire was so annoyed at the sound of the chimes that he had the curious building removed, so that the intervening church might deaden the sound.

The following table gives the English Counties' cricketting position up to August 11th:

	Ptyd.	Won.	Lost.	Drn.	Pts.	Finished Games.	Percntge
Yorkshire 24	13	0	11	13	13	100	
Lancashire ...24	12	1	11	11	18	84.61	
Sussex 19	3	1	15	2	4	50	
Notts 15	6	2	7	4	8	50	
Kent 16	5	2	9	3	7	42.85	
Surrey 22	7	4	11	3	11	27.27	
Warwickshire..17	3	2	12	1	5	20	
Middlesex ...16	6	6	4	—	12	—	
Gloucestershire17	5	6	6	— 1	11	— 9.09	
Essex 18	4	5	9	— 1	9	— 11.11	
Derbyshire ...14	2	5	7	— 3	7	— 42.85	
Somerset 13	3	9	1	— 6	12	— 50	
Worcestershire 18	2	8	8	— 6	10	— 60	
Leicestershire...18	1	9	8	— 8	10	— 80	
ampshire ...17	0	12	5	—12	12	—100	

It is notified in the *London Gazette* that the Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Hiram Shaw Wilkinson, Esq., to be Chief Justice of Her Majesty's Supreme Court for China and Korea.

One of the boys employed at Smith and Sons bookstall at Burton-on-Trent station had a miraculous escape early last month. A goods train had passed through the station overnight and a quantity of gooseberries had fallen from one of the trucks. The boy, when he went on duty in the morning, jumped on to the line, and began to gather up the fruit. In doing so he failed to notice the approach of a train, and before he could escape he was pinned between the wall of the platform and the inside rail. When the train had passed he emerged unharmed, but much frightened. Being a very slim lad, he was just able to crouch beneath the slight projecting edge of the platform.

The death is announced, at the age of sixty-six, of Dr. John Anderson, M.D., LL.D., &c., at Buxton, after a few hours' illness. Dr. Anderson was the son of the late Mr. Thomas Anderson, secretary to the National Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh, in which city he was born in 1833. In 1868 he was selected by the Government of India to accompany an expedition to Western China *via* British and Independent Burmah, in the capacity of scientific officer. Again, in 1874, he was chosen by the Government of India to proceed once more to Western China in the same capacity as on the former expedition, and with instructions to advance from Bhamo to Shanghai. This expedition was attacked by the Chinese, and was obliged to retreat to Burmah. Besides numerous papers on zoology, Dr. Anderson is the author of many independent works, among them being "A Report on the Expedition to Western China *via* Bhamo," published by the Government of India in 1871; "Mandalay to Momien," an account of the two expeditions to Western China under Colonel Sir Edward Sladen and Colonel Horace Browne; "Anatomical and Zoological Researches," including an account of the zoological results of the two expeditions to Western China in 1868-69 and 1875.

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FISHERIES AND MINES OF YEZO.

Mr. Acting-Consul Chalmers' report from Hakodate deals largely with the fisheries of Yezo, which resulted in 1899 in a production of 132,000 tons of herring, and 9,821 tons of sardines. The production of fish manure was 100,000 tons. The salmon fisheries produced 1,768 tons of salmon, valued at £24,000, and 810 tons of salmon trout, valued at £8,500. Of seals, 13 Japanese vessels took 6,805.

The sales of coal by the Hokkaido Coal Mining Company (Tanko Kwaisha) during 1899 amounted to 318,915 tons, of which 85,431 tons were exported abroad.

In 1899, 9,064 tons of sulphur were exported. Efforts are made to put new life into the mines in the island of Kunashiri, and a new one has been discovered in the island of Iturup.

In 1898, gold in considerable quantities was discovered in the vicinities of the Tombetsu and Horobetsu rivers and their tributaries in the Kitami and Teshio provinces. For some years previously gold dust has been found in this island in small quantities, the annual output being about 1,570 ozs. This gold was found mostly on the west coast of Teshio.

The centre of the newly discovered auriferous area is the mountain Horonoburi, in which are the sources of the streams containing the gold deposits, and it is surmised that rich gold veins exist in the mountain.

The total production of gold dust in the Esashi neighbourhood, Kitami province, during 1899 was given officially as about 14,477 ozs., valued at £48,000. This estimate, however, is considered under the mark.

Licences have already been granted this year to work claims covering 3,447 miles of river bed and 185,757 acres of miscellaneous land, situated not only in the vicinity of the new discoveries, but in all parts of Yezo.

Marble of good quality is reported to have been found in large quantities near Matsumae, in Yezo.

During 1899 it is estimated that over 1,000,000 railway sleepers were exported from Hokkaido to Taku, Talienwan, Niuchwang, and other ports in North China.

NEW RAILWAYS.

The Tanko Tetsudo Kwaisha (the Mining Railway Company) recently decided to extend the railway from Momijiyama near Yubari, to Kanayama (38 miles), connecting there with the projected Government railway to Kushiro and Nemuro. The line is estimated to cost about £6,750 per mile. A coal mine at Nabegawa, Yubari, near which the proposed line will pass, is also to be developed.

The Kanson Railway, the line projected between Hakodate and Otaru, will probably be commenced this spring.

The route to be followed from Otaru is *viâ* Oshoro, Oshambei, and Mori, to Hakodate, a distance of about 126 miles. The section from Hakodate to Mori should be finished next year.

In pursuance of a scheme providing a trunk line for the island, a small section has been completed and commenced work last year. This is the Government line from Sunagawa (Sorachibuto) on the Tanko Tetsudo Kwaisha line to Asahigawa, a distance of 35 miles, and two small branches, from Asashigawa to Biyei, and to Rannu.

This new line and the Tanko Tetsudo Railway from Otaru to Muroran, with branches to the Yubari, Poronai, and Ikushumbetsu coal mines (268 miles), are the only lines open to traffic in Yezo at present, but the construction of the Government line to Kushiro is already being proceeded with, and it is hoped that the section from Kushiro to Shunaraka (17 miles) will be open to traffic by October, 1901.

GERMANY AND ENGLAND.

The following extract is of much interest:—

An article by the Italian statesman, Signor Crispi, under the title "Germany, England, and the Yellow Peril," appears in the *Hamburgischer Correspondent*. It deals at some length with the Chinese question, pointing out that the Emperor William was the first to warn Europe against the Yellow Peril, and urging the necessity of recognising Japan as the ally of the European nations in the matter, her interests and those of Europe being identical. Signor Crispi then proceeds to discuss exhaustively the relations between Germany and Great Britain. He says:—

"The Transvaal war appeared to afford an opportunity to a section of public opinion in Germany to give open expression to a hostile feeling, the concealment of which any longer appeared superfluous. Happily, the policy of Germany was directed by the Emperor, the Imperial Chancellor, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and, from the day when the Kaiser telegraphed to the Viceroy of India that blood is thicker than water the Germans have come to understand that the continuance of a Great Britain, and even of a Greater Britain, is for Germany more than an interest, is even a necessity, at any rate for the moment, and, to my great joy, I now mark the disappearance of that hostility which, though perhaps explicable to a certain degree to Germans as an instinctive manifestation of feeling, is not to be justified by the logic of fact or of ideas."

Signor Crispi proceeds to declare that the British conquest of the Transvaal is not to be deplored either by humanitarians or by politicians, points to the perfect freedom conferred by England in all her colonies on foreigners of all races, as contrasted with the exclusive and egotistic system of the Boer. Then follows a weighty passage which demands textual quotation. The writer says:—

"I spoke just now of my great joy because an understanding between the Governments of London and Berlin not only corresponds to my personal wishes, but to the material interests of Italy, which possesses in Germany and England the natural allies whom the logic of geography would commend to her if the logic of politics did not proclaim it so clearly. But I treat the success of Great Britain in South Africa not alone from the strictly Italian standpoint. It is all too clear that in presence of a Russian Empire, to the growth of which no limit can be assigned, which, but for the Asiatic safety-valve, would already be a permanent danger to Europe, and which, though to-day largely taken up with Asia, may to-morrow become such a danger; in presence, too, of the wonderful vitality of France, which seems to touch the ground, only to rise stronger and more enterprising, as witness her colonial policy alone—I say that in view of these facts, not only Germany and Italy, but also Austria and the smaller states, would find their position imperilled on the day when the British Power finally fell in ruin, because then the counterpoise would be wanting, and, even if the Franco-Russian Alliance did not exist, the European balance of power would be so violently shaken that the Triple Alliance itself—aye, even the victorious Triple Alliance—would not be able to restore it. What harm, what danger, on the other hand, can befall Europe from this victory, which consolidates the military position of Great Britain for a long time to come, not only in itself, but by the proof it affords of England's capacity military as well as otherwise? Certainly no harm, no danger whatever."

Signor Crispi concludes by expressing the earnest hope that the understanding between Germany and England may continue and flourish and extend even to the Far East, where a most difficult problem lies before the European Powers.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Sept. 22nd:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders...	16,542,471
Amount of convertible notes issued ...	190,153,703
Government deposits	39,951,735
General deposits	6,863,389
Exchange liability	9,628
Total	283,520,939
CR.	
Discount notes	67,896,842
Foreign discount notes	7,573,712
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	58,688,985
Exchange liability	1,512,443
Government bonds	52,433,711
Property	2,169,185
Bullion and Specie	71,246,058
Total	283,520,939

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	190,637,348
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	67,486,114
Silver	3,000,000
Total	70,486,114
Securities:—	
Government bonds	28,915,204
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	10,149,336
Commercial notes	59,036,694
Total	120,151,234

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	1,228,601
Silver	—	—
General loans	1,651,721	—
Government deposits...	—	1,668,602
General deposits...	—	1,004,059

THE CAUCASIAN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

By FREDERICK GREENWOOD.

Two things, both unfortunate but neither of them surprising, have brought the South African war into a grey light, and the contemplation of it into graver musings. One of these things is the Chinese revolt, which assembles nearly all the explosive matter in the world where and when we have no defence against accidents; the other is the dribbling of the war itself into a guerilla fight, in which our two hundred thousand men are mocked more often than enough by twenty thousand. The glory of the war, so long a matter of enthusiastic expectation, dawned and died away in the same hour. The labour of it continues, and will continue till the war draws to its end and is extinguished by success. This naturally puts the country into a more sober mind; and therefore, we may suppose, into a better condition for reviewing the actual state of South Africa as the war expires, and for guarding against the troubles it has multiplied,

From before the war began it was evident that these troubles would be a long train, and probable that they would overtask the highest wisdom at England's command. That was one of the greater objections to the war, which has justified it at every step, by every incident, by every developed and undeveloped consequence down to this hour. The conflict formally ended, we shall have only these and other consequences to deal with; but that will be a task far more difficult for Downing Street than managing the threatened war out of the way altogether would have been last year. The attempt that was then declined was much easier than the business which cannot be evaded now, but must be taken up as soon as the military hand it over to the political branch. And if so, then considering the avowed miscalculations of that branch, its proved misconceptions, the obstinate perversions of foresight with which the war was begun, it cannot be called a feigned anxiety which looks with misgiving to the contrivances which are to make the conflict pay. The whole of that work remains to be done from the foundations; and, obviously, it will not be well done if the misapprehensions that preceeded the war are carried into the arrangements for peace. At present there are no decisive means of judging how far the continuity of error will go; but even in the lately published correspondence between the Colonial Office and the Cape Government on the subject of punishing rebels there is a plain reappearance of the original mistake.

It comes out in the persistency with which the Colonial Office and its representative at the Cape fix their attention upon franchise questions, and the industry of their endeavour to cultivate a rigorous and eager partisanship of Britons against Boers. That, no doubt, is what Mr. Schnadhorst would have done in Sir Alfred Milner's place or as Colonial Secretary. Mr. Schnadhorst would have found two parties in South Africa, a British party and an Afrikander or Dutch party; and would have treated the one as if they were Radicals and the other as Conservatives. His remedy for the inconvenience of keeping fifty thousand men as an additional military charge in South Africa would have been worked through the "registers," by every available form of mechanical or unmechanical proscription; and, at the same time, by raising party-spirit to the temperament at which gerrymandering becomes a fervidly righteous pleasure. And though that is not the most admirable way of dealing even with parish politics, it has certainly proved successful here, and Mr. Schnadhorst might have argued with effect that success is everything in South Africa.

It is; but there is very little hope of success from the Schnadhorstian spirit, the Schnadhorstian methods, the Schnadhorstian calculation. They run too low, and are inapplicable to the situation except as irritating where the desire is to heal. Even supposing a conviction at the Colonial Office that the one immutable way with the Dutch is to keep them down, to show them their masters every day (which conceivably might be a just conviction), the Schnadhorst tactics would be unlikely to help much unless as provocatives, more obviously justifying the presence of the considerable army which the Polish state of things presumed would demand. But that is not the idea at the Colonial Office. We are given to understand that there also it is believed that Dutch and English will live harmoniously together at some time in the future, and that it is the duty of the Imperial Government to advance that time by every prudent means. And I doubt not at all that this is the intention. But how can the Schnadhorstian means be considered prudent—these which begin by confirming suspicion on the one side that "Never again" signifies the perpetuation of political disenfranchisement, and by inspiring the other side to maintain the claim of race ascendency? Neither of these things is intended? I do not say that either is. I speak of the actual consequences of what goes on by word and deed; and these are none the more fortunate for being undesigned.

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But if undesigned, error must be assumed; and if we look back upon the misconceptions with which the war began we shall probably see what the error is. At that time the whole forecast of the war, of what would happen in this or that case, of what would be done here and avoided there, was drawn from consideration of motives which are not only common in one sense but also in another. The meaner motives, in short; or such as govern the small concerns of life in business-like communities. Upon this basis was built a confident belief that the Transvaal Boers were too sharp to risk their good substantial farms for a dream of independence. On the same ground it was decided that the Orange Free State was not in the least likely to run the same hazards out of mere fellow-feeling for its neighbours. That the Cape Dutch should break out in sympathy with the Transvaalers was yet more opposed to common-sense—to common-sense of this very common sort. Or if even all these absurdly improbable things happened, for how many weeks would the Boer farmers endure the hardship of knocking about the hills, when they could run home at any time to ease and plenty?

Behold what mighty mistakes shrewdness may be capable of when it embarks in the wrong galley. But it might be taught, one would think, and yet the tremendous failures above recited seem to have taught extremely little. A new field of employment opening up, the same shrewdness draws similar deductions from the same observations of human nature and acts upon them with unmodified confidence. Hence the importation of the Schnadhorstian ideal and the Schnadhorstian methods of attaining to it, and the use of the same to put Dutch and English in their right places in the Dominion of South Africa. Is regret at seeing the Imperial game so played regret that "rebels" are to be disfranchised? No. It is regret at seeing the Imperial game so played, and also for the expectations of success which are evidently built upon it. The franchise? Is it imagined that the hostile passion generated in Dutch South Africa by the war will become harmless by deprivation of the franchise? Is it supposed that by practically disfranchising the Boers you will be able to do with a smaller army of occupation in South Africa? If so, *that* will be found to be a mistake, together with the whole idea of regulation and suppression by reducing Dutch votes. For many a year the presence of armed Force will be the only safe regulator and suppressor, and the less of harmless liberty returns with peace the stronger the repressive force must be. But were it otherwise, then I would rather choose the large garrison with the greater freedom. The prevailing idea for a reconstituted South Africa seems to be the Dutch population virtually disfranchised, the British population organised and set up in opposition to the Dutch, and, by these means, an economised military garrison. On *no* account would I have an economised military garrison, and least of all by such means as these. Till the present outlook changes very considerably, as it is unlikely to do soon, South Africa will not be safe without a strong army of occupation; and that necessity suggests an entirely different ideal of reconstitution. It is this. A generous restoration of political rights (I do not say to all); no further encouragement for dividing the population between an upper and a lower, a conquering and a beaten race; and, standing apart, a Queen's army under the various duties of overawing rebellion, keeping the peace for all, and guarding against surprise from abroad.

SUBMARINE WARFARE.

SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS.

Newport (R. I.), August 31.

One of the most important tests that has ever been made at the naval torpedo station since its establishment took place to-night, and the results obtained were highly satisfactory. It was a searchlight test upon a night attack by the submarine torpedo boat *Holland*, and it showed that it will take more than a powerful searchlight to pick-up the *Holland* after dark, and that she could run upon and sink any war vessel she might wish. It was also the first time that the *Holland* has ever been exclusively operated by a naval crew, and it was in charge of Lieutenant Caldwell, who was Admiral Dewey's secretary. They operated the boat in a manner which proves that others besides the builders are capable of handling her.

The attack was made on the United States tug *Leyden*, and the torpedo boats *Rodgers* and *Morris* were also brought into use. After the attacking boats got well away the *Leyden* turned on her searchlight, and at the same time the powerful light at the station was also thrown on the bay. The *Holland* was carrying side lights, and while these were burning she was picked up, but it was no easy matter. The torpedo boats, however, were picked up with ease, and could not at any time get near enough to torpedo the *Leyden*.

The lights of the *Holland* were put out and the test began. The *Holland* shot across the surface of the water, but try as they would it was impossible to find the boat, which was running awash. For half an hour the *Leyden* watched for the *Holland*, but no signs of her could be seen. She was last seen in the line of a ferry-boat, and some fears were expressed for her safety, but finally the lights were put out and the *Leyden* returned to the torpedo station. The *Holland* was found tied up for the night.

The crew of the *Holland* say that after putting out their side lights they came for the *Leyden* in the rays of her searchlight until within about 150 feet, near enough to use a torpedo with deadly effect, then she was headed across the bay and went equally near the flagship *New York*. They changed her course and headed for Newport, following in the wake of the Jamestown ferry. The crew said that they had been picked up, and were surprised, when told that such was not the case. The boat was not fully submerged, and the deck was not under water at any time.

Newport (R. I.), September 1.

The officers at the torpedo station do not think that last night's test with the submarine torpedo boat *Holland* was fair. They say the searchlights used in the experiment were inferior, and that if the attack had been arranged on a battleship the lights on the latter would have had no difficulty in picking up the boat. They also say that it is not fair to consider what the *Holland* does on the surface, as she is a submarine boat.

It has always been supposed that the big twenty-four-inch light at the torpedo station was one of the best lights in the naval service, and some officers contend that if that light could not pick up the *Holland* none of the battle-ships could do so. Other officers think that the fact that the boat ran on the surface without being detected is a great benefit, for if that can be done it will not be necessary for her to be submerged. In last night's test the officer in charge of the test, Lieutenant-Commander Hodgson, says that he did not pick up the *Holland* after her running lights were out, and if he could have found her the *Leyden* would not have remained in the outer harbor half an hour after the *Holland* was docked. It would also have relieved him of much anxiety as to the safety of the boat from being run down by the ferry-boat and towboat. Lieutenant Caldwell, who was in charge of the *Holland*, is satisfied with the test, but admitted that he thought he had been picked up, for he was nearly all the time in the beam of the light. It may not have been a fair test, from the view that the lights used were not the most powerful, but nevertheless the *Holland* was not picked up last night.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Air Max	Air Min	Temp. Lake.	State of Weather.	Remarks in General.
Sunday, 9th	67°	61°	72°	Fine	
Monday, 10th	65°	62°	72°	Fine	
Tuesday, 11th	65°	63°	72°	Fine	
Wednesday, 12th	64°	61°	72°	Rain	
Thursday, 13th	78°	65°	72°	Fine	
Friday, 14th	69°	70°	72°	Overcast	
Saturday, 15th	68°	65°	72°	Thunder storm at 11.30 a.m. Showers.	

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE ROYAL VISIT TO AUSTRALIA.

Shanghai, Sept. 21.

The Duke and Duchess of York proceeded (? will proceed) to Australia in the new Royal Yacht, escorted by cruisers.

THE ISSUES OF THE ELECTION.

Mr. J. Chamberlain, in a letter to a Unionist candidate, says the principal issues of the General Election will be the merits of the War in South Africa and the nature of the settlement.

KRUGER'S PLAN.

A press bureau in Brussels, which is controlled by Leyds, announces that Kruger will submit to the Powers a plan providing for the autonomy of the Republics under British suzerainty.

AN ARMY MELTING AWAY.

Shanghai, Sept. 21.

Field Marshal Lord Roberts wires from Telspruit that of the force of Boers numbering 3,000 which retreated from Koomatipoort, 700 crossed the Portuguese frontier and the rest deserted and dispersed after having first destroyed their guns.

Nothing is now left of the Boer army but a few marauding bands.

GERMANY AND AMERICA.

At a conference held by President McKinley with the officials at Washington, it is understood that an answer has been framed refusing to accede to Germany's proposal.

THE BRITISH GENERAL ELECTIONS.

There are indications that the Opposition will make a poor fight in the English boroughs and counties.

KRUGER.

Ex-President Kruger has accepted the offer of a Dutch warship to convey him to Holland.

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

Shanghai, Sept. 23.

Mr. A. J. Balfour and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain in their manifestoes (political addresses) to their constituents, base a claim for confidence in the wisdom of the late Government's war policy. It is essential, they urge, that there should be no break in the continuity of the national policy. They dwell on the disunion of the Liberal party, and indicate that measures of Army reform will be undertaken when Lord Roberts returns.

SOUTH AFRICA.

At Pretoria it is said that there is every reason to believe that guerilla warfare will continue for several months if the burghers refuse to surrender.

"TO EXTERMINATE THE BOXERS."

It is stated that the Chinese Minister in London has received a telegram informing him that an Imperial Edict has been issued to exterminate the Boxers.

THE GERMAN PROPOSAL.

Shanghai, Sept. 24.

Only France, Italy and Austria have replied to Germany's proposal. They all accept unconditionally. It is understand that the United States rejected the German proposal because it cannot recognise the principle of a country surrendering its citizens to foreign powers for punishment.

SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

The Cape Treason Bill has been read a third time.

Lord Roberts is unlikely to remain much longer in South Africa.

Lord Methuen has routed a large Boer convoy between Vryburg and Bloemhof.

AMERICA ANSWERS GERMANY'S PROPOSAL.

Shanghai, Sept. 24.

The American reply to the proposal of Germany, that the punishment of the instigators of the recent outrages in China is essential to prevent a recurrence of the crimes, states that nothing can be as effective as punishment by the Imperial authority itself. It recommends that China should be afforded this opportunity of rehabilitating herself, and that the matter of punishment should be made the subject of negotiation in the final settlement.

AMERICA AND THE RUSSIAN PROPOSAL.

The United States Government has sent a despatch to the Russian Government stating that America has no present intention of withdrawing her Legation from Peking. The Cabinet at Washington did not intend that its military force should be employed in

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further offensive operations. The American troops, consequently, will not co-operate in offensive operations with the Germans under Field-Marshal von Waldersee.

MR. GOSCHEN RETIRES.

Later.

Mr. Goschen, the present First Lord of the Admiralty, has notified his constituents that he does not propose to seek re-election.

[The Rt. Hon. George Joachim Goschen was born in 1831, and first took office in 1865. He was First Lord of the Admiralty in 1871-74; Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1887; and assumed his present office when Lord Salisbury came into power in 1895.]

AMERICA AND CHINA.

The American Government, replying to China, accepts Li Hung-chang as one of the peace plenipotentiaries. Mr. Conger, U.S. Minister, is authorised to enter upon the necessary negotiations.

U.S. WARSHIPS FOR CHINA.

It is stated that the U.S. Government is sending several additional warships to Chinese waters.

SALISBURY ON THE CHINESE QUESTION.

In a political manifesto, Lord Salisbury states that it would be difficult to over-rate the complexity of the task of restoring security and tranquillity to China.

CHINESE TROUBLES.

Later.

The Chinese in Kwangtung have assumed a threatening aspect. There has been a disturbance at Ping-po, near Canton. The Viceroy sent troops on Saturday to repress the rioters at Chung-chun, near Canton.

It is reported that a body of 20,000 men belonging to the Triad Society are preparing a rebellion at Whampoa. The people are ill-treating the converts.

General Ma, with 4,000 troops, has gone to preserve order.

The French gunboat *Avalanche* remains at Kuw-ch uk. The Chinese threaten to destroy her.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Sept. 26.

General Pole Carew has occupied Komatipoort.

General Paget has captured a Boer camp near the Elands River.

Ex-President Steyn and Viljoen are retiring northward along the Selati railway.

Altogether 3,000 Boers have surrendered to the Portuguese and have been sent to Lorenzo Marquez under guard.

RUSSIA AT PEKING.

An Imperial Decree states that the remainder of the Russian troops in Peking will be withdrawn gradually as local circumstances will permit.

THE CHINESE DIFFICULTY.

Shanghai, Sept. 27.

Russia and Japan have assented to the German Note. It is stated that Lord Salisbary verbally informed Count Hatzfeldt that Great Britain was unable to agree to the German proposal.

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

The electoral war is raging in all quarters of the British Isles, and the papers are filled with nothing but speeches and manifestoes of political notables. The intervention of Lord Rosebery has greatly heartened the Liberals.

TRANSPORT LOST.

The transport *Suffolk* has sunk near Port Elizabeth; 900 horses have been lost.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

BOXERS AT WORK.

Saigon, Sept. 21.

The Boxers have destroyed Chuchow, 28 miles from Peking.

A VALUABLE PRISONER.

A rumour is current that the English have lost 400 men in a fight with the Boers. General French has been made prisoner.

CHINESE NEWS.

Saigon, Sept. 24.

The Emperor of China and the Empress-Dowager have arrived at Tai-yuen. The Emperor has ordered the construction of a palace at Hsian-fu, which will become the new capital.

Li Hung-chang arrived at Taku on the 19th, and had an interview with Admiral Alexieff on board a Russian vessel. He set out on the 20th for Tientsin.

The Allied troops have taken possession of the forts at Pehtang after a strong bombardment. The Chinese fled.

REPORTED MASSACRE OF MISSIONARIES.

Saigon, Sept. 26.

A message from Taku, dated the 19th inst., says that according to native reports a massacre of all the Missionaries has taken place at Wa-wang-fu (?) and Sei-in-fu (?) on the east of Peking.

THE U. S. AND CHINA.

The answer of the United States to Germany and Russia on the subject of China, declares that the punishment of those responsible for the recent commotions is necessary, but considers at the same time that the punishment would be a more efficacious remedy if they were punished by the Chinese Government itself.

DEATH OF MARSHAL CAMPOS.

A telegram from Madried announces the death of Marshal Martinez Campos.

[Marshal Martinez Campos will be remembered best for his last administration in Cuba. He was a steadfast supporter of the present dynasty and at one time was the most popular general in the Spanish Army.—Ed. *J.M.*]

TROOPSHIPS.

The *Adour* and the *Eridand* have arrived at Taku. The *Chasse-Loup-Loubart* has arrived at Hongkong. The *Caledonien* has left Hongkong for the north with the Algerian Zouaves.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

CHINA.

Hongkong, Sept. 20.

An Italian transport has passed this place, going north.

Hongkong, Sept. 22.

There is a report that three Christian churches were burned on the 19th instant by insurgents at Shunteh, on the south-west of Canton. French and Chinese troops proceeded to the place, but found that order was virtually restored.

FRENCH TROOPS.

Hongkong, Sept. 24.

A French transport with about 1,200 men on board has gone northward.

VON WALDERSEE.

Tientsin, Sept. 23.

Field Marshal Waldersee is to arrive in Tientsin on the 25th.

CHINA.

Shanghai, Sept. 25.

The new German Minister and his suite left this place to-day for Taku.

GERMANY'S PROPOSAL.

Berlin, Sept. 23.

The *Nord Deutsche Allegemeine Zeitung* extracts the following from the *Kölnische Zeitung*:—"The proposal for the rendition and punishment of the instigators of the anti-foreign outrages in China has nothing to do with the question of indemnity. Its unique object is to prevent the recurrence of similar events in the future. The motive of the proposal is to make the Chinese Government assert that should the Empress Dowager refuse to punish the principal offenders, the responsibility for their offence must be borne by herself. The Powers concerned will have to decide whether they will regard China as disqualified to continue her relations with Foreign States, or whether they will conclude that she has permanently lost the ability to defend her own territories as is the case at present. It is not to be supposed that any of the Powers will object to that view. Should any one of the allied States attempt to protect the offenders, that State must be judged to have forfeited its title to be consulted.

(Received at the War Office.)

(Non-official.)

Tientsin, Sept. 19.

It is reported that a force of Chinese with 32 guns is at Peh-tang. The Russians are repairing the railway between Tientsin and Peh-tang, and have sent troops to attack Peh-tang. According to rumour, the Russians and Germans took the place, and allowed the garrison 24 hours to withdraw.

Sept. 19.

A battalion of Russian infantry and one of German, with some heavy guns, were to have attacked Peh-tang to-morrow morning, but judging from the sound of artillery in that direction, the attack has already commenced.

Sept. 20.

Yesterday night at 10.30 o'clock, a force of 1,800 Russian and German infantry, with 600 engineers, 10 siege guns and 8 field-guns, commenced the bombardment of Peh-tang, and at 11.30 a.m. on the 20th, obtained possession of the place. The Chinese, leaving a few dead, retreated north. The Russians and Germans had about 40 wounded. The number of their dead is uncertain. The engagement was chiefly an affair of artillery, the infantry not advancing until after the enemy's retreat.

(Peh-tang lies a few miles north of Tong-ku on the railway to Shanhaikwan.—Ed. *J.M.*)

Baron Nishi has sent a letter of condolence through the Foreign Office and the War Office to the widow of Capt. Ando. The letter describes in detail the services rendered by Capt. Ando—who commanded the Japanese volunteers in Peking until his death on July 7th,—and recounts how he led a section of the marines to repel an attack on the British Legation on the 24th of June, exciting the applause of the whole foreign garrison.

CHINA NEWS.

Tientsin, Sept. 24.

Count Waldersee is to arrive at Taku to-day.

According to trustworthy information, a Russian force, consisting of one regiment of infantry and one battery of artillery, captured Lutai on the afternoon of the 21st instant.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

Shanghai, Sept. 17.

Five battalions of Russian troops have left Peking for a long overland march to Manchuria, where 200 miles of railway have been destroyed

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by the Chinese, and men are still urgently needed.

The line of Communications between Tientsin and Peking is being constantly threatened by Boxers. The small American garrison at Matou was being seriously attacked the other day when a squadron of Bengal Lancers heard the firing, galloped up in rear of the Boxers, and killed two hundred of them, the rest escaping.

A large force of Boxers, reported at 40,000, is said to be concentrated at Chochou, about thirty miles southwest of Peking.

It is understood at Peking that the Ministers have informed Prince Ching that they cannot recognise him as a Peace Negotiator unless they are specially instructed to do so by their respective Governments.

There are rumours not to be treated too lightly that a more serious anti-foreign movement will break out in the North in November next.

The report that an expedition had started for Paotingfu appears to be premature. As we previously announced, it was postponed on account of the impassable condition of the country for artillery.

(FROM THE "OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD.")

NEWS FROM BERLIN.

Berlin, Sept. 14.

The rumour wired from Shanghai that Germany has other reasons for landing troops at that port are malicious reports purposely spread in order to create ill-feeling.

The troops were landed at the unanimous request of all the consuls in Shanghai, in order to support the British and French in the steps already taken by them for the maintenance of order.

President Krüger has left for Europe.

Germany has placed Mk. 80,000,000 four per cent. bonds in New York.

The first three German torpedo-boats passed Colombo on the 13th on the way to China also, the hospital-ship *Gera*.

Berlin, Sept. 23, 7.25 p.m.

Peking will not be evacuated for the present, because law and order has not yet been restored in the city.

The proposed appointment of General Yung Lu to negotiate for peace has been rejected because he has been engaged in the attacks on the foreign legations.

Bishop Anzer has left for Tsingtao via San Francisco.

Prince Albert of Saxony, youngest son of Prince George, the heir-apparent of Saxony, commander of a squadron of Uhlans, at Ochatz, has died from a fall from his horse.

Taku, Sept. 16.

On the 11th of September, Lianhsianghsien, 25 miles southwest of Peking, was captured and burnt by two German battalions of marines and 40 Bengal Lancers. About 500 Boxers were killed. About 100 Chinese soldiers who had occupied the town fled at the approach of the Germans. The latter had only one killed and 5 wounded.

Hongkong, Sept. 17.

The German transport *Strasburg*, with the first battalion of the 2nd German East-Asiatic Regiment of infantry (27 officers, 9 non-commissioned officers, and 816 men), has left Hongkong for Taku.

Taku, Sept. 17

Admiral Bendemann, chief of the German Squadron, has arrived at Taku on the *First Bismarck*.

The German transport *Adria* with the ammunition trains arrived yesterday at Woosung and proceeded to Taku this morning. The transport *Phoenicia* arrived at Woosung to-day, carrying the 4th East-Asiatic Regiment and a train of provisions (58 officers, 22 non-commissioned officers and 1,718 men); she will leave to-morrow afternoon for Taku after being provided with water.

The *Phoenicia* is the last transport of the first German Division that will go north.

Taku, Sept. 21

During the night between the 19th and the 20th instant the Peitang forts opened fire on some Russian Infantry, while on the march. The German howitzer-battery yesterday morning opened fire on the forts and the city. The latter is now in flames.

It is stated that owing to the explosion of a mine the losses of the Allies amounted to three hundred.

Berlin, Sept. 19, 6.55 p.m.

It is reported from London that Prince Henry of Prussia, who was in Balmoral a fortnight ago, has returned there. This second visit to Balmoral is considered in London to be in connection with the Chinese question, as it has become known that Queen Victoria has expressed her approval of the terms of the German circular note with regard to making the punishment of those who are to blame for the crimes in Peking a condition precedent to the opening of diplomatic negotiations with China.

CHINA.

Shanghai, Sept. 19.

According to news from Nanking, Li Hung-chang's desire that the Viceroys Liu K'un-yi and Chang Chih-tung be appointed members of the peace commission to act with Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang has been complied with by an Imperial Edict.

The detachment landed from German men-of-war under Capt. Pohl, which took part in the expedition to Peking, has arrived at Tsingtao on the transport *Halle*.

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

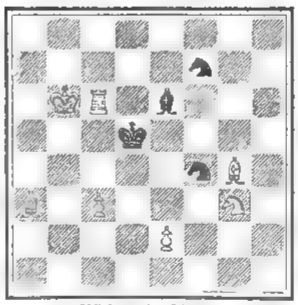
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 490.

1 B to Kt 7	2 Q to KB8 ch	3 RxP, mate
K takes P	K to Kt 4	
	2	3 Q to Q6, mate
	K to Q5	
	2 R takes P	3 P to B7, mate
1		
B takes Q	2 K takes R	3
	.....	Kt to B6, mate
	2 Any other	3
	Q to Q8 ch	
1	2	3 QxKt, mate
Kt to B4	Kt to Q3	
	.....	QxP, mate
	2 KxP	3

Other variations depend on those given.

PROBLEM No. 492.

Black—Four Pieces.



White—Six Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 624.

HOW MARSHALL "SMASHED" BURN.

Notes by Reichelm.

We have seen how Marshall had the Petroff up his sleeve when second player [with Pillsbury], but we know that he was equally well provided when he had the attack, for Lasker was one of his victims, and, so far as a specific variation is concerned, more especially with Aurn and Marco. The game with Burn, who is one of Europe's great players, runs:—

Marshall *White*	Burn *Black*
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Q Kt to B 5	3—K Kt to B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to K 3
5—P to K 3	5—Castles
6—Kt to B 3	6—P to Q Kt 3

At this point Kt—K 5 may be played with safety.

7—B to Q 3	7—B to Kt 2
8—P taks P	8—P takes P
9—B takes Kt	9—B takes B

Now the deck is cleared for his now famous onslaught of the Rook's Pawn.

10—P to K R 4	10—P to Kt 3

To head off the threat B takes P ch, Kt to Kt 5 ch etc.

11—P to R 5	11—R to K sq

Black's relatively best resource is K to Kt 2. If then P to R 6 ch, its fire is for the moment withdrawn, and if P takes P, R P takes P, Black is prepared for R to R sq.

12—P takes P	12—R P takes P
13—Q to B 2	13—B to Kt 2

K to Kt 2 was best.

14—B takes B	14—P takes B
15—Q takes P	15—Kt to Q 2
16—Kt to Kt 5	16—Q to B 3
17—R to R 8 ch	17—K takes R
18—Q mates	

The Field, London, has this comment on Black's 10th move. "A bad move; P to K R 3 is compulsory. The immediate attack with 7—P to K R 4 need not be feared, and in the mean time Black gets time for R to K sqt, or any other move accordingly.

GAME No. 625.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Marshall		Black—Marco.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	13 Kt K5	BxKt
2 P QB4	P K3	14 PxB	Q Kt4
3 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	15 Q B3	QxKP
4 B Kt5	B K2	16 Cstls. QR	K Kt2
5 P K3	P QKt3	17 Q R3	Kt B3
6 Kt B3	B Kt2	18 P B4(d)	Q K3
7 B Q3	Castles(a)	19 Q R6ch	K B3
8 PxP	PxP	20 Q Kt5ch	K Kt2
9 BxKt	BxB	21 P B5	Q K4
10 P KR4	P Kt3	22 P B6ch	QxP
11 P R5	P B4	23 Q R6ch	Resigns
12 RPxP	RPxP(c)		

Notes from *The B. C. M.* and *The Evening Post*.

(a) The right move is QKt to Q 2.

(b) This move opens the Rook's file, after which Black's game can not be saved. But P to K R 3 is equally weakening, and would be met by P to K Kt 4.

(c) The decisive error. He should have taken with B P, and White could not continue as in the text. If 13—Q to B 2, Q to K2, etc.—*E.P.*

(d) The winning move. It is noteworthy that Burn lost with the same variation against Marshall in 17 moves. The fact that Marco played it can only be explained on the assumption that he analyzed it and thought the attack unsound. He very likely overlooked this move in his calculation.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Sachsen 1	Sa. Sept 29
Hongkong.....	M. M. Co.	Laos	W. Oct 3
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan 2	Th. Oct. 4
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. Oct. 4
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa. Oct. 6
Hongkong.....	P. & O. Co.	Rohilla	M. Oct. 8
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 3	Th. Oct. 11
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Oct. 15
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Su. Oct. 21
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Oct. 22
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	China	M. Oct 22

1 Left Shanghai for Taku on the 3rd inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 26th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 22nd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date
Europe, via S'hai .	M. M. Co.	Indus	F. Sept 28
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Sept 29
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Kosetta	W. Oct. 3
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Oct. 3
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Oct. 5
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. Oct. 5
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Sachsen	Sa. Oct. 6
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Oct. 9
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	F. Oct. 12
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. Oct. 17
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Oct. 22
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. Oct. 22

THE funeral of the late Mr. Nakagawa Tsunejiro, First Secretary of the Japanese Legation at Rome, took place at Reinanzaka Church, Akasaka, Tokyo, on the afternoon of the 23rd inst. Mr Yamamoto, President of the Bank of Japan, Mr. Sakatani, Director of the Accountants Bureau, Mr. Asada, Director of General Bureau, Foreign Department; and many high officials of the Foreign Department were present.

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LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Indus, French steamer, 2,331, G. Duchateau, 21st Sept.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 20th Sept., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 21st Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 21st Sept.,—Kobe, 19th Sept., General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 21st Sept., Kobe, 19th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 21st Sept..,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 20th Sept., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Goalpara British steamer, 1,359, W. H. Jacobs, 21st Sept.,—Madras and Rangoon via Manila, 13th Sept., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Arakawa, 21st Sept.,—Kobe, 20th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumiuoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto 22nd Sept.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 22nd Sept.,—Kobe, 20th Sept. General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, K. Nunome, 22nd Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, 15th Sept., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saxonia, German steamer, 3,326, Jaeger, 22nd Sept., —Hamburg via ports, and Moji, 20th Sept., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Marquis Bacquehem, Austrian steamer, 2,744, A. Bilaffer, 22nd Sept.,—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong, 16th Sept., Mails and General.—Browne & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Tamuke, 23rd Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Sept., General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Candia, British steamer, 4,195, A. W. Symes, 23rd Sept.,—Moji, 20th Sept., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Morven, British steamer, 2,360, J. T. Norrie, 22nd Sept.,—New York via Manila, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 23rd Sept.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kubo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,164, S. Suda, 23rd Sept., — Hakodate, General. — Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archbald, 24th Sept.,—Vancouver, B.C., 11th Sept., Mails and General. —C. P. R. Co.

Serbia, German steamer, 2,377, Sachs, 24th Sept.,—Hamburg via ports, and Nagasaki, 21st Sept., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Patroclus, British steamer, 3,323, E. G. Dickens, 24th Sept.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 23rd Sept., Butterfield & Swire,

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691 J. Truebridge, 24th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 22nd Sept., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,793, W. Townsend, 24th Sept.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 23rd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, Kawamuro, 24th Sept.,—Kobe, 22nd Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 24th Sept.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 23rd Sept., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 25th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 6th Sept., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Sumiuoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 26th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 25th Sept., General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 26th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 27th Sept.—Katsuura, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 27th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, 26th Sept., General.— Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Alwin, 27th Sept.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., 11th Sept., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,468, Potter, 27th Sept., —Manila and Iloilo, 15th Sept., Sugar.—Cornes & Co.

Iburi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,623, T. Okuma, 27th Sept.,—Hongkong via Kobe, 25th September, Sugar and Rice.—Hirama Kaisoten.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 27th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 26th Sept, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, J. Rowley ,21st Sept.,—Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd

Rokeby, British steamer, 2,455, Jobson, 21st Sept.,—Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Houmna, 21st Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, Hadley, 21st Sept.,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Duke of Fife, British steamer, 2,416, J. L. Cox, 21st Sept.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hamburg, German steamer, 6,597, Krech, 22nd Sept., —Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,870, F. Davies, 22nd Sept.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 22nd Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 22nd Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 23rd Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Goalpara, British steamer, 1,359, W. H. Jacobs, 22nd Sept.,—Madras Coast via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Arakawa, 22nd Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumiuye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 23rd Sept..,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saxonia, German steamer, 3,326, Jaeger, 23rd Sept., —Havre, Bremerhaven and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 24th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 24th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 24th Sept.,—Katsuura, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archbald, 24th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Kuho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,164, S. Hamada, 25th Sept.,—Hakodate via Kobe and West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ashmore, British Transport, 1,574, J. Murray, 25th Sept.,—Wei-hai-wei, Cardiff Coal.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 25th Sept.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, R. Nunome, 26th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 26th Sept.,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Marquis Bacquehem, Austrian steamer, 2,744, A. B. Bilaffer, 27th Sept.,—Trieste via ports, General.— Browne & Co.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 27th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Sumiuoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 27th Sept.,—Katsuura, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 27th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S. Kawamuro, 27th September,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 27th Sept.,—Uraga, Ballast.—P. & O. S.N. Co

Serbia, German steamer, 2,377, Sachs, 27th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Indus*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. R. P. Cornier, Lieut.-Col. Oshima, Mr. Aug. Metzler, Mr. S. W. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Hipwell, Mr. R. Koch, Mr. Macaulay and boy, Mr. E. W. Turner, Mr. O. Mordhost, Mr. Rudolph, Mr. A. Clerici, Mr. Macfarlane, Mr. C. B. Barnett, Mrs. Fergusson, Mr. E. Burgogne, Mr. Goh Sam Tien, Mr. Herm Polken, Mr. Bethell, 38 soldiers and marines, Mr. J. R. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Th. Bruge, baby and amah, Dr Max Huber, Mr. J. W. Westphalen, Mr. A. Forbes, Mr. J. C. Matheson, Mr. R. J. Karby, Mr. Otto Mayer, Mr. Jick Kay, Mr. Favre Brandt, one Japanese, and Mr. Maurice Allex, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss S. Lagrave, Lt.-Com. W. M. Irwin, Mr. F. Engel, Mr. K. Mounsey, Mrs. K. Mounsey, M. C. T. Yu, Mr. Thos. O'Bnen, Mr. H. Crombie, Mrs. H. Crombie, child and amah, Mr. W. J. Hewett, Mrs. Fassett, Miss Fassett, Mr. J. M. Miller, Mr. G. L. Bayley, Rev. Goodrich, Mr. H. V. Lett, Mr. K. Matsugata, Mr. A. Saphiere, and Mrs. Decker and child, in cabin. For San Francisco —Mrs. G. T. Williams, Mrs. Van Namee and child, Mr. J. H. Greefkens, Miss K. L. Ogborn, Mr. H. Olin Cady, Mrs. H. Olin Cady, and child, Mr L. Rosenthal, Mrs. L. Rosenthal and child, Mr. O. K. Davis, Com. Rogers, U.S.N., Mr. S. H. Knowles, and Mrs. Goodrich, and 3 children, in cabin.

Per Austrian steamer *Marquis Bacquehem*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. Schmidt, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Shanghai via ports.—Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Birch and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Forrester, Miss Jensen, and Miss Cormack, in cabin; Mr. J. Codamaton, Mr. Kong Kee, and Mr. K. Ikeda, in second class; 16 in steerage

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. S. Takaya, Mr. K. Okura and wife, Mr. Tanabe, Mr. M. C. Leuthwaite, Prof. Mano, Mr. L. H. Scharrer, Mr. A. L. Stone, Mr. Jas. Hay and wife, Miss O. Arnhold, Mr. and Mrs. J. Arnhold, Miss Jackson, Mr. S. Y. French, General J. Stahel, Mr. H. Shugio, Mr. H. W. Denson, Mr. F. A. Johnson and wife, Mr. S. R. Betts, Mrs. L. Armstrong, Mr. F. Von Wahlborn and servant, Mr. Von Forster, Mr A. J. Cornes, Mr. C. Woodall, Mr. F. E. Hagin, wife and 3 children, Mr. Nishimura, Major-General Iditti, Mr. and Mrs. Ledyard, and Miss A. Dean, in cabin; 16 in second class; 286 in steerage. For Kobe:—Mr. Hans Ramseger, Dr. Avison, wife and 5 children, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Abell, Miss B. M. Abell, Mr. J. D. Abell, Miss K. Tristram, Miss Amor, and Miss Lawrence Avicam, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Miss B. J. Allen, Miss E. P. Sells, Miss H. S. Cockran, and Mr. F. Ringer, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. E. Gilchrist, Hon. Kwong Chang Hesei, Mr. Geo. Jamieson, Dr. H. H. Lowry, Mr. H. S. Cook, Prince H. Ouchtomsky, Princess H. Ouchtomsky, Prince Dizenchtousky, and Mr. How, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Sir Thos. Jackson, Mrs. E. Y. Miller, Mrs. C. E. Rees, Mr S. Mast, Mr. C. H. Balfour, Rev. Warnshms and wife, Sir E. Satow and servant, and Mr. F. Ackermann, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong via ports —Mr. L. Knight, Mr. H. G. Pollock, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Fellows, Mr. H. R. Heber, Mr. Asahina, Mr. Anderson, Lieut. Lochead, Mr. and Miss B. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Lo Li Man and child, Mrs. Roku Chow, and Mr. Lung Che Mung, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss M. A. Cloggett, Mr. H K. Koch, Mr. J. S. Little, Mr. G. J. Miller, Mr. E. C. Register, Mrs. H. M. Walker, Rev. and Mrs. C. S. Weaver, Mr. P. Haberland, Miss G. Little, Mrs. C. Macadam, Mr. R. Makita, Mr. H T. Safford, Miss A. M. Walker, and Mr. A. L. Webster, in cabin. For Kobe.—Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Callahan and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Davis and Child, Mrs. S. K. Hatton, Mr. J. H. Leonard, Mr. J. E. Hall, Mr. L. J. Hogue, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Towson and 3 children in cabin. For Nagasaki.—Mrs. C. H Smith in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. S. F. Denby Mr L. S. Palern, Mr. Paul Meyer, and Mr. J. H. Wilson, in cabin. For Hongkong;—Mrs. W. Howell, Mr. J. W. Jens, Capt. G. Lowery, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Miller, Mr. C. E. Hoddle, Mr. W. Liebert, Mr. R. Lenzman and Mr. G. A. Marquis, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports —Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Reece, Miss Mary Reece, Mr. G. E. H. Harmon, U.S.N., Mr. P. A. Schlemburger, Mr. and Mrs. D. Williard Lyon and child, Master D. W. Lyon, Mr. J. H. Wilson, Miss E. Wilson, Miss A. Wilson, Mr. H. W. Lea, Mr. Geo. Eckley, Mr. W. S. Jackson, Mr. H. Blum, Mrs. Jordan, Master Jordan Mr. H. Ketels, Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Hunt, Miss Helen Hunt, Mr. R. H. Bowie and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. Adam, Mr. J. Köhn, Capt. J. Faichney, Mr. C. M. Hoffmann, U.S.N., Mr. J. McCauley, U.S N., Mr. J. Pommer, and Mr. Leigh Hunt's Native Servant, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Lieut.-Commander Chas. E. Fox, U.S.N., Mr W. J. Evans, Mrs. N. E. Irwin, Mr. S. W. Baxter, and Mr. Chrisopher Nelson, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Malacca*, for London via ports:—Mr. H. G. Woodeson, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hamburg*, for Europe via ports:—Miss C. Cook, Mrs. W. Schmidt, Mrs. W. Church, Mr. A. Groener, Mr. J. Kohn, Mr. Fisher, Miss Pakenham, Mrs. A. R. Fuller and child, Mrs. C Rudolph, Mrs. Dirkheim and child, Miss Gerken and servant, Rev. G. H. Bondfield, Mr. P. H. Holt, Mr. and Mrs. H. Schichting, Mr. R. Finch, Mr. R. Kupsch, Mr. Buchheisser, Mrs. von Schoeler, baby and amah, Mr. Bremer, Mr and Mrs. W. G. Bayne, Mr. Rudolph, Mr. E. Bauer, Mr. F. H. Beebe, Mr. Barnabas, T. Sakai, Misses May and Carol Merri-

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mian, Mrs. Wm. S. Merriman, Mr. Copmann, Mr. E. Rogers, Corv. Capt. Lautenberger, Mr. E. Blohm, Mrs. Buchheister and child, Mrs. Bruce, child and maid, Mrs. Uwosumi Toku, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Lynborg and child, Mrs. C. F. Gammon and child, Mr. and Mrs. A. Keneday, Mr H. A. Adamsen, Mr. K. Yamaguchi, Mr. S. Shiboi, and Prof. Letourneur, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Bingo Maru*, for London via ports.—Com. K. Kuromidzu, Com. Y. Yonehara, Lieut. K. Yoshida, Chief Eng. T. Okazaki, Chief Surgeon Y. Wada, Paymaster B. Aihara, Eng. T. Kasai, Sub-Lieut. K. Shikama, Sub-Lieut. S. Kihara, Eng. K. Sato, Paymaster I. Okada, Mr. A. J. Rankin, and Mr. S. Morokuma, in cabin; Petty officers T. Tokuyama, Y. Nagano, T. Hibai, N. Soh, K. Miyauchi, Mr. K. Toda, Mr. G. Fujishiro, and Mr. T. Tanaka, in second class; 225, I.J.N., in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. H. Olin Cady, Mrs. H. Olin Cady and child, Mr. O. K. Davis, Lieut. Dolgoroukoff, Rev. F. D. Gamewell, Mrs. F. D. Gamewell, Mrs. Goodrich and 3 children, Mr. J. H. Greefkens, Dr. F. W. Haker, Mr. K. Kamio, Mr S. H. Knowles, Rev. J. A. Miller, Mrs. J. A. Miller and 3 children, Mr. F. B. Morse, Mr. D. Nakvasin, Mr. M. Nitta, Miss K. L. Ogborn, Com. R. P. Rogers, U.S.N., Mr. L. Rosenthal, Mrs. L. Rosenthal and child, Mr. O. Shioda, Mr. R. Skeel, Mrs. R. Skeel, Mr. K. Ushijima, Mrs. K. Ushijima Mrs. von Namee and child, Capt. R. E. Walker, U.S.M.C., Mrs. R. F. Walker and child, Mrs. G. T. Williams, Mr. J. D. York, Mrs. J. D. York, and Mr. G. Shiozawa, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. R. A. Dowler, Mr. A. E. Asgai, Mr. R. J. Gerrard, Mr. H. W. Fraser, Mrs. McNeill, 3 children and nurse, Mrs. Skottowe, Mrs. Gulland, Mr. T. Richard, Mrs. T. Richard, Miss Lysaught, Mrs. Lysaught, Miss Bond, Miss McKenzie, Miss Thorn, Mr. Thos. Bunt, Mrs. E. Bunt, Mr. E. Cellerier, Rev. T. F. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. T. Payne, Mr. A. J. Lefroy and native servant, Miss F. O. Wilson, Miss E. E. Glover, Mr. O. Fukahori, Mrs. Heistend, Mr McGregor Grant, Mr. L. Van Ransselaer, Mrs. and Misses Jansen (3), Miss E. Stevens, Mr. A. H Mancell and native servant, Miss Jones, Captain Clement, Mrs. Rolfe, infant and amah, Miss Underwood, Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Denby, child and amah, Dr. and Mrs. Tensler, Count Hoyos, Mr. H. Sykes Thompson, Mr. A. J. N, Carlill, Mr. and Mrs. Bunge, infant and amah, Mrs. Wickham, child, and maid, Mr. Wickham, Miss Johnston, Mr. W. Rokos, Mr. Koo Sung, Mr. Koo Tak, Mr. O. D. Jerauld, Mr. and Mrs. Davidson and child, and Mr. J. B. Glover, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Consul-General G. Coates, Mr. K. Terami, Mr. W. Braumuller, Miss Wylie, and Miss Cousin, in cabin; Mr. Jurakofsky, in second class.

Per American steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. H. Abbey, Mr. R. E. Abenheim, Rev. W. J. Callaham, Mrs. W. J. Callaham and 2 children, Baron M. Czikann, Col. L. A. Craig, U.S.A., Mrs. L. A. Craig, Master L. A. Craig, Jr., Rev. W. A. Davis, Mrs. W. A. Davis and child, Mr S. F. Denby, Mrs. B. Fay Mr. L. J. Hague, Mr. J. E. Hall, Mrs. S. K. Hatton, Mr. R. Hayden, Mr. Joseph Heger, Mr. C. E. Hoddle, Mrs. Howell, Mr. J. W. Jenss, Mr. L. Lenzman, Mr. J. H. Leonard, Capt. Geo. Lowery, Mr. M. Liebert, Mrs. S. F. Mackie, Mr. E. H. R. Manley, Mrs. E. H. R. Manley, Mr. W. H. Mason, Mr. G. A. Marquis, Mr. J. W. Miller, Mrs. J. W. Miller, Mr. E. S. Palern, Mrs. W. W. Rich, Miss Rich, Capt. Granville Sevier, U.S.V., Mrs. C. H. Smith, Mr. A. Saphiere, Mr. W. T. Towson, Mrs. W. E. Towson and 3 children, and Mr. J. W. Wilson, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Duke of Fife*, for Tacoma, Wash.:—

TEA.

	Canada.	Chicago & West	New York & East	Pacific Coast		Total Packages
Shanghai ...	136	2,516	—	—		2,652
Kobe	45	611	275	3	—	934
Yokohama ...	341	989	402	1,076	—	3,008
Culcutta	307	—	—	—	—	307
Colombo	—	—	—	219		219
Total ...	1,029	4,116	677	1,298	—	7,120

SILK.

	New York	Hartford	Total Bale
Shanghai ...	25	—	25
Yokohama ...	162	—	162
Total ...	187	—	187

Per British steamer *Olympia*, for Tacoma, Wash.:—

TEA.

	Canada	Chicago and West.	New York and East	Pacific Coast	Total Packages
Kobe	287	103	—		390
Yokohama ...	257	1,347	603	—	2,207
Total ...	544	1,450	603	—	2,597

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per P. & O.S. steamer *Rohilla*, for France, Sept. 19 —

	Bales.
Findlay Richardson & Co.	50
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	10
Siber, Wolff & Co.	25
Sieber & Co.	30
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	20
Varenne & Co.	10
Total	145

Per N. P. steamer *Duke of Fife*, for New York, via Tacoma, Sept. 21:—

	Bales.
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	162
Total	162

Per N. D. L. steamer *Hamburg*, for Europe, Sept. 22:—

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.	20
Dent, H., & Co.	55
C. Gussani	20
Nabholz & Co.	32
Otto Reimers & Co.	15
Siber, Wolff & Co.	77
Total	219

Per T. K. K. steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco, Sept. 22:—

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.	10
H. Dent & Co.	10
Middleton & Smith	100
Nabholz & Co.	20
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	25
Otto Reimers & Co.	38
Vivanti Bros.	33
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	56
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	19
Total	359

To 24th September, 1900.

	Bales.
Averill & Co.	425
Bavier & Co.	298
Chauvin, Chevalier & Co.	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	120
H. Dent & Co.	273
P. Dourille	50
Findlay Richardson & Co.	90
C. Gussani	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	697
Longin & Co.	258
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	335
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	644
Otto Reimers & Co.	596
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	183
Siber, Wolf & Co.	963
Sieber & Co.	427
W. M. Strachan & Co.	121
Varenne & Co.	220
Vivanti Bros.	577
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	1,823
Doshin Kaisha	407
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	474
J. Ishu	68
Total	9,409

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The recent demand has died away and dealers are waiting further developments.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings, 8 4lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	PER PIECE 2.85 to 3.85
Grey Sheetings, 9lb, 31 2 yds. 45 inches	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings, 24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints, Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton Italians and Sateens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD 0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS. PER YARD.

Flannels	Y 0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1 10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.68 to 0.78

PER PIECE

Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards 42 3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—28 to 30 lb 24 25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2 47½
Turkey Reds—38 to 40lb, 24, 25 yards, 32 inches	2 75 to 3 80

COTTON YARN.

PER BALE

Nos 18/24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28, 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	180.00 to 185.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	180.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.50 to 30.00
Indian Broach	Nominal
Chinese	Nominal

METALS.

No business.

PER PICUL

Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y 5 70 to 6 20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

There is little change to record in the kerosene market.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.80
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

The sugar market is quiet.

PER PICUL

Brown Takao	Y. 5 30 to 6.10
Brown Manila	5.70 to 7.00
Brown Dantong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5 50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8 70
White Refined	8.00 to 9.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

We can only repeat what we said last week, that the market continues its downward course, sellers being in need of money. Advices from abroad still continue very dull and a further fall appears likely in the near future.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	Y. 850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	760 to 770
Filatures—No 1½, Fine	800 to 810
Filatures—No 1½, Coarse	740 to 750
Filatures No. 2, Fine	780 to 790
Filatures—No 2, Coarse	720 to 730
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	760 to 770
Re reels—No. 1	740 to 750
Re reels—No. 1½	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 2	710 to 720
Re-reels—No 3	
Kakedas—Extra	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 1	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 1½	730 to 740
Kakedas—No 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 2½	690 to 700

WASTE SILK.

Some business doing at quotations, but there is no life in the market; and holders must take less money if they want to move freely.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	135 to 140
Noshi—Filatures, Good	125 to 130
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	50 to 52½
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	40 to 42½

TEA.

There has been a steady demand. Teas on offer are chiefly low grade, and there is no change in prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	39 & upwards
Choice	37 to 38
Finest	35 to 36
Fine	33 to 34
Good Medium	31 to 32
Medium	29 to 30
Good Common	27 to 28
Common	25 to 26

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, September 27.

Silver ½ higher from London, but no change otherwise and local rates remain steady.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0 1/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 5/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49 3/8
— Private 4 months' sight	50 7/8@51
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.13
Hongkong—Bank sight	*2% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	* Par.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 71
— Private 10 days' sight	* 73
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29 @ 1/16

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT

Yokohama, September 27.

Breweries—A small lot of shares is offering at *yen* 152.50. Grand Hotels—A few shares can be had at *yen* 245. Club Hotels are steady at *yen* 80. Langfeldts can be had at *yen* 95. Helms were sold to-day at *yen* 52.50. Laundries have sellers at par.

Y. U. Club debentures can be had at *yen* 106. Oriental Hotel debentures, first issue, can be placed at *yen* 106. Laundry debentures are obtainable at *yen* 100.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	210 Sa
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	152 50 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	95 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	52.50 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	107 S
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	101 Sa
Oriental Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	106 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	99 Sa
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, September 27.

Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 240. Japan Breweries have buyers at *yen* 152.50. Bretts have sellers at *yen* 10. Helms can be had at *yen* 52.50. Brett & Co. debentures are obtainable at par.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207.50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	240 Buyers.
Club Hotel	80 Sales.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	97.50 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	152.50 Buyers.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

DURING the Missionary Conference, October 24th—30th, entertainment may be secured at Japanese Hotels, near the Y.M.C.A. at the following rates:

ENOMOTO-KAN.

First-class *yen* 1.40, dinner 50 *sen* extra.
Second-class 80 *sen*, dinner 30 *sen*.

SEKINE-YA.

Best *yen* 1.50, dinner 30 *sen* extra.
First-class *yen* 1.00, dinner 30 *sen*.
Second-class 75 *sen*, dinner 22 *sen* extra.

Rooms will be reserved in the order of application. Missionaries employed by Boards represented in Tokyo should apply through their own representative in the city. All others may secure accommodation through the Secretary of the Business Committee.

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Tokyo, September 29th, 1900.

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Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour,

Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, CUTICURA Ointment, to instantly allay itching, inflammation, and irritation, and soothe and heal, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the severest humours, with loss of hair, when all else fails. Sold throughout the world. "All about the Skin, Scalp, and Hair," post free, of Aust. Depot, R. TOWNS & CO., Sydney, N.S.W. So. African Depot: LENNON LTD., Cape Town. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U.S.A.

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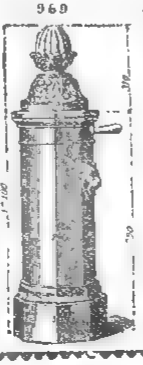

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RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.30, 8.55, 9.35, 10.15, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1.30, 2, 2.36, 3.10, 3.55, 4.33, 5.15, 5.33, 6.20, 7.21, 8, 9.13, 10, 10.50, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—5.20, 5.50, 6.50, 7.55, 8.30, 8.45, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25 a.m.; 12, 1.10, 1.40, 2.20, 3, 3.25, 4, 4.35, 5.10, 5.25, 6.24, 7, 7.35, 8.25, 9.20, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.

YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Leave		Arrive	
Yokohama	6.50 a.m.	Kobe	10.47 a.m.
Yokohama	1.14 p.m.	Kobe	9.00 a.m.
Yokohama	6.30 p.m.	Kobe	11.19 a.m.
Yokohama	10.32 p.m.	Kobe	6.36 p.m.
Kobe	6.00 a.m.	Yokohama	10.05 a.m.
Kobe	12.05 p.m.	Yokohama	8.05 a.m.
Kobe	6.00 p.m.	Yokohama	10.50 a.m.
Kobe	10.00 p.m.	Yokohama	6.13 p.m.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. (週報)

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA SATURDAY, OCT. 6TH, 1900.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

AFFAIRS in China are practically at a standstill.

MARQUIS ITO has not finally accepted the duty of forming a Cabinet.

MAJOR-GENERAL NAKAGI died on the 28th Sept. in the Fukuoka Hospital.

MR. HAYASHI, Japanese Minister to Korea, left Chemulpo for Japan on the 27th.

THE oldest threatre in Yokohama, the Hagoromoza has been destroyed by fire.

LORD ROBERTS replaces Lord Wolseley as Commander-in-Chief of the British Army.

A JAPANESE junk laden with 300 boxes of kero sene oil collided with a pier of the Ryogoku bridge on the 30th ult., and sank.

FIRE broke out at Yamada-mura, Yoichi-gori, Hokkaido, on the 30th ult. One house was destroyed and six men were burnt to death.

AN employée of the Osaka Naniwa Bank was arrested at Hakodate on September 22nd charged with stealing bonds to the value of *yen* 3,800.

Two workmen were overpowered on the 25th Sept. by fire-damp in a coal mine at Oyabu, Yugedamura, Tagawa-gori, Fukuoka prefecture.

A DISASTROUS collision has occurred near Nagasaki by which the *Ise Maru* cut down the *Calanta*, a Norwegian steamer. The loss of life was very heavy.

A ROBBER entered the Public Procurator's Office at the Hachoji Branch of the Tokyo Local Court at midnight on the 1st inst. and stole four table covers.

A CARRIAGE belonging to one of the staff of the German Legation collided on Sept. 27th in Tokyo with an aged vendor of dried fish and seriously injured him. The man was compensated.

LORD CURZON, Viceroy of India, has dethroned the Maharajah of Charatpur for intemperance and for having shot one of his body-servants. The infant son of the ex-Maharajah succeeds him.

OVER 2,000 stray dogs were seized by the London police during July within the Metropolitan and City police districts. Of those captured in London, 1,266 were removed to the Home at Battersea and cremated.

THE *Yokohama Shoheigikwai* has collected *yen* 4,461 from 1,141 persons, to be used in supplying comforts to Japanese soldiers and sailors in China. *Yen* 2,774 was sent to the War Office, and *yen* 1,687 to the Naval Department

A MAN named Ishikawa Eikichi was arrested at Yoshida Shinden, Yokohama, on September 26th charged with entering a house in Takashimacho and stealing a gold watch, with chain, a cheque for 600 *yen* and other articles.

Two sendoes were arrested on Saturday charged with stealing coal which was being supplied from Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co.'s depot to the steamer *Ashmore* The coal was sold to a coal merchant living at Ichigoro, Kotobuki cho, and two others.

FIRE broke out at three o'clock on the morning of Oct. 1st at Chojamachi Shichome, Yokohama. The scene of the outbreak was a firewood shop and a lot of firewood and charcoal was burned and six houses besides damaged. The fire was incendiary in origin.

A FARMER at Shimomaruko, Yaguchi-mura, Yebara-gori near Tokyo found a cave on his farm on Sept. 26th. It is 8 feet wide, 5 feet in height, and 12 feet long and contained two skeletons. Experts are said to hold the opinion that the skeletons are 600 years old.

THE Japanese sailing ship *Yachiyo Maru* (920 tons) belonging to the Marubishi Producing Company of Shimizu harbour, Shizuoka, ran on a sunken rock near Shizuoka Bay recently, and all the crew were lost. The ship was insured in the Japan Marine Company for 4,000 *yen*.

A JAPANESE named Tanaka Ryotaro, aged 18, employed as a clerk by Messrs. Sale & Co., is reported to have absconded on Oct. 1st with *yen* 1,600 given him by his employers to be paid to the Customs authorities. The Police are looking for the offender, but he is still at large.

A NON-COMMISSIONED officer of the reserve named Kurita Keijiro, was arrested on the 21st ult. by gendarmes and after inquiries remanded to Court-martial. He has been speculating on rice-bargains and lost *yen* 800, and besides has been making counterfeit 50 *sen* coins from lead.

THE long distance telephone between Chigasaki and Hakone was greatly damaged by the recent storm. The Tokyo and Yokohama telephone office have sent a large number of workmen to effect repairs, but it is expected that the installation will not be complete for another 6 days.

A NEW daily newspaper, the *Shakai Shimpo*, is to be published at Moto-Sukiya-gashi, Kyobashiku, Tokyo, from the 7th inst. Mr. Oda Junichiro is the proprietor and chief editor. Count Itagaki and many other leading politicians, who have joined the *Shakai Fuzoku Kairyo-kai*, will support the new venture.

A THIEF, named Sakuma Tsunekichi, living at Ishikawa, Nakamura, Yokohama, was arrested by the Kagacho police near Yugyodera temple, Nakamura, on the 1st inst. on a charge of stealing 20 articles from the premises of Mr. Umibe Hirokichi, Nakamura, on the night of 30th Sept. He has been in jail six times already.

THE Japanese sailing ship *Shintoku Maru*, belonging to Mr. Ogawa, Osaka, laden with 1,500 boxes of sulphuric acid, while on a voyage from Osaka to Niigata sank at Kagawa, Izumo province, on the 29th ult. She was insured in the Nippon Kaijo, Nippon Kairiku and the Teikoku Kaijo Insurance Co. for 5,550 *yen*.

NISHIURA OTOSHIRO and Wachi Momotaro, employees of Messrs. Helm Bros, were arrested on the 30th Sept. on a change of attacking two Chinese students belonging to the Taito School, Yamashitacho, and assaulting the Police. Both were ex-police constables of Isezaki Police station, and were under the influence of drink at the time.

A MAN named Kawashima Mitsujiro has been mulcted in *yen* 72 by the Customs Authorities for landing illegally a crocodile and two monkeys from the *Bingo Maru*. It appears that he sold the animals to a showman at Asakusa who was making money by exhibiting them till the Customs people stepped in and confiscated them.

MR. NOGUCHI, a member of the Coal Mining Co., at Amatsu, Kumamoto Ken, has brought in the Tokyo Local Court a claim for *yen* 10,000 compensation against a woman named Kaneko Shige, of Ushigome, Tokyo, for the alleged murder of his daughter Shige, while under her care. The woman has already been arrested on a charge of murder.

THE Yokohama General Hospital was visited on Friday by twelve ladies forming a deputation from the Japan Red Cross Society nurses, who were much interested in everything shown to them. A number of Japanese gentlemen also visited the wounded French soldiers and sailors from China, taking with them as a present a large chest of Japanese tea. A number of French residents of Yokohama acted as hosts, and provided the visitors with refreshments.

A MAN named Takahashi Suzumu was arrested at Shinjuku, Tokyo, on the 29th Sept., and charged with stealing two ladies' watches and chains. He was employed in a public bath house at Sumiyoshicho Gochome, Yokohama, having previously been a servant of the Minister of the Imperial Household. It seems that a few days ago he bought a naval officer's uniform and sword, and attired in these borrowed plumes went to a watch-shop in Yotsuya, Tokyo, and declared that he was an *attache* of Prince Kanin's. He said he desired to buy two ladies' watches and chains but before paying for them would prefer to show them to his father. An assistant in the shop accompanied the man to the Prince's residence, where he was asked to wait in a *jinrikisha* men's room. Meanwhile the thief, knowing the premises well, escaped from a back entrance.

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THE CABINET.

Monday, Oct. 1.

Marquis Ito is showing much reluctance to undertake the duty of forming a Cabinet. The reasons assigned by him are sound and natural. In the first place, he does not think that the present time is suitable for a change of Ministry. In the second, he asserts that only a fortnight has elapsed since he organized the *Rikken Seiyu-kai*; that his object in organizing it was to gradually construct and discipline a political party worthy of the name and competent to act a responsible part in the State, and that he has not yet had time to accomplish those objects even in part. Both of these objections must commend themselves to thoughtful persons. Marquis Ito has made a great sacrifice on account of the *Rikken Seiyu-kai*, and his patriotic object may be greatly jeopardised, possibly defeated, if he is compelled to lead the party into the field before its training has been even approximately outlined. Further, whatever distinction Marquis Yamagata may be disposed to draw between the military and the diplomatic stages of the Far Eastern complication, it is impossible to deny that serious disadvantages may result from any attempt to carry that distinction into premature practice. Even if it could be affirmed, as certainly it cannot, that the military phase of the trouble has terminated, the diplomatic conduct of the affair requires continuity above all things. So fully is that fact recognised in England that one of the main reasons advanced by the Conservatives in seeking to have their mandate renewed by the country, is the obvious necessity of unbroken manipulation in the difficult circumstances of the time. It is much to be desired for Japan's sake that the stability of her Cabinet should cease to be dependent on semi-sentimental considerations which are not consistent with the really efficient discharge of national duties. That Marquis Ito appreciates these things goes without saying, and his reluctance to any change at this juncture is natural. Marquis Yamagata, however, seems quite resolved to persist in resigning, and the public are evidently unanimous in thinking that Marquis Ito is the only statesman to succeed him. The *Jiji Shimpo*, for example, speaks in the most emphatic terms. It says, in effect, that the management of the country's foreign affairs is of incalculable importance under existing circumstances, and that the only statesman who has the nation's full confidence in such matters is Marquis Ito. Even if the Marquis is not disposed to form a cabinet of his own, he ought to assume the direction of foreign affairs under Marquis Yamagata. The *Jiji*'s advice, however, is that he should lay aside all scruples and become at once Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs. The *Kokumin Shimbun* is almost equally insistent as to the necessity of Marquis Ito's forming a Cabinet, but it devotes some space to combatting the suspicion that any machinations of his have led to the resignation of the present Ministry. Indeed, it must be apparent to everybody that if Marquis Ito takes office, he will do so unwillingly.

Now that the Yamagata Cabinet seems likely to go out of power the public are beginning to recognise its merits. Among the nine Ministries that have held office since 1885, when the Government was reorganized, only two enjoyed a life of over two years. They were both Ito Cabinets. The record, as given by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, stands thus:—

	Duration.
The 1st Ito Cabinet (1885)	28 months.
The Kuroda Cabinet (1888)	19 ,,
The 1st Yamagata Cabinet (1899)...	18 ,,
The 1st Matsukata Cabinet (1891)...	15 ,,
The 2nd Ito Cabinet (1892).....	48 ,,
The 2nd Matsukata Cabinet (1896)..	16 ,,
The 3rd Ito Cabinet.....	6 ,,
The Okuma Cabinet	4 ,,
The 2nd Yamagata Cabinet	22 ,,

It was not supposed when the present Cabinet took office that its tenure of power would be even of average duration (17 months). Most people imagined that one session of the Diet would measure the life of the Ministry. But by adroit and prudent management the Cabinet continued to control the affairs of the State for 22 months, and controlled them well. To its credit stand the successful inauguration of the revised treaties, the passing of the revised Commercial Code, the increase of the Land Tax, the transfer of the prison expenditures to the central treasury, the enactment of the peace-police law, the passing of the revised law of elections, the raising of a foreign loan, and the conduct of the campaign in North China.

Thursday, Oct. 4.

Marquis Ito has not yet given any definite answer with regard to the organization of a new Cabinet. It is alleged that much has depended upon Count Inouye's willingness to accept a portfolio, and that the reluctance of that eminent statesman having been overcome, a distinct step of progress may be considered to have been made. There can be no doubt that Marquis Ito would greatly prefer to postpone the resumption of administrative authority for some months, and that his acceptance of the charge at this juncture will interfere more or less with the completion of his arrangements for organizing and disciplining the *Rikken Seiyu-kai*. But public opinion is practically unanimous in indicating him as the one man to step into the breach, and there cannot be much question, we think, that his consent will be given before long. Count Inouye's return to office will be widely welcomed. His influence with the mercantile and manufacturing classes is immense. We may add that the recently circulated rumours about Marquis Ito's health seem to have been exaggerations. The trouble was of a very trifling and superficial character.

PRINCE TWAN.

Mr. G. D. Wilder's interesting letter about Prince Twan's culpability, which we published on the 27th instant, confirms the opinion expressed in these columns that the present Government can never be induced to consent to the punishment of the father of the heir-apparent. It practically comes to this that if the punishment of Prince Twan, General Kang, and their confréres is to be made a *sine quâ non* by the Foreign Powers, the programme assumes the shape of the Emperor's restoration, the deposition and disgrace of the Empress-Dowager, and the selection of another heir to the Throne Very likely that would be the best thing that could happen for China's sake, and we should be glad to think that there was any chance of the Powers' agreeing upon such a plan. At present, however, there does not appear to be any hope of a result so satisfactory. Concerning Prince Twan's complicity in the Boxer outrages, Mr. Wilder gives much valuable information. A great deal of it is mere hearsay, but we recognise that, for the moment, no other kind of evidence is forthcoming. One important statement made by our correspondent is that the Chinese Government issued an "edict to kill foreigners throughout the empire," and that Chinese scholars recognised the edict to be Twan's composition. We had not previously heard of that edict. If it be forthcoming, it would establish the culpability of the whole Government, not of Prince Twan in particular. Mr. Wilder further says:—Doubtless the *Peking Gazette* for the last few months will reveal the fact that Prince Twan, as the adviser of the Empress-Dowager, secured repeated edicts for the extermination of the foreigners, and as head of the Boxers has issued orders for particular massacres and attacks upon the Peking Legations." Is not that a somewhat wide range of hypotheses? Of course if such things can be proved, there will be no question as to the culpability of the Throne and of its entourage, though again we have to say that the crime cannot be saddled upon Twan in particular. But proof is not yet procured. Our correspondent appreciates fully that his charges do not involve Prince Twan alone but that they include the Empress-Dowager and her party also. Thus the upshot of the matter is that the Empress-Dowager and her advisers must stand or fall together, and that there is not the faintest hope of getting them to acknowledge one another's guilt. That, however, is beside the original argument, namely, whether Prince Twan is a criminal deserving of a criminal's fate. Our point is that nothing has been established against him, and that nothing can be established against him unless the Chinese Government furnishes proofs. We do not see that Mr. Wilder's letter invalidates that conclusion.

LORD SALISBURY AND THE GERMAN PROPOSAL.

We learn from Reuter's telegrams the simple fact that Lord Salisbury has intimated to the German Ambassador in London that the British Government can not make any definite reply to Germany's proposal pending advices from Sir Claude MacDonald in Peking. A fuller message received by the *Shogyo Shimpo*—a journal conspicuous for the high character of its telegraphic correspondence—adds that the British Prime Minister expressed strong doubts as to the possibility of giving effect to Germany's idea In the event of the Chinese Government's refusing to comply with the demand, Lord Salisbury failed to see what effective step could be taken by the Powers. The course to which they would be constructively pledged by the terms of the demand, namely the seizure and punishment of the instigators without reference to the Chinese Authorities, was evidently out of the question. Thus the Powers would place themselves in the position of preferring a demand which they could not possibly enforce. Another telegram to the same journal attributes to Lord Salisbury an expression of opinion that Germany's activity in making proposals at the present juncture is largely inspired by the arrival of Count Waldersee at his post, her purpose being to make him and his troops the pivot of the situation. The same view has been expressed in these columns, for it seems not only probable but also natural that when the Emperor of Germany sees his troops and commanding officer in the field, he should begin to take a specially active interest in the course of events Nevertheless we take leave to doubt whether Lord Salisbury openly stated such a view.

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THE CHINESE CRISIS.

Saturday, Sept. 29.

It is stated that according to information from the Governor of Shensi, the Empress Dowager, in obedience to the representations of Li Hung-chang, has removed Prince Twan from power, and entrusted the conduct of affairs to Wang Wen-shao. This change, if it has really been effected, will have a salutary effect in restoring confidence, for Wang is one of the leaders of the reform party.

There is a rumour that Chinese native converts of the Episcopalian persuasion have attacked and burned a Roman Catholic Cathedral in Canton.

The Chinese Court is said to be about to move to Si-an in Shensi.

Viceroy Liu has ordered the former Taotai of Shanghai to remain at his post until the present complication is settled. It will be remembered that there was talk recently of changing the present Taotai, who has won the confidence of foreigners, for a man of anti-foreign reputation, and that a protest was made by the foreign Consuls.

Reports continue to be received in the sense that the Chinese Court has ordered the Viceroys to send as many foreign-drilled troops as possible to the new capital, and to see that they take routes which will not expose them to attack. That is a very natural measure on China's part.

Li Hung-chang is said to have addressed a telegram to Canton requiring that a force of three thousand troops should be immediately despatched north.

The new German Representative was to arrive in Tientsin on the 28th instant. It is expected that he will not immediately proceed to Peking, but will remain some time in Tientsin to watch the course of events.

It is said that a great number of Chinese have come from Peh-tang and Lu-tai seeking Japanese protection. Peh-tang and Lu-tai were the last places attacked by the Russians. It appears probable that the German Emperor's direction will be effectually realized by, not the German, but the Russian troops—the Chinese will not care to look in their faces for a hundred years to come. How quaintly these things contrast with the recent assertion of a Russian publicist that the Russians alone know how to win Asiatic esteem by kindness and sympathetic treatment.

The Russian ships-of-war hitherto anchored at Woosung have proceeded north in compliance with orders from Count Waldersee. They will join the Taku squadron and cruise between Kiao-chow, Taku and Shan-hai-kwan. It is stated that the Russian Government has agreed to place the Port Arthur Docks at the disposal of German ships in case of need.

At the time of latest advices Lu-tai had not yet fallen to the Russo-German attack, but its occupation can not be long delayed. It is understood that Shan-hai-kwan will be the next objective point of this force, after which it will proceed to take possession of the Newchwang Railway.

General Lau is said to have entered Chili with a force of Chinese troops, and to have killed about 2,000 Boxers in various engagements.

Monday, Oct. 1.

It is now stated that Li Hung-chang professes to be much perplexed because the foreign Powers do not make up their minds as to the course they intend to pursue, and that he sees no advantage in proceeding to Peking until some definite basis of negotiation is in sight. We never expected that Li would show any expedition. The advantages of waiting are too obvious.

There is a report that the United States Government has instructed its Representative in Peking to undertake the task of mediating between China and the Powers. That is scarcely credible. If the Government at Washington has any such intention, it ought to approach the European Powers and Japan before delegating to its Representative functions which he cannot successfully discharge in the absence of a previous agreement at headquarters.

The United States Government is reported to have instructed Mr. Conger in the sense that so soon as preparations can be made, all the American troops in North China, with the exception of a regiment and a half, are to be withdrawn to Manila. This action seems to us very regrettable. To estimate its significance, we have only to reflect on the consequences that would probably ensue if each of the Great Powers adopted the same course. There would then be 9 regiments in North China, or a total of some twelve thousand men—a force insufficient even for the defence of Tientsin and the maintenance of communications with Taku. It is true that the other Powers are not at all likely to follow America's example: Germany, France, England, Russia, Japan and probably Italy will all continue to station considerable bodies of troops in Tientsin and Peking. But why should the United States Government abandon to others a duty devolving upon itself equally with them? That is not the part usually acted by a Great Power. There seems to be a strong feeling in America that the country's troops have no business whatever in China, and that they should be withdrawn as soon as possible. If other States adopted that policy, the shut door would be the result, not the open door of which America is the leading advocate.

According to a telegram from Mr. Inouye, Japanese Representative in Berlin, the German Government has signified its satisfaction at the general approval of its proposal expressed by the Powers, but has decided to leave the matter in abeyance at present, owing to the doubts that have been expressed as to the practicality of the programme. The *Chuo Shimbun* gives that version of Mr. Inouye's intelligence, but our own information goes to show that Germany has not suspended her proposal but has merely modified it in the sense that the instigators need not be handed over to the Powers. We have little doubt that the latter is the correct interpretation. The punishment of the instigators must be peremptorily demanded, though the duty of inflicting it be left to China.

The Decorations Bureau announces that the following sums are bestowed in consideration of services which would have received due recognition had the officials in question survived:—To the families of Mr. Narabara, 1,300 *yen*; of Mr. Kojima, 600 *yen*; of Mr. Sugiyama, 300 *yen*, and of Mr. Nakamura, 200 *yen*.

It is very amusing to observe that we are now accused of "doubting the guilt of the Empress Dowager and of Prince Twan." It is true that we have always doubted whether the Empress Dowager is as black as some folks paint her, and that we have more than once protested against the violent and even brutal language employed by some local papers in China when speaking of this remarkable woman. But as to her guilt in connexion with the Boxer riots, we express no definite opinion because there is no trustworthy evidence forthcoming. The same remark applies to Prince Twan's case. That he should have encouraged the Boxers, if he did encourage them, in their character of an anti-foreign organization, is not a crime. We say unhesitatingly that no Western people would have tamely endured what the Chinese have endured at the hands of foreigners during recent years, and that an armed protest against such treatment is in no sense criminal. But our objection to the wholesale condemnation of Prince Twan stops there. If testimony can be obtained showing clearly that he explicitly approved or encouraged the murder of helpless missionaries, women and men alike, he ought to be executed. No such testimony has yet been obtained, so far as we know. It is all hearsay, and neither hearsay nor conjecture will suffice in such a case. We do not wish to be understood as arguing in any way against the punishment of the instigators of the Boxer outrages. The first duty of the Powers is to see that they are adequately punished. Where we draw the line is at the notion that merely because the Boxers are anti-foreign any Chinese statesman sympathising with them must be held criminal.

Tuesday, Oct. 2.

Field Marshal Waldersee seems to have arrived at Tientsin on the 27th ultimo. We now know, from the language used by Germany in her communication to St. Petersburg, that the object of the Field Marshal's coming is, not to take immediate command of the allied troops, but to lead them in the event of any fresh exercise of military force becoming necessary. He will probably inspect the various contingents, but we do not suppose that he will make any change in the disposition of the forces or otherwise give effect to his commission as commander-in-chief. Nevertheless the position is peculiar, for although his assumption of the supreme command is provisional, it will naturally be his business to examine into the condition of the various bodies that he may have to lead, and take whatever steps may seem in his opinion essential to their efficacy in case of active service.

It is now stated that Li Hung-chang was expected to enter Peking on the 1st instant. A previous telegram alleged in the most explicit terms that his present purpose was to remain at Tientsin as he saw no object in proceeding to Peking until the Powers had come to some agreement among themselves. It is impossible to know what should be believed.

Li Hung-chang is said to have issued a proclamation ordering the dispersal of the Boxers within the province of Chihli. From the expression used in the telegram we are unable to discover exactly what is meant: whether the troops are directed to attack the Boxers, or whether the latter are merely recommended to disperse. At all events the proclamation is anti-Boxer. The question suggests itself, however: what force has Li at command to carry out such a purpose. All the Chinese troops in Chihli have been dispersed and it must be some time before any efficient body can be organized.

It is stated that Prince Heinrich has been appointed commander-in-chief of the German Squadron in the Far East.

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We are again in a state of perplexity about the sentiments prevailing in the Imperial Court. A Saigon telegram received at the Legation of France alleges flatly that Prince Twan has been appointed President of the *Tsung-li Yamên*. On the other hand, telegrams from Shanghai state that the following Imperial Decree was issued on the 25th ultimo :—"It is not the desire of the Imperial Court that hostilities should be undertaken with foreigners as at present. The Imperial Princes and the Ministers of State, by protecting the Boxers, have impaired our relations with Foreign Powers and brought the country into difficulties. The responsibility, however, falls on us. We therefore decide that the Princes and Ministers shall be punished. The Princes Chwang, Yung, Tsai Hien and Tsai Lan are deprived of rank and office. Prince Twan shall be treated leniently. He is deprived of his office, his emoluments are suspended, and he is handed over to his peers for the determination of a further penalty. Prince Tsai Lan and Yung Nien, Kang Yi, and Chao Shuchiao are handed over to the Board of Punishments for examination and the determination of a severe penalty. Our unique object being to discharge our duty to our ancestors by preserving the integrity of the empire they have handed down to us, we are compelled to take these steps. These Princes and Ministers have brought their punishment on their own heads, and our people will endorse the measure." It is alleged that this important decree was the result of strong representations made by the Viceroys Chang, Liu and Li, and Governor Yuan, and re-inforced by a second urgent appeal from Li Hung-chang. If the news be true, the horizon is greatly cleared and the prospects of peace are much improved. But there remains the Saigon telegram of a precisely contrary significance.

There is a report that the Chinese Government has addressed notes to Russia and Germany thanking them for having dealt with the Boxers, and declaring that China accepts responsibility for the recent troubles. This story would be credible were it not accompanied by the limitation "Russia and Germany.

On the other side of the account comes a story that General Tung is collecting a large force for the purpose of engaging in a decisive struggle with the allied forces, whereas Governor Yuan is organizing ten thousand men for the purpose of driving the Boxers out of Shantung.

With reference to the recently published statements that the Imperial Court is about to transfer the capital to Si-an in Shen-si, it is alleged that the measure was recommended by Viceroy Chang, but that there is objection on account of a famine which is creating disturbances in Shen-si.

The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes correspondence from Peking saying that the city is in a very unquiet condition and that there are evidences of an attempt on the part of the Chinese to recover possession of it. The conclusion to be drawn from the existing state of affairs is that, so far from withdrawing their forces, the Allies should increase them.

The disturbances that have arisen in the neighbourhood of Canton since Viceroy Li was transferred to Chili are particularly suggestive. They seem to indicate that the preservation of peace in any part of China at present, and the security of foreign life and property depend mainly on the quality of the man who happens to be at the head of affairs. An empire in such a condition is not a very reassuring spectacle; an empire whose people are permeated with anti-foreign spirit awaiting only an opportunity to defy control.

Wednesday, Oct. 3.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a rumour that the Emperor and Empress Dowager have expressed their willingness to return to Peking, but no one seems to credit the statement. Their Majesties are not at all likely to place their persons in the hands of the Foreign Powers and a return to Peking would mean nothing less unless some previous agreement had been made.

Sir Ernest Satow arrived at Shanghai on the 27th ultimo *en route* for Peking.

Shanghai professes to believe that Field Marshal Waldersee has secret instructions to take possession of the country through which runs the line of railway from Kiao-chow to Chinan and Kin-chow; to contrive the extension of the line to Tientsin and to occupy the whole of Shantung. We shall hear a great deal more from Shanghai about Count von Waldersee, doubtless.

Another rumour is to the effect that Germany is about to put forward a second proposal, namely, that before opening the peace negotiations, China should be required to disband all her troops. We suspect this tale to be the invention of some wag who, inspired by the unpractical character of the last proposal emanating from Berlin, set himself to devise something still more incapable of being accomplished. By no conceivable process could the Foreign Powers obtain assurance that China had disbanded all her troops. They might as well propose to themselves the task of determining whether she had baled out all the ponds in her parks and gardens.

There is, however, a method in the apparent madness of the newsmongers. They allege that in carrying out her hypothetical intention of appropriating Shantung, Germany expects to encounter serious resistance at the hands of Governor Yuan. She would therefore attack him at once, on the principle of taking the bull by the horns. But as Yuan commands the telegraphic service and has hitherto been the means of keeping the world informed as to the state of affairs in China, Germany is reluctant to commence hostilities against him. Hence she has conceived the idea of China's compulsory disarmament as a preliminary essential to the negotiation of peace. More than usual care has been taken in constructing this story.

Viceroy Tang, of Shensi and Kansu, is said to have memorialized the throne against the project of the Emperor's returning to Peking, before the conclusion of peace, and to have undertaken to guard the Court against all perils so long as it remains at Tai-yuen. This statement seems, at first sight, to constitute a confirmation of the story that the Emperor has proposed to return to the capital, but the one tale probably grew out of the other.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a Berlin telegram to the effect that the German Minister of Foreign Affairs has expressed himself hopeless of the efficacy of any arrangement which does not provide for the punishment of Prince Twan and the other friends of the Boxers. Every one must agree with that view. The only difficulty was that Germany's method of giving effect to it could not have succeeded.

The punishments inflicted on the six princes and three ministers for their complicity with the Boxer troubles will probably prove to be trifling compared with the gravity of their crime from a foreign point of view. But there can be no doubt about the value of the Imperial Edict ordering these punishments. In the first place, it is an open and unreserved declaration of the Throne's disapproval of the Boxers and their doings. Such an avowal coupled with the dismissal from office of nine leading administrators, six of whom are princes and one the father of the heir apparent, must have a marked effect. In the second place, the edict supplies incontrovertible evidence of the guilt of these high personages. Without such an acknowledgement from the Throne it would have been virtually impossible for the Foreign Powers to collect any testimony conclusively establishing a case against these men. It will now be possible to adduce the edict as evidence, and to base on it a demand for severer punishment, should such a course seem desirable. The general verdict will probably be, however, that the nature of the punishment is of much less consequence than the fact, and that it will be better to accept the Throne's voluntary *amende* than to win sympathy for it by pressing vigorous demands.

A telegram from London of a somewhat ambiguous nature is published by the *Shogyo Shimpo*. Our contemporary's interpretation is that the Governor of the Amur has issued orders that the parts of Manchuria occupied by Russian troops up to the present shall be place under Russian civil and military jurisdiction—a natural step.

The latest rumour about Li Hung-chang's movements is that he will wait in Tientsin to have an interview with Field Marshal Waldersee.

The Russian forces are pressing on in the direction of Shan-hai-kwan. They captured Tung-shang on the 27th ultimo, and are probably at Shan-hai-kwan by this time. It must be confessed that the Russians have shown remarkable activity in all their military doings in North China, and that their procedure has illustrated the principle that independence of action is always possible to those courageous enough to exercise it.

Thursday, Oct. 4.

The Austro-Hungarian Foreign Office is credited with saying that unless the Chinese Court gives satisfactory guarantees as to the honesty of its desire to restore peace, it is out of the question that negotiations should be commenced. Certainly such guarantees are very desirable, but what form are they to take? It really seems as though the Powers were bent upon throwing difficulties in the path of a settlement instead of promoting it.

It is stated that the Foreign Representatives in Peking are urging upon Prince Ching the advisability of summoning to the peace negotiations the Viceroys Chang and Liu. The alleged reason of this demand is that Li Hung-chang's pro-Russian bias renders him an object of suspicion to some of the Great Powers, and his conduct of the negotiations would therefore be attended with difficulties. It will be remembered that Chang and Liu have already been appointed to assist at the negotiations, but on the understanding that they remain at their posts and are consulted by letter or telegram. We should have thought that the unpractical character of such an arrangement would have elicited an objection from the Powers

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independently of any other consideration. A negotiation whose progress depends on the endorsement of each resolution by officials at a distance of hundreds of miles would not be likely to get on very quickly.

There appears to be no doubt that Russia has withdrawn her Peking force with the exception of one battalion which will remain as a Legation guard. A battalion of infantry is about 800 of all ranks, and as a battery of artillery and other details have doubtless been left also, it follows that Russia maintains a force of a thousand men, approximately, in the Chinese capital. Let us suppose that each of the Powers adopted the same course—Germany, France, Japan, Italy and Great Britain (we omit the United States because the Washington Government seems resolved to withdraw altogether) and Austria, since she seems disinclined to send troops—then there would be a garrison of 6,000 foreign troops in Peking, which would be ample to secure the position, assuming that the duty of preserving communications was discharged by the large army quartered in Tientsin. Such an arrangement would be essentially different from the scheme of complete evacuation originally advanced by Russia. If a garrison is to be retained in Peking, the question whether it shall consist of six thousand men, or of ten thousand, becomes a minor consideration.

Collating the various reports now arriving in Tokyo, we find that the forces of the Powers are gradually beginning to act independently. A British squadron is guarding Chiu-wang Bay, the ice-free roadstead to the north of Taku. Russian troops, assisted by German, are marching upon Shan-hai-kwan, and Germany is guarding the mines in Shantung. Moreover, it is now positively asserted that Germany intends to establish communications overland between Kiao-chow and Peking. France alone does not appear to be prosecuting any special enterprise With regard to Germany's intentions, they seem to be inferred from the fact that she is landing the bulk of her troops at Kiao-chow. It is plain that if she carries out this plan of opening an overland route to Peking, she will have to occupy practically the whole of Shantung; an operation which is not unlikely to call Yuan and his forces into the field. Fifteen thousand Germans could probably deal with any opposition from that source, but fifteen thousand Germans, even supposing them to be all concentrated for a campaign from Shantung, could not possibly hope to preserve a line of communications several hundreds of miles in length between Kiao-chow and Peking. If Germany intends to keep a garrison in Peking, we do not believe that Kiao-chow will be her basis of operations.

It appears that the Imperial Court's objection to return to Peking was prompted chiefly by Twan, Chwang, Kang and the other leaders of the conservatives, but that since these men have been deposed from office, in deference to the iterated suggestions of Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang, the idea of returning to the capital has become less distasteful. Such is the rumour now circulated. But it must be confessed that so long as Peking is in possession of foreign forces, the return thither of the Imperial Court can not reasonably be expected unless some kind of formal invitation accompanied by sufficient guarantees is given by the Foreign Powers.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that the Emperor of China has addressed to the Emperor of Japan an appeal to assist in restoring peace. The message dwells much on the Chinese Sovereign's regret for the murder of Mr. Sugiyama; refers to the orders issued for the seizure of the assassins; says that a sum of 5,000 taels has been paid by the Court for the performance of funeral rites, and directs that the Secretary of the Chinese Legation in Tokyo shall accompany the remains to the grave. It is to be regretted that this order was not sooner conveyed to the Legation in Tokyo. Mr. Sugiyama's funeral has taken place. It was not attended by any representative of the Legation though his presence would have produced an excellent effect. Indeed it will occur to ordinary minds that such a step might have been taken without awaiting an order from China, inasmuch as the Emperor of the latter country had already publicly expressed his condolences and regrets.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram from Newchwang to the effect that the Russians are using very strong measures to conduct their civil government in the parts of Manchuria occupied by them, and that their requisitions for supplies are enforced with great severity. The consequence is that the Chinese are flying in all directions, and the occupied territories are losing their inhabitants altogether. But whither can the people fly? Russia will soon be in virtual possession of the whole of Manchuria, so far as we can see. Meanwhile it must be confessed that she seems to be making very thorough preparations for that contingency which accompanied her promise of ultimate evacuation, namely, "unless the action of other Powers forbids such a step."

It was reported some time ago that a fourth brigade of Russian troops, consisting of four battalions of infantry and a battery of artillery, had landed at Port Arthur. This force was subsequently lost sight of, but its whereabouts are now said to have been discovered. It is marching upon Liao-yang. A very long march that is, *viâ* Kinchow and Kaipien.

Shanghai says that the French Consul there has received a telegram to the effect that the Empress Dowager, when passing Siuen-hwa in her flight from Peking, issued orders that the missionaries should be killed, and the result was the murder of 15 French missionaries.

The latest about Li Hung-chang is that he will remain in Tientsin until Yung Lu arrives there, which event is expected on the 11th instant. Yung is to come by water from Paoting, and rumour says that a Japanese contingent will be sent out to escort him. Yung Lu, also, is a peace commissioner. If the Court appointed all its chief generals to sit on the peace commission, they might move about unmolested within the foreign lines. That would not matter much, however.

Friday, Oct. 5.

A telegram from London says that the German Government has informed the Chinese Court that unless steps are taken to seize and punish the heads of the recent disturbance, peace negotiations can not be opened. If this be true, the situation is becoming more and more peculiar It lends itself to only one interpretation—an interpretation which we are most unwilling to put on it.

Great Britain, replying to China's application for a peace conference, is said to have replied that she can not enter such a conference until compensation has been given for the lives of the missionaries murdered in Shansi. That is a most improbable story, for the question of compensation would form a natural subject of conference

A Shanghai telegram suggests that the Chinese Court finds itself between the devil and the deep blue sea, for if it punishes Prince Twan and the other friends of the Boxers, trouble will be immediately made by some of the Viceroys and provincial officials, and if it does not punish them, it will have the Foreign Powers on its back.

It is stated that two companies of Japanese troops belonging to the 11th Regiment have proceeded by sea from Taku to Shan-hai-kwan. Apparently it was Russia's purpose to advance alone to the assault of Shan-hai-kwan, but the allied commanders decided that as the place would be essential for the purpose of wintering in North China, the attack must be made by a combined force. A corps was consequently formed of Russian, French, British, German, American and Italian troops. It commenced its march towards Shan-hai-kwan on the 1st instant. A naval squadron also will co-operate, under the command of Admiral Bendemann. It will include four German vessels and some British, Russian, Japanese and French. Rumour says that there are ten thousand Chinese troops at Shan-hai-kwan under the command of General Ting, that they strongly hold the five forts at Lau-lung-tau, and that they are preparing to make a vigorous resistance

Major-General Wogack seems to have sufficiently recovered from his illness to visit Japan for purposes of recuperation. He has handed over his command to Major-General Yanjoul, and his arrival at Hiroshima is reported. He was there visited by some Japanese officers who found him unexpectedly convalescent.

Imperial decrees dated the 25th and 26th of September announce changes among Chinese officials. Wei Kuang-tao (Chinese), who has hitherto been acting Viceroy of Shen-Kan (Shen-si and Kan-su) is confirmed in that post, and Yü Hsien (Manchu), Viceroy of Shansi, is placed *en disponsibilité*. Tao Mu (Manchu) is appointed Viceroy of the two Kuang, in succession to Li Hung-chang. Shanghai alleges that Liu Kun-yi is telegraphing to Li Hung-chang to contrive that Viceroy Chang Chih-tung of Hu-kuang, and Viceroy Kuei Chün of Szechuan, shall be made Ministers of the Board of War. Our readers are probably aware that the six Ministers of the Board of War, three Chinese and three Manchu, stand highest in the Chinese Governmental organization. Prince Ching is President of the Board, and his next senior is Yung Lu. These new appointments are not very intelligible, but it seems probable that the efforts of Liu Kun-yi and Li Hung-chang are owing to the fact that Chao Shuchiao and General Kang have ceased to be Ministers of the Board. If they were replaced by Chang and Kuei, it would be a strengthening of the Board in the right direction. Yü Hsien, who ceases to be Viceroy of Shansi, is the official chiefly responsible for the terrible murder of so many missionaries. There is no manner of doubt about his guilt, and we sincerely trust that condign punishment will overtake him.

In addition to the impeachment of Prince Twan and his colleagues by the Viceroys Chang, Liu and Li and Governor Yuan, it is stated that they have been impeached by the Chinese Representatives in foreign countries, collectively, these latter basing their charges on the trend of public opinion in the countries to which they are accredited.

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A telegram from St. Petersburg says that of the five brigades recently ordered by the Russian Government to proceed to Manchuria, the order has been revoked in the case of three, which are required to hold themselves in readiness and await further instructions. The *Asahi Shimbun*, which publishes this telegram, discusses it editorially. Russia, our contemporary thinks, misunderstood the situation originally She imagined that the Chinese liked her and were prepared to welcome her above all other nations. But she then discovered that she was of all countries most hated by the Chinese; that the brunt of their anger fell on her nationals, and that others were involved only for her sake. Thereat she fell into a mood of exaggeration and made arrangements to despatch a great army to Manchuria. But she has now recovered her *sang-froid*. The *Asahi* further interprets Russia's latest step as a proof that she does not intend to occupy Manchuria permanently. But in point of fact, Russia already holds Manchuria in the hollow of her hand.

Such portion of the Japanese troops—the "superfluous section"—as are to return to Japan, will probably embark at Taku on the 11th instant. Baron Yamaguchi and his staff will still remain in China.

Field Marshal Waldersee is said to have issued orders to the various commanding officers in North China in the sense that their independent movements must be confined within very narrow limits. Does the Field Marshal's authority extend to the Russians? If so, where is the limit? Is Manchuria included in his sphere? Very soon the Russians at Shan-hai-kwan will be in touch with their comrades in Liao-tung. We wonder at what line the Field Marshal's warrant will cease to run, or why one portion of the allied forces should be independent of his purview while all the rest are within it.

THE REASON ACCORDING TO LI HUNG-CHANG.

Li Hung-chang ought to know what has enraged his countrymen and induced them to make an organized effort to drive out foreigners. He has explained his view of the matter very clearly to "An Official in China" who writes in *The Independent* This is the *exposé*:—"Asked to give his view of the cause of the present outbreak, his Excellency flatly asserted that it was due to the deep-seated hatred of the Chinese people toward foreigners. China has been oppressed, trampled upon, coerced, cajoled, her territory taken, her usages flouted. Her people believe they have both the right and the power to act as a sovereign nation. Especially irritating was the high-handed course of the Germans in the occupation of Kiao-chow. It was largely in consequence of the aggressions of the Germans that the Boxer society grew and strengthened in the surrounding region—viz., the Province of Shantung. When the lawless deeds of the Boxers compelled the Imperial Government to appoint a new Governor for Shantung—viz, the present energetic executive, Yuan Shi-kai—the screw was so tightened on the Boxers that they swarmed over into Chi-li, and carried their anti-foreign crusade to the capital city." It will be observed that the old Viceroy does not say one word about the missionary. We commend the fact to the observation of the critics who undertake to expose the mainsprings of Chinese acts.

FOREIGN INFLUENCE IN JAPAN.

We observe that the *Independent* takes the following without acknowledgement from our columns:—

A Japanese writer has been investigating the influence exercised on Japanese thought by foreign writers, and publishes a brief summary of the results. In general he notes a marked change from English influence to German, while French thought and principles have never had any appreciable effect Whereas formerly Japan was described as "The England of the East," it would be more correct now to speak of her as "The Germany of the East." The older men, with comparatively few exceptions, derived their impulses from English sources, but the younger men almost invariably prefer the German type. Notwithstanding the fact that the knowledge of the German language is very much less than that of English, and that the country is dotted over with English teaching schools, while it has comparatively few German schools, the great majority of university graduates and others who formerly went to England or America of recent years have been sent to Germany. Taking up the different departments it is noted that in the political world the change is attributed to the belief of some of the leaders that the transition from the Japanese bureaucratic government to the English system would prove too sudden and that the German form of administration offered a suitable medium. In law the Code Napoleon was made the original basis of reform, but in recent years German law has in many quarters superseded that; it is, however, claimed by others that the English law is already gaining rapidly upon the German. In naval affairs Japan began by making Holland its model, but subsequently has almost exclusively followed English methods. In the army she took the French organization, but in recent years in both German influence has been predominant, manifest in the use of the language and the uniform. In political economy the free trade principles of Adam Smith and Mill have given place to the protectionist writers of Germany and America. In education again German thought predominates; in literature England still holds the supremacy, in sociology Spencer has given place to American writers, but German thought is still prominent. So also in philosophy Kant and Hegel have superseded Spencer and Bain. The religious influences are dominantly American, England and Germany being but poorly represented, while France and Russia are far behind. German teaching, it is claimed, has been chiefly in the direction of rationalism, which in may cases has culminated in scepticism. Commenting upon all these facts the writer regrets the disregard for the French language, as the language of polite society and international intercourse, and the secondary place given to English and American thought. The reason for the change he considers is found in the official backing given by the Tokyo Imperial University to the German methods.

We quote this *resumé* for the purpose of recording our emphatic disbelief that Japanese thought is drifting away from Anglo-Saxon grooves. The recourse had by Japanese legislators to German sources for models of local organization and constitutional law, was not without influence and could not have been without influence. But nothing can impair the validity of the fact that English is the foreign language of Japan *par excellence*. The German language is not displacing it. On the contrary the main purpose of some of the amendments recently made in the educational regulations of the empire was to encourage the study of the English language and to provide greater leisure for that purpose. There is no mistaking the importance of this linguistic fact. It means that a hundred Japanese students read English and American books for every one that reads a German. We do not intend to suggest for a moment that German literature, philosophical and scientific, ought not to receive close attention from all students. We are merely stating the facts with regard to Japan, and our conclusion is that the country's face is turned towards Anglo-Saxondom as firmly as ever, perhaps more firmly, and that whatever may be borrowed from other parts of the world *en passant*, the goal everywhere will be Anglo-Saxon.

BATTLE SHIPS.

After all it begins to grow probable that battle-ships of enormous size will by-and-by be the order of the day. An essay read before the Congress of Naval Architects in Paris by M. M Goodsell and Holzopfel, and quoted by the *Literary Digest*, has some interesting remarks on this subject. The authors contend that the increase in the size of naval vessels has not kept pace with that of merchant ships. We are apt to be deceived by the habit of stating the tonnage of war-ships in terms of their displacement, while that of merchantmen is stated in terms of their carrying capacity, and thus when we hear of a fifteen-thousand-ton man-of-war, we imagine something huge. But a man-of-war must have a displacement of thirty-one thousand tons to equal that of the *Great Eastern* or the *Oceanic*. The advantages of big ships are that they could be made absolutely proof against artillery; that they could be driven at a higher rate of speed owing to the additional engine space; that they could carry heavier guns; that they require a smaller proportionate number of men; that they have more water-tight compartments for protection against attacks by torpedoes or rams; and that the crew, conscious of security, would work the ship with greater confidence. The essayists made the following comparison:—"Assuming that two ironclads, of 8,500 tons displacement each, attacked one ironclad of 15,000 tons, the former two having together the same armament of the latter and all three having the same speed, the following figures would enter into account, each of the smaller ironclads would have 66 per cent. of the indicated horse-power of the larger one to go the same speed; her weight of engines, boilers, and fuel would therefore be at least 66 per cent. of that of the larger vessel, and she would consequently have to carry considerably less than half the weight of armor of the larger vessel. The length and depth of the belt required by such a vessel would be considerably more than half the superficial area of that required by the larger vessel; so that, if figures are actually worked out, it will be found that the thickness of the belt in the smaller ironclad will be only half that of the larger one, unless, the smaller vessels were largely unprotected in parts where the larger vessel is protected. She would, therefore, be readily penetrated by the secondary armament of the larger vessel, while the midship or vital parts of the latter would be proof against all except the heaviest guns of the two smaller vessels. But the two smaller vessels would be under the further disadvantages that together they would require a larger crew for working them, and the joint initial cost and the cost of maintenance would be considerably in excess of that of one large vessel."

KOREA.

There appears to be some difficulty in concluding the arrangement recently proposed in Korea, namely, that extended fishing privileges should be granted to Japanese subjects in exchange for their abstention from the trade in ginseng The three journals published in the peninsula are all opposed to the measure, and the Privy Council is said to have negatived it. At present the prospect of the arrangement's being ultimately sanctioned is very slight.

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THE SOCIAL EVIL.

The Department of Home Affairs has taken a step of a most wholesome character. It has issued a series of regulations intended to secure freedom of action to women pledged to a life of shame, and also to protect a girl against being pledged for such a life without her full consent. The laws of Japan are already sufficiently definite with regard to this question. They do not recognise that restraint of the person can be a legitimate consequence of a civil obligation under any circumstances. But it appears that there has been a wide interval between the letter of the law and the practice prevailing under it. This has been vividly illustrated, first by the courageous and humane efforts of the Rev. Mr. Murphy and his friends in Nagoya, and secondly by the resolute action of the Salvation Army and the *Niroku Shimbun* in Tokyo. These agencies have made it clear that although the law does not allow restraint to be employed, restraint of the most emphatic character is actually employed owing to the want of some efficient machinery for enforcing the law. It has been proved that however earnest may be the desire of a girl to abandon her career of vice, so many obstacles are thrown in her way by those interested in retaining her services that she is absolutely precluded from asserting her independence or even communicating with persons who might assist her to do so. At first sight it seems a simple matter that a girl who has pledged herself to servitude for three or five years in consideration of a certain payment to her family, should be allowed to leave the brothel at the end of that period. But such is by no means the case. If she appears likely to prove a success, her employer can easily contrive to run up a heavy bill of liabilities against her. Fine clothes, handsome furniture, choice fare, things dear to a woman's heart, which she accepts with little thought of their cost, and for the use of which she has to pay heavily, gradually plunge her into debt, so that the obligation binding her to service increases instead of diminishing. In the vast majority of cases the girls have been accustomed to regard this state of affairs as inevitable, and to believe that their debts invested their employers with a legal right to their continued service. It was to dispel that fallacy that the Rev. Mr. Murphy applied himself in Nagoya. His success was not large as to the actual number of girls rescued, but he distinctly established the fact that brothel-keepers were prepared at any moment to organise a display of force which effectually severed the girls from communication with the outer world, and which rendered it a work of grave peril for any friend to attempt to break through that illegal cordon. The matter was still further elucidated by the *Niroku Shimbun* and the Salvation Army. A refuge home having been established by the latter, Major Duce and his follow-workers proceeded to circulate among the inmates of the brothels leaflets explaining the true state of the law and urging them to abandon their career of shame. Several girls showed great eagerness to avail themselves of this counsel. But it was then found that certain forms had to be complied with, and that the employers had power—power derived not from the law but from the position in which they stood towards the girls—to check the sending of applications and to deprive a girl of all access to her friends. When these things were brought to the knowledge of the police, they issued regulations, excellent in theory, which ought to have rendered it easy for the girls to submit their applications in the proper quarter. But the brothel-keepers retained the advantage of immediate supervision, and they exercised it so resolutely that neither could a girl present herself at a police station to submit an application, nor could any outsider gain access to her for the purpose of enabling her to take the necessary steps. Many letters from these unhappy women reached the Salvation Army's head-quarters, but when Major Duce and his colleagues attempted to visit the writers, they found themselves exposed to violent assaults at the hands of roughs in the employ of the brothels. So thorough were the precautions adopted by the brothel-keepers that ever avenue of access was effectually closed and the rescuers had to choose between abandoning their attempt or prosecuting it at the expense of unsightly riots involving bloodshed if not death. The members of the Salvation Army appear to have behaved with much circumspection. They placed themselves in direct communication with the police; explained that though in receipt of letters plainly intimating the writers' desire to abandon the evil life, it was impossible to communicate with them or devise any means of enabling them to achieve their purpose, since, although the girls themselves might manage to smuggle letters through the post, letters could not reach them from outside without passing through the hands of their employers, and since the slightest attempt to reach them personally provoked acts of brutal violence. Under the circumstances it seemed to the rescuers that the police ought either to secort them in safety to the brothels for the purpose of communicating with the girls, who had signified their desire for change, or to summon the latter to the police-station for the purpose of completing the necessary formalities. The police were naturally unwilling to adopt either course, and it must be confessed that they were well advised, for the question was essentially deserving of prudent and moderate treatment, nor would it have been just that the police should openly constitute themselves champions of either side. Prostitution is not illegal in Japan under certain conditions, and those engaging in it with due regard to those provisions have rights demanding respect. On the other hand, the people of the Salvation Army found themselves confronted by a deadlock. They were receiving letters praying for assistance which the law entitled them to render but which illegal violence rendered it impossible for them to render. They accepted the counsel of the police, however, and waited, with the gratifying result that an Ordinance has now been issued which ought to effectually remove the obstructions hitherto encountered. The Ordinance provides that any person placing obstacles in the path of a woman who desires to apply for her release, shall be liable to a fine of 25 *yen*, or to 25 days' imprisonment; that a woman need only present herself at the nearest police office and make application in order to obtain her freedom, and that a similar penalty will be inflicted on any one interfering with a woman's freedom of correspondence, her receiving of visitors or her reading of newspapers. Further safeguards are provided also against the abuse of a girl's being pledged to a shameful career without her own full consent. More than this the law can not be reasonably expected to do. But it will be observed that there remains the difficulty of convicting a brothel-keeper of interfering with a girl's freedom, and that restraint may still be employed to prevent a girl from reaching a police station or holding correspondence with outsiders, though the risks attending any exercise of such restraint are greatly increased. On the whole the probabilities are that that the abuses of the system will be reduced to a minimum by these enactments. It can scarcely be hoped, however, that some scenes of violence will not attend the first attempts to give full effect to the newly created privileges. The interests arrayed against reform in this case are as powerful as they are unscrupulous.

THE KAISER AND ADMIRAL SEYMOUR.

The Emperor William, in a speech delivered to the officers of the China expedition is reported by the *Berliner Lokalanzeiger* to have used the following language:—

> Above all, I warn you not to split up your forces. Things would not have gone with Admiral Seymour as they did if he had not advanced against a city of millions with a force of 2,000 men, and if he had been better informed. This is all the more to be regretted because Seymour, when a midshipman, took part in the capture of the Taku Forts, and he ought to have applied the experience he gained forty years ago to his present situation.

It is scarcely credible that the Emperor can have used such language. The inaccurary of the criticism is not less notable than its bad taste. Admiral Seymour did not advance against a city of millions. His expedition was not inspired by any purpose of attacking Peking. He was merely leading an additional body of men to re-inforce the Legation guards, and if the operation was rash and ill-judged, what shall be said of the preceding operations of a precisely analogous nature when far smaller forces of foreign troops—German included—moved to Peking for the protection of the Legations? It is as certain as anything human can be that had not the allied commanders at Taku ordered the assault of the Taku Forts while Admiral Seymour was *en route* between Tientsin and Peking, he would have accomplished his purpose without much difficulty. At all events he would have encountered opposition from the Boxers only, and with them he was fully competent to deal. It was the addition of the Chinese regular forces to his enemies that compromised the situation for him. Moreover, there is this to be said that if in the face of such an appeal as he received from Peking, he had failed to respond, public opinion would have condemned him without reservation. The criticism attributed to the Emperor of Germany is thus not only cruel and unjust but also ignorant, nor does it fail to become ludicrous when his Majesty is represented as saying that the experiences gained by a midshipman 40 years ago in an assault on the Taku Forts should have prevented him to-day from leading a body of reinforcements from Tientsin to Peking in time of peace. From every point of view we find it impossible to believe that the Emperor of Germany employed the language attributed to him.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Air Temp. Max	Air Temp. Min	Lake	State of Weather	Remarks in General
Sunday, 23rd.	..69°	67°	...72°	...Showers...	
Monday, 24th	...64°	61°	...72°	..Rain .. .	
Tuesday, 25th	. 68°	62°	. 71°	...Fine..... ..	
Wed'sday, 26th	. 68°	61°	.. 71°	.. Fine..... ..	
Thursday, 27th	...67°	62°	...71°	...Rain in afternoon and heavy blow at night; plenty damage done in district. Hotel safe.	
Friday, 28th	. 60°	54°	.67°	. .Fine after 9 a.m.	
Saturday, 29th	..61°	59°	...67°	.. Fine.....	

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COLLEGE OF SCIENCE.

We have to hand a number of publications issued by the College of Science in the Imperial University, Tokyo. Their contents are for the most part records of abstruse and delicate investigations, though in some cases even the layman may find interest in their pages.

Part 4, Vol. 13 contains a contribution from Professor C. Ishikawa entitled "Further observations on the Nuclear Division of Noctiluca;" another from Professor Seitaro Goto on certain marine parasites; and a list of the flora of Okinawa, or the Luchu Islands. In Part 1 Vol. 13 Professor B Koto contributes a paper on the geology of the dependent isles of Taiwan (Formosa)—such isles being the Hoko (Pescadores) Group to the west of the main island and the Kashō-sho and Kôtôsho groups to the south-east—which is illustrated by a number of plates and maps. Technical contributions are furnished by Professor H. Nagaoka and Mr. K. Honda in collaboration, by Mr. Honda alone, by Professor Akashi Yasuda and by Mr. N. Ono. Part 2 of the same volume opens with papers by Dr Divers in collaboration with Professor Tamemasa Haga and Mr. Ogawa, describing certain chemical experiments. Mr. M. Miyajima describes a remarkably fine specimen of a very rare marine animal.

"On the morning of January 1, 1899," he says "quite a commotion was produced in the Marine Biological Station at Misaki by the bringing in of a very beautiful and gigantic Coelenterate. It had been caught, on the previous day, by a fishing longline, from a depth of about 250 fathoms near Oki nose, a submarine bank 18 kilometers south of Misaki. It was an object which was calculated to raise enthusiasm in a naturalist. A large disc surmounted a long stalk which evidently fixed the anima. on the sea-bottom. A circle of numerous graceful tentacles hung down from the margin of the disc, while on its upper surface arose an oval tube, surrounded at its base by bushy dendritic appendages and having a second circle of slender tentacles around its upper edge. The total height of the animal was 700 milimeters and the prevailing colour transparent scarlet. It was agreed on all sides that it was a New Year's gift from Otohime and that it should be known in Japanese as *Otohime no Hanagasa*. The specimen, when brought in, was entirely fresh but was not living. It was placed in 2% formalin to preserve, if possible, something of its beautiful colour. At first the attempt seemed successful, but after a while the colour began to fade gradually, until now the specimen is completely bleached to pale white. For histological examination, pieces of the tentacles and the dendritic appendages were fixed in the sublimate and in Perenyi's fluid. The specimen was handed over by Prof. Mitsukuri to me to work out its finer structure."

The result of Mr. Miyajima's study of this specimen, after communication with leading authorities abroad, was that it belongs to the genus *Monocaulus imperator* (Allman), but as the two other species of which the genus consists differ from this in an important respect, the latter must be placed in a new genus, taking the name *Branchiocerianthus imperator*. The specimen, of which a coloured plate is given, is a form of most fantastic beauty. Scientific papers are given in this part by Professor Nagaoka and Mr. Honda and by Dr. Divers with Professor Hoga.

We have also received the first issue of "Icones Floræ Japonicæ" which begins what promises to be a monumental work—the description and illustration of the flora of Japan. First place is given to the *yama-zakura* or wild cherry (*Prunus Pseudo-Cerastus*) which is treated of by Mr. T. Makino, Assistant in Botany at the Science College of the Imperial University. Mr. Makino also furnishes a notice of *adzuma-shirokanesô* (*Isopyrum Nipponicum*) which we take to be a columbine. Unfortunately the letter press is almost wholly in Japanese, so that the information conveyed, as well as the superb plates, are of little use to foreigners.

THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

It is universally admitted that Germany has attained great distinction at the Paris Exhibition. She is said to be ahead of all the Powers, even in the department of marine exhibits. The French papers are very frank in their acknowledgements of Germany's excellence, which they attribute to the successful subjection of intelligence to discipline. England is left in the background, and her comparatively poor display is naturally attributed, not to her wilful abstinence, but to her actual inferiority. The truth is that England could not forget the insults heaped upon the Queen by French caricaturists or the generally bitter tone of the French press during the South-African war. She stood aloof from the Exhibition not only in the matter of exhibits but also in that of visiting it. No doubt her "aloofness" has been a principal cause of the Exhibition's financial ill-success. But she has suffered as all people do who yield to a fit of the sulks, whatever be their justification. The *Westminster Gazette* puts the case well:—

"We had hoped that the exhibition, by drawing Englishmen to France and giving Frenchmen the opportunity of making them welcome, would have helped to create a better feeling. The fear is rather that the shunning of the exhibition will have the contrary effect. Paris is undoubtedly suffering from it. The absence of many thousands of the most probable and best paying visitors is only too likely to disturb calculations and cut off the margin of profit. 'Serve them right' will no doubt be the comment of some Englishmen. Yet, if a punishment, it is rather a costly punishment for commercial and businesslike Englishmen to inflict. Not to see a unique and beautiful show is a loss of pleasure, but not to exhibit and not to see the amazing exhibits from all branches of industry which are gathered together in Paris at this moment is a loss of business and education. One walk round the machinery section would tell an English engineer where he is falling behind and why he is falling behind better than all the books, pamphlets, and articles that have been written on the subject. In the absence of England, the exhibition has become a triumph for Germany. German machinery and German manufactures as seen in Paris are already proclaimed as a revelation to the business world, and for this, we may be quite sure, the English engineer and the English manufacturer will pay heavily. Another fact, too, should not be missed by those who watch the signs of the times. Since 1870 there has been no such intercourse between French and Germans as in Paris this year. The Germans swarm in Paris, are made welcome and enjoy it thoroughly. That, we may be sure, is going to have its effect on politics. Can we be equally sure that England will not pay a rather heavy price for her absence both in business and politics?"

THE JAPANESE LAW OF INSURANCE.

Some uneasiness seems to have been caused in Yokohama by a provision of the lately issued Insurance Regulations to the effect that an insurance agent is liable to a heavy fine if he carries on any business other than insurance It seems to be supposed that this will affect people who undertake insurance agencies merely as an adjunct of their regular trade. Surely it should not be necessary to explain that the Regulations are not intended to bear any such interpretation. An insurance agent may be a barber, a confectioner, or any thing else he pleases by profession Al. that the law interdicts is the carrying on of any other business under the guise of insurance The law does forbid the conduct of life insurance and fire insurance by the same person or firm, but it certainly does not bear the construction that has been put on it by some writers in the Yokohama press.

INTERPORT CRICKET.

We learn that the following will be the probable composition of the team to represent Yokohama in interport cricket on the 15th, 16th and 17th at Kobe:—

A. S. Anton.	E. G. Fradgeley.
G. Braess.	E. W. Kilby.
P. B. Clarke.	H. W. Kilby.
K. F. Crawford.	F. J. Lias.
C. M. Duff.	S. Wheeler.
E. B. S. Edwards.	

A. S. Anton had been very careless during the season, despite the favourable reputation he brought here, but last Saturday he appeared in his real form. He is a good change bowler and an effective bat, especially in clean drives along the ground.

G. Braess, though he has weakened very greatly in his bowling, has gained in batting, where he has proved his value. His strongest point is his "hook" to leg, which is a strong stroke

P. B. Clarke has unfortunately fallen off in attention to the game, and from a good trustworthy bat has degenerated into something of a slogger. Lack of practice of course is the cause. His bowling, however, is fairly steady.

K. F. Crawford has been playing very steadily all through the season, and on the whole it may be said that he is about the only man to be relied on in the game.

C. M. Duff may not go, but as wicket keeper he would be such an acquisition that all will hope to find him in the team.

Of E. B. S. Edwards it may be said that he has played very steadily throughout the season. As a rule he is by no means a certain bat, but so far his bowling inspires respect.

E. J. Fradgely, not a brilliant bat, claims a place in the team by reason of his bowling, which is distinctly superior to his 1898 form. If he were to confine himself to a 10 yard instead of a 22 yard run he would stay longer and bowl better.

E. W Kilby has played a very free game the whole season—perhaps too much so. He has more than once lost his wicket through over confidence, and the sacrificing of effectiveness to style.

H. W. Kilby, who is a very promising cricketer, has not appeared to great advantage, but is a safe bat and can tire out most bowlers if he cares. Anything on the leg side he punishes without mercy. He is also a very clever change bowler.

F. J. Lias is a bowler of no mean merit; if he gets the right wicket to bowl on it will be difficult to score off him. As a batsman one hardly cares to predict whether he will score a duck's egg or a succession of boundary hits.

S. Wheeler is new to Yokohama, and his first game here was watched with interest. The impression formed then was that he would make a strong defensive batsman, though unfortunately his play is very cramped. During the season, however, he has fallen off, and a fortnight's hard practice would do a world of good. As a bowler he should be tried more often.

The fielding of the whole team is very indifferent, with the exception of Anton, Crawford, and the two Kilbys. The team ought certainly to have three or four games against an outside Fifteen so that they may understand each other's play better and have their positions fixed.

A soldier named Nakajima Harunosuke was arrested on the 2nd inst. and charged with stealing a watch from a watch shop at Hongo, Tokyo.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Our readers doubtless remember that the Tokyo Tramway Company's application for permission to convert its system into electric power was rendered abortive by the conditions that the Government imposed as to widening the streets traversed by the Company's lines. The district between Shimbashi and Uyeno which has hitherto been exploited by the Company is the very heart of Tokyo, and great sums would have to be expended, in purchasing land to widen the road. The Company therefore decided that it must abandon the idea of electricity. But the directors are now disposed to modify their resolve, and to conform with a compromise to which the Authorities have given their assent. Meanwhile we do not see any signs of work being commenced on the electric railways for which a concession was obtained last May. Great complaints were made about delay on the part of the Home Department in granting a charter, but apparently, in the four months that have elapsed since it was granted, nothing has been done except to call up a sum of 1 *yen* per share Certainly all enterprises in Japan are terribly crippled for want of capital.

Intelligence from Newcastle says that the battle-ship *Hatsuse* (15,240 tons) is now completed and only awaits her armament; that the first-class cruiser *Izumo* (9,900 tons) was to make her trial trip on the 20th of September; and the first-class cruiser *Iwate* (9,906) will be finished by the end of the year. All these vessels have been built at Sir William Armstrong and Company's.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that the Japan party is now very powerful in Korea. The American party and the Russian party have had their day, but since the present trouble in China, Japan's reputation has been so much enhanced that her friends hold their heads very high. This result is said to have been further promoted by the recently circulated rumour that Russia had proposed to Japan the partition of Korea and that Japan has rejected the idea. We need scarcely say that we do not vouch for the accuracy of this statement.

A British subject is reported to have been killed by Chinese at the Yuensan mine. The murdered man was overseer at a station where 30 Chinese labourers and two Japanese superintendents were employed. He was found lying in a pool of blood when his servant went to call him, and his weapons, a pistol and a Murata rifle, as well as 700 *yen* had been stolen. There are various suspicions and the police are busily making inquiries.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the Rikken Seiyu-kai is about to establish a newspaper organ. The gentlemen chiefly engaged in the enterprise are Marquis Saionji, Mr. Kuribara, Mr. Zumoto, Mr. Ariga (Nagabumi), Mr. Shiga, and Mr. Yokoi.

Here is an admirable "bunder" which appears in the columns of the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

"Have just heard a bit of news which will interest you, and of which many garbled versions will get to the papers. You know no doubt of the fearful jealousy there is between the Allied forces: it appears that the assault on Peking was to take place at a certain time arranged by the Allied commanders, the forces to commence the final march simultaneously at a fixed time. However a British officer happened to overhear a conversation between a Russian and a Japanese officer from which it appeared that these two forces intended marching before the appointed time, without consulting the remainder of the Allies. This they carried out, starting, I believe, six hours before the appointed time. The Americans and Germans got wind of it, soon after they had started and got under way as soon as ready, an hour or two after. All these four nationalities took the left bank, but the British force leaving at the proper time took the right bank, having to go over what was considered by far the hardest ground. They made a magnificent forced march and actually arrived at Peking first. The Amerians were, I believe, second, the Japanese and Germans next, and the Russians did not come in for some time after. The German General had a tremendous row with the Russian General, called him 'no gentleman,' etc, etc. It is rather a nasty knock for the Russians being left after all."

The Japanese will be profoundly astonished to learn that they were in collusion with the Russians to steal a march on the rest of the Allies. But as the tale comes from Shanghai, no person need wonder at it.

It is stated that the number of Nippon Yusen Kaisha transports employed by the Government for the purposes of the Chinese campaign will now be diminished by ten, and that the tonnage will thus be brought to the neighbourhood of thirty thousand, or one half of that now in use. The change is due partly to a reduction of the Japanese force in China and partly to the fact that arrangements are virtually completed for wintering the troops that remain.

Prince Konoye, approached by a member of the *Nippon's* staff, declares that the objects of the National Union are to preserve China's integrity, to restore peace, to protect Korea and to unite public opinion. The Union, he says, has nothing to do with politics or political parties. It will pursue these objects whatever Cabinet may be in power. Should an Ito Ministry, coming into office, decide that the Union is a political association, it will organize itself in that form and continue its propaganda.

It is stated that the Japanese Government has decided to leave the whole of the Fifth Division in North China during the winter. The intention some time ago was to remove one brigade and leave only a mixed brigade. But since Major-General Fukushima has applied for a larger force than even one Division, in view of the necessity of preserving communications between Tientsin and Peking, and since the other Powers, not even Russia excepted, are actually increasing their forces, the Japanese Government has come to the conclusion that a full Division shall be left—namely, some 19,000 of all arms—and that only the special detachments shall be withdrawn.

Japanese newspapers report that fully two million *yen* worth of imported goods are now accumulated in the Yokohama Customs warehouses, and that the authorities are much perplexed how to deal with them

The recently published statement that the torpedo-destroyer *Niji* would probably be floated, seems to have been premature. It is now said that there is very little hope of saving her. The boilers and armament have been removed, but the hull will probably have to be broken up.

The spring crop of silk cocoons is stated by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce to be two million *koku*, being 180,000 *koku*, or 12 per cent., more than last year's crop, and 500,000 *koku*, or 33.7 per cent, above the average. These figures are not correct with regard to Hokkaido, Saitama, Toyama and Kumamoto, whence returns not having yet been received, the last year's yield has been taken.

The rash writer who said such unpleasant things about the Prince Imperial's marriage, has been released on bail. He was sentenced to three years' imprisonment, but he appealed against the sentence, and is now awaiting the trial of his case by the Appeal Court. Pending the latter event he was kept in jail, but falling sick, his bail has been accepted, the amount being 200 *yen*.

The construction of the main trunk line in Formosa is said to be proceeding rapidly. The section between Tainan and Takao will be completed in October, and the opening ceremony is fixed for Nov. 3rd.

We regret to note that Viscount Aoki's attempt to compromise the dispute between the Kobe Water-works authorities and Mr J. R. Morse has not been more successful than was Baron Shibusawa's essay. It is a wretched business, and will have a permanently injurious effect on Japan's credit.

Four new members of the House of Peers have been nominated by the Emperor, namely, Mr. Sone, now Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Mr. Takagi Toyozo, Judge of the Supreme Court, Mr. Yasuhiro Hanichiro, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and Mr. Hitotsugi Kitakuro, Doctor of Law.

The despatch boat *Chihaya*, which has been built at Yokosuka, is expected to be ready for her trial trip in December. She is a vessel of 1,250 tons displacement.

The new postal rates for newspapers came into force on the 1st instant, as decided by the Diet last session. Hitherto the charge has been 5 *rin* per weight of 16 *monme*, but hereafter 20 *monme* will be carried for that charge.

The *Toto Maru*, a steamer chartered by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, which ran aground recently at Yawata-zaki in Boshiu, has been floated. She entered Katsura and transferred her cargo to a steamer for Yokohama.

Operations continue against the insurgents at Takcham in Formosa, but the details are uninteresting and scarcely comprehensible without intimate knowledge of the country.

A considerable seizure of Japanese vessels has been made by the Russian Authorities on the ground of transgressing the fishing limits. Six boats, a schooner and 39 men are known to have been seized, but it is believed that the numbers are nearly twice these figures.

The sixty-seven Japanese fishermen who were seized by the Russian authorities for trespassing in Behring Sea, claim that they were carried out of their course by a current. Forty-nine of them have arrived at Nagasaki, having been released from prison, where they say that they suffered terribly. The remaining sixteen are still detained.

The organ of the new political party is to be called the *Seiyu* (political friends), the party itself being the *Rikken Seiyu-kai*. It is to be run on very broad lines, relations being established with foreign journalists and reporters throughout the world. Marquis Saionji will be the head of the staff. This is not the Marquis' first connexion with journalism. Some fourteen years ago—we can not recall the exact date—on his return from France, he was about to start a newspaper, but the project was abandoned. We do not doubt that he will make a success in this new venture, especially as he will be assisted by such an able staff as Messrs. Shiga, Kuribara, Zumoto, Asaina and Yokoi. Of course, as some of these gentlemen have

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editorial duties of their own to perform, their connexion with the *Seiyu* will be chiefly consultative.

Mr. Shimizu, Japanese Consul at Vancouver, transmits a copy of the bill passed by the parliament of British Columbia for restraining Japanese immigration. He expresses a hope that the strong representations made by him and the reluctance of the Canadian Government to sanction such legislation may render the bill inoperative. Otherwise the measure will take effect from the 1st of January. The bill provides that unless an immigrant can write his application for permission in some foreign language, he shall be excluded, and if he enters without satisfying that test, he shall be liable to a fine of 500 dollars or to 12 months' imprisonment, unless he can find two sureties that he will leave the country within a month. Anyone assisting an immigrant to evade the law will be subject to the same penalty. This restriction is more severe than that applying to the Chinese, who can enter on payment of a poll tax of 100 dollars.

A railway accident occurred at Numazu on the morning of the 1st inst. between 2 and 3 o'clock. The through train to Kobe having reached that station, the engine was uncoupled to take in water, but owing to some mistake of the pointsman, it ran into a luggage van, killing 3 coolies who were pushing the van along the line.

Another accident is reported from Wakamatsu in Kiushiu. An engine ran off a bridge and fell into the sea. The driver and stoker were drowned. Railway accidents are becoming very frequent in Japan.

The battle-ship *Asahi* reached Singapore on the 29th ultimo.

Official permission has been given for the construction of the two Yokohama Town Electric Railways, projected by Mr. Hiranuma and twenty-two others. The charter runs until the 30th of June of the 85th year of Meiji, a period of 51 years and 9 months from the present time. One of the lines starts from Takashima-cho 10 cho-me, traverses Uchida-machi, crosses Oye-bashi, traverses Onoye-cho and reaches the Recreation Ground. The other line sets out from Nishi-no-hashi, passes along the Ooka-gawa, turns to the right beside Minato-bashi, emerges at Kaigan-dori, passes the front of the Customs House, traverses Satsuma-cho and reaches Hanazono-bashi.

The memorial service for King Humbert took place in the Tsukiji Roman Catholic Cathedral on the morning of the 1st instant. There was a very large attendance. The Emperor and Empress of Japan were represented by Prince and Princess Komatsu, respectively, and the Prince Imperial by Viscount Takatsuji. Of the Cabinet Ministers there were present in person Marquis Saigo, Viscount Yoshikawa, Admiral Yamamoto and Mr. Sone. Marquis Yamagata, Count Matsukata, Count Kabayama, Viscount Katsura and Viscount Aoki were represented by proxies. Among the congregation were Viscount Tanaka, Count Okuma, Count Hijikata, Count Sano, Mr. Kawaguchi, Mr. Asada, Mr. Nakamura, Viscount and Viscountess Kagawa, Count and Countess Toda, Mr. and Mrs. Akabane, Viscount Hanabusa, Marquis Kido, Marquis Hachisuka, Mr. Kato, Mr. Watanabe and many other prominent Japanese. The whole of the Corps Diplomatique and also the foreign Consuls of course attended. Pere Everard, assisted by Monseigneur Osouf, performed the service. The Imperial representatives were escorted by a troop of cavalry.

The Association of American Friends (*Beiyu-Kai*) had a most successful meeting in the Maple Club on the 30th of September. Some seventy persons were present. Baron Kaneko Kentaro was chosen President and Mr. Hoshi Toru and H. E. Colonel Buck delivered speeches. The latter dwelt on the necessity of excepting Japan from the broad line of demarcation drawn by Occidentals between Christian and non-Christian countries.

The Home Department publishes figures showing that 8 new cases of pest occured in Osaka between the 21st and the 30th of September and that there were 9 deaths in the same time. The record of the total numbers of cases since the disease made its appearance in Japan stands thus :—

Osaka	81 patients.....	80 deaths
Nagasaki.....	2 patients.....	2 deaths
Shizuoka	19 patients.....	19 deaths
Totals .....102 patients.....101 deaths		

Such a death rate is appalling.

The *Kokumin* publishes the following statement of the distribution of Japanese ships in foreign waters :—

Taku—*Asama, Akitsushima, Takasago.*
Peiho—*Atago, Chokai.*
Chefoo—*Akashi.*
Shanghai—*Itsukushima, Yayeyama, Takao, Maya.*
Amoy—*Takachiho, Chikushi.*
Foochow—*Oshima.*
Formosa—*Katsuragi, Izumi.*
Korea—*Iwaki, Yamato, Chimpen, Chinchu.*

The following vessels also were in foreign waters but have been withdrawn to Kure :—*Fuji, Yokiwa, Fuso, Suma, Naniwa* and *Kongo.*

The *Minneapolis Journal* has a pretty cartoon. Seated before a desk is an ostrich wearing waiscoat, collar and neck-tie and perched on an editorial stool. The bird's face is profoundly expressive of mischievous, self-satisfied asininity. It smokes a briar pipe, has a magnificent cock in its tail, and holds in its wing a large pen with which it is scribbling a bulletin of news. Round the corner a most villainous looking Chinaman thrusts his head with a murderous knife by way of accompaniment. The legend is, "Before the Boxers are suppressed, give them a chance at the Shanghai Liar."

The *Independent* in its last issue elaborates with much force a point made more than once in these columns, namely that anti-missionary writers have very bad memories. In ordinary times of peace and quiet they denounce the missionary as a complete failure in his propagandist role; declare that he produces no impression on the Eastern nations to which he is sent, and ridicule him as a useless and expensive freak whose absence from the field would be as unimportant as his presence is insignificant. But when trouble breaks out like that of the Boxers, when the Chinese people and the Chinese Government seem to be thrown into a state of desperate ferment, these same writers take up their parable and cry out that the missionary has done it all. The two thousand missionaries in China who hitherto produced no effect on the Chinese people are now declared to have wielded an influence more potent than the aggressions, extortions and insults wall of the Western Powers put together.

It may interest the Japanese to know that their country has furnished an illustration to one of the latest and most brilliant of philosophers, Monsieur Tarde. This clever Frenchman has been the first to point out the great influence of the imitative faculty on social life. He holds that man is essentially imitative, and that he unconsciously registers and imitates the desires, the thoughts and the actions of others. In short, according to this philosopher, society is "the organization of imitativity" and perfect and absolute sociality would consist in an urban life so intense that a thought once conceived by an individual would be immediately communicated to his fellow-citizens. M. Tarde does not deny that the process of biological evolution is constantly going on, but he says that it is slow, and quite inadequate to account for the often-surprisingly-rapid process of social evolution. It took centuries to develop the wing of the eagle, whereas a few months sufficed to modernize Japan.

As to the "Question regarding Taxes" addressed to us by a correspondent whose letter we publish eslewhere, the only explanation we can offer is that the local tax of which he complains is not a "business tax." The law is perfectly clear and explicit in the matter of business tax (*yeigyo-zei*). The maximum prefectural tax that can be levied as business tax is two-tenths of the national tax, and no other local or district tax—not prefectural tax but local or district tax, as *shi-zei, gun-zei*, &c.—may be levied on business. According to the Regulation of which our correspondent embodies a copy in his letter, "the supplementary taxes" whose sum is to be 50 per cent. of the national tax, are land tax, income tax, and business tax. If business tax alone were levied at the rate he mentions, it would certainly be illegal, but when the business tax, the land tax, and the income tax do not aggregate more than one half of the national tax, we can not affirm that the levy of business tax is excessive. In fact, we do not know what the levy is.

The House of Lords recently decided in the case of *The Times* against Lane, that a newspaper enjoys right of property in its stenographic reports, and the Lord Chancellor, in delivering judgment, said:—"I should very much regret if I were compelled to come to the conclusion that the state of the law permitted one man to make profits out of and to appropriate to himself the labour, skill and capital of another." We observe that the *N.-C. Daily News*, encouraged by this decision, is about to take measures to protect itself against the piracy practised for years at its expense by its local contemporaries. It is to be greatly desired that the present imperfection of Japanese laws was amended so as to afford protection to a newspaper's telegraphic service. There is no solid honesty in the contention that so long as a newspaper acknowledges the source of its news it may help itself without stint to anything it finds in the columns of a contemporary. The publication or non-publications of the news is the point, not the acknowledgment or suppression of its source.

Mr. Sato Aimaru has been promoted from First Secretary of Legation to be Minister Resident in Mexico and Peru, and Messrs. Mitsuhashi, Kato and Miyaoka have been promoted to be Ministers Resident unattached. Foreigners in Japan will be much gratified to hear of Mr. Mitsuhashi's promotion.

The Emperor of Japan sent a telegram of congratulation on the 30th ultimo to King Leopold of Belgium in connexion with the marriage of his Majesty's nephew Prince

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Albert, son of Philippe, Count of Flanders. The Emperor had already forwarded the Order of the Chrysanthemum for the Prince's acceptance, and it is expected to reach Brussels about the 10th instant.

Prince Iwakura, who accompanied Prince Kanin on his recent tour to Europe, has received no less that nine Orders from European Governments. As usual, England is conspicuous by her absence from the list of donors.

The ceremony of transferring the Miya at Ise took place on the 1st instant. H.I.H. Prince Kaya took the principal part in the rites. Prince Iwakura represented the Emperor. There were large guards of honour and the arrangements were altogether on a very imposing scale. The ceremony commenced at 6 p.m. and lasted until 11 p.m.

A movement has at last taken place in the Yokohama silk market. On the 2nd instant, the foreign firms began to buy, and the transactions aggregated 1,400 bales in the day.

Lieut. Jacques Boissière, Naval Attaché of the Legation of France in Tokyo, has conveyed to the Japanese Minister of State for the Navy a warm telegraphic message from the French Minister of Marine, expressing the gratitude of the French Representative in Peking, the President of France and the French nation for the assistance rendered by the Japanese troops in Peking during the siege and in rescuing the city, and for the kindness shown to wounded and sick French marines at Hiroshima.

With reference to the statement that the Empress Dowager ordered the Viceroy of Shansi, Yü Hsien, to destroy the foreigners within his jurisdiction, it is alleged that, prior to the coming of the Court to Tai-yuen, the Viceroy, under pretext of protecting the missionaries, invited them all to Tai-yuen. They came unsuspectingly, and were shut into a *yamên*, when presently the mob and the men and the soldiers were let loose on them. The men were all murdered and their skins torn from their bodies; the women were outraged and then killed, and even the little children were assassinated. The Viceroy of Shansi has just been removed from his office, which does not look as though the Empress Dowager had been a consenting party to his abominable brutality.

Baron Nishi and Baron Yamaguchi seem to have had a narrow escape in Peking on the 15th of September. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that they were visiting the tomb of the last Emperor of China and paying respect to his memory by offering cakes and flowers, when they were fired on from an adjacent building. It was subsequently found that a party of Boxers were still lurking in the vicinity.

It is reported that Mr. Sands, Adviser to the Korean Foreign Office, met with a somewhat serious accident in Söul on the 27th of Sept. One account says that he was thrown from his horse; another, that he was assaulted by some Koreans who were jealous of the power he was acquiring by means of intrigue. The former, we have little doubt, is the true version.

Dr. J. D. Jones is about to return to his country. He has been most successful in his endeavours to improve the quality of the tobacco grown in Japan and his departure is much regretted not only by the Japanese Government, but also by a wide circle of friends to whom he had endeared himself in spite of the shortness of his sojourn in Tokyo. The Emperor received him in farewell audience on the 28th of Sept., and the Department of Agriculture and Commerce gave a banquet in his honour at the Maple Club.

The Emperor has returned the resignations of Viscount Katsura and Admiral Yamamoto. Apparently his Majesty desires that the portfolios of the Army and the Navy shall be guaranteed against political vicissitudes.

The Osaka *Asahi* says that 161 foreign residents of Kobe have paid business tax, and 465 income tax, and that not a single person has raised a difficulty. They all behaved with the greatest frankness in showing their books and otherwise assisting the tax officials. The Chinese residents have behaved very differently, employing deception and concealment freely.

THE HOHENZOLLEN SERMON.

There is in the Hohenzollen Sermon a passage that deserves to be quoted:—

Well then, away up yonder in the towers hang lonely bells on the mountain tops. By no man's hand will they be rung. Silent and dumb they hang in sunshine. But when the stormwind comes, then they begin to swing, then they begin to sound, and far off in the valley you hear them ringing.

In every human heart God hath hung up the bell of prayer. But in the sunshine and prosperity of life, how often it hangs there all silent and dumb. But when the stormwind of trouble breaks forth, then it begins to ring out. How many a comrade who has neglected prayer will over yonder fold his hands again amid the life and death struggle. Trouble teaches us to pray. So should it also be here at home. Let those serious days that have dawned upon us, let the war-storms that have come upon us, set the bells of prayer a-swinging once more! Let us pray for our fighting brethren. Not only now and then in solemn hours—no, no, let us be instant in prayer.

The conception of a prayer-bell hanging silent in our hearts till storm and stress set it ringing, is very beautiful.

There is another passage in the same sermon that may also be quoted:—"Then God who can not allow sin and wickedness to triumph, but ordereth the things that are holy in his sight, will rise against an ungodly nation." We can not but wonder what his Majesty thinks would be the verdict of this supreme tribunal on the taking of Kiao-chow.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

The Spectator says:

"Japan appears at first sight a desirable ally, but in reality she is not. To choose Japan is to defy Europe. France is certain to follow Russia. The Germans and Austrians will refuse to fight France and Russia for the sake of empire. The German Emperor is not likely to attempt carrying out his ideas in China against the plans of Russia, when he can get just as many advantages by going *with* Russia. Is England to oppose Europe with only Japan as an ally? It is very doubtful that America is prepared to fight heartily for any question in the far East, except full liberty to trade, which Russia would no more refuse in the Yellow Sea than in the Black; and it is certain the Americans will not heartily go to war for the benefit of a "colored power. We should be left alone to fight for the benefit of Japan."

It is impossible for *The Spectator*, looking through its own highly coloured spectacles, to conceive that European Powers can have anything common with Japan. Japanese troops have just been fighting side by side with European and have taken the leading part in rescuing a Western community from a position of great peril, but still in *The Spectator's* eyes, Japan is intolerably Oriental and must be severely left alone. *The Spectator* never seems to reflect that European nations may not be so bitterly prejudiced as it is itself; that Japan will not find all backs turned upon her.

THE COTTON-SPINNING INDUSTRY.

The cotton-spinning factories have made the following reports for the first half of the year.

Name.		Net Profit. Yen	To Reserve. Yen	To Dividend Yen	Rate of Dividend Wari
Osaka Boseki Kaisha..		—	—	—	—
Settsu	,,	87,199	12,000	75,000	20.
Hirano	,,	—	—	25,000	10.
Kanakin	,,	84,671	2,000	63,000	12.
Izumigawa	,,	—	—	—	—
Fukushima	,,	8,507	1,000	8,000	4.
Kishiwada	,,	27,017	3,000	33,000	15.
Nippon	,,	122,960	40,000	80,000	16.
Sakai	,,	12,344	3,000	10,000	5.7
Osaka Nenshi	,,	4,595	1,500	3,000	3.3
Meiji	,,	76,949	8,000	64,600	15.
Tenorimono	,,	16,949	2,050	16,000	8.
Amiito	,,	11,100	1,000	9,000	4.
Godo	,,	98,209	40,000	50,000	10.
Okayama	,,	—	—	—	—
Kanegafuchi	,,	261,234	13,100	115,500	6.
Tokyo	,,	46,602	3,000	37,500	10.
Onagigawa	,,	38,465	12,698	21,765	8.
Miye	,,	81,142	—	90,000	12.
Ise	,,	—	—	—	—
Kuwana	,,	—	—	—	—
Fukuyama	,,	—	—	—	—
Hiroshima	,,	—	—	—	—
Chugoku	,,	526	—	—	—
Fuji	,,	49,480	10,014	32,000	3.2
Kyushu	,,	—	—	—	—
Totomi	,,	—	—	—	—
Hakata	,,	—	—	—	—
Koriyama	,,	—	—	—	—
Yamato	,,	—	—	—	—
Wakayama	,,	5,050	1,300	7,200	2.4
Do. Orimono	,,	3,564	400	4,200	2.4
Kofu	,,	—	—	—	—
Sanuki	,,	2,783	—	—	—
Takaoka	,,	—	—	—	—
Kurashiki	,,	2,808	—	—	—
Kasaoka	,,	—	—	—	—
Shimomura	,,	—	—	—	—
Bizen	,,	5,602	—	—	—
Kihi	,,	—	—	—	—
Amagasaki	,,	135,370	60,000	75,000	20.
Nippon Orimono Boseki Kaisha		—	—	—	—
Harima	,,	—	—	—	—
Nishikima	,,	331	30	320	2.
Kyoto	,,	—	—	—	—
Heian	,,	16,901	2,978	13,765	4.
Owari	,,	—	—	—	—
Nagoya	,,	—	—	—	—
Tsushima	,,	—	—	—	—
Ichinomiya	,,	34,874	5,000	30,000	12.
Chita	,,	—	—	—	—
Iyo	,,	583	3,400	—	—
Matsuyama	,,	22,494	4,900	12,000	12.
Uwa	,,	—	—	—	—
Yawatahama	,,	—	—	—	—
Shimotsuke	,,	14,287	892	12,000	6.
Awa	,,	—	—	—	—
Miyagi	,,	5,251	300	4,500	5.
Nakazawa	,,	6,631	1,500	10,009	5.
Total(59)		1,285,067	251,062	899,350	
Average		22,545	4,405	15,778	4.1

N.B.—It will be observed that in some cases the net profit is smaller than the aggregate sums allotted to reserves and dividend. The difference is made up by means of sums carried over from previous accounts or taken from dividend-equalizing reserves.

The following table shows the differences between the above half year and the preceding:—

	1st half of 1900.	1st half of 1899.	Difference.
Number of Companies	59	58	I. 1
	yen.	yen.	yen.
Net Profits	1,285,067	2,415,069	D. 1,130,002
To Reserves	251,062	512,132	D. 161,070
To Dividends	889,350	1,632,724	D. 643,374
Averages per Company	22,545	41,639	D. 19,094
Average to Reserves	4,405	8,830	D. 4,425
Average sums paid as dividends	15,778	28,150	D. 12,372
Average rate of dividend	41	92	D. 51

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THE CABINET CRISIS.

THE resignations of all the Cabinet Ministers have now been tendered, and there can be no doubt that a new Ministry will be formed. It appears, however, that Marquis ITO has not yet consented to undertake the task. He has been strongly urged to do so by his old friend Count INOUYE, but he naturally objects that sufficient time has not elapsed for the full organization of the party recently formed under his leadership. That is a difficulty, however, which will probably yield to the exigencies of the situation. Public opinion is virtually unanimous in regarding Marquis ITO as the only statesman who can manage the nation's affairs successfully at this crisis, and it can not be doubted that the Marquis will ultimately give his consent.

It is not possible, of course—it never is possible—to trace the exact series of events that have led to the resignation of the Cabinet. When Marquis YAMAGATA alleges that, as the Chinese affair has entered the diplomatic phase, he desires to entrust its conduct to the most competent man in the empire, it is well understood that he merely furnishes a graceful and plausible reason for his action, and that the true causes of the complication lie beyond the limits of his alleged reason A close approximation to the truth will be to say that Marquis ITO's views as to the Chinese troubles have exhibited more or less divergence from those of the Cabinet Ministers, and that this breach, not in itself of serious significance, has been widened by friction resulting from incidents growing out of the formation of the new political party. Marquis ITO is such a power in Japan that no Cabinet with which he was not entirely in accord could stand for any length of time, especially a Cabinet formed of his friends and ancient colleagues. Beyond that general statement we need not look.

It will easily be understood that many conjectures are hazarded as to the composition of the new Cabinet. For the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs, Marquis SAIONJI, Mr. KATO and Baron ITO seem to be regarded as the most probable, but the forecasts are mere guesses. Nothing appears to be considered certain except that Marquis SAIGO, who has occupied a place in every Cabinet for many years, will not serve any longer; that Viscount KATSURA also will decline to accept office again, and that there is no truth in the supposition that Marquis ITO's course in becoming the head of a political party produced an estrangement between him and Marquis YAMAGATA.

It is plain that the reason assigned by Marquis YAMAGATA for his retirement admits of a construction not altogether complimentary to his colleagues. The Marquis himself is, in the main, a military man, and his country will not hesitate to assign to him a part of the large credit won by Japan on account of her manner of conducting the Chinese expedition. But when he explains his retirement by saying that affairs have now entered the diplomatic stage, there is a covert suggestion that the Cabinet, as at present constituted, lacks full competence to deal with the crisis in the Far East. From the point of view of foreign observers, however, the portfolio of Foreign Affairs has never been in abler hands than those of Viscount AOKI, who has won the full confidence of all the Foreign Representatives, and has discharged his functions with remarkable success under circumstances of unprecedented difficulty. Marquis YAMAGATA must be well aware of that fact, and we can not doubt that when he assigns such a reason for retiring, his meaning is that he thinks the direct assistance of Marquis ITO as Premier promises a stronger combination for diplomatic purposes than is possible so long as he himself retains the presidency. From foreigners. at all events, Viscount AOKI will receive his full mead of applause. As for Marquis YAMAGATA himself, he deserves the gratitude of the nation, not merely in connection with the Chinese affair, but also because his high reputation with all classes has enabled him to obtain the support of a not generally friendly Diet, and to carry several measures of the highest importance and advantage. We observe that the *Asahi Shimbun* attributes the fall of the present Cabinet to lack of intelligence in the management of foreign affairs. A complete answer to such a thoughtless criticism is furnished by the position Japan now occupies among the nations of the world. If the *Asahi Shimbun* thinks that any manœuvring on the part of the Foreign Office could have secured for her a higher place, we venture to dissent most emphatically.

ANALYSIS OF JAPANESE WORDS.

[BY DR. EDKINS.]

The polysyllabic character of the Japanese language does not hinder the examination of a large number of roots. For instance *nabe* a kettle, or cauldron, is a European word. A kettle or cauldron is a "heater" from *calor*, heat. In Mongol *gal* is "fire." *Nabe* is the Greek λέβης, a kettle, or cauldron, also used by Virgil. In Manchu we now have Genesis and Exodus translated at the beginning of the 19th century in Peking by Father Puerot. In Exodus, Chapter 8, verse three, the word for "ovens" is *namuro*, and this is the Japanese *nabe*. The Septuagint has κλιβανοι. This word is made up of *kal*, our "kettle," and *lib*, the Japanese *nabe*. The Greeks, like the Hebrews, joined two roots by apposition, and this is a principle in word formation of which constant advantage is taken in polysyllabic languages. Take the Japanese *shio* written *shiho*, "salt." It is in Manchu *tabsun*. They are the same word, the Mongol also being *dabusu*. The Japanese word *shiwo*, "tide," is derived from the name of salt, and not vice versâ. The Japanese, when they came to their islands, already possessed the word for salt, and applied it to the tide, which brought them this useful article. The Japanese *kata* and *gotoku*, form the Manchu *gese*, having the same meaning. *Nushi* "lord," is *Adonai* in Hebrew, and *ejen* in Manchu and Mongol. It became *cha* in Chinese and the word passed to Japan with the sound *shiu* as an imported Chinese word. The Mongol has also *noyin* "master." This word is, then, universally diffused. It becomes "senior" in English through the Latin.

The Japanese *okite* "law," is in Manchu *kooli*, and is used with the same meaning. In *sauagara* "just," "exactly," we have the Manchu *jurhan* "just," "straight," "justice." The four consonants all correspond. The two roots are found in *sadame*, "to fix," and "*sugui*," "straight."

When the root *nam* in Manchu and *nab* in Japanese were Europeanized the vowel was changed, *Nab* became *leb*. It is not a different word. The word is necessarily the same because the Japanese belong ultimately to the same great human family to which the Tartar races and the European races belong. The great advantage of the study of Manchu is seen in a case like this. The identity of *namuro* and *nabe* takes the comparison of the Japanese words with European words out of the realm of conjecture into the realm of secure reasoning. The advantage of the study of Tibetan is seen in the same way in such a word as *ame* "heaven." The Tibetan is *nam* and the Hebrew *sham*. The Japanese word, if we restore the lost initial, is known to be in use all over the high land of Asia and on the shores of the Euphrates and Tigris, the birth place of the human family. There can be no doubt that many useful additions can be made to safe philology by comparing Japanese words in their oldest form with the corresponding words of continental languages.

In Puerot's Manchu version, the third verse of Exodus 8th contains the word "kneading trough," *funchebuhe*. The root *fun* is the Greek root *fur*. The Japanese *kon* and *nad* are the English double root in "knead." Japanese *tsukune* "to knead," ought, then, to be divided into its two roots: *tsuk*, *kun*, to be identified with the English "dough." The root *tsuk* is *tok* as "dough" is "dok." The same reasoning helps us to understand a little better such a Japanese word as *nori* "paste." The English word "paste" is from the root *fur* or *par*, "to knead" or "mix." The letters *ft* in "flour" are from the same root *fur* to mix, because water and flour are mixed to produce paste. *Nori*, then, is the same word as *nern* "to knead." The student would perhaps not think of this, because the vowels are different in the two words. But it is a fact. So in *tsuke* which has a variety of meanings such as "apply," "affix," "kindle," the meaning of pasting, in *kabe wo tsuke* shows that the root in this case is *tsuk*, "to paste," and not *tsuk* "to supply to." *Kabe* "a plastered wall," is we may suppose, from *kabai* "protect," *kabuse* "cover."

The Japanese *kabane*, "family name," is the Manchu *gebu* "name," joined with *ban* in which is the Greek for a clan. The names for families are numerous. We have *sing* in Chinese. This we may suppose to be *sam* "to assemble." *Gens*, the Latin word, is the same as *cl* in "clan." *Lan* in "clan" is probably the Mongol *nere* "name," the Japanese *na*, our word "name" and "nom" in nomenclature may be the Chinese *sing* from *sam*. The Chinese *ming* 名 "name" may be from *ming* "sound," "cry of animals," since the Manchu language has in *gebu* "name" a satisfactory proof of identity with such an important Japanese word as *kabane*. We may conclude that a thorough comparison of Japanese words with Manchu words will lead to many interesting discoveries. When the Japanese arrived in their country they came with their many clans. They had their names for household implements such as *nabe* "a kettle," and

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this being the same as the Manchu words makes known to us the kinship of the two races in high antiquity

More than this, such a root as *tsuk* "to apply," "touch" "kindle," being the same with our "touch," because every English "ch" is "k," the identity of the roots and their enormous antiquity are beyond question. *Ta* for "field" in Japanese is the Manchu *na* "earth," and the Tibetan *sa* as well as the Chinese *ti* "earth." In these investigations we can revert to the Kami-yo at once. The mythic age of the gods is by philology transformed into a world of real men and women. About two thousand six hundred years ago the Japanese were crossing the sea from Manchuria to Yesso and Saghalien and from Korea to Kiushiu. They had even then traditions of the life after death, derived from the Persians as the Chinese had at about the same date.

The word *dote* in Japanese is an embankment separating rice fields, "a dyke." It is in Manchu *talau*. It means that which holds back the waters. "Restrain" is in Manchu *jailambi* or *jailumbi* and in Japanese *osabe*, now called *osaye* and *osayeru*. In Chinese it is 止 *chi* 隻 *chu* 治 *chi* and 欄 *lan*, corresponding to the first Japanese root *sa* and 閉 *pi*, to bar out, 備 *pei* to provide against, corresponding to what I suppose to be the second Japanese root *be*. Every root has a distinct significance which can usually be discovered quite readily. The Japanese writing "オサヘ" tells us that *osabe* was the sound of the compound verb *osaye* to restrain, at the time of Kobodaishi, who lived A.D. 774 to 834. The tradition, then, is eleven centuries old.

The careful examination of roots leads to the inevitable conclusion that not only are Manchu and Japanese roots identical as belonging to the great collection of primeval words, but those of Thibet and China too. The reason of this is that roots are primeval and acquired their meanings before mankind became widely scattered over the world's ample surface. There is more to be done in science than has yet been achieved. It is the task of philology to distinguish rightly the province of roots from the province of grammar by showing the antiquity of the one and the modern growth of the other.

DISASTROUS COLLISION AT NAGASAKI.

A collision took place at 9 p.m. on the 29th ultimo between the N.Y.K. steamer *Ise Maru* and a Norwegian steamer, the *Calanda* (Capt Jensen, 865 tons), in Iwajima Bay. The Norwegian steamer, which was bound for Port Arthur, had on board a crew of twenty-nine, with forty-six passengers and seven Japanese women going abroad secretly. Of these forty-five were saved and the rest perished. The steamer had a cargo of 2,532 tons of coal, and 7,098 bars of iron. The *Ise Maru* does not seem to have sustained any serious injury. She was *en route* from Kobe to Newchwang when the accident occurred, at a place in the neighbourhood of Nagasaki

With reference to the collision between the *Calanda* and the *Ise Maru*, a telegram to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha says that the *Calanda*, a steamer of 1377 tons, left Nagasaki on the 29th ultimo for Port Arthur and came into collision with the *Ise Maru* (1250 tons) in the Bay of Owa-jima. Out of 64 persons on board the *Calanda*—namely, 35 passengers and a crew of 29—13 are missing. These figures are considerably less than those previously reported. But it appears that there were also some women, stowaways, on board, and nothing seems to be known of their fate The *Ise Maru* did not suffer seriously

A report from the Governor of Nagasaki with regard to the sinking of the *Calanda* after collision with the *Ise Maru*, says that out of 23 Japanese passengers, 19 were saved; out of 28 foreign passengers, 11, and out of a crew of 28, nineteen. According to these figures 26 are missing in all. The foreigners seem to have been chiefly Russian subjects.

It is stated that at the time of the collision between the *Ise Maru* and the *Calanda* the latter was steaming at full speed and the former was at quarter speed on her way into port in the dusk at 7 p.m. The *Ise Maru* made several signals but failed to attract the attention of the *Calanda* in time to prevent the catastrophe. The *Calanda* is now stated to have had a miscellaneous cargo, the most important item being 1,150 tons of coal for the use of the Russian squadron. The cargo was not fully insured.

The *Nagasaki Press* of Monday contains a very full account of the collision between the N.Y.K. steamer *Ise Maru* and the Norwegian steamer *Calanda*, from which we take the following —

From a passenger on the *Calanda* we learn that the vessel left the harbour at a few minutes past 7 p.m. on Friday last. She proceeded slowly down the harbour, passed the first lighthouse, and then steered for the Iwoshima light. Shortly after, the lights of a steamer were seen some distance ahead. At this time most of the saloon passengers were on deck, and on the bridge were the captain and second officer. The whistle was blown to warn the other vessel, and the *Calanda* continued her course, which was a southerly one. As no notice was taken of the first warning, another blast of long duration was given and this was answered in a similar method by the incoming steamer. By this time the two boats had approached each other so closely that it was at once seen that a collision would be unavoidable. The lifeboats of the *Calanda* were got ready for lowering, lifebelts were issued to the passengers, and everything possible was done to save the lives of all on board. The engines were ordered to go full speed astern, but before any appreciable results of this action were felt, the other steamer crashed into the *Calanda*, striking her just abaft the starboard bow. The *Calanda* remained impaled for some minutes on the bows of the Japanese steamer, but the latter, which was also going full speed astern, released herself and the *Calanda* drifted away. After the separation of the two vessels, Captain Jensen turned his vessel round with the idea of beaching her, but she had not proceeded far before she filled and began to settle down. The captain and second officer remained on the bridge until the water had reached their waists. Finding that their efforts to beach the vessel were futile, they endeavoured to save themselves by jumping into one of the lifeboats. They missed the boat, and were drawn down by the sinking vessel. On coming to the surface they were picked up by one of the boats of the *Ise*. From the time of the collision to the sinking of the steamer, twelve minutes only are said to have elapsed.

To a representative of the paper, Captain Yada courteously volunteered the following short statement:—"The collision occurred at 7.42 p.m. off Iwoshima, just outside the harbour. At the time the third officer and myself were on the bridge, the second officer was aft, and the chief officer and crew were in the bows of the vessel. The steamer was going dead slow. When passing the lighthouse I saw the white and red lights of the *Calanda*. Being near the harbour my course was variant. Shortly after the *Calanda* saw our red and green lights and I attempted to attract her attention by blowing one long blast, which I continued for some time, but to which she did not respond. She then attempted to cross our bows, keeping her helm over. I then ordered the engines to go full speed astern. From port to starboard the *Calanda* came across the bows of the *Ise*, the vessels colliding. The engines of the *Ise* were at once stopped and orders were given for the boats to be lowered. All the crew, with the exception of two or three, assisted in lowering the boats. In the meantime, the chief officer had been sent to sound the bilge water in the fore peak. He reported that the vessel was making no water. I immediately ordered all boats to proceed to the *Calanda*'s assistance. The strong tide had carried the *Calanda* away and from the bridge we could see nothing of her. I then ordered the chief officer to let go the anchor. All the officers except the chief officer, were in charge of the boats and succeeded in rescuing 22 of the *Calanda*'s passengers and crew. The boats made several journeys from the steamer to the neighbourhood of the sunken vessel. The second officer with a boat's crew was sent to the mainland to ascertain whether any other passengers had managed to get ashore. He returned and stated that his errand had been fruitless. I also sent the purser to Nagasaki to notify the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Police of the collision I remained at anchor the whole night and proceeded to the harbour next morning."

Among the incidents of the terrible calamity the heroism of two of the lady passengers stands out conspicuously. Both are of French nationality. One, Madame de Camille, the late editor of the *Independence Tonkinoise*, who was on her way to North China, seized Mrs. Krell's infant child of some 2½ months and threw herself overboard. It is to be regretted that her gallant behaviour resulted in death. The other French lady, Madame Dechanel, took charge of Mrs. Krell's second child, a girl of six years, and swam for some time before they were rescued. Mrs. Krell when picked up was found clinging to wreckage from the ship.

A sad sequence to the disaster was the bringing into Nagasaki of the bodies of some of the drowned. The first to arrive were those of the French lady and the child she so nobly endeavoured to save. These were followed during the day by those of three Russians, two of whom were ladies, one being Mrs. Naumoff. Up to last night no further bodies had been recovered. The bodies were viewed by the appointed Government officials and subsequently interred

Steam launches that went to Iwoshima on Saturday found wreckage and boxes, most of the latter having been rifled. Goods of a valuable description were brought to town. A visit yesterday disclosed nothing of an important nature. We understand that the search will be continued, but owing to the great depth of water in which the sunken vessel lies, it is surmised that it will be impossible for divers to reach the wreck. It is stated, however, that an attempt will be made.

The *Calanda* was a new steamer, flying the Norwegian flag and of 869 reg. tonnage. We believe she was making her third voyage to Port Arthur. She carried a full general cargo, which we are informed was not wholly insured. On the present occasion there were on board about 40 saloon and deck passengers, and a Chinese crew of 20, with five foreign officers, including the captain.

As far as we have been able to ascertain, the number of drowned is 33, namely, foreigners 19 (including Chief Engineer): Japanese 6, and Chinese 8. The Japanese were deck passengers, three of them being women. The Chinese were a portion of the crew.

Among the foreigners drowned were 7 Russian subjects, 5 American, and 2 French. It is said that the Chief Engineer was British and the Third Norwegian.

The following is a list of the foreigners saved and drowned:—

SAVED.

Mrs. Krell and daughter, Mrs. Dechanel, and Mrs. Urchensky, Captain Rodignoff, Lieut. Zelgheim, Messrs. Shidlovsky, Naukoff, Ruun, Yaroslavsky, and Parfenteff.

DROWNED.

Mrs. de Camille, Mrs. Mack, Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. Naumoff, Mrs. Zaborovsky, Mrs. Vavloff, and Mrs. Krell's infant child; Messrs. Rosenthal, Richardson, de Vercours, Zaborovsky, Chermy, Shestpaloff, and Herbstein.

Mrs. Mack was well known at this port. She was the daughter of the late Captain Smith and lived with her parents for many years in this town, where she was much respected. A few months ago she entered the service of a Russian family at Port Arthur as governess. She came to Japan a few weeks ago for the benefit of her health and it was much against her brother's wish that she should return so soon. She was, however, anxious to get back to Port Arthur, as she had made arrangements to accompany her employers to St. Petersburg.

Mrs. Davidson was the wife of the Manager of Messrs. Clarkson & Co., of Port Arthur, and was returning to that port from Vladivostock to rejoin her husband, to whom she had been only married six months.

Mr. Richardson was well known at this port. He was principally engaged in the acetylene business and had only returned a few days ago from Taku, Chefoo, and Port Arthur, where he was opening up business He was a widower, and leaves three children to mourn his loss. One of them is believed to be in school at Tokyo and the others are with relatives in Los Angeles. Mr. Richardson was connected with Messrs. Middleton and Smith of Yokohama.

Mons. de Vercours was a member of the French nobility and arrived here a short time ago from Vladivostock. He came out to the East by the

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Siberian railway and was on his way to North China to offer his services to the French military authorities

The Russian passengers who were drowned were, we believe, visitors from Port Arthur and Vladivostock.

THE TYPHOON.

The typhoon which visited Tokyo and Yokohama yesterday made its appearance at Oshima (Kagoshima) on the 26th, and reached Kiushu on the 27th. As usual Shikoku lay in the path of the gale. The barometer fell to 745 m.m. at Sada-no-misaki, and the rainfall was 100 m.m., with a violent gale from the east. The heaviest rainfall was at Miyazaki (Osumi), namely, 250 m.m. The whole country seems to have been involved, but the force of the wind was not very great.

YOKOHAMA.

After many warnings and as many escapes Yokohama at last has encountered the first typhoon of the season. According to the latest storm notice which appeared in our columns yesterday the lowest reading of the barometer was reported at 4 p.m. on Thursday off Southern Kiushiu—where it registered 740 millimetres, equalling 29.13 inches—its direction being north-east. So far as we are concerned the blow may be said to have begun about six o'clock on Friday morning when a strong gale sprang up from the south-east and increased in violence as the morning wore on. By eight o'clock the wind was at hurricane force, having shifted to the south and being accompanied by tremendous rain squalls. A heavy gust brought down shortly before eight o'clock an electric light pole opposite No. 142-c Bluff, which fell on top of the house, causing something of a scare among the inmates. A number of police and workmen were soon on the spot but considerable delay was caused by the obstruction to carriage and jinrikisha traffic. Fences, and in some cases trees, were levelled all over the Bluff, and much damage caused to roofs and gardens. In the Settlement the streets were at places littered with plaster, tiles and glass, and here and there gates were blown in and woodwork and sign-boards torn away. The French mail was to have left at 9 a.m. but at that hour she was fast to the pier with many hawsers. She left at noon. One or two of the steamers in the harbour dragged their anchors but of actual damage we have not heard. By 11 a.m. the storm had blown itself out and the rest of the day was mild and sunny.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Some damage was reported with regard to the new buildings of Christ Church on No. 224 Bluff. But it was happily confined to the destruction of the scaffolding on the western and southern side. This, of course, means a delay in the completion of the buildings, as a large amount of the scaffolding will have to be re-erected. But, barring delay, the damage is slight.

BAROMETER READINGS.

The reading of the barometer at Messrs. C. & J. Favre Brandt for the 24 hours preceding the blow was as follows:—

27th.	Inches.	Temp. Fahr	28th.	Inches	Temp. Fahr
Noon	29.80	80.5	Midnight...	29.68	71.6
2 p.m...	29.76	79.0	2 a.m...	29.66	71.6
4 „ ...	29.74	77 0	4 „ ...	29.60	73 4
6 „ ...	29.72	74.0	6 „ ...	29.50	74.0
8 „ ...	29.72	72.5	8 „ ...	29.33	74.0
10 „ ...	29.71	72.5	9 „ ...	29.07	71.6
			10 „ ...	29.21	71.0

MINOR DAMAGES.

The windmill at Van Schaick Hall was blown down by the gale.

Mr. Hara, employed by the Specie Bank, was blown by the wind on to the pier and had a leg severely hurt by one of the bollards.

A junk was smashed on the breakwater at Kanagawa.

The Riogoku theatre at Nigiwaicho was damaged.

A schooner junk was driven ashore off Tsurumi but apparently not damaged.

Several roofs of large houses in Eirakucho and Maganecho were blown off.

On the Bluff, walls and fences were blown down at 33 different places, and nine telephone and telegraph poles were levelled in Yamatecho and 12 in Negishi.

Around the Cricket Ground 16 trees were uprooted and 22 broken.

The typhoon that visited us on the 28th, made its appearance at the Riukiu Islands at 6 a.m. on Sept. 26th and, moving at at the rate of 25 miles an hour, reached Oshima (south of Kagoshima) on the morning of the 27th. The centre then passed over the sea eastward of Japan, and striking the land in the neighbourhood of Hamamatsu (Shizuoka), traversed Totomi, Kai and Suruga, and, passing near Tokyo at 9.10 a.m on the 28th, entered the sea again near Sendai. It will thus be seen that the part of Japan most seriously involved was the promontory forming the extreme east of the main island. The whole country, however, felt the effects of the storm. Telegraphic communication was interrupted through wide areas. Tokyo suffered considerably. The Honjo and Fukagawa districts were flooded knee-deep, and a house was overthrown in Honjo, killing one person. A death occurred in Fukagawa also owing to a falling chimney. It is further reported that a man lost his life while walking in Uyeno Park, a large bough of a tree striking him, and that two boatmen on the Sumida were severely hurt in a collision between two boats.

It is reported from Numazu that a fleet of fishing boats with crews aggregating 200 men, was caught in the storm of the 28th ultimo, and that nothing is yet known as to what has become of the boats.

Telegraphic communication with the provinces was greatly interrupted by the storm, and some days must elapse before it is completely restored. The centre seems to have passed not far from Osaka. Westward of that place the damage done was comparatively small

In Yokohama, a man employed in connection with the Kotobuki Elementary School was slightly injured. The Kiraku Theatre was damaged and it will cost some *yen* 500 to restore it to its former condition.

One of the buildings of the Middle School in Tobe was destroyed. Two buildings attached to the foreign bathing house at Hachioji, Honmoku, were also destroyed.

The storm appears to have reached Kobe late on Thursday night. We learn from the *Kobe Herald* that rain began to fall heavily about the dinner hour with a wind which was strong only in some of its fitful gusts. The rain continued for some hours, heavy and steady, with no great increase in wind force. At 11 p.m. however, the wind began to gather strength and gradually increased for four hours thereafter, reaching its maximum velocity of 40 miles an hour, less a fraction, at 3 a.m.—and being then entitled to classification as a typhoon, although still some way off first class cyclonic force. Fortunately the direction was off the land, the precise course being from about northeast. During the "small hours" of the morning, the storm, as indicated, was at its height and generally impressed residents on the hill with the idea that it was a very respectable blow. As usual with night storms the "effect" was impressive. The sky was a vague mass of darkest mourning, without the most fitful moonlight illumination. The gale swept down from the hills in thundering cavalry charges with short breathing spaces between, during which side blasts and eddies, raised on the heels of the main charges, banged and whipped into corners, round abutments and through secret places.

It was a strong show, from the picturesque point of view, at certain times during the night, and worth seeing. But there is a long tale of damage and destruction. There do not appear to have been any serious accidents to foreigners or to foreigners' property, but from all over the hill and from the settlement this morning there were the same accounts of house walls and roofs damaged, leakages revealed, fences levelled, squadrons of young trees uprooted, shrubbery ruined and other mishaps. The trees in the settlement streets have again suffered badly—the willows in particular falling victims, partial or entire, to the strength of the gale, but happily, as has been said, there appears to have been no serious personal or property accident. It is otherwise, however, in the Japanese town. From police and other sources we give particulars of the damage done. The new story in course of construction at the Kobe station was demolished, the total loss being estimated at yen 3,000. The number of house demolished was 68, of which 36 were partially destroyed. Four wharehouses were destroyed, and two dairies and two houses of entertainment. One police box was also demolished and a factory suffered the same fate. Telegraph and electric light poles blown down numbered 8, and 17 were shattered. Trees blown down numbered 213. 80 boats (sampans, &c.) were lost, four wrecked, and 32 missing. Kotonocho, a street in Ono, suffered worst during the storm in Kobe. The houses on the banks of the Minatogawa present the worst conglomeration of destruction in Hiogo. There is no unfortunate fatal accident to report. The watchman of the cemetery at Ono was killed by falling timber in attempting to leave his hut, and another person was injured in Ono. One woman sustained slight injuries by a falling tree near Aiolbashi.

It is not true that the building for the new Church on the Bluff was blown down. The scaffolding only suffered.

The P.M. steamer *China* appears to have encountered the full fury of the typhoon on her way hence to Kobe, and the following letter bearing the signatures of all the passengers was presented to the captain:—

We the undersigned passengers on the good ship *China* desire to offer to you and to the public at large some expression of our opinion of the management and control of the vessel during the terrible experience of last night.

We do not do so with the hope of adding in any way to the very high reputation you have already attained before the sea-faring public as to your unquestioned skill and ability in the management of the vessel, also as to her unsurpassed qualities as a most staunch and seaworthy ship, but simply to recognise these eminent qualities, and to tender to you our heartfelt and united thanks for the care and preservation of our lives during the perils of last night.

The recollection of the fearful ordeal during those hours of awful darkness will remain with us as a terrible memory, but it will ever be brightened by the associated memory of the able seamanship of Captain W. M. Seabury and his officers, who, in the midst of the greatest danger to themselves, so handled the ship in which we are travelling that we passed in safety through the centre of the typhoon that raged, and are now nearing our "desired haven."

We wish that time permitted the drafting of a more extended testimonial in better keeping with our feelings on the subject.

In order to give as wide a circulation as possible to our feelings of appreciation we resolve.

(1) That a copy of this address be sent to the various foreign papers in Japan, China and Hongkong;

(2) Also that a copy be sent to the management of the Pacific Mail S.S. Co. at San Francisco;

(3) That an engrossed copy be presented to Captain W. M. Seabury.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We note that Captain Rennie Tipple has been appointed Surveyor to Lloyd's Agents, in room of Captain George Conner resigned.

The body of a woman who had only been dead some half-a-dozen hours was found on the beach at Takashimacho, Yokohama, on the morning of Sept. 26th.

We are informed that advices have been received from Paris to the effect that the W. U. T.

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Code and I. C. Directory has been awarded the Highest Award at the Universal Exposition in Paris.

The ladies of Pietermaritzburg have decided to place a stained-glass window with a brass tablet beneath it in the Garrison Church there to the memory of Lieutenant Roberts, son of Lord Roberts, who was killed at Colenso.

The designs for the present to the Prince Imperial from the foreign residents of Yokohama on the occasion of his marriage may now be seen by subscribers at the Chamber of Commerce Rooms. They will be selected by voting.

An English sailor named Joseph Howlan (?), aged 28, belonging to the British sailing ship *Rathdown*, now in Yokohama was arrested on Thursday by the Kagacho Police on a charge of assaulting the proprietor of the Tivoli House.

We are informed by the Kagacho Police that it is intended to destroy stray and ownerless dogs during the week commencing on the 5th inst. Owners of dogs are cautioned to keep their animals chained or properly collared, as otherwise they may be killed.

A home paper says that when Count Von Waldersee was appointed Commander-in-chief, the Kaiser presented him with his famous uniform. This is the identical uniform which his Imperial Majesty Wilhelm II. wore throughout his recent tour in the Holy Land.

The steamer *Yetchu Maru*, belonging to the Yetchu Shosen Kabushiki Kwaisha, was wrecked on Sept. 28th, at Shinminato, Yetchu (east of Fushiki). She was a wooden vessel of 139 tons displacement and was built by Mr. Hayashi, at the Yetchu Minami-ku timber yard

A considerable number of sportsman went out for the opening of the shooting season, which began on Monday. Some good bags were made. Mr. J. Eyton, Jr., and four Japanese gentlemen secured among them 215 snipe; Mr. L. W. Eyton and Mr. J. E. Moss got 60; Mr. McGowan and Mr. J. Drummond 51.

We learn that the P. & O. steamer *Rosetta* was sold on Tuesday to Mr. S. Asano, of Tokyo, the ship being formally handed over to that gentleman the same afternoon. The British ensign and P. & O. house flag were hauled down, and the Japanese ensign and Mr. Asano's house flag run up in their place.

The local branch of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, received telegraphic advice from the London Office on Monday to the effect that at the approaching meeting of shareholders of this Bank, the Directors will recommend a dividend for the half year ended 30th June last at the rate of 10 °/₀ per annum free of Income Tax.

A pickpocket named Hayashi Nobutaro was arrested on the 28th Sept., on a charge of stealing a gold watch and chain (valued at 200 *yen*) belonging to Prof. Henry Topping of Tokyo. He stole the watch at Uyeno station on the 24th Sept., and, the police being informed, the articles were returned to the owner very quickly. Mr. Topping has publicly returned thanks.

The *France Militaire* stated that owing to the French having relinquished the Pescadores to the Japanese some little time back, the nearest French naval station to Taku is now nearly 2,000 miles away at Tongking. The French journal suggests that no time should be lost in securing the small islands of Miao-Tao, in the Gulf of Pechili, about 27 miles from Port Arthur. It is news indeed that Japan received the Pescadores as the gift of France.

The hearing of a suit by Mr. A. O. Gay, of Messrs. Walsh, Hall & Co., against Mr. F. Goto, of Otamachi Shichome, was begun in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday. The plaintiff was represented by Messrs. Akiyama and Naito and the defendant by Mr. Minagawa. Plaintiff said the defendant failed to take delivery of a portion of certain goods ordered by him and also to make payment of sums of money amounting to *yen* 478, which plaintiff claimed with interest at the rate of 6 per cent. Defendant alleged that he made a contract with Walsh, Hall & Co., but not with the plaintiff. The hearing was adjourned till Oct. 25th.

A curious incident took place in the Tokyo Local Court the other day, when a man named Matsuda Fukutara was accused of stealing *yen* 3 and a rain coat from a house in Fukagawa, Tokyo, on Sept. 23rd. To the questions of the presiding judge the prisoner was unable to reply, and at length, on the services of a teacher from the Tokyo Dumb School being requisitioned, it transpired that the man was dumb and also insane. The newspaper report does not state what treatment was meted out to him.

A steamer of considerable size was launched at the Kawasaki Dockyard on Saturday. She has been built for the Osaka Shosen Kaisha to run between Tamsui and Hongkong. Her dimensions are, length (between perpendiculars) 245 feet; beam 34 feet; depth 22 feet; and water draught 16 feet. The gross tonnage is 1,600 and the horse-power of the triple expansion engines 2,000. She has been built of steel, will be single screw and will make a speed of 12½ knots. The boiler is of the double-ended type with a pressure of 180 lbs. to the square inch.

In the Hongkong Supreme Court on Sept. 18th before Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice) a Chinaman named Ng Chik Yat *alias* Ng Kow, *alias* Antonio Aguino, was charged on five counts, viz. (1) forgery: (2) uttering a counterfeit writing; (3) forging transfer of shares; (4) offering, uttering disposing of and putting off a forged document of shares; (5) coursing to be delivered and paid certain money upon forged instruments with intent to defraud. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to four years' imprisonment with hard labour. The charges involved in his crime were two Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ld., shares belonging to Dr. Divers, formerly of Tokyo.

Bicycle Races will take place on Nov. 10th on the grounds of the Y.C. & A.C. under the auspices of the Nippon Bicycle Club, as follows:—

For Members of the Y.C. & A.C., Reliance Wheelmen, Sorin Club of Tokyo and the N.B.C.

One Mile Champions ... ... Scratch.
Lap Race, Five Laps ... ... „
Ten Miles Race ... ... „
One Mile Old Man's Race, Handicap (Fifty Years of age or over.)
Two Laps Handicap Boys Race.
One Mile Consolation Race... ... ... Scratch.

For Members of the N.B.C.

Five Miles "Kirin Beer Cup" Open Handicap.
One Mile non-Winners on the Yokohama Track.

Archdeacon Brady, who has been writing a series of articles on his long experience as a missionary in the West, tells the following story in *The Christian Commonwealth*, which proves that animals have their religious antipathies as well as men. He says:—"A little boy I knew of in the West belonged to a family who had trained him to believe in the deep-water form of baptism, and was experimenting with the household cat and a bucket of water. The animal evidently did not believe in immersion, for she resisted, bit and scratched and used bad language—in the cat tongue of course. Finally, the little boy, with his hands covered with scratches and with tears in his eyes, gave up the effort to effect the regeneration of the cat. 'Dog-gone you!' he cried—notice the choice of epithets in the use of the word dog—'go and be an Episcopal cat if you want to!'"

A rather severe earthquake shock—certainly the sharpest that has been experienced for the last six months or so—occurred in Yokohama at about 3.20 a.m. on Wednesday. The shock began with a comparatively slight jolt and tremor, then, after nearly half a minute's interval, followed a violent horizontal motion from south to north, sufficient to make a rattle and creaking of doors and windors and to drive some persons from their houses. We have not, however, heard of any damage of consequence having been occasioned.

A telegram which appears in the *Hongkong Daily Press*, says that H. E. Governor Hugh Clifford has resigned. Presumably this action is on account of the railway expenditure, which he cannot approve.

A police-constable named Kimura Yasutaro, belonging to the Fukagawa Police Station, arrested a robber at Isezakicho, Fukagawa, on the 2nd inst. The robber made a desperate resistance, cutting the policeman with a sword. His name is Yoshikawa Seikichi and he belongs to this Prefecture.

An exhibition of agriculture and marine products, porcelain, lacquer, and woven goods, will be opened at Totsuka near Kamakura from the 10th to the 24th Oct. at 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The exhibitors are confined to Kanagawa Prefecture, and all the articles have been made since November of last year.

The new road between Dzushi and Kanazawa will be opened in a few days. This road has cost over 10,000 *yen* to build, and the money was raised as follows:—*yen* 3,000 Kanagawa Kencho, *yen* 1,200 Tagoshi-mura, *yen* 1,000 Mr. Aikawa Bungoro, *yen* 500 Marquis Ito; *yen* 500 Mr. Nagashima Kiyoji; *yen* 500 Prince Mori, and others.

The appeal in the Fukazawa Smithers and Fukazawa-Clarke lease cases—decided in May last in favour of the foreign defendants—was heard in the Osaka Appeal Court on Oct. 1st. The appelant (in the Clarke case) was represented by Messrs. Nishio and Awaya and the defendant by Mr. Matsumoto. The further hearing was adjourned indefinitely.

The *North China Daily News* on Sept. 28th announced: News has been received of the death at Sihchou of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Peat and family, Miss Dobson, and Miss E. G. Hurn; at Kihchou of Mr. and Mrs. J. Young; at Taning of Misses F. E. and M. R. Nathan, and Miss E. M. Heaysman: at Koyang of Messrs. D. Barrat and A. Woodroffe; and at Yühu of Dr. J. W. Hewett.

The Reuter's telegram which arrived in Japan in a mutilated condition the other day, and which puzzled the expanders considerably, is printed in the *N.-C. Daily News* as follows:—A dispatch from Vryburg dated the 22nd says that General H. H. Settle, R. E., with 7,000 men has relieved Schweizerrenecke after an engagement wherein the Boers suffered heavily. The commandant was captured.

The marriage of Miss Elsie Lucas to Mr. Geo. W. Barton was celebrated at All Saints Church, Kobe, on Oct. 2nd. The bridesmaids were Miss Lucas and Miss B. Lucas, and the Misses Winifred and Doris Hill. Mr. Millward acted as best man, the other members of the bridal party being the father and two brothers of the bride, Mr. Cooper and Mrs. Happer. The bride was given away by her father, Mr. Lucas. The ceremony was performed by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Foss, assisted by Rev. C. G. Gardiner.

The following Japanese emigrants received official sanction during 1899 to leave Japan for various countries:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hawaii	18,662	4,311	22,973
America	3,072	68	3,140
Canada	1,674	52	1,726
Korea	1,120	283	1,403
Peru	790	—	790
China	449	163	612
Russia	330	213	543
Hongkong	21	29	50
Sumatra	7	29	36
Singapore	6	26	39
Saigon	3	13	16
Luzon	12	—	12
Austria	13	1	14
Indian	1	5	6
Mexico	1	—	1
	26,161	5,193	31,354

We have received a circular from Colonel Bullard, of the Salvation Army, describing the conditions under which Self Denial Week was

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established in 1886, its objects, etc. We note that in 1897 the self denial effort of the army in Japan realized *yen* 163, and in 1898 *yen* 640. This year the local officers expect to get something like *yen* 1,000. It is to be hoped that their anticipations as to the prospect of extending their most useful work will be fulfilled.

Mr. W. Grautoff, representative of Messrs. Boyes & Co., No. 153, Settlement, instituted an action through Messrs. Harada and Takahashi in the Tokyo Chiho Saibansho on Wednesday, against a Japanese named Sudzuki Shinjiro, claiming from the latter payment of a promissory note for the sum of *yen* 3,500.

Mr. Seddon, Premier and Colonial Treasurer, in his last Budget statement in the Legislative Assembly at Wellington, N.Z., stated that there was a surplus of revenue over expenditure for the past year, including a balance of £45,000 from the previous year, of £605,000. All the heads of revenue had exceeded the estimates. He estimated the expenditure for the current year at £5,441,000, or £301,000 more than last year. Considerable reductions in Customs duties would be proposed, and penny postage within and without the colony established from January 1st next. New Zealand would be the first Australian colony to have universal penny postage, and the concession would probably result in a loss of £80,000 a year. He estimated the revenue at £5,468,000. Authority would be asked to raise a loan of £1,000,000 for public works, and Mr. Seddon advocated the consideration of preferential duties with a view to encouraging trade with the mother country, Canada, and the United States.

The Hagoromo Theatre—the oldest theatre in Yokohama—was entirely destroyed by fire in the early hours of Wednesday morning. The alarm was raised at five minutes past two o'clock and in a very few moments the flames had spread to the adjoining ramshackle tenements in Hagoromocho, 28 altogether being burned before the firemen got the outbreak under control. A band of *soshi* actors had been playing in the old theatre, giving a variant of the old story of the "Chushingura." In order to attract an audience, however, the poor mimes abandoned the traditional costumes of old Japan, wearing instead the "reach-me-down dittoes" of Western lands. The effects, we are given to understand, were most absurdly droll, and the "drawing-powers" of the innovation meagre in the extreme. The actors left the theatre at 11 o'clock and everything was then seemingly secure. The police are endeavouring to find the cause of the fire. The theatre was insured in an Osaka Fire Insurance Company for *yen* 10,000.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Wednesday, before Judge Matsuda, a case for arbitration came on for hearing. The applicants were the Nippon Boyeki Shokai and the respondents Butterfield and Swire. The applicants stated that they shipped a quantity of lead pipes from Glasgow on the steamer *Stentor*, of which the respondents are local agents. On arrival at Yokohama the pipes in nine cases were found damaged, owing to the lack of proper treatment on the voyage. The loss was assessed at *yen* 400 by appraisers, and this the applicants thought it reasonable should be paid by respondents. The respondents said that the damage complained of was caused by imperfect packing, and therefore they were not to be held responsible. This was provided in the bill of lading. Moreover, the valuation of the damage by the appraisers appointed by respondents was *yen* 48, and they were prepared to end the matter in arbitration by payment of *yen* 50. Judge Matsuda urged the parties to make concessions, so as to effect a compromise, but as they refused to do so, the Judge said it was hopeless to arbitrate.

Watanabe Kewaji, an electrical linesman in the service of the Tokyo Electric Light Company, came by death in a shocking manner on Saturday. The storm of Friday did a tremendous amount of minor damage to the electric wires in Tokyo and the staff are hard at work effecting repairs. To Watanabe's lot fell a piece of repairing opposite a foreign goods store in Tadokorocho, Nihon-bashi, where the line had broken down. The afternoon was well advanced, but under the Company regulations the men were not expecting the current to be turned on before 5 o'clock. Saturday afternoon, however, was very overcast, and the Company resolved to switch on the current at 4.30, but whether they informed their workman of this or not we cannot say. At any rate, Watanabe at that time was engaged at the head of a pole, amid a tangle of wires. He felt the first shock of the current and endeavoured frantically to descend, but before he could slide out of the coil, the full current from the station reached the wires and burnt the life out of the unfortunate man. His companions after a while secured the body and brought it down to earth, afterwards conveying it to the deceased's home. The Electric Light Company have donated *yen* 200 towards the funeral expenses.

CHINA NOTES.

Our senior Shanghai contemporary has this to say regarding the transfer of Sir Ernest Satow to Peking:—A charming and most cultivated man, Sir Ernest will be a welcome addition to society at Peking, if Peking is to remain the capital; whether he is a strong enough man for the new conditions in China remains to be seen. We congratulate Sir Claude on the pleasant place in which his lines are to be cast; at the moment to go from Peking to Tokio looks like Irish promotion; but we understand that there is some probability of the Legation at Tokio being converted into an Embassy, and this will make a considerable difference.

Our contemporary is also informed from local mandarin sources that Li Hung-chang drew up a memorial to the Empress on the 12th instant demanding the punishment of Prince Tuan, Kang Yi, and others of the instigators and authors of the Boxer rebellion, and to make the appeal stronger got Viceroys Liu K'un-yi and Chang Chih-tung, and Governor Yuan Shih-kai to join their names to his. A day previous to the sending of the above memorial Chang Chih-tung sent a memorial denouncing General Tung Fu hsiang and demanding his punishment.

The following Chinese official dispatch, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, has been received from Shansi:—"A memorial of the 2nd inst from Li Hung-chang, containing the requests of the various Foreign Powers before peace negotiations would be permitted, amongst which is that of the demand for the execution of Prince Tuan and Kang Yi, elicited the following Rescript from the Empress Dowager, dated Chichou, Shangsi, 8th September, where the Court happened to be then:—"We can consent to all the demands mentioned in Li Hung-chang's memorials with but one exception—that relating to Tuan and Kang. As the troubles mentioned were due to many persons, their guilt should be dealt with according to their several degrees, therefore we are bound to make a careful investigation before doing the thing requested."

The *North China Daily News* is glad to learn from a member of the family, lately arrived from Peking, that H.E. Chên Hsio-fên, Vice-President of the Board of Civil Appointments, who was reported to have been hacked to pieces by Boxers in June last in Peking, when on his way to attend to his duties at the Board, for having urged their suppression in a memorial to the Throne, has recovered from his wounds after all, although he had no less than 23 sword-cuts. It appears that H.E.'s servants, escorting his sedan chair, had sufficient presence of mind to place H.E. back in the chair whence he had been dragged by the Boxers, and cry out that H.E. was dead. They carried him rapidly back, followed by a number of Boxers still intent on his life, whilst others went to the Board of Civil Appointments to hack at others. Arrived at H.E.'s house, he was found still able to speak and directed the whole household to cry and weep as if he were really dead. This deceived the Boxers, who then left. H.E. was then removed to another place, while his own house put on a funereal aspect in order to keep up the deception.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Mr. John D. Rockefeller has made to Spellman Seminary, a negro college at Atlanta, a present of $180,000. The money has been paid into the treasury of the American Baptist Home Mission Society of New York, which has charge of the faculty. A hospital and a heating and light plant will be built.

President McKinley has decided it would be undignified for the President to stump the United States and appeal to the voters to cast their ballots for his reelection. He has also determined that it would be highly improper for him to talk into graphophones or kindred instruments, and has so advised prominent persons who have been pressing him to do so. Mr. Bryan, on the other hand, has accepted invitations to talk into graphophones, so that when he is not present his admirers will be able to listen to his eloquence by merely turning the crank of an instrument.

The number of members of the Grand Army of the Republic, which held its annual encampment at Chicago in August, has been reduced from 287,281 on June 30th, 1899, to 276,662 on June 30th of this year. The new commander-in-chief is Major Leo Rassieur, of St. Louis, who was elected by acclamation. He was born in Alsace fifty-six years ago. Entering the army as a private at the age of seventeen, he came out at the end of the war with the rank of major. He is a lawyer of large practice and a member of the Board of Education in St. Louis, where he has held the office of Judge of Probate. Next year's encampment will be held at Denver.

Mr. Bryan gave a curious reason for reading his speech at the opening of the Democratic campaign at Indianapolis. He said it would be much more pleasant to him and agreeable to his audience to read without notes, but he wanted to address that larger constituency which is reached through the newspapers. The speech, which was devoted entirely to an attack upon Republican policy in the Philippines, contained such striking phrases, as "We dare not educate the Filipinos lest they read the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States," and "the command 'Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel' has no Gatling gun attachment."

Dr. George Hepworth of Long Beach, Long Island, wrote to former President Cleveland during August asking for an expression of opinion on the political situation. He declared that thousands of citizens found themselves greatly embarrassed as to their duty on election day. The following letter in reply shows that the former president is himself somewhat perplexed, and that the conscience of the individual voter is the only safe guide under the circumstances:—

"Buzzard's Bay, Aug. 26, 1900.

My dear Mr. Hepworth:—Your letter is received. I am quite sure you wrongly estimate the value of any expression I might make concerning the political situation. Besides, I am by no means free from the perplexity which now afflicts thousands of those who love the principles of true democracy. In these circumstances I am not inclined to advise others as to their present political duties. A crisis has arisen when each man's conscience and informed patriotic sense should be his own guide. Inasmuch, therefore, as neither the certainty of my ability to lightly advise, nor any call of obligation prompts me to discuss political conditions, I think I ought to be permitted, in my retirement, to avoid the irritation and abuse which my interference at this time would inevitably invite.

Yours very truly, GROVER CLEVELAND.

"The Rev. G. H. Hepworth, Longbeach, L.I."

Mr. Arthur Sewall, candidate for Vice-President on the Democratic ticket with Mr. W. J. Bryan in 1896, and head of the shipbuilding firm of Arthur Sewall & Co., died at 8.30 o'clock on Sept. 5th. He sustained a stroke of apoplexy at his summer residence at Small Point, twelve miles from Bath, Me., became unconscious, and did not rally. Arthur Sewall was born in November,

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1835, in Bath, Me. He was the third son of William D. and Rachel T. Sewall. His father was a grandson of Col. Dummer Sewall of the revolutionary army. He was educated in the common schools of Bath and entered the employment of his father's firm, which then conducted one of the largest ship-building enterprises in the country. He formed a partnership with his brother Edward in 1854 in the establishment of a ship-building firm, of which he remained the leading spirit until he died. Although Mr. Sewall was reputed to be a millionaire, he was simple in his tastes, and, while his home was richly fitted up with everything that money could purchase, he was always opposed to display of any character and was unostentatious to a degree. Mr. Sewall was a Tilden democrat. He never held public office, but was a member of the Democratic national committee for many years and was looked upon as a power in democratic politics in New England. In addition to his pride in ship-building, Mr. Sewall took a large interest in railroads and also in the Bath iron works, which constructed several gunboats for the American navy. He was formerly president of the Maine Central railroad and recently president of a bank in Bath. After Mr. Sewall assumed the management of the large shipbuilding plant which had been developed by his father and grandfather, it grew to such an extent that the ships of the concern could be seen in almost every port in the world. No family in America has done more for the merchant marine for almost a century than the Sewall family, and a collection of models of ships published by the family is superior to anything of the kind in the country. Mr. Sewall constructed and launched in 1894 the *Dirigo*, the first steel sailing ship built in the United States, and also several three and four masted schooners for the coal, ice and lumber trade. One of these, the *Carrie A. Lane*, a three-masted schooner of less than 300 tons, was the first vessel of its kind and size to make the voyage around Cape Horn from New York to San Francisco.

THE GALVESTON HORROR.

Later reports of the disaster which overtook the city of Galveston on Sept. 8th make very painful reading. We have already reprinted from Canadian papers a fairly full description of the havoc wrought by the storm, and can only find space now for a very much condensed version of the accounts that filled late American contemporaries. In consequence of the complete breakdown of all forms of communication, news arrived but slowly from the devastated districts, of which Galveston was the centre, but by the 10th it became plain that no ordinary catastrophe had occurred. The number of deaths was estimated at 1,500 to 5,000 and the property destroyed was practically inestimable. Two days later it was reported that all attempts at burying the dead had been utterly abandoned, and bodies were being disposed of in the swiftest manner possible. Scores of them were buried and hundreds were taken out to sea and thrown overboard. The safety of the living being now the paramount question, nothing that might tend to prevent the outbreak of pestilence was neglected. It was found that large numbers of bodies which had been previously thrown into the bay were washed back upon the shore and the situation was thus rendered worse than before.

Says a correspondent:—It will now never be known how many lost their lives in this awful catastrophe. Mayor Jones of Galveston thinks that the dead will amount to 7,000, and others whose opportunities for judging are less than that of the Mayor place it as high as 10,000. Relief committees from the interior of the State have commenced to arrive and, as usual, they are too large in numbers and to a certain extent are in the way of the people of Galveston and an impediment to the prompt relief which they themselves are so desirous of offering. Some of the relief expeditions have committees large enough to consume 10 per cent. of the provisions which they brought. The great trouble now seems to be that those people who are in greatest need are the last to receive the aid. Many of them are so badly maimed and wounded that they are unable to apply to the relief committee, and the committees are so overwhelmed by direct applications that they have been unable to send out messengers. The wounded everywhere are still needing the attention of physicians, and despite every effort it is feared that a number will die because of the sheer impossibility to afford them the aid necessary to save their lives. Every man in Galveston who is able to walk and work is engaged in the work of relief with all the energy of which he is capable. But despite their utmost endeavors they cannot keep up with the increase of the miserable conditions which surround them. Water can be obtained by able-bodied men, but with great difficulty. Dr. Shaw of Houston, who is busily engaged in the relief work, said that there were 200 people at St. Mary's Infirmary without water. They had been making coffee of salt water, and using that as their only beverage. The soldiers of the regular Army and of the National Guard are guarding the property and it is impossible for thieves to escape detection.

One soldier reached the city on Sept. 12, who had been blown into the Gulf of Mexico and had floated nearly fifty miles, going and coming, on a door. Another, declared that he owed his life to a cow. It swam with him nearly three miles. The cow then sank, and the soldier swam the remainder of the way to the mainland.

General McKibbin, U.S.A., and Adjutant-General Scurry arrived on Sept. 11th and assumed entire charge of the city, with the result that conditions were very much improved as far as method in the disposition of supplies and work was concerned.

Every effort is being made to induce people to leave Galveston, and it is difficult for anyone, no matter what his business, unless he is in direct charge of a relief train, to gain admission to the place. Hundreds of people left Houston for Galveston, but could get no further than Texas City, which is on the city side of Galveston Bay, and there they were compelled to remain until the train took them back to Houston. Orders had been issued that no sightseers were to be allowed and the order was obeyed rigidly.

The work of the ghouls referred to in Reuter's telegrams a few weeks ago, is thus described in a telegram from Dallas (Tex), dated Sept. 12th:—W. H. McGrath, manager of the Dallas Electric Company, reached Dallas to-day direct from Galveston last night. He said: "Vandalism at Galveston has been horrible. The most rigid enforcement of martial law has not been able to suppress it entirely. Adjutant-General Scurry's men have arrested a hundred or more negroes. Forty-three of these, found with effects taken from dead bodies, were ordered tried by court-martial. They were convicted and ordered shot. One negro had twenty-three fingers with rings on them in his pocket."

A Houston (Tex) telegram of the same date said:—The ghouls have been holding an orgie over the dead at Galveston. The majority of these men were negroes, but whites took part in the desecration of the dead. Some of them were natives and some had been allowed to go over from the mainland under the guise of "relief" workers. Not only did they rob the dead, but they mutilated bodies in order to secure their ghoulish booty. A party of ten negroes were returning from a looting expedition. They had stripped corpses of all valuables, and the pockets of some of the looters were fairly bulging out with fingers of the dead, which had been cut off because they were so swollen the rings could not be removed. Incensed at this desecration and mutilation of the dead, the looters were shot down and it has been determined that all found robbing the dead shall be summarily dealt with. In robbing the dead ears were also stripped from the head in order to get the jewellery.

In all parts of the United States relief funds were speedily organized and the horrors of the devastated city were lessened considerably within a week of the disaster.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

CONFERENCE OF MISSIONARIES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Will you kindly insert the following notice in behalf of the Coming Conference of Missionaries?

It has been suggested by a friend that there are a number of Missionaries from China staying at present in Japan who would like to attend the Missionary Conference, but are not quite certain whether they would be welcome.

In behalf of the Committee of Arrangements I feel free to state that our brethren and sisters from China will be most heartily welcome to attend the Conference, and take part in the deliberations as far as is consistent with the nature of the meetings. We are sorry that we cannot at the same time make provision for their entertainment, but such has not thus far been possible even for all the Missionaries located in Japan.

We trust this notice will be brought to the attention of the Missionaries from China by any one who reads it and is in contact with said Missionaries.

Yours truly,
ALBERT OLTMANS,
Chairman of Committee.

Saga, Sept. 24th, 1900.

A QUESTION REGARDING TAXES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In volume two of the "New Laws of Japan," published by the *Japan Mail* Office, I find on page 31, Article XXXVI. of the Business Tax, which reads as follows:—

"In *fu* and *ken* an additional tax not exceeding two-tenths of the tax provided for by this law may be levied on the business of persons subject to a business tax under this law.

"No farther local or district tax can be levied in addition to this tax." The same provision, is I believe, made in the Income Tax Law.

Fu taxes have been levied in the Hokkaido, but instead of paying two-tenths of the Government tax, the rate has been five-tenths, or one-half the amount of the Government tax.

On inquiring into this matter, at the Hakodate Kuyakusho, I received the following:—

"In accordance with Article 81 of the Hokkaido Municipal Laws, regulations for the levying additional tax have been framed and the sanction of the Hokkaido Cho Governor having been obtained in accordance with Article 108 of the said law the regulations are fixed as follows:

No. 8, 12th March, 1900.

Regulations for Levying additional taxes (Fukazei).

Art. 1.—In this Ken Municipality the following Supplementary taxes shall be collected in addition to the corresponding national taxes.

Land Tax. Income Tax. Business Tax.

Art. 2.—These additional taxes shall be in the proportion of 50 sen for each *yen* of national tax annually.

Now what I would like to know is, presuming of course that the translation published by your Office is correct: How can a Municipal Government levy a tax of five-tenths when the National Government law distinctly says that no tax can be levied exceeding two-tenths of the National tax? And if the Municipal Government has the right to make laws that supersede those made by the National Government, what is the limit of the tax that the Municipal Government can impose?

Hoping that you will be able to make this matter clear for me, and thanking you in anticipation, I enclose my card, and am,

Very respectfully yours,
"?"

Hakodate, September 24th, 1900.

CHINESE GEOGRAPHY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Will you or any of your readers kindly furnish the name of a map that will indicate the places in China mentioned in the *Daily Mail*. For example the *Shikung* where the anti-Christian outbreak took place mentioned in the issue of Sept. 25th.

Yours truly,
智 神 知

September 28th, 1900.

[We do not know any map sufficiently accurate to give the required information. The want of a good map of China is greatly felt at the present time.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE FORTHCOMING INTERPORT MATCH.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Are you trying to take a rise out of Kobe by your deductions from the results of the last two

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Saturdays' Cricket Matches? Surely scores of 30, 18, 26, and 68,—142 for 4 wickets in the former and 84, 53, and 30—167 for 3 wickets in the latter, and bowling analyses of 6 for 14, 3 for 14, and 4 for 27, all by probable players in the Interport Match, do not look so very bad for Yokohama's chances, though they were naturally made on different sides owing to the probable Interport team being split up. You also quote the President's idea of "Born-in-Japan" between Yokohama and Kobe every other week or so, which is too Utopian altogether. So far as I remember the President suggested annual fixtures of "Born-in-Japan" versus the Home Club, once in Yokohama and once in Kobe during the season, but as since then the "Born-in-Japan" in Yokohama alone have always beaten "The Rest" here it is evident such a match is useless unless "The Rest" could also be strengthened by some considerable additions from the other Port.

As a matter of fact, if our Captain can only get the team together that he hopes, I think Yokohama will be well represented at Kobe during the Interport Week.

Yours faithfully, Y. C. & A. C.

THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In answer to my recent appeal to U.S. citizens in Japan to favour the *Chicago Record* through me with votes on the Presidency, I have not received as many responses as I had expected. Of the votes thus far cast, four fifths are for McKinley; and the remainder are divided between Bryan and Woolley. I wonder if the Democrats are really so scarce out here, or if they refrain from voting because they can not choose between what they consider two evils. In that case, they may be willing to vote for the tenth ticket, recently put into the field by the National Party, comprising men who can not support either McKinley or Bryan. This party has nominated Senator Donaldson Caffery, of Louisiana, for President, and Archibald Murray Howe, of Mass., for Vice-President. I desire, therefore, to make one more call for votes, and also to ask, that, if there are any who still refrain from voting because they are not satisfied with any of the tickets, they will kindly notify me to that effect. I should like also to ask that such persons state their previous party affiliations, so that the entire vote may be properly analysed.

The result of this poll will be duly announced in the English papers of Tokyo, Yokohama and Kobe.

This is positively "the last call" for votes. don't miss the opportunity! It is sufficient to address me at "Tokyo."

Sincerely Yours, ERNEST W. CLEMENT.

Oct. 1, 1900.

SALVATION WEEK OF SELF-DENIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—I beg to enclose a few particulars regarding our Self-Denial effort which is to take place during the week from October 6th to October 13th. I should be pleased if you would kindly insert a notice of this in your paper.

You will observe that in connection with this effort we request all our own people and any friends who are in sympathy with our operations to deny themselves during this week of some article of food or clothing and give the amount saved by so doing to this object, or to give a contribution that will involve personal self-sacrifice.

This is an annual effort and we are expecting to have the co-operation of our large circle of friends and sympathizers and to succeed in raising *yen* 1,000.

I am sir, faithfully yours,

COLONEL HENRY BULLARD.

The Salvation Army,
Tokyo, October 3rd 1900.

FOREIGN INSURANCE BUSINESS.

The text of Imperial Ordinance No. 380 promulgated in the *Official Gazette*, for regulating insurance businesses conducted in Japan by foreign companies is as follows:—

Art. I.—A foreign company desirous of engaging in the insurance business in Japan by appointing agents, must have a legal representative special appointed for Japan.

The provision contained in Art. 62 of the Commercial Code shall apply correspondingly to the representative mentioned in the foregoing clause.

Art. II.—The foreign company must report to the proper authorities the head office for its business as pursued in Japan and the name and address of its representative.

Art. III.—In making application for license the foreign company must send in with its written application the following documents:—

1. Articles of association.
2. Specifications of the business as pursued in Japan.
3. Contracts relating to ordinary insurance.
4. Documents for computing premiums and method of computing the "net value."
5. The latest inventory of property, balance-sheet, and profit and loss account.
6. Documents showing how, in the case of life insurance businesses, the "net value" is utilized

No alterations in the documents mentioned in 1, 4, and 6 of the preceding clause will be valid unless such alterations have obtained the approval of the proper authorities.

Art. IV.—If the foreign company has violated an order of the authorities, the prosecution of its business in Japan may be suspended or the change of its representative may be ordered or its license may be declared void.

Art. V.—When judged necessary, the authorities may order the foreign company to deposit with them a suitable amount of money. In this case the money may take the form of value-bonds approved of by the authorities.

Art. VI.—A policy-holder, a person insured, or a person entitled to receive a policy in Japan, and the partners of a foreign mutual assurance company shall enjoy a prior claim to the deposit.

Art. VII.—The general creditors in Japan of a foreign mutual assurance company shall enjoy a prior claim to the money kept in trust, over the partners of the company and the creditors abroad.

Art. VIII.—The foreign company shall make once in every year at the previously fixed period a report on the business conducted in Japan and shall present it to the authorities.

Art. IX.—A copy of the inventory of property, of the balance-sheet, business report, and profit and loss account compiled by the foreign company in its own country shall be promptly presented to the authorities

Art. X.—The representative of the foreign company shall keep at the head office in Japan the articles of association of the company, the list of officials in Japan, and also the documents mentioned in Art. 2.

A policy-holder, a person insured, or a person entitled to receive a policy, in Japan, shall be entitled to inspect the documents mentioned in Art. 2 or to demand a copy or abridgment thereof. In that case, however, the charge prescribed in the articles of association or the insurance contract shall be paid.

Art. XI.—When the foreign company has wound up its business or has had its license invalidated, the return of the money kept in trust may not be demanded, unless the payment has been made to those enjoying the right of priority in accordance with the provisions of Arts. 6 and 7 and unless proper security has been given.

Art. XII.—When the authorities have abrogated the license issued to the foreign company which possessed a branch or a representative in Japan, the fact must be reported at once at the registration office in whose jurisdiction such branch or office is situated

When the registration office has received the communication mentioned in the preceding clause, the registration of the branch or office must be cancelled at once.

Art. XIII.—The representative of the foreign company shall be liable to a fine of from 5 to 500 *yen* in any of the following cases:

1. When the registration prescribed in this regulation has been neglected.
2. When the documents specified in Arts. 8 and 9 are not provided, or the matters to be entered therein are not entered or fraudulently entered.

Art. XIV.—The representative of the foreign company shall be liable to a fine of from 10 to 1,000 *yen* in any of the following cases:

1. When business other than insurance business is transacted.
2. When life insurance is combined with "risk" insurance.
3. When orders of the proper authorities are violated.
4. When inspection conducted by the proper authorities is obstructed.
5. When false information is given to the authorities or when facts are concealed.
6. When, without justifiable reason, leave to make an examination of the documents to be put in for examination according to this regulation is refused or a copy or abridgment thereof is not given.

Art. XV.—The provisions of Art. 206 to Art. 208 of the Law of Non-contentious Cases shall be applied correspondingly to the fine prescribed in the preceding two articles.

Art. XVI.—The provisions of Arts. 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10 and 11 and of Art. 97 of the Law of Insurance shall be applied correspondingly to foreign companies.

Art. XVII.—Arts. 9, 11 to 15, 19 to 38, 40, 41, 255-258 of the Commercial Code, Arts. 85, 86, 90 and 91 of the Law of Insurance shall be applied correspondingly to foreign Mutual Assurance Companies.

Art. XVIII.—At every Registration Office a foreign Mutual Assurance company list shall be provided.

Art. XIX.—When as a result of having established a business office in Japan, a foreign mutual assurance company wishes to make application for the registration of such an office, the representative of the company must submit a written application to the proper authorities, entering the head office in Japan as well as the name and address of the Company's representative in Japan, and must at the same time submit the following documents:

1. Documents to prove the existence of the head office
2. Documents certifying the competency of the representative.
3. Documents describing the articles of association and the nature of the company.
4. Partners' list in Japan.
5. Copy of the license and of the letter of identification issued by the proper authorities at home.

The documents mentioned in 1 to 3 of the preceding clause must have the certification of the home government or of the proper consul stationed by that government in Japan.

Art. XX.—In case the representative of a foreign Mutual Assurance company applies for permission to register the company's agent in Japan, the application must enter the date of the Japanese registration of the establishment of its business office in Japan, and must submit at the same time documents certifying the appointment of the agent.

Art. XXI.—Arts. 139, 141-149, 151, 154 165, clause 1 of Art. 173, clause 2 of Art. 174, and Arts. 203 and 204 of the Law of Non-contentious Cases shall be applied correspondingly to every foreign mutual assurance company.

Art. XX.—Arts. 1-6, 1-11, 13-16 of this regulation shall be applied correspondingly to a case where a foreigner pursues insurance business in Japan by creating a branch therein.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES.

Art XXIII.—This regulation shall be enforced from November 15, 1900.

Art. XXIV.—A foreigner or a foreign company which possesses a branch-office, or agency in Japan prior to the enforcement of this regulation, must report to the proper authorities, within six months from the date of the enforcement, the head office in Japan.

Art. XXV.—Arts 4-15, 17, 20 of this regulation; Arts 1, 3, 4, 9-11, and 97 of the Law of Insurance, clause 1 Art. 173, and clause 2 Art 174 of the Law of Non-contentious Cases, shall be applied correspondingly to a foreigner or foreign company which possesses in Japan, prior to the enforcement of this regulation, a branch office or agency.

The following Notification affecting foreign insurance companies was issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce in Monday's *Official Gazette*

Art. I.—Application for a license for the conduct of insurance business by a foreign company shall be made by its representative.

To the application there shall be annexed a document proving the existence of a head office or principal business office. This document is in addition to the documents mentioned in Art. 3 of Imperial Ordinance No. 380, issued in 1900.

Art. II.—In the event of a foreign company applying for the authorisation of alterations in the documents mentioned in paragraphs 1 to 4 and 6 clause 1 of Art. 3 of Imperial Ordinance No. 380, issued in 1900, a document setting forth the reason requiring the alterations must be annexed to the application.

Art. III.—When a foreign company has made registration in accordance with the provisions of the Commercial Code or of Imperial Ordinance No. 380, issued in 1900, notice must be sent without delay to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce of the matter registered and the date of its registration. This, however, is not applicable in cases where an entry is made in the list of members of a company.

Art. IV.—When a foreign company has made a dissolution, an amalgamation, or a change in its organisation, notice to that effect must without delay be sent to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. V.—The provisions of Arts. 6 to 8, 10, and 14 to 21 of Notification No. 15 of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce apply *mutatis mutandis* in respect to the business of a foreign insurance company in Japan.

Art. VI.—The provisions of Arts. 24 to 26 of Notification No. 15 of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, issued in 1900, apply *mutatis mutandis* to a foreign company.

Art. VII.—The provisions of the five preceding Articles apply *mutatis mutandis* in respect to a foreign company which has obtained a charter prior to the operation of this notification. Provided, that during a year from the coming into force of this notification the provision of Art. 8 of Notification No. 15 of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce may not be obeyed.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULE.

Art. VIII.—This Notification comes into force on Nov. 15th, 1900.

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MISSIONARIES, CHINESE CHRISTIANS, AND THE PRESENT UPHEAVAL.

By D. L. Sheffield, D.D.

While sojourning for a little time in Japan, it has come to my knowledge that there is a wide-spread feeling in this country that missionaries and Chinese Christians are responsible in no small measure for the present serious outbreak of hatred against foreigners, and all Chinese connected with them.

It is represented that the missionaries in their zeal to win converts have offended the most cultured and intelligent classes both in their oral teachings and in their writings, declaring that many of the doctrines of the Sages are false, and that the institutions built upon them are hurtful to the people. It is further complained that the missionaries have been careless in admitting unworthy converts into the Christian church, and that in behalf of such men they have often interfered with the authorities, using their prestige as foreigners to defeat the ends of justice. By reason of these things they have created the apprehension that in the growth of mission work the sacred teachings of the ancient Sages will be set aside, and the revered institutions of China, which have come down from antiquity, will be overturned. If such charges are true, it is asked, have not the Chinese some just cause for determining to rid themselves at any cost of these disturbers of the peace, and to stamp out their teachings from among the people?

In reply to these charges we may answer in the outset, that truth always loses its quality as truth when it consents to make compromise with error. Confucius himself declined to let down his high standard of teaching because men found it difficult to attain to that standard. The Christian must teach as he believes that God is supreme over all, and must oppose any teaching or custom that is contrary to this truth. In the ancient Roman Empire Christians suffered martyrdom rather than offer incense before the image of a living Emperor, because thus to worship him would be to dishonour God. So in China missionaries must teach that idols which fill the temples in every city are false; that they must not receive the honour due only to God, and that ancestors while living were men like ourselves, and when dead must not be worshipped as gods.

Of the thousands of missionaries in China all are not equally wise, but they are a carefully selected body of men and women; many of them coming from the first institutions of learning in Christian countries. If missionaries be compared with an equal number of educated men and women in other callings in life, no list will be found to contain more honoured names, whether for their learning and research or for their devotion and labour for the good of their fellowmen; and in that list the missionaries to China will have an equal place along with those to other lands. The missionaries in China are laying the foundations of a wider, truer learning. They gather students into their schools and teach them geography, history, mathematics, the natural sciences, the principles of Christian ethics as applied to individual life, to government, to society, and to international relations. Among them are men of special training and fitness, who devote their time to the preparation of an awakening literature, setting forth the features of western civilization that are superior to the civilization of China, whether along material, intellectual, or social lines; and giving careful warning against evils in western countries that should be avoided in China.

Two years ago the Emperor of China set out on a scheme of governmental reform, which was unfortunately arrested before it had been fully inaugurated. His ideas of reform came from reading books prepared by missionaries, or from the suggestions of men who had studied those books. It is exactly here that we find the "storm centre" of the present opposition to missionaries by the opponents of reform in China. Missionaries are agitators, they are constantly telling the people how they can have a better order of society, a better condition of family life, better material conditions. So long as the results of their labours were limited to scattered handfuls of converts—and that chiefly from among the ignorant and superstitious masses of the people—these innovators were looked upon with mingled contempt and forbearance; but when scholars and mandarins began to listen to their teachings, to read their books with favour, and when the Emperor himself began to gather about him as counsellors young men whose minds were influenced by foreign ideas, then alarm was aroused and wrath was kindled against the "outside barbarians," who sought to overturn the heaven-given institutions of Confucian civilisation.

As to the charge that missionaries have gathered about them unworthy converts, and that in behalf of these converts they have interfered with the just administration of law, thus arousing the hatred of both officials and people, the following answer may be given. China is no doubt full of cunning, unscrupulous men who live by their wits, and who are ready to suck the blood of any foreigner who allows them to attach themselves to his body; and most foreigners lose no small amount of blood before they learn how to protect themselves against such parasites. But when this period of *social acclimatizing* is past, foreigners, like the Chinese, prefer to keep their blood for their own invigoration. There are many men who find satisfaction in regarding missionaries as classed under the two heads of fools and fanatics; men and women who through life are blind dupes to the false professions of native miscreants. But this assumption is born of imagination, and is not the result of study of mission work, and a knowledge of the character of the Chinese converts.

In China, as in other lands where Christianity is first introduced, missionaries find it necessary to cultivate a *sanctified suspicion*. Like the two forces by which the sun holds the planets in their places, the wise missionary keeps his power of attraction and repulsion in equilibrium, and thus draws to himself men whose lives revolve in a true orbit. Mission work has had a slow development in China; and the reason is that missionaries have thoroughly understood that the future success of their work depended upon the quality and not upon the number of their first converts. No especial obliquy attaches to a man among his fellows in China for making false professions to a foreigner for the sake of gain. This is a recognized method of getting on in life, on a par with adulterating food-material and deranging weights and measures. But to honestly accept the "foreign religion," to refuse longer to bow the knee before the family gods and to take the prescribed part which tradition has fixed in the various forms of idolatrous worship, is an offence against the living and the dead for which there is no forgiveness. In China, not the individual but the family is the unit. What right then has a man or woman to break loose from the organism of which he or she forms a part? This to break loose usually means rejection from the family body and ostracism from society. That so many tens of thousands have dared to make this supreme sacrifice for the sake of their faith ought to impress us with the power of Christian truth, and with the strength of Christian purpose that can be awakened in the hearts of the Chinese, in spite of their hereditary sordidness and bondage to the things that are present and seen.

The charges so often made against the character of the Chinese Christians are peculiarly unjust when made to-day in the light of the heroic courage now exhibited by large numbers of them as they meet persecution and death for their Christian profession. In the opening chapters of the present tragedy in China thousands of Christian families were driven from their homes in the fierce cold of winter, and all that they had in the world was burned before their eyes, but they held steadfastly to that which they regarded of greater value than any earthy possession. A missionary from the midst of these scenes writes:—"Few have recanted their Christian faith."

There is danger of injustice when a Protestant missionary attempts to write concerning the character of the work of Roman Catholic missionaries. The representatives of the Catholic Church must magnify the power and prerogatives of the Pope as the vice-regent of Christ.

It is generally believed also by Protestants in China that Roman Catholic missionaries are not sufficiently careful in testing the motives of applicants for admission to the Church; that the great body of Catholic Christians are not sufficiently instructed in the deeper spiritual meaning of Christian worship, and that they enter the Church regarding it too much in the light of a ship that is sure to carry them safely across the stormy waters of life, rather than as an army in which they must fight their way to spiritual victories. But devout Catholic missionaries see the spiritual good of their converts as truly as do their Protestant brethren, and Roman Catholic literature in the Chinese language, in spite of its results of emphasizing formalism in worship, presents the same great truths relating to man's redemption that are presented in Protestant Christian literature, and it urges the same ultimate motives for a righteous life.

Among the Protestant Churches, except in cases of serious persecution and manifest outrage, the missionaries decline to appear before officials in behalf of converts. Their uniform instruction to their converts is that they should suffer serious wrong before appealing for official redress. Official corruption is so general in China that such appeals usually miscarry, and bring in their train more serious wrongs. In the experience of the writer a Chinese Christian of excellent character was robbed by a neighbour; and when he made accusation before the official was cruelly beaten, on the testimony of neighbours in league with the men who robbed him, that he was a wicked fellow who had attached himself falsely to the Christian Church. It is feared that the charge against the Roman Church in China, that its officers interfere in behalf of its converts to help them in their litigations when such help should not be given, is not wholly without just foundation, but probably the evil where it exists can more often be traced to the hands of the Chinese priests than to their foreign superiors. Their Christian consciences are less developed, and their springs of action differ less widely from those of men outside the church. Why should they not use the prestige of their office—they can easily be imagined as asking—to strengthen the hands of the Christians under their care? And when trouble arises with enemies of the Church, why should they make over strict inquiries as to the question of right in the matter in dispute? Where these evils appear it should be remembered that their source is not the Catholic Church, but in the corrupt conditions of Chinese society and of judicial administration. Every Yamen is a den of hungry wolves. When China reforms her judicial system, and a fair measure of justice is administered by her courts of law, the evils that are charged against the Roman Catholic Church will disappear, or will be easily overcome by the officers of the government.

It is a serious wrong to throw dust in the eyes of the public at this time, and so to prevent men from seeing the real issues of the present conflict in China. Missionaries are feared and hated not because of their religious teachings, but because they are thought to be political emissaries. They are regarded as the forerunners of that great movement of western nations, which is inspired by the spirit of conquest; and which if not resisted will result in the dismemberment of China? The lesson for China of the war with Japan certainly was *Reform or perish as a nation*. The young Emperor learned this lesson, and with imperfect counsel set out on the line of reform; but his work was too precipitate, and there were too many Mandarins in high positions blinded to all thoughts of progress by their ignorance and conceit These men, like the fabled toads that swelled themselves to the utmost to stop the movement of the on-coming chariot, resolved in their inflated stupidity and self-appreciation to throw themselves in the way of the on-coming chariot of modern civilization; and like the toads their skins are now bursting, and the motion of the chariot is still onward.

What China needs is *men*. Men of wisdom, virtue courage, patriotism. men who are true in word and deed men who will sacrifice life rather than righteousness. How can such men be produced? Four thousand years of Confucian teachings have not developed them. The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom; and it is also the source of the highest form of virtue and courage and patriotism. Missionaries are labouring in China—and with success—to produce just this type of men. No body of men among the Chinese love and pity their country as do the Chinese Christians; no body of men are ready to so make sacrifices for its sake. They are the material out of which will be produced the statesmen and reformers in the near future; and the very trials through which they are now passing will prove to have been a part of the discipline that will fit them for their high responsibilities as leaders of their people.

Let not Japanese Christians doubt the true nobility of their Chinese brethren. You have faith in God; so have they. You have courage as Christian men to fight bravely the battles of life, so have they, as they are now proving in the midst of sorer trials than have come to you. You have patriotism, daring to give your lives if need be for your country. You are laboring that it may have noble institutions, with the principles of Christianity in the life of the people for their inspiration and strength. So have they such patriotism; and they have a patient perseverance in their high purpose to serve their country by serving God, that deserves your sympathy, praise and emulation.

THE INIQUITY OF CHRISTIAN MISSIONS IN CHINA.

[By Robert E. Speer Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.]

There appeared a few days ago, in *The New York Times*, an article by Mr. Sydney Brooks, entitled "Regulation of Missionaries in China." Its main propositions were that missionaries have no right to be in the interior of China, and that, whether there or on the coast, they are supported only by foreign arms, that they are ignorant, untactful and troublesome, and doing not a little evil, and that they are responsible for the present difficulties. The remedy proposed is that missionaries should be deprived of their foreign protection, and even of their foreign citizenship.

A good deal of this sort of thing has appeared in the newspapers lately. It is easy to write, for it requires no patient study of facts, and it pleases many people, who are not reluctant to find reasons for refraining from supporting the missionary enterprise. And it is in the main harmless. Indeed, it is en-

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couraging in a way, for it shows that some who would be glad to pass missions by as unimportant and ineffectual are forced to confess their power Such articles are scarcely worth answering, save to call attention now and then to their extravagances and to make them an occasion for setting a little more clearly before the public the significance and character of Christian missions.

Mr. Brooks's article especially would not call for notice if it were not for its plausibility and the publicity it has received. It is not original, it is not intelligent, and it is not true. It is in part a condensation of Mr. Alexander Michie's books on "Missionaries in China," and "China and Christianity," with scant credit given to Mr. Michie, and with little of that "openness of mind" which the author credits to Mr. Michie, and which saves that stringent critic from the unpleasant spirit and the indiscriminate sneers of Mr. Brooks, and from some of his blunders. "The Chinese," he says, for example, "cannot for a moment be brought to believe that women who . . . worship in the same church alongside of men can possibly be moral." There are tens of thousands of Chinese temples which testify against this judgment. There are no separate temples, or hours of worship for men and women in China. "Men and women," as a correspondent of *The China Mail* writes, "come and go (in the temples), acquaintances and absolute strangers elbowing each other, rubbing against each other, tens and scores and hundreds of them." That has been Chinese usage, and is not regarded as an outrage on ethical propriety. As a matter of fact, Christian worship is more orderly, more ethically correct than the worship in Chinese temples. Let any traveler attend the most popular temples in Canton, for example, and then any Christian chapel or church, many of which have partitions separating the sexes, and contrast them. It is true that the infamous publications sent out by Chou Han from Hunan made some such criticism as that of Mr. Brooks; but it was with slanderous and malicious purpose, and the temples of Hunan daily refuted his falsehood.

Each of Mr. Brooks's propositions is surrounded by such misinformation. He alleges that the missionary's "presence in the interior is in itself a violation of a solemn compact." What compact? Residence and acquisition of property by missionaries in the interior of China are guaranteed by clear treaty provisions, confirmed by imperial edicts, and acknowledged by the Chinese officials. The British treaty of 1858, Art. XII., contains the words, "British subjects, whether at the ports or at other places, desiring to build, etc." More than once Consuls and Chinese officials have interpreted these words as giving the right to reside and purchase property in the interior. In some treaties (Netherlands, Austrian, Spanish) it is declared that merchants "shall not be at liberty to open houses of business or shops in the interior;" but no treaty contains such restrictions as to missionaries. In the Chinese text of the French treaty of 1858, Art. III., it is stated, "It is permitted to French missionaries to rent and purchase land in all the provinces and to erect buildings thereon at pleasure." Whatever questions others may have raised about this clause, the Chinese Government has never denied its authenticity or validity. Indeed, Chinese officials of their own accord have often extended these rights to missionaries, and on the declaration of war between China and Japan, the Chinese Foreign Office at Pekin addressed to the Ministers of foreign countries a memorandum requesting them to notify missionaries to remain at their posts, and promising all such the protection of the Chinese Government. The rights of merchants and traders to reside and purchase property in the interior are far less solidly established than those of missionaries. Indeed, the Netherlands treaty, which in Art. III. denied to merchants the right of carrying on business in the interior, provided in Art. IV. that "Netherlands missionaries of the Christian religion, intent upon the peaceful propagation of the Gospel in the interior of China, shall enjoy the protection of the Chinese authorities." I ask, What solemn compact is violated by the presence of missionaries in the interior?

But it is asserted also that the missionary is "supported and protected by foreign arms," that "the evangelists are maintained by foreign arms, they live within call of the avenging gunboat, and they are not backward in summoning its aid." The Presbyterian Board has twenty-one stations in China, at which missionaries reside. Of these, nine at the most are within reach of gunboats. The great majority of missionaries are in the interior, and I do not believe that Mr. Brooks can cite one instance where missionaries alone have summoned a gunboat's aid. There may have been such, but I cannot remember one. Large bodies of missionaries in China are opposed on principle to doing such a thing, and of those who are not, the majority would rather suffer the petty difficulties of oppression and injustice than resort to such an extreme measure, and have so suffered quietly, or resorted only to peaceful representations to their Consuls. But doubtless Mr. Brooks does not intend to be taken literally here. If he does, then I have only to say that his statement is false, most of all, his declaration that the missionaries are not backward in appealing for armed interference. I suppose he means, however, by these reckless statements, only that "missionaries were thrust upon him (the Chinese) through treaties exacted by foreign coercion" and that the Chinese "Government protects them against its own inclinations, and against the sense of the people, through fear of foreign pressure." He neglects to state that the wars which were terminated by these treaties were fought for the sake of commerce, and the first one, as the Chinese maintain, in behalf of a ruinous and abhorrent traffic, that no war has ever been waged nor any battle been fought for the imposition of missionaries upon China or for their protection. And the implication of this second quotation I have just made from his article is the common and erroneous one that the Chinese Government has a peculiar dislike of the missionaries as such, while it has learned to endure other foreigners. "When the ordinary foreigner is tolerated," says Mr. Brooks, "they (missionaries) are hated." "The trader, the consul and the diplomat have won their position. They are not liked, but they are acquiesced in." Now it is significant that in the very document to which Mr. Brooks appeals as proposing "The best and only means of escape" from present difficulties, the Chinese Government declares, "the Chinese Government . . . is not opposed to the work of the missions." Innumerable edicts and proclamations have commended the missionaries. I have before me a copy of one of these issued by the Emperor in 1844, sixteen years before the treaties which Mr. Brooks says thrust missionaries on China. The Rescript of Prince Kung, issued in 1862, declared: "The missionaries are well-disposed men, and are in their own country greatly respected by others, and whereas their first object is to instruct men to do good, they must be treated with more than usual high consideration." Scores of proclamations to the same effect have been issued by local prefects. One issued in 1895, by the Prefect of Nanking, will serve as illustrative of many: "Now having examined the doctrine hall is in every place pertaining to the prefecture, we find that there has been established free schools where the poor children of China may receive instruction; hospitals where Chinamen may freely receive healing; that the missionaries are all really good; not only do they not take the people's possessions, but they do not seem to desire men's praise. . . . Although Chinamen are pleased to do good, there are none who equal the missionaries." Prior to the issue of this proclamation, the magistrate invited the missionaries to dinner, and treated them with unusual honour. If it is said that these utterances are insincere, and exacted by "fear of foreign pressure," it may be replied that there are too many cases in which such suspicions can be proved to be unfounded.

I do not cite these edicts as worthy of acceptance at face value, but only as supporting the assertion that the official utterances of the Chinese Government are favourable to missions, and that the insinuation that Christian missions, as such, are detested by the Chinese is unjust. Christianity is objected to primarily not because of its doctrines or practices, but because it is a foreign religion, and because European Governments have succeeded in deeply impressing its foreign connections upon the Chinese mind by the way they have made it a cat's paw, and pretext of political and territorial aggrandizement. This view is easily capable of proof. The very placards and publications which produce anti-missionary disturbances speak of the missionaries not as Christian propagandists, but as foreign intruders. "Attack and beat the foreigners." "Determinedly destroy the Western men." These are specimens of Hunan mottoes. "All dealings with foreigners are detestable. These men have no fathers or mothers. Their offspring are beasts," is a sample Canton proclamation, scattered in a city where the Chinese have been dealing commercially with foreigners for hundreds of years. Such placards are issued where there are no missionaries. As soon as news arrived that Shashi was to be made an open port in 1896, anti-foreign placards were posted over the city. There have been, and according to ex-Consul Read are, no missionaries at Shashi. And outrages are not confined to the persons of missionaries. Mr. Margary was not a missionary, and it is the Ministers, not the missionaries, who have been the centre of attack in Peking.

The missionary appears prominently because he is everywhere. He is the only foreigner that most of the Chinese see. He lives where no trader will go. And so he bears the brunt of anti-foreign dislike. For this his reward is the sneers and ignorant reviling of men like Mr. Brooks. The missionary is doing his own work, but he is doing, too, the work of civilization. He is its vanguard. As has been well said, "China has been opened professedly by treaty, but China has to be opened by something else besides a treaty. There is an enormous amount of personal and friendly contact work to be done and that is being done by missionaries on a scale of magnitude, with a diffusiveness, and general tactfulness, that entitle them to commendation, and not censure." The missionary is helping to open the empire, while the reactionary mandarins want to keep it shut. He is indomitable. He has a motive which makes life and comfort of secondary consequence. He secures a lodgment where civilians would fail. "He gets access to the people; he talks to them in their own mother tongue; he shows them that the foreigner is not the horrid monster he has been pictured to them, but a human being like one of themselves—a man who knows how to be neighbourly and courteous, and pays his debts and can be trusted, who visits the sick and helps the poor, and evidently seeks the good of the community where he is. His notions as they consider them, about a resurrection from the dead and a future life, may not interest them much; but the man himself they do appreciate, and they say that if all foreigners conduct themselves like that, they cannot be such a bad lot after all."

But this is not Mr. Brooks's view. In his opinion, missionaries are "not well educated," are untactful, careless of local prejudice, speaking a "bastard Chinese," guilty of "blundering provocation," ignorant of "the philosophy he is intent on overthrowing or the language which must be his chief weapon," bigoted and sectarian, "enthusiastic girls who scamper up and down the country." I should like to have the names of the missionaries in China with whom Mr. Brooks is personally acquainted, and who have supplied him with that knowledge of them and their disgraceful defects which alone can entitle a man to issue such a slanderous representation. I know more than two hundred missionaries in China, and am familiar with the methods of selection and the requirements of the various missionary boards the societies at work there, and I have met also many foreigners in China in other occupations, and I place my knowledge against Mr. Brooks's ignorance in saying that the average missionary is far better educated, better bred, more familiar with the people, their language and their thought, and infinitely more in sympathy with them, than the average foreigner, and that no other foreigners in China—merchants, traders or diplomats—are superior to the best missionaries, and very few of them their equals. With that open-mindedness which Mr. Brooks so admires in others, Mr. Michie avoids any such indiscriminate abuse as Mr. Brooks allows himself in his unrelieved picture of missionary incompetency. "The great service which missionaries have rendered to the cause of knowledge can never be forgotten," wrote Mr. Michie, seven years ago. "It is to their labours that we owe what we know of Chinese history, language and literature. Missionaries compiled the only dictionaries as yet in common use; a missionary translated the classics into English, laying the whole world under perpetual obligation; missionaries have explained the Chinese religions. A missionary has quite recently made a valuable contribution to descriptive anthropology, the first attempt at a systematic analysis of the Chinese character. And, turning toward the Chinese side, the missionaries have the credit of awakening thought in the country, and their great industry in circulating useful and Christian knowledge in vernacular publications of various sorts, though comparatively barren of result in its main purpose, has spread the light of Western civilization far and wide in the Empire. The benefits conferred on China by these literary labours, and especially by medical missions" (for which Mr. Brooks has not one appreciative word), "are fully acknowledged by educated Chinese who have no leaning toward Christianity as a religion." Li Hung-chang is one of these. "You have started," he told the representatives of missionary organizations in New York, Sept. 1, 1896, "you have started numerous educational establishments which have served as the best means to enable our countrymen to acquire a fair knowledge of the modern arts and sciences of the West." The missionaries are the most intelligent foreigners in China. They are the true representatives of the West. They are organizing the schools and colleges which the Chinese themselves are founding. They have been interpreters for our Consuls and Ministers. For years a missionary did the work of the American Legation in Pekin, while others bore the title and the credit. And these are not merely exceptional men. Almost all missionaries are required to pass language examinations, and if any fail to acquire the Chinese, they are quietly retired. As for their being poorly educated, almost all the men sent from America are college graduates, and the women far better educated than ordinarily well educated women at home. Mr Brooks could learn many things from a proclamation of the Prefect of Paotingfu in 1895, in which he said, The missionaries "are chosen from men of superior character and learning, who after successfully passing an examination, are suffered to come out to China. Moreover, none of the missionaries of these societies come at the commission of their sovereigns, nor are they animated by any other motive than to obey the last command of Jesus, who bade all His followers without fail to preach the religion far and wide, and thus fully attest the sincerity of their faith and love. Refusing to do this,

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though members of the society, He could not recognize them as of the highest character."

Mr. Brooks condemns the missionaries for their hostility to ancestral worship, their contempt for Chinese superstitions like *fungshui*, or geomancy, the seclusion and secrecy of their work, and their protection of their converts. As to ancestor worship, a few missionaries plead for toleration, but the great majority believe that the rites of worship are idolatrous, though at the same time they appreciate the immense value of the spirit of filial piety, and endeavour to preserve what is not idolatrous in it. As to local geomantic prejudices, perhaps headstrong and thoughtless men have sometimes acted unwisely (can Mr. Brooks give instances?); but the missionary is the last person to view the animosity of the people with indifference. He wants to gain a hospitable entrance and to conciliate the people, and succeeds in doing so. "To the credit of the missionaries," says Mr. Michie, who denies the spontaneous friendliness of the people to missionaries, which no one asserts, "it must be said that wherever they settle they gain the affection of many of the natives." As to the secrecy of Christian work, Mr. Brooks is referring evidently to Roman Catholic missions, as he singles out "especially the secrecy of the confessional." I shall not speak of this, save to say that Protestant churches, schools and hospitals are ever open to inspection, and invite the fullest scrutiny. As to the protection of converts, Mr. Brooks charges that they come usually from the lower classes, that they are dishonest debtors who want protection from Chinese courts. The missionary "fights their legal battles for them, supplying them with money and advice, and securing for them a sort of consular protection by means of which their suits are transferred from Chinese to foreign courts." This question of the protection of converts is to many missionaries a difficult one. Some will not touch the lawsuits of native converts at all. Others will interfere only in cases of persecution because of their religion, while still others insist that these are just the cases in which there should be no interference. That there is possibility of abuse here, all missionaries admit. One of their most difficult tasks is to sift the motives of inquirers, in order to refuse those who want to join the Church for the sake of such help. The practice of missionaries is not uniform as yet, but the principle on which all Protestant missions act is to avoid interference as far as they can possibly do so, and to exclude this political element from the Church. This is a point on which they part widely from the Roman Catholics. They flatly refused to accept the privileges secured to the Roman Catholic missionaries by the French Minister in 1899, enlarging their political influence and prescribing certain rights of visit and communication between Catholic missionaries and provincial officials, which the latter had previously refused. As the bishops of the Anglican Communion in China wrote to Mr Conger, "We have no wish to complicate our spiritual responsibilities by the assumption of political rights and duties, such as have been conceded to the Roman Catholic hierarchy." Mr Brooks's contemptuous opinion of the character of the converts has been sufficiently belied by the heroism with which scores, perhaps hundreds, of them have met death without denying their faith, when a little of that hypocrisy which, according to Mr. Brooks, brought them into the Church, might have saved them in their time of trial.

For this time of trial, Mr. Brooks holds the missionaries responsible. "Of the needless causes of irritation the missionary is easily the most prominent." And he begins his article by discrediting the plea which the missionaries may make, that the political pressure of the West and the seizure of territory and "the endless demands for concessions are the real occasions of this semi-national uprising." Well, let some one else than a missionary be heard. Mr. Barrett, formerly Minister to Siam, is as reliable a witness as Mr. Brooks. "The spread of Christianity in the province of Shantung," he says, "met with few checks until the commercial spirit of a great European country apparently inspired it to seize a portion of Chinese territory and a port in this province, . . . Whenever it was my privilege to discuss anti-foreign sentiment with intelligent Chinese, I found invariably that they placed the chief blame upon the land-grabbing spirit of the European countries." Surely the Chinese Government itself is competent to testify on this point, and this is its judgment, put forth in an edict issued in July —"Since the first days of our dynasty, all the foreigners coming to China have been invariably treated with liberality, and, coming down to the eras of Taokwang (1821) and Hienfung (1851) we concluded with them treaties of commerce and intercourse and conceded to them the right of propagating Christianity. Latterly, however, the foreigners have come to encroach on our territories, to rob us of our good people and to plunder by force our properties, thus trampling under their feet this favoured land of ours. Thus have they deeply wronged us, and the results have been the destruction of their churches and the murder of their missionaries."

But it is not right for the sake of argument to assent to such a partial statement. A dozen things enter into anti-foreign feeling in China. Its sources are found in the Chinese officials, their character and their education, in the agents of foreign powers, in the Chinese people, in the spirit of Western peoples, in foreign trade and its representatives, in the Roman Catholic church, in the Protestant missionaries also, and in the history of China's relations with the West. It is unphilosophical as well as unfair to single out any one of these and lay the blame there alone. As Mr. Brooks himself admits, "possibly most of the antagonism is fundamental." Assuredly it is, but not, as he says, "inevitable." If missions had been let alone, free from the burden of the political blunders and misdeeds of the West, and especially free in the case of Roman Catholic missions from the patronage of France and now of Germany, while the mistakes of individuals and of the movement would have caused some difficulty, this would have been easily lived down, and Christianity would have made its way in a hundred fields in China, without political support and with the increasing favour of the people.

"In that case," Mr. Brooks might ask "why is not my suggestion acceptable, namely, that missionaries should be divested of their foreign citizenship, or at least of their right of political protection? In no other way can the political element in their propaganda be destroyed." That is a question which I shall answer, not as one who sympathizes with missions, but as a citizen of the State. (1) Such a course would be treason to civilization. The missionary is its forerunner. He makes way for light and human movement. But beside that, to remove from him the shelter and protection of Government is to imperil every foreigner. The Chinese does not stop to distinguish. To put the missionary at his mercy and to acknowledge the right of the Chinese to exclude or assassinate him is to take one step toward gratifying the Chinese desire to exclude all foreigners. (2) Such a course would be criminal. It would be the announcement to China that the missionary was fair game. "Steal his property, kill him, outrage the women," it would proclaim. "We will not interfere. We leave them to your barbarous and hideous cruelty to do with as you please." If certain rights had never been granted, to refuse to grant them now would be one thing. Having been granted, to take them away is quite a different thing. (3) Mr. Brooks' proposal is childish folly. He might as sensibly propose that missionaries passports should be viseed by the man in the moon. This country does not denationalize its citizens, least of all its best citizens. Wherever in this wide world they go, they go under the shelter of its flag, and secure in its certain protection. (4) Such a proposal is insolent effrontery. The missionary is to be denationalized. There is no provision for naturalization of foreigners in China. The missionary is to be a man without a country. The American harlot in Shanghai can fly the Stars and Stripes over her brothel. The American saloon-keeper can demand the Consul's protection in Tientsin. But the missionary, teaching, preaching, healing the sick, is to be an alien and a stranger. Sydney Brooks (I invent the illustration) selling rum in China can claim the rights of his nationality and stand with its whole power behind him. Phillips Brooks preaching the Gospel in China is an outcast, a political pariah. I find it impossible to suppress a feeling of stern indignation at such an infamous and contemptible proposal, infamous and contemptible in its view not so much of the rights of missionaries, as of the duties of civilized States.

But Mr. Brooks alleges that something must be done to regulate the missionary. "Until his relations with the Chinese people and the Chinese Government are radically altered, there can be no hope of settled peace." The shortest answer to that is a flat contradiction. Rather let the European nations stop using missions as the "advance agent of annexation." Let them deal honourably and firmly with China. Let them repent of their folly in throwing away the unparalleled opportunity for peaceful reformation presented in 1898, by the Emperor and Kang Yu-wei—an opportunity produced by missions—and atone by helping China to break with her iron conservatism and shake loose her grave clothes.

And, lastly, and not to follow Mr. Brooks beyond this, even into his curious appeal to the early history of Christianity, the missionary's influence, he holds, is subversive, and his propaganda will have revolutionary effects. In a sense, this is not true. The missionary's work is not destructive. It follows the lines of national character and qualification. Christianity has adapted itself to more peoples, and more diverse peoples, than any other religion, and it is compatible with any orderly and righteous government, of whatsoever form. It does not attack the Chinese political system or social life. Yet in sense the charge is true. Christianity is a power of upheaval and renovation. It turns the world upside down. It begets wrath against injustice, eagerness for liberty, impatience with ignorance and sloth, and passion for progress. It has done this in China. It will continue to do this in China, whether in war or in peace, with the sympathy of the Christian nations or with the petty criticism and futile opposition of newspaper publicists. That is its mission in the world. In his native language, the Prefect of Paotingfu suggests that, if men do not perceive it and are not in sympathy with it, they cannot, by the judgment of Jesus, be regarded "as of the highest character."—*The Churchman.*

THE SHANSI MASSACRES.

How the Missionaries Died.

The *North China Daily News* of Sept. 24th, says:—

In the "terrible story" of the escape from Shansi which appeared in our columns on the 20th ult., mention was made of the fugitives being joined at Sinyangchou, the last city in Honan, by the Glovers from Luan. We have now received an account of their experiences. The writer says:—

At Luanfu in Shansi the magistrate told the missionaries that they had nothing to fear. A fortnight later when they appealed to him, he said.—"I cannot protect you. Had you left a fortnight earlier, I could have sent an escort with you." The party, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Glover and their family and Miss C. Gates engaged two mule litters. A not very reassuring experience met them on the road. Some coffin-bearers called their attention to their load, and said.—"This contains Mr. J. W. Hewett of Yühu, whose corpse we are taking to the magistrate at Changtsehien, a foreign-hater." The litters were put down at an inn forty li south of Luan. A military officer arrived with eight men and ordered the innkeeper to call in the local desperadoes. The officer tried to arrange with the gang to do the bloody work for so much of the spoil. The bargaining ended in a scuffle for which the missionaries paid compensation to the roughs. The officer decided to try and make cheaper terms at the next place, and the innkeeper levied blackmail for the privilege of leaving his inn alive. As soon as the litters were ready to start, the officer came and cut the ropes and removed the baggage from the lady's litter, while the soldiers dealt with the family litter, even stripping the father and children stark naked. . . When the soldiers had departed, a servant brought Mr. Glover a garment. Several villages in succession refused appeals for water, and at last they were allowed to drink at a muddy stream. It was now nobody's business to kill the missionaries, so the officials put them in open carts and at night the carters turned them out to lodge in beggars' sheds or any outhouse. Several attempts were made one night to suffocate them. On arriving in Honan the common jail afforded a nightly lodging. The Chengchou magistrate drew his hand across the missionary's throat and cursed his stars that they had arrived too late to be killed; fresh orders had come to pass them on through the province as prisoners. At Sin-yangchou the official, Jao, supplied silver, clothes, food, and even luxuries, and in five days' time the Cooper party arrived and all went on into friendly Hupeh.

All these outrages were the direct work of Yu Hsien the Governor of Shansi. His work too was the horrible slaughter of men, women, and children in his own yamên at Taiyuan-fu. The Chinese even have a story that he took off his coat and killed two missionaries with his own hand, which they declare was a very undignified thing for the Governor of a province to do. It should be remembered against him when the time for settlement comes that he ordered all the civil officials to remain neutral.

The same journal has obtained from a trustworthy correspondent a detailed account of the Taiyuan-fu massacre, from which we make some extracts, showing how some of the missionaries met death:—

As far as is known at present it was on the 23rd of June that the first murders were committed. This was at Hsiaoyihsien near P'ingyao, of Miss Whitechurch and Miss Sewell. Their deaths were reported long since by telegraph. On the day mentioned three hundred Boxers broke into the Mission compound subsequent to the following incident. A few rough youths had attacked the front gate. the ladies sent to the district magistrate complaining, and asking for protection. The official came himself and finding only the gate injured, reproved the informant and struck him with his hand. This gave notice to the crowds that they could attack with impunity: the ladies at once began another appeal to the officials, who replied that his underlings were intended to protect Chinese and not foreigners: thereupon a larger crowd entered the compound and attacked the two ladies. In their helplessness, they kneeled before the crowd and begged for mercy, their only answer was to be beaten on the head at intervals with clubs. Some of the crowd took glass bottles and with them beat the heads of their victims, breaking the bottles in doing so. The ladies lived one hour after the first attack. Their

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clothes were stripped off and their watches carried away. The official on being informed of their death, sent over two boxes for coffins: these were placed in the newly built baptistry in the courtyard. These details were learned from a messenger sent from the neighbouring American Board Mission at Fenchou-fu.

The next disaster in the order of time was upon the 29th of June at Shouyang-hsien seventy miles east of Taiyuan-fu. This is the Mission Station of "Independent Workers" under Mr. T. W. Pigott. There were here at the time Mr. and Mrs. Pigott, their son, Mr. Robinson (a tutor of this lad, recently arrived), Miss Duval (also a teacher), and two daughters of the Rev. E. R. Atwater of Fenchou-fu. These seven persons were driven from their homes to the mountains not far away. They soon returned to their houses, however, and were then arrested by the District Magistrate and compelled to go to the capital Taiyuan-fu. En route they were chained with handcuffs and iron collars, and were not permitted to buy food. The distance is about seventy English miles. The soldiers would not sell them eggs even at a dollar a piece. On the 10th of the Sixth Moon (6th July) they were taken and on arrival at the provincial capital, they were placed in separate rooms, Mrs. Pigott not being allowed to communicate with her husband. This news was brought to Taiku by a photographer who fled, and was forwarded to Fenchou-fu by letter. On the 3rd of the Sixth Moon (June 29th), most of the foreign houses at Taiyuan-fu had been burned. The missionaries escaped to the house of Mr. Farthing of the English Baptist Mission, with the exception of Miss Coombs, who was unable to do so owing to the hindrance of her native school girls. Hundreds of Boxers and rough people had crowded into the houses, but several of the missionaries managed to fight their way through and escape, the one lady being left behind unnoticed. During the rioting many fell and were trampled upon, two girls thus meeting their death.

Miss Coombs pleaded with the soldiers, who were sharing in the loot and helping in the burning, to save her life: their reply was to seize her and throw her into the flames of the burning houses. Later on nothing but a pile of ashes was found in the place where she fell.

On the 7th of July, the Governor sent for a complete list of the names of the foreigners. On the 9th of July, a Monday, he ordered them all to come to his yamên on the pretence that he intended to escort them in safety to the coast; on entering the first gate of the yamên they were surrounded by a guard of soldiers. This being completed, about thirty Boxers with drawn swords were allowed to enter the circle and each foreigner was cut to pieces by these invited guests. They were all beheaded, and the heads were placed in baskets which were hung upon the four gates of the City.

About forty native Christians were killed at the same time, and next day ten Roman Catholic priests were killed in the same way: they were believed to be chiefly Frenchmen. The bodies of the thirty-three persons thus killed were placed in wooden cases and all burned in the Baptistry, presumably in the court of Mr. Farthing's house. The list of the killed is not complete, but as far as we know it is as follows:—Mr. Stokes and wife; Mr. Simpson and wife, Mr. W. T. Beynon, wife and three children, Mr. G. B. Farthing wife and three children, Dr. Lovitt, wife and one child, Mr. Wilson and wife, of Pingyangfu; Mr. Whitehouse and wife; (? Mr. White—manuscript illegible.) This makes a total of twenty-two at Taiyuan-fu which with the seven at Shouyanghsien makes twenty-nine, there are thus four names to be supplied.

The Mission of the American Board at Taiku some twenty miles south of Taiyuan-fu, seemed to have escaped the first intensity of the general attack on the foreigners this is believed to be wholly due to the friendly attitude of the local official, who had abundant occasion to prove helpful to the missionaries. On July 31st a Boxer band of about 300 came to attack the Mission premises, and one of the principal native helpers was killed (Mr. Lin Wang chih) while the gates of the compound were being forced. The members of the Mission are as follow—Mr. F. W. Davies; Mr. G. and Mrs. Williams; Mr D. H. and Mrs. Clapp; Mrs. Rowans Bird; Miss Susan Partridge. The three gentlmen tried to save the women by a brave resistance from the top of the house, from which they fired at the crowd as it came in: they are said to have killed a few, but their ammunition soon failed, and as they were then helpless their fate was soon sealed. They were killed, beheaded and their bodies thrown into the flames of their burning home. The three ladies with a young native teacher fled to the rear court, where they were cut down and beheaded in like manner. It is said that their heads were all taken to Taiyuan-fu and exposed as the others had been also that the hearts of the three men were cut out and carried to the capital.

The American Board Mission at Fenchou-fu is fifty miles south-west of Taiyuan-fu. It was one of the last objects of Yii Hsien's rage. Here both the Prefect and the District Magistrate had been kindly disposed towards the foreigners. The members of the mission were Mr. and Mrs. Atwater and two children; Mr. C. W. and Mrs. Price with one son; there were also in the city some members of the Swedish Mission—Mr. and Mrs. Langroh (naturalised American citizens) and an English lady, Miss Eldred.

Up to August the 13th none of these had been molested; the old Prefect had died, and the Governor had sent a new man in full sympathy with his own awful designs. Two days after his arrival the new Prefect demanded of the local official why the foreigners had not been driven out saying that in all other places they had been forced away. The magistrate replied that these Americans were peaceable and kindly disposed people, and that he had had no occasion to send them away. The Prefect insisted that they should go within two days; the District Magistrate under the compulsion of his superior then sent over and arrested the chief dispenser of the hospital, who was beaten with three hundred blows, and was then ordered to secure all the arms in the mission. These were accordingly given up—two pistols, and two rifles or guns.

A few days' respite were demanded on behalf of Mrs. Atwater, who was about to be confined, but the Prefect insisted that they were to be sent away to the coast and that they must be ready the next day. Four country carts were prepared for them, and their goods duly packed. They were to start on the 15th of August, and a guard of twenty soldiers was got ready. As soon as these arrangements were made, the foreign houses were sealed up. The missionaries requested that they be permitted to sell their houses to secure silver for the journey: the official replied that all their property had been confiscated by Imperial Decree and could not be sold, but that a small property in a country village might be sold. This accordingly was done and a small quantity of silver thus obtained.

The escaped teacher was riding on a horse given him by Mr. Atwood, but the soldiers compelled him to dismount and ride on the cart. Ere long he overheard suspicious remarks by the soldiers, who were very rude; from these he gathered that mischief was meant, and on the device of one soldier escaped from the party a few miles from the village of K'aishih. The party was supposed to be going to Pingyao, about thirty miles from Fenchou-fu. The teacher when not far away on the line of his escape, heard the firing of a gun. He afterwards heard that this was the signal for the attack upon the whole party. They were escorted by the soldiers to the village of Kaishih, as mentioned above, and at the given signal both companies of soldiers rushed on the helpless victims and cut them down mercilessly with their swords. Their bodies were then stripped and all burned together in a line by the road side.

No such awful summary of deliberate wholesale massacre by Government order has been known within the century. The Prefect added one more atrocity. The poor dispenser was re-arrested, and given another 300 blows to secure from him a list of the Christian members, with the view of ferretting them out and killing them.

We make one further extract from our contemporary's columns:—

Reference has already been made to the marvellous escape of three young Norwegian ladies from the borders of Shansi. When the magistrate at Hshua heard that these three young ladies were passing near his city, he sent out his runners armed with rifles and swords to attack them. These men and their intended victims spent the night at the same village Siaoyao. When the unsuspecting young ladies had gone on some four miles to the village of Tsungsha, the yamên runners came after them, took everything from the two carts and began to strip the clothes off the girls themselves. A woman who was looking on came to their rescue, "What!" she said, "not satisfied with two cartloads, you want to even take off their two garments" The upper garment that had been removed was flung down and the villains, one of whom had forced the other two girls on their knees and brandished his sword over them, made off without subjecting them to the indignity of being stripped. The booty was taken to the inn where the runners had spent the night. After the robbery the ladies walked on with their faithful servant, and at the next village a young man led out, a band of followers and demanded five thousand cash toll for passage on the highway. The fugitives turned back and found a by-way, and at the village of Chuyuan begged to be allowed to rest till sundown, but old and young hounded them on as though they were mad dogs. The faithful servant Chou found a Christian, gave over his charge, and went on night and day, sixty miles in twenty-four hours, to get help from the nearest mission station. When he got back he found that two or three Christians had hidden the ladies in one place after another within a radius of seven miles of the place where they had been attacked.

The Hshua magistrate is still quietly in his office three months after the commission of the crime, gloating over the watches and other things taken violently on the highway from three helpless girls. These girls themselves were saved from the worst indignities by having with them a faithful and powerful servant who could easily have accounted for any three ordinary bullies. In passing from place to place after they were robbed the party had to walk, but when their feet got so sore they could not even stand, their good servant went boldly to a yamên, banged the drum, demanded cart money, and refused to go away without it. Happily there are many such men in China, from the Tsungli Yamên Ministers who were sawn in half down to this servant of the missionaries, and their existence prevents us from despairing of the future of the Empire.

Mr. John Goodnow, Consul-General for the United States, has prepared the following list of American missionaries who have met their death during the recent troubles:

PAOTINGFU.—Rev and Mrs. F. E. Simcox and three children, Dr. and Mrs. C. V. R. Hodge, Dr. and G.Y. Taylor, of the American Presbyterian Mission, Rev. H. T. Pitkin, Miss A. A. Gould, and Miss M. S. Morril, of the American Board of Foreign Missions.

KUCHAU, Chekiang—Miss J. E. Desmond and Miss M. Manchester, of the China Inland Mission.

LUCHENG.—Miss H. Rice, and Miss Huston, of the China Inland Mission.

TAIKU.—Rev. and Mrs. D. H. Clapp, Rev. G. L. Williams, Rev. F. W. Davis, Miss M. L. Partridge, of the American Board of Foreign Missions.

FENCHOUFU.—Rev. and Mrs. Atwater and four children, Rev. and Mrs. Price and one child, of the American Board of Foreign Missions.

Total, 22 adults and eight children.

MC'KINLEY ON HIS NOMINATION.

President McKinley on Sept. 8th, sent to the Chairman of the Notification Committee of the Republican National Convention his letter accepting the nomination to the Presidency for another term. Writing of the platform adopted he said:—

I have carefully examined the platform adopted, and given it my hearty approval. Upon the great issue of the last national election it is clear. It upholds the gold standard and indorses the legislation of the present Congress by which that standard has been officially strengthened. The stability of our national currency is therefore secure so long as those who adhere to the platform are kept in control of the Government. In the first battle, that of 1896, the friends of the gold standard and of sound currency were triumphant, and the country is enjoying the fruits of that victory. Our antagonists, however, are not satisfied. They compel us to a second battle upon the same lines on which the first was fought and won. While regretting the reopening of this question, which can only disturb the present satisfactory financial condition of the Government and visit uncertainty upon our great business enterprises, we accept the issue and again invite the sound money forces to join in winning another, and we hope, a permanent, triumph for an honest financial system, which will continue inviolate in the public faith.

The Chicago platform of 1896 is re-affirmed in its entirety by the Kansas City convention. Nothing has been omitted or recalled, so that all the perils then threatened are presented anew, with the added force of a deliberate reaffirmation. Four years ago the people refused to place the seal of their approval upon these dangers and revolutionary policies, and this year they will not fail to record again their earnest dissent.

After brief references to recent legislation with regard to Alaska and Hawaii, and a declaration of the continued adherence of the Republican Party to the principles of protection and reciprocity, President McKinley commented in congratulatory terms on the prosperity of agriculture and industry and the satisfactory and increasing growth of the foreign trade of the country. We may quote his remarks on the last mentioned subject:—

The amount of our exports for the year 1900, over those of the exceptionally prosperous year of 1899, was about half a million dollars for every day of the year, and these sums have gone into the homes and enterprises of the people. There has been an increase of over $50,000,000 in the exports of agricultural products, $92,692 220 in manufactures, and in the products of the mines over $10,000,000. Our trade balances cannot fail to give satisfaction to the people of the country. In 1898 we sold abroad $615,432,676 of products more than we bought abroad; in 1899, $529,874,813, and in 1900, $544,471,701, making during the three years a total balance in our favour of $1,689,779,190—nearly five times the balance of trade in our favour for the whole period of 108 years from 1790 to June 30, 1897, inclusive.

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Four hundred and thirty-millions dollars of gold has been added to the gold stock of the United States since July 1, 1896. The law of March 14, 1900, authorized the refunding in 2 per cent. bonds of that part of the public debt represented by the three per cents due n 1908, the 4 per cents due in 1907, and the 5 per cents due in 1904, aggregating $840,000,000. More than one-third of the sum of these bonds was refunded in the first three months after the passage of the act and on September 1st the sum had been increased more than $33,000,000, making in all $330,578,050, resulting in a net saving of over $8,379,250. The ordinary receipts of the Government for the fiscal year 1900 were $79,527,060 in excess of its expenditures.

While our receipts both from customs and internal revenue have been greatly increased, our expenditures have been decreasing. Civil and miscellaneous expenses for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, were nearly $14,000,000 less than in 1899, while on the war account there is a decrease of more than $95,000,000. There were required $8,000,000 less to support the Navy this year than last, and expenditures on account of Indians were nearly two and three-quarter million dollars less than 1899. The only two items of increase in the public expenses of 1900 over 1899 are for pensions and interest on the public debt. For 1899 we expended for pensions $139,394,929, and for the fiscal year 1900 our payments on this account amounted to $140,877,316. The net increase of interest on the public debt of 1900 over 1899 required by the war loan was $263 408.25. While Congress authorized the Government to make a war loan of $400,000,000 at the beginning of the war with Spain, only $200,000,000 of bonds were issued, bearing 3 per cent. interest, which were promptly and patriotically taken by our citizens. Unless something unforeseen occurs to reduce our revenues or increase our expenditures, the Congress at its next session should reduce taxation very materially.

Five years ago we were selling Government bonds bearing as high as 5 per cent interest. Now we are redeeming them with a bond at par bearing 2 per cent interest. We are selling our surplus products and lending our surplus money to Europe. One result of our selling to other nations so much more than we have bought from them during the past three years is a radical improvement of our financial relations. The great amounts of capital which have been borrowed of Europe for our rapid material development have remained a constant drain upon our resources for interest and dividends and made our money markets liable to constant disturbances by calls for payment or heavy sales of our securities whenever money stringency or panic occurred abroad. We have now been paying these debts and bringing home many of our securities and establishing countervailing credits abroad by our loans and placing ourselves upon a sure foundation of financial independence. . . . . Ninety-one per cent. of our exports and imports are now carried by foreign ships. For ocean transportation we pay annually to foreign shipowners over $16,000,000 We ought to own the ships for our carrying trade with the world, and we ought to build them in American shipyards and man them with American sailors. Our citizens should receive the transportation charges now paid to foreigners. I have called the attention of Congress to this subject in my several annual messages. . . . . I now reiterate these views. A subject of immediate importance to our country is the completion of a great waterway of commerce between the Atlantic and Pacific. The construction of a maritime canal is now more than ever indispensable to that intimate and ready communication between our Eastern and Western seaports demanded by the annexation of the Hawaiian islands and the expansion of our influence and trade in the Pacific. Our national policy more imperatively than ever calls for its completion and control by this Government, and it is believed that the next session of Congress, after receiving the full report of the Commission appointed under the act approved March 3rd, 1899, will make provision for the sure accomplishment of this great work.

The letter made this reference to monopolies :—

Combinations of capital which control the market in commodities necessary to the general use of the people by suppressing natural and ordinary competition, thus inhancing prices to the general consumer, are obnoxious to the common law and the public welfare. They are dangerous conspiracies against the public good and should be made the subject for prohibitory or penal legislation. Publicity will be a hepful influence to check this evil. Thus uniformity of legislation in the several states should be secured. Discrimination between what is injurious and what is useful and necessary in business operations is essentia. to the wise and effective treatment of this subject. Honest co-operation of capital is necessary to meet new business conditions and extend our rapidly increasing foreign trade, but conspiracies and combinations intended to restrict business, create monopolies and control prices should be effectually restrained.

After a passing reference to civil service reform, to the condition of affairs in Cuba, to the development of Porto Rico, President McKinley took up the Philippine question. He summarised the history of the relations of the United States with the Philippines, and in conclusion said :—

Would not our adversaries have sent Dewey's fleet to Manila to capture and destroy the Spanish sea power there, or, dispatching it there, would they have withdrawn it after the destruction of the Spanish fleet, and if the latter, whither would they have directed it to sail? Where could it have gone? What port in the Orient was open to it? Do our adversaries condemn the expedition under the command of General Merritt to strengthen Dewey in the distant ocean and assist in our triumph over Spain, with which nation we were at war? Was it not our highest duty to strike Spain at every vulnerable point, that the war might be successfully concluded at the earliest practicable moment?

No government can so certainly preserve the peace, restore public order and establish law, justice and stable conditions as ours. Neither Congress nor the Executive can establish a stable government in these islands except under our right of sovereignty, under our authority and our flag. This we are doing. We could not do it as a protectorate power so completely or so successfully as we are doing it now. As the sovereign power we can initiate action and shape means to ends, and guide the Filipinos to self-development and self-government. As a protectorate power we could not initiate action, but would be compelled to follow and uphold a people with no capacity yet to go alone. In the one case we can keep both ourselves and the Filipinos from being involved in dangerous complications; in the other we could not protect even the Filipinos until after their trouble had come. Besides, if we cannot establish any government of our own without the consent of the governed, as our opponents contend, then we could not establish a state government for them or make ours a protectorate without the like consent, and neither the majority of the people nor a minority have invited us to assume it. We could not maintain a protectorate even with the consent of the governed without giving provocation for conflicts and possibly costly wars.

Our rights in the Philippines are now free from outside interference, and will continue so in our present relations. They would not be thus free in any other relation. We will not give up our own to guarantee another sovereignty. Our title is good. Our Peace Commissioners believed they were receiving a good title when they concluded the treaty. The Executive believed it would be a good title when he submitted it to the Senate of the United States for its ratification. The Senate believed it was a good title when it gave it their constitutional assent. And was it not our duty to protect the lives and property of those who came within our control by the fortunes of war? Could we have come away at any time between May 1st, 1898, and the conclusion of peace without a stain upon our good name? Could we have come away without dishonour any time after the ratification of the peace treaty by the Senate of the United States!

There has been no time since the destruction of the enemy's fleet when we could or should have left the Philippine archipelago. After the treaty of peace was ratified, no power but Congress could surrender our sovereignty or alienate a foot of the territory thus acquired. The Congress has not seen fit to do the one or the other, and the President has no authority to do either, if he had been so inclined, which he was not. So long as the sovereignty remains in us, it is the duty of the executive, whoever he may be, to uphold the sovereignty, and if it be attacked to suppress its assailants. Would our political adversaries do less? . . . . Congress seems not to have doubted its competence when it appropriated $20,000,000 provided by the treaty. If any who favoured its ratification believed it gave us a bad title, they were not sincere. Our title is practically identical with that under which we hold our territory acquired since the beginning of the Government and under which we have exercised full sovereignty and established government for the inhabitants. It is worthy of note that no one outside of the United States disputes the fullness and integrity of the cession.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

GREAT BRITAIN AND GERMANY.

Shanghai, Sept. 27.

Yesterday's statement that Lord Salisbury had verbally assured Count Hatzfeldt that Great Britain could not agree to the German proposal is incorrect. The British Government has announced that a reply to the proposal of Germany cannot be sent until further communications have been received from Peking.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Generals Pole-Carew and Ian Hamilton, with 9,000 men, have arrived at Koomatipoort where Lord Kitchener is expected today.

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

The Conservative papers are astonished and uneasy at the vigour and confidence the Liberals are displaying throughout the country.

SEVERE ENGAGEMENT IN TRANSVAAL.

Shanghai, Sept. 29.

(Delayed in transmission.)

It is reported from Vryburg that on Sept. 22nd General Settle with a force of 7,000 relieved Schweizerrenecke after an engagement in which the Boers suffered heavily, their Commandant being captured.

(We confess ourselves quite unable to make anything of the above statement.)

AMIABLE PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS.

The Portuguese at Lourenzo Marques are most obliging, facilitating the forwarding of supplies to the British.

THE RETURN HOME.

Lord Roberts has telegraphed to the Lord Mayor of London that the City Imperial Volunteers will return home before January 5th, but he fears that he will not himself be able to return so soon.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

(DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.)

Shanghai, Sept. 30.

The Russian Naval Staff in St. Petersburg announces that it is proposed to blockade the Chinese naval ports owing to the hostile attitude of the Chinese fleet at Shanghai.

A POPULAR MOVEMENT.

Seventeen thousand applications have been sent in by persons wishing to join Baden-Powell's Transvaal police.

HARCOURT ON ELECTION ISSUES.

Sir William Harcourt, speaking at Rhymney (? Romney), said the Government's attempt to make the war the sole issue before the constituencies had failed. The question of education was more important than a hundred South Africas.

A MINISTER MOBBED.

Mr. Wyndham (Under Secretary of State for War) was mobbed at Battersea and compelled to abandon a meeting he was holding there.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

Shanghai, Oct. 1.

Up to the present, sixty-six members have been returned to Parliament unopposed, of which fifty-nine are Ministerialists, including Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Wyndham.

KRUGER AND STEYN.

Ex-President Kruger in his letter to his wife at Pretoria says that after Machadodorp he knew the struggle was hopeless. He counselled surrender, but ex-President Steyn over-rode his advice.

THE CABINET.

A portion of the Unionist press insists upon a reconstruction of the Cabinet.

DISABLED SOLDIERS.

Lord Lansdowne, in reply to an enquiry as to permanently disabled soldiers, states that they will receive a minimum life pension of eighteen pence daily.

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CHINA.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in a speech at Bristol, has declared that it would be madness to attempt to administer any part of China.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

CHINA.

Saigon (date uncertain owing to delay in transmission.)

Prince Twan has been named President of the Tsung-li Yamên.

Saigon, Sept. 29 (?).

It is telegraphed from Canton that the burning of missions and of villages continues.

Saigon, Sept. 28

Commander-in-chief Voyron telegraphs from Taku under date of the 22nd to the Minister of Marine, that the new French troops debarqued on the 21st instant and that the head quarters have been established at Tientsin. He indicates the situation of the French troops distributed between Tientsin and Peking. He says that the affair at Peh-tang was simply a cannonade.

Saigon, Oct. 1.

The withdrawal of the American troops from Peking commences on Oct. 1st.

A French battalion from Peking has occupied Loukaukiau and Shansitien.

Saigon, Oct. 2

It is reported from Taku that the troops of General Bailoud are beginning to arrive, in excellent condition. They are encamping at Yang-tsun.

A French battalion co-operated in the Russian operations against Shan-hai-kwan.

(RECEIVED AT THE WAR OFFICE.)

Peking, Sept. 23.

Lieut Takeda, of the Engineers, who was sent to examine the railway, was attacked by Boxers at Ta-in, about five miles from Hwan-tsung, and killed. His body was found yesterday by the Hwan-tsung guards. One of the infantry soldiers that accompanied him is missing. The village of Ta-in was burned.

(From Baron Yamaguchi)

Peking, Sept. 27.

General Linevitch and the greater part of the Russian troops left Peking to-day for Tientsin. One battalion remains.

(From Colonel Akiyama.)

Tientsin, Sept. 27.

Count Waldersee arrived here this afternoon. The various forces sent a company each to form a guard of honour.

Peking, Sept. 24.

Baron Yamaguchi telegraphs that the Russian Minister has informed the Japanese Minister that he will leave Peking on the 29th instant for Tientsin, and that only a battalion of Russian troops under the command of a colonel will remain in Peking.

A body of Russian troops assisted by French and Austrians (?) took Pehtang on the 20th and Lutai on the 21st.

The corpses of the men who were reported missing at Hwan-tsung have been found As there are signs of a further gathering of Boxers, a battalion of infantry with artillery is to advance against them to-morrow.

A German patrol having been attacked outside the South Gate to-day, two battalions of German troops with artillery will proceed to-morrow to Hwan-tsung.

Hwan-tsung is the third station from Peking on the Tientsin Railway. It is 15 miles from Peking.—(ED. *J.M.*)

The Japanese troops will cooperate with them in dispersing the enemy.

A quantity of railway materials have been found concealed near Hwan-tsung.

Some of the Powers having objected to Yung Lu as a peace plenipotentiary, he will not venture to come to Peking

Eighty of the Palace officials were released to-day (?).

The military telegraph is now in the hands of Japan, England, Russia, Germany and America.

[This telegram is indistinct.—ED. *J.M.*]

(From Col. Akiyama.)

Tientsin, Oct. 1.

The allied squadrons were to leave Taku yesterday in the sequel of a conference of the commanding officers.

The force sent by the allies against Shan-hai-kwan consists of 3,500 Russians, 1,000 English, 800 Germans, 1,000 French, 400 Americans and 300 Italians. The Japanese squadron sends a naval battalion of 100 men, and the Tientsin Japanese garrison sends two companies, which are to proceed by the *Kagoshima Maru*. A British gunboat yesterday proceeded to Shan-hai-kwan to summon the commanding officer to surrender, and to warn him that the place would be bombarded if he refused

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

Hongkong, Sept. 21.

On the 24th iustant a riot broke out at Shihlung, 45 miles east of Canton. Several houses of native Christians and a Presbyterian place of worship were seized. A Roman Catholic church was burned. It is stated that Chinese troops have been sent to the scene.

Hankow, Sept. 28.

There are British, French, German and Russian ships here at present. Everything is quiet at the riverine ports.

Shanghai, Sept. 28.

The Chinese newspaper has published an undated edict of the following gist:—"We accompanied the Empress Dowager to Taiyuen as a temporary measure. But that place is not to be our capital. Chang-an was the Imperial capital of the empire in ancient times. Moreover it is well suited for that purpose, having excellent natural defences. We have therefore ordered the Governor of Shensi to choose a suitable site in Si-an (Chang-an) and make the necessary preparations for our reception while we are *en route* thither. Feeling that the time is one of much distress, we desire that all extravagance shall be eschewed in this matter.

Shanghai, Sept. 29.

An Imperial Decree issued on the 25th instant says:—"It is a matter of profound regret that the German Minister was murdered by soldiers. We hereby order Kwun Kang to pay a visit of condolence and perform suitable rites. When the corpse is sent to Germany, the Northern and Southern Superintendents of Trade shall take proper steps to guard it; and on its arrival in Berlin, our Representative in Germany shall attend the funeral and convey condolences on our behalf."

Another Decree published on the same date contains the following: (A translation of this Decree from another source is given elsewhere in our columns. In the Foreign Office version, however, the Emperor says that while not denying his own responsibility, the blame rests chiefly on the Princes and Ministers. Prince I. is included among the four disgraced Princes.)

Taku, Sept 24.

The Russians took Pehtang on the 20th, Lu tai on the 21st and Tung-shan on the 27th. The Kaiping mines were found intact and the machinery was uninjured

Hongkong, Oct. 1.

A German transport with troops has passed this place for Shanghai.

Shanghai, Oct. 2.

Sih Ling has been appointed Viceroy of Shansi in place of Yü Hsien. Tao Mu has been appointed Viceroy of Liang-kuang, in succession to Li Hung-chang. Wei Kuang-tao is confirmed as Viceroy of Sheng-kan.

Hongkong, Oct. 2.

A transport carrying Indian troops has passed north.

Amoy, Oct. 2.

The German torpedo boats Nos. 90, 91 and 92, and a German transport with troops arrived here yesterday from Hongkong.

Taku, Sept. 30

The German Minister arrived in Tientsin on the 29th. It is not known when he will proceed to Peking.

(RECEIVED BY THE "CHUO SHIMBUN.")

Shanghai, Sept. 28.

There is talk in the Chinese Court of punishing the Vice-Governor of Shensi, Twan-fang, for having given protection to foreigners. It is said that Great Britain will protect him.

Thirteen missionaries have been murdered at Tai-ning, Kih-chow and elsewhere in Shan-si.

Hongkong, Sept. 28.

There is a report that Feng-Shian-chun, Assistant Vice-Minister of War in the North, is leading a body of 20,000 troops to join the Court

NEWS FROM GERMANY.

(From the "Ostasiatische Lloyd.")

Berlin, Sept. 24.

Europe does not seem to take the declining answer of the United States to the circular note of Germany, regarding the situation in China, as serious.

Prince Henry of Prussia has been appointed Chief Commander of the first German naval squadron.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Sept. 28th:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	16,726,333
Amount of convertible notes issued	194,592,061
Government deposits	38,943,429
General deposits	4,294,825
Exchange liability	564,120
Total	285,210,810
CR.	
Discount notes	70,028,320
Foreign discount notes	7,573,712
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	58,475,630
Exchange liability	1,347,063
Government bonds	52,384,760
Property	2,170,854
Bullion and Specie	71,140,469
Total	285,120,810

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—	
Amount of convertible notes	191,635,282
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	67,009,006
Silver	3,000,000
Total	70,009,006
Securities:—	
Government bonds	28,349,704
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,937,187
Commercial notes	61,339,385
Total	121,628,276

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	477,108
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	213,355
Government deposits		1,008,266
General deposits	—	2,568,564

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CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 491.

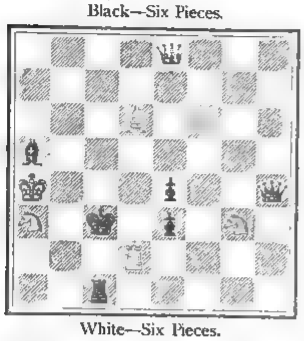
Key move Kt to Q 5

Correct solution received from Mr. A. V. C. Maher.

PROBLEM No. 493.

By Dr. S. GOLD.

Black—Six Pieces.



White—Six Pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 626.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

Played in the International Tournament at Munich :—

White—A. Halprin.		Black—J. Berger.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	15 QR Q1	KtxB
2 Kt KB3	Kt KB3	16 PxKt	Q B2
3 P K3	P K3	17 R KBsq	QxQsq
4 B Q3	B K2	18 K B	B B3
5 QKt Q2	QKt Q2	19 QR KBsq	P K4
6 Castles	Castles	20 PxKP	BxP
7 P K4	PxP	21 Kt Kt5	P KR3
8 KtxP	KtxKt	22 KtxP	BxPch
9 BxKsq	Kt B3	23 K Rsq	B Kt6
10 B Q3	P QKt3	24 KtxPch	PxKt
11 R Kt	B Kt2	25 B B4ch	B Q4
12 P B3	h Bsq	26 BxBch	RxB
13 O K2	P B4	27 RxRch	K Kt2
14 B K3	Kt Q4	28 R B7ch and wins.	

GAME No. 627.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Berger		Black—Cohn	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	23 Q R4	P R3
2 P QB4	P K3	24 Q B2	R Kt2
3 Kt QB3	P KB4	25 P QR4	Kt K5
4 B B4	B Q3	26 BxKt	BPxB
5 BxB	QxB	27 P Kt5	RPxP
6 P K3	Kt KB3	28 PxP	Kt B4
7 Kt B3	QKt Q2	29 R R2	Q B3
8 R to Bsq	P B3	30 Q Q2	P Kt6
9 B K2	Castles	31 P R3	Kt R5
10 Castles	Kt K5	32 Q K2	P K4
11 KKt Q2	QKt B3	33 QPxP	Q K2
12 P B3	Kt Kt4	34 PxP	PxP
13 KR B2	B Q2	35 R Kt7	QxP
14 B Q3	QR Ksq	36 R(R2)R7	RxP
15 P B5	Q Ktsq	37 RxB	RxR
16 R K2	Kt B2	38 RxR	R B7
17 P B4	P KKt4	39 QxP	RxP ch
18 R KB2	P Kt5	40 K Rsq	R R7 ch
19 P Kt4	Q Qsq	41 K Ktsq	Kt B6 ch
20 R Ktsq	P KR4	42 QxKt	PxQ
21 K Bsq	Kt R3	Resigns	
22 KR Kt2	R K2		

LADIES INTERNATIONAL READING ROOM.

The report of the above institution shows :—

The directors have held meetings each month during the year except August. There are now 121 members besides a number of monthly subscribers.

The following statistics show a considerable increase for the past year :—

	1899-1900.	1898-1899.
Visitors to the Reading Room ...	5,325	4,158
Circulation—Monthly Magazines.	4,575	4,092
Weekly "	2,353	1,324

Forty-four magazines were subscribed for during the year, namely—11 English, 30 American, 2 German and 1 French. Several other Magazines have also been contributed by members, and the thanks of the Committee are due to the proprietor of the *Japan Mail* for a copy of the daily issue.

MAUD R. SALE,
Hon. Secretary.

THE LADIES INTERNATIONAL READING ROOM.
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FROM OCT. 1ST, 1899, TO SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1900.

CASH.

	¥
To Subscriptions	701.06
„ Contributions	55.00
„ Sale of Catalogues	2.75
„ Sale of Postage Stamps	16
„ Loan of Spoons, Plates, &c.	7.16
„ Refund on Magazines.....	38.41
„ Interest H. & S. Bank	15.93
	820.48
To balance from last year	434.00
	¥1,254.47

CONTRA.

	Y
By Rent of Room	240.00
„ Librarian's Salary	210.00
„ Monban's Wages	18.00
„ Fuel	75.40
„ Newspapers and Magazines	442 12
„ Books and Stationery.....	14.00
„ Repairs to Electric Bell	3 39
„ Advertisements	11 00
„ Postage Stamps	2.97
„ Insurance.....	11.25
„ Printing.....	25 50
„ Collector's Fee.....	13.60
„ Incidentals	3.27
	1,070.50
To Balance Cash in H. & S. Bank	183.97
	1,254.47

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, September 30th, 1900.

LUCY B. N. MORRIS, Act. Hon. Treas.
Ladies International Reading Room.

BOOK COMMITTEE REPORT.

Over 500 books, given by Mr. W. H. Stone, Sir Ernest Satow and others, have been added to the library during the year, making a total of over 1,500 volumes. No new books have been purchased during the year, but arrangements are being made by one of the Directors, now absent in England, to have some sent out from there. The number of books which have circulated during the year is 3,705, against 4,000 last year. The receipts for the year, from fines, one donation, etc., amount to *yen* 75.62—the expenditure, for book-binding and covering, printing of supplements, etc., amounts to *yen* 48.15—leaving a balance of *yen* 27.50.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong.....	O. & O Co.	Gaelic 1	Sa. Oct. 6
Hongkong.....	M. M Co.	Laos 2	W Oct 10
America	T K K	Nippon Maru 3	Th. Oct. 11
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Oldenburg	Sa. Oct. 13
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Oct. 15
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro 4	Su. Oct. 21
Canada, &c.....	C. P R Co.	Em of India	M Oct 22
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	China	M. Oct. 22
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. Oct 29
Hongkong.....	C. P. R Co.	Em of China	Th Nov 1

1 Left Nagasaki on the 3rd inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 1st inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 22nd ult.
4 Left San Francisco on the 2nd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	N. D Lloyd	Sachsen	Su. Oct. 7
America	O & O Co	Gaelic	Tu Oct. 9
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. Oct. 10
Europe, via S'hai .	M. M. Co.	Laos	F. Oct. 12
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	F. Oct 12
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. Oct. 17
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em of India	M. Oct 22
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. Oct 22
America	P. M Co.	China	W Oct 24
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu Oct. 30
Canada, &c.....	C P R Co.	Em. of China	F. Nov. 2

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, F. W. Horton, 28th Sept.,—Kobe 26th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 28th Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 29th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, 22nd Sept., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, H. Fraser, 29th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, C. C. Talbot, 29th Sept.,—Uraga, 29th Sept., Ballast.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 29th Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,364, A. E. Moses, 36th Sept.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe, 29th Sept., Mailsand General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,201, H. Takeda, 1st Oct.,—Katsuura, 30th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumnoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 1st Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 30th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 1st Oct., -Yokkaichi, 30th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Savoia, German Hospital steamer, 1,622, S. Behrens, 1st Oct.,—Taku via ports, 25th Sept.—C. Illies & Co.

Gen. Baguedoria, Chilian gunboat, 2,250, Captain Valdez, 1st Oct.,—San Francisco, 25th Aug.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, S. Yamamoto, 2nd Oct.,—Katsuura, 1st Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 2nd Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,307, M. J. Curnow, 2nd Oct.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Brutus, U.S. Navy Transport, 1,984, Lieut. Meyer, 2nd Oct.,—Guam.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 3rd Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 15th Sept., Mails and General.—O & O S.S. Co.

Sachsen, German steamer, 3,119, L. Oesselmann, 3rd Oct.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 2nd Oct., Mails and General. H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,871, J. Kennedy, 3rd Oct.,—Portland, Oregon, 14th Sept., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Nestor, British steamer, 2,419, Baker, 3rd October,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 2nd Oct., General. Butterfield & Swire.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 4th Oct., Kobe, 2nd Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bamberg, German steamer, 2,660, Jacobs, 4th Oct.,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 26th Sept., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 4th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 3rd Oct., Mails and General.—C. P. R Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 4th Oct..,—Kobe, 3rd Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Halle, German Transport, 2,561, H. Shamer, 4th Oct.,—Taku, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

DEPARTURES.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 28th Sept., Kobe via Yokkaich, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indus, French steamer, 2,331, G. Duchateau, 28th Sept.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 28th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 29th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General,—P. M. S.S. Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 29th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Alwin 29th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 30th Sept., Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 30th Sept.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, F. W. Horton, 30th Sept., -Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 1st Oct., -Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 1st Oct.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Patroclus, British steamer, 3,323, E. G. Dickens, 2nd Sept.,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Candia, British steamer, 4,195, A. W. Symes, 2nd

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Oct.,—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, H. Fraser, 2nd Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 2nd Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Benvenue, British steamer, 1,468, Potter, 2nd Oct.,—Moji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.
Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 2nd Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 3rd Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Iburi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,623, T. Okuma, 3rd October,—Otaru, General.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.
Rathdown, British ship, 2,058, H. W. Dyke, 3rd Oct.,—Puget Sound, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.
Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 4th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Komoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 4th Oct.,—Kobe, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mrs. Brent, Mr. J. Adachi, Mr. S. Morokuma, Mr. Welsh, Mr. F. Fujita, Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, Miss Littler and Mr., Miss and Master Seymour, in cabin ; Mr. C. Murray, Mr. Rojo, Mr. Yeh, and Mr. S. Kawai, in second class ; 18 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, from Melbourne via ports :—Countess de Hamel de Manni, Mrs. Hunter, Miss Hunter, Capt. James, Mr. H. Butler, Mrs. Butler, Mr. A. Clark, Mr. W. H. Clark, Mr. Reid, Mrs. W. H. Clark, Miss White, Miss Garside, Dr. Margen, Mrs. Margen, Mr. P. Bettran de Lis, Miss P. B. de Lis, Mr. Cogan, Lt. A. Hawsbranck, Mr. Angier, Mrs. Angier, and Mr. Hamada, in cabin ; Mr. W. Chicken, Mrs. W. Chicken, and Mr. W. G. Leigh, in second class ; 18 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. Frank Deardorf, Mrs. G. H. Pritchard, Mr. H. L. Schiess, Dr. K. Watanabe, Mr. C. H. Osborne, Mr. J. M. Warner, Miss M. Bache, Mr. A. Fair, Mrs. S. Shimamoto, Mr. Hampton Howell, Miss M. Richard, Miss K. Thornton, Mrs. M. Osborne, Mr. W. T. Osborne, Mrs. J. M. Warner, Miss F. Crossman, and Mr. K. J. Iwakami, in cabin. For Kobe :—Mrs. J. E. Adams and 3 children, Miss E. M. Howells, Rev. Geo. Leck, Rev. C. E. Sharp, Rev. A. G. Welbon, Rev. C. F. Bernheisel, Mr. J. Martin, Mrs. Geo. Leck, and Miss Velma Snook, in in cabin. For Shanghai :—Mr. H. De Gray, Mr. Frank Gove, Mrs. W. S. Jackson, Mr. J. P. Roberts, Rev. T. B. von Anzer, Mrs. H. De Gray and 2 children, Mrs. F. Gove, child and maid, Mr. W. B. O. Middleton, and Mrs. J. P. Roberts, in cabin. For Hongkong :—Mrs. J. H. Ankrom, Rev. J. Carrington, Mrs. W. M. Castle, Mrs. A. Hatschek, Mr. E. C. Howell, Mrs. J. G. Palmer and child, Rev. Robt. Stewart, Dr. J. W. Korr, U.S.M.H.S., Mrs. W. D. Peach, Mr. W. M. Castle, Mr. A. Hatschek, Rev. L. C. Hills, Mr. Ow Tin Kee, Mrs. B. H. Wells and child, Mrs. Robert Stewart, and Mrs. Jefferson Woude, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Sachsen*, from Europe via ports :—Mr. J. H. Niemann, Dr. Mertens, Dr. Eggert, Dr. Pauschke, Dr. Brockelmann, Mr. L. E. Phipps, Mr. N. H. Mason, Mr. F. H Abbey, Mr. R. Ehlers, Dr. McFarlane, and Miss Thomas, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports ;—Mr. and Mrs. Peacock, Mr. Marlow M. Reid, Mr. F. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. Turner, Mr. Brayne, Mr. W. A. Cruickshank, Mr. and Mrs. Moxon, Mr. Richardson, Mr. F. de Silva, Mrs. Brooks, Miss Brooks, Miss Foster, Mr. Plessman, Mrs. Dowler, Mr. Butterworth, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Richter, Mr. and Mrs. Payne, Capt. Farenholt, Mrs. E. E. West, Major J. A. Hall, Miss Thorn, Lieut. Frasse, Mr. Strazeota, Mr. A. J. Lefroy, Dr. and Mrs. Tensler, Mrs. J S. Hopper, Mr. J. W. Crowe, Mrs. C. Thwaites and infant, Miss Kyemon, Rev. H. Loomis, Mr. Erict, Mr. C. H. C. Moller, and Mr. A. Cabeldu, in cabin ; Mr. Ramandos, Mr. G. Ramandos, Mr. E. Fish, Mr. E. E. Forest, and Mr. G. C. Million, in second class ; 2 Indians in steerage. In Transit :—Mr. Otto Sing, Mr. J. C. S. Taber, Mrs. R. Thomson and child, Mr. and Mrs. Ackland, Dr. Reid, Miss Kelly, Mr. and Miss Welch, Mr. A. H. S. Landor, Dr. and Mrs. Venable, Miss Boardman, Mr., Mrs. and Master Lord, Lieut. F. A. Powlett, R.N., Com. Goodenough, R.N., Mr. Hemmeat, Mr. Manly, Mr. Charrington, Mrs. A. MacDonald, Miss Shockley, Dr. E. Terry, Dr. Martin, Mr. J. L. Whiting, Mr. Gotch, Mr. S. Nomura, and Mr. B. Matsuda, in cabin, 23 in second class ; 158 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Indus*, for Marseilles via ports :—Mr. M. A. K. Noorbhoy, Mr. M. Ebrahinjee, Mr. Madella, Mr. B. P. Lalcaca, Mr. N. Gobhai, Mr. Noorudin, Mr. G. Erick, Mr. Hill and child, Mr. Yoshida, Mr. Tsu, Mr. C. E. de Ferens, Mr. B. Roth, Mr. J. H. Wilson, Mrs. Pontus, Mr. C. K. Gie, Mr. K. Yu and servant, Mr. K. Geerts, Mr. Mulkay, Mr. C. T. Yu, Mr. and Mrs. Hogg, Miss Bell, Mr. Macaulay and servant, Mr. G. E. Burgogne, Mrs. T. Monteggia, Mr. Burnip, Mr. and Mrs. MacMurray, child, infant and servant, Mr. Francois, Mr. Chang Un Ming and servant, Mr. Lo Tsy Ching, Mr. A. Forbes, Mr. A. Metzler, Rev. J. Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hipwell, Mr. Nakasawa, Mr. W. Peterson, Mr. N. Igarashi, and Mr. Emila Dourille, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Honolulu.—Sgt. Jno. M. Adams, U.S.M.C., Mr. S. W. Baxton, Mr. J. Cadematori, Mr. E. A. Carolan, Mr. N. J. Evans, Lt.-Com. Chas. E. Fox, U.S.N., Mrs. N. E. Irwin, Capt. Henry Leonard, U.S.M.C., Mr. Christ Nelson, Mr. T. Okawa, and Mr. Sometaro Shiba, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports :—Miss Morton, Mrs. K. B. Lobenstine, Mrs. F. S. Brockman and 2 children, Mrs. Chang and 3 children, Mr. R. Shiba, Mr. and Mrs. K. Noguchi, Mr. K. Shiina, Mrs. R. R. Gailey, Mrs. Couling, and Mr. and Mrs. Nakamura, in cabin ; Mrs. L. Xavier and 3 children, Mr. N. Asada, Mrs. Usui and daughter, Miss Shidzu Hioto, Mrs. Juliette and child, and 2 Chinese, in second class.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong via ports :—Mrs. J. E. Adams and 3 children, Rev. T. B. R. von Anzer, Mrs. J. H Ankrom, Mrs. W. D. Beach, Rev. C. F. Bernheisel, Mrs. Buchanan, Miss Buchanan, Rev. J. Carrington, Mr. W. M. Castle, Mrs. W. M. Castle, Mrs. J. A. Duncan, Dr. H. Fowler, Mrs. H. Fowler, Mr. O. D. Gerauld, Mrs. O. D. Gerauld, 3 children and amah, Mr. Frank Gove, Mrs. Frank Gove, child and amah, Mr. H. de Gray, Mrs. H. de Gray and 2 children, Mr. A. Hatschek, Mrs. A. Hatschek, Mr. W. J. Hewett, Mrs. W. J. Hewett and 2 children, Rev. L. C. Hills, Miss E. W. Howells, Mr. E. C. Howell, Mrs. Jefferson Woude, Mr. W. S. Jackson, Mrs. W. S. Jackson, Mr. Ow Tin Kee, Dr John W. Kerr, Mr. J S. Lochead, Rev. Geo. Leck, Mrs. Geo. Leck, Mr. J. Martin, Mr. C. McCaslin, Mrs. C. McCaslin, Mr. W. B. O. Middleton, Mrs. Capt. G. G. Palmer and child, Mr. G. H. Pritchard, Mrs. G. H. Pritchard, Mr. J. P. Roberts, Mrs. J. P. Roberts, Mr. B. Roth, Rev. F. C. Sharp, Miss Velma Snook, Mrs. C. G. Sparhem, Master Sparhem, Rev. Robert Stewart, Mrs. Robert Stewart, Mr. E. W. Turner, Miss L. Wall, Rev. A. G. Welbon, Mrs. Lieut. B. H. Wells and child, Mr. J. W. Westphalin, and Mr. G. H. Wheeler, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Indus*, for Marseilles via ports —Raw Silk for Europe, 316 bales ; Waste Silk for Europe, 179 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No sales. Quotations are nominal.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y.0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1 10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches ..	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos 16/24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	180.00 to 185.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	180.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.50 to 30.00
Indian Broach	Nominal
Chinese'	

METALS.

There is a little more enquiry and fair business is reported.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward ...	Y.5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7 70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

The market is quiet.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.80
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

Prices are firm and Hongkong refined continues inactive.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y.5.00 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.35 to 7.00
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined	8.00 to 9.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A fairly good business has been done in fine and full-sized silks, exporters probably having to buy in order to meet requirements for the outgoing mail.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse...	Y. 850 to 860
Filatures—No 1, Fine	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse...	720 to 730
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	760 to 770
Re-reels—No. 1	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 1½	720 to 730
Re reels—No. 2	710 to 720
Re reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 1	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 1½	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 2½	690 to 700

WASTE SILK.

There has been moderate business at quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	135 to 140
Noshi—Filatures, Good...	125 to 130
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium...	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi -Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filatures, Best...	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	50 to 52½
Kibiso—Bushiu, Fair	40 to 42½

TEA.

The market is active at slightly lower prices. The quality very poor.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	36 to 37
Finest	34 to 35
Fine	32 to 33
Good Medium...	30 to 31
Medium	28to 29
Good Common	26 to 27
Common	24 to 25

RICE MARKET.

Fukagawa Godowns, Tokyo, Oct. 3.

Sold, Japanese rice 12,650 hyo ; arrived, Japanese, 5,769 hyo ; in stock, Japanese, 216,759.

Retail per *Yen*—First quality 5 sho 5 go ; second, 5 sho 9 go ; third, 6 sho 2 go ; fourth, 6 sho 7 go ; fifth, 7 sho 4 go.

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, October 4.

Silver from London still rising, being ⅛ higher than the previous day. Rates are unaltered and locally closing for the mail per *Empress of Japan* as under.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0¼
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞@51
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.13
Hongkong—Bank sight	*2½% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	* Par.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 70
— Private 10 days' sight	* 71½
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29⅜

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, October 4.

Breweries are steady at *yen* 150. Grand Hotels have sellers at *yen* 245. Club Hotels are steady at *yen* 80. Helms changed hands to-day at *yen* 55. There are further buyers at this rate. Offers of shares are wanted. Laundries have sellers at par.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107. Laundry debentures can be had at par.

Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares were sold to Hongkong at $31.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	210 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	95 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	55 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 N.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	101 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	106 B.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, October 4.

Grand Hotels have buyers at *yen* 240. Club Hotels have buyers at *yen* 80. Langfeldts—a few shares can be had at *yen* 90. Bretts & Co. debentures are obtainable at par.

	Yen.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207.50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	240 Buyers.
Club Hotel	80 Buyers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Sales.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

DURING the Missionary Conference, October 24th—30th, entertainment may be secured at Japanese Hotels, near the Y.M.C.A. at the following rates :

ENOMOTO-KAN.

First-class *yen* 1.40, dinner 50 *sen* extra.
Second-class 80 *sen*, dinner 30 *sen*.

SEKINE-YA.

Best *yen* 1.50, dinner 30 *sen* extra.
First-class *yen* 1.00, dinner 30 *sen*.
Second-class 75 *sen*, dinner 22 *sen* extra.

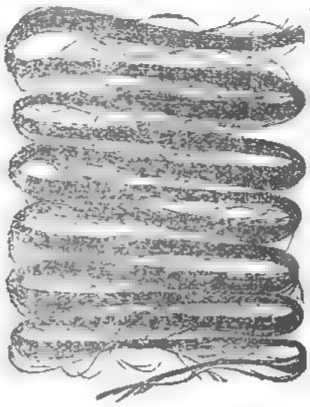
Rooms will be reserved in the order of application. Missionaries employed by Boards represented in Tokyo should apply through their own representative in the city. All others may secure accommodation through the Secretary of the Business Committee.

A. T. HOWARD,
19, Suzuki-cho, Kanda, Tokyo.

Tokyo, September 29th, 1900.

Hair 55 Inches Long
Grown by Cuticura.

MISS B——, of L——, sends us through our British Agents, Messrs. F. NEWBERY & SONS, 27 and 28, Charterhouse Square, London, E. C., a strand of soft, glossy hair cut from her own head and measuring fifty-five inches in length, of which the annexed drawing is a photographic fac-simile. She attributes her magnificent head of hair to frequent shampoos with CUTICURA SOAP, followed by light dressings of CUTICURA gently rubbed into the scalp. Previous to the use of CUTICURA, her hair was dry, thin, and lifeless, and came out in handfuls to such an extent that she feared she would lose soon it.



This is but one of many remarkable cases of the preservation and restoration of the hair in seemingly hopeless cases by warm shampoos with CUTICURA SOAP, followed by light dressings of CUTICURA, purest of emollient skin cures. This treatment at once stops falling hair, clears the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, soothes irritated, itching surfaces, stimulates the hair follicles, supplies the roots with energy and nourishment, and makes the hair grow on a clean, sweet, wholesome, healthy scalp, when all else fails.

MILLIONS OF WOMEN use CUTICURA SOAP exclusively for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour,

Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, CUTICURA Ointment, to instantly allay itching, inflammation, and irritation, and soothe and heal, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, and humiliating skin, scalp, and blood humours, with loss of hair, when all else fails. Sold throughout the world. Australian Depot: R. TOWNS & Co., Sydney, N.S.W. So. African Depot: LENNON LTD., Cape Town. "All about the Skin, Scalp, and Hair," free. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., CUTICURA REMEDIES, Boston, U.S.A.

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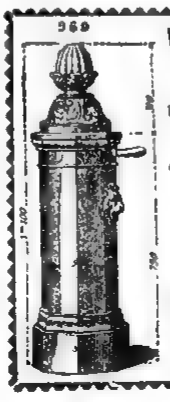

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RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.30, 8.55, 9.35, 10.15, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1.30, 2, 2.36, 3.10, 3.55, 4.33, 5.15, 5.33, 6.20, 7.21, 8, 9.13, 10, 10.50, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—5.20, 5.50, 6.50, 7.55, 8.30, 8.45, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25 a.m.; 12, 1.10, 1.40, 2.20, 3, 3.25, 4, 4.35, 5.10, 5.25, 6.24, 7, 7.35, 8.25, 9.20, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.

YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Leave		Arrive.	
Yokohama	6.50 a.m.	Kobe	10.47 a.m.
Yokohama	1.14 p.m.	Kobe	9.00 a.m.
Yokohama	6.30 p.m.	Kobe	11.19 a.m.
Yokohama	10.32 p.m.	Kobe	6.36 p.m.
Kobe	6.00 a.m.	Yokohama	10.05 a.m.
Kobe	12.05 p.m.	Yokohama	8.05 a.m.
Kobe	6.00 p.m.	Yokohama	10.50 a.m.
Kobe	10.00 p.m.	Yokohama	6.13 p.m.

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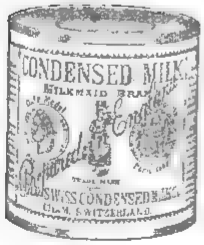

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

毎土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一圓發行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same, and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 13TH, 1900.

BIRTH.

On 7th inst., at No. 20 Bluff, the wife of I. J. HEALING of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Unionist Government is steadily gaining in the British elections.

THE *Katsuragi Kan*, of the Imperial Navy, is a total wreck near Oshima.

LI HUNG-CHANG has reached Peking and peace negotiations should soon be opened.

THE staff of the Nippon Ginko will hold a regatta on the Sumida river, Tokyo, on the 21st inst.

A MURDER occured at Kami-ashigara district, Kanagawa prefecture, on the night of the 4th inst.

TWO women have been killed and three injured by the falling-in of the roof of a match factory in Hajima.

A MAN named Miyazaki Matsugoro has been arrested on a charge of stealing a bicycle in Nihonbashi, Tokyo.

ONE thousand boxes of bar silver were landed at Moji from the steamer *Hokkai Maru* on the 9th inst. It came from China.

A THIEF entered the premises of Viscount Itakura, Sakumacho, Kanda, Tokyo, on the 9th inst., and stole seven 100 *yen* paper notes.

NEARLY £15,000 have been collected in Germany for the benefit of the soldiers taking part in the expedition to China, and of their relatives.

EXCAVATIONS at a house in Gensukecho, Tokyo, unearthed the other day ten 10-*yen* gold, fifteen 5-*yen* gold, one 1-*yen* silver and five *isshu* silver coins.

THE *Sydney Morning Herald* announces the presentation to Captain A. E. Moses, of the N. Y. K. steamer *Yawata Maru*, of a beautifully designed silver tea service.

LOAN bonds of the Yokohama Water Works will be issued to the amount of 1,250,000 *yen* about the middle of November, next at the rate of 92 *yen* per 100 *yen* face value.

THE Tokyo Bay Steamship Co.'s steamer *Hiryu Maru* towing a whale caught off Chiba prefecture a few days ago, arrived at Yechizen-bori, Tokyo, on the afternoon of the 6th inst.

A MAN named Nakamura Ichitaro, employed on the rigging of the *Kumamoto Maru*, lost his hold on Oct. 8th and fell to the deck, sustaining such injuries that he died at once.

THE Tokyo wrestlers Mumenotani and Asahiryu have received silver cups presented by the *Kobe Shimbun* for their prowess on the platform. Oyeyama has to content himself with a wooden cup.

TWO armed burglars entered a silversmith's premises at Nagacho, Ichigaya, Tokyo, on the night of Oct. 6th and carried off *yen* 20 in paper money, a number of old coins, a silver watch and three gold rings.

A PITCHED battle has taken place in Kujukuri Bay between fishermen representing Aomi-mura and Hasu-mura, some seventy men being engaged altogether. Over thirty of the combatants were injured, two seriously.

A MAN named Yokochi Takeo (holding some official position in Saitama prefecture), and a singing girl attempted to commit suicide together at Mayebashi on the night of Oct. 7th. They were discovered in time and arrested.

RETURNS of dysentery in Kanagawa Prefecture on the 4th inst. showed 16 cases. The total number of cases since the beginning of the present year is 3,521; deaths 577; recovered 1,596; under medical treatment 348.

MR. KUBO KASUKORO, editor, and Mr. Asano Shinriku, publisher of the *Fukushima Minpo*, were sentenced on Oct. 8th at the Fukushima local court each to suffer two month's hard labour and pay *yen* six for libelling a money-lender.

SEVENTY farmers were arrested at Toyokawa-mura, Odawara, Kanagawa prefecture, on Oct. 8th. They were the leaders of a party of some 80 agriculturists who, for some reason not reported, attacked the local police station.

A TELEGRAM published by the *Jiji Shimpo* from Hakodate dated Oct. 6th states that the steamer *Hokushu Maru* was wrecked at Horo-mushiro, Chishima, on the 17th Sept. She was insured by the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company for *yen* 65,000.

BARONESS VON KETTELER, the wife of the late German Minister to China, arrived in Yokohama by the German transport *Halle*. The Baroness and her daughter landed, and put up at the Grand Hotel. She left for Vancouver by the *Empress of Japan* on Friday.

A TELEGRAM published in the *Jiji*, dated at Nagasaki Oct. 4th, says that a fire broke out at 5 a.m. that day on the steamer *Keiki Maru*. Many bluejackets from a British war-vessel lent assistance and the vessel was saved, as well as 600 boxes of kerosene.

A SOLDIER of the 3rd Regiment of Guards on the evening of the 7th murdered a woman employed as a waitress in a restaurant. After killing the woman he attempted to commit suicide by cutting his throat but bungled the business and was arrested by the police.

MR. KAWABE MASANOSUKE, an ex-member of the Yokohama City Assembly and a number of others was injured in an attack on the night of Oct. 7th upon a restaurant at Ashigara, Kanagawa prefecture. There had been some trouble about the sale of government forest timber.

THE Kagacho Police authorities are in receipt of a report from the Fukuoka police to the effect that a foreigner, named Peter Heldt, employed by the Imperial Iron Foundry near Fukuoka, has made his escape after assaulting and inflicting injury upon one of his neighbours. Search for him is being made by the police.

TWO men, one of them a shoemaker, were arrested by the Tobe police on Oct. 6th charged with entrapping and ensnaring cats by means of bait consisting of small birds and similar enticing food. It appears that the men slew the cats and then, carrying the bodies into the recesses of Tenjin-yama, skinned them and sold the furs.

TWO Americans named B. W. Thomas and A. F. Hardy, who were charged with fraud by the Nagoya Police, have been examined and acquitted by the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho. It was alleged that the two men stopped at the Shukinro Hotel, Nagoya, on Sept. 20th, and had an entertainment, calling *geisha*, etc., and that they afterwards left the hotel without paying the bill.

BREWERS named Hisahara Hanichiro and Ishikawa Genjiro, living in Tokyo, were arrested on the 3rd inst., and charged with brewing an imitation of the Sapporo and Yebisu beers, which they duly labelled with the original labels of the well known beers. The fraud was discovered by the Sapporo Beer Company's representative, who reported it to the Public Procurator; 200 bottles of the beer have been seized.

AN Osaka merchant named Nakamura who established a shop in Turkey some nine years ago, obtained a license the other day authorising him to take steps to place his business under British protection. The object is that he should avail of the advantages of the British treaty with Turkey, being otherwise placed in an unfavourable situation by the absence of a treaty between Japan and the Sublime Porte.

OWING to a deficiency in the working account of the Kôya Railway Co., debentures to the amount of 600,000 *yen* were issued recently, but this still proved insufficient, and the business is now in a declining condition, though traffic between Osaka and Sakai was opened only recently. The result is that Mr. Tanaka, manager of the Company, has found it necessary to go to Tokyo in the hope of raising fresh funds.

THE report of the Directors of S. Moutrie and Co., Ltd., shows that the net profit, after paying an interim dividend of 4 per cent., amounts to $10,781.19 and the directors propose to divide it as follows:—A dividend of 6 per cent., making 10 per cent. for the year, which will absorb $6,240.00; to write off flotation expense $1,641.50, leaving a balance to debit of this account of $1,000.00; to write off goodwill $416.72, and to carry forward to credit of Profit and Loss Account $2,482.97.

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THE CHINESE CRISIS.

Saturday, Oct. 6.

Strange rumours begin to circulate. One is that Russian troops had occupied Shan-hai-kwan two days before the time appointed for the despatch of the allied force, but that no notice of the fact was given to the commanders of the latter. On the other hand, the commanders, on receipt of the news, are said to have hastened their preparations for advance; an unaccountable procedure, unless the Russians were in need of assistance, or unless the tenure of Shan-hai-kwan by Russians alone suggested inconvenient contingencies. We now know that the whole story is untrue. A force of British marines from the *Pigmy* occupied the forts on the 29th of Sept., the ship having been sent to summon the garrison's surrender.

Another rumour is that Count von Waldersee has curtly declined to recognise Viceroy Li in his capacity of peace negotiator. This attitude on the part of the Field Marshal is expected to prove an obstacle to the speedy conduct of the negotiations. But the persons circulating such a tale ought to know very well that Count von Waldersee has nothing to do with peace negotiations, and that he is not possessed of authority to recognise or not recognise Li Hung-chang as a negotiator. The Field Marshal is concerned with military operations alone. Were an armistice concluded, and were he under instructions from his Government to confer with Chinese peace-commissioners, the case would be very different. But since there is no armistice and since a state of war still exists, Li Hung-chang, in his capacity of negotiator, has less significance for Count von Waldersee than a corporal among the allied forces. If Li, in his capacity of peace-commissioner, has made the mistake of trying to open official communications with Waldersee, the latter has doubtless brought him up with a round turn; but if Li in his capacity of Viceroy of Chili and *ex-officio* commander-in-chief of the Chinese forces, has approached the German Field-Marshal we may be sure that he has received a courteous hearing.

It is stated in a telegram to the *Asahi* from Tientsin, that Viceroy Li, on the afternoon of the 3rd instant, repaired to the Japanese Consulate and had a meeting with Mr. Uchida, of the Tokyo Foreign Office, Major-General Fukushima and Mr. Consul Tei. Nothing is published as to what transpired, except that the Viceroy announced his intention of setting out for Peking by river the following day. This movement seems to have been unexpected. Li appears to go about with a Russian escort. He has ceased to have any concern about appearances.

There is a rumour that 15 battalions of Chinese troops belonging to General Hsü's command, have arrived at Tsing-hien, 20 battalions of Liu Kung-yi's troops at Lien-ching and 30 battalions of Chang Chih-tung's army at Pao-ting. The object of these forces is alleged to be the destruction of the Boxers, but it seems that an uneasy feeling has been caused by their movements, and that they are suspected of projecting an attempt to recapture Peking. Sixty-five battalions in China represent, nominally, 32,500 men; a formidable force. But it perplexes us to conceive how Viceroys Liu and Chang can be suspected of hostile designs at this moment, when both officials have been nominated members of the peace conference. What is plain, however, is that should it become necessary for the Allies to organize an expedition against Si-an, they will find a strong Chinese army in their path, for it may be taken for granted that if preliminaries for negotiating peace can not be arranged at this stage, and if, in consequence, the Allies deem it necessary to attempt the capture of the Court, they will have to face the resistance of the Southern Viceroys as well as that of forces under the direct orders of the Board of War.

The Ministers of Russia and Germany are said to have received instructions to remain in Tientsin for the present. Probably the final arrangement will be that the negotiations are conducted in Tientsin.

According to the *Asahi Shimbun*, the Russian and German staff officers openly declare that the imperial decree of the 25th ultimo, ordering the punishment of Prince Twan and others, was manufactured by Yung Lu and Shêng. To give this story greater piquancy, our contemporary's correspondent adds that in making such an assertion, the staff-officers of the two Powers are actuated by some ulterior motive.

The French Government, which under its present direction, is always practical in its proposals, is said to have addressed a circular to the Powers in the sense that the export of arms and munitions of war to China should be permanently forbidden; that all the forts from Taku to Peking should be razed to the ground and that military guards for the Legations should be stationed in Peking. It is alleged that Russia, Germany and Japan have endorsed this proposal, which certainly has one marked advantage, namely, that the Allied Powers are competent to enforce it. The idea of disarming the Chinese nation in such a manner is at once striking and artistic. Yet there is a touch of bitter satire in the scheme. China is menaced with foreign aggressions from every quarter of the firmament, and her foreign friends choose this moment to deprive her of the means of resistance. Naturally the greatest aggressors would welcome such a project with most acclaim. Nevertheless, it can not be denied that if the Foreign Powers consider that the lives and properties of their nationals can not be secured so long as China is supplied with rifles and cannon, nothing could be more proper than to cut off the supply. There would be a rich opportunity then for enterprising projectors of arsenals and docks within China's dominions, and possibly the effect of the veto might ultimately be to render her stronger than ever since she would *per-force* become self-supplying.

The *Mainichi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent, writing under date of Sept. 22nd, says that the Japanese gendarmes have seized the person of Chi Hsiu, one of the Manchu members of the *Tsung-li Yamên*, who is believed to have been particularly active in encouraging the Boxers. He was found lying *perdu* within the quarter of Peking that is under Japanese jurisdiction. He is described as a man of 50. Two letters to the Empress Dowager were found in his possession. One of these letters contained a graphic description of the sufferings and depredations endured by the citizens of Peking in consequence of its occupation by foreign troops, and then went on to say that the only consolation was the speedy approach of winter. Before the cold weather came, the foreign forces would be withdrawn for the most part. In the meanwhile Chi Hsiu was diligently collecting the scattered Chinese braves from all quarters, and when an opportunity came, he pledged himself to recover possession of the city. A stout old patriot, who we trust, will be honorably treated, though our Tokyo contemporary's correspondent writes of him as though he were a species of criminal.

Monday, Oct. 8.

Prince Ching is exerting himself to assemble his peace-conference colleagues in the capital. He has asked the Court to order Viceroys Chang and Liu to repair to Peking at once, and rumour says that Li Hung-chang will arrive there in a few days.

An official telegram from Newchwang says that on the 24th of September the Russians captured old Newchwang, on the 27th An-shan-tien and on the 28th, Liao-liang. They had one officer killed, 2 wounded, and 70 casualties among the rank and file. According to reports circulating in Tientsin, Russia will withdraw the bulk of her forces from Manchuria after the fall of Mukden.

The Chinese newspapers are opposed to the transfer of the capital to Si-an. We do not learn, however, what is the nature of their objections. It is stated that the famine in Shansi and the difficulty of communications were not the only reasons for the change; the Court was advised that Shensi offers better facilities for defence.

A telegram from London published by the *Shogyo Shimpo* gives the true version of the report that Lord Salisbury has refused to open peace negotiations with China until compensation had been given by the latter for the murder of missionaries in Shansi. Our contemporary's message says that the Emperor of China having addressed an autograph letter to the Queen praying for her Majesty's assistance in restoring peace, Lord Salisbury replied that until the perpetrators of the terrible massacres in Shansi were duly punished, no proposals of any kind could be entertained. Our readers know, of course, that the massacres in question are those which occurred at Ta-yuen, by order, it is said—and the evidence seems quite conclusive—of the acting Viceroy Yü Hsien, whose removal from office was announced a few days ago. A heavy retribution must be exacted for that most abominable crime, and we trust that Great Britain will not hesitate to send a punitory expedition to Ta-yuen if full redress can not be otherwise obtained.

It is alleged that, with the exception of Russia, the representatives of all the Powers in Peking are urging upon Prince Ching the advisability of having the Viceroys Chang and Liu present at the peace conference.

Despatches have been received confirming the capture of Shan-hai-kwan. They add nothing to the information already published. The railway has been restored by the British, and through communication is now established between Shan-hai-kwan and Tongku

The *Fiji Shimpo* publishes rumours that Germans are buying up the shares of the Kai-ping mine, and that Prince Tuan will be re-appointed a member of the Board of War when the Court reaches Si-an

It is stated the Marine Transport Company of Hongkong has sold to a German company its steamers employed on the Sikiang line, owing to difficulties experienced in running them, but as to the nature of the difficulties no intelligence is given.

The Chinese Authorities are said to have

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actually carried out imposing funeral rites in memory of Mr. Sugiyama, the Japanese Chancellor of Legation who was murdered at Peking.

The Emperor of China has addressed another autograph letter to the Emperor of Japan, praying his Majesty to use his good offices in the cause of restoring place. Evidently all the Soverigns and heads of governments have been similarly approached by Kwang-Hsu.

The German troops are reported to have begun to arrive in Peking on the 6th instant. Some nine thousand are said to have landed at Kiao-chow, and rumour alleges that they are to be sent into the interior under pretext of guarding the railway. Of course if that step be taken, it will greatly complicate affairs. Governor Yuan has succeeded in preserving excellent order in the province under his jurisdiction. There is no visible reason for employing foreign troops there.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram from Tientsin saying that whereas Japan, England, America and France are anxious to promote a peaceful settlement as quickly as possible, Germany is postponing it, and shows a marked inclination to extend the sphere of military operations.

Li Hung-chang has received from Paoting the insignia of his old office, Northern Superintendent of Trade.

Shanghai asserts that Her Majesty's Government has ordered Lord Roberts to retain a garrison of 45,000 men in South Africa and to send the rest of the troops home at once. The story goes on to say that Great Britain will then largely augment her forces in China.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a telegram that the Czar is about to pass two months in the Crimea, and that he will be accompanied thither by the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

According to the same journal, Li Hung-chang is surrounded by Russian officers and shows no inclination to associate with other foreigners. It is further said that the Viceroy insists upon being regarded as the chief peace plenipotentiary, Prince Ching and General Yung Lu being subordinate to him. Nothing is wanted to complete the situation except a squabble for precedence among the Chinese Commissioners.

The *Chiuo* says that the braves of Fukien, calling themselves "loyal troops," have set out for the north *via* Nanking and Tsing-kiang.

It is alleged that eighteen more missionaries of the China Inland Mission have been murdered in Shan-si. This does not seem to be a new crime, but the discovery has only just been made. It brings the number of those assassinated in Shan-si to over 140—a veritable massacre such as the world has not seen for a long time.

America apparently took no part in the capture of Shan-hai-kwan. Her Admiral is said to have attended the first meeting of naval commanders at Taku when the operation was projected, and to have absented himself from the subsequent meetings. We take this from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

Mr. Consul Tei, in a report sent from Tientsin, speaks of the Japanese labourers whose services have come into request owing to the flight of the Chinese coolies hitherto available. Five hundred Japanese are employed by the British troops; a hundred and thirty by the Germans: and ninety-six by the French. Mr. Tei says that the Japanese labourer is very expensive. He charges a *yen* for a day of 8 hours, and 20 *sen* per hour for extra time. Thus if he works until dark, he earns 2 *yen*. Moreover, he is exceedingly independent. If anything displeases him, he complains at once, and unless he gets redress, he strikes. It would seem, too, that many students have repaired to Tientsin and are working as labourers. They can not bear the hard toil, to which they are not accustomed. On the other hand, the Chinese labourer is not only cheap but also virtually indifferent to the treatment he receives: he will bear any amount of bullying and hard usage. Mr. Tei recommends that the emigration companies of Japan should not send any more labourers to Tientsin.

Tuesday, Oct. 9.

Shanghai is of opinion that the imperial edict of the 25th instant, ordering the punishment of Prince Twan, General Kang Yi and others, was not a genuine document, but was forged by Twan himself, or, at any rate, issued by the Court at his instance, the object being to obtain time for the Court to effect its retreat to Shensi. Such suspicions are to be expected. Shanghai has a crop of them ready for reaping at any moment. We do not say that the present suggestion is groundless, for everything connected with the doings of the Chinese Court is matter of pure conjecture. But it will occur to most persons that the Court is in no need of gaining time to effect its withdrawal to Si-an. It can go there at any moment, and Prince Twan and his friends must be well aware that even though the foreign Powers decided to send an expedition in pursuit of the imperial personages, many weeks must elapse before it could commence operations. The question of transport would be an enormous difficulty, and it is tolerably certain that such an enterprise would not have the unanimous support of the Powers by any means. To us it seems much more probable that the imperial rescript is *bonâ fide*, as far as it goes. How much reality there may be in the punishments meted out to Twan and his associates, is another question.

Rumour says that the Representatives of the Powers have inspected Li Hung-chang's credentials and found them unsatisfactory. How this can be true we do not see, for Li had not yet arrived in Peking at the date of latest advices, and it is not probable that he would have shown his credentials to any one *en route*.

The latest rumour from North China is that the Emperor is at Paoting, or was there a few days ago; and that he instructed Prince Twan and General Yung Lu to prepare a temporary palace, presumably at Paoting, though as to that the telegram is indistinct. It is added that Prince Hshu is pressing the Court to return to Peking, but that his appeals remain unheeded. Another report alleges that Prince Twan is busily making preparations to renew the struggle. Altogether it is a time of rumours.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent wires that Governor Yuan is determined to oppose any aggressive movement by the German troops into the province under his rule, that he is raising a new force of 25 battalions for that purpose—12,500 men—and that he has applied to Viceroys Chang and Liu to assist him in arming and equipping the troops.

Wednesday, Oct. 10.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has received a telegram to the effect that the Russian Government has put forward the following six proposals as bases of a settlement with China:—

1. That the Chinese Government should give satisfactory guarantees for the future security of foreign life and property.
2. That the ringleaders of the Boxers should be punished.
3. That sufficient indemnities should be paid to each of the Powers.
4. That the railway between Taku and Peking should remain in foreign possession.
5. That the International Law Council at the Hague should be invited to consider the question of indemnity, with a view to placing the claims of all on an equitable basis.
6. That the province of Chili should remain in the occupation of the Powers up to a certain time.

These terms seem sufficiently reasonable. On such a basis there ought not to be any insuperable difficulty in arriving at an agreement. There are, nevertheless, some points of perplexity. What guarantees, for example, can China give as to the future? Short of placing the allies territorially in such a position that they would be able to exact reparation at any moment—an arrangement which means a long step towards the dismemberment of the Chinese empire—China has no guarantees to offer except on paper, and the value of paper promises in the face of the provocation she receives to violate them, has been abundantly demonstrated. So long as the Foreign Powers deal with China as they have dealt during the past few years, it is impossible that any Chinese Government should be fully competent to secure foreigners in the peaceful prosecution of their various enterprises within her territories. As to the occupation of Chili, that, of course, is intended to be a temporary measure, pending the payment of the indemnities, which will doubtless amount to a large sum and will proportionately tax China's resources. But the proposal to hold the railway from Taku to Peking seems to contemplate permanent tenure, and it is plain that a very injudicious element will be introduced into the situation if such a measure be insisted on. What adds interest to these proposals is that they have probably been privately discussed already with Li Hung-chang.

The same journal publishes a London telegram alleging that appearances suggest some new conference between Russia and Germany. Several rumours of a similar import have been circulated. They indicate the public's consciousness that Russia and Germany are the two Powers to which may fairly be attributed designs of territorial aggression. If Russia evacuates Manchuria, it will be the first instance her history furnishes of any similar retrogression. We are very confident that England would not evacuate it under similar circumstances, any more than she has evacuated Egypt, and we are very sure that if England were situated as Germany is at Kiao-chow, the English nation would exhibit a constant inclination to obtain possession of the hinterland as well as of the sea-shore. Therefore we are not doing any willing wrong to Russia and Germany when we venture to measure them by British standards of international morality, and, for the rest, it must be frankly confessed that Germany's manner of seizing Kiao-chow and Russia's general method of implementing her promises, do not warrant us in setting them on a pinnacle of conscientiousness high above all other countries.

It is reported by telegram (to the *Shogyo Shimpo*) that the German *Official Gazette* publishes the text of the message sent by the Emperor of China to the Kaiser and of the latter's reply. The message

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is a brief expression of profound regret for the murder of Baron von Ketteler, and an intimation that Kwang Hsu sends a sum of money for the purpose of funeral rites. In answer the Kaiser declares himself convinced that no responsibility for the murder rests with the Emperor of China, and thanks his Majesty sincerely for his sympathetic expressions. If these messages be rightly telegraphed—and there is no reason to doubt the accuracy of our contemporary's correspondent—it would seem that the Emperor of Germany desires to draw a line of distinction between Kwang Hsu and the Empress Dowager with respect to complicity in the Boxer outrages. It can not be supposed for a moment that had the etiquette of courts allowed the Empress Dowager to address a similar communication to the Kaiser, his Majesty would have declared his conviction as to the imperial lady's irresponsibility.

The first reports of Field Marshal Waldersee's doings do not suggest that he is influenced by considerations of fairness. A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* says that he has assigned the railway between Yang-tsun and Peking to German charge, and placed the whole of the remaining railway—namely, from Yang-tsun to Shan-hai-kwan—under Russian care. Great Britain is said to have protested, but the telegram alleges that Japan has agreed, and adds that steps are being now taken to oust the English and the Japanese from the possession of the sections of the line hitherto held by them, and to replace them by Russians. "No evidence now remains," says the message, "of the large part played by Japan in the Peking expedition and the Tientsin operations, except that her people retain a small share in the civil government of the occupied territory."

The first effect of such reports is to rouse a feeling of indignation. But it will be wise to receive them with great circumspection. The action attributed to the German Marshal is of such a character that he could not be in doubt for one moment as to the effect it must produce on the Powers which have consented to place their troops under his temporary command. Only a very small German force was present throughout the operations in Chili. The brunt of the work was done by Japan above all, and after her by Russia, England, America and France. Hence that the Field Marshal, ignoring that pregnant fact, should deprive others of positions won by them in order to favour the troops of his own nationality, would be an act not only of marked injustice but also of gross tactlessness. Either the report is incorrect, or the step taken by Count Von Waldersee was dictated by reasons which, though now hidden from the general public, will by-and-by be found fully justificatory.

The *Asahi's* Tientsin correspondent telegraphs that the Empress Dowager left Taiyuan for Si-an on the 1st instant, but that the Emperor remained at the former place. If that be true, it may be an important bit of news.

The allies seem to have abandoned the idea of using the island of Chin-wan as a basis for military operations during the winter. The place is said to be in a dilapidated condition and the roads are in such a terrible state that great labour would be required to give effect to the original intention. It has therefore been resolved to rely solely on Shan-hai-kwan.

A telegram to the *Asahi* from Shanghai says that Admiral Seymour has addressed a communication, from himself individually, to Viceroy Liu Kun-yi, in which he declares that England's object in sending a large naval and military force to China is solely to restore peace and to ensure the undisturbed prosecution of trade. Should any Power engage in operations for the disruption of the Chinese empire, England will not be a consenting party, and Japan and America will probably support her opposition.

Major-General Tsukamoto is to command the Japanese force left in Peking.

Thursday, Oct. 11.

The German Government, according to a telegram in the *Shogyo Shimpo*, has addressed to the Powers a series of questions, the gist of which is to inquire whether they consider that the right persons have been indicated in the imperial decree punishing the supporters of the Boxers; whether they consider the punishment sufficient, and what measures they intend to adopt for assuring themselves that the penalties are really inflicted. It is curious that England remains so conspicuously quiet all this time. The majority of those that suffered in person and property by the Boxer outrages were her subjects, yet she says nothing, but suffers Germany, whose list of grievances must be comparatively small, to take the lead of the nations in formulating terms of redress and in general management of the affair.

We wonder when the Emperor of Germany's plan is to be made public. No one forgets his Majesty's announcement that he had a project which could be confidently trusted to unravel the difficulties of the situation. It is surely time that something was done towards putting that project into practice. We presume that the silence of Great Britain is in deference to the Kaiser's declaration.

A Shanghai telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* says that Prince Twan, General Kang Yi and the rest of those mentioned in the imperial decree of the 25th of September, are still in office. They have not been deprived of power, as the decree directed, but are exercising the same authority as ever. In order to believe this, it is necessary to attribute to the Chinese Court a degree of duplicity without precedent. There has never been an instance of a grossly deliberate attempt on the part of a Chinese ruler to throw dust into foreigners' eyes in such a manner as this story suggests. Our readers doubtless remember that during the month of July when imperial decrees were issued indicating that the foreign community in Peking was still safe, many people in Shanghai declared their conviction that the decrees were deliberate falsehoods. We ventured to maintain the opposite view. Undoubtedly the decrees seem to have been disingenuous, when judged by the light subsequently thrown upon events. They imparted an over-favourable aspect to the Chinese Government's attitude towards the foreign community. But in the main facts they were correct. So, in the case of the decree of the 25th ultimo, we entertain no doubt that it was a *bonâ fide* affair, and that effect was actually given to its injunctions, though we do not pretend to think that Twan, Yang or even Yü Hsien has been permanently disgraced.

The story received on the 8th concerning Field Marshal Waldersee's action in the matter of the railways, is flatly contradicted by subsequent telegrams. The latest news is that a council of commanding officers decided that the Field Marshal should be asked to allot the charge of the Tong-ku and Peking railway according to his own judgment, and that he thereupon asked the Russians to surrender to him their tenure of the Tong-ku and Shan-hai-kwan road. If the Russians consent, the Field Marshal will then parcel out the whole line in an equitable manner. A more complete contradiction of the former tale it would be difficult to conceive. Instead of showing unfairness, Count von Waldersee's object is evidently to manage everything on a basis of strict justice.

According to the reports of Russian scouts, some 30 battalions (15,000) of Chinese troops have assembled at Paoting and their number is receiving additions. They seem to be adopting defensive measures.

The report that the Allies had abandoned the idea of making use of Tsin-hwang island for a depot, seems to have been incorrect. It is now stated that measures are being taken to build bridges and effect the necessary repairs of roads, and that the Japanese troops are taking part in the operations.

The *Asahi* publishes telegrams about Russia's doings in Manchuria, but the information embodied in these messages is obviously of such a nature that it could not have reached the ears of outsiders. We therefore class the telegrams as mere *canards*. There is a palpable disposition on the part of some newsmongers to assail Russia's reputation. Their persistence grows a little tiresome.

It is stated that Prince Ching, Viceroys Chang and Liu and Governor Yuan have all memorialized the Throne against moving the capital to Sing-an. The argument assigned to Prince Chin is merely a general statement of the great importance attaching to such a step and the consequent advisability of not taking it hastily. The Prince recommends waiting until after Li Hung-chang's arrival in Peking. With regard to the Viceroys and Governor Yuan, they are said to have frankly declared that unless the Court returns to Peking, there is no hope of restoring peace, and that if peace be not restored, it will be impossible to restrict the fighting within the limits hitherto preserved: the Yangtsze Valley will become involved, and Shensi will then cease to be a suitable place for the residence of the Court since supplies and communications may be cut off. It is further alleged that the advisability of making these representations was suggested by Governor Yuan. If so, he is showing himself a very long-headed statesman.

It appears that the capture of Shan-hai-kwan was not directed by Field-Marshal Waldersee. It was in consequence of a resolution adopted by the naval commanders at a council presided over by Admiral Seymour, prior to the assumption of the supreme command by the Field Marshal.

Shan-hai-kwan marks the boundary of the Field Marshal's authority in an easterly direction. His command is at present limited to the province of Chili, and Shan-hai-kwan lies on the borders of that province at the point where the Great Wall abuts on the sea coast. Indeed two of the Shan-hai-kwan forts are on the northern side of the wall, if we are rightly informed, thus lying outside the Field Marshal's jurisdiction. We presume that should it be unhappily neces-

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sary to undertake an allied expedition against Ta-yuen or Sing-an, Count von Waldersee's authority will be extended so as to give the troops the advantage of a commander-in-chief.

Friday, Oct. 12.

Rumour says that at a council of the allied commanders held in Peking it was decided that Paoting, being the basis of Chinese military operations, must be razed to the ground, and that a strong expedition should be sent to carry out the operation. It is added, however, that this project is opposed by some of the Powers and that there is as yet no certainty whether it will be undertaken.

The latest report is that the Chinese Court has decided to transfer itself to Si-ngan on the 1st of November, but that Li Hung-chang and Taotai Shêng are exerting all their influence to prevent such a step, their programme being to bring about the withdrawal of the allied troops from Peking and the return of the Court to that city. It is to be regretted that the Powers do not take the initiative in this matter. If the opening of peace negotiations can be made conditional on the return of the Court to Peking, the danger that the withdrawal of the allied forces might be misconstrued by the Chinese nation would be greatly lessened, but if Li and Shêng are to figure as the contrivers of such a step, it might prove only a means of prolonging China's resistance. From an account published by the *Nippon* and translated by the *Japan Times*—an account of the flight of the Court from Peking, said to have been written by a high official, who was with their Majesties the Empress Dowager and the Emperor up to the last moment—it is evident that the Court fled under circumstances of the greatest humiliation, and that its resources for prolonging the campaign must be well nigh exhausted. If speedy steps are taken to prove that only by returning to Peking can their Majesties hope to restore their broken fortunes, it is most probable that they could be persuaded.

The account to which we have alluded gives a vivid impression of the straits to which the Court was reduced. The Empress Dowager and the Emperor had not even a change of clothing, and for three days they had to fare like the commonest travellers After all, it seems bootless to discuss the effect likely to be produced by isolated movements of foreign troops in a country where such things can happen without producing any perceptible effect. Foreign writers have accustomed us to think that China is honeycombed with disloyalty. They have talked of the Kao-lao-hui, of the Triad Society and of half a dozen other seditious associations, and they have assured the world that this full cup of potential rebellion would run over were it shaken by any opportunity. Nevertheless we see the Chinese Court driven from its capital, the troops defending the Throne shattered and the Emperor and the Empress Dowager flying for their lives under circumstances of painful destitution, yet not a ripple of rebellion disturbs the nation's calm. Was there ever a nation so apathetic, or has the Court some immovable place in the hearts of the people? Perhaps it is true, after all, that the hard business of living engrosses the faculties of the Chinese so completely that their thoughts have no leisure to wander elsewhere.

General Yung Lu, according to a telegram in the *Shogyo Shimpo*, is terribly indignant because some of the Powers have raised objections to his going to Peking in the capacity of peace commissioner. He is said to have cried out :—"Have the foreigners completely forgotten, then, the assistance I afforded them when they were surrounded in Peking by foes able to destroy them?" It is added that Yung Lu has now decided to accompany the Court to Si-ngan. This is a curious story. If Yung Lu used such language, we cannot suppose that he was insincere. What then are we to conclude? It may be that the comparative respite from attack enjoyed by the Peking Legations from the 16th of July until the time of their rescue was due to the exertions of Yung Lu. Certainly at the time there were many rumours that he had interfered vigorously on behalf of the beleaguered community. We prefer to think that he did not, for it would be really painful did his good offices meet with the ungrateful return he now declares himself to be receiving.

A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that the final sentence on Prince Twan is that he be deprived of his rank and also of a year's emoluments. The other delinquents have also been deprived of rank and office. These punishments may be merely temporary. Ranks and offices can be restored as easily as they are taken away. Nevertheless, it would be extravagant, perhaps, to look for anything more severe, except in the case of Yü Hsien, the acting Viceroy of Shansi, to whose discredit stands the cruel massacre at Ta yuen. The cardinal point, as it seems to us, is to contrive that the Chinese nation shall not be left in any doubt about the reasons of the penalties inflicted on Twan, Chwang, Kang and the rest. Prominent officials and generals are habitually punished in China in times of disaster simply because they failed to avert it. Foreign nations do not want to have any misconceptions about recent events. They should insist upon the broadcast issue of proclamations such as will render it impossible that the people can labour under any kind of error about the causes of the penalties pronounced against Twan and his coadjuters

There are various rumours about Li Hung-chang's escort. One story is that the English, Americans and French wanted to have him escorted by Japanese troops when he entered Peking, but the Russians explained that the duty of escorting him had already been entrusted to them, and Li himself expressed a desire in the latter sense. Much more credible, however, are statements attributed to Mr. Uchida, of the Foreign Office, who has just returned to Japan. He is represented as saying that Li was escorted by Russians while travelling in the district under Russian military occupation, and that he will have a Japanese escort when he enters the Japanese district.

Mr. Uchida adds that he had an interview with Li in Tientsin, but that he called on the Viceroy merely in his capacity of an old acquaintance, and that nothing of any special interest passed. Li claims, he says, that his credentials as plenipotentiary peace commissioner are beyond cavil, but a very careful scrutiny will be necessary on that point. At any rate, Mr. Uchida is credited with saying, what with the preliminary demands Germany is putting forward and other causes of delay, a considerable time must elapse before the negotiations actually commence.

ROBERTS AND KITCHENER.

Major-General Howard of the United States Army, discusses in the *North American Review* Lord Roberts' strategy in South Africa. He is highly eulogistic, his conclusion being that Roberts showed consummate generalship, and that he never allowed himself to be turned aside for a moment from the main objects of his campaign, namely, to defeat his adversaries with the least possible loss to himself and to obtain possession of the strong strategic positions which must control the States. The American critic is not equally complimentary to Kitchener. Speaking of Paardeberg, he says:—"Kitchener was obliged to act with promptitude, and so ordered an assault which cost him a loss of 1,200 men in killed and wounded, without securing any positive results. The Field Marshal, Roberts, arrived soon after to show him how better to accomplish a great purpose." We have always thought that Kitchener has been very harshly judged in this matter. The only real trouble about his action was that it did not succeed. Judging by the lights that were within his reach, he could come to only one conclusion, namely, that it was of prime importance to bring this particular struggle to the speediest possible conclusion. The capture of Cronje's force was of secondary moment compared with the capture of Bloemfontein, and every day spent in accomplishing the former might have added materially to the difficulties of the latter. Under such circumstances and with a greatly superior force, what General would have hesitated to attack the invested enemy? We doubt whether even the extraordinary patience of Lord Roberts would have stood the test. It must be remembered that when Lord Roberts arrived and proceeded to reconnoitre the position, he possessed the wisdom that follows the event. He knew that an attempt to carry the laager by a *coup de main* had failed, and that it had cost twelve hundred of his best men. Naturally his inclination would be to resort to other means. Yet it was not by his artillery, on which he relied, that he compelled Cronje's surrender in the end: it was by a skilful rush which planted a force of Englishmen within deadly range of the laager. Roberts himself is the man to arbitrate the question. We expect that when he speaks it will be to exonerate Kitchener.

PEST.

There has been no new case of pest in Osaka for the past four or five days, and there are now only 5 patients in the Momoyama Hospital. It is interesting to note how these iterated attempts of the disease to gain a footing are defeated. The five patients now in hospital are all in a fair way towards convalescence, which fact is attributed to the speedy use of serum. Considering that the total figures recently published showed 101 deaths out of 102 cases, the recovery of these five patients will mark an epoch in the treatment of the malady. But the change may also mean that the disease is losing its virulence, a feature always displayed by epidemics when their climax has been passed. The police reports show, however, that bacilli-infested carcases of rats are still found in the southern ward of the city.

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THE CABINET.

The journals which can be most relied on allege that although a long conference took place on the 4th instant between Marquis Ito and Marquis Yamagata in the former's official residence at Reinan-zaka, the absence of Viscount Aoki, whose mother is seriously ill, prevented any discussion of foreign affairs, and as such a discussion is essential to a definite understanding, Marquis Ito's decision has been postponed We scarcely think that the account is credible in that form. At all events, there can now be very little doubt that Marquis Ito will consent to form a Cabinet. Perhaps, under the circumstance, some interest attaches to the Tokyo *Asahi's* forecast of the new portfolio holders :—

Cabinet in the event of Marquis Saigo's remaining office	Cabinet if Marquis Saigo's retires
Minister President—	
Marquis Ito.	Marquis Ito.
Home Affairs—	
Marquis Saigo.	Viscount Watanabe, or Mr. Hoshi Toru.
Finance—	
Count Inouye.	Count Inouye.
Foreign Affairs—	
Baron Ito or Marquis Saionji or Marquis Ito.	Baron Ito or Marquis Saionji or Marquis Ito.
Education—	
Marquis Saionji.	Marquis Saionji or Baron Suyematsu.
Agriculture and Commerce—	
Mr. Hayashi Yuzo, or Viscount Watanabe.	Baron Kaneko or Mr. Hayashi, Yuzo.
Justice—	
Mr. Matsuda Masahisa.	Mr. Matsuda.
Communication—	
Viscount Watanabe or Mr. Hayashi Yuzo.	Mr. Hayashi.
War—	
Baron Kodama or Viscount Katsura or Marquis Oyama.	Baron Kodama or Viscount Katsura or Marquis Oyama.
Navy—	
Admiral Yamamoto.	Admiral Yamamoto.

It is confidently asserted that Marquis Ito, when he repaired to the Palace on the 7th instant, accepted his Majesty's mandate to form a new Cabinet. The *Jiumim* alleges that the ceremony of installation was to take place on the 8th instant. The same paper says that Mr. Hoshi Toru will be offered the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, and that, if he refuses, Marquis Ito will discharge the duties himself. Other journals are of opinion that Marquis Ito will assume full control of foreign affairs, assisted by Mr. Kato as *Somuchokan* (Vice-Minister), and that the finances will be entirely entrusted to Count Inouye.

It is expected that Marquis Ito will accept the mandate to form a Cabinet and that his resolve will be announced in a few days. There is talk now of a difficulty about Mr. Hoshi Toru's position in the new Ministry. He himself is said to be willing to take a comparatively insignificant post if by so doing he can facilitate the arrangements. But his followers consider that he ought to be Minister for Home Affairs, and certainly it seems to foreigners that he has a very solid claim The Tokyo press appears to think that Marquis Ito has been unwilling to form any decision until he learned from Viscount Aoki the present condition and previous course of the country's foreign affairs.

The *Niroku Shimbun* says that Mr. Hoshi Toru stands very high at present in the estimation of all sections of the *Seiyu-kai*, owing to the disinterested attitude he has assumed towards the question of the "spoil." He avers that he is quite indifferent about the distribution of portfolios and that Marquis Ito's appointements will never be challenged by him. The High Collar Party, however, object, it is said, to such nonchalance. They have been worked until their clothes are spoiled and they now want new suits.

The latest news is that Marquis Ito has now definitely concluded to form a Cabinet. He proceeded to the Palace yesterday to signify his readiness, and a meeting of the *Seiyu-kai* leaders was subsequently held to consult with the Marquis as to the distribution of portfolios. It is said that Viscount Katsura will remain at the War Office and that Marquis Saigo is resolved not to take a place in the new Ministry. Mr. Hoshi Toru, it is alleged, declares himself quite indifferent. He will do whatever Marquis Ito suggests—take a portfolio or support the Cabinet from without. The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a forecast of the Cabinet, but as there are excellent reasons to doubt its correctness, we need not reproduce it.

Affairs are not moving as rapidly as was expected towards the organization of a new Cabinet Marquis Ito is confined to his bed by a severe cold which threatens to develop into influenza, and his illness constitutes, of course, an amply sufficient reason for some delay. But nearly all the Tokyo journals agree that there is more than this accidental obstacle in the path. They allege that Marquis Ito insists on a clear determination of the Yamagata Cabinet's responsibility with respect to certain important matters. Prominent among these is a question of foreign policy which is now actually in process of solution, and which must be either carried to a conclusion or restored to its condition before the Cabinet took it up. The budget is another of the assigned difficulties. It is alleged that although the reserves for naval maintenance, famine relief and education have been appropriated for the purposes of the Chinese campaign, no plan for replacing them is included in the budget for next year, as drafted by the Cabinet. Some papers further allege that Marquis Ito seeks an explicit explanation of the Yamagata Cabinet's reasons for not treating the National Union as a political party, since he himself can not view it in any other light, and is naturally unwilling to signalize his assumption of power by a marked departure in such a matter from the procedure of his predecessors. It need scarcely be added that this delay is utilized by some journals for the purpose of trying to sow seeds of discord among the members of the *Rikken-seiyu-kai*, a species of manœuvre in which Japanese journalists are very adroit. We may fairly, conclude, however, that there are some points of difficulty between the outgoing and the incoming cabinets, and that Marquis Ito desires to have the ministerial mansion freed from cobwebs and duly swept and garnished before he enters into occupation.

It is now stated that Viscount Watanabe has abandoned his intention of leaving the *Seiyu-kai*. In fact his temporary indignation has been quieted, and he is now the butt of the Progressist organs, which ridicule his changes of mood. No one seems to be quite certain about the reason of the Viscount's umbrage. Meanwhile Marquis Ito has gone to Oiso to recuperate. He is accompanied by Count Inouye and Baron Kaneko, and it is expected that Viscount Watanabe will follow. Thus the final organization of the new Cabinet is postponed for the moment.

THE BANKRUPTCY CASE IN YOKOHAMA.

A good deal of surprise and some indignation have been caused by the treatment of the representative of the foreign firm recently declared bankrupt at the instance of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. He is under police surveillance, is not allowed to use more than two rooms in his house, and may not go out after 6 p.m. Such treatment is in some respects unusual, and naturally the public are inclined to place the responsibility upon the Court. We believe, however, that the Court gave full notice of the inevitable results of the petition in its projected form, and further suggested the advisability of effecting some arrangement without recourse to the law. As to restraint imposed on the person of the debtor, we have never heard of anything of the kind in the case of a Japanese subject, unless there is a specific charge of fraud. It is possible, however, that in a place like Yokohama, whence so many opportunities of escape present themselves, the Court may deem it advisable to adopt special precautions. The sealing of property naturally exposes the debtor to some inconvenience, and we can not see that any ground of complaint exists because only limited facilities of residence remain. In fact, restraint of the person is the only objectionable phase. We may mention that proceedings of this nature are supposed to continue for seven days only according to Japanese law.

A SACRED MANDATE.

The latest theory of international relations is that nations are used by God for police purposes, and that although they may seem to be pursuing their own selfish ends, they are really playing an unconscious part in the great inspired plan. Dr. William Ashmore, the exponent of this view, goes to the Old Testament for confirmation and for illustrations. He points out how, as we are explicitly informed, the King of Mesopotamia and the Philistines were used to chastise Israel; how the Chaldeans also were the rod of the divine anger; how Cyrus with his Medes and Persians served to rescue one nation out of the hands of another. The doctor is an American citizen, and the immediate purpose of his writing is to justify the Philippine expedition and the doings of United States troops in China. He says :—

"That savage and treacherous tribes, up and down the valleys, have treated the foreigner, American as well as Englishman, with a decent civility, is owing to that particular kind of police that wears a red coat and has a Union Jack flying over its tented barracks. Let us recognize the fact, and give them credit. British statesmen have not all of them meant it; but divine Providence has been promoting the kingdom. Christ administers the kingdom of grace; but behind the kingdom of grace is the kingdom of God and of the governor of the nation, who chastiseth the heathen, and who setteth up one and putteth down another, and giveth the kingdom to whomsoever He will.

"These things bear upon the great fact of our unforeseen and forced entrance into the Philippines, and just now to an unavoidable landing of troops in China. We are not here to conquer a nation, much less to appropriate their territory, but we are there to protect our people, and it may be that God intends we shall lend a hand in doing police work among the natives. China has become a next-door neighbor to us. It was not so fifty years ago; but it is so to-day. She has become a close and intimate neighbor. Our closer neighborship imposes new obligations upon us. May be God will compel us to form part of His *posse comitatus*. It is a subject worth looking into, at all events."

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SHIPPING DISASTERS.

The steamer *Matsumaye Maru* is reported to have taken fire and sunk in Esashi Bay. Her passengers, 17 in number, were rescued by the *Mutsu Maru*.

A collision between a sailing vessel—the *Kawata Maru*—and a steamer, not named, occurred in Tadotsu Bay at 8.20 p.m. on the 7th. No serious injury was sustained by either vessel.

Another vessel, the s.s. *Hokushiu Maru* (1,015 tons) is reported to have been wrecked in Horomushiro Bay, on the coast of the Chishima group, on the 17th of Sept. No lives were lost. The vessel carried a cargo of dried salmon, which was insured for 65,000 *yen*, her hull being insured for 50,000. She was owned by the Yamagata Unso-ten.

News has been received of the sinking of the s.s. *Izanagi Maru* on the 5th instant in Chung-chyeng-do Bay. The steamer was *en route* from Jinsen to Osaka. The *Izanagi* is a vessel of 430 tons. She struck a sunken rock and is a hopeless wreck. Three Japanese passengers and 13 Koreans out of a total of 80 are missing. The cargo consisted of 3,000 bags of rice, and the vessel was owned by the Hori Unso-ten. She was insured for thirty thousand *yen*.

The *Katsuragi* (3rd class coast-defence ship; 1,500 tons) went ashore during the night of the 6th instant, at Izumitsu of Oshima. The *Musashi* went to her assistance on the 8th instant, but no news has yet been received of the result.

The disaster to the *Katsuragi* occurred on the voyage from Yokosuka to Saseho. During a fog the vessel ran aground on Oshima (Izu) and unfortunately the gale of the 9th instant found her in that condition, with the result that she became a complete wreck. The *Musashi*, which went to her assistance was unable to affect anything, owing to the state of the weather. The *Katsuragi* was a composite coast service vessel of 1,502 tons, built in 1889.

CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN.

On the strength of a statement published by the *Advertiser* of Yokohama, that one of the American mission boards was about to withdraw from Japan its last representative, and to leave the work entirely in Japanese hands, Mr. Francis Penman, whom *The Literary Digest* describes as "a literary man living in Japan," and who is a Roman Catholic, writes as follows:—

"This extract shows clearly the failure of Protestant Christianity in this country, for it is failure and not large-hearted trust in the Japanese Protestant that has caused this retreat. There are at present independent Protestant churches in Japan, but, in the first place, their Christianity has become so vague that it can hardly be called Christianity at all; and, in the second place, they are not making headway. A Japanese journalist, who relates his experiences in the columns of the *Kirisuto Tokyo Shumbun*, says that he examined the roll of one of these churches some time ago, and found that out of a total membership of 323 no less than 86 persons were marked absent. He was informed that out of the remainder, 123 persons were Christian only in name, so that the work of the church had to be carried on by a little over 100 converts; and even out of these the average attendance at church meetings did not exceed 77. And the last report of the *Kumiai* (Independent Japanese churches—Protestant, of course) shows that the number of self-supporting churches has fallen from 40 to 34, and if the truth must be told, there are not more than 24 or 25 of these that are self-supporting in reality.

"Not only are the 'Independent' churches thus going backward in point of numbers, they are, as I have just hinted, going wofully backward in regard to doctrine as well. I shall give a concrete example of what I mean. The Doshisha is a fine educational institution established by a Japanese Protestant who was, I believe, a sincere and able Christian. It was run for a number of years as a religious establishment in connection with the American Board Mission, and of course the trustees were all Christians of good standing, and generally clergymen. For some time they *were* Christians, but changes—mental and otherwise—occur rapidly in Japan, and only last year they had progressed so far toward Agnosticism that a breach with the American Board Mission occurred. I visited personally some of the leaders of the movement, and they told me that they certainly did not believe in the divinity of Christ; in fact, I failed to discover any one point of Christian belief that they did believe in. And I do not blame them; for it was evident to me that they were logically right, and acted in good faith on the principle of private interpretation. Ten years ago Protestantism had a very good outlook in Japan, and many highly educated Japanese embraced it. But it took the 'advanced thinkers' among the converts only a year or two to out-Spencer Spencer, and to-day the vernacular Protestantism of Japan is getting on as best it can without any burning or shining light whatsoever. The burning and shining lights—in other words, the leading native ecclesiastics—became all of them 'philosophers,' and, while still professing to be Christians, attempted to call in German and other materialism to their aid. The English and American missionary bodies to which they belonged naturally objected. The American Episcopal Church of Japan fell foul of Dr. Sugiura, a Japanese Minister (who has had, by the way, the advantage of an excellent American education), who denied the miraculous birth of Christ. Many of the leading Japanese clergymen resigned; and, in another direction, the organ of the Lutheran Church in Japan, a magazine which maintained that the Bible is a revelation, was discontinued because 'no suitable editor could be found who was prepared to defend such a theory.'"

Mr. Penman quotes the following letter from a Japanese writer in one of the Tokyo magazines:

"Can it be said that our Christian philosophy has been any more successful than our preaching of morality? I trow not. After attempting to call in German materialism to the aid of Christianity with poor results, our philosophers fell back on the ultra-idealism of Brahmanism and Buddhism, with the outcome that they have gradually explained away the personality of the Christian God, reducing Him to a mere controlling force, or to a fixed law called *Tenmei*. What possability is there of building a system of morality on belief in the existence of such an entity as this? . . . If we ask what amount of real faith in Christianity there exists in this country, the answer must be discouraging. Christians dispute about opinions and discuss this doctrine and that, but beneath it all, it seems to me, there is little real belief. Christianity in coming to us has had the advantage of being associated with a system of civilization whose merits are acknowledged. It has been represented as part and parcel of that civilization, and hence has in the past received a certain amount of prestige that it is no longer likely to retain. The feeling of the nation in reference to the various elements composing what is called Western civilization has changed, and hence Christianity is no longer likely to be regarded as an inseparable part of that civilization. If things proceed thus, in thirty years Christianity in Japan will be effaced."

To this Mr. Penman adds the words of a careful student of religious movements in Japan: "There are few churches in Japan that are not invaded by heresy and scepticism, and it would seem that before many decades are past there will be materials enough in this country to satisfy the mind of a Mosheim, should the world produce another such patient chronicler of the endless vagaries of theological speculation."

Mr. Penman admits that Christianity of all kinds in the present or "Meiji" era is making slow progress in Japan. If many of the Japanese who have joined in the Agnostic movement ever return to Christianity, Mr. Penman believes that it will be to that form of it represented by the Roman Catholic Church.

OLD TIMES.

A city older than Ur of the Chaldees, where Abraham was born, is something to think of with emotion. Such a city is Nippur in Mesopotamia, where explorations have been conducted during the past twelve months by Professor Hilprecht of the Pennsylvania University. These excavations have also laid bare the ruins of Calneh, which with Babel, Erech and Hecad formed the beginning of the Kingdom of Nimrod. Some 17,000 tablets have been recovered. They are covered with cuneiform writings, and they treat of history, mythology, grammar, lexicography, science and mathematics. The most modern of these documents dates from 2280 B.C. But even this great find does not represent the whole. "The unexplored remains of the library," we read, "are even more extensive than those already examined. The tablets are generally arranged with regularity on clay shelves around the room of the library, and Professor Hilprecht estimates that at their present rate of working five more years will be necessary to excavate and examine the contents." Another 150,000 tablets are expected, and it is thought that they will constitute a complete record of ancient civilization. The *Biblia*, writing of these discoveries, says:—

"No one can read an account of the work of Professor Hilprecht without being struck by the fact that the people of 7,000 years ago lived very much as we do to-day. There was the same appreciation of literature and art as shown in the cuneiform scripts and in their sculpture. Wealthy people lived in the cities and employed attorneys to manage their tenantry who lived in the country on farms. When they bought jewelry a written guaranty went with it. In the archive room of Murashu Sons, attorneys of ancient Nippur, there was found a tablet guaranteeing that an emerald set in a ring would not fall out for twenty years. Houses were built on an extensive, not to say modern, plan, and were furnished more or less magnificently, as evidenced in the palace mentioned above. Fortifications were built, wars were carried on, conquests were made, and heroes were glorified. People, when they died, were not thrown hastily into the earth, but were laid away carefully in clay coffins, which are found to-day still covered with the beautiful blue glaze with which they were decorated by the ancient undertaker. And for the benefit of posterity science was studied and museums were planned that they might be found in the dawn of the twentieth century and the history of the race read as a sermon in stones."

CHILDREN'S SHOES.

A very strange accident or series of accidents, has been reported to the Academy of Medicine in Paris by French physicians. It appears that tan shoes which have been worn by children and outgrown by them without being worn out, are transformed into black shoes for some other little ones, and that the transformation is effected by means of very penetrating dyes of aniline black. The result of wearing such shoes is given in one case as follows:—

"At the beginning of a warm spring afternoon, one of us was sent for in haste to see a child of seventeen months which had been brought back from its outing in the air unconscious and apparently suffocated. After a morning passed as usual, the child had been taken to the Monceau Park, but it seemed to have lost its life and gaiety, its face looked queer and its complexion had turned bluish; it seemed to be asphyxiated, although it uttered no cries.

The nurse was frightened and took it home, where it arrived, instead of the fresh, rosy baby of that morning, a lifeless child with limp figure blue lips, corpse—like hands—in short, all the symptoms of an attack of asphyxia."

After trying various methods of resuscitation the child was restored, although it remained very ill for forty-eight hours. Looking for the cause of so strange an attack, the doctors noticed the odd, penetrating odor of the child's boots, which had been dyed black as described above and they concluded that it had been poisoned by the dye. This hypothesis was confirmed by an exactly similar attack experienced by the brother of the child, and by reports a dozen or more in all, of like attacks from children, all of whom were wearing dyed shoes. In all cases the dye was anilin black and contained no arsenic or other substance hitherto believed to be capable of exerting such a powerful effect.

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THE KOBE WATER-WORKS CASE.

In answer to some criticisms and queries published by the *Kobe Chronicle*, the Secretary of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce has addressed to that journal a letter containing an important statement with reference to the celebrated case of the water-works bonds. The public have hitherto laboured under the impression that the representatives of the Kobe Water Works, when making an agreement for the sale of the bonds to a foreign capitalist, intended to pledge themselves to a certain rate of redemption in terms of sterling, and that they subsequently declined to implement their promise in consequence of the Treasury's refusal to sanction the insertion of a sterling rate. But the letter of the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce shows that the Treasury's intimation as to the impossibility of fixing a sterling rate was given on March the 31st; that the Kobe Municipality therefore struck out the stipulation making the bonds payable in foreign currency; that the bonds thus amended were presented to the Treasury for approval on April 11th; that they were formally approved on April 19th, and that the negotiations with the foreign capitalist, Mr. J. R. Morse, were not commenced until June 25th, or nearly 3 months after the Treasury's refusal to sanction a sterling rate, and more than a month after the bonds, amended so as to exclude a sterling rate, were officially approved. Assuming these dates to be correct, it would seem out of the question that the representatives of the Kobe Municipality could have intended to pledge themselves to a sterling rate of redemption when they concluded the bargain with Mr. Morse, unless they were ignorant of the fact that such a restriction had been imposed by the Treasury. On the other hand, it can not be doubted for a moment that Mr Morse believed the bonds to have been sold to him on the explicit condition of redemption in sterling at a fixed rate. There would appear to have been a most unfortunate misunderstanding.

THE "SHIMBI DAIKWAN."

The third volume of the *Shimbi Daikwan* has now appeared. It is more than equal to either of its predecessors Great doubts have been expressed—and we confess to having shared them—about the prospects of this work. Its complete publication will require such a long time and involve such heavy expense, while, on the other hand, the support likely to be rendered to it is so small, that its projectors can scarcely be expected to persevere to the end. We sincerely trust that they will, however, for the volumes grow more and more attractive and instructive as the work progresses. Japan has become celebrated for her fine art, pictorial and applied, yet there is probably no other country in the world where access to art objects is so difficult. Innumerable beautiful things are preserved here and there, but there is nothing like a representative museum, and in spite of the pains taken by foreign writers to expound and illustrate the subject, not one of them has had access to a really wide range of specimens. Such an insight as the *Shimbi Daikwan* gives us is unprecedented. The authors set out originally with the intentiou of drawing upon the treasures of temples only, but they have now very wisely extended their field so as to include private collections also. This third volume commences with a number of beautiful examples of sculpture in wood and bronze, illustrating the development of this branch of art from the sixth to the thirteenth century. Travellers who make a business of visiting temples in distant parts of the country, and using influence with the priests, might succeed in seeing many of these treasures, but they could not possibly hope to make a survey so extended and, at the same time, so special as that afforded by the finely executed plates of the *Shimbi Daikwan*. This third volume derives exceptional interest from the fact that it contains several illustrations of pictures by celebrated Chinese artists from the *Sang* dynasty to the *Ming*. The world knows very little about Chinese pictorial art. Works by the great masters of the Middle Kingdom have never gone westward, and until within the past few years, Europeans and Americans imagined that China had nothing better to show in this line than the wretched daubs painted on rice-paper that may be purchased in any town from Peking to Canton. It was to Japan that they owed the correction of that delusion, for Japanese connoiseurs have always appreciated the value of Chinese pictures, recognised in them the examples that inspired the best artists of their own country, and treasured them with loving care. The compilers of the *Shimbi Daikwan* are thus able to reproduce a number of Chinese works which will probably be a revelation to the public in general. That feature alone is enough to commend the work to every student of Far-Eastern art.

LOSSES AND GAINS OF THE JAPANESE FORCES.

Lieut.-General Yamaguchi's statement of the casualties among his troops in the course of the expedition from Tientsin to Peking, and of the captures made by them, is as follows:—

ATTACK ON PEH-TSANG ON AUGUST 5TH.

Killed ... 1 officer; 41 rank and file; 9 horses.
Wounded 12 officers, 234 „ , 11 „
Missing .. — „ ; 8 „ ; 1 „

EXPENDED.—107 common shell; 793 shrapnel shell; 89,851 rounds of small-arm ammunition; 48 rifles; 34 implements of sorts.

CAPTURED.—Small-arm ammunition 400 rounds; gun ammunition, 63 rounds, bayonets, 75, swords 86, tents 69; spears 2, various utensils 36.

FIGHTING AT HOSHI-U, CHANG-KIA-WAN, AND KAN-KIA-CHWANG (6TH TO 12TH OF AUGUST).

Killed, rank and file 2; horses 2.
Wounded, rank and file 13; 1 horse.

EXPENDED.—217 common shell; 843 shrapnel shell; 28,141 rounds of small-arm ammunition; 55 rounds of pistol ammunition; 3 rifles.

CAPTURED.—7 prisoners (rank and file); 128 Taels in silver, 50,000 *koku* of hulled rice; 50 carts; 107 boats.

FIGHTING AT PEKING (ON THE 14TH, 15TH AND 16TH OF AUGUST).

Killed, 1 officer, 51 rank and file; 2 horses.

Wounded, 15 officers; 211 rank and file; 2 horses.

Missing, 8 rank and file.

EXPENDED.—8,655 common shell; 3,422 shrapnel shell; 18,608 rounds of small-arm ammunition; 115 rounds of pistol ammunition; 28 rifles.

CAPTURED.—Prisoners, 2 officers; 330 rank and file. Horses taken, 200, Rifles, 2,988. Various kinds of small-arms 2,443; ingals, 392; cannon (new pattern) 76; cannon (old pattern) 288; gun ammunition 1,587 rounds, small-arm ammunition 2,832 boxes, gunpowder, 1,531 boxes; hulled rice, 100,000 *koku*, silver, 2,637,700 taels, swords (new pattern) 1,400; swords (old pattern) 1,744; tents 250; spears 87

Thus the total Japauese casualties on the expedition from Tientsin to Peking were 2 officers killed and 27 wounded; 94 rank and file killed, 658 wounded and 16 missing; a grand aggregate of 797.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

There has been an issue of forged shares of the Bank of Japan and other institutions. It is said that false shares of the Nishinari Tetsudo (Osaka) to the amount of a million *yen* are on the market.

The *Jiji* has a paragraph to the effect that Russia has ordered six million lbs. of beef from the Armour Company, of Chicago, for the use of her troops in China. This will involve the slaughter of five thousand cattle, which is said to be the biggest operation ever undertaken by the Company at one time. The beef will come *viâ* San Francisco and Japan.

It is stated that the sixth daughter of H.I.H. Prince Kujo has been betrothed to Baron Shibuya, *Kwancho* of the Bukko-ji temple in Kyoto. Baron Shibuya is a descendant of Kamatari, ancestor of the Fujiwara family, so that the young lady and her future husband are relatives tracing their descent from the same stock thirteen centuries back. Our readers are aware that the Princess Imperial is also a daughter of Prince Kujo. The newly betrothed lady is only eleven years of age, and the projected bridegroom is 16, so that some years must elapse before the marriage takes place.

It is now alleged that the very favourable estimates recently formed of this year's rice harvest were over-sanguine. Reports collected by the Shibusawa firm go to show that the yield will not be above the average. This is explained by the facts that the weather during the period subsequent to setting out the young plants was not favourable and that, although no very serious atmospheric disturbances have been experienced, some damage has certainly been done by storms and floods The Shibusawa firm's reports cover only one-fourth of the country, thus far, but they suffice to show, it is said, that whereas the Kiushiu crop will be of only average quality, that of Saga will be below the average.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has struck a very interesting subject when it undertakes to discuss the marine industry of Japan. Striking figures result from comparisions with countries like Norway and England. Japan has an immense length of coast line—17,500 mile—and the number of her people engaged in the fishing industry is 3,005,429. The value of their yearly take is 36,470,959 *yen*, being an average of 12.135 *yen* per head. In Norway the number of fishermen is 121,500, and the value of their annual take is 16,109,948 *yen*; or an average of 132 59 *yen* per head. England's case is still more striking. She has 107,757 fishermen, who catch 82,843,825 *yen* worth of fish; being an average of 868.80 *yen* per man. The *Jiji* notes that the population of this country increases at the rate of 500,000 annually, and that agriculture can not possibly provide sustenance for such an increment. Development of the fishing industry is highly important. Apparently the law proposed by the Government and endorsed by the Diet for the encouragement of deep-sea fishing has not worked well. Only a few vessels—some 12 or 13—have secured bounties under it, and the total cost to the Treasury is a paltry 50,000 *yen*. Defective appliances and old-fashioned methods are believed to be the cause of the poor show made by Japan in this matter.

The income-tax payers of Honjo and Fukagawa entertained Marquis Ito and the

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leaders of the Seiyu-kai at the Nakamura-ro on the 6th instant. Baron Shibusawa delivered a brief speech welcoming the guests, after which Marquis Ito spoke. He drew a comparison between the part played by the citizens of Tokyo in the management of its affairs to-day, and their complete exclusion from any such functions thirty years ago.

The Tokyo Tram Company intends to change its name to "Central Electric Tram Company," since it has obtained permission to substitute electricity for horse power. A meeting of the shareholders is to be held on the 20th to discuss details. Its capital, hitherto 1,700,000 *yen*, will be raised to 5 millions in shares of 50 *yen* each. The period of the Company's charter has been extended from the 45th to the 85th year of *Meiji*.

It is stated that the Pope having sent a very handsome diamond to Bishop Favier with instructions that it should be handed to the person who had performed the best service during the siege of Peking, the Bishop handed it to Col. Shiba, military *attâché* of the Japanese Legation. In connection with this subject, it will be interesting to read the detailed accounts furnished by foreign correspondents of the relief of Peking. Those that have hitherto appeared in local Chinese papers say that the pressing duty of rescuing the Christians shut up in the Peh-tang Cathedral was virtually performed by the Japanese. They had advanced to the relief and driven off the Chinese, when the French troops came up and entered the Cathedral. That is not unlikely, considering the preponderating strength of the Japanese.

We read in the *Kokumin* that the Chinese colony at Kelung is about to organize a ceremony in celebration of submission to Japanese rule. These Chinese are from the Canton district and are said to be men of great bravery and strong devotion.

It is now stated that there will be no change in the Tokyo municipal expenditures next year. The sum now spent is 1,810,000 *yen* of ordinary income, to which must be added 700,000 *yen* of extraordinary income, making a total of 2,510,000 *yen*.

Mr. Akabane Shiro has been appointed to represent Japan at the Spanish Court.

The Chicago *Evening Post*, having invited expressions of opinion as to the ten books that a man ought to choose for his library were he banished to a desert island for five years, received replies from several men whose opinions ought to be worth a good deal. Among the five answers published, three place the Bible first, and all five vote for Shakespeare. "Pickwick Papers" figures is two of the answers, Carlyle's "French Revolution" is equally honoured. but Tennyson receives only one vote. In fact these replies indicate that the idiosyncracies of the reader influence his judgment much more than the quality of the book does.

An emphatic contradiction has been published of the recently circulated story that the Russian Consul at Hakodate had accidentally shot a man. It appears that Mr. Hedenstrom is not even the possessor of a gun and that the tale is a ridiculous *canard*.

Mr. A. G. Angier, proprietor of the *London and China Express*, who is on a visit to the Far East, has been obliged, it is said, to vary his programme of travel, the disturbed state of North China rendering it impossible for him to prosecute the inquiries which he had originally intended to make in that district. Having completed his journeying in Southern China, he is now on a visit to Japan. Some very interesting articles from his pen on the state of affairs in South China have already made their appearance in the *London and China Express*.

We read in the *Jiji* that a species of silk trust—our contemporary calls it a syndicate—is being formed in Yokohama, the principal Japanese promoter being Mr. Wakao Ikuzo, and the principal foreign associate, Messrs. Otto Reimers and Company. The object of the syndicate is to buy up the main part, if not the whole, of the large quantity of raw silk now lying in Yokohama, and to hold it for the purpose of invigorating the market.

It is stated that the *Okawa Maru* and the *Yeijo Maru*, two steamers belonging to the Okawa S.S. Company, have been purchased by Germany for use in connexion with military operations in North China.

The number of telegraphic messages, domestic and foreign, sent over Japanese wires during the month of May this year was 1,424,047; and the cost was 463,587 *yen*. Compared with the return for May 1899, there was an increase of 36 per cent. in the number of messages and of 23 per cent. in the total cost.

It is stated that in the sequel of communications between the Foreign Office in Tokyo and the Russian Authorities, the recent seizure of 66 Japanese fishermen is found to have been an error. The men were mistaken for subjects of one of the Powers between which an agreement exists as to the preservation of the seal rookeries in Behring Sea. Sixty-four of the men have been released, but two are still held by the Russian Authorities for a reason which we find as inexplicable as the whole story.

The horses bred on the imperial paddock at Nicapu in Hokkaido are said to be now the finest in Japan. One of our Tokyo contemporaries gives a long list of the sires that have been employed.

The *Chuo Shimbun* publishes a table showing the growth of the various commercial marines during the past 30 years. The tonnage of sailing vessels has diminished in every case except Japan's. Germany shows the largest percentage of growth.

SAILING VESSELS.

	1870. Tons.		1899. Tons.
Great Britain.....	4,577,845	...	2,246,850
America	3,119,645	...	2,864,238
Germany	900,361	...	400,000
Japan.....	89,309	...	220,000
STEAMERS.			
Great Britain.....	1,112,934	...	6,917,472
America	1,075,095	...	2,476,011
Germany	81,994	...	1,300,000
Japan.....	40,000	...	480,000

A severe gale is reported from Takata (Yechigo) and Kochi on the night of the 8th and the morning of the 9th. This was doubtless the storm felt with such severity in Tokyo and Yokohama during the night of the 9th. It was by no means so violent a gale as that which caused so much damage on the 28th ultimo, but it certainly developed typhoon force at one time. The Sanyo Railway is reported impassable to the west of Mitajiri. The gale of the 8th and 9th seems to have had its origin on the sea between Korea and Tsushima, whence it travelled north-east and entered the Sea of Japan. The path of the centre is not yet clearly known.

It goes without saying that the Progressist organs are endeavouring to prove that a serious split has occurred in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*, because of Viscount Watanabe's disaffection. They assign all sorts of reasons for the Viscount's attitude, and they even go so far as to publish articles headed "The overthrow of the *Seiyu-kai*." Rumours of this nature are so common during periods of Cabinet organization that the public seldom pays much attention to them. There seems to be no doubt, however, that Viscount Watanabe has broken away, although the cause of his umbrage is more or less obscure. Rumour alleges most confidently that he objects to Marquis Ito's projected distribution of portfolios and appointments to office on the ground that they show a marked departure from the avowed principle of eschewing party influence in such matters. Others say, however, that the Viscount does not agree with Count Inouye's financial views. Strong endeavours are being made to placate him, but their success or failure will not seriously affect the formation of a Cabinet, we imagine.

Rumour attributes to Prince Konoye the intention of resigning his post as President of the Nobles School. This step he will take, it is said, in order to obtain greater freedom for political movements. Prince Konoye represents the highest of the old *Kuge* families. The offices of *Sessho* and *Kwambaku*—the highest offices in the State—used to be hereditary in his house. Like all the other *Kuge* Princes his means are sufficient to render him quite independent.

The Cotton-spinners Union desire that the number of voyages made by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Bombay steamers should be increased from 13 to 26 annually. At present the company receive from the Treasury on account of this line a subsidy of 190,000 *yen* annually, which expires next December. It was the Government's object in granting the subsidy to enable the cotton-spinners to have their raw material carried from Bombay at cheap rates, and in pursuance of that purpose the Nippon Yusen Kaisha reduced the freight to 15 rupees a ton, of which sum 3 rupees are returned to the shippers, so that the net sum received by the carriers is only 12 rupees. Five hundred thousand bales of cotton are shipped yearly from Bombay to Japan, but of that quantity only 100,000 are carried by the ships of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. The mere fact that they can obtain the same rates from the steamers of other companies seems to be sufficient for Japanese shippers. Not reflecting that the rate is kept down to 12 rupees by the action of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and by the Treasury's generosity, they distribute their cargo with more than impartiality, so that their own country's vessels do not by any means get the lion's share. Yet they now want to have greater facilities provided for them, whereas the shipping companies find the twelve-rupee rate too low, and are insisting that it must be raised.

Count Matsukata, in a speech delivered on the 5th instant at a general meeting of the Agricultural and Industrial Bank, dwelt on the importance of cultivating a spirit of effective economy among the people. He took for text the fact that the total deposits in savings bank of all descriptions aggregate at present only forty-five million *yen*, being at the rate of one *yen* per head of population. Were the rate raised to five *yen*—not a difficult task—there would be no lack of capital for the various enterprises now awaiting prosecution.

From a notice contained in the *Chuo Shimbun* we gather that the only two Japan-

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ese sculptors who obtained gold medals at the Paris Exhibition, were comparatively young men, Messrs. Kuroiwa Taisai and Numada Ichigo. The interesting point is that these artists both belong to the modern school; that is to say, they represent Occidental methods of sculpture as adopted in Japan by the pupils of the Fine Art School established 26 years ago in connection with the Engineering College. We infer from this that the judges at the Exhibition see no merit in the old Japanese style of sculpture. Did they fully understand the difference, we wonder. Did they know that the true Japanese sculptor never uses rule or compass but works entirely by eye, whereas all mechanical devices from the "pointer" to the callipers are employed by the student of Occidental methods? We sincerely trust that this may not prove a serious discouragement to the artists of the Japanese school.

The Tokyo Beer Company's affairs seem to be in a bad way. It is reported to have made a total loss of about 110,000 *yen*. Some foreigners are shareholders in this Company.

It is noted that a change has become apparent in the aspect of the country's foreign trade. The figures for the week ended the 5th instant were, exports, 2,346,217 *yen*, and imports, 1,282,506 *yen*, there being thus an excess of 1,063,712 *yen* on the side of exports. Further, during the first ten days of the current month, exports exceeded imports by 2,300,000 *yen*. This is largely due, doubtless, to the movement which has commenced in the silk market, and also to the renewal of transactions in marine products.

The Prince Imperial is about to pay a visit to Chiugoku, Shikoku and Kiushiu. His progress will be on a most unpretentious scale, and the local officials of the various districts have been notified in that sense. His Imperial Highness will set out on the 14th instant.

The Japan Railway Company announces substantial reductions of fares in the case of school-children travelling *en masse*. It will carry 50 children at a reduction of 25 per cent., and if the number reaches 300, the reduction is 50 per cent.

It is reported that Messrs. Helm Brothers, having attempted to establish maritime carrying communications between Yokohama and Tokyo, have been stopped by the Authorities on the ground that such business, being in the nature of coasting trade, is forbidden to foreigners. There is said to be a difference of opinion on the subject.

KOREA.

In spite of rumours to the contrary, the Korean Government is said to have definitely sanctioned the arrangement recently proposed for extending the fishing privileges enjoyed by Japanese subjects, in consideration of the latter's refraining from transactions in ginseng. Tokyo newspapers allege that an official intimation in that sense has been made to Mr. Hayashi.

The Korean Representative in Tokyo, Mr. Cho, is beginning to attract attention by the alleged intimacy of his relations with the Russian Minister. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* and the *Niroku* have taken up this subject. They appear to think that something is in the wind and that Japan had better keep her eyes wide open.

YOKOHAMA UNITED CLUB.

The new buildings for the accommodation of the Yokohama United Club are now very near completion though, we understand that they will not be opened till Nov. 15th. The occasion is to be signalised by a ball, which will be given in the new billiard room, a lofty and spacious apartment. With the exception of the dining room, which still lacks decorative completeness, work on the various parts of the main building is so far advanced that a pretty fair idea of the character of the accommodation to be provided in the new home of the Club may be obtained. It will be generally admitted by those concerned, we think, that Mr. J. Conder, who designed the plans and superintended the operations has made remarkably good use of the by no means promising material at hand. For it must be remembered that the arrangements of any town building are to a considerable extent regulated by the character of the site. For this reason the New Yokohama United Club is an adaptation of requirements to an inside lot, having, practically, but one frontage (towards the Bund) and that a very narrow one compared with the great depth of the lot and the size of the rooms required. As much as possible has been made of the street front, which has a handsome stone colonnade on the ground floor with a terrace above, the rest of the facade being treated ornamentally with pillasters, fenestrations, arcading and pediments in the best brick and stone.

The main entrance is at one end of the colonnade, which can be reached by a fine flight of steps at either end. As the entrance vestibule is thus towards one side, the rest of the facade is left for the reading, writing and conversation rooms *en suite*, and affords privacy to the inner hall and grand staircase which are behind these rooms, being connected with the vestibule on one side. A porter's room, cloak room, and writing room occupy the left of the vestibule hall. Approached from the vestibule is a spacious bar room occuping part of the left or east wing of the building. This contains a very handsome teak bar and sideboards, dado, and chimney pieces in the same wood. Beyond the bar room is a large, well ventilated and well lighted billiard room to contain eight tables. All of the rooms on the ground and first floors are of unusual height, being about 18 feet from floor to ceiling; but the billiard room having no floor above, is made two or three feet higher The opposite or western wing of the building is partly taken up by a newspaper room, also by a parlour, or committee room, and secretary's office.

Between the two wings of the building the quadrangle is covered in with an ornamental glass ceiling and roof at the height of two stories, and is paved with encaustic tiles, forming a cheerful winter garden into which glazed doors from the bar room open, and which can also be entered from below the staircase and through the arched corridor. This glazed hall is also one means of lighting the grand staircase and inner hall, but in order that there may be no lack of light on dull days a further glazed ceiling has been introduced over the inner hall at the very top of the building. The problem of efficiently lighting a narrow, deep building having one street front and sides which adjoining owners may at any time rob of light by erecting equally high structures, seems to have received very full attention: the windows are large and the rooms are generally finished in light colouring and woodwork.

The first upper floor contains a spacious library over bar room, with separate room for librarian and reference library. The front of the building on this floor is occupied by card rooms, drawing room, and part of an extensive dining room which runs back occupying a large portion of the west wing. This room is panelled to a height of 6 feet in Japanese ash—a wood much resembling English oak—and has ornamental over-mantels and a fixed buffet in the same wood. Behind the dining room is a large service pantry and scullery with special service stairs and a dinner lift communicating with the kitchen above and the storage in the basement. A private dining room suitable for parties of 18 or 20 is provided on the other side of the serving room, so that it can be independently served. The kitchen and scullery are on the top floor, connected by stairs and lifts with the dining room and basement but entirely cut off from the members' chambers which occupy the rest of this top floor. There are sixteen chambers, each having a bath room attached. These chambers can be reached both by the continuation of the central grand staircase, and by a sufficiently wide side staircase which also communicates with the members' portion of the basement containing lavatories, dressing rooms, baths, private billiard room for two tables, and bowling alley. The lavatories and conveniences are walled with glazed tiles and tile paved, and the sanitary appliances are of the most modern kind. Hot and cold water has been laid on throughout the building and the principal halls and lower rooms have steam radiators.

A plain two-storied block at the back on the west side contains below the electric light machinery and sleeping rooms for the Club servants above. This block is continued round to close in the site along the Water Street side, leaving a low archway affording Members an approach to the back entrance of the Club, and a large refuge for *jinrikisha* men on one side. The suite of rooms above this Water Street portion of the block are for the accommodation of the Secretary of the Club, who has a separate entrance and staircase at the side. No attempt has been made to give this elevation an appearance other than that of a back entrance to the compound.

The above general description of the manner in which the space at the disposal of the Architect and the Committee has been utilised, can be supplemented by a few details. Some exception may be taken to the dimensions of the terrace and colonade which when compared with those of the old building are certainly not on a generous scale. But it was found impracticable to allow a greater width than 12 feet of clear space, and when the dimensions of some of the rooms are considered it will be apparent that there has been ample compensation for this apparent sacrifice. For example, the bar-room, a fine apartment, lit up by five windows, measures 56 feet in length and 28 feet in width: the billiard room is nearly 100 feet long by 40 feet wide and has a height of 22 feet, while the dining room is 76 feet long by 34 feet wide. The library, also, which is fitted up in Japanese ash and can contain 20 per cent. more volumes—even a large proportion if necessary—than the former library, is of the same size as the bar, over which it is situated.

In the chief billiard room the Committee decided to dispense with top light, which could not easily have been satisfactorily provided, a glass roof being liable to leakage and being besides an unpleasantly effective conductor of the sun's rays. The windows, however, are so large and high that the tables will practically have top light in the daytime. The floor in the billiard room is of corrugated steel supporting a bed of cement, upon which lies the Oregon pine planking (which constitutes the flooring of nearly the whole building) but the stone bases for the tables have not yet been put down, as it is intended to give the opening dance there.

The chambers on the second story are 14 feet by 29 and 12 feet in height, and are well lighted, though the windows in the front are small in consonance with the arcade-like design of the front; moreover this floor benefits greatly by the light admitted from the roof.

The building all over is heated from the boiler of the engine which provides the electric lighting, and the baths derive hot water from the same source. The principal rooms, however, are provided with fire places. It should be said that the electric light installation was supplied by Mr. Healing, while all the machinery was provided by the American Trading Co. The Committee and Mr. Conder are to be congratulated on the success with which they have provided for the comfort of members, and upon the very handsome front which they have been able to present on an available space of only 90 feet. Viewed from the harbour, or the pier, the new building is a graceful addition to the architectural features of the Bund.

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A SETTLEMENT WITH CHINA.

IT is very difficult to be convinced that all the Powers are sincerely desirous of effecting a speedy settlement with China. However reluctant onlookers may be to attribute ulterior designs to any of the European Governments, the significance of certain facts can not be ignored. For example, it is quite evident that if peace be restored at this stage, Germany's actual share in the business will be almost ludicrously small in comparison with the military and naval preparations made by her, and, above all, in comparison with the somewhat grandiloquent utterances of her EMPEROR. The world naturally asks whether the KAISER will be content that an expedition unparalleled in the history of his country should end in nothing either attempted or accomplished, and that troops to whom he addressed such flaming messages should perform a voyage of ten thousand miles merely for the sake of making *acte de presence* in Chinese dominions. Evidently HIS MAJESTY had something more than this in mind when he pronounced those spirited speeches and preached that ringing sermon, and above all when he assured the nations that he had a plan which would infallibly effect a satisfactory solution of the problem Emperor WILLIAM is not the kind of ruler to reconcile himself easily to a fiasco, and it will undoubtedly partake of the nature of a fiasco should the mailed fist, the vengeance, the no quarter, and the punishment that is to make a Chinaman fearful of looking in the face of a German for the next fifty years, prove to be simply sound without substance. There is plainly an uneasy feeling among the Germans, eminently level-headed folks, that their SOVEREIGN is animated by unduly bellicose designs, and if they think so, outsiders may be pardoned for entertaining a similar idea. Nor can the nature of Germany's proposals be ignored. She suggested, in the first place, that the instigators of the Boxer outrages should be handed over to the Foreign Powers for punishment; a suggestion so plainly unpractical that, coming from an astute, far-sighted Government, it could not be regarded as anything but a deliberate obstacle to the restoration of peace. In deference to the remonstrances of other Powers, Germany modified the proposal. She waived the question of surrendering the culprits, and expressed herself willing to be content if they were punished in the presence of the allied forces. In its altered form the proposition is scarcely less impossible than it was originally. Prince TWAN, General KANG and even ex-Viceroy YU HSIEN, have acted according to their lights. They must be punished according to the laws of their own country. To apply foreign laws to their case, and, above all, to make a public parade of their execution under the direction of foreign military authorities, is a programme to which China can not possibly be expected to consent. If these men are to be put to death in deference to an European mandate, Europe must seize them, judge them and execute them herself. It is not to be conceived that the Emperor of GERMANY misapprehends these facts, and if we judge by the proposals thus far advanced, we are driven to conclude that the speedy restoration of peace is not His MAJESTY'S purpose.

Looking at the matter from another aspect, we can not ignore the fact that public opinion assigns to Germany designs upon the whole of the Shantung province. Kiaochow was only a beginning. Germany wants the hinterland as well as the bay. Her opportunity, which seemed to have come when the Boxer troubles broke out, does not look by any means so favourable to-day, and would disappear altogether were peace restored at this juncture. There has been much talk of a secret understanding between Russia and Germany. We have never believed in anything of the kind. One consideration among many is sufficient to dispose of the suspicion; it is that Russia does not desire Germany's permanent presence in Shantung, whereas the possession of the peninsula would be an essential item of any such agreement from Germany's point of view. Russia, indeed, requires no secret agreement. If she intends to remain in Manchuria, the only Power to be seriously reckoned with is Japan. We dismiss, therefore, the idea of a secret understanding. But it does seem that an interesting and curious game is being played by the two great military States. Russia professes her willingness to abandon Manchuria provided that the action of other Powers does not oblige her to stay there. Can there be any doubt that she would welcome the creation of a fair pretext for remaining? Germany says nothing about Shantung, but we may take it for granted that she wants it, and that she too would welcome any pretext for taking it. Russia's tenure of Manchuria would be the pretext Germany needs for laying hands on Shantung, and Germany's seizure of Shantung would be the pretext Russia needs for holding Manchuria. Thus the two Powers, without any *entente* whatever, may be playing each other's game, and it is a plain corrollary that without some wider developments of the Chinese imbroglio, neither can strengthen the other's hand to the essential point.

There is finally a consideration which, though less palpable, possesses much cogency. It is that the Powers have not sufficient confidence in their own purpose to take the step which all must agree in deeming essential; namely, to insist on the return of the Court to Peking. No reflecting person can imagine that a satisfactory settlement is possible so long as the Court remains at an almost inaccessible retreat, hundreds of miles away from the scene of the negotiations, and so long as it is surrounded by the men now controlling its acts. The plenipotentiaries in Peking might agree upon suitable terms, but there would not be the remotest chance of the Court's endorsing them at Si-an. If Prince CHING and Viceroy LI were required to contrive the return of the Court, under full guarantees from Foreign Powers, as an essential preliminary to opening negotiations, we can not doubt that the thing could be accomplished. A partial evacuation of the capital by the allied forces might be a necessary element of such an arrangement, but a partial evacuation openly contingent on the return of the Court would be much less liable to misconstruction than the unconditional and total evacuation recently proposed.

That a step so obviously calculated to promote the restoration of peace, a step so indispensable, is not projected by the Powers, suggests reluctance to conclude peace on the part of some and hesitation on the part of others to openly propose a measure which might finally rupture the present precarious union.

We do not desire to be understood as reflecting injuriously on the policy of any Power. Each State is bound to follow the route indicated by its own interests. Thus we have merely set down here the inferences that the situation seems to warrant.

COUNT TOLSTOI ON CHINA.

NO doubt LEO TOLSTOI'S hysterical writings about European and American intercourse with China will have some useful effect. They will help to open men's minds to the fact that the treatment received by the Chinese has long been of such a character as to fully justify their anti-foreign prejudice. TOLSTOI is a literary artist, just as are EDWIN ARNOLD and CLEMENT SCOTT. Such a man knows very well that public attention can never be attracted to an exact likeness of anything: a picture is necessary; the more highly coloured the better. We may assume, therefore, that when TOLSTOI speaks of England and France forcing opium on the Chinese for the express purpose of enervating and demoralizing a race which would otherwise become a peril to Christianity; when he speaks about foreigners giving starvation wages to the Chinese labourer and themselves growing rich on his toil; when he speaks of the Mandarins executing as many men as the foreigner pleases and at his arbitrary bidding; when he speaks of the blood of the victims falling on the market men, the women and children, the heaps of vegetables, of fish and of fruit, and when he prefaces each assertion by an appeal to truth and candour, he known that he is circulating, if not deliberate falsehoods, at any rate gross exaggerations. But he has a purpose which he justly considers righteous—the purpose of arousing Europe to an understanding of the terribly one-sided character of its relations with China, and for the sake of that benevolent end, he does not shrink from any means however unscrupulous. Even appreciating that mood of his, we must protest, none the less, against the cruel wrong of his writings. The Chinaman has been sinned against and is still sinned against. There is no denying the humiliating fact. But if LEO

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TOLSTOI gave himself any genuine concern about the goddess of verity whom he so constantly invokes, he would learn that the opium sold by foreign nations to China is only a fraction of the opium she grows within her own territories; that the wages paid by foreigners to Chinese are much higher them those ruling in the native market; that the foreigner's efforts have been persistently directed to softening the criminal laws of China instead of taking advantage of them, and that the rhapsody about the blood of executed men dropping upon women, children, vegetables, fish and fruit is a silly lie which does not rise even to the dignity of a traveller's tale. The one really interesting point in TOLSTOI'S indictment is his charge that the effect of the Christian propaganda in China is to sow domestic dissension among the people. He draws a vivid word picture of children's lives saved and mothers' hearts won by missionary ministrations, and he explains that the woman thus becoming a dissenter from the cult of ancestral worship, finds herself at variance with her husband, so that the once happy home is converted into a house of discord and squabbling, and the man conceives a bitter hatred for the alien teacher who has thus marred his domestic happiness. We can readily understand such an explanation and sympathise with the Chinaman, but unfortunately these conflicts of creeds seem inevitable.

It is interesting to compare TOLSTOI'S impassioned declamations with the calm and moderate expositions of the Rev. G. B SMYTH, President of the Anglo-Chinese College in Foochow, who analyses in the *North American Review* the causes of anti-foreign feeling in China. Mr. SMYTH confines his purview in the first place to Shantung and afterwards extends it to the whole of China. As to Shantung, he affirms that up to the fall of 1897, it enjoyed an excellent reputation for its treatment of foreigners, and that there were more Christians in the province that in any other part of the empire except Fukkien. Then occurred the riot in which two German missionaries were killed; then the seizure of Kiao-chow; then an attack on three Germans, and "harsh and indiscriminate retaliation" in the burning of two villages, the innocent as well as the guilty being involved. Thus a bither anti-foreign spirit was created which developed still greater virulence when the imperial decree of March 1899 accorded to Roman Catholic bishops positions virtually corresponding with those of Viceroys or Governors, and gave to the fathers equality with provincial judges. taotais, treasurers, or prefects. These things, in Mr. SMYTH'S opinion, were the cause of the Boxer riots which began in Shantung. Passing to the broader question of the anti-foreign sentiment prevailing throughout China, Mr. SMYTH quotes CALHOUN as showing that prior to the advent of the Manchus in China, the Chinese had no aversion whatever to foreigners; and HUC as maintaining that the comparative weakness of the Manchus, rendering them fearful of foreign aggression, led to a policy of seclusion. Every concession obtained from this usurping dynasty has had to be at the point of the bayonet, and the Mandarins, faithfully reflecting the wishes of the Central Government, have always striven to render foreign residence intolerable. Many persons will be found to question whether this explanation of Mr. SMYTH'S is well founded. To us it seems somewhat far-fetched, for assuredly during the reign of KANGHSI, the greatest of the Manchu monarchs, China cannot be said to have been exclusive. Without further discussing that point, we pass on to note that Mr. SMYTH draws up a terrible indictment against foreigners themselves, whom he accuses of rapine, murder and constant appeals to force in their dealings with the Chinese. He thinks, further, that European peoples, whose civilization may be regarded as the product of free intercourse with each other, can scarcely understand the jealous affection felt by the Chinaman for his own civilization, which is a plant of purely home growth, and which he has long considered superior to all other civilizations. To be told that it is inferior and that he must abandon it for the civilization of people whom he has not learned by any means to respect is, a bitter pill to him. In the attempt to enforce the convention about *Ikkin* Mr. SMYTH sees another serious cause of friction. This has been severely felt by the local officials, since it diverts from them a fertile source of revenue. Concerning missionary work, he makes an interesting analysis. Two things render Christian propagandism obnoxious. The first is that the foreign teachers denounce ancestral worship, which is the very foundation of Chinese society; the second, that native Christians enjoy immunity from various official exactions to which ordinary Chinese subjects are exposed. They are not required, for example, to contribute to the maintenance of temples or to the cost of religious ceremonies in connexion with non-Christian worship, and of course their exemption makes these charges heavier for their neighbours.

Such is Mr. SMYTH'S analysis. He might have added that, after all, the missionary is regarded by the Chinese as the proximate cause of much of the humiliation to which their country is subjected, since he is so often made a pretext for exactions and aggressions. Nor must it be forgotten that the newspaper is beginning to be a force in China, and that the people now learn things of which in former days they used to remain ignorant.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The connection of missionaries and their teaching with the disturbances in China is a subject that has attracted a good deal of attention in Japan, and the question has been discussed in a great many newspapers and magazines during the past few months. In its issue of September 6th the *Nippon Shimbun* published an article entitled *Dendô to Bunmei* (Missions and Civilization), of which we give the substance as follows:—The notion that since civilisation is at the back of mission work, if there be no mission work there will be no civilization is fundamentally wrong. The opposite theory that mission work is at the back of civilisation, and hence if there be no civilisation, there will be no preaching of Christianity is less open to objection. The civilisation which the missionary is the means of bringing to the South Sea Islanders or to benighted Africans is undoubtedly superior to anything these races possess, but the same cannot be said of the Chinese or the Hindoos. The latter read the Bible without being impressed by any superiority to their own sacred books possessed by it. The Western notions in reference to the nature of God have grown out of Western life and study as a whole. These notions are neither properly understood nor appreciated by educated Orientals. The latter are of opinion that their own conceptions of the nature of God are superior to those preached by the missionaries. Europeans and Americans spend large sums of money on mission work, but the results are ridiculously small. The missionaries admit into their churches large numbers of ignorant people, who usually obtain some worldly advantage by joining a mission, but in India and China the impression the missionaries make on the educated classes is imperceptible. And this is not to be wondered at, for in point of doctrine Christian missionaries have nothing superior to offer. Then they are confronted with the fact that while they are preaching the excellence of their creed, their Governments, which profess this creed, are acting in what appears to the Oriental mind to be an outrageously wicked manner, treating people of alien belief as outcasts and slaves. The advice to missionaries with which the *Nippon* concludes its article is "Rather than build schools or found churches, teach your white men to give up regarding non-Christians as an inferior race of people."

The *Taiyô* writes in pretty much the same strain in an article entitled *Tôyô Mondai to Kirisuto-kyô*. Christians, says this magazine, while professing to believe in a gospel of humanity and universal kindness, are in the habit of regarding unbelievers as barbarians, and seem to think that they are under no obligation to behave towards them as etiquette demands they should act towards each other. The missionaries give out that they are the bringers of comfort to the people among whom they settle, and this comfort turns out in the end to be subjugation to a foreign yoke. From a person who has resided for a long time in Szechuen and who is intimately acquainted with the state of affairs there we have heard, says the *Taiyô*, that the missionaries are universally hated in that province on account of their manner of acting. They stir up bad feelings in the minds of the people by their method of teaching, and then when violence results they rely on foreign military power, which of course has the effect of making them still more detested. Though local government is undoubtedly ineffective, is it not shameful that in the name of the gospel of humanity, Chinese subjects should be excited to disturb the public peace? As admitted by Lord Salisbury, the first alleged cause of the Boxer movement was the antipathy felt to Christian missionaries. There are western writers who maintain that in the face of what has occurred European Governments will have to place some restrictions on mission agents if they expect to remain on peaceful relations with China.* The *Taiyô* concludes by asserting that only two ways of maintaining peace in China are open. Either missionaries must withdraw from the country altogether and leave the Chinese to follow their moral guides or they must be prepared to suffer the consequences of their boldness in settling among a hostile people without appealing to their Governments for military protection.†

* If is, we think, an undoubted fact that Lord Salibury's speech on missions was suggested by the conviction that to a certain extent missionaries were responsible for what has taken place in China and that more caution on their part was necessary.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† This latter course has, we understand, already been adopted by one Mission and is likely to be followed by other Boards.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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The *Tôkyô Maishû Shinshi*, in No. 890, discusses the connection of Mission work with the troubles in China in a very thoughtful and sensible manner. The following is the gist of what it says. The action of missionaries led to disturbances which resulted in the landing of foreign troops and the seizing of territory. This latter action naturally aroused the ire of the Chinese nation. Now, among all the factors in this affair the course followed by Western Governments did the most mischief. If Christian preaching provoked opposition that ended in violence, it was no more than what has occurred in all ages and in all countries. The real trouble began when the gospel was backed by the sword and the cannon. The Mission Boards are to blame in one particular. They rely far too much on the work of foreign missionaries. They send too many missionaries and allow them to take too prominent a part in evangelisation. Foreign missionaries should be few in number, should keep in the background, train native agents and pastors, and evangelisation should be carried on principally by means of the native, who knows how to preach the gospel without arousing unnecessary hostility. The foreigner knows next to nothing of Chinese customs and prejudices, and consequently is perpetually stirring up enmity by injudicious words and actions. With countries like Japan and China the less Mission Boards do in the way of direct mission work the more successful are they likely to be. They should work principally by means of the native evangelist.

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The *Tôkyô Maishû Shinshi* laments that there is no such thing as a Christian country anywhere. Christian families there are and perhaps a few Christian villages here and there, but Christian countries and Christian Governments do not exist anywhere. When we come to politics and to national standards of morals, the distinction between Christians and non-Christians is lost, says the organ we quote. The Russians are called Christians and the Japanese heathens. Yet see what is taking place in China, according to the accounts of newspaper correspondents on the spot. The Russians are committing outrages of which the Japanese are ashamed. This boasted superior civilisation of the West! What a sorry figure it cuts in the Eastern world at the present moment! In the name of civilisation the greatest barbarities are perpetrated by men who are never wearied of proclaiming their superiority to the unbelieving oriental. Oh, Christendom, Christendom! What a byword thou hast become! How upside down the whole thing is! These boastful Christians look as foolish as men who have put their shoes on their heads and their hats on their feet. With these things going on in China, what a farce it is for the great Surugadai bell to be ringing the call to prayer. We say to Bishop Nicolai and his fellow-workers: go home and convert your own people. When you have done that it will be time to come preaching to us. And it is with these Russian Christians in China that, according to Mr. Stead, we Japanese heathens are unworthy to mix! When Westerns first come to our Eastern shores they seem to be like angels, but no sooner does something untoward occur than the angels turn into devils, and the voice of God is drowned by the roar of cannon. The Chinese Minister in Washington, Mr Wu Ting-fang is alleged to have uttered the following words, "When I read the history of the middle ages and perceive how great were the evils that proceeded from religious differences, I tremble with fear (for my country). From ancient times there has been nothing like this in China. Our people have believed in Judaism, in Mohammedanism and Buddhism at will and the followers of each creed have lived amicably together. But no sooner do thoughtless missionaries enter our country than things go to extremes, innocent people are rendered hostile and the seeds of disturbance are generated. Regrets for the past are useless, but what course shall be followed in future demands the most earnest consideration." Though a Japanese, continues the writer in the *Tokyô Maishû Shinshi*, we cannot but endorse every word of the above. How many countries are there in Asia and Africa that retain their independence? The missionary has for a hundred years been going to these countries with the Bible in his hand, and numbers of individuals have benefited by his teaching, but the fact remains that the countries to which these individuals have belonged have, on one pretence or another, lost their independence and have become subject to the countries from which the missionary came. Does not that Buddhist saying 外面如薩菩, 內心如夜叉 *Gemen nyo-Bosatsu; naishin nyo-Yasha*, "In outward appearance like a Bodhisatta (one who has reached the highest grade of Buddhist attainment); in heart like a Yaksha*" well represent the European christian in his dealings with Asiatic and African heathen countries? Beneath a plausible exterior he conceals an evil heart.

The magazine quoted above also discusses the views expressed by the *Spectator*, the *Review of Reviews* and other periodicals on what is called "The Yellow Peril." It says that though the apprehensions felt in some quarters are groundless and silly, the grain of truth in what has been written on this subject is the indifference of Japan as a nation to religion. Anxiety is felt about Japan's future action because she is regarded as on an equality with western nations intellectually but beneath them in depth of moral and religious feeling. This charge the *Tôkyô Maishû Shinshi* seems indisposed to rebut.

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The Roman Catholic organ, the *Koye*, contends in No. 219 that the honour paid by the Buddhists to the Siam relic is something very different from the worship of the bones of saints among the Roman Catholics. The sacredness of the Christian bones is not possessed by any Buddhist relics. The Christian saint is holy while he lives and holy after death, and his body will rise again. While worshipping his bones we can ask for his intercession on our behalf. The Buddhist reverence for the bones of the founder of their sect is a mere ordinary feeling, natural in its way, but not possessing any of the significance of the sentiment of the devout Catholic Christian.

The *Koye* discusses the possibility of Japan's founding a new religion, deciding with so many others of widely divergent schools of thought that the feat is utterly impossible. It is unnecessary to reproduce what the *Koye* has to say on this subject, as readers are no doubt wearied of the discussion of what most consider to be a very ridiculous project.

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The *Fukuin Shimpô* states at some length the views of Mr. Tomeoka Kôsuke, of Prison Reform fame, on the kind of Christian life that tells most in the present age. The following is the substance of Mr. Tomeoka's remarks. What is called passive devotion produces little effect on the minds of people in general. Many people associate devotion to a cause with the patient bearing of many hardships, but there is no real connection between devotion and the endurance of privations. A man's circumstances may be such that no great hardship is involved in the course that he follows, and yet there may be room for the most ardent devotion to a cause. Christian devotion has been so much associated with self denial and asceticism of all kinds that many people regard the presence of unfavourable circumstances as absolutely essential to the existence of devotion. There are those who think that the success of a cause would be better insured were its promoters to adopt the garb of the poor and eat the roughest food. They would have foreign missionaries trudging about in the mud with *waraji* on, drinking barley water instead of tea, and so on. But this is a mistaken view. The missionaries should live in a manner that will allow of their rendering the most effective service possible to Him whom they follow. I would have them eat well, sleep well and dress well, while they study our language and customs and devote themselves body and soul to the work they have in hand. . . . The holding of big meetings for the sake of working up an excitement, such as is proposed by the *Fukuin Dômei-kai* for next year, and such as have been often held in Europe and America, is not a measure of which I can approve. It seems to me an attempt to create artificial earnestness in hearts where the genuine thing is not found. People who join in such movements often go away with the notion that they are more zealous than they really are. It is easy to go with a crowd. When it was proposed to invite Mr. Moody to this country I opposed the measure. And I think now that the money the Evangelical Alliance proposes to spend in holding gigantic meetings would be much better appropriated to the support and development of existing Churches. Are not such movements to be regarded as big speculations? What is wanted in this country is more personal whole-hearted devotion to Christian work. Instances of Japanese men and women thoroughly devoting themselves to Christ are very rare. The majority of Christians never go beyond a somewhat low stage of attainment. . . . . Japanese evangelists need to treat the fallen and the backsliding with greater kindness and consideration. It is the fashion to condemn such *in toto* and to alienate them altogether. My life has been spent among the guilty and I have learnt the value of showing pity for such. Many of them have been the victims of circumstances created by others, and it is questionable how far they are really responsible for the crimes they have committed. Though condemned by man, they may not all be condemned by God, who knows their hearts. How to treat the erring with tenderness is a lesson that I have learnt from my work among prisoners."

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In the pages of the *Chûgaku Sekai* Doctors Katô and Inoue have for several months been carrying on a philosophical discussion on Utilitarianism and the nature of the moral standard it sets up. In No. 9 of the *Chûgaku Sekai* Dr. Inoue Tetsujirô published an article entitled *Dôtoku-teki Kôi no Kihon* (基本) (The Basis of Moral Action). This was attacked by Dr. Katô in No. 10 of the magazine and to Dr. Katô's assault Dr. Inoue replies in No. 11 of the same periodical. The controversy is too long and technical to be reproduced here even in an epitomised form. But considering the high position occupied by these two writers, we are reluctant to leave the discussion entirely unnoticed. A short summary of Dr. Inoue's objections to Dr Katô's Utilitarianism will give a fair idea of the lines of argument followed by the two philosophers. It seems to us that their points of view are entirely different, and that, as is usually the case with keen controversialists, they misinterpret each other a great deal. And certainly Dr. Inoue shows little sign of having thoroughly mastered the leading tenets of modern Utilitarians. The following are the chief points Dr. Inoue brings forward against Dr. Katô's philosophic belief. (1) Utilitarianism maintains that actions are to be judged by their utility as means of attaining certain ends. The ends exist outside and independent of the test applied to them called utility. Utility then is not an end, but only an attribute of actions which are done with some purpose in view. What then is the end to be sought after according to the Utilitarians? Pleasure, say some. But pleasure is not necessarily connected with virtue. It may even be associated with vice. It is plain that neither pleasure nor happiness is worthy of being considered the ultimate object of all our actions. (2) Utilitarianism does not deal with the motives of action nor with incentives to action All actions are to be judged by their final results, say the Utilitarians. But the calculation of results is a very complicated business. The good and bad effects of actions need to be carefully weighed against each other, and this can only be done when their *final* effects are known. Early conclusions as to the real nature of actions may be entirely upset by the discovery of some unlooked for result of their performance; and so it comes about that this test of actions called utility is incapable of being easily applied. The good and evil effects of actions rae

* A freer rendering of the above would be "In outward appearance like a god, in heart like a devil." There are two kinds of Yakshas. The celestial Yakshas are said to pass through the air with chariots and horses. They guard the walls and moats of some of the paradises. The terrestrial Yakshas referred to here are evil spirits bent on mischief.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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often so mixed that to determine which preponderates is a very delicate process, beyond the powers of most minds. The utility test is one that commends itself to the vulgar, but by the learned its inefficiency is fully recognised. (3) *The welfare of society*, which it is alleged is the object of all action, is something which it is not easy to define. In what does it consist? Very different answers are given by various schools of thinkers. The welfare of society is far too vague an end to be held up as the final object of actions. But Utilitarians only use this word as a kind of spell. The Utilitarian system is egoistic to the core, and to say that the benefit of society is its chief end is not true. . . . . Propounding theories about morality and moral standards serves some useful purposes, but it is not by means of these that real morality is advanced. Men often know in what their highest welfare consists, but they do not act up to what they know. The notion that if men's intellects are set right, that is, if they are made acquainted with the most approved theories in reference to ethics, they will certainly live exemplary lives is quite false. There is only one way of insuring virtuous action and that is by arousing right feelings. It is our feelings rather than our intellects that determine our actions. It is not by seeking to induce men to enter into an elaborate calculation of the near and remote results of their actions and then choosing the course to pursue, that they are to be reformed. . . . . Dr. Katô maintains that intelligent people must be instructed in the principles which underlie the systems of morality they are asked to accept and act on, that otherwise they are in a state of intellectual slavery, with no intelligent opinions of their own. But what I object to is the manner in which Dr. Katô relies solely on intellectual knowledge for the reform of society. . . . . Then a basis of morality that does not go beyond phenomena is to me unsatisfactory. Dr. Katô's morality has the tendency to make men the slaves of money, property, or reputation. . . . To me the moral philosophy of men like Darwin, Kant, Lotze, and Green is infinitely superior to that followed by Dr. Katô. Dr. Katô and I are hopelessly at variance. He can never adopt my ethical views and I can never adopt his. Dr. Katô's assertion that England has been greatly benefited morally by the teaching of the Utilitarians is a misrepresentation of facts. England is of all countries of Europe the most Christian and the moral life of the English is undoubtedly derived from Christianity.

* * *

The *Shinri no Hongen* (*Source of Truth*), which has had a very wide circulation, having passed through four editions in a little over three years, is the embodiment of a number of lectures delivered by Viscount Drouart de Lezey, a Catholic missionary, in various parts of Japan. The lectures were taken down by Mr. Hayashi Jôtarô. In the form in which they have been preserved they cover 267 pages and are divided into three parts. Part I treats of the Creator, Part, II of Man and Part III of Jesus Christ. The language used is designedly simple, the expositions of Christian doctrine given being intended for the instruction of women and children as well as for others. Part I deals with the proofs of the existence of God, with His attributes and relation to man and draws attention to prevailing misconceptions as to the nature of the Divine Being. This part of the book as far as we have examined it is not distinctively Roman Catholic, but represents the views of orthodox Christians generally. With few exceptions the same may be said of Parts II and III. The subjects dealt with under the heading of "Man" are the existence, nature and immortality of the soul, transmigration, future rewards and punishments, the Bible as a revelation, the fall of man and the doctrine of original sin. Part III is mostly taken up with a statement of alleged proofs of the Divinity of Christ, the last chapter being devoted to the effects of Christ's teaching on the world at large. The style of the work is wholly colloquial, the explanations given are very clear, and, *kana* being supplied throughout, we are not surprised to hear that the *Shinri no Hongen* is a great literary success.

The *Shûkyô Shinron* (Religion Discussed Anew) is from the pen of Mr. Katô Genchi. It has been reviewed by the *Tetsugaku Zasshi*. It is divided into three parts. Part I. deals with the conflict between new and old ideas respecting religion and discusses the origin of all religion. Part II. treats of the difference between science and philosophy and emphasises the importance of the latter. Part III. discusses religion proper, and gives an account of the various phases of development which the original religious ideas have undergone. The conclusion reached is that religion is a high form of philosophy. Mr. Katô thinks that the early years of Shaka's life were passed in philosophic speculation and that this culminated in the religious convictions that have so influenced after generations.

* * *

In the *Fukuin Shimpô* Mr. Hattori Ayawo, who is now the Director of the Okayama Middle School, states his views at some length on evangelistic work in Japan. Mr. Hattori is a christian of considerable influence in the educated world, who is doing his utmost to propagate Christianity among his follow countrymen. The is following the gist of what he has to say on mission work in general. In seeking to make known the gospel to those who are willing to listen to it three methods are open to us. (1) We can work in connection with the church to which we belong. (2) We can apply for help to a foreign mission. (3) Or we can support ourselves by following some secular calling and give spare time to evangelistic work As regards the first of these, it is a fact that native churches are so poorly supplied with funds that it is with the greatest difficulty that they manage to pay the salaries of their regular pastors. To expect these churches to support evangelists is out of the question. Even with mission agents there is a general feeling that they are underpaid, their salaries not keeping pace with thr rise in the price of living. The third course proposed has many features of interest and elicits admiration from not a few, but has serious drawbacks, as any one who has tried it must know. When a man's mind is divided between two occupations one is apt to suffer at the expense of the other. An evangelist who is tied to some secular calling is usually dissatisfied with the amount of Christian work he can accomplish. But in reply to this it may be said that those who are solely engaged in evangelistic work seem to themselves to effect but little. Perhaps the most powerful kind of influence exercised by Christians is that which is the result of their general character. If a Christian does well whatever secular work he undertakes, if he is thoroughly earnest and conscientious in the discharge of his duty, his Christianity will attract attention. So that it comes to this: that the sermon of a well-lived life is more effective than any set verbal discourse. Such preaching as is undertaken must bears signs of being the result of real conviction. . . . . In reference to Mission Schools, I am not in favour of their being established as heretofore. What Christian work is undertaken in schools should be done in the establishments that are under the control of the Department of Education. What are called Mission Schools should be remodelled so as to satisfy in every respect the requirements of the Mombushô. The regulations of the Department issued some months ago which draw a distinction between religion and education were, in my opinion, quite necessary. In this country religion is controlled by the Home Department and the Department of Education has no right to interfere with it in any way. It was natural then that the latter Department should take steps to emphasize this fact. The pupils of Mission Schools as heretofore constituted are placed at a great disadvantage in competition with other lads. Hence separate Mission Schools are undesirable. But a great deal of religious teaching can be carried on in connection with schools organised and conducted in accordance with Mombushô rules.

* * *

On the cause of the disturbances and anti-foreign feeling in China the *Taiyô* publishes the testimony of two recent arrivals from that country. One of these is Mr. Drummond, a Missionary, and the other is Mr. Nishihara Seitô, a member of the Diet. According to Mr. Drummond the real origin of the hostility to foreigners was the action of a few Roman Catholic Missionaries and their converts in availing themselves of certain rights granted to them by France's Treaty with China. The Missionaries were in some cases the victims of plots laid by the wolves in sheep's clothing who had mixed with their flocks. Mr Nishihara contends that the real cause of China's troubles is the utter inefficiency of local administration, which is known to everybody who has studied Chinese affairs and which forced on foreigners residing in the interior an appeal to their own Governments. Missionaries are residing in the interior of Japan and have been doing so for years without any way exposing their lives to danger. There is no hope of things mending till radical reform in local government has been forced on China.

We observe that Mr. Drummond calculates the number of missionaries murdered in China to be at least one hundred.

NOTES FROM THE COURSE.

The entries for the Autumn Meeting of the Nippon Race Club have closed and galloping has commenced. Although we are still nearly four weeks from the races some horses and ponies are being ridden hard on galloping days as if the riders have had to decide there and then whether they are to win or not. Animals so treated are very likely to be stale on Race days. Some jockeys appear to pay little attention to the stride, so long as their horses gallop hard; whether they cover the ground or merely gallop high appears to them of no consequence. In some cases the animals are ridden for all they are worth from the start, their riders even forcing them up the dip.

Judging from appearances, Emerald seems to be a good pony. He looks powerful. All the other China ponies seem in good condition. Sunrise looks better than in the spring, and Boxie goes well.

The Count, new from Singapore, is a fine horse and looks a racer, likely to push Mira, but it is doubtful whether either can touch Savoia's stride over a short distance. This mare has decidedly improved and seems even more willing to go than in the spring. On Saturday she galloped with Aldebaran, both moving well. The latter is no doubt one of the best in the non-winner class. Wallaby, Non-such, and Dobriak should also come to the front this meeting and make good racing with Fin McCoul, who now rejoices, however, in the new name of Iltis.

ROSCOMMON.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The twelfth annual meeting of the members of St. Andrew's Society was held on Friday in the Club Hotel. Mr. C. W. Ure, vice-President, in the absence of Mr. W. F. Mitchell, President, presided, and there was a fair attendance of members. The minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, the meeting proceeded to the election of officers.

On the proposal of Mr. Stirling, seconded by Mr H. A. Stewart, Mr. Ure was elected President for the coming year, and briefly returned thanks for the honour.

On the motion of Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Philip, Mr. R. M. Stirling was elected vice-President

In place of Mr. J. McArthur, Mr. W. G. Macvicar was made Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. H. A. Stewart was re-elected Hon. Secretary.

The following were made the Committee for the coming year: Messrs. C. M. Duff, G. Philip, E. Coutts, R. B. McKinnell, and Percy Scott.

Seven new members were proposed by the Chairman, duly seconded and elected.

It was decided after a little discussion to celebrate St. Andrew's day by means of a ball, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

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THE YOKOHAMA CUSTOMS.

ALTERATIONS AND EXTENSIONS.

Residents who availed themselves of the invitation of the Director of Customs to visit the buildings under the control of that gentleman on Monday, had an opportunity of inspecting a number of very interesting matters. Received at the main entrance by the chief officials of the Customs, they were conducted first to the sample room where in glass cases are arranged specimens of all or nearly all the commodities mentioned or classified in the Tariff list according to their group. Thus in one case one may see a sample of each and every article coming under the head of stationery; in another "miscellaneous" which includes soap; in others foods and drinks arranged according to their order. The room is most interesting and well worth a visit. In another room one saw chemical preparations of all kinds similarly arranged, with, in a corner, under the intimation "Prohibited," a set of opium pipes and lamps and samples of opium. In the test room interesting experiments were shown to test yarn and arrive at the proportion of alcohol in wine, and in the microscopical room magnified representations of wool, cotton and silk were given. The electrical room contains a number of instruments, including a Roetgen's apparatus, by which the sham may be distinguished from the mock diamond and frauds generally be unerringly detected. One apartment was set apart exclusively to the display of cases and packages illustrating the different methods in which both import and export articles are made up. Indeed the utility of these innovations seems undoubted. Passing up to the dome the visitor was met by a courteous and painstaking official who explained at length the proposed extensions of the Customs in the harbour. Already a large expanse has been reclaimed and the maps furnished show that great operations are still contemplated. Originally, in addition to the large central block of reclamation it was intended to construct only one pier but later investigations of the bottom of the harbour in this locality led the authorities to decide upon the building of two piers. Accommodation will thus be provided for ten vessels, five in twenty-eight and five in twenty-four feet of water. As to this extension a memorandum issued by the Director of Customs says:—

The basis of the extension is a work of reclamation with projecting piers, covering a surface measuring 48⅔ acres, which is to be isolated from the foreshore of the present Custom House in the form of an island, being directly connected by means of bridges, one a stationary iron bridge; the other, a swinging bridge, moved easily by aid of hydraulic power, to permit the free passage of barges, steam launches, &c.

The height of the whole length of quay walls will be 13 feet above the lowest water level of spring tides.

QUAYS.—The frontage of the reclaimed land will be 5,460 feet, and of this 4,800 feet will be allotted to the mooring of 10 steamers coming alongside the quays; the wharf No. 1 and the head of the pier will be specially prepared for the accommodation of passenger-boats.

LANDING PLACE AND SHELTERING HARBOUR FOR SMALL BOATS.—On the shoreward side of the reclaimed land, a water surface of 360,000 sq. ft. will be available as a sheltering harbour for small vessels, and for the lading and unlading of cargo from lighters, barges, &c.

ROADWAYS.—The main roadway from the head of the pier to the Shinhatoba (sheltering harbour), extending to the present Custom House Compound, will be paved with square blocks of granite and provided with brick side walks.

The space between the rails along the quays, also the main branch roads between the sheds and the warehouses, and the roads passing in front of the warehouses will be paved with the same, the rest being Macadam roads.

The total length of roadways will be about 3½ miles.

RAILWAYS.—The trunk line to be extended from the Yokohama Railway Station will be connected with all the lines of rails to be constructed on the reclaimed land.

These are to communicate with each other by means of traversers, turntables, &c., and will be further extended over the swinging bridge to be connected with the lines on the iron pier in the foreshore of the present Custom House Compound.

On the seaward sheds, broad-gauged rails will be specially provided for the travelling cranes, facilitating the loading and unloading of cargo.

CRANES.—Stationary steam cranes, ranging in capacity from 10 to 60 tons will be distributed along the quays; one of the latter at the head of the pier will have a capacity of 60 tons, one on Wharf No. 2 10 tons, that on Wharf No. 4, 20 tons.

Hydraulic cranes of from 1½ to 5 tons with a collective lifting power of about 82 tons will be placed along the quays at suitable intervals.

Besides cranes, capstans to be turned by hydraulic machinery will be placed, at intervals, along the quays, supplemented by several mooring posts.

WAREHOUSES. Five fireproof bonded warehouses, altogether 99,000 sq. ft. in extent, will be built at the places marked on the map,—each being 72 ft. in width; and the lengths varying from 240 to 300 ft.

These buildings are to be of iron muscled brick, of three stories, each block to be divided into compartments by intermediate brick walls built across the warehouse, and carried up above the roof; the largest area of a compartment does not exceed 3,600 sq. ft.

Access is to be provided to the various floors by iron staircases, and by fixing hydraulic lifts on the inside, and cranes over the tiers of doors outside, whereby the goods can be raised direct to any floor or lowered into wagons or shifted from one floor to another.

SHEDS.—Long lines of ten cargo sheds, altogether covering an area of 287,280 sq. ft. will be built along the quays, each being 84 ft. in width; the lengths varying from 300 to 420 ft. according to the length of the wharf; the height 18 ft. under eaves.

The sheds are to be entirely of fireproof iron construction, enclosed by corrugated iron, and to be closed with a long series of iron doors sliding on rollers, both facing the wharf and on the opposite side, so that they may be no impediment to the conveyance of goods.

The floor of the sheds on both sides of the pier will be raised 2½ ft above the quay, being chiefly used for the direct delivery of goods in transit to the Yokohama Railway Station, and that of the others, level with the quay.

An end of each shed will be partitioned for keeping the merchandise in custody; and, for the convenience of incoming passengers, a space for the inspection of baggages is to be temporarily arranged, at time of arrivals, by means of movable iron fences.

EXAMINERS' AND INSPECTORS' OFFICES.—Four one story iron muscled brick buildings will be built at convenient places, in order to facilitate the superintendence and transaction of all business matters connected with the Custom House.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING AND SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS. The inside of the shed, the quays and roadways will be lighted at night by electricity; while the sanitary arrangements on the reclaimed land will include all necessary appliances to be provided in accordance with the most complete modern improvements.

The above statements, being a general plan, are to be varied according to the circumstances.

The Special Commissioners for these works are—Messrs. T. MEGATA, Director; Z. TAKATA, Vice-Director; Engineers:—Y. TSUMAGI; S. NIWA; K. YABASHI; N. SAKAIDE; M. KAN; Special Advisers—DR. FURUICHI; NAKAYAMA.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

THE REV. A. DOWIE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—If you knew who the Rev. Alexander Dowie is I don't think you would waste much space in your paper replying to his diatribes on Free-Masonry or anything else. Dowie is a brilliant man, a fine speaker, full of personal magnetism, and has a wonderful influence on men and women of a certain nervous temperament. But nobody ever does anything just right except John Alexander Dowie. To differ from him is to be a fool. All Christians who do not believe as he does are on the broad road to destruction. And not only that, but all physicians, surgeons and medicines are agents of the devil. If you get sick, no matter where, you are to send Dowie a cheque, tell him to pray for you and you will get well. But better still, go to Chicago, put up at his hotel a week or a month, deposit your surplus money in his savings bank, and invest a large sum in his land company, be re-baptized by Dowie and you can just throw away your crutches, cork legs, trusses and have your cancers dried up. I once went to hear him in his Chicago temple. He was denouncing surgeons, their knives and medicines as usual. I arose in the audience and asked him what he would do if he had an old tooth that was hurting him day and night. He seemed to be puzzled at my audacity, but, thinking a moment, he replied, "O! well—if I had an old snaggled tooth that was bothering me I'd go and have it pulled out" He didn't say where he would go but evidently he meant to a surgeon dentist. I suppose he thought his hearers were too much hypnotized to see his inconsistency.

He has now gone to Europe, where he will remain till next New Year's Day when he proposes to ride into Jerusalem "sitting on an ass." He has had it in mind for many years to thus celebrate the birth of the 20th century.

Yours truly,
Uwajima, Iyo. W. P. TURNER.

A QUESTION OF TAXES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your answer to my letter in your issue of the 1st, I note that you have not quite grasped what I am trying to get at. The tax I wrote about is certainly a business tax, and was paid the same time that I paid the national tax, and for every *yen* of national tax, I paid fifty *sen* local tax, and for every *yen* of national income tax I paid fifty *sen* local tax, and if I owned any land, I presume that I would have paid at the same rate.

About the income tax, I have no complaint to make, as I find on looking over the law, that no limit is set for local taxes, but Article XXXVI. of the Business Tax Law, distinctly says that only two-tenths of the national tax can be levied, and no other tax, yet all people in this prefecture doing business, have paid local taxes on their business, at the rate of five-tenths. I do not think that I said anything in my previous letter, about the tax being excessive. What I want to know is: How can the Town Council levy a business tax of five-tenths, when the national law says that two-tenths is the limit.

Should you have any further doubts about this being a business tax, and that I have paid the above amount, I will with the greatest pleasure, send you my receipts both national and local, and you can compare them yourself.

I enclose you the whole of the municipal tax laws, also translations of the article to which they refer, which please return. Thanking you, etc.

I am, yours very respectfully,

Hakodate, October 4th, 1900.

[Undoubtedly according to law the local business tax should not exceed two-tenths of the national tax. Everything levied above that figure seems to be illegal. Is not this a question for H.B.M. Consul to consider?—ED. *J. M.*]

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you permit me to state through the *Mail* that I have received from Mr. G. S. Eddy, of Madras, acknowledgements of the receipt of *yen* 1082.12, the amount of the first four remittances of contributions for the India Famine Fund?

Mr. Eddy says, "Through my hands have passed contributions from England, Scotland, Canada and America, from Missionaries and native Christians in Japan, China, Egypt, Sidon and Palestine, from North American Negroes and Indians. During the Armenian massacres the native Christians in India sent collections for their relief. The Armenians are now sending back to India."

In regard to the future Mr. Eddy says, "For months after the looked for rains come the need must continue and rather increase, as blankets must be furnished these weak, emaciated ones as well as food. Grain must be given—and four months must go by before a harvest

"Orphanages have sprung up and orphans have been multiplied in them as one can scarcely realize. Their support must be provided for years to come. Many of the Christian pastors and catechists of to-day have come from the famine orphanages of '76.

	Yen.
Amounts previously reported	1,593.31
Collection, Sendai	.33
Mrs. N. Maynard	3.00
	1,596.64

Sincerely, V. W. HELM.

Young Men's Christian Association, Tokyo, Oct. 8th, 1900.

CHINA'S PUNISHMENT CHINA'S SALVATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The awful crimes that have been committed in China during the past three months have awakened a cry for vengeance from outraged humanity throughout the world. It is not alone the desire that justice should be executed that inspires this demand for punishment, but the desire that a righteous government should be established, and beneficent institutions be multiplied among this people. Sir Rutherford Alcock once said: "China yields nothing to reason; she yields everything to power." At the present time it is only the exercise of power on the part of western nations along wise lines, that will deliver the rulers of China from the reign of madness, and bring them under the reign of reason. At this late date if there are any responsible members of

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western governments who are in doubt as to the fact that this unspeakable wickedness was committed with the deliberate approval and under the direction of the Empress Dowager, it is because the light of evidence has been so intense that it has blinded their eyes.

When Tung Fu Hsiang had his first audience with the Empress Dowager, on arriving with his troops within the vicinity of Peking, it was reported through Chinese sources that he expressed to the Empress the wish to drive out the foreigners from China, and was not rebuked for the suggestion. The Empress was deeply enraged at foreign governments for the succession of aggressions upon the territory of China that followed the humiliating war with Japan. If she had resolutely set about the reconstruction of the Chinese army, and had at length demanded the restoration of territory, with war as an alternative, meanwhile giving proper protection to foreigners residing in China, and to natives related to them, nothing but commendation could have been given for her courage and energy. What did she do? She listened to the counsels of officials as wicked and foolish as herself, and with their help slowly matured the diabolical scheme of extermination which has now been put into partial execution. Every official that proved himself to be a thorough foreign hater has been rapidly promoted to responsible position; every official that it was believed was incurably pro-foreign has been removed from large responsibility.

Two years ago a strange edict was promulgated, directing the people throughout China in cities and villages to establish some sort of military organisation, secure weapons, and engage in drill; and all this for what purpose? Ostensibly for self-protection,—but against what enemies? Thoughtful readers of this proclamation could see in it only mischief. Such men could be of no use in a foreign war, but they could be of use, and proved to be so, as material out of which to manufacture Boxers when the time came! The Boxer movement, if not directly created by the government, was adopted by it, as a promising agency through which to carry out its bloody scheme. It is stated on authority that Boxer leaders were admitted to the yamen of Prince Tuan to exhibit their spiritual power a full year before the storm of destruction burst in Northern China. The fiendish Yü Hsien, while governor of Shantung, also received Boxer leaders into his presence, and gave them weapons to assist them in their work.

The Empress Dowager was persuaded by her evil counsellors that with her hundreds of thousands of well equipped and trained soldiers, accompanied by a great number of invincible Boxers, in whom the spirits of ancestors fought, she could withstand the power that western nations might hurl against her. Blinded with hatred and superstition, without the first strirngs of compassion for the weak and innocent, the awful programme of massacre was entered upon. The important thing to remember is that this programme was developed and executed by the government of China. Imperial orders for extermination were sent out that were intended to take effect in every province. The fearful butcheries in Paotingfu, T'ai Yuan, T'ain Ku, and Fen Chou Fu, were known by the perpetrators of the crimes to have the approval of the court in Peking. The magistrate of Paotingfu reported to the provincial viceroy what he had done as a regular official act. Yü Hsien reported to Peking that he had destroyed 5 foreigners by treachery, and asked for the reward that had been promised.

Night and day for eight weeks the brave and resourceful foreigners in Peking, with Christian Chinese under their protection, were beleagured by overwhelming numbers of soldiers and Boxers, who used every resource to compass their destruction; and all this under the very eyes of the Empress Dowager. The story has not yet been written of the awful days and nights when thousands of Christians, men, women, and children, who had failed to get within the lines of foreign protection, were hunted down and destroyed with fiendish cruelty, and no hand of pity or help was extended to them.

And now with the blood of thousands of innocent ones crying out for punishment to be inflicted upon such a government there is a conflict of counsels as to the course to be pursued. Closely following the capture of Peking, with the Imperial Court fleeing and unpursued, the world was astonished at the Russian proposal, since the great object of bringing foreign troops to China had been accomplished, they should be withdrawn, and the Chinese Government should be allowed to reorganize itself. Certainly motives other than justice or humanity lie behind such a proposal. But what of the United States?—comfortable as she is in the thought that she is more unselfish than other nations in her relations with China. She at first seemed inclined to follow the strange suggestion of Russia, then hesitated, with the explanation that she was striving to reach a harmonious basis of action with other Governments, and at last rejected the suggestions of the German Government, generally recognized to be most just and wise, that punishment should first be inflicted upon the guilty leaders in this wickedness, and later a basis for the reconstruction of a central authority should be found. The reason for this decision is given, that it will have a better effect in China if that Government punishes its offenders, rather than to have the work done by outside nations. Better indeed if and if! Who will punish whom? What is the meaning of such a mischievous proposition from a source from which it was reasonable to expect wise counsel and helpful action? The Chinese minister at Washington has been steadily throwing dust into the eyes of the American public from the beginning of this trouble, representing that the Empress Dowager was quite innocent of all this evil, and only needed assistance to put matters again on right lines! Can it be possible that the United States authorities believe these representations? If so it may be seriously asked: What is the function of facts in helping to decide important questions of international policy? As well contend that the five oceans are not salt as that the Empress Dowager is not saturated with the guilt of the national crime that has been committed; and yet she is the head of the Chinese Government, holding the rightful head as a prisoner—if he be yet alive—and it is with her that counsel is to be taken to punish offenders!

When Peking was captured, and she was fleeing before foreigners, her power was at its lowest point. The long hesitation and evident disagreement of the Allies revived it, the proposal of Russia strengthened it, and now the decision of the United States—if indeed the decision is ultimate—has given her added hope of again holding the reigns of government with her former grip. Whom will such a woman punish? She has certainly given proof of having a character that would shrink from no act of destruction that would strengthen her hands, but after she has surrendered the fewest possible heads that will satisfy the demands of western diplomacy, what of a reconstructed government with this woman in the supreme place? Now is the opportunity offered to Christendom to put a hook into the mouth of the Dragon, and to make sure that the present exhibition of its satanic wickedness shall be its last.

The only condition of peace with China should be the banishment of the Empress Dowager to the "Cold Palace," or to end her days among the tombs of her ancestors in Manchuria. The heads of her leading counsellors, and her most devoted tools, should fall. A punitive expedition should visit Paoting-fu, T'ai Yuan, T'ai Ku, Feu Chou Fu, and other cities that have outraged the laws of civilization by their crimes, and should inflict such a chastisement that neither officers nor people throughout China would dare again to commit or allow such acts of cruel barbarity. The Viceroys who have resisted the commands of the central government, and have given protection to foreigners, should be requested to escort the Emperor to Peking or Nanking, and reorganize the government on progressive lines, excluding from official position all men who have been tainted with this scheme of murder and destruction. It is very probable that the Emperor might be destroyed when the attempt was made to get possession of his person. Then the few Princes whose hands have not been stained with this crime should be invited, with the help of the Viceroys, to establish a provisional government, announcing the purpose to give protection to all loyal peaceful Chinese, to all foreigners of whatever calling, to develop the resources of the country, to stimulate education, and in short to "right about face," and enter honestly upon the path of progress, seeking with other nations for the best things in life, material, intellectual, moral, religious. If this shall prove to be the end of this awful chapter of wickedness and misery, even though many hearts must continue to bleed until the day of release comes, the price will not have been too great to have paid for such a blessing to the future generations of China, and to the nations of the earth.

Yours, D. Z. SHEFFIELD.

TAXATION IN TOKYO.

Official sanction was granted on Sept. 18th for the establishment of a special system of taxation in Tokyo, as to which application for official permission had been forwarded to the Ministers of Finance and Home Affairs in accordance with a decision of the Municipal Assembly in February of this year. Some revisions were made by a later meeting in July, and submitted to the authorities for sanction.

Art. I.—In Tokyo the following special taxes shall be levied:—(1) Exchange tax. (2) Tramway car tax. (3) Electric wire post tax. (4) Gas pipe tax. (5) Shipping and carriage tax.

Art. II.—The exchange tax shall be imposed upon exchanges at the rate of 1½ per cent. annually on the aggregate total of their receipts.

Art. III.—With regard to the tramway car tax the amount of the annual receipts shall be taken as the basis of imposition, and the tax shall be levied on persons engaged in tramway business at the following rates:—

1	When the average receipts per day per mile of track are above 40 and below 50 *yen*...	Total receipts. 1 per cent.
2	When the same are above 50 and below 75 *yen*	2 „
3	For upwards of 75 and less than 100 *yen*	3 „
4	For upwards of 100 and less than 125 *yen*	4 „
5	When the sum exceeds 200 *yen*	10 „

Art. IV.—The electric wire post tax shall be imposed upon persons engaged in the supply of electric light, at the rate of 70 *sen* per annum for each post.

Art. V.—The gas pipe tax shall be collected from persons engaged in the manufacture of gas at the rate of 1.5 *rin* for each *ken* of pipes of an average diameter of 4 inches laid within the limits of the city.

Art. VI.—The shipping and carriage tax shall be imposed upon ships and carriages at the rates specified below:—

1.	Ships of Japanese rig (over 50 *koku* burden)	1.5 *sen*	per *koku*.
2.	Steamers and junks	10 „	per ton.
3.	Sailing vessels of foreign rig	8 „	„
4.	Steamers, steam launches (of foreign model) for passengers, and ships provided with machinery of foreign type	1 *yen*	per ton.
5.	Drays or carts drawn by horses or cattle — 4-wheeled	10 „	per cart.
	2-wheeled	8 „	„
6.	Goods wagons of large size	3 „	each.
7.	Goods wagons of small size	1 „	„
8.	Public coaches and carriages for private use — drawn by two horses	30 „	„
	drawn by 1 horse	20 „	„
9.	*Jinrikisha* for private use — double	6 „	„
	single	4 „	„
10.	Bicycles	2 „	„

Art. VII.—The special taxes in connection with gross receipts as specified in Articles II., and III., shall be collected on the basis of each preceding business year.

Art. VIII.—In case it is found that persons liable to the exchange tax, tramway, car tax, electric post tax, or gas pipe tax, have failed to realize a profit of 6 per cent. per annum against their capital during the preceding business year, the taxes shall be remitted.

Art. IX.—In cases where a business or occupation as specified above had been established, the taxes shall be collected for the year immediately following the commencement of business.

With regard to the amount of taxes to be secured by the enforcement of the new system, the following figures are given:—

Taxes.	Estimates in Yen.
Exchanges, 1.5 per cent.	16,894
Tramway cars, 5 per cent.	54,133
Electric wire posts, 70 *sen* each	4,012
Gas pipes, 1.5 *rin* per *ken*	4,512
Ships and carriages	101,082
Shipping	2,601
Vessels of Japanese rig, 1.5 *sen* per *koku*	231
Steamboats and junks, 10 *sen* per ton	1,310
Sailing vessels of foreign model, 8 *sen* per ton	560
Vessels plying on rivers, &c., 1 *yen* per ton	500
Vehicles	98,481
Drays drawn by oxen — 4 wheeled, 10 *yen* each	10,050
2 wheeled, 8 *yen* each	2,808
Goods wagons of large size 3 *yen* each	2,163
Goods wagons of small size 1 *yen* each	54,470
Public and private coaches — drawn by 2 horses 30 *yen* each	5,010
drawn by 1 horse 20 *yen* each	2,660
Private *jinrikisha* — double 6 *yen* each	2,124
single 4 *yen* each	17,976
Bicycles 2 *yen* each	1,220
Total	180,635

In the above total, all fractions of *yen* have been omitted.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Max	Min	Air Temp. Lake.	State of Weather	Remarks in General
Sunday, 30th	57°	55°	67°	Fine.	
Monday, 1st	64°	61°	67°	Fine.	
Tuesday, 2nd	59°	55°	67°	Rain.	
Wed'sday, 3rd	67°	60°	67°	Fine.	
Thursday, 4th	61°	56°	67°	Fine.	
Friday, 5th	62°	56°	67°	Rain at night.	
Saturday, 6th	61°	56°	67°	Rain in afternoon.	

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THE REGATTA.

The usual autumn regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club took place on Saturday afternoon in weather which could hardly have been improved upon. There was a light easterly breeze; the sun was not too hot,—indeed the sky became overcast towards sunset,—and the water was good, though perhaps at the time the Senior Double Sculls went out there was over much of a jobble for comfort. There was a considerable attendance, the verandah being well filled with ladies. The arrangements was under the control of the following Committee:—Mr. H. C. Litchfield, President, Mr. J. F. Hall, Captain (Starter), Dr. E., Wheeler, Rev. E. C. Irwine, Messrs. A. L. Mottu, H. Rose, W. Goddard, R. Hay (Timekeeper), G. C. Allcock, E. H. Irwine, H A. Poole, Hon. Treasurer, and H. E. Hayward, Hon. Secretary. It should be added that in consequence of business engagements Mr. Litchfield found it impossible to attend, but his usual place as Judge was taken by Mr. B. Hyde Pearson. The President was represented by Mrs. Litchfield, who after the last race presented the prizes, accompanying each with a few kindly words of congratulation.

The events were brought off with most commendable punctuality As near as possible to one o'clock Mr. Hall started the first race; the second was less than three minutes late; and so well were matters arranged both afloat and ashore that even after a fairly long wait to allow men to put their names down for the Scratch Fours, and after an exasperating delay at the starting point (owing to the unwillingness or inability of the various strokes to control their respective crews and assist in carrying the Starter's orders into effect) the last race still came off actually ahead of time, the programme being thus, contrary to the lamentable practice in former years, finished in daylight. This fact provokes the observation that there is not the slightest reason why punctuality should not be always maintained. If those members of the Committee to whom is entrusted the duty of getting out the boats will only insist on having (so far as possible, of course) men afloat for each race before the finish of its predecessor matters will run smoothly enough; the starter's launch can at once steam back to the starting points, and be in readiness for the boats then on their way up; the spectators will be saved the long waits that so often occur, and everybody will be satisfied. For example, the Junior Pairs nearly upset the programme, the crews starting from the pontoon (for no visible reason) a quarter of an hour late. On the contrary, to take another instance, the Senior Double Sculls were well on their way up the course before the Junior Fours had reached the finishing line. Incidentally we should suggest to the Committee the advisability of acquiring a megaphone, perhaps, indeed, two megaphones, though not with the intention attributed to the worthy alderman who advocated the purchase of a pair of gondolas. Much inconvenience would thus be obviated, especially in connection with the starting. Of Saturday's races it is not necessary to comment in addition to the remarks that accompany each event.

We may add that a band was in attendance and discoursed the following selections:

I.—Overture, "Hesperia" .....By F. H. Losey.
II.—Selection From "The Geisha".....By S. Jones.
III.—Fantasie Aus Der Opera, "Carmen".....By G. Bizet.
IV.—"Dream Faces" Waltz.....By Meissler.

Dancing took place in the Boathouse during the afternoon.

Following were the events:

SENIOR PAIRS.—1 MILE.
Prizes Presented by Yacht-owning Members.

"Widgeon."	lbs.	
Bow. G. C. Allcock	154	1
Str. J. J. M. Carst	160	
Cox. W. M. Carst	135	
"Mallard."	lbs.	
Bow. H. Goddard	136	0
Str. A. L. Manley	160	
Cox. J. Abbey	111	

The regatta opened punctually at programme time (one o'clock) with the Senior Pairs, the crews turning out early in very laudable compliance with the wishes of the Committee. The two got off well together and rowed level for about a quarter of a mile (going 32 to the minute), when Carst in the inside berth began to draw ahead. He gradually increased his lead and won easily by many lengths. Time, 8.34¼.

JUNIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—¾ MILE.

"Tern."	lbs.	
Bow. E. J. Moss	135	1
Str. J. E. Moss	130	
"Pearl."	lbs.	
Bow. F. Pollard	162	0
Str. W. J. White	166	

Moss, in the inside berth, took up the lead very quickly and was soon three lengths ahead. He steered a capital course, while White was all the time pulling himself round with his right, and was once nearly upset, losing several strokes in consequence. However, he kept at it till opposite the Boathouse when, the leader having finished many lengths ahead, he gave up. Time, 7.32.

OPEN FOURS.—1 MILE.

I.—"Flamingo" (Red).	lbs.	
Bow. J. A. Hayes	144	1
2 H. Y. Irwine	150	
3 H. A. Poole	161	
Str. H. E. Hayward	140	
Cox. F. H. Abbey	140	
II.—"Darter" (Black).	lbs.	
Bow. J. Abbey	111	0
2 B. J. Jackson	175	
3 O. Strome	182	
Str. W. Goddard	130	
Cox. H. Gorman	126	

This was another good start. When they settled down after the first dash Goddard was rowing a quick stroke, 34 and even more to the minute, while Hayward (inside) set his men at 30 and kept at that practically through the whole race. Passing The Niche Hayward had a slight lead, and 200 yards out from the P. M. wharf he was a length to the good. At the wharf he had quickened slightly and had a lead of two lengths. Once in the smooth water Goddard put it on with spirit but he could not reach his opponent, who finished a length to the good. Time, 8.44.

JUNIOR PAIRS.—¼ MILE.

I.—"Mallard."	lbs.	
Bow. J. Helm	135	1
Str. C. H. Moss	130	
Cox. W. M. Carst	135	
II.—"Widgeon."	lbs.	
Bow. E. Powys	144	0
Str. T. Herlihy	134	
Cox. J. Abbey	111	

After a good start Moss took the lead but shortly Herlihy, rowing the faster stroke (about 32) came up and drew ahead a bit. At the P. M. wharf, they were level again, but as they passed the end of the Breakwater, Herlihy in the outer position, took the smooth water first and was enabled to get a little in front. The distance now told, however, and just off the Boathouse having practically rowed the boat to a standstill, he gave up, the race thus going to Moss. Time, 7.57.

SENIOR FOURS.—1 MILE.

I.—"Darter" (Black.)	lbs.	
Bow. J. Abbey	111	1
2 B. J. Jackson	175	
3 O. Strome	182	
Str. W. Goddard	130	
Cox. H. Gorman	126	
II.—"Flamingo" (Red.)	lbs.	
Bow. J. E. Moss	130	0
2 H. Goddard	136	
3 J. A. Hayes	144	
Str. H. E. Hayward	140	
Cox. F. H. Abbey	140	

Hayward (outside) forged ahead soon after the start and an accident to W. Goddard's stretcher (which lost him several strokes, and seemed for a few seconds to quite disable the boat) gave him a further advantage. At The Niche Hayward was going 30 to the minute and was a good length ahead, Goddard rowing his usual 32. Nearing the P.M. wharf Hayward was a couple of lengths in front but Goddard was now coming up fast and at the breakwater was only a length astern. Thence to the line it was a hot race, the Black boat, however, creeping up all the time, and amid quite a tempest of excitement Goddard won by half a length as officially given. The difference seemed to persons,—of course without the Judge's facilities for seeing—to be hardly over a yard. Goddard was carried in by his admirers shoulder high from the pontoon. Time, 8.52.

JUNIOR FOURS.—½ MILE.

III.—"Darter" (Black.)	lbs.	
Bow. C. Roth	128	1
1 C. H. Moss	132	
2 H. Temme	168	
Str. T. Herlihy	134	
Cox. W. M. Carst	135	
IV.—"Pelican" (Blue.)	lbs.	
Bow. H. Gorman	126	2
2 E. Powys	144	
3 F. Pollard	162	
Str. J Helm	135	
Cox. L. Mottu	—	
I.—"Flamingo" (Red.)	lbs.	
Bow. R. Meiklejohn	130	3
2 F. Bromley	124	
3 F. Herb, Jr.	135	
Str. C. Aslet	143	
Cox. J. Abbey	111	
II.—"Seamew" (Green.)	lbs.	
Bow. A. E. Pawsey	124	0
2 A. Marsh	128	
3 C. H. Thorn	128	
Str. E. J. Moss, Jr.	135	
Cox. W. Goddard	130	

A very level start resulted in a close race between three boats, Green falling gradually behind. As they neared the wharf, Black was in front, Blue and Red close up. They finished in this order, Herlihy winning by 2½ lengths. Time, 4.56.

SENIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—¾ MILE.
Prize Presented by the Committee.

II.—"Tern."	lbs.	
Bow. H. Y. Irwine	150	1
Str. G. C. Allcock	154	
I.—"Pearl."		
Bow. H. A. Poole	161	0
Str. H. E. Hayward	140	

The Senior Double Sculls made a splendid start. Allcock rowing 34 began soon to show in front of Hayward, who went along at 30-32. Though the same weight to a pound or two the crews made very different weather—Hayward being quite uncomfortable in the small sea that existed (he had the inside berth) while Allcock proceeded easily. The latter gradually increased his lead and finished many lengths ahead. Time, 7.40½.

SCRATCH FOURS.—From the P.M. Wharf.

Bow. Thorn	1		Bow. Marsh	2	
2 Helm			2 Herlihy		
3 White			3 Hayes		
Str. Irwine			Str. H. Goddard		
Bow. Luther	3		Bow. Tanner	0	
2 Bromley			2 Powys		
3 Herb			3 Pollard		
Str. Hood			Str. J. E. Moss		

Bow. Meiklejohn	0
2 Temme	
3 Strome	
Str. F. H Abbey	

After a great deal of talk the crews, finding that otherwise a start was not immediately likely, decided to listen to the Starter and to take positions. They were sent away to as fair a start as seemed possible in the circumstances. Irwine got into first place and kept it to the end, Goddard coming in second, Hood third. The other boats ran into each other off the Grand Hotel and the conversation which resulted not only attested the jaw-power of the ten persons concerned, but likewise their easy and diversified command of language. Spectators on the Grand Hotel verandah who had been alarmed at the noise were relieved to see the crews after a spell row home in peace and amity. When will crews learn that in such a case only one man should speak and even he with great thriftiness of statement?

In a performance at the Miyakoza Theatre, Asakusa on Oct. 9th, which called for an artificial exhibition of fire, some excitement was caused by the breaking of a rope and the consequent sprinkling of a number of spectators with jets of fire. No one was injured.

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CRICKET.

THE ELEVEN VERSUS NEXT SEVENTEEN.

This match, played on Saturday afternoon, unfortunately attracted but few spectators, the counter attraction of the Regatta evidently keeping folks away. In some respects the play was disappointing, particularly in the fielding of the Eleven. With the exception of Hudson, Anton and Kilby, not one showed the smartness in fielding and returning the ball which we usually associate with a picked eleven. In this respect, the Next Seventeen were much better, and as a consequence the Eleven fared rather badly when they first went in to bat. The failing light bothered every one toward the end, rain beginning to fall ere stumps were drawn.

DETAILS.

The Eleven went in to field, sending in the Next Seventeen to bat. Hickey opened with a three, but immediately lost his partner Sandberg, clean bowled by Clarke. Hickey, who followed, started his score with a couple. On the change of over, two singles were made, one by each bat, then a bit of loose fielding allowed Hickey to score a couple, and the over closed. Ten went up on the board two balls later, but nothing more resulted that over. Clarke, in the next over, clean bowled Hickey—12-2-5. Wilkinson filled the vacancy but made nothing with the remaining balls of the over. Little of interest occurred till Wilkinson punished Clarke for four, and 20 went up on the board. By singles the score slowly mounted to thirty. Soon after, Lias relieved Clarke and had three made off him in the first over. A maiden over from Fradgeley—his second—was followed by a break in the batting partnership, Duff stumping Wilkinson with the first ball of the over—33-3-11. Cocksedge went out and put Lias away, first ball, for one. A single into the slips by Hickley was the next incident before the next wicket fell, then a smart catch by Kilby put Cocksedge out—38-4-1. Brady partnered Hickley and opened with a couple, and 40 was hoisted. With the first ball of the succeeding over Hickley put up a ball of Fradgeley's which Duff held. The retiring bat had made 18 by steady application, giving no chances—40-5-18. Bugbird's stay was short, Fradgeley's second ball finding his wicket—40-6-0. Brady's next partner was Kaul, but this player went out first ball—another clean bit of bowling by Fradgeley—42-7-0. Three wickets in one over. Brady was the next man to go, being caught by Wheeler. Philip, who succeeded, made a couple, then Read was caught by Duff—42-9-0. Moss stayed for only one ball, being caught by Clarke off Lias—44-10-0. Fradgeley found Philip's wicket when the score had increased by one—45-11-1. Waddilove partnered Stewart and stayed but a little while, tipping his wicket—45-12-0. Still the "rot" continued, Taverner being clean bowled second ball by Fradgeley—45-13-0. Murdoch, a Tokyo player, who has made too infrequent an appearance on the cricket-field this season, took the vacant bat. A maiden over followed his appearance, but Stewart made a couple in the following innings, after which singles by the same player came slowly. Then Edwards relieved Fradgeley. His second ball disturbed Murdoch's bails—53-14-1. Crawford was the last man to go in, partnering Stewart. After a few runs had been scored, Lias smartly caught and bowled Stewart and the side retired—62-16-9—Crawford carrying out his bat for five. Fradgeley's bowling analysis comes out extremely well, as a glance at the score will show.

It was now 3.45 p.m., and the light was growing bad, the whole sky being overcast with leaden-grey, low-lying clouds. Anton and Kilby went out to bat, facing the bowling of Bugbird and Murdoch. Anton opened with a couple off Bugbird, and followed it with a single. Nothing more was made in the over. Murdoch's fourth ball was sent to the fence by Anton for four; a single was made in the next over. Slowly the score mounted by this player's efforts and at 4 o'clock 10 was hoisted. At twelve, Anton, who had been given two lives, put up a ball from Bugbird which Kaul held—12-1-11. Edwards joined Kilby and began hitting freely, but owing to the smartness of the fielders nothing beyond a single was added to the score in the first over. Other singles brought the score up to 20. At 23, Kilby was bowled by Bugbird, the ball passing between his bat and legs on to the wicket—23-2-4. Wheeler was the incoming bat, and soon after joining Edwards the latter made three off Murdoch. Edwards finally succumbed to Kaul, at long-leg—his second catch in the match—25-3-6. Fradgeley then went to bat, but only a single had been made when Wheeler succumbed to a straight ball from Bugbird—26-4-1. Runs came a little more quickly after this, but the shocking bad light was against everybody. Hudson, the next man in, after a few runs had been added, was smartly caught by Murdoch—38-5-7. An improvement in the light followed the appearance of Braess, and things grew interesting again. A change in bowlers was effected, and three by Fradgeley was the first result of Brady's going on. Braess next got him away for a single, but after that run-getting stopped awhile. Next over, Braess started scoring again, and 50 was soon hoisted. At 52, Fradgeley was given out leg-before-wicket—52-6-15. Lias filled the place and opened carefully, making a single ere the over closed. Then he got a couple off Bugbird, which Braess followed with a three; more singles followed and 60 went up. Braess made the winning hit at five minutes to five o'clock, sending Brady to the fence for 4. Kaul now relieved Bugbird, and Lias made one off his opening ball; other singles followed. Next Philip took over the leather at the other end but still the singles came and 70 went up. The light was gradually growing from bad to worse, though runs were still made, and at 5.05 p.m. 80 was telegraphed. By ones and twos, and sometimes 3, the score was taken to 90, then to 100. At 5.15 the game was abandoned, for want of light, Lias (20) and Braess (33) carrying out their bats. Score:—

NEXT SEVENTEEN.

Mr. Hickley, c. Duff, b. Fradgeley	18
Mr. Kaul, b. Fradgeley	0
Mr. Hickey, b. Clarke	5
Mr. F. E. Wilkinson, st. Duff, b. Lias	11
Mr. G. G. Brady, c. Wheeler, b. Lias	2
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, b. Fradgeley	0
Mr Read, c. Duff, b. Lias	2
Mr. G. Philip, b. Fradgeley	1
Mr. C. S. Moss, c. Clarke, b. Lias	0
Mr. Stewart, c. and b. Lias	9
Mr. J. Waddilove, b. Fradgeley	0
Mr. E. Taverner, b. Fradgeley	0
Mr. Sandberg, b. Clarke	0
Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, c. Kilby, b. Fradgeley	1
Mr. J. Murdoch, b. Edwards	2
Mr. K. F. Crawford, not out	5
b. 7	7
	62

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
P. B. Clarke	36	17	6	2
F. G. Fradgeley	66	10	0	7
F. J. Lias	43	24	0	5
E. B. S. Edwards	12	4	0	1

THE ELEVEN.

Mr. A. S. Anton, c. Kaul, b. Murdoch	11
Mr. H. W. Kilby, b. Bugbird	4
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. Kaul, b. Murdoch	6
Mr. S. Wheeler, b. Bugbird	1
Mr. F. G. Fradgeley, l.b.w., b. Brady	15
Mr. L. S. Hudson, c. Murdoch, b. Bugbird	2
Mr. G. Braess, not out	33
Mr. F. J. Lias, not out	20
Mr. P. B. Clarke, Mr. C. M. Duff } did not bat.	
Extras	13
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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	Wk.
Mr. F. H. Bugbird	72	27	2	3	—
Mr. J. Murdoch	60	28	—	2	1
Mr. G. G. Brady	18	11	—	1	—
Mr. M. Kaul	24	15	—	—	—
Mr. G. Philip	18	11	—	—	1

An "Observer" writes—The most noticeable feature about the game on Saturday was the execrable fielding of the Eleven. I should say that the main reason for this was "clownishness" on the part of one member of the team. Nothing demoralizes the fielding of a side more than intended-to-be amusing talk, or indeed talk of any kind; it is not cricket. The Eleven have all the more reason to be careful as regards this branch of the game because the outfield in Kobe is not like a billiard table. The game on Saturday cannot be taken as a criterion, because I think that while two easy chances were missed on the part of the XVII, two or three of the Eleven were got rid of through carelessness, and it must not be forgotten that the light was dreadful. E. W. Kilby was absent on Saturday owing to a poisoned foot. My own opinion is that the interport match will prove a "bowlers" match, and it must not be forgotten that Kobe has been enormously strengthened in this department.

YACHTING.

The 39-raters had a race on Saturday afternoon for a first prize presented by the racing members of the Mosquito Yacht Club on club time, the second prize being by the Yacht Club. The start at 2.30 was a fine spectacle. They had all gathered at the weather end of the line and when Capt. Carst gave the starting gun they came down in a group before the light easterly breeze so close together that fouling seemed imminent. *Mary* and *Haidee* were bow and bow as they hauled round the bathing barge, the others in a bunch astern, *Maid* in the inside berth, and all trying to hold up against a very stiff flood tide. *Mary* at once drew away and *Maid* overtook *Haidee*, but sagged to leeward. After going through the harbour entrance they pointed for the mark off Tsurumi, but the tide hampered them and all had to make a board to weather it. *Mary* tacked round the sampan exactly a minute ahead of *Maid*, *Haidee* third, followed two minutes later by *Spray*. The wind now shifted more to N.E., and *Mary* had to luff repeatedly during the run to the Lightship in order to prevent *Maid* from passing her. *Miss Marion* was 10 seconds astern when they gybed round the Lightship. Reaching back to Tsurumi *Mary* set a tremendous jib-topsail and succeeded in drawing away from the *Maid*. After rounding the Tsurumi mark the second time *Maid* stood some distance out and, the wind falling light, succeeded in coming up on *Mary*. It was really a match between these two boats, the others being far out of it. *Maid* led at the harbour entrance but was overhauled during the run up the harbour, finishing just five seconds astern of *Mary*, but winning the first prize and a couple of record points, the second prize and one point going to *Mary*. The times were:—

	h.m.s.	Club All'ce. h.m.	Corrected. h.m.s.
Haidee	Gave up	—	—
Mary	4.40.45	1.37	4.39.08
Maid Marion	4.40.40	2.46	4.37.54
Golden Hind	Gave up	2.46	—
Spray	4.52.10	5.51	4.46.19

The 21-raters went round the Lightship and the Mandarin Bluff mark, the prizes offered being by the Club, two in number. Seven boats started. *Kodesu* got across the line first and held her advantage all the way round, leading at the lightship by three minutes from *Abunai*. They finished in that order. The times were:

	Finish. h.m.s.	Club All'ce. m.s.	Corrected. h.m.s.
Stella	4.46.10	—	4.46.10
Kodesu	4.10.18	1.03	4.09.15
Yugao	4.31.30	1.03	4.30.27
Nandeska	4.22.30	1.30	4.21.00
Abunai	4.12.50	1.30	4.11.20
Sodeska	4.18.32	1.30	4.17.02
Vixen	gave up	1.30	—

The 17-raters also had a race, *Daisy May* by a good tack gaining an advantage by a shift of the wind which gave her a considerable lead at the Lightship, *Bonito* being second, ahead of *Wettinge*. They finished in that order. Following are the times:

	Finish h. m. s.	Club All'ce m. s.	Corrected h. m. s.
Wettinge	4.43.00	—	4.43.00
Daisy May	4.26.10	—	3.26.10
Devonia	4.43.30	1.17	4.42.13
Bonito	4.35.55	2.34	4.33.21

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THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

There can be little doubt now that the Unionists will have a substantial working majority in the new House of Commons and that all the more prominent politicians on either side will return to Westminster. In connection with Mr. Pritchard Morgan's defeat at Merthyr Tydvil, it is interesting to note that his last majority was more than 2,000 above the highest poll cast for the leading Conservative candidate, and nearly 8,000 above the labour representative, the well-known writer, Allen Upward. Evidently the labour-party have been gathering strength during the past few years, while the Taff Vale dispute undoubtedly worked against the interests of the capitalist candidate. The Stephen's Green result is not surprising, the majority of Mr. Campbell in 1898 being extremely small. Sunderland has two representatives in parliament, and in the last House one was a conservative, the other a liberal. It is evidently Sir E. T. Gourley (L) who has been snowed under. Mr. Thomas R. Leuty is the Liberal thrown out by East Leeds; and evidently the Hon. Philip J. Stanhope (L) is the defeated member for Burnley. Mr. William Woodall, the defeated candidate in the Liberal interest at Hanley, was returned unopposed at the last election. The Stepney, or Tower Hamlets, have returned a Conservative this time, having sent up a Liberal in the last elections with the slender majority of 20. Professor Stuart, the well-known Liberal theorist and dabbler in journalism, was the last member for Hoxton, but we do not know if he fought the seat this time. One thing is certain, so far as the meagre information which Reuter can afford to send us, will allow of deductive reasoning, London is "going almost solid" for the Government. Already we have heard of Stepney, Hoxton, Blackfriars, Southwark, and Bethnal Green returning Unionists in the place of the late Liberal members. The only exceptions so far are Camberwell and Haggerston, Major Philip Hugh Dalbiac (C) losing the former, and Mr. John Lowles (C) the latter.

CHINA NOTES.

The members of the Russian Mission formerly established in the north of the Tartar City, whose premises were destroyed and cemetery desecrated by the Boxers, have taken possession of the huge Llama Temple in the north of the same city as a temporary dwelling place. There are usually from 1,200 to 1,500 Llama priests in residence there, but the number has dwindled down to about 500.

Private Sawyer. R.M.L.I., H.M.S. *Orlando*, one of the Legation Guard, died on Sept. 2nd of wounds received in the earlier part of the siege. He was wounded seriously at the same time and place as Captains Halliday and Strouts, and had been in a critical condition ever since. This death brings up the total number of deaths resulting from the siege to 68 and diminishes the number of wounded to 166.

An inquest on the bodies of John McEachen, boatswain, W. A. Moore, carpenter, and John Byrne, fireman, all of the British transport *Mohawk*, was held at the British Consulate, Shanghai on Sept. 26th. The evidence showed that the men were asphixiated by gas in one of the holds of the ship the previous day. The finding was in accordance with the evidence.

In announcing that a regular mail will be despatched by road three times a week from Peking to Tientsin and vice versa in future, with posts at Tung-chow, Matao, Hose-wu, Tsai-tsun, Yang-tsun and Pei-tsang, a correspondent complains that the service so far has been somewhat erratic, and tiresome delays have been caused by Japanese, Germans and Russians stopping the courier in spite of his passport and making him work on the road.

Attention has been called in Shanghai to the imperative necessity for immediate relief in the Northern provinces, where upwards of four millions of people have starvation staring them in the face. The local Chinese authorities it was stated were prepared to make immediate shipments to the North of tribute rice, of which 250,000 piculs were ready for despatch, and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., and Messrs. Butterfield and Swire were prepared to supply the necessary steam tonnage upon the understanding that suitable lighterage accomodation would be provided at Taku in order to avoid undue detention of the steamers. Some red-tape obstruction, however, on the part of the military authorities retarded action in the matter.

The British transport *Mohawk* arrived at Shanghai (after having been delayed ten days by want of water at Woosung) on Sept. 24th. She brought Maharaja Colonel Sir Pertab Singh, G.C.S.I., C.B. L.L.D., A.D.C. to H.R.H. Prince of Wales, in command of the Jodhpore Imperial Service Troops, with Major Turner, of the Indian army, second in command. Two nephews of the Maharaja, Princes of the blood, hold commissions and are on the staff of the Maharaja. These troops, to the number of 120 fighting men and a large number of servants and followers, 230 horses and mules, were landed in the morning of the 24th, and were walked up to their encampment on the Bubbling Well Road at 11 o'clock. The whole contingent was placed at the disposal of the Army authorities by the Maharaja, who defrays all expenses in connection with it.

The following notice (says the *Peking and Tientsin Times*) which appeared in the British quarter of Peking on September 6th, is indicative of the *sang froid* of the Britisher, and his determination to get the best out of life under any and all circumstances:—

"SPORTS CLUB.

There will be a general meeting of the above Club in the Students' Mess Room after the auction on Saturday, September 8th. It is to be hoped that a joint committee, garrison and civil can at once be formed and arrangements made to start Polo, Golf, Cricket, Football, Racing and Gymkhanas. By kind permission of the staff the Temple of Heaven will be made headquarters for Sports.

(Signed) MEYRICH HEWLETT."

Shades of living and departed Celestials! The Temple of Heaven a Sports Club!

Writing in one of the Shanghai papers on the review of the foreign troops at Shanghai by Field-Marshal von Waldersee, "A Soldier's Sister" said: "The General Staff was greatly diversified, though at the time most people were unaware there was a Russian Grand Duke among the group of distinguished looking officers. One bore the special German flag presented by the Emperor to the Field Marshal; its squareness gave it a very severe aspect, heightened by its character, a black cross on a white ground with a bar of black and a bar of red on top and bottom. This gave the whole gathering the air of a Crusade against the powers of darkness, an effect which was heightened by the way in which the Graf von Waldersee grasped his staff, recalling a little Jove's thunderbolts with which he appeared about to strike. His whole bearing is that of an extraordinarily energetic man, also a very genial one, with so much *savoir vivre* as to be able to keep back all he wished to hide, while appearing to tell everything, and to carry his own way without the least seeming to do so."

In connection with the destruction of property in Peking a correspondent of a Shanghai paper has been able to compile the following list of places destroyed:—

Austrian, Belgian, Dutch and Italian Legations; French Legation (partially). The Imperial Maritime Customs Property, including Sir Robert Hart's Compound and the Post Office.
American Board Mission Premises.
American Methodist Mission Premises.
American Presbyterian Mission Premises.
Church of England Mission (Bishop Scott's Compound).
London Mission, Murray's School for the Blind.
The Nan-tang (Southern R. C. Cathedral).
The Tung-tang (Eastern R. C. Cathedral).
Electric Lighting Works.
Race Course and Grand Stand.
Russian Mission premises and cemetery.
The Foreign Cemetery (Protestant).
Russian Post Office.
Russo-Chinese Bank.
Carl Imbeck's Store.
Coltman's old and new houses.
About twenty branch chapels in different parts of Peking.

The remaining foreign buildings, namely, those within the lines of defence, and the Pehtang, which was also defended, are more or less seriously damaged by shot, shell and fire. It is estimated that probably upwards of 400 shots found a billet in the Hotel de Peking, which was never abandoned in spite of this terrific fire.

The Peking correspondent of the Tientsin paper, prints the following official casualty list, relating to the Siege of Peking:—

CASUALTIES DURING THE SIEGE IN PEKING.

Legations.	No of off	No of men	Killed or died of wounds. off.	Killed or died of wounds. men.	Wounded off.	Wounded men.
American	3	53	—	7	2	8
Austrian	5	30	1	3	3	8
British	3	79	1	2	2	18
French	3	45	2	9	—	37
German	1	50	—	12	—	15
Japanese	3	24	—	5	—	21
Italian	1	28	—	7	1	11
Russian	2	79	—	4	1	18
	19	388	4	49	9	136

Legation.	Volunteers. Killed. off.	Volunteers. Wounded. men.	Total. Killed. off.	Total. Wounded. men.
American	—	1	7	11
Austrian	—	—	4	11
British	3	6	6	26
French	2	6	13	42
German	1	1	13	16
Japanese	5	8	10	29
Italian	—	—	7	12
Russian	1	1	7	20
	12	23	67	167
Pei Tang				
French	1	30	1 4	— 8
Italian	1	11	— 6	1 3
	1	41	1 10	1 11

News comes from Wei-hai-wei of the bursting of a steampipe on board the new French gunboat *Décidée* on the 27th ultimo, one man being killed and another injured. The gunboat was happily able to make Wei-hai-wei harbour. after the accident, and anchored to the south of Sun island. She got under way the following day, and partly under sail and partly with the assistance of the harbour defence dredger *St. Enoch* she was brought to anchor off the Admiralty pier.

The *North China Daily News* of October 4th, contains the following announcement of the death of the Rev. Dr. Muirhead:—

Very general sorrow will be felt in Shanghai, where his personality was so well known, and throughout China generally, where his name was so familiar, on the announcement that the Rev. Dr. William Muirhead, of the London Mission, died here yesterday after two months' indisposition. His work and residence coincided practically with the existence of Shanghai, for it was on the 26th of August, 1847, that he first set foot in Shanghai. Partly on this account he occupied a place in the community which few members of his calling can hope to do. For this reason on the occasion of the celebration of Shanghai's Jubilee in 1893, he was selected to deliver the oration on the Bund, and few who heard it will forget the striking incident in an important ceremony.

On any great occasion such as a public banquet to some well-known visitor, or at one of the annual gatherings of such an institution as the China Association, Dr. Muirhead was a ready and esteemed attendant; his presence assuring us of the catholicity of his sentiments, and his welcome remarks vouching his sincere convictions.

In November, 1897, at a largely attended meeting, representative of every section of the community, Dr. Muirchead was presented with an address and a number of articles upon the occasion of his Ministerial jubilee in Shanghai. His last public appearance was at the meeting to organise the collection of funds for the British sufferers by the Transvaal war.

The death-blow has been given at Wuchow on the West River to any chance of the Inland water concession being carried out, the *Hongkong Daily Press* says. The official who was to have initiated the preliminary measures was removed many months ago by the Governor of Kwangsi, at the

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instance of "lekin" officials; and we now learn that the office which had been provided for his occupation has been sold, to be used either as an eating house or gambling-shop, or possibly as a combination of the two!

The funeral service of the late Rev. W. Muirhead, D.D., was held in Shanghai Cathedral on October 5th. The ceremony was conducted by the Right Rev. Bishop Moule, assisted by Rev. Mr. Hodges and Rev. J. Edkins. Among those who paid a last tribute of respect by their presence were members of the consular services, and many prominent missionaries and mercantile residents.

The other day a most extraordinary shooting affair occurred in the British Consulate at Shanghai. The little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Graham, accompanied by a Japanese *amah*, was passing through the Consulate Grounds, and when opposite the main entrance of the Consulate, and only some five or six yards from the edifice, they heard a loud report. The child fell, and the *amah* rushed forward to pick her up, only to find that the child was uninjured but that she herself had been struck by a bullet in the calf of the leg. At the Consulate at the time, there were no foreigners, but a number of Chinese workmen in the corridor repairing the floor. They deny any knowledge of the affair.

The *Echo de Chine* says that the German Government has arranged an ingenious method of enabling the soldiers of the Chinese expeditionary corps to correspond at the lowest possible cost with their families. A list of about 100 telegrams has been arranged comprising all the most likely information which a soldier might want to telegraph. The soldier desiring to telegraph will only have to give his number and the number of the telegram, and these two numbers will be transmitted to Berlin, where the Imperial Post will send the complete text of the telegram to the sender's family. The charge for this facility to an officer is six marks (the price of a single word) whilst non-commissioned officers and men will only be asked to pay three marks ($1.50). Ordinary letters sent to or by soldiers are carried by the German post free. Is it too much to ask the British Government to imitate Germany in its consideration for the men who fight its battles?

Mr. C. H. Tjäder, of the Swedish Protestant Mission, gives to the *North China Daily News* a long description of the murder of the Rev. G. and Mrs. McConnell, their little baby boy of two, the Misses E. Burton and S. A. King, the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. John Young and a native servant at Tsinkianan, near Umenk'ou, on the Yellow River on July 16. The little party were fleeing from Shansi, when they were overtaken by 20 soldiers and others. "One of the soldiers drew a sword, crying out, 'We have not come to escort you, but to kill you,' and attacked and hewed wildly at our friends, joined by the other soldiers. Mr. McConnell was the first one that fell. An eye-witness to this terrible tragedy said that one of the ladies (probably Miss King) tried to speak to the murderers, saying:—'We have not come here to hurt you, but to preach good news from Heaven and tell you how to get there.' Mrs. McConnell, in bidding farewell, embraced and kissed her husband, as also did the other married couple and the two single ladies, and bystanders have been heard to say: 'See how they love one another; they are unlike us.' The eight bodies were then mutilated, and some of them cut up into pieces, all the remains being left to lie in the open. As a friend of the informant passed not far from the place about seven days after the murder, the remains of the bodies were still there, having been scorched black by the sun."

THE "MAINE."

We learn that private information has been received in Yokohama to the effect that the hospital ship *Maine*, which it will be remembered came out to the Far East from South Africa, left Wei-hai-wei yesterday for this, probably direct, with fifty British sick and wounded for the hospital at Yokohama.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Japanese first class cruiser *Azuma* arrived at Singapore on the 5th inst.

A fishing boat with five men, belonging to Tanoura, Kanagawa prefecture, was capsized by the heavy wind on the night of the 9th inst. at Honmoku. All the occupants were rescued by the Honmoku fishermen.

The first class torpedo boat *Chidori*, which has been put together in the Kawasaki shipbuilding Yard at Kobe, left on Oct. 8th for the Kure Admiralty Station to which she has been attached.

Half a dozen bluejackets from the Chilian warship got into trouble on Tuesday for refusing to pay their bills for meals and refreshments at a restaurant in Sakai-cho. They tried to escape, but four were captured and sent on board the vessel.

Fire broke out in a bake-house in Ryudo-machi, Azabu, Tokyo, early on the morning of the 9th inst. Thirteen houses were destroyed, one store room and two houses damaged, one man injured. Many soldiers from the Azabu barracks sent assistance.

This library has completed the first six months of its existence. It has now 225 modern volumes for lending to the members and a number of additional books are expected from America next month. The membership is 51. Subscription, 5 *yen* annually. Hon. Sec. Miss Lay, British Legation, Tokyo

It is proposed, according to a Tokyo paper, to set agoing the Osaka Gas Co., which it was proposed to establish in 1896 with a capital of *yen* 300,000, of which, however, only *yen* 92,000 was subscribed. The stock, it is understood, will now be taken up by Messrs. Shibusawa, Asano, Saionji, Abe, and others, and Mr Kataoka is to be President.

Among the arrivals by the *Nippon Maru* on Wednesday morning was Judge Lloyd M. Robbins, late Assistant Attorney-General of the Hawaiian Islands, and sometime Acting Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory. Judge Robbins comes from one of the wealthiest and well known families of California and is making a tour of the world.

A grimly humorous story was recently told at a political meeting. At a military hospital at the front a lady sat down beside a soldier's bed, and commenced to read aloud in a very impressive manner. This was too much for a Tommy in an adjacent bed, who called out, "You're wasting your time, miss, it's no good talking to 'im—'e's been dead an hour."

The third hearing in the case instituted against Mr. J. L. Pereira, Jr., by a Japanese called Fujii Shinzo, claiming payment of *yen* 300, balance due on tea-chests delivered, took place before Judges Oshima, Nozawa and Hiyama at the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Monday. Mr. F. A. Gomes, of Gomes Bros. & Co., was examined in the interest of defendant and deponed that 25 per cent. of the tea-chests supplied by the plaintiff were bad and counted as loss. Judgment was reserved to the 15th.

The death is recorded of Capt. J. W. Barry, for fifteen or sixteen years Pier-master at Kobe. The deceased gentleman came first to Kobe in 1877 in the British ship *Union* with a cargo of teak for the Imperial Government Railway, and four years later he joined the Osaka Iron Works. In 1885 he became Pier-master. Capt. Barry held both American and English certificates. He was a zealous Freemason, and had been Master of the Scotch Lodge at Kobe. He was to be buried on Wednesday with Masonic rites.

The Exhibition of Kanagawa products and the Educational Exhibition of the same Ken at Totsuka were inaugurated yesterday by Governor Sufu. Speeches were made by the President, Mr. Rinoiye, Secretary of Kanagawa Ken, the Governor, Mr. Otani Kahei, Mr. Kuwabara, Inspector of Education, and by one of the exhibitors. The exhibition is very interesting from the point of view of products of this *Ken*, especially silk cocoons, raw silk and porcelain, and it is well worth a visit, the prices being very low. The exhibition will last 15 days.

We gather from the *Nagasaki Press* that in the recent collision near Nagasaki the *Ise Maru* sustained considerable injuries to her bows. The damage commences about four or five feet above the water line, and consists of two large holes, the lower approximately 6 to 8 feet in height and the higher 4 ft. Behind these holes, there is an iron bulkhead, and had this been pierced during the collision there is no doubt that a still greater disaster would have happened. The hawse pipe for the anchor chain has been totally smashed. The bow plates are torn and bent, as if they had been so much cardboard. The repairs will take some time to execute.

The boat-building village of Mong-kok-sui, south of Yaumati, Kowloon, was entirely destroyed by fire on Sept., 28th. There is very little idea of the damage yet, but it is computed that it will run into tens of thousands of dollars: 21 large sheds for boat and launch building purposes were burned to ashes, along with all their contents, including launches, junks and other small craft in all stages of construction, besides many craft which were merely in for repairs. Ten dwelling houses, some of brick and lime, were also totally destroyed. It is feared that none of the property is insured because of the great risk. The work of destruction covered many acres.

Fire broke out on board the P. and O. steamer *Rohilla*, shortly after her arrival in Kobe harbour on Saturday morning, and it was still smouldering late in the afternoon. The scene of the outbreak, which is not of a serious nature, is the side reserve hold, where some Chinese cargo was stored. In order to be on the safe side, Captain Tocque moved his ship away from the Pier and immediately adopted all the necessary measures to cope with the danger. Mr. Sim repaired to the ship on learning of the outbreak and lent valuable assistance. The *Kobe Herald* understands that there are only about 100 tons of Chinese cargo in the hold and that the steamer herself has not sustained and is not likely to sustain any damage.

The members of the crew of the Chilian war vessel now in port are likely to achieve some sort of unpopularity among the native folks if they permit themselves to take such liberties as have marked their conduct during the past few days. On Saturday three different parties of Chilian bluejackets got into trouble, one over the forcible abduction of two bottles of whisky and some cigarettes from a saloon in Ogicho, another in connection with the raiding of a cake shop, and a third over a fight in a saloon at No. 137 where knives were drawn and one man was hit with some effect on the head with a bottle. In each case arrests were made not entirely without difficulty, but the cake-fanciers were released on paying for what they had taken.

On the morning of the 29th ult. the Shanghai Bund and foreshore were crowded with foreigners and natives to witness the landing of the newly appointed British Minister to China, Sir Ernest M. Satow, K.C.M.G. His Excellency (says the *Shanghai Mercury*) was received by a number of the Civil and Consular officials, and a detachment of the Indian troops, Sikhs, who were drawn up in double file along the Bund. His Excellency came from Yokohama on the *Empress of China*. The steam launch *Ruth* with H.B.M. Consul General, Mr. Pelham Warren, Chief Justice Wilkinson and H.B.M. Consul, Mr. F. S. A. Bourne on board went down to Woosung to meet him, and the party came up from Woosung on the *Ruth* and landed at 11.15 a.m. at the Peking Road Jetty. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Chairman of Municipal Council; H.B.M. Consul O'Brien Butler, Mr. H. E. Bredon, Acting Deputy Inspector General of Imperial Chinese Customs, and others received His Excellency at the Jetty. The party, escorted by Mounted Sikhs, proceeded to H.B.M. Consulate. After a short

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stay His Excellency left for Chief Justice Wilkinson's private residence, where he will be entertained during his short stay in Shanghai.

A student of the Imperial University, nephew of Professor Sasaki Masakichi, committed suicide on the evening of Oct. 9th at the residence of his uncle in Kanda by shooting himself in the head with a gun.

An interesting salvage feat has been performed in the Mersey. The *Locksley Hall*, with a cargo of wheat, sank in that river just over the Mersey Tunnel, and the railway company at once obtained an injunction restraining the Mersey Dock Board from blowing up the vessel according to their usual plan. Tenders were invited for the removal of the ship, and several London gentlemen combined and undertook the work on the "no cure, no pay" system. Captain Wood, of the Thames Conservancy, was entrusted with the operations, all the plant for which was extemporised. Two old sailing vessels and two old steamers that were about to be broken up, already having had their engines and boilers removed, were purchased. Their decks and other parts were strutted and strengthened to resist the strains of lifting, in this case, some 1,800 tons deadweight. Twelve of Bullivant's 9-in. wires were used, and the whole operations were so successful that, according to *Engineering*, the small syndicate were rewarded by a dividend of 187½ per cent. in six weeks.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Thursday, Judge Sato had three cases before him in which foreigners were interested. The first was an action brought by the Eagle Ink Company, of America, against Mr. J. Wagen. Mr. Masujima appeared for the plaintiff and the defendant appeared in person. Plaintiffs claimed ¥.952 as the price of ink sold, together with interest at the rate of 5 per cent, thereon from June 22nd, 1900, till the execution of judgment. Plaintiffs further said that on June 10th and Dec. 10th, 1898, they sold to defendant ink to the value of *yen* 952, but defendant failed to pay for it. Defendant denied that the goods were bought by him: he undertook their sale on commission, and made various remittances. Plaintiffs Counsel applied for a postponement of the hearing pending enquiries into the statement of defendent.—The next case was brought by the representative of Mr. F. Vivanti against Mr. Henry Fick. Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Matsuda, while defendant did not appear. Plaintiff let some rooms at No. 87, Yamashitacho, to defendant at a rental of *yen* 45 a month, in November, 1899. Defendant failed to pay the rent for three months and a half commencing February this year. The clerk of the Court said the present residence of defendant was not known, and the summons could not be served on him. The hearing was indefinitely postponed.—In the third case a man named Navabrai was ordered to pay a Mr. Cheldrum *yen* 428 for leaving the latter's employment without notice.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

According to Pittsburgh dispatches the Pressed Steel Car Company has received a contract for a number of ore cars of 80,000 pounds carrying capacity, to be used on the Great Southern Railroad of Spain.

The Chicago *Record* reports that a British syndicate has been organized, with £100,000 capital, to work the oil lands of Wyoming. It is said that this syndicate has obtained options on 1,000,000 acres of American oil land.

The Nicaraguan Government is now left free to deal with the United States alone in the matter of right of way for the building of the Nicaraguan Canal, since the forfeiture of the Eyre-Cragin Concession. It is estimated that this Canal will cost $125,000,000.

Pearls are being found in great quantities in the Black and St. Francois rivers in Southwest Missouri. A Poplar Bluff fisherman found the first gem in an ordinary mussel which he picked up on a shoal in Black River. He sold the gem to a St. Louis jeweller for $125 and since then hundreds of people have flocked to the rivers to engage in pearl fishing. Many valuable gems have been found. Nearly all are white, with tinting of different hues, and range in size from a grain of wheat to an ordinary pea.

The *May Flint*, an iron, four-masted vessel, 3,577 registered tonnage, formerly the *Persian Monarch*, ran on to the ram of the U.S.S. *Iowa* in San Francisco harbour on Sept 8th, and soon after sank. No lives were lost. She was coming into harbour with a cargo of coal from Seattle, at the time of the disaster, and lost steerage way.

One more ticket has been placed in the field by the nomination of Mr. Donelson Caffery, of Louisiana, for President, and Mr. Archibald M. Howe, of Cambridge, Mass., for Vice-President, by a gathering at Carnegie Music Hall in New York City. The delegates called the new organization the "National" Party, and adopted a platform which opposes expansion, favours "a single gold standard and a sound banking system," "a public service based on merit only," and "the abolition of all corrupting special privileges, whether under the guise of subsidies, bounties, undeserved pensions, or trust-breeding tariffs."

Shipbuilding in the United States for the year ending June 30, 1900, is reported upon by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics. The number and tonnage of the various classes of vessels are given as follows:

	No.	Gross tons.
Schooners, schooner barges and sloops	499	109,605
Great lake steam vessels	25	97,847
Canal boats and barges	523	74,860
Ocean screw steamships	20	60,369
River steamers	375	44,282
Square-rigged vessels	4	6,205
Totals	1,446	393,168

One curious incident of the Galveston hurricane is reported in recent papers. The Norwegian steamer *Gyller* was picked up by the tornado from her wharf on the east end of Galveston, carried around the bay side, through two bridges, and landed six miles away, high and dry, between Virginia Point and Texas city. She is intact, but may never float again. The captain says that the ship was driven with such force that when it tore through strong railroad bridges broadside on there was no shock appreciable. He did not realize that the ship was striking anything at all until after he was able to see and found where he was.

Not only the New York papers, but the press of many other cities take occasion to comment on the "prize-fighting debauch" which has been in progress in New York al. summer, and ended September 1 by the new law repealing the Horton law. Since the Horton law was enacted there have been 3,350 prize fights in New York, netting $900,000 to the pugilists and $1,600,000 to the promoters. The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* calls the "debauch" "a disgrace to the American metropolis," and says that it "has had a demoralizing effect upon the public which will be felt for months or years"; and the Chicago *Times-Herald* declares that "no frontier town in any new State, no wide-open city that we know of anywhere, ever approximated its phenomenal and disgraceful record."

The boom in the copper market continues. So far as the United States are concerned, the situation is one which can be regarded with a great deal of cheerfulness. The total exports of copper from that country in the eight months from January 1st to September 1st were 259,000,000 pounds, against 166,000,000 pounds in the corresponding period last year. Domestic output during the same time has been at a monthly average rate of 50,428,000 pounds, against 46,662,000 pounds per month last year. The average monthly exports have consequently been upon a very much larger scale than they were last year, while supplies have gained but slightly, and there has been no accumulation of stocks anywhere. Indeed, the European visible supply, during the latter part of August, fell off in a striking manner, which fact has, doubtless, not been without its effect upon the attitude of foreign consumers.

LADIES' INTERNATIONAL READING ROOM.

The Annual General Meeting of the Ladies' International Reading Room was held at the Public Hall on Tuesday, Oct. 9th, at 10.30 a.m. The President's report as follows was read:—

"Having been asked to take the Chair of the L.I.R.R. in March last, the place being made vacant by our President, Mrs. Gowey's return to America, and having been able to attend but two Committee meetings, I feel that I am hardly competent to write at any length of the workings of the Reading Room. Of how much it has been appreciated the reports of our Honorary Secretary and Book Committee speak for themselves.

We could not have wished for better encouragement, and I think that we all feel that what has been so successfully carried on for four years should continue to have our best support and help. I am glad to add that this past year the Reading Room has been self-supporting. Our subscriptions, with the balance we had in hand from 1899, being sufficient to carry us through.

The community being thoroughly cosmopolitan, with constant changes, the subscribers increase or diminish accordingly, and it is necessary in order to further extend the usefulness of the Society to devise some way of increasing its funds, and the proposition of admitting gentlemen as Honorary Members, I hope, will be favourably entertained. Also the increasing of our subscription for Children's Magazines may be a welcome feature and inducement for the young people to become members.

There have been many changes in our Board of Directors during the past year, which has necessitated an emergency committee being appointed and the by-laws revised. We deeply mourn the death of Mrs. Thomas, one of our directors, whose interest and work on our Committee was unceasing, and we shall greatly miss her help and encouragement.

The return home of Mrs. Bonar, our Vice-President, necessitated a new appointment, and Mrs. Hagen most kindly consented to take the position.

The temporary absence of Mrs. Lowder, our Honorary Treasurer, and Mrs. Merriman, Chairman of our Supervising Committee, has been felt, as they were enthusiastic and helpful workers, and we shall hope to see them on many of our future Committees. Two other Directors have resigned on account of ill-health.

I regret to mention the destruction of Magazines that have been circulated, and beg the members to regard the Books, Magazines, and Papers taken out of the Library as something not quite their own, and requiring care, and the necessity of regarding the rule made for paying for those lost or mutilated, as one Magazine lost, or badly torn, spoils the set for binding, and so debars any future reference.

The increased number of Books and Magazines taken out this past year has, of course, been the cause, but shows also the popularity and need of the Library, and a little care will obviate the abuse."

The Hon. Treasurer's, Hon. Secretary's and Book Committee's reports as published were accepted.

The following officers were then elected.

Mrs. Eldridge, President, by acclamation.
Vice-President, Mrs. Chalmers.
Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Lowder.
Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Sale.
Chairman of Book Committee, Mrs. O'Leary.

Directors:—Miss Averill, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Bathgate, Mrs. Dearing, Mrs. Hagen, Mrs. Lindsley, Mrs. Manley, Miss Moss. Mrs. Morris is a permanent director serving without re-election.

The following resolutions were passed:—

I. That gentlemen may become subscribing members with use of the Reading Room. Such subscribing members shall not take part in any meeting nor shall they be entitled to a vote.

II.—That subscriptions be as follows:—

ENTITLING THE HOLDER TO TAKE AT ONE TIME		Yen.
Families	2 Magazines and 2 Books	10.00
Lady or Gentleman	2 Magazines and 2 Books	7.00
Lady or Gentleman	1 Magazine and 1 Book	5.00

III.—That all children over 8 years of age whose parents are subscribers be allowed to use the Reading Room on Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 6, and on Saturday mornings from 9 to 12.

IV.—That the Reading Room be open until 7 p.m. in future instead of closing at 6.30 p.m. as formerly.

The new Officers and Directors took their places, and after a vote of thanks to the retiring committee the meeting adjourned.

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THE SHUKUCHI v. WHYMARK LEASE CASE.

The full text of the judgment in the important lease case instituted against Mr. G. H. Whymark, in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho, is translated by the *Kobe Herald* as follows :—

JUDGMENT.

The claim by the plaintiff is dismissed. Costs shall be borne by the plaintiff.

FACTS.

The plaintiff applied for the cancellation of the registration of a superficies created for building purposes on lots of ground in Nakayamate dori, Sanchome—153 *tsubo* 6 *go* 5 *seki* at No. 67, 4 *se* 7 *bu* of cultivated land at No. 70, 2 *se* 5 *bu* do. at No. 69; 2 *se* 4 *bu* of marsh at No. 69, 381 *tsubo* 5 *go* 6 *seki* at No. 69—The superficies was for a term of one hundred years from and after 1st June, 1899. Costs were also asked against the defendant. He (plaintiff) stated as reasons for his claim that he bought the lots of ground above mentioned and two other lots in February last at a cost of *yen* 23,000 from Hoshino Kuma, who is not concerned in the case, and concluded the transaction by duly registering the transfer of the ownership on the 27th of that month. Plaintiff was aware of the existence of a registration of a superficies on the same lots of ground for the defendant at the time; but he carried out the transaction as he believed the registration as entered by error, was to be cancelled, as was also insisted upon by Hoshino Kuma. The then owner Hoshino Kuma, claimed from the defendant the surrender of the registration, but he refused. The ownership of the lots was transferred to the plaintiff thereafter and as he could demand the cancellation of the registration he has instituted this case in Court. He gave as reasons for claiming the cancellation of the registration: firstly, that although there is a contract regarding the creation of a superficies between Hoshino Kuma and the executor of the late Mark Voysey, as stated in exhibit A No. 3, this is an error of the defendant since he has registered the superficies for himself and not in his capacity as executor, secondly, the creation of a superficies was not meant for the defendant. This can be clearly established by the fact that the buildings standing on the ground are not owned by the defendant, but belong to Voysey's estate. Therefore the plaintiff held that the registration of the superficies for the defendant was clearly the result of an error, and he produced exhibits A No. 1 to No. 3 to support his statement.

Defendant asked the dismissal of the plaintiff's demand and gave as reasons that prior to the plaintiff coming into possession of the lots the registration of the superficies was duly entered and hence there was no authority for the plaintiff demanding its cancellation. He further stated that the registration of the creation of a superficies on the lots of ground in dispute was not made in error and he produced exhibit B No. 1 to support the statement. Defendant also referred to exhibit A No. 1, (the contract of superficies between Hoshino Kuma and Voysey) produced by plaintiff, as supporting his (defendant's) own statement.

REASONS.

The vital point in arriving at a decision in the case in dispute is whether the registration of the creation of the superficies was entered owing to an error or not. Therefore, the Court considered first of all what was the nature of the error insisted upon by the plaintiff, because this error is not a result of a registrar who made the entry in the book. It occurred through the parties concerned creating a superficies at the time of applying for registration. This is clearly established by the plaintiff, who claimed that although a contract regarding the creation of a superficies was entered into between Hoshino Kuma and the late Mark Voysey, no steps were taken with a view to creating it between Hoshino Kuma and the defendant, and plaintiff failed to urge that the entry in the registration book was different from an intention to apply for it! Then the plaintiff's statement claiming registration to be a result of an error does not mean that it was the fault of the registrar, but the error was in the act of applying for registration, which resulted in the entry of a registration contrary to the intention of the party, who wanted the creation of a superficies on the lots in dispute. Secondly, the Court considered if there was any error in the proceedings regarding the application. The plaintiff insisted as a fact that Hoshino Kuma never meant to create a superficies for the defendant; but the law regarding the registering of immovable property shows that the registration of the creation of a superficies when it is applied for at the free option of the parties concerned, must be forwarded by both the superficiary and the party who creates the superficies as stated in Art. 26 of the Law. The document regarding the application is required to describe the cause of the registration and the object of it as stated in Art. 26 of the same Law. It is possible to decide that the document with the above description was forwarded by Hoshino Kuma and the defendant to the Registration office in the application for registration. Besides, the plaintiff admits that Hoshino Kuma took part in the application. Therefore it is clear that the creation of a superficies for the defendant was mentioned in the application for registration. When an application for registration legally executed is forwarded it is reasonable to conclude that action for the creation of a superficies has been taken. Therefore if the plaintiff insists that it was not created for the defendant he cannot overcome the decision as long as he fails to produce evidence to quash it. The plaintiff produced an exhibit to controvert the decision, and it is only a document mentioning the statement of Hoshino Kuma, who took part in the forwarding of the application regarding the registration in dispute, which is to the effect that as a protest had been lodged against the registration it could not be taken as evidence against the defendant, who refused to recognise it. The plaintiff claims that no action has taken place between Hoshino Kuma and the defendant to create a superficies, and that registration was applied for on the strength of the contract between her and the executor for the late Mark Voysey, as stated in exhibit A No. 3. The intention of the party who applied for registration is contrary to the contract, and hence there is an error; but as the defendant refused to recognise that the application was made in reference to the contract it is impossible to say that the motive in forwarding the application is contrary to the intention of the contract, and that therefore an error was made in the proceedings regarding the application, because it is right to decide that whenever a legally executed application is made the accompanying agreement regarding the creation of a superficies was in existence. If exhibit A No. 3 and the application for registration fail to coincide, the relation of the difference cannot be entertained if it clashes with the direct evidence. The non-existence of buildings for the defendant on the ground is not an obstacle to the creation of a superficies, and it carries no force in regard to the plaintiff's statement on this point.

On the whole the plaintiff has failed to produce evidence to override the views and conclusion herein detailed. It is impossible to accept the plaintiff's statement as truth, and hence his claim is dismissed.

Judgment as set forth in the subject clause is therefore given.

OHSHIMA TSUNEJIRO, Presiding Judge.
NOZAWA KEIICHI, } Judges.
HIYAMA HIKOJURO, }

Kobe, September 24th, 1900.

THE NAGASAKI SHIPPING DISASTER.

The *Nagasaki Press* has received the following account of the collision between the *Ise Maru* and the *Calanda*, from Madame Dechanel, who from her lucid account appears to be the only one of the passengers who kept her presence of mind :—We left Nagasaki on Friday evening at 7 o'clock. After leaving the town behind, we went down to dinner at about 7.15. As a large number of passengers were on board, we divided into two parties. Just as the first batch had finished dinner and were asked to retire from the saloon, to make room for the remainder, a frightful crash was heard. The captain and one officer were on the bridge at the time. All the lights went out on the impact, and a disastrous panic ensued. Words fail to express the scene that resulted. Some few managed to get on deck. Then the voice of the captain of the *Ise-maru* was heard shouting :—"Shall we take your passengers"?

Before replying, the captain of the *Calanda* ordered an officer to enquire into the extent of the damage done to his vessel and finding that his forward engines were intact, he decided to put back to Nagasaki or else beach his boat. The engines were worked, but in which manner our informant does not know. Directly afterwards the vessel dipped. At this moment the passengers came on deck and saw what seemed to be large waves approaching them, and greatly to their horror they discovered that the vessel was sinking.

The Chinese crew called out :—"We are lost." It thereupon became a matter of *Sauve qui peut*. A passenger Mr. de Vescours suggested that Mrs. de Camille and myself should get into one of the boats and with this object in view he mounted the taffrail, assisted by the other lady. I was helped into the boat and just then a Russian gentleman called out in French :—"There is a little child in the water." My lady friend then asked my assistance, but seeing that a child was in danger, I had to tell my fellow passenger to take care of herself. I leaned over, took the child into the boat, and then observed that the steamer was heeling over. Noticing a big piece of wood falling in our direction, I covered the child with my body and received the blow. The boat in which we were now heeled over and the child slipped out of my hands into the water. It was then that I realized that we were lost, but the sight of the struggling child gave me fresh courage and as the boat was sinking, I jumped into the water.

The child fainted and with a side stroke I swam to an approaching boat. Two Chinese hauled us in to the boat, where we remained for 25 minutes. Mrs. Krell and two Russians were also saved by the same boat. We shouted for further assistance and were heard by a boat's crew from the *Ise-maru*, and were taken to the latter vessel, whose foreign passengers (mostly English ladies) treated us with the greatest kindness, giving us dry clothes and every attention.

The night was very clear. I am sure that from the time of the collision up to the time of sinking, five minutes had not elapsed.

I am positive that had no panic ensued after the impact, all the passengers, as well as the crew, would have been saved.

Our informant heard the captain give orders for the lifebelts to be served out. However, in the consequent terrible confusion, these orders could not be executed.

Five of the Russians were drowned in attempting to free a danby of her ropes, and others were stunned by the falling débris.

Owing to the large number of passengers and the great quantity of deck cargo, it was impossible for the crew to approach the ship's boats or to issue life-preservers. The majority of the passengers behaved like maniacs and would not listen to orders.

The rapidity of events made it practically impossible to hear the orders given by the captain.

The position of the wreck has been located. On Sunday the police were on the scene all day and a thorough search was made, but no bodies were found. Several articles of clothing were picked up on the beach at Ishi-shima. Looting continues, although the police keep a strict guard over the beach. Information shows that the looters, fearing detection, are throwing the cargo back into the sea. This report is now being investigated.

The residents of Ishi-shima claim to have heard a number of whistles at the time of sinking of the *Calanda*, and remarked then, that the occurrence was singular.

Some of the survivors of the disaster state that the vessel turned completely over as she sank, and if this statement is correct, it may account for the quantity of broken timber strewn along the beach. One can see large pieces of teak wood broken by great force into a thousand pieces.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

Shanghai, Oct. 3.
(Delayed in transmission.)

One hundred and eleven Unionists have been returned, thirteen Liberals, and eight Nationalists. The above figures include Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Sir Edward Grey, Sir John Gorst, Lord Geo. Hamilton. The Liberals so far have gained one, the Conservatives two.

RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA.

It is reported from St. Petersburg that the *Official Messenger* positively denies the annexation of Manchuria.

KITCHENER TO SUCCEED ROBERTS.

It is not improbable that Lord Kitchener will be selected to command in South Africa in place of Lord Roberts, who will be sent home, as his work is ended there.

[The above sentence is indistinct.]

ADDING TO THE EMPIRE.

The Colony of New Zealand is annexing Cook's Islands

LATER ELECTION RETURNS.

Shanghai, Oct. 4.

One hundred and seventy-eight Ministerialists, thirty-five Liberals, and nineteen Nationalists have been returned, including Sir M. W. Ridley, (Home Secretary) both of the Redmonds (J. E. and W. H. K.) Balfour (probably A. J.) and Henry Labouchere. The Ministerialists gain six and the Liberals seven.

THE KAISER AND CHINA.

Replying to the Emperor of China, the Kaiser declares that the only adequate expiation of the deaths of Baron von Ketteler and of the Christians will be the proper punishment of those responsible for the crimes.

His Imperial Majesty urges the Emperor

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of China to go to Peking, where Field-Marshal von Waldersee will receive him with fitting honours and will afford him military protection. Peace must be accompanied by full atonement.

FRANCE TAKES ACTION.

Shanghai, Oct. 4.

The *Morning Post* states that France has sent a note to the Powers suggesting the immediate opening of negotiations with China; Russia, Germany and Japan support the suggestion.

ENGLISH POLITICS.

Mr. Chamberlain (in a) message to the nation says patriotism must go before politics, and may the union between the colonies and the Motherland, now cemented by their blood, be for ever maintained.

A notable feature of yesterday's electoral contests is the large increase of Unionist majorities in the working-class constituencies.

Winston Churchill has been elected for Oldham.

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

Shanghai, Oct. 5.

The results of the British elections so far announced are—210 Unionists, 47 Liberals, 28 Nationalists. These returns include Mr. Austin Chamberlain, Mr. J. Dillon, and one Labour candidate, Mr. J. Keir-Hardie, who has been elected for Merthyr Tydvil (Wales), ousting Mr. Pritchard Morgan.

THE FRENCH NOTE ON CHINA.

The cable message regarding the French diplomatic note is confirmed. It agrees on the necessity of obtaining satisfaction for the murder of Baron von Ketteler and the attack on the Legations.

ELECTION NEWS

Later.

The election returns now to hand show that 278 Unionists, 73 Liberals, and 45 Nationalists, have been elected. The last named party have gained the St. Stephen's Green Division of Dublin. (Mr. John H. Campbell, Q.C., won this seat for the Conservatives at the last election, by the narrow majority of 145.)

The Unionists gained Sunderland, East Leeds, Burnley, Hanley, Newcastle under Lyme, Stepney, Hoxton, Bridgton, Blackfriars, Glasgow, both the Portsmouth divisions, Bethnal Green, Southwark, Edinburgh South, and one seat at Southampton.

The Liberals gained Camberwell, Haggerston and one division of Stockport.

THE CHINESE SITUATION.

Shanghai, Sept. 7.

In consequence of the Edict ordering the punishment of the pro-Boxer princes, Germany has proposed to the Powers that they should instruct their representatives to ascertain whether the proposed punishment is adequate and whether it (? the situation) is now controllable. It is expected that the Powers will agree.

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

The striking feature of the elections in Great Britain, is that the popular vote is almost entirely with the Government. The Radicals have been defeated in London and so have all the pro-Boers.

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

Shanghai, Oct. 8.

The returns now to hand show that 299 Unionists have been elected to the British parliament; 80 Liberals, and 59 Nationalists.

AMERICA AND GERMANY.

America cordially approves of the German proposal regarding the punishment of Prince Twan, Kang Yi and others.

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

Shanghai, Oct. 9.

Three hundred and twenty-two Unionists, 91 Liberals, and 64 Nationalists have now been elected to the British Imperial Parliament.

[Note.—Only 193 more returns are required to complete the list of the new Parliament, which is composed as follows: England, 465 members; Wales, 30; Scotland, 72; Ireland, 103. Evidently nearly the whole of the English constituencies have completed their elections.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE POWERS AND CHINA.

Russia has assented to the new German proposal. Berlin telegrams state that all the Powers, including Great Britain, assented in principle, though some oppose the prohibition of the export of arms to China.

A POLITICAL FORECAST.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone, late Chief Liberal Whip, speaking at an electioneering meeting at Accrington, said he expected Lord Salisbury would resign before next year was out. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain would then be able to dictate his own terms.

THE ELECTIONS.

Shanghai, Oct. 10.

The latest returns are: 327 Unionists, 94 Liberals, and 69 Nationalists. The respective gains are unaltered.

The total of the Unionist votes hitherto polled shows an increase, and of the Liberal votes a decrease.

BULLER GOING NORTHWARD.

General Sir Redvers Buller has occupied Pilgrim's Rest, Krugerspost, marching northward.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

Saigon, Oct. 4.

The French Vice-Consul and the gunboat *Avalanche* have returned to Canton, after having assisted the Chinese troops to suppress the troubles in a district of the West River.

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, Oct. 5.

M. Jonnart, Deputy and former Minister of Public Works, has been named Governor-General of Algeria, in succession to M. Laferrière who will enter the Court of Cassation.

It is announced from Washington that accord between the Powers on the subject of China is considered to be imminent, on the principle that the Powers having intervened only for the re-establishment of order, they will retire when peace is restored.

Saigon, Oct. 6.

M. Delcassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has had communicated to him a decree of the Emperor of China, announcing measures taken against the leaders of the anti-foreign movement.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

Saigon, Oct. 9.

Li Hung-chang left Tientsin on the 5th for Peking, with a Russian escort.

THE CHINESE CRUISERS AT SHANGHAI.

Saigon, Oct. 9.

All the Chinese cruisers are collected at Shanghai, under the surveillance of the international squadrons, and voyages are made without any kind of danger. Steamers proceed without escort.

OUTLOOK BRIGHTER IN CHINA.

Saigon, Oct. 11.

It is asserted in Diplomatic Circles that the news from China is better than the telegrams from English sources would lead one to suppose. An agreement will be made on the bases of the Delcassé Note.

The arrival of Li Hung-chang in Peking and the degradation of Prince Twan are confirmed.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

THE OPERATIONS AT SHAN-HAI-KWAN.

(From Admiral Dewa.)

Taku, Oct. 1.

H.B.M.S. *Pigmy*, which was sent on the 29th Sept. to Shan-hai-kwan, in consequence of a conference of the naval commanding officers, to call upon the Chinese to surrender the forts, returned on the morning of October (? 1st), and reported that the forts had been surrendered without resistance, that a force of British marines had been left to guard the place, and that the railway was intact.

A conference of naval commanding officers was held here on the 1st instant, and as the Shan-hai-kwan forts had been surrendered, it was resolved to send round some ships and to fix the limits which each of the allied contingents should hold. I propose to proceed with the *Asama* and the *Takasago*, and I shall return as soon as things have been generally decided, leaving the *Takasago* there until the land forces arrive.

(From the same.)

Taku, Oct. 3.

The *Asama* and the *Takasago* arrived at Shan-hai-kwan on the morning of the second before daylight, and landed a force of marines to take part in garrisoning the forts. The decision arrived at by the military commanders was that the first fort should have the flags of 8 Powers hoisted over it and be guarded by detachments of each nationality; that the second fort should be held by German, Australian and Italian troops; the third by French; the fourth by Japanese and English, and the fifth by Russian. The guns in the three forts outside the Great Wall were rendered unfit for service. The station was placed in charge of detachments from all the Powers. Of the four gates, the eastern was placed in Russian charge; the western in that of the Japanese and Italians; the northern in that of the English and French; and the southern in that of the Germans, with general orders to prevent all ingress into the city so as to prevent looting. The electric plant between the first and second forts was put under the care of the Japanese. Pending orders from Field Marshal Waldersee the above arrangement will be maintained, and the division of the spoils will be postponed until directions are received from him. The Japanese troops sent from Tientsin to form the Shan-hai-kwan garrison arrived on the forenoon of the 2nd at 8 o'clock by transport, and landing at once, took up their positions in the afternoon. The forts were to be entirely handed over to the military on the 3rd, and the *Takasago* was to return. The Russian troops proceeded from Tong-ku by train, and the rest are expected to arrive gradually. The Chinese garrisons of some of the forts carried away all equipment except the guns, and retired to an unknown destination.

The *Asahi* left Singapore on the 3rd inst. for Hongkong.

(From Admiral Dewa.)

SHAN-HAI-KWAN.

Taku, Oct. 6.

The officer commanding the allied force having intimated to the Chinese officials at Shan-hai-kwan that they would have to obey his orders, they readily assented. No foreigner except an officer is allowed within the walled city, but the Chinese have free ingress and egress. I returned to Taku in the *Asama* to-day, leaving the *Takasago* at Shan-hai-kwan.

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THE "IDZUMO."

The *Idzumo* left Plymouth on the 8th inst. for Malta.

THE "ASAHI."

Hongkong, Oct. 10.

The first-class battle-ship *Asahi* has reached Hongkong.

(Received at the War Office.)

PEKING NEWS.

No date.

The troops that are to return, left Peking on the 6th. The distribution of the remaining troops is as follows:—The Divisional head-quarters, the head-quarters of the 21st Brigade, the 21st Regiment of infantry, and the greater part of the artillery and cavalry, a detachment of engineers and the land transport corps are to be in Peking. The 41st Regiment's headquarters and a battalion and a half of infantry, and a detachment of cavalry and artillery are in Tientsin. A battalion of the 41st Regiment and a detachment of engineers are to guard the communications between Tung-chow and Taku. The head-quarters of the Second Battalion of the 41st Regiment and two companies of infantry will be stationed at Shan-hai-kwan.

(From Lieut.-General Yamaguchi).

Peking, Oct, 1.

(This telegram is merely a repetition of previously received details about the capture of Shan-hai-kwan).

THE BOXERS.

Peking, Oct. 4.

According to statements made by the Chinese, a force of ten thousand Boxers at An-hien attacked two thousand of the imperial troops, and being defeated, dispersed in a southerly direction.

At 10 a.m. to-day, over a hundred Boxers attempted to wreck the line in the neighbourhood of Ta-yin, but a guard of our troops coming up, they fled to the south-west.

According to reports from the commanding officers, the only part of the Shan-hai-kwan and Tong-ku railway that has been injured is a space of some 6 or 7 miles between Lutai and Wang-van-chiu.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

Li Hung-chang set out for Peking on the 5th (?).

(Non-official.)

Li Hung-chang with three companies of Chinese soldiers, several provision boats and two companies of Russian troops, passed Peh-tsang in 35 boats on the afternoon of the 5th instant.

(Non official.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Field Marshal Count von Waldersee having assumed supreme command of the allied forces in Chili, each commanding officer of the various nationalities has been required to submit to the Field Marshal a statement showing the numbers and disposition of the troops under his orders on the 1st of October; also any changes which may be about to take place in consequence of instructions from the home Governments, as well as a report of any belligerent operations that may be in progress, of any reconnaisances to a distance of over two kilometres, and of any intelligence received with regard to the Chinese troops or the Boxers.

It is understood that the allied forces will use Shan-hai-kwan and the island of Tsin-hwan as a basis of winter operations; that these places will be occupied by them in common, and that the various land-transport head-quarters will be established along the line of railway to Peking. The section of road between Peking and Yang-tsun will be held by the Japanese, the English and the Germans under the supervision of the Commander-in-chief, and the Yang-tsun—Shan-hai-kwan section will be held by Russia.

The arrangements with reference to the harbour at Shan-hai-kwan and Tsin-hwan, and the landing of goods as well as their conveyance to the railway will be under British control.

The garrisoning of the Shan-hai-kwan forts will be as follows:—No. 1 Fort will have a mixed garrison of all nationalities under the command of a British officer; No. 2 Fort will have a garrison of Germans, Austrians and Italians; No. 3 Fort will be garrisoned by the French; No. 4 by English and Japanese; and No. 5 by Russians.

It is alleged that Russia will keep only a company of troops in Peking to act as a Legation Guard, and that England will land a brigade at Shan-hai-kwan.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

Shanghai, Oct. 3.

The Chinese Ministers have all memorialized the Throne in the sense that the present troubles are entirely due to the action of Prince Twan, General Kang Yi, Chao Shuchiao, Yü Hsien (hitherto acting Viceroy of Shansi) General Tung and others. Therefore the Ministers impeach these men.

The Governor of Shansi has informed the Viceroys and Governors of provinces that as it has been decided that the Court will proceed to Shensi on the 1st of October, the taxes which would otherwise be sent to Shansi are to go to Shensi.

Hongkong, Oct. 3.

A British transport with 200 men from Calcutta has passed north.

Shanghai, Oct. 3.

An imperial decree issued on the 29th of September announced the Court would proceed to Si-an on the 1st of October.

Another edict of Sept. 11th appointed Sung Shou, hitherto acting Viceroy of Kiangsi, to be Viceroy of Kiangsu, *vice* Lu Chuan-lin, who is appointed to the Board of War, and King Sing to be Viceroy of Kiangsi. The same edict deprived of their offices General Sing Chang, commander-in-chief in Manchuria, and General Shou Shan, commander-in-chief in the Amur district, and ordered them to be handed over to the Board of Punishments. They are to be succeeded by Generals Toh (?) Kin and Yuen Mu respectively. It is thought probable that these changes are in consequence of representations made by Li Hung-chang

Hongkong, Oct. 4.

An Austrian steamer from Odessa with Russian troops and material of war has passed this bound for Nagasaki, and a British transport with 250 troops from Calcutta has gone north.

Shanghai, Oct. 4.

An imperial decree issued at Ta-yuen on the 30th of September says that although the Emperor, accompanying the Empress Dowager, has been some 20 days in that place, the famine in Shansi has not improved, but threatens to spread daily. His Majesty, fearing that his continued presence may increase the general want, and finding that the absence of telegraphic communications is very inconvenient, has decided to move to Si-an on the 1st instant. All officials are directed, however, to avoid everything in the shape of costly or extravagant preparations, whether during the imperial journey or after the Court's arrival at Si-an.

Amoy, Oct. 4.

The German flotilla left this place to-day for Woo-sung.

Tientsin, Oct. 2

The Russian Minister and the Legation staff arrived here to-day from Peking.

TROOPS.

Hongkong, (date uncertain).

An English transport with 453 troops from Calcutta has passed this place going north.

RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA.

Newchwang, Oct. 6.

Mukden and Tiehling were recently taken by Russia. It is reported that the Russian troops moving northward and those moving southward have met at Tiehling. The Russian flag was raised this morning over the Chinese railway station on the opposite bank of the river from Newchwang.

(From the "Ostastiatische Lloyd.")

NEWS FROM GERMANY.

Berlin, Sept. 28.

The English Press is almost entirely in favour of the demands embodied in the German circular note. The answer of the English Government however, cannot be expected until certain information from the Minister in Peking has been received.

DISTURBANCES ON THE WEST RIVER.

(From the "Hongkong Daily Press.")

Macao, Sept. 30.

The river gunboat *Robin* proceeded to Luklan, near Kumchuk, West River, and bombarded the village in retaliation of the natives firing upon the British steamer *Lingkiang*, the gentry being also compelled to flog the guilty parties. Notices have been posted stating the reason for the punishment.

When the *Sandpiper*, which has arrived here, passed Shikwan, West River, the natives stoned her. It is reported that on the matter being reported to the British Consul at Canton he advised the Commander not to use force in retaliation.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Sept. 28th:—

	Yen.
Dr.	
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	16,739,365
Amount of convertible notes issued	190,237,069
Government deposits	25,579,059
General deposits	5,906,864
Exchange liability	57,180
Total	278,519,539
Cr.	
Discount notes	63,322,803
Foreign discount notes	8,435,223
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	56,768,316
Exchange liability	1,760,059
Government bonds	52,384,760
Property	2,170,862
Bullion and Specie	71,767,612
Total	278,519,539

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	191,635,282
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	67,144,875
Silver	3,000,000
Total	70,144,975
Securities:—	
Government bonds	27,972,724
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,865,587
Commercial notes	62,695,561
Total	122,513,852

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	135,862	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	1,797,314
Government deposits	—	3,354,410
General deposits	—	1,612,039

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CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 492.

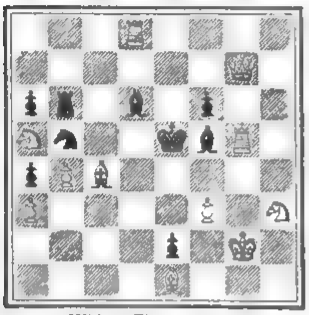
Key move B to Kt 2.

Correct solution received from Mr. A. V. C. Maher.

PROBLEM No. 494.

By the late Mr. S. TYRRELL.

Black—Nine Pieces.



White—Eleven Pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 628.

A good game from the "Haupt" Tournament:

FRENCH DEFENCE.

White—Krüger.		Black—Swiderski.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K3	21 Kt K2	QR Bsq
2 P Q4	P Q4	22 Kt B3	Q Ksq
3 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	23 Kt Q2	R B2
4 B Kt5	B Kt5	24 P B4	R (Qsq) Bsq
5 B Q3	P KR3	25 R B3	B R2
6 BxKt	QxB	26 P QR4	Q K2
7 Kt B3	Castles	27 Kt Kt3	Q Kt5
8 Castles	P B3	28 R Rsq	R B5
9 Q K2	Kt Q2	29 P B5	RxP
10 Kt Ktsq	P B4	30 KtxR	BxKt,ch
11 P B3	B R4	31 K Rsq	QxP
12 P K5	Q K2	32 PxP	BxKP
13 QKt Q2	B Kt3	33 R Qsq	QxKt
14 QR Ksq	PxP	34 QxB	QxQ
15 PxP	Q Kt5	35 RxQ	RxB
16 Kt Kt3	P QR4	36 P R3	Kt Q2
17 B B2	R Qsq	37 R QKt3	KtxP
18 Q Q3	Kt Bsq	38 RxP	BxP
19 P QR3	Q K2	Resigns	
20 Kt Bsq	B Q2		

GAME No. 629.

From the Masters' Tournament:—

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Pillsbury.		Black—Gottschall.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	14 KtxKt	QxKt
2 P QB4	P K3	15 PxP	Q B3
3 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	16 PxP	KR Qsq
4 B Kt5	B K2	17 Q K2	QxP
5 P K3	Castles	18 KR Qsq	R Q6
6 Kt B3	P QKt3	19 RxR	PxR
7 B Q3	B Kt2	20 Q Q2	R Qsq
8 PxP	PxP	21 P B5	Q B4
9 Kt K5	QKt Q2	22 Q B2	P B3
10 P B4	Kt K5	23 R Qsq	P QR3
11 BxB	QxB	24 P K4	R Q5
12 Castles	P QB4	25 RxP	Resigns
13 BxKt	PxB		

The International Tournament at Munich was brought to a conclusion with the following result:—

H. N. Pillsbury	12	Tie for first, second, and third prizes.
C. Schlechter	12	
G. Maroczy	12	
A. Burn	10½	Fourth prize.
G. Marco	10	Fifth prize.
W. Cohn	8	Sixth prize.
D. Janowski	7½	Tie for seventh and eighth prizes.
J. W. Showalter	7½	
J. Berger	7½	
Wolf	7½	
Gottschall	6½	
Popiel	6½	
C. Halprin	6	
M. Billecard	3	
C. Von Bardeleben	2	
Jacob	1½	

The tie for the first three prizes has to be played off, each player contesting two games against each of the others. Pillsbury won the first game against Maroczy.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Oldenburg 2	Sa. Oct. 13
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Oct. 15
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Sydney 3	W. Oct. 17
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro 3	Su. Oct. 21
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Oct. 22
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	M. Oct. 22
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. Oct. 29
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Nov. 1
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. Nov. 1
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	M. Nov. 5

1 Left Nagasaki on the 10th inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 11th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 2nd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Laos	Sa. Oct. 13
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. Oct. 17
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Nagato Maru	W. Oct. 17
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Oldenburg	Sa. Oct. 20
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Oct. 22
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. Oct. 22
America	P. M. Co.	China	W. Oct. 24
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. Oct 30
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Nov. 2
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa Nov. 3
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Tu. Nov. 6

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Bergenhus Norwegian steamer, 2,344, J. H. Svendsen, 5th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 3rd Oct., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Wm. Frakes, 5th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 4th Oct., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 5th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, 29th Sept., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 5th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 5th Oct.,—Kobe, 3rd Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 6th Octt.,—Yokkaichi, 5th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 6th Oct.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 5th Oct., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Guthrie, British steamer, 1,494, McArthur, 6th Oct.,—New Zealand and Australia via ports, and Kobe, 4th Oct., General.—Browne & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, Y. Oda. 7th Oct.,—Kobe, 5th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strombus, British Tank steamer, 3,928, Hocken, 7th Oct.,—Singapore, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 8th Oct.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,459, H. Fraser, 8th Oct.,—Kobe, 7th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idomeneus, British steamer, 4,298, James Riley, 9th Oct.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 8th Otober, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Laos, French steamer, 2,331, Flaudin, 9th Oct.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 8th Oct., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, Greene, 10th Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 22nd Oct., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 10th Oct.,—Kobe, 8th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,814, F. L. Sommer, 10th Oct.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 8th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Puritan, British ship, 2,283, F. W. Amesbury, 10th Oct.,—Shanghai, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Olga, Austrian steamer, 1,951, R. Descovich, 11th Oct.,—Batavia, 7th Sept., Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, F. W. Horton, 11th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Queen Adelaide, British steamer, 1,835, F. McNair, 11th Oct,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 10th Oct., General,—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Mogul, British steamer, 2,354, D. S, Bailey, 11th Oct.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 10th Oct., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

DEPARTURES.

Machrihanish, British ship, 1,641, J. Cain, 5th Oct.,—Royal Roads, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 5th Oct.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Sumunoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto 5th Oct.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 5th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Wm. Frakes, 5th Oct.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Bergenhus, Norwegian steamer, 2,344, J. H. Svendsen, 5th Oct.,—San Francisco via San Diego, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,307, M. J. Curnow, 6th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,783, J. W. Wale, 6th Oct.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Marven, British steamer, 2,360, J. T. Norrie, 6th Oct.,—Muroran, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Sachsen, German steamer, 3,119, E. Oesselmann, 7th Oct.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Halle, German Transport, 2,561, H. Shamer, 6th Oct.,—Taku.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, J. Kennedy, 7th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 7th October,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 7th Oct.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nestor, British steamer, 2,419, Baker, 8th October,—Port Pirrie, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Bamberg, German steamer, 2,660, Jacobs, 9th Oct.,—Havre, Bremerhaven and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 9th Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 9th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 9th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Guthrie, British steamer, 1,494, McArthur, 10th Oct.,—Australia and New Zealand via Moji and Hongkong, General.—Browne & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 10th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,459, H. Fraser, 10th Oct.,—Seattle, Washington, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sofala, British ship, 2,160, T. Auld, 10th October,—Port Angeles, U.S.A., (from Yokosuka), Ballast.—R. Isaacs & Co.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,793, W. Townsend, 11th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Bergstron, Rev. and Mrs. V. Rennis, Mr. and Mrs. L. Ingram, Mr. and Mrs. Yagitani, Mr. Ishiguro, Mr. Kamikawa, and Mr. Ito, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Renard, Mr. E. Brett, Miss Shinto, Mr. Chang Kwai, Mr. Chang Sia, Mr. Lee Yuen, Mrs. Chang Lee, Mr. Chang Kiaw, Mrs. Chang Chee, Mrs. Tomita, Mrs. Aoyama, Mrs. Chang Chew, Mr. Yasuma, Mr. Suzuki, and Mr. Nakayama, in second class; 22 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. B. Harrington, Mr. W. P. Ikuno, Mr. H. T. Paul, Mr. F. W. Hill and 2 children, Rev. Wilkinson, Mrs. Wilkinson, and Miss Mitchell, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. F. E. Morgan, Mrs. F. E. Morgan and 2 children, Mr. J. C. Hudson, Mr. J. A. Bennett, Mr. E. M. Lightner, Major J. A. Richards, U.S.A., Dr. T. F. Crawford, Mrs. T. F. Crawford, Rev. J. C. Woods, Mrs. J. B. Woods and 4 children, Rev. J. B. Irwin, Mrs. J. B. Irwin and 3 children, Mr. A. Buechel, and Mrs. A. Buechel, infant and amah, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Guthrie*, from Kobe:—Mr. J. Summers, Mr. E. G. Stevens, Mr. Otoko, Mr. Black, and Mrs. Mola and 2 children, in cabin; Mr. W. Hannaford, Mr. J. McHugh, and Mr. H. Kensal, in second class.

Per French steamer *Laos*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Grollier, Mr. Ichiwatari, Mr. J. Yamanouchi, Mr. L. Wertheimber, Mr. Launay, Miss Pecheret, Mr. S. C. J. Yenkins, Mr. D. Z. Mahitung,

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Mr. Mhitchaud, Mrs. Dombelle, Mrs. Ortez, child and 2 servants, Mr. Y. Cagiral, Mr. J. W. Fouride, Mr. Jumm, Mr. Tytebaert, Mr. Rossignon, Mr. Debrus, Mr. Devineux, Mr. Hizette, Mr. and Mrs. Lippmann and child, Mr. P. H. Mckay, Mr. E. M. Barnby, Mr. E. Domballe, and Mr. C. L. K. Duhain in cabin; one passenger in steerage

Per Japanese *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Shimamura, Mr. Fujimura, Mr. I. Iwamura. Miss A. M. Kammerer, Miss S. M. Bannerfield, Miss A. M. Reynolds, Mr E. Eddison, Mr. J. D. P. Lain, Mr. H. C. Ansell, Mr. J. Neill, Mr. Y. Yamaguchi, Mr. Lam Sai, Mrs. Lam Sai and child, Mr. J. L. Davis, and Mr. J. P. Kellogg, in cabin. In Transit:—Miss E. Russell, Mr. W. E. Dennison, Mrs. L. A. Coddington, Mr. B. Ford, Mr. W. F. McLaughtin, Miss M. Henshall, Mrs. F. R. Feinberg, Mrs. J. Leonard, Mr. Brewster Cameron, Mr. M. Lassen, Miss E. Ridley, Mr. Yuen Chong, and Mr. Lloyd M. Robbins, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Wm. Ackland, Mrs. Wm. Ackland, Rev. R. Allen, Miss Boardman, Mr. E. K. Charrington, Miss N. M. Cheney, Mr. C. F. Gammon, Mrs. C. F. Gammon and child, Com. Goodenough, R.N., Mr. F. W. Gotch, Rev. Geo. E. Hartwell, Mrs Geo. E. Hartwell and 5 children, Mr. J. C. Hemment, Mr. Leigh Hunt and servant, Mrs. Leigh Hunt and maid, Miss Helen Hunt, Mr. H. R. Hunt, Mr. B. Katsura, Miss Kelly, Mr. H. Ketels, Baroness Von Ketteler and maid, Mr. A. H. Savage Landor, Mr. Henry Ledyard, Mrs. Henry Ledyard, Mr. Lord, Mrs. Lord, Master Lord, Mrs. A. Macdonald, Mr. Manley, Dr. W. A. P. Martin, Mr. B. Matsuki, Mr. T. Morioka, Mr. S. Nomura, Mr. E. C. Orme, Mr. M. Oshima, Mr. J. G. D. Partridge, Lieut. Pawlett, R.N., Deaconess J. M. Ransome, Dr. Reid, Rev. A. I. Robb, Mrs. A. I. Robb and 2 children, Dr. B. Roberts, Miss F. E. Roberts, Bishop Scott, Miss M. E. Shockley, Mr. Otto Sing, Mr. E. Sloper, Mr. J. C. S. Taber, Dr. Edna Terry, Mrs. R. Thomson and child, Dr. Venables, Mrs. Venables, Mr. Welch, Miss Welch, Mr. J. L. Whiting, and Mr. S. Yasukawa, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tamba Maru*, for London via ports:—Mrs. Sandford, Miss Howe, Mrs. Mac Millan, Mr. T. Tokida, and Mr. K. Hasegawa in cabin; Mr. T. Kobayashi, Mr. Y. Hisano, Mr. T. Kobayashi, Mr. K. Yamaguchi, and 9 Chinese and 3 children, in second class.

Per German steamer *Sachsen*, for Europe via ports.—Mr. J. W. Crowe, General Stahel, Mr. J. T. Hamilton, Consul de Reuss, Mr. O. Meyer, Mr A. Cabeldu, Corv. Capt. Philip, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Forrester, Mr. A. H. Wilzer, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Taylor, Lieut. von Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Geddes, Mr. W. Livingstone, Dr. Schroeder, Mr and Mrs. Fh. Meyer, child and amah, Mrs. Skottowe, Mrs. Ehlers, 3 children and amah, Mr. and Mrs. Laubs, child and amah, Mr, Mrs. and Miss Arnhold, Mr. D. S. Carmichael, Mr. W. Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Reece and daughter, Mrs. F. Anderson, daughter and servant, Miss M. Condit Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Hafner, Mr. H. Folken, Rev. and Mrs. G. D. Wilder and child, Miss Gregg, Miss Kobr, Dr. and Mrs. McFarlane, child and amah, Miss Thomas, Mrs. Gillison, child and servant, Mrs. Jones and child, Rev. and Mrs. Ch. Robertson, Rev. C. Gooderich, Mrs. F. F Wilder, Dr. and Mrs. McAll, Dr. and Mrs. Geo. F. de Vol, Miss Lanna Stanley, Mr F. Fish, Mrs. Kayser and child, Mr S. Chiess, Mr. Theodor Sillgaloo, Mr. R. G. Hickey, Mr F A Harold, Mr. F. G. Hickley, Mr. P. L. Landberg, Mr. H. Atkinson, Mr. W. Ramsay, Mr. P. Ruim, Mr. J. Lawrie, Mr. Couch, Mr. Kaul, Dr. Kay, and Miss Lacey, in cabin; 9 Chinese on deck.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu.—Dr. Frank Anderson, U.S.N., Miss Anderson, Dr. R. Anema, Mr. Jno. F. Bass, Mrs. Jno. F. Bass and child, Mr. J. A. Bennett, Mr. Geo. C. Bogue, Mrs. Geo. C. Bogue, Mr. A. Buschel, Mrs. A. Buschel, child and servant, Dr. T. P. Crawford, Mrs. T. P. Crawford, Miss Ellen E. Dresser, Miss E. Engel, Mrs. J. A. Fitch, Master Ellsworth R. Fitch, Master Hugh R. Fitch, Rev. J. R. Irwin, Mrs. J. R. Irwin and child, Master Irwin, Miss Irwin, Mr. Luis Izquierdo, Dr. John D. Jones, Mr. J. D. Judson, Mr. E. M. Lightner, Mr. H. Villiers Litt, Lieut. J Luymes, Rev. F. H. Morgan Mrs. F. H. Morgan, Master Clyde Morgan, Miss Maisie Morgan, Mr. P. C. Potts, Major Geo. Richards, U.S.A., Mr. C. Saito, Mr. Chas. Schlessinger, Mr. K. Kekudo, Mr. C. Uyemura, Mr. J. B. Woods, Mrs. J. B. Woods and 4 children, and Mr. K. Yagi, in cabin

Per British steamer *Guthrie*, for Sydney via ports—Mrs. Mola and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. E. S. Wilkinson, and Miss E. R. Mitchell, in cabin, Mr. W. Hannaford, Mr. J. McHugh, and Mr. H. Kensal, in second class.

EXPECTED.

Per German steamer *Bayern*, from Europe via ports:—Mr. Paul Braunschweig, Mr. T. Makino, Mr. Ellard, Mr Otto Wirth, Mr. E. Binder, Mr Friedr. Noltenius, and Mr. E. L. van Nierop, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver B.C.:—

From	Canada	TEA. Chicago & West	New York & West.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total-Packages.
Honglong. .	—	—	—	369	—	369
Foochow ...	2,013	—	—	350	—	2,363
Shanghai ...	2,406	4,454	-	-	—	6,860
Kobe ..	530	999	—	—	—	1,529
Yokohama..	5,267	317	—	70	—	5,654
Total...	10,216	5,770	—	789	—	16,775

From	SILK. New York.	Hartford	Total Bales.
Hongkong & Canton.....	91	—	91
Shanghai.....	227	—	227
Yokohama	625	15	640
Total	943	15	958

Per British steamer *Gleneagle*, for Tacoma, Wash.:—

	Canada	TEA. Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast	Other Cities	Total Packages.
Amoy	1,995	1,630	.	..	5,964	9,559
Shanghai		3,491	..	. .	.	2,491
Kobe ..			794	.	.	794
Yokohama ..	178	298	336	1,398	...	2,210
Calcutta ..	.	.	.	187		187
Colombo . .	548	.	. .	..	. .	548
Total ..2,721		5,419	1,130	1,585	5,964	16,819

	SILK. New York	Hartford.	Total Bales
Hongkong ..	10	..	10
Shanghai			
Yokohama			
Total	10		10

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Candia*, for France, Oct. 2.—

	Bales.
Nabholz & Co. . . .	9
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	25
Varenne & Co	10
Total	44

Per C. P steamer *Empress of Japan*, for New York, Oct. 5.—

	Bales.
Averill & Co	35
Bavier & Co.	99
Nabholz & Co.	70
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	25
Siber, Wolff & Co.	70
Varenne & Co	173
Vivanti Bros.....	45
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	116
Doshin Kaisha	7
Total	640

Per N. D. L. steamer *Sachsen*, for Europe, Oct. 7:—

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.....	30
H. Dent & Co.	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co..	89
Nabholz & Co.	182
Otto Reimers & Co.	5
Siber, Wolff & Co.	162
Sieber & Co.	118
Kuto Gomei Kaisha.	27
Total	633

TO 8TH OCTOBER, 1900.

	Bales.
Averill & Co.	460
Bavier & Co.	447
Chauvin, Chevalier & Co.....	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	120
H. Dent & Co.	303
P. Dourille	50
Findlay Richardson & Co.	90
C. Guissani	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	842
Longin & Co.	275
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet.....	60
Nabholz & Co.	647
Pila, Ulysse & Co	669
Otto Reimers & Co.	606
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	213
Siber, Wolff & Co.	1,225
Sieber & Co.	603
W. M. Strachan & Co. Ltd.	146
Varenne & Co.	503
Vivanti Bros.	677
Kuto Gomei-Kaisha	2,151
Doshin Kaisha	459
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	542
J. Ishii	68
Total	11,456

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Call for no remark except that raw cotton is advancing to approximate the quotations on the other side.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	PER YARD. 0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y.0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.68 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	PER PIECE. 0.68 to 0.78
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ...	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos 16/24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38,42, Singles	Nominal
Nos 32, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	31.00 to 31.50
Indian Broach	Nominal
Chinese	

METALS.

There is absolutely nothing doing in metals.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y.5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (¾ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

No change to report.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.80
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

Market unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y.5.00 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.35 to 7.00
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined	8.00 to 9.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

About a week ago some speculation was started here, which has since increased in volume and run prices up at least a hundred dollars per picul. Foreign buyers have been dragged in, to some extent, in order to cover their "shorts," and at closing Japanese merchants are in a state of wild excitement, practically refusing to sell at any price. No definite quotations can be given until they cool down a bit.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse...	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse...	
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine ;	
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse...	
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	
Re-reels—No. 1	
Re-reels—No. 1½	
Re-reels—No. 2	
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	
Kakedas—No. 1½	
Kakedas—No. 2	
Kakedas—No. 2½	

WASTE SILK.

The excitement in the raw silk market has influenced Waste Silk to a small extent and probably busi-

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ness could not now be done at last week's rates, although the rise is not at all in proportion to that in Raw Silk.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	135 to 140	Nominal
Noshi—Filatures, Good	125 to 130	
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	130 to 135	
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	120 to 125	
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	110 to 115	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	95 to 100	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	85 to 90	
Noshi—Bushiu, Best		
Noshi—Bushiu, Good		
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium		
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	80 to 85	
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75	
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 115	
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105	
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	50 to 52½	
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	40 to 42½	

TEA.

The demand has rather slackened, in consequence of which prices have dropped two or three *yen*.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	33 to 34
Finest	31 to 32
Fine	29 to 30
Good Medium	27 to 28
Medium	25 to 26
Good Common	23 to 24
Common	21 to 22

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, October 11.

Silver from London ⅛ lower and discount ⅛ higher, sterling quotations from China have declined ¼, and local rates on China are lower accordingly, but no change otherwise.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅜
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞@51
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	*2½% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	* Par.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 69½
— Private 10 days' sight	* 71
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29 9/16

* Nominal.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, October 11.

Helms have sellers at *yen* 55. Grand Hotels are obtainable at *yen* 240. Club Hotels—Buyers at *yen* 80.

Bretts & Co. debentures can be had at par.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207.50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	240 Sales.
Club Hotel	80 Buyers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90 Sales.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Sales.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

DURING the Missionary Conference, October 24th—30th, entertainment may be secured at Japanese Hotels, near the Y.M.C.A. at the following rates:

ENOMOTO-KAN.

First-class *yen* 1.40, dinner 50 *sen* extra.
Second-class 80 *sen*, dinner 30 *sen*.

SEKINE-YA.

Best *yen* 1.50, dinner 30 *sen* extra.
First-class *yen* 1.00, dinner 30 *sen*.
Second-class 75 *sen*, dinner 22 *sen* extra.

Rooms will be reserved in the order of application. Missionaries employed by Boards represented in Tokyo should apply through their own representative in the city. All others may secure accommodation through the Secretary of the Business Committee.

A. T. HOWARD,
19, Suzuki-cho, Kanda, Tokyo.

Tokyo, September 29th, 1900.

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Exclusively for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, in the form of baths for annoying irritations, inflammations, and chafings, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and for many sanative antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women, and especially mothers, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. No amount of persuasion can induce those who have once used it to use any other, especially for preserving and purifying the skin, scalp, and hair of infants and children. CUTICURA SOAP combines delicate emollient properties derived from CUTICURA, the great skin cure, with the purest of cleansing ingredients and the most refreshing of flower odours. No other *medicated* soap ever compounded is to be compared with it for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, scalp, hair, and hands. No other foreign or domestic *toilet* soap, however expensive, is to be compared with it for all the purposes of the toilet, bath and nursery. Thus it combines in ONE SOAP at ONE PRICE, the BEST skin and complexion soap, the BEST toilet and BEST baby soap in the world. Sold through out the world. "All about the Skin," post free of Aust. Depot. R. TOWNS & CO., Sydney, N.S.W. 80, African Depot: LENNON LTD., Cape Town. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U.S.A.

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BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

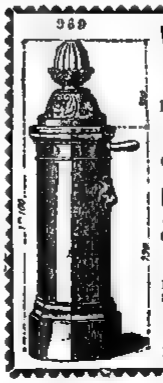
Yokohama, October 11.

Breweries are quiet at *yen* 150. Grand Hotels—A few more shares can be had at *yen* 240. Club Hotels are steady at *yen* 80. Laundries have sellers at par.

Y. U. Club debentures can be had at *yen* 107. Laundry debentures are obtainable at par. Brett debentures can be had placed at par.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	207.50 Sa
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 Sa
Oriental Hotel, Ltd ¥100	150 S
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 N
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥20	9 N
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	90 Sa.
Helm Bros., ¥50	55 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	100 B
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	106 N
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	90 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N

969



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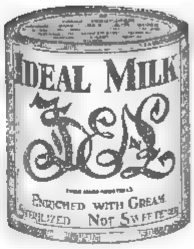

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 20TH, 1900.

BIRTH.

On the 13th October, at the Meiji Gakuin, Tokyo, the wife of Rev. FRANK S. SCUDDER, of Nagano, of a son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE American flagship *Brooklyn* arrived at Nagasaki on the 14th inst. from Taku.

THE first snow of the season fell at Tsukiyama, Yamagata Prefecture, on the 12th inst.

A NEW dock 700 feet in length is to be built at Hachikenya, Nagasaki, by the Mitsu Bishi Co.

FIRE broke out at the Shiraishi Shrine, Oiso, on the morning of the 13th inst. and one building was destroyed.

JUDGE UCHIKAWA of the Yokohama Local Court died on the 13th inst. He had served over ten years on the Bench.

THE Japanese first-class cruiser *Asuma* left Singapore on the 14th inst. and is expected to arrive at Yokosuka on the 26th.

FIRE broke out in the hospital belonging to the Takasaki Regiment on the night of the 12th inst. One building was destroyed.

INFORMATION from St. Petersburg states that this year's contingent of recruits for the Russian army and navy amounts to 297,000 men for the whole Empire.

AN explosion occurred on board the German cruiser *Bussard* when near Aden on her way out to China. Three men were killed and three injured.

THE steamer *Buyo Maru* arrived at Moji on tha 14th inst. from Taku, and landed 35 guns and 4,500 boxes of ammunition, captured in North China.

MAJOR-GENERAL MANABE and Colonel Awaya of the Fifth Division, Hiroshima, arrived at Ujina by the *Kagoshima Maru* on the 15th inst. from China.

FIRE broke out in the early morning of the 10th inst. at Yamakura-mura, Katori-gori, Chiba Prefecture. Six large houses and eighteen godowns were destroyed.

FIRE occurred at a lacquer shop in Gofuku-machi, Shizuoka Prefecture, early on the morning of the 14th inst. and 21 houses were destroyed, including the Shizuoka Bank.

A MAN named Hisanoya Seitaro caught a salamander in the street at Kiridoshi-sakamachi, Hongo, Tokyo, on the night of the 14th instant. It was two feet long.

AN engineer of the steamer *Alsterufer*, now in Yokohama harbour, has been arrested on a charge of breaking the Customs seals on one of the hatches of that vessel.

A SOLDIER named Ishii Kinzo, belonging to the 10th Division, committed suicide on the railway near Fukuchiyama, Tamba Province, on the morning of the 11th inst.

A MAN named Shibuya Reijin living at Tansu-machi, Azabu, Tokyo, was arrested on the 14th inst. on a charge of extorting money from the Siamese Legation in Tokyo.

A FOUR-YEAR old girl fell in the Creek near Ishikawa Shichome, on Friday evening and was drowned. The body was recovered on Saturday morning near the Yoshihama bridge.

A CHINESE tailor named Shio, living at Tok Tai, Yokohama, was arrested on the 13th inst. on a charge of violating the railway regulations. On the train he assaulted a police constable.

A COLLISION occurred between a stone-laden Japanese junk and a fishing boat in Shinagawa bay on the afternoon of the 12th inst. The junk sank at once, but the *sendo* were rescued.

THE Japanese Government chartered steamers *Tosa Maru* with 731 troops and 296 horses, and *Wakanoura Maru* with 357 troops and 145 horses arrived at Ujina on the 15th inst. from Taku.

THREE young thieves were arrested on 12th inst., and charged with stealing 800 straw shoes and several articles from a shop at Temmacho, Yotsuya, Tokyo. They had formerly been employed in the shop.

FOUR Japanese were arrested on the *Kinshiu Maru* on the 10th inst. by the Yokohama harbour police. They went on board the *Kinshiu* at Kobe and were hoping to leave Japan for America with other men's passports.

THREE women were arrested at the weaving shop Furuya Tokubei, Ishikawa Sanchome, Yokohama, on the evening of the 13th inst. on a charge of stealing three or four *tans* of silk cloth, and handing them to a man in the street.

HALF-A-DOZEN coolies have been arrested on a charge of stealing a box of nickel balls valued at *yen* 50 from the Customs Godowns. The property, which had been imported by Okura & Co., for the Koishikawa Arsenal, was sold by the thieves in Yokohama and fetched *yen* 25.

WE learn that Mr. G. Middleton, representing the firm of Messrs. Middleton and Smith, has withdrawn the protest that he had lodged in the Tokyo Appeal Court against the judgment of the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho declaring the firm bankrupt.

DURING a village festival a quarrel the other day arose between men from the districts of Hisayeda-mura and Wakihama-mura, Yehime prefecture, with the result that seven persons were severely hurt and sixty, including some police officers, slightly injured.

THE other day a woman named Kutsumoto Hana, wife of Nakamura Denjiro, attempted to commit suicide at her house in Izumiyato, Kitagata, Yokohama. She pierced her throat with a kitchen knife, but a doctor was called in at once and her life is not despaired of.

AT a meeting of the First Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church, held at Rockford, Ill., on Sept. 14, Mr. Frank Takasugi, a Japanese, was admitted to the conference on probation and elected to the Order of Deacons and Elders. He will be sent as a missionary to Japan.

THE selection of a design for the Yokohama residents' wedding present to the Crown Prince from among those sent out seems to have already set in the direction of No. 50, a very handsome centre piece of silver, in which the most prominent features are figures of Prosperity and Justice, and a shield bearing the Paullownia and Chrysanthemum.

Two Americans named Geo. Robinson and Robt. John, respectively aged 18 and 19, are reported to have been detected by a policeman smoking at Shimbashi Railway Station on the afternoon of Oct. 11th. Their smoking utensils and cigarettes were confiscated, and they were released. These, it is stated, are the first foreign offenders against the anti-smoking law.

A GIRL named Mutsu Kiku, aged 17, stole a pocket-book containing fifty 10-*yen* notes on Oct. 9th, from its owner in a shop in Yoshida-machi, Yokohama. She afterwards bought various articles of wearing apparel to the value of *yen* 30 and went to her home in Aichi Prefecture. There her unusual wealth aroused her mother's suspicions and eventually the girl confessed at the local police station.

ON the 13th inst. a watch-maker named Otani Naoyoshi living in Ushigome, Tokyo, while repairing watches by lamp light in the evening, upset a kerosene lamp. The flame communicated with a tin of volatile oil close by and the oil blazed up. The watch maker seized the tin and threw it into the street, with the result that two of the neighbours who were hurrying to the house to see what was the matter, were severely burned by the flaming oil.

ON the morning of the 14th inst., a man named Sumino Togoro, of Hakodate, reported to the Shiba Police Station, that a few days ago a young man related to him, in Hakodate, named Imai Ichizayemon, became associated with a bad character named Yusaka Terasu and his wife, and appropriated *yen* 8,000 from his father, afterwards absconding to Tokyo. A few days ago, on inquiries being made at all the hotels in Tokyo, Imai, accompanied by one man and four women was found to be staying at Shusei-Kan Hotel, Shiba, Tokyo. They had at the time gone out, but the police waited until their return next morning, when they arrested the two men. Only *yen* 4,000 were found in Imai's possession.

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THE EXPEDITION TO PAOTING.

Saturday, Oct. 13.

The Paoting expeditionary force consists, it is said, of German, British, French and Italian troops. The Japanese will take no part in it No explanation is offered as to the necessity of this expedition. It is obviously in flagrant contradiction of the letter said to have been recently addressed by Admiral Seymour to Viceroy Liu, in the sense that Great Britain was sending forces to China, not to fight against the Government, but to restore tranquillity, and it is in equally flagrant conflict with previous declarations on the part of the Powers that they sought uniquely to rescue their nationals and to quell the Boxers. Paoting may be a basis of Boxer operations, but so far as the public know, it is the head-quarters of a considerable force of Chinese regulars. Are we to suppose that, in spite of the recent edicts issued by the Throne, the Government's troops are still believed to be in open league with the Boxers? If not, the presence of both in large numbers and regularly organized is impossible at the same place. We fail to see that the expedition to Paoting is capable of being construed in any sense except as an act of war against the Chinese Government. Moreover, Paoting is the capital of Chili, and Li Hung-chang is the new Viceroy of Chili. The troops at Paoting must consequently be under his orders and he is now residing in Peking in his capacity of peace commissioner. What course must he pursue if a foreign military expedition is despatched against the capital of his viceroyalty? It really is very difficult to understand the reasons of this operation and still more difficult to appreciate its wisdom. Field-Marshal Waldersee will be in command. Perhaps that is the most succinct and pregnant explanation. We are glad, at all events, that Japan is standing aloof, and we shall be still better pleased to learn that those taking part have some solid reasons not now perceptible to ordinary observers.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* telegram about Paoting is totally different from that of the *Shogyo Shimpo*. With regard to the reason for the projected expedition, the *Asahi's* telegram says that fifteen thousand Chinese troops and two thousand Boxers are assembled at Paoting, and that the Field Marshal considers it unsafe to have them there during the winter, as they might at any time undertake an attack against Peking When the idea of a Paoting expedition was mooted some weeks ago, we expressed the opinion that it could not be justified except on this supposition, namely, that a large force of Chinese troops was assembling there, and that the railway between Paoting and Peking might render their proximity perilous. But fifteen thousand braves and two thousand Boxers could scarcely be any cause of genuine uneasiness to a strong foreign garrison in Peking. However that would be a matter for the Field Marshal to decide. The telegram goes on to say that Japan, England, America, France and Italy are opposed to the expedition, and that it will be undertaken by a force of Russians and German alone. But the French, English, Japanese and Italian troops in Chili are under the command of Feld-Marshal Waldersee, and would have to move if he ordered them.

Shanghai, according to the *Chino*, thinks that Germany undoubtedly has designs upon Shantung, but that the activity and competence of Governor Yuen deprive her of a pretext for undertaking anything there.

Monday, Oct. 15.

The Southern Viceroys are reported to have addressed to the foreign consuls in Shanghai a strong protest against the alleged expedition to Paoting. They say that if this measure be carried out, they can not hope to maintain tranquillity any longer in the districts under their jurisdiction, and all the efforts hitherto made by them to localize the trouble, and prevent its spreading into the interior of the country will thus be rendered nugatory. In this matter we entirely sympathise with the Viceroys. It was our belief that after the first phase of the military situation had been concluded—in other words, after the rescue of Peking and the dispersal of the Chinese forces had been effected—any forward movement on the part of the allied forces would be regarded as possessing a diplomatic as well as a military aspect. We therefore supposed that the Powers would not place their troops under the plenipotentiary command of Field Marshal Waldersee, and that any renewal of the campaign under his orders would have to be sanctioned by the various governments. It is easy to see, however, that a restriction of that kind must be exceedingly difficult to impose in practice. In the case of Paoting, for example, Count von Waldersee may have declared his opinion as a military expert that the capture of the capital of Chili is essential to the secure tenure of Peking throughout the winter. It would then be a question whether the military point of view was to over-ride the diplomatic, and there can be little doubt as to the result, under circumstances such as those now existing in North China. We dare not venture to assert that the Field Marshal's decision is open to cavil, but we do most unhesitatingly assert that, diplomatically speaking, it is a lamentable step.

It appears that the plan of campaign against Paoting is to march two columns, one from Peking, the other from Tientsin, the former under the command of General Gaselee, the latter under that of General Voyron, Field Marshal Waldersee being, of course, in supreme command of the whole. As the crow flies, Paoting is equi-distant from Tiensin and Peking. It stands at the apex of an isosceles triangle, the sides about 110 miles long, and the base—at the extremities of which lie Tientsin and Peking—85 miles in length. The Peking column will have the advantage of the railway, whereas the Tientsin column must march through a country which, though it possesses one fairly good road, is much broken by sheets of water, and may prove very arduous for the passage of an army. At all events, it can scarcely fail to be a matter of much difficulty to synchronise the operations of these two columns. If they reach Paoting simultaneously, it will be a remarkable feat. Probably their simultaneous action is not considered necessary; the Field Marshal having taken care that each shall be composed so as to be capable of quite independent movement.

With regard to the remonstrance said to have been addressed by the Southern Viceroys to the Shanghai Consuls against any movement of the allied forces into Shantung, Germany is said to have replied that the question of military operations in Shantung had not even come up for discussion. We are inclined to doubt the truth of this rumour. One reason for querying it is that the duty of replying for the Powers does not rest with Germany. If the remonstrance had been addressed to her in particular, and if its scope had been limited to the movements of her troops from Kiao-chow, the case would be different.

The latest news is that at the first Council of War held to consider the advisability of an expedition against Paoting, the allied commanders did not agree and the Council broke up *re infectâ*. The Field Marshal, however, had made up his mind that the expedition was necessary. He therefore called a second Council, when an arrangement was finally effected in the sense that the expeditionary force should consist of German, British, French and Italian troops, the Russians, the Americans, the Japanese and the Austrians remaining on garrison duty. It is further alleged that the expedition actually set out on the 12th instant.

If the above account be correct, the expeditionary force must either be very small, or must consist chiefly of British troops. Germany, as we understand, has landed only twelve thousand men in North China up to the present, and of these nine thousand are at Kiao-chow. Thus she has only three or four thousand in Chili, and if we assume that she sends 2,500 of these and that France contributes an equal number—which is a very liberal calculation—, how is the rest of the column to be made? Paoting is said to be garrisoned by 30 battalions (15,000) of Chinese troops and there is a large body of Boxers in its neighbourhood, who, though of little account for purposes of actual fighting, may be very troublesome in their attempts against lines of communication. Paoting is over a hundred miles from either Tientsin or Peking. It is not to be supposed that the Field Marshal intends to despatch against it a column of only seven or eight thousand man. He may be disposed to take heavy risks against such an enemy as the Chinese, but that risk seems a little too great.

Viceroys Liu and Chang, having telegraphed to Viceroy Li that the Paoting expedition, if carried out, would greatly increase the difficulties of their position, and having asked whether Li also would not be embarrassed by it, Li replied that it certainly would embarrass him seriously. Thereupon these three Viceroys entered a remonstrance, but Field Marshal Waldersee replied that the assembling of Chinese troops and Boxers in Paoting must be taken as indication of some project of renewed hostilities on China's part, and that the Allies had no purpose other than to disperse this gathering. These declarations of "unique purpose" must be growing a little monotonous in Chinese ears In the beginning the unique purpose of the Allies was to assist the Chinese Government in restoring tranquillity. Then their unique purpose was to rescue the beleagured community of Peking. Now their unique purpose is to capture the capital of Chili. What next? the Chinese must be asking, and when are the Powers about to open negotiations for the peace which they have averred themselves so anxious to restore? Will it be very perverse and pig-headed on the part of the Chinese if they, by-and-by, begin to greet foreign assurances with a smile that is "child-like and bland?"

Tuesday, Oct. 17.

The latest report is that the Paoting expedition will be only a five days' affair and that the two columns started on the 12th, one from Peking and the other from Tientsin, each consisting of about 5,000 men. The Germans are said to using about 200 Japanese coolies for transport purposes. Transport, of course, will be a very great difficulty. But whatever arrangements may have been made on that account we are quite unable to per-

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ceive how the Field Marshal can hope to make a march of over a hundred miles into a hostile country in five days. One thing greatly in favour of the expedition will be the weather. The temperature in North China at present ought to be perfect for marching purposes. There is a possibility, if not a probability, that there may be no fighting. The Chinese troops must be completely demoralized, and the Court may appreciate the advisability of not offering any stubborn resistance at this stage. Li Hung-chang is the man whose position is particularly unenviable. He has to sit quiet in Peking as peace commissioner while the capital of the province of which he is Viceroy becomes the object of an attack by foreign troops.

Meanwhile a reconnoissance made by the Germans is said to have shown that there are about 35 battalions (17,500) of Chinese troops in Paoting, together with 3,000 Boxers; that they have mounted 14 or 15 cannon on the walls; have constructed trenches and have altogether made most thorough preparations for defence. They are also said to be amply supplied with ammunition. But this account does not tally with the contents of a letter from the Governor of Paoting to Viceroy Li, said to have fallen into the hands of the Germans.

Wednesday, Oct. 18.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent gives the composition of the Paoting expeditionary force from Peking as 2,000 Germans, 1,200 English, 600 French and 200 Italians, or 4,000 in all. From the same authority we learn that the Chinese are not expected to offer any resistance and that they will meet the Allies with a flag of truce. What will then happen, we wonder. The expedition must have one of two objects; either to disperse the Chinese troops in Paoting and occupy the place, or to take some vivid revenge for the murder of missionaries which was perpetrated there. Nothing has yet been said about permanent occupation; though it is plain that anything short of that step would not accomplish the purpose ascribed to the Field Marshal, namely, the removal of what he considers a menace to the security of Peking during the winter. If the allied force simply shows itself at Paoting, or after making a silly march of triumph through the place, as was done at the Imperial City in Peking, counter-marches and returns to the capital, there will be nothing to prevent the subsequent re-assembly of Chinese troops in Paoting. The Field Marshal must contemplate occupation throughout the winter, unless that other motive sways him, namely, the idea of taking vengeance for the murdered missionaries. It has been warmly suggested that Paoting should be razed with the ground by way of retaliation for the massacre. But what was Paoting's share in that atrocity? Was it not perpetrated by the Boxers with the consent—implied if not expressed—of the local officials? We have never heard that the citizens of Paoting were responsible for it, and surely to destroy the city for such a reason would be a hideous outrage. The conclusion may be fairly come to, we think, that the expedition is of a military, not a punitive, character, and that Marshal Waldersee intends to station a foreign garrison in Paoting. Meanwhile, the inclusion of certain troops in the expeditionary force and the exclusion of others are now explained much in the manner already suggested by us. The English are said to have objected to the expedition as unnecessary—and well they might, for it seems a "fine fear" to be disturbed by the notion of enterprises that a small rabble of Chinese soldiers, with their head-quarters over a hundred miles distant, could undertake against a city garrisoned by fourteen or fifteen thousand foreign troops. Ultimately, however, the British objection was waived for the sake of not disturbing the concord. As for the Japanese, their exclusion is not of their own special choosing, though they are understood to welcome it. Since the Russians evacuated Peking the duty of garrisoning the city has devolved on the Japanese, and the Field Marshal ordered them to continue its performance during the time of the expedition.

THE CHINESE CRISIS.

Saturday, Oct. 13.

Viceroys Liu and Chang are said to have addressed to the foreign Consuls in Shanghai an urgent remonstrance against the allied forces entering Shantung, where, they point out, Governor Yuan is exerting himself vigorously to preserve order and to suppress the Boxers. We have not hitherto heard that there was any intention of invading Shantung, nor does there seem to be any reason for such a measure. It would be a poor return for the admirably wise and helpful attitude maintained by Governor Yuan throughout the crisis.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* says that the British and French Governments have instructed their Representatives in Peking to take whatever steps may seem advisable in the sense of Germany's recent proposal. We presume that the proposal referred to is the modified one put forward by the Berlin Government in the second instance, namely, that instead of handing over the instigators to the Powers, China should punish them in the presence of the allied forces. There is not much to choose between the projects. Each is equally impracticable.

The same journal publishes an interesting and (if true) highly important piece of intelligence from Peking. It is to the effect that, on the 8th instant, the Foreign Representatives in Peking held a meeting at the suggestion of the British Minister, when three questions were proposed for consideration: first, whether the list of persons indicated in the imperial decree of September 25th might be regarded as including the names of all the Boxer instigators; secondly, whether the punishments inflicted seemed sufficient; and thirdly, whether confidence could be placed in the genuineness of the penalties. The meeting is said to have decided, first, that General Tung and the ex-acting Viceroy of Shansi, Yü Hsien, should be included; secondly, that the penalties were not sufficient; and thirdly, that unless the punishments were inflicted in the presence of the Foreign Ministers, or of persons delegated by them, their genuineness could not be credited. That is a momentous decision if it be credible. The inclusion of Tung and Yü is doubtless quite just. There seems to be ample evidence that each of those officials either instigated the Boxer movement or actively assisted it. At all events we must assume that the Foreign Representatives are in possession of such evidence. But the resolutions as to the nature of the punishments and the manner of their infliction present a very different complexion. Evidently when the Representatives speak of penalties inflicted in their presence, or in the presence of their delegates, they refer to corporal punishment of some kind: flogging or decapitation. The mere act of depriving a high official of his rank and office or sentencing him to loss of salary is not attended with any ceremony which could be witnessed by foreign delegates. If, however, the Powers intend to insist not only that their own verdict as to the gravity of these men's offences and punishments to be inflicted shall be accepted and acted on by China, but also that a sort of public execution of Chinese princes and high dignitaries of State shall take place in the presence of a specially convened assembly of foreigners, there can only be one issue, and that is, a renewal of the campaign under circumstances that will embroil the whole of China. Can it be supposed that the Southern Viceroys will consent to the exaction of such terms, or that they will sit idle should a foreign expedition be despatched in pursuit of the Court?

The French, American and British Representatives are said to have received from their respective Governments plenipotentiary powers to enter into peace negotiations with Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang. If that be true—we take it from a telegram to the *Shogyo Shimpo*—how can it be reconciled with the *Jiji's* news about a conference at the British Legation, as described above? The punishment of the instigators is to be a preliminary essential to the commencement of peace negotiations if Germany's proposal be adopted, and the *Jiji's* news gives us to infer that it has been adopted and that the Foreign Representatives are conferring as to the means of carrying it out.

The Chinese Government is said to have appointed Yung Lu, Chang Chi-tung and Liu Kun-yi to be plenipotentiary peace commissioners, of equal rank with Li Hung-chang, and to have caused the fact to be intimated to the Powers.

A telegram in the *Shogyo Shimpo* informs the public that some of the Foreign Representatives in Peking insist on the necessity of having the Empress Dowager punished, but that the majority are opposed to such a step. Who are these fire-eaters, we wonder, and how do they propose that their demand should be carried out?

The reply of the Emperor of Japan to the recent message from the Chinese Court, is said to be couched in sympathetic and friendly terms. A message to the various sovereigns and heads of States through her Representatives abroad was China's last measure. In Japan's case, profound regret was again expressed for the death of Mr. Sugiyama, and a statement was made of the steps taken by the Chinese Government in connexion with his obsequies. There could not be any doubt as to the reception such a message would meet in Japan In Germany also, according to a telegram received in Tokyo, a similar message sent simultaneously with reference to Baron von Ketteler is said to have produced such an excellent effect that the attitude of the German Government towards China is completely changed. But if that be so, how are we to account for the Paoting expedition?

Monday, Oct. 15.

The reply of the Emperor of Japan to the Emperor of China's appeal is said to contain advice in the sense that the Ministers who held conservative views should be set aside; that the instigators of the Boxer movement should be punished; that China should adopt a progressive policy, and that the Court should return to Peking.

Official telegrams from China put the total number of foreign troops now in Peking at

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14,800, with 32 guns. From this account the Japanese are omitted. The War Office in Tokyo seems to obey an inviolable rule that, under no circumstances, shall the strength of the Japanese troops at any point be published. The detail at Peking is thus :—

	Infantry.	Cavalry.	Guns Field.	Mountain guns.	Engineers.
Russian.....	1,000	—	—	—	300
British	3,500	800	6	—	—
French	3,000	—	6	6	—
American ...	1,150	100	6	—	—
German.....	3,600	—	8	—	—
Italian	1,350	—	—	—	—

In addition to these the following are stationed at Tung-chow (the river terminus for Peking) and Hoshi-u (half way between Peking and Tientsin) :—

AT TUNG-CHOW.

	Infantry.	Cavalry.	Field Gun.
British	341	20	—
American	104	—	—
Russian	207	35	—
French	103	—	6
German	103	—	—
Italian.....	73	—	—
Austrian.....	51	—	—
Total	982	55	6

AT HOSHI-U.

Russian	133(tele. corps)	—	—
German	51	—	—
British.....	84	20	—
Total	269	20	—

Forces are also stationed at Ma-tou (542 infantry and 6 guns) and at Lu-kou (one battalion and 4 companies of infantry).

It is alleged that Li Hung-chang and Prince Ching have memorialized the Throne in the sense that unless the Court returns to Peking, and unless the leaders of the Boxers are punished in the presence of the Foreign Representatives, they, Li and Ching, must resign their appointments as Peace Commissioners. Our readers will observe that Li and Ching speak of the Boxer "leaders" not the "instigators."

Prince Ching is greatly to be pitied, his son being held as a hostage by the Empress Dowager.

Rumour says that while the Chinese Court was staying at Lioku (?) in Shan-si, Prince Twan seized the opportunity to send a body of troops to raze to the ground the house of a local magnate who had memorialized the Throne against him.

The arsenal in Hunan is said to be working day and night to turn out arms and ammunition.

The Taxation Bureau of the Chinese Central Government has been transferred, it is said, to Hankow.

The Japanese troops which are under orders to return from China, namely, Major-General Manabe's brigade, commenced their embarkation at Taku on the 12th instant.

It is reported that the Russian forces took Kirin on the 23rd (?) of September. Mukden is already in their hands. The seizure of Manchuria may therefore be regarded as complete. Does any one expect for one little minute that it will be restored? When have great and growing Powers treated the world to such displays of voluntary self-effacement? We are very sure that if Great Britain had obtained in any country the position now held by the Russians in Manchuria, she would treat the idea of evacuation as a pleasant comedy. It is silly to deceive ourselves with empty hopes in the face of solid accomplished facts.

Tuesday, Oct. 16.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram to the effect that the German troops have destroyed the village of Shoriusho (?) and killed 20 or 30 of the inhabitants. Evidently this is part of the programme described in our telegraphic column.

Li Hung-chang is said to have addressed a telegram to Liu Kun-yi, saying that although he had not yet had an opportunity of conferring with Prince Ching, he felt confident that it would be hopeless to think of opening the peace negotiations before the issue of the Paoting expedition.

The Chinese Court seems to have actually set out for Si-gnan. Telegrams from two independent sources state that their Majesties were expected to reach the banks of the Yellow River on the borders of Shensi and Shansi on the 13th instant.

Wednesday, Oct. 17.

The reply of the Emperor of Japan to his Chinese brother's latest appeal expresses due appreciation of the condolences conveyed by Kwang Hsu with reference to the death of Mr. Sugiyama, and declares his Majesty's hope for the speedy restoration of peace. After these courtesies the reply goes on to urge that the Court should return to Peking and that no time should be lost in organizing a Government by drafting into its ranks men of influence and capacity. That, indeed, seemed to be the pressing need of the hour a short time ago, when apparently the Powers were only waiting to be approached by responsible negotiators. But now that the allied forces have again taken the field, all idea of restoring peace must be abandoned for the moment.

It is alleged that the Emperor of China addressed to the Czar a telegram warmly thanking his Majesty for withdrawing his troops from Peking. It is a magnificent farce. Now that the Chinese ostrich has buried its head in remote Si-ngan, any kind of practical joke may be played at its expense.

"FOUNDATION EXERCISES IN ENGLISH CONVERSATION."

Two parts have now appeared of a work by the Rev. C. M. Cady, M.A., Professor of English language and literature in the Doshisha and English instructor in the Kyoto Middle School. These volumes are intended for the assistance of teachers. The method pursued is to take Œsop's Fables and append to each a number of questions relating to the subject of the fable and the moral it is intended to point. For example, after reading about the wolf which reminded a party of mutton-eating shepherds that they would raise a nice hue and cry if he were to follow their example, the pupil is required to answer "whom did the wolf see?" "where did he see the shipherds?", "what were they doing?" "where did the wolf pass?" "what did the wolf like?" and so on. Necessarily in such a system there is much iteration. The series of questions following one fable seem as though they might be at once constructed by any one who had carefully studied the questions attached to another. But it is precisely by such iteration that familiarity in the use of a language is required. The only criticism suggesting itself is that a pupil must fall into a terribly weary and mechanical frame of mind before he has gone half through this interminable series of exasperatingly uniform lessons.

A COURAGEOUS INTERVIEWER.

Mr. Raymond Blathwayt is a man of high courage. Several years ago—1897, if we remember rightly—he came to Japan with the reputation of being the "prince of interviewers." By means of a letter of introduction from a high British official he obtained access to the then Minister President, Marquis Ito, and another letter from the same source placed him in personal communication with the humble writer of this note, whom he interviewed on the subject of Japanese journalism. Marquis Ito, as became his position, was doubtless very careful about the statements he made to Mr. Blathwayt, and also took the precaution to require that if the latter published any report of the interview, it should be submitted previously for the Marquis' inspection. But interviews composed by "princes" like Mr. Blathwayt have too much of the subjective element to endure any test of accuracy. Mr. Blathwayt took care not to fulfil his engagement to Marquis Ito. He concocted an interview of a striking and sensational character and published it in London. When the publishing journal reached Japan, Mr. Blathwayt was found to have put into the mouth of Marquis Ito many statements which the Marquis had never made and which appeared to have been evolved from Mr. Blathwayt's inner consciousness, and several other statements which Mr. Blathwayt, having obtained them in a rudimentary form from either the Marquis' private secretary or from the writer of this note, had distorted or expanded so as to defy recognition by those originally responsible for them. In fact, Mr. Blathwayt published a farrago of his own composition in which he achieved the double feat of grossly misrepresenting the statements of three people and assigning them all to one man. This unscrupulous proceeding was severely criticised by at least two journals in Japan, and we can answer for the fact that Mr. Blathwayt was fully informed of the unpardonable misrepresentations he had made—misrepresentations which, by the light of recent events, we do not hesitate to say that he himself was perfectly cognisant of from the outset. For now, after the lapse of nearly four years, he has dished up the same statements again with further embellishments of his own invention, and has re-published them in the *Daily Mail*, Far-Eastern affairs being for the moment at a premium. Only one touch was needed to complete this picture, and it has been given by a correspondent of our local contemporary, the *Japan Gazette*, who, accepting as correct Mr. Blathwayt's version of Marquis Ito's views, pens a powerful comment on the want of commercial morality in Japan—the absence of "faith in keeping contracts." We have not a word to say against this letter. On the contrary, we endorse every word of it. But how comical it is that Mr. Blathwayt's journalistic essays should be made the text of a homily upon a moral standard! What an object-lesson he furnishes, who, in the first place, deliberately violated the contract under which he obtained permission to publish anything at all; in the second, falsely attributed to Marquis Ito statements invented by Mr. Blathwayt himself or gathered in a different form from the mouths of others; and in the third, re-published these statements more than three years after he has been authoritatively informed of their falsehood!

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THE CABINET.

Saturday, Oct. 13.

The difficulties in the path of Cabinet organization are now said to have disappeared; that is to say, the difficulties connected with affairs which had been undertaken by the Yamagata Cabinet, and which needed the same hands to complete them. Nothing now prevents the final announcement of the new Ministry except some points which it rests with Marquis Ito and Count Inouye to arrange. Conferences are being held at Oiso between Marquis Ito, Count Inouye, Marquis Saionji, Viscount Watanabe and others.

The Progressist organs have now taken up the subject of a visit said to have been paid by Prince Iwakura to Viscount Watanabe for the purpose of placating him. They complain that the Emperor should not be troubled about such trifles as the umbrage of a solitary individual. On the other side it is denied that Prince Iwakura took the step in his capacity of High Chamberlain. He acted entirely as a private individual. After all, it is difficult for Prince Iwakura to separate himself from the aroma of an office such as he fills.

Monday, Oct. 15.

Marquis Ito's health is now almost fully restored. There was some apprehension for a moment that the influenza might attack the lungs, but that danger has been averted. The announcement of the new Cabinet may therefore be expected very shortly. The *Asahi* states that one of the problems of foreign policy which the Marquis desired to have settled before he assumed power, was a matter of a loan by the First National Bank to the Korean Government, but the details given by our contemporary do not seem worthy of credence.

Tuesday, Oct. 16.

The General Committee of the Seiyu-kai has discussed warmly the action of Viscount Watanabe. The Viscount seems to have proceeded to Oiso and offered to Marquis Ito an explanation which the Marquis found satisfactory. But some of the members of the General Committee are not disposed to dismiss the matter so lightly. They consider that the Viscount behaved with unbecoming precipitancy, and that his original expressions of umbrage were based on a misunderstanding into which he could not have fallen had he exercised proper caution. There is a division of opinion among the committee-men as to the course that should be adopted towards the Viscount. Meanwhile the journals of the Opposition naturally put a disagreeable construction on the incident. They allege that the real trouble is the Viscount's objection to being passed over for the portfolio of Finance, and failing that, for the portfolio of Home Affairs. Count Inouye is to have the former and Mr. Hoshi Toru the latter. It will be remembered that the originally alleged cause of Viscount Watanabe's discontent was Marquis Ito's supposed departure from the principle of disregarding party claims in allotting offices. But the Opposition journals are now rejoicing in the charge that the Viscount himself is an office-hunter. These statements may be taken for what they are worth. They are simply marginal incidents.

Wednesday, Oct. 17.

The General Committee of the Rikken Seiyu-kai held another meeting on the 15th instant to consider the conduct of Viscount Watanabe. They came to the conclusion that he deserved censure, and that he should be invited to resign his membership of the Committee. A deputation waited on the Viscount for that purpose, but while thanking them politely for their suggestion, the Viscount said that he entertained no intention of resigning at present. He had made an engagement with Marquis Ito and he did not propose to take any step without the latter's approval. The deputies having conveyed this answer to the Committee, another discussion took place, at which it was resolved that Marquis Ito should be invited to give a ruling on the question. It is curious that the general public can not clearly discover wherein the Viscount's misdeeds consist. Judging from the implacability of the *Seiyu-kai*, he must have offended them grievously. It need scarcely be observed that the *Nippon* flings around its usual sarcasms in connexion with these incidents. It affirms that the Liberals have gained the ascendancy completely in the *Seiyu-kai* and it professes to pity the helplessness of Marquis Ito.

Thursday, Oct. 18

We explained in our last issue that the General Committee of the *Rikken Seiyu-kai* had decided to invite Marquis Ito to pronounce judgment on the affair of Viscount Watanabe. For that purpose Messrs. Hoshi, Watanabe Koki, Ooka and Hayashi proceeded to Oiso, and having submitted the matter to Marquis Ito, received from him an assurance that he would deal with it suitably in a few days. It is a curious incident. What seems quite clear is that the General Committee entertain no special love for Viscount Watanabe.

Friday, Oct. 19.

The General Committee of the *Rikken Seiyu-kai* has published a long memorandum about the Watanabe affair. We must assume that the details given in the memorandum are correct, but we must also confess that they are very difficult to understand. Viscount Watanabe is represented as having suddenly exhibited umbrage without taking anybody into his confidence, or offering any explanation as to the cause of his discontent. After persisting for some days in his display of anger, he became placated with equal suddenness. Of course there can be little doubt that the Viscount experienced some sense of neglect. Human beings do not work without hope of reward, and whether Viscount Watanabe conceived that he was unduly excluded from the Councils of his leader, or whether he had reason to think that his claims were not receiving proper consideration in the distribution of portfolios, the mainsprings of his conduct reduce themselves to much the same motives. It would be regrettable that the services of a man of such distinction should be lost to his Party, but what strikes us as much more important is the behaviour of the General Committee of that Party. They openly sought Marquis Ito's ruling with regard to the Viscount, and they received their leader's assurance that he would deal with the matter in a few days. Yet, without an hour's delay, they hasten to publish a manifesto which amounts to an implacable impeachment of Viscount Watanabe. His proceedings are there set forth publicly in language of the most uncompromising kind, and the conclusion is explicitly stated that he is in not in full possession of his senses; or, at any rate, that his conduct has been most disorderly. It is impossible that Viscount Watanabe should remain a member of a Party whose General Committee have thus publicly insulted him, and, moreover, the pretext of an appeal to the judgment of Marquis Ito is rendered quite farcical by this action of the Committee. Many things in Japan are inexplicable to foreign observers, but if it be permissible to apply the standards ruling in the West, we are driven to conclude that the future of Japanese political parties is still very dubious. They have not yet learned the practical meaning of the word "discipline," and until they learn it and are guided by the knowledge, there cannot be any such thing as a firmly knit association.

ACCOUNTS THAT DIFFER.

We have been accustomed to believe that the Japanese marines were the first to enter the Taku forts, and we believe it still. But a very different idea has been circulated in Russia, and, unless we are much mistaken, a good deal of whole cloth has been used in manufacturing it. We take it from the St. Petersburg correspondence of *The Times*:—

The *Government Messenger* publishes to-day four long detailed reports on the capture of the Taku forts, according to which it would appear that success was entirely due to the Russians and English, who, in spite of the disinclination of the other allies to storm the forts, were the first to advance and decide the day. Captain Dobrovolsky, commanding the international landing parties, states that the allied commanders disagreed on the subject, whereupon the Russians refused to wait and at once went forward. They were supported by the English, who thus induced the rest of the allies to follow their example. The Russian Lieutenant Stankevich, with four soldiers, first entered the northwest fort, and, not having with him a flag, he hoisted a shoulder strap of one of his sergeants. When the English flag subsequently appeared on the ramparts the Russians cheered, and from their new position began firing upon the nearest southern forts.

Lieutenant Stankevich relates that on the night before the attack he attended a conference at the invitation of the German Captain Pohl, who, in the presence of the other foreign officers, declared that it had been decided to retire as the naval artillery fire had done no damage whatever to the forts, the capture of which was, therefore, impossible. Lieutenant Stankevich categorically refused to retire, and then all the other landing parties excepting the English formed their columns and marched away. The Russians occupied the moat in front of the fort, and the English threw out a line to the Russians right. At dawn the Russians and English, under the enemy's fire, stormed the fort, and the Germans and Japanese followed up behind.

Curiously enough, the same issue of *The Times* contains a long account of the operations between Taku and Tientsin, from the pen of an English midshipman. He writes with reference to the attack on the Forts:

About 4.15 we began the advance, the Brush and Japanese being in the firing line. They soon spotted us coming, and a steady "zip," "of bullets began. They also opened fire with an absurd little Krupp field gun, which fired dummy shell, the flight of which could be plainly seen, and instead of going horizontally it fell over and over, and on alighting on the ground it rolled along, but made a very demoralizing noise. The storming of the fort was a very quick business, as we pursued the only tactics successful with the Chinese—that is, practically charging the whole way. When we got up to the fort the fire considerably slackened, and the majority of the Chinese troops evacuated it on the other side. We ran along a narrow strip of land between the moat and the sea and across the bridge over the moat. It was funny to see how the Japanese nipped along. They completely outran our fellows, but we got into the fort together by swarming up the mud wall, which was almost perpendicular, just to one side of the gate, and that took us into the outer part of the fort. There was a lot of firing still going on when we got inside. Of the two men we first killed, one had the side of his head completely blown away by a man-stopping pistol bullet. The Japanese lost several inside, among them their commander. We also had one or two wounded. We got our flag up first, and the Japanese [illegible] The Russians and the Japs [illegible] did not arrive in the fort [illegible] minutes after we did.

This officer's account differs very materially from the Russian story. One or the other of the two gentlemen must be the victim of a remarkable hallucination.

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SHANTUNG.

Insensibly the public are beginning to turn their eyes to Shantung, where the course of events may at any moment assume a highly important aspect. Governor Yuan is naturally rendered anxious by the proximity of a large German force. He finds that disquieting rumours are circulating among the people in his jurisdiction and that some definite explanation of Germany's intentions is necessary to restore a tranquil frame of mind. Rumour says that he addressed a telegram to Li Hung-chang, requesting the Viceroy to obtain from Field Marshal Waldersee a distinct statement as to the purpose of the force assembled at Kiao-chow. Li replied, however, that he had not yet had an opportunity of meeting the Field Marshal and was consequently unable to address any question to him. Of course the simplest explanation is that these German troops find themselves belated. Germany's position was decidedly embarrassing when the troubles commenced in China. She could not sit quiet and leave to other Powers the duty of protecting her subjects in the Far East as well as the task of exacting reparation for the murder of her Minister. On the other hand, there was no possibility of sending her troops to such a great distance in time to take part in the campaign unless it happened to be prolonged to an improbable extent. Her position, in short, as a great Power required that she should make an effort which the circumstances of the case would probably ready nugatory. She resolved, however—and she could scarcely have done otherwise—to make the effort, and the result is that finding herself now with a large force in China after the pressing need for military operations is over, she is somewhat perplexed what to do with them, and has chosen the simplest expedient; that of quartering a large part of them at Kiao-chow, where they are on her own territory and where they can be accommodated throughout the winter without difficulty. That, we say, is the simplest explanation, and were the situation under the control of the peace-loving, level-head German nation, we might confidently reckon on seeing the matter end there. It is the Kaiser that upsets our calculations. One can not believe that the restless, ambitious and imperious monarch will be content that his country's first great over-sea essay should terminate without some striking accomplishment, and since the addition of Shantung to the German Empire would be a natural sequel to the capture of Kiao-chow, and would also save this great expedition from the reproach of futility, what wonder that Shantung is becoming the cynosure of public attention, or that Governor Yuan is disturbed by a night-mare?

THE "HAI KARA-TO."

The *Jimmin* indulges in a great laugh at the High Collar party. It describes how they boast of their travels; how they are even vain of their inability to write ideographs skilfully; how they talk of the great men with whom they associated abroad; how they condescend to agree with the *Spectator* that since the deaths of Gladstone, of Disraeli and of Bismarck there are no men of real talent left, and how they confess the difficulty of determining whether to rejoice or resent that they were born Japanese. Our contemporary gives a specimen of the manner in which these gentlemen interlard their conversation with foreign terms:—*Dôshite mo Nihon mo* restaurant *wa fugyogi fukuritsu de ikemasenu. Boku wa Nihon shoku wo motte* insanitary *to shinjimasu. Boku wa Nihon ni kaette kara ni onô ni Seiyo riyôri wo yatte imasu Boku no* wife *wa saiwai ni Seiyo riyori no* cooking *ga jodzu desu Suwaru to in wa kesshite* civilized *shitaru kuni no* usage *to wa iyemasenu. Boku wa* sofa *ni yori shizuka ni* new edition *no yosho wo yomuga ichiban no* pleasure *desu. Nippon no* journalistic morality *wa hankada lukuku arimasu. Yankee mo itazura ni* exaggerate *shite bakari otte taitei* yellow style *desu. Beikoku de yomeru no wa* "New York Tribune" *kurai de; Yeikoku de wa* "Times," *France de wa* (here is an unidentifiable name) *kurai wa mazu* high standing *no shimbun deshô. Senkoku aru shimbun kusha ga kite konkwai no seiten ni tsuite iken wo kiita kara* Marquis *wa muron* premier *sa* Mr. Hoshi *wa gainu ni shite yaritai ga domo* barbarous *de bunmei no gaikoku-kwan ni wa ina ichidan* enlightened *to shinakereba ikenu to iute yatta yo. Kekkyoku waga hai ga deru jidai ga konakereba totemo* progressive *naru* policy *wo totte oi ni yaru kato wa dekinu.* ahem!

THE INSURRECTION IN SOUTHERN CHINA.

Saturday, Oct. 13.

The depredations of the Triad Society in Kwangtung are reported to be growing so serious that France and England contemplate the necessity of landing troops to repress them. The rioters are under the leadership of Sun, whose illegal detention at the Chinese Legation in London created so much excitement some years ago, and it is supposed that they are in alliance with the reform party The absence of all the best troops, which have proceeded northward, has given the rebels an opportunity.

Monday, Oct. 15.

The insurrection in the south of China appears to be growing rapidly It has spread to Yunnan, and to the hinter-land of the Kowloon peninsula. The British Government is said to have decided that ten thousand men must be massed at Hongkong. Fresh troops will be ordered from India, and probably a part of those now in the north of China will be recalled to the south.

The Commander-in-chief in Kwangsi, Su Yuen-chung, telegraphs to the Governors of neighbouring provinces that the insurrection is spreading in all directions and that it threatens to assume even more serious dimensions than those of the Taiping Rebellion. He avers that the force of thirty thousand men under his command is insufficient to deal with the trouble, and he calls for assistance.

Tuesday, Oct. 16.

The Triads and their colleagues, who have now taken the field in Kwangsi, seem to be following the lines of the Taiping rebels 34 years ago. They have announced that their enemies are only the Manchu rulers and those supporting the latter; that they will not inflict any injury on peaceful Chinese who offer no resistance, and that they will protect foreign life and property. It is said that many Chinese officials have joined them. Their leader Sun is reported to have raised his flag at Hwai chow, some 30 miles from Canton, whither many ex-soldiers are flocking to join him This affair fails to attract much attention from the public, men's eyes being fixed upon the north. But it is evident that a great opportunity now exists for a rebellion like that of the Triads. What will be their attitude towards the Boxers, we wonder. The Boxers are anti-Manchu, if well-informed publicists are not mistaken. From that point of view they would be anxious to ally themselves with the Triads. But the Boxers are anti-foreign before everything, and the probability is that in that respect they have a majority of the Chinese nation on their side. If the Triads have openly declared themselves pro-foreign, they start with a heavy handicap.

Thursday, Oct. 18.

The insurrection in South China continues It is said that the insurgents have routed a small body of Government troops, and that their success has increased the disaffection. They are reported as being virtually masters of a great part of the Kowloon and Tung-kiang districts, and they have gained possession of six of the ten principal towns in Hwui-chow. The Government troops which had been sent from Canton to quell the insurrection, are said to have been recalled, which creates the impression that a rising in Canton itself is apprehended. A Shanghai telegram dated the 15th instant alleges that the insurgents are now within 30 miles of British territory at Kowloon, that they are receiving accessions of strength from all parts of Kwang-si and Kwang-tung, and that a force of a thousand Government troops is endeavouring to make head against them. The statement is again repeated that these insurgents have no anti-foreign sentiment and that they are averse to depredations of every kind, but it is difficult to reconcile that assertion with a report that they attacked a French steamer *en route* from Kwan chow to Hongkong, killed two of her crew and stole some thirty thousand dollars. The latest news from Hongkong assigns a very grave character to the *emeute*, and says that a column of 7,000 troops has been despatched from Canton to the disturbed district. This, again, can not be reconciled with the previous assertion that the Canton troops had been withdrawn It is impossible to be sure about details, but there can be no doubt that a rising of considerable dimensions is taking place. Communications on the Tung-kiang have been interrupted, and the latest telegrams repeat the intelligence that most of the towns in Hwui-chow have fallen into the hands of the rebels, and that they are marching towards Canton. The British authorities in Hongkong have considered it necessary to send a force of 300 Bombay troops and half a battery of artillery to guard the Kowloon frontier. Another report is to the effect that the insurgents attacked a fort at Macao, but were dispersed by the Portuguese troops.

MR. UCHIDA ON CHINA.

Mr. Uchida of the Foreign Office, who has just returned from China, tells the editor of the *Chuo Shimbun* that he spent only 9 days in Peking, but the time was quite long enough to convince him of the terrible fate that overtakes a conquered country. On this subject Mr. Uchida does not dilate. He goes on to say that he called on Prince Ching and found him enfeebled by illness for which he was undergoing treatment by one of the Japanese military physicians. Ching seemed much depressed He declared that he had repeatedly urged the return of the Court to Peking, but his application had been unsuccessful, and nothing now remained except to await the arrival of Li Hung-chang. He said that he found himself caught between the grinding stones, the Court on one side and the Foreign Powers on the other, and from his anxiety for Li's coming it was easy to infer

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the pain of his dilemma. Mr. Uchida does not hesitate to say that the system of administration pursued by the Japanese in Peking is conspicuously successful. An easy basis of comparison is furnished by the state of the population in the various quarters of the city. Examination shows that whereas deserted dwellings are the prominent feature of districts administered by other Powers, the district administered by the Japanese has three times as many inhabitants as it had before the war. Calling on Viceroy Li in Tientsin, Mr. Uchida found him in excellent health. They had no conversation of any importance, the visit being one of pure friendship. Mr. Uchida informed Li of the impatience with which his arrival in Peking was awaited by Prince Ching. This interview gave rise to many rumours, the Russians especially showing suspicions, but Mr. Uchida says that it was wholly unimportant. Li's residence was guarded by twenty Russian troops, and a Russian officer called on Mr. Uchida the following day in acknowledgment of his visit to the Viceroy. Mr. Uchida does not think that peace negotiations are likely to commence soon. We quite agree with him. Some new "unique intention" on the part of the Allies, some Shan-hai-kwan or Paoting-fu, will interfere.

THE GERMANS AT THE ATTACK OF HSIKU.

Some very unpleasant things have been said by English journals with reference to claims advanced on behalf of German troops at the taking of Hsiku, the Imperial Chinese Armoury on the Peino, which Admiral Seymour's column captured during its retreat from Lang-fang to Tientsin. These criticisms were based on a theory that the capture of the Armoury had been placed by the Germans to their own credit after the English troops had failed in their assault. It is pleasant to find that this accusation against the Germans is incorrect. The following extract from Admiral Seymour's official report makes the facts quite plain :—

At 4 a.m. we arrived opposite what proved to be the Imperial Chinese Armoury near Hsiku (on right bank of river). Two unarmed soldiers were seen coming out of a house 100 yards from the bank, evidently to communicate. A halt was made to hear what they had to say, which were some simple inquiries as to who we were and where we were going, &c. These advances seemed perfectly friendly, and the men walked leisurely back to the house, which they had no sooner reached than a heavy fire was opened on us from rifles and several guns. Fortunately good cover was close at hand in a village, and behind the river embankment, which was immediately taken advantage of. The Rear Columns had not come up nor the junks with wounded, but the latter were carried down by the river before they could be brought up, and although placed in the best position possible under the circumstances could not be entirely sheltered and were occasionally struck.

Rifle fire was directed to a 47 m.m. Hotchkiss gun at the North corner of the armoury and two 12 c m guns on the River front. Some of the men at the guns were killed and others driven from them. Major Johnstone, R.M.L.I., of the *Centurion*, was then sent higher up the river to cross over unobserved with a party of 100 marines and seamen to rush the position at the North corner. There is a village about 150 yards from this which enabled the attacking force to come up without being seen until they emerged from it, when they charged with a cheer joined in by those on the other side of the River, and the Chinese in that part of the Armoury fled precipitately. At the same time lower down the river a German Detachment crossed over and captured 2 guns (10 c m. Krupp) in their front and subsequently several others. The Marines also took 2 more guns (47 m m. Krupp). The two detachments then cleared the whole Armoury grounds.

It is evident from this account that the assault was conducted simultaneously and with apparently equal success on the north by the British and on the south by the Germans. No failure marred the operations of either party.

THE FIRST CONFERENCE.

The first preparatory peace conference appears to have been held in Peking on the 16th instant. There were present Prince Ching, Viceroy Li and Sir Robert Hart It is said that a form of apology to the Powers and a request for the immediate opening of negotiations was drafted The association of Sir Robert Hart with the two Chinese chief commissioners is very re-assuring The latter will at all events have the benefit of excellent counsel, and the fact that they are seeking such advice will enhance their credit in the eyes of foreigners. As a result of this conference, a note was addressed to all the Powers on the 17th instant, expressing China's desire for the restoration of peace, avowing her regret for the incidents that had occurred, offering to pay an indemnity and deferring the consideration of other conditions to a conference. The note further asked that a conference be opened on the 10th of November to draw up a final agreement, but that, in the meanwhile, a temporary settlement should be made on the above basis to be followed immediately by an armistice. This programme is said to have been suggested by Sir Robert Hart, but if that be the case, we are surprised that no reference is made to the question of punishing the ringleaders of the Boxers. Sir Robert knows what an important place that part of the settlement holds in the estimate of foreign Powers, and he must be aware that its exclusion from a projected basis of even a temporary arrangement will produce an unfortunate impression. This point is so plain that we are disposed to doubt the accuracy of the report sent by telegraph, especially as it is added that the peace commissioners are following Sir Robert's advice faithfully

A JUDICIAL ABUSE.

The Barristers Association of Tokyo has taken up the case of prison accommodation in Yamanashi Prefecture. It appears that there is no branch prison or regular house of detention at Yamura in that prefecture. A number of accused persons are consequently crowded into the rooms of the police station, and as the Yamura magistrates are proverbially indisposed to grant bail, the prisoners find no means of escaping the terribly insanitary circumstances of their confinement Of four men recently released on bail after long delay, two are said to have died on the way home, and the other two are in a precarious condition This terrible abuse has stirred the indignation of the barristers. They have appointed a committee to wait upon the Minister of Justice and lay the facts before him.

RIUKIU.

The *Nippon* draws attention to the remarkable development of Riukiu during the past few years It gives the following figures :—

	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.	Total. Yen.
1892	689,360	926,930	1,616,290
1897	1,816,420	1,472,881	3,289,301

Our contemporary states that the area of the islands is 156 square *ri* (975 square miles) and that the population is 442,834, but does not state what increase of population took place in the interval between 1892 and 1897. Assuming that the population was stationary, the over-sea trade grew from 3.14 *yen* per head in 1892 to 7.20 *yen* in 1897.

ANOTHER ANTI-FOREIGN OUTBREAK.

The anti-foreign insurgents in the neighbourhood of Swatow are now becoming very active. Signs of their presence are reported from Chang-lo-hsien, Hai-feng, Lu-feng and Hwui-lai, as well as the vicinity of Swatow. A German man-of-war is guarding Swatow. Nothing is said as to any connexion between these rebels and those of Kwang-tung. The latter profess to be free from any anti-foreign prejudice whereas the former openly avow it. Meanwhile it is reported that the Kwang-tung insurgents, the Triads, have forced their way to the immediate neighbourhood of Hwui-chow, that they have met with no serious resistance, and that the local officials *en route* have either fled or committed suicide. Another source of uneasiness is connected with the recent transfer of Governor Yu from Honan to Hupeh. It is said to be predicted by Chinese officials that, in his new position, Yu will be much less amenable to instructions from Viceroy Chang than he was when in Honan, and that his influence may prove the means of causing a violation of the promise given by Viceroys Liu and Chang that peace should be preserved in the Yangtsze Valley. It must be confessed that the state of affairs in China is even more disquieting than it was a week ago. The only grain of comfort is to be found in the thought that the natural tendency of rumour at present is to exaggerate even more than usual.

THE TOKYO HARBOUR SCHEME.

From time to time the public learns something about the Tokyo harbour scheme, which, if it progresses at all, does so by such imperceptible stages that to ordinary observers its condition seems to be one of permanent immobility. However, the latest news is that the experts of the Home Department estimate the cost of constructing a harbour in the Haneda district at 41 million *yen*. They further foresee that the quantity of goods now entering Tokyo by sea—namely, 3,800,000 tons annually—will be increased by two millions, which, at 80 *sen* per ton means a revenue of 1,600,000 *yen*. From the reclaimed land a return of 520,000 *yen* yearly may be expected, so that the total income would be 2,820,000 *yen*. The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce are now examining the question. It is said that they look for an increase of 3 million tons, and a consequent total revenue of 3,420,000 *yen*. We do not quite understand either set of figures, for it appears to us that harbour dues would be collected on goods already coming to Tokyo by sea as well as on those that would be attracted by the improved facilities. Eighty *sen* per ton seems, also, an immense charge. Taking only one half of that rate and assuming that the total volume of goods becomes 5,800,000 tons, the revenue collected—inclusive of 512,000 *yen* for reclaimed land—would be 2,832,000 *yen*, or a little over 7 per cent. on the outlay.

"THE JAPAN TRIBUNE."

We have received a specimen copy of *The Japan Tribune*, a journal owned by Mr. Miyakawa Masuji and published in San Francisco. It professes to be "devoted to the reciprocal interests of the Japanese and Americans," and judging by its advertisement columns, we should say that it is successful. In the issue before us, the editor explains the landing of Japanese marines at Amoy by saying :—"There has long been a confiden

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tial understanding between Japan and China, incidental to the occupation by Germany of certain territory adjoining Amoy a year ago, that Japan would protect Chinese interests there from further European aggression." That explanation has at least the advantage of novelty. We had not previously heard of any such agreement, and we venture to affirm that the Governments of China and Japan alike are ignorant of it. But there are other things in *The Japan Tribune* of which we had not heard before perusing its columns. For example, we had not head of "people of foreign extract," nor had we ever heard of influence being "exhausted to futilize exorbitant and aggressive demands." These excursions of the *Tribune* into novel domains of the English language, have their use, however, since they show that the contents of the editorial columns are really from the pen of a Japanese, instead of being hybrid compositions of the kind to which some enterprising *literateurs* have accustomed us.

KOREA.

The *Chino* says that Ulneung Island is likely to prove a white elephant to Russia. There are no labourers, and after the timber is felled, the island will be quite useless.

The Korean Minister, Mr. Cho Pyŏng-sik, whose very brief stay in Japan is to be now terminated, gave a farewell entertainment on the 12th instant at the Imperial Hotel. Marquis Yamagata, Viscount Aoki and other members of the Cabinet were present, as were also the Foreign Representatives.

A telegram from Sōul, dated the 14th instant, says that a fire broke out that day in the Palace of the Emperor of Korea and that it completely destroyed the sanctuary where the mortuary tablets of the Imperial family are kept. The flames made their appearance at 12.20 p.m. and were extinguished at 2.30 p.m. The residential part of the Palace seems to have escaped uninjured. It does not appear that there is any suspicion of incendiarism. We presume that a financial question will be the issue of this calamity. Funeral rites, erecting of tombs and constructing of cenotaphs are immensely costly operations in Korea, and there is no money at present in the Imperial exchequer.

The Korean Court has gone into mourning for three days because the portraits of the imperial ancestors were destroyed in the recent conflagration. All officialdom will robe itself in white, and the inmates of the palace will wear sackcloth and fare roughly. The existence of these portraits appears to have been hitherto unsuspected by foreigners. It is an interesting piece of news, and their destruction is to be deeply regretted for reasons which have probably failed to suggest themselves to the imperial mourners.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE COURT.

The Japanese gunboat *Maya* (643 tons) has left Shanghai, steaming up the river for Hangkow. Some importance seems to attach to this event, but the probable explanation is that the Imperial Court having moved to Si-ngan, Hankow becomes its port of communication with the outer world. Hankow, in short, now stands to the official capital in the same position as that previously held by Tientsin towards Peking. It is likely that the *Maya* will not be the only foreign war vessel to proceed thither. Our readers doubtless remember that the chief taxation bureau was recently transferred to Hankow.

GERMANY AND RUSSIA.

Telegrams from China show that the idea recently outlined in these columns begins to be strongly entertained in that part of the world also. People are becoming persuaded that Russia and Germany, each having an objective point which each can best attain provided that the other succeeds, are growing more and more disposed to play one another's game No distinctly formulated agreement is necessary, nor does any seem to be suspected. There is an automatic interaction between the movements of the two Powers. If Germany sits down in Shantung, Russia can rest happy in Manchuria; and if Russia remains in Manchuria, Germany may keep her grasp upon Shantung. It is easy for each to play into the other's hands without any display of *mala fides* to their allies. Russia, we have no doubt, was quite honest in her declaration of self-effacing intentions in Manchuria, just as England was honest when she disavowed any project of permanent tenure in Egypt. But the feet of great Powers are heavy to draw back: once planted, they remain. As for Germany, she violated a great many traditions when she seized Kiao chow, but having it in her grasp, she is under a kind of compulsion not only to keep her hand closed on it but also to secure the *hinter-land*. What is the use of hoping against the invariable teachings of history? Germany is at present under the irresponsible impulse of the expansive influence. She can not check herself.

ENGLISH.

Here are two specimens of English composition too admirable to be left in the "sequestered spots" of their original circulation:—

PANORAMA
OF
AIDZ-GREAT-BATTLE

Thes picture Mikado Restortion time Ther ar in Aidzu Severefighting, it is Show d fieat t matter, This Battle" Maji Revalution end, in Cuzation To day, Ther To Conjecture can not example Forgn, And Loyal Service patriotismTo Abandon Corpse thet Anaoun famous Rigion Fied Reputation Ther Ar of japan of old time True Hea e and patriotion.

UYENO PANORAMA & Co.

I by to relitru thanks to my muicraus custonuis for there mireanel supporr and take pleanue in natry thar mave

ENLARGED MY PPEMISES

of have pst imported my

NEW GOODS

comprisiv Cream Fleeces, Cashmere, Waterproof Cloths, Velvetesns Qerge Contnul Lanius, Check Dress Goods, Crapes and Crape Cloth, Satceus Figured and plain Satus, Hamuclelais Amazous, Corsets Ribbons fede

YAGIYA ICHIZO,
KOJIMACHI TOKIO.

GENERAL YUNG.

General Yung Lu, finding that his assistance at the peace conference does not meet with the approval of the Powers, has departed for Si-ngan. There is something to be regretted in this incident. So far as the public knows, the evidence against Yung Lu is not strong enough to warrant his ostracism. It seem certain, at all events, that had he been an actively assenting party to the attack on the Legations, they could not have escaped destruction. The benefit of that negative testimony might have been given to him. As things stand he may be expected to pass definitely into the anti-foreign camp, unless he is a man of singularly philosophic disposition.

PORTUGAL AND ENGLAND.

When telegrams were received here telling of General Carrington's movement *viâ* Beira into Rhodesia, we expressed the opinion that this operation had for its object the relief of Mafeking, an opinion which was ridiculed by certain local critics. It turns out that we were right, however. *The Times* of Sept. 3rd, speaking about the relations between Portugal and England during the South-African war, remarks incidentally that had affairs at Beira been administered by Portuguese officials like those at Delagoa Bay, "it is certain that no such facilities would have been afforded to the British Government and to British troops as those which were given to Sir Frederick Carrington's contingent when the relief of Mafeking was an object of extreme urgency, and Colonel Plumer's force was anxiously awaiting the help of the Canadian artillery." It is now beyond question that the Portuguese at Delagoa worked in the interests of the Boers throughout the war; and it further appears that England owed the courtesy she received at Beira, not to the Portuguese, but to the directors of the Mozambique Company, an association existing under British charter and endowed with large administrative powers, though subject to the supreme sovereignty of the King of Portugal.

OLD TIMES.

These comments of the *Spectator* on a book on Fulham deserve careful reading:—

One cannot complain even that the old Putney Bridge is a memory,—the famous bridge twenty years ago cherished as a relic of the picturesque past, two hundred years earlier dreaded as a terrible innovation. The funniest thing in Mr. Fèret's book is the reprint of a debate on April 4th, 1671, when Mr. Jones, Member for London, rose to assert that "the erection of a bridge over the River Thames at Putney will not only injure the great and important city which I have the honour to represent, not only jeopardise it, not only destroy its correspondence and commerce, but actually annihilate it altogether." The rest of the speeches read like an artfully composed parody. Sir William Thompson, after condemning the "visionary projects of speculative theorists," which delude the people with a belief "of increasing the skirts of the city, so that it may actually join Westminster," summed up as follows:—

"Sir, I, like my honourable friend, have taken the opinions of scientific men, and I declare it to be their positive conviction, and mine, that if the fatal bridge (I can find no other suitable word) be built, not only will quicksands and shelves be created throughout the whole course of the river, but the western barges will be laid up high and dry at Teddington, while not a ship be ongoing to us will ever get nearer to London than Woolwich. Thus, not only your own markets, but your Custom House will be nullified, and not only the whole mercantile navy of the country absolutely destroyed, but several West-country bargemen actually thrown out of employ. I declare to God, Sir, that I have no feeling on the subject but that of devotion to my country, and shall most decidedly oppose the Bill in all its stages."

Mr. Boscawen said that if things went on at that rate perhaps some gentleman would find out that a bridge at Westminster would be a convenience. Perhaps even two other bridges might be proposed. Perhaps some honourable gentleman would get up and "propose that such bridges should be built of iron (shouts of laughter)." Sir Henry Herbert deprecated all these "mad visionary projects" such as had begun of late to be proposed. "If a man, Sir, was to come to the Bar of the House, and tell us that he proposed to convey us regularly to Edinburgh in coaches in seven days, and bring us back in seven days more, should we not vote him to Bedlam?" Against this crowd of witnesses there was no one to testify except the post Waller, who did indeed point out that there were several bridges at Paris and Venice, and yet those cities prospered but his main argument was based on the fact that the King could not hunt in London, and to hunt must cross the water. It sounds incredible now, but by such arguments the whole business was put off for a matter of nearly sixty years,—till 1729.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

There are said to be good hopes of saving the *Katsuragi*, sunk off Vries Island (Oshima) She has not broken up, as was at first reported, and as she lies in water so shallow that her bulwarks are visible, it is thought that there will be little difficulty in floating her.

The Siamese Minister proceeded to the Palace on Monday and presented to the Emperor the insignia of the highest Siamese Order, which his Siamese Majesty desires to have conveyed to the Prince Imperial. After the presentation, the Minister was entertained at luncheon in the Shiba Detached Palace by Prince Iwakura, representing the Emperor.

There is another electric-railway dispute The Tokyo Electric Railway Company has obtained a charter for a line from Yotsuya to Kawasaki, and the Keihin Electric Company is now building a line along the seashore from Kawasaki to Shinagawa, But no charter has been granted for a .ine between Yokohama and Kawasaki The Keihin Company is now trying to obtain that charter, and the Tokyo Company is opposing it. Not that the Tokyo Company wants to build such a line on its own account. It merely seeks to prevent the line from being constructed, since the traffic on the Yotsuya-Kawasaki road would be seriously impaired if the Shinagawa-Kawasaki line were extended to Yokohama. The contention of the Tokyo Company is that as a Government railway already exists, there is no reason for an electric line.

Our attention has been called to the fact that a large part of Mr. Francis Penman's essay on Christianity in Japan, which was recently reproduced by us from the *Literary Digest*, was taken verbatim without any kind of acknowledgement from our own Monthly Summaries of the Religious Press of Japan. We think it right to let Mr. Francis Penman know that these extracts have been recognised.

News from Newchwang is to the effect that owing to the capture of Mukden by Russia the bean boats have ceased to come down the Liao, and the market price of that staple has undergone sudden and sharp appreciation.

The tobacco-growers of Hadano (in Sagami), are still in a state of discontent. They recently complained of favoritism on the part of the officials directing the monopoly, but on that occasion they were pacified. Intelligence now comes, however, that some six hundred of them made an attack upon the monopoly office on the 12th instant; that 80 police constables were sent from Yokohama to the scene, and that the trouble has not yet ended

Baron Iwasaki entertained Mr. and Mrs Angier at his Fukagawa villa on the 12th instant.

The Chinese Authorities at Mukden have the credit of raising a laugh amid the dismal circumstances of the time. Finding that the Russians were over-running Manchuria and occupying place after place, the Mukden folks despatched an envoy to Peking for instructions. They actually did not know that the Court had fled from Peking, and the envoy's astonishment was not small when he found the Celestial Capital occupied by foreign troops. The full round of his surprise will be completed when he returns to Mukden and finds it held by the Russians.

At the request of the Tokyo Harbour Construction Office, the agents of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have collected statistics, showing the quantity of goods that entered Tokyo by sea during 1899. The following are the figures :—

Kerosene	1,094,259	boxes.
Do for Senju	21,553	,,
Sugar	86,217	bags.
Cotton goods	235,204	,,
Wool	5,976	bales.
Hempen goods	62,725	,,
Machinery	3,883	lots.
Iron goods	1,260,502	parcels.
Iron pipes	23,523	pieces.
Telegraphic goods	42,158	parcels.
Foreign Barley	7,925	bags.
Fertilizers	164,352	parcels.
Flour	328,632	bags.
Kasu-mat	1,345,579	parcels.
Sundries	400,682	parcels.
Timber	132,964	lots.
Paper	20,432	parcels.
cereals	885,788	bags.
Drugs	8,891	parcels.
Sake	11,879	parcels.
Boats	13,395	,,

Major-General Okazawa, who was sent by the Emperor with various presents for the troops in North China, has brought back several articles which the troops, in turn, desired to present to his Majesty—weapons of war and such things The Emperor is said to have been specially pleased with two æolian bells (*fūrin*) from the eastern gate of Tientsin. These having been suspended for centuries in the open air, have acquired an exquisite patina, and their tone is said to resemble the soughing of the wind in pine boughs. To the Empress the Army sent a hair-pin which is said to be of extraordinary beauty. Apparently this was taken from the Palace in Peking.

Professor S. Tanabe, of the Kyoto University, has just returned from a trip to Europe. He travelled back to Japan *viâ* Siberia. Mr. Tanabe is one of the most gifted of the students educated at the former Engineering College. He was the chief engineer of the Lake Biwa Canal and the Hokkaido Government Railway.

We learn that we were misinformed as to Mr. Angier's travels in China. It was incorrect to say that he had been prevented by the Boxer riots from carrying out his programme of travel in North China. On the contrary he was fortunately able to keep just ahead of the troubles. He left Peking on the 2nd of June, the day before communications with Tientsin were interrupted, and he travelled by rail from Tientsin *viâ* Shan-hai-kwan to Newchwang, for though the road was not yet fully open for traffic, Mr. Kinder provided facilities on a construction train. From Newchwang Mr. Angier went to Port Arthur, whither he had been franked by M. de Giers. He was received there most courteously and allowed to inspect everything that was going on.

Public opinion is much excited against the master and crew of the *Matsumaye Maru*, which was recently lost near Esan-zaki near Hakodate. Some accounts say that the ship ran ashore; others that she took fire. All agree, however, that the master and the crew deserted her, leaving the passengers to shift for themselves, and that had not the *Mutsu Maru* gone to their assistance, they must all have perished. It is the first instance of such craven conduct on the part of a Japanese crew. They have all been apprehended and are now awaiting trial

Tsukiji has the honour of furnishing the first example of the sale of one of the treaty-created perpetual leases to a Japanese subject. Vernacular journals mention the Rev. Messrs. Imbrie, Thompson and Ballagh as the sellers, and say that the price obtained for a thousand *tsubo* was from 28 to 29 *yen* per *tsubo*. With the sale the perpetual lease disappears, and the land becomes the absolute property of the Japanese buyer

While Tokyo and Yokohama were enjoying exquisite autumnal weather on the 15th instant, a violent gale was blowing at Shizuoka, tearing up trees and levelling telephone-posts. Indeed, the first intimation that Tokyo had of the gale was the discovery that the telephone would not work.

The trade returns for Yokohama during the second half of September stand thus :—

Imports	3,846,455 *yen*
Exports	5,399,203 *yen*
Excess of Exports	1,552,758 *yen*

These figures must be very comforting to the tender-hearted folks who allow their dreams to be troubled by nightmares about the balance of trade.

It is stated that the Russian Representative in China has received instructions to return to Peking. M. de Giers may complain, not without reason, of the capriciousness displayed by his Government in regulating his movements. He seems to have been doing nothing but packing and unpacking his portmanteau for the past six weeks.

Yesterday the festival of *Kannamé* (rice harvest) was celebrated in the usual manner at the Imperial Palace. It does not appear that the rice crop has suffered appreciably from recent storms. At all events, whatever injury was done did not prove sufficient to attract public attention. The gale in Formosa on the 14th September, however, wrought such havoc that the Emperor has contributed a sum of 1,500 *yen* to the relief fund.

The Tokaido Railway having been at length supplied with sleeping cars, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* considerately publishes a note containing hints for passengers who make use of the cars. What we gather from the note mainly is that the accommodation in the cars is very restricted, that passengers are therefore recommended not to attempt to carry in any baggage; that as steam heat will be supplied in winter, wraps and rugs will not be required, and that it will be necessary for the passengers to transfer themselves from the sleepers to the cars at fixed points *en route*.

News from Shanghai says that one of the Chinese banks having closed its doors owing to losses incurred by one of its principal capitalists, two or three other banks became involved, and something like a panic resulted, the price of raw cotton falling sharply and the market for yarns being closed in consequence.

The attempts to raise the torpedo-destroyer *Niji*, which sank some time ago off the Shantung coast, have proved a failure. The *Toyohashi* and the *Ryojun Maru* went to her assistance, and at first the prospect of saving her seemed good. But owing to continued heavy weather the *Niji* finally broke into three pieces and the attempt had to be abandoned. On the other hand, reports from the scene of the *Katsuragi's* wreck say that although the hole in her side is of large dimensions, it is expected that she will be floated in a few days, as her bulwarks have been above the water from the first. Something, of course, will depend on the weather.

A ceremony was held in Fukushima pre-

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fecture on the 14th instant to celebrate the 18th anniversary of the reclamation of a part of Inawashiro Lake. Count Matsukata who, as chief of the Kwan-no-kyoku in the Home Department when the work was undertaken, took an important part in promoting it, was present at the ceremony, which appears to have been on an extensive scale. The Count delivered a speech describing the difficulties that had attended the undertaking. Especially embarrassing had been the attitude of the people of Aizu prefecture, who could not be persuaded that the outflow of the water through their district would be innocuous. A Dutch engineer had been asked to prepare a report, and had made a survey which showed clearly that no injury would be suffered by the Aizu districts. A meeting of the leading men and of the local officials was called to hear the report, and in the presence of Marquis Ito, then Minister of Home Affairs, Count Matsukata explained the whole of the facts to them. They agreed for the moment, but fearing that they might afterwards change their mind, not an hour was lost in starting the work. The Count then went on to describe how, in 1881, he had gone to Fukushima in advance of the Emperor's progress, hoping to find the tunnel finished and the water flowing, so that the works might be shown to his Majesty. But to his intense disappointment the water would not pass although the tunnel was completed. Finally through the unceasing exertions of the engineer, Mr. Minami, the water passed, and the great waterfall was created which is now about to be utilized for driving a cotton-spinning factory. Count Matsukata recalled how, at the sight of the falling water, he grasped the engineer's hand with tears in his eyes The result of the work has been that a poor district has become wealthy, and that a yield of thirty thousand *koku* of rice has been increased to a hundred thousand His Excellency concluded by reverting to his favourite subject, the necessity of educating a spirit of economy. He contrasted the savings-bank deposits of the Japanese people, averaging only something over a *yen*, with those of the middle and lower classes in England and America where the average is forty or fifty *yen*.

THE WEI-HAI-WEI REGIMENT.

This extract from *The Times* contains a very interesting statement :—

Sir,—The following extract from a letter received by the last China, mail from friend who knows the country and the people intimately a points, as he says, a lesson which cannot be to speedily impressed upon the British public, viz. :—

The splendid result of the Wei-hai wei experiment in the 1st Chinese Regiment. There are men who say that the Chinese people have in their hidden depths a love of their native land, a real patriotism which would make them rise in their millions at the first suggestion of partition or even of mild protectorates. They say that they would fight as so many Andreas Hofers, if their liberties are really threatened. Their liberties! And their love of country! But there are many people who believe this, and not all of these are without influence. Now, it seems to me that in the experiment which we have worked out in so short a time with such markedly good results at Wei-hai-wei there is a moral to be learned of very great and far-reaching importance to the whole civilized world, and to the Britisher in particular. For these men who have been doggedly following British officers whom they have not known for more than a few months, who have shown active and passive courage under fire and have behaved well and steadily where the greatest temptations for Asiatics to commit excesses stared them in the face, these men are drawn from the very class that makes the "Boxer" and the anti-Christian fanatic of Shantung. Nowhere in China has the anti-foreign spirit been more generally spread than in Shan-tung, but the 1st Chinese Regiment is picked from all parts thereof without distinction. In an early message on the movement now devastating the north I expressed the opinion that the "Boxers" were for the greater part simply paupers and criminals taking advantage of the splendid opportunity that offered when the rulers of the country openly urged them on to attack a certain class and despoil them with impunity. Poverty has more to do with the burning of missions and the looting of European houses than anti-foreign spirit, though, of course, there exists in China, as in every other country, a good deal of that primitive instinct which impels people to "heave 'alf a brick" at the stranger in their midst. (On this *vide* the chapter in "Chinese Characteristics.") Give these potential criminals good work under men they can respect and, above all, regular pay and good treatment, and they care not I assure you, under which king the Bezonian shall be. And yet another moral, but one that cannot be shouted from the roof tops at the present juncture—the Germans also had their Chinese regiment, when it came, however, to the time for active service, these not only deserted, but took their weapons with them and went over (this is the German official report as given to me) to the army of Yuan Shih-kai. The Shan-tung men say that the Britishers are the only people who treat them as men, not as animals, and there may be more in it than strikes the casual observer. The Chinese are not patriots, but they are capable of being something better than "Boxers."

Yours faithfully, FAR EAST.

THE MARCH TO PEKING.

From an excellent account of the march to Peking, telegraphed by Reuter's agent to London, we take the following extract :—

The last five days of the march to Peking were the worst and the troops were subjected to a terrible strain. The thermometer kept near 100 degrees, and sometimes it was even hotter than this. The country was deep sand, through shadeless fields of tall thin corn. The Japanese showed the greatest powers of endurance. They were provided with the best transport and made the pace. After the Japanese the Russians proved themselves to be the hardiest troops and the British and Americans were pushed to the utmost to keep up with them. General Fukushima said afterwards that the Japanese might have reached Peking two days before the relief was actually accomplished, and this is probably true.

The Japanese never seemed to rest. Their cavalry and scouting parties were threshing the country ahead, and on the flanks their outposts kept in constant contact with the enemy, pressing them so closely that the Chinese threw away their sleeping mats, cooking utensils, and clothes. Several hundred Americans dropped out daily owing to the effects of the heat, and even the native troops from India suffered almost as much. The international force left behind it a track of fallen men and dead horses. The soldiers drank continually from the muddy river and wayside wells, with the result that an epidemic of dysentery broke out. It should be stated, however, that the Japanese and Russians had a great advantage over the other contingents. They marched in the cool of the morning and evening. With four armies following a single road, the more enterprising got the right of way, and the others had to follow when they could or else fall behind. The Americans suffered most severely from the hardships endured, and towards the end the officers could only keep the men at work by appealing to their pride. "Don't let the Britishers beat you," "Don't let the Russians get ahead" were frequently heard.

The army transport was a unique spectacle. Miles of coolies, vehicles, and animals trailed behind the troops. Everything on wheels, from farm wagons to fashionable traps, was impressed into the transport service. Every Chinaman, horse, and mule in the path was commandeered. The Japanese had cows bearing packs, and the Russians camels. Chinamen pulled carts and staggered under heavy loads. Two hundred junks and scows bearing munitions were towed up the river by coolies.

Had the Chinese taken the offensive, most of the international transport might easily have been captured and its escort cut to pieces by small flanking parties. When it became apparent that the enemy were demoralized, the generals trusted the transport to luck and bent all their efforts on getting ahead. Only such an emergency as existed could have justified the hardships imposed upon the troops.

Reuter's Agency is informed that the allied forces which took part in forcing the entry into Peking consisted of :—

British.—1,832 infantry, 400 cavalry, 13 guns.
Russian.—3,000 infantry, 180 cavalry, 22 guns.
French.—400 marines and 18 guns.
Japanese. 6,600 infantry, 220 cavalry, 450 engineers, 53 guns.
American.—1,600 infantry, 150 marines, 75 cavalry, six guns.

THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES LEGATION.

We learn that Mr. Huntington Wilson has been appointed by the President to be First Secretary of the United States Legation, *vice* Mr. L. R. Herod, who retires from the service.

A CONTRAST.

We take the following from the *Literary Digest* :

In connection with the desperate situation of the little band of Christians in the midst of an alien people in China, attention has been called to another little band of people in Rumania, subjected to the deprivation of every civil right by their orthodox Christian neighbours, badgered and hounded by the police, and in constant danger of bloody persecution by the populace. We have already in the department of Foreign Topics referred to this anti-Jewish outbreak in Eastern Europe. The singular indifference of the Christian powers to this breaking of solemn treaty rights by the Rumanian Government, in contrast to their eagerness to rescue Christian missionaries from the heathen Chinese, is thus commented upon by *The American Hebrew* (August 10):

"International justice—we hear much of that now. A few hundred Christians locked up in Peking, menaced by Boxers, startle the world, and its armies invade foreign territory, regardless of life or expense. In Russia and Rumania alike, hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children endure continually what is a living death, but not a hand is raised in their behalf. No invasion of territory none to risk his life, not any expense, were needed, but a firm demand of the powers that treaty rights be respected, will bring Rumania to her senses.

'And the time will come when governments will have to raise their voices in protest! Not the claims of humanity alone will compel them, but imperative economic reasons. If those who are forced from Rumania crowd into other lands, pour into the cities and disturb the labour market and conditions of trade, the necessities of industry, unable to bear so large an influx of foreigners, will compel the powers to rise and demand that Rumania recognize as her children those born and nurtured on her own soil, and accord to them the rights of which she has cunningly deprived them."

SHIPPING COMPETITION IN FORMOSA.

The competition between the Douglas Shipping Co. and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha was thus referred to by the Chairman of the former company at the annual meeting in Hongkong on Sept. 29th :—

The unfortunate result of the year's working is naturally a matter of great regret to us all; and as indicated in the report, has been brought about by the keen opposition of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which Company, since April last, has run a steamer on the Tamsui line in addition to their Tamsui steamers, all being subsidized and encouraged by the Formosa Government. As stated in the report, there was some hope in the early part of the year, of a satisfactory agreement with this opposition Company, but after much procrastination, we were informed that nothing could be decided in this direction for the present. In the meantime they continued cutting rates to very unremunerative levels, and as, further, the imposition of differential duties in Formosa, diverted a large percentage of the traffic direct from Japan to Formosan Ports, we found it necessary to gradually withdraw tonnage previously engaged in the Formosa trade. So long as there was a prospect of an equitable arrangement with the opposition, and the continuance of a fair trade, I think most of you will agree that we could not abruptly sacrifice a connection which has consistently and liberally supported us in the past, assisting us to pay steady dividends, and build up a substantial reserve, a reserve gentlemen, out of which a bonus of $15 per share in 1895, and $2 per share in 1896 was paid in addition to dividends of 12 per cent.; in fact, since 1895, shareholders have received $41 per share, by way of bonus and dividends. As regards the present position, it is gratifying to reflect that we still retain the confidence of shippers, and should the former condition of affairs on the Formosa Lines return, even approximately, we have every assurance of commanding the best support. The Osaka Shosen Kaisha now circulate a fortnightly steamer on the Hongkong-Foochow line, but they will not on this run enjoy the semi-official favour and protection as in Formosa. I am glad to state that since the end of June, our earnings are fairly satisfactory, and prospects encourage us to confidently anticipate with a fleet of the class and efficiency that we possess, the return of prosperous years.

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FRANCE'S PROPOSAL AND JAPAN'S ANSWER.

UNDER her present Government France has given such proofs of sound and level-headed statesmenship that every suggestion emanating from her is received by the world with respect. To her belongs the credit of having put forward the only programme that looks at all like a working possibility for the settlement of the Chinese crisis. Her points—as the public learned some time ago—are understood to be that the heads of the anti-foreign rioters in China should be punished; that a suitable indemnity should be paid; that all exports of arms and ammunition to China, whether by individuals, firms or syndicates, should be interdicted; that two or three strong positions between Peking and Tientsin should be occupied by foreign troops; that the Taku Forts should be demolished, and that a body of troops of mixed nationality under one commanding officer should be posted in Peking. To these proposals Japan is understood to have made a favourable reply, excepting, however, the last item on the list, namely, that an allied force in Peking should be under the command of one officer. She points out that such a course would entail much inconvenience, owing, primarily, to the fact that there must be great difficulty in bringing under one control a congeries of detachments all speaking different languages. If the Powers are to post troops in Peking for the defence of the Legations, the better plan would be to have each under the orders of its own commanding officer as has always been the case hitherto. It seems to us that Japan is right in this matter. Indeed, the idea of placing the troops of all the Powers under the permanent command of one of them is so unpractical that we do not recognise in it M. DELCASSÉ's usual acumen and judgment. No more effective method of stirring up jealousies could be conceived. Probably the details of the plan are that each country should have the command in turn for so many months at a time; a species of school-boy rotation that does not commend itself to grown folks.

A telegram from London intimates that conferences held by the Powers have resulted in something like an agreement as to a basis of settlement. Judging from the terms said to have been accepted, France's note seems to have been followed very closely, the clause with reference to a single commander of the allied forces being, however, omitted, and one or two other conditions added. These supplementary conditions are that the system of appointing officials by examination should be suspended for five years, and that the Ministry of the *Tsung-li Yamên* should be reduced to one representative. For the rest, the punishment of the Boxer leaders, the exaction of an indemnity, the destruction of the Taku and Tientsin forts, and the interdicting of exports of arms, all figure in the basis, though nothing is said about occupying important positions between Peking and Tientsin. No doubt all foreign officials whose misfortune it has been to represent their countries in Peking, will have heart-felt sympathy with the proposal about the *Tsung-li Yamên*. That august body has hitherto exhibited, for purposes of business or negotiation, all the worst characteristics of a corporation which has neither a soul to be saved nor a body to be kicked. By adroitly ringing the changes on its septemvirate of obstructionists, its one Chinese and six Manchu members, the Chinese Government has hitherto succeeded in bewildering the ablest men that the West could send to deal with her. They have all found in Peking a diplomatic *cul-de-sac*, and they will continue to find it so unless this proposal now attributed to the Powers is carried into practice. The telegram adds that while all the Powers show a disposition to endorse these terms, all are agreed in condemning the idea of territorial partition. Nothing seems to have been formulated about the re-constitution of the Chinese Government or the return of the Court to Peking.

GERMANY AND SHANTUNG.

RUMOUR continues to insist that Germany has immediate designs upon Shantung. It is said that the forces now collected by her at Kiao-chow aggregate over ten thousand of all arms and that she only awaits an opportunity. There is here a chance for some really patriotic missionary. If any one were disposed to sacrifice himself on the altar of his country's aggrandisement, he has only to proceed to Chinan and preach a few anti-ancestral-worship sermons in the market-place. Doubtless he would find some accommodating Boxers to dispose of him, and then the play might open. Governor Yuan, it is alleged, declares his determination to oppose to the death any military aggression on Germany's part. Governor Yuan has a well disciplined and well equipped force under his orders, but it is altogether too small to offer any effective opposition. Exactly how many foreign-drilled troops he could muster, we do not know. We do know, however, that he has no officers to lead them, and that if Germany takes the field in earnest, she will do her work thoroughly. That is her way. It is not for us as Englishmen to hold up hands in horror. We, too, have been to Philippi. It may be noted parenthetically, however, that the mere fact of a large German force being collected at Kiao-chow need not have any sinister significance. The troops have to winter somewhere, and though the temptation to turn to some useful effect this powerful weapon which he has welded must be terribly sore to the KAISER, there is just a bare possibility that he may withstand it. If he does not, if it proves too strong for his morals, England certainly will not be the Power to pray for his Majesty's failure

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

IT really seems that there is a seriously entertained idea in diplomatic circles as to the necessity of punishing the EMPRESS DOWAGER, and that the opponents of such a measure urge the hopelessness of establishing a responsible and competent Government under a man so frail in physique and so little versed in administrative affairs as the EMPEROR. Undoubtedly when the Chinese crisis began to assume large proportions, the foreign public entertained a hope that it might end in the overthrow of the EMPRESS DOWAGER and the restoration of the EMPEROR to power. That would be the most satisfactory exit from the situation, and in such an exit would lie the best prospect of China's conversion to progressive ideas. But the experience of the past two months has shown that any extensive programme would over-tax the union of the allied Powers, and would probably lead to complications of a nature much too formidable to be complacently viewed. The Powers are not competent to do anything big in unison. The sooner they patch up some sort of arrangement, the better. If there were in the field any Chinese candidate for supreme authority who had shown himself able and willing to exercise it in the best interests of his country and of civilization, it might be sound policy on the part of the Powers to stretch out to him a helping hand. But there is no such figure on the horizon, and at present it seems that after the EMPRESS DOWAGER and her immediate *entourage*, the huge empire would have to look for nothing less than a deluge of anarchy. The Powers must work with the instruments that are available. They can not forge new ones. Probably the EMPRESS DOWAGER is not quite such a bad instrument as the foreign public have been led to suppose. We have never ourselves believed in her total blackness. Be that as it may, however, she must now be regarded as the one link that holds together the loose fabric of China's integrity. Remove her and the foreign Powers must be prepared for partition. Therefore the idea of insisting on her punishment is scarcely tenable, especially as the Allies themselves would have to undertake the task. Assuredly it could not be delegated to any Chinese subject.

THE FIGHTING ABOUT TIENTSIN.

The Times' correspondent sends to that journal a long and interesting account of the military operations at Tientsin. We extract the portions relating to engagements in which the Japanese were concerned. The first is the fight on July 9th:—

Obviously the most pressing need existed for the clearance of the rear and flank of the battery of British naval guns on the mud wall, and this the Japanese and English generals decided to combine to do, by a wide flanking movement to the south-west, working round eventually towards the north-east until the West Arsenal was captured and cleared.

The pivot of this movement was formed by a force of bluejackets and a hundred United States marines under Major Waller. As the main force swung round they were to advance under cover of the mud wall, the whole of the forces converging upon the arsenal.

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The advance to the south along the Taku road was led by the Japanese, who were thus upon the extreme left when the turning movement was made. Inside on their right came the British, who marched out in rear of the Japanese. General Fukushima devised and conducted the operations, assisted on the field by General Dorward. General Fukushima's force consisted, roughly, of 1,000 infantry, 150 cavalry, and two mountain batteries of six 5-in. guns each. General Dorward's command was made up from the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 1st Chinese Regiment, Hongkong Regiment, and a naval brigade under Admiral Seymour. His only artillery was a battery of four 2.5 muzzle-loading guns and two Maxims belonging to the Royal Asiatic Artillery, Hongkong. In addition there were 400 Russian soldiers acting as supports. The movement began at 3 o'clock on the morning of the 9th, the Japanese leading the way out the Ta-ku Gate in the mud wall and advancing to the south along the Taku Road. Having reached a point well to the southward of the racecourse, the force left the road and worked up through straggling villages toward the enemy's position until within 2,000 yards of it. Here, on some rising ground, our guns opened fire, which was at once responded to with spirit by the Chinese, and a brisk artillery duel continued for a time. During it the Japanese infantry worked round to the left, their flank being protected by the cavalry. Here was displayed perhaps the most striking feature of the day's operations—the extraordinary rapidity with which Japanese infantry can move. Japanese infantry do not double, they run, and what is more they keep on running. We watch the infantry of all nations here, and without doubt the Japanese are the fleetest, a fact, I take it, of some military importance. Their artillery was smartly handled, quickly brought up, and quickly fired, but there was no possibility of instituting a comparison on this occasion, as the only other guns out were the British muzzle-loaders, which, of course, could not compete as regards rapidity of firing with the handy little breech-loaders of the Japanese.

Under cover of the guns the infantry spread out to the left across the plain, certain companies keeping on towards the villages over in that direction, others, working in so as to take the ruined grand stand in the flank. It was a beautiful sight to see them go, but not for the Chinese who saw them come. No sooner did they see them than their fire slackened and we watched them retreating helter skelter over a bridge on their left. A moment or two more and then "Cease fire; the Japanese are in!" General Fukushima laughingly acknowledged the congratulations of British officers near him, and the order was given for the whole line to advance. It did so in a wide sweep, the enemy hastily retreating towards the north-west. Only on the left flank of the Japanese were any found. Not realizing probably the length of our line some 500 "Boxers" remained in a village some way to the right of the racecourse. Out of it they were driven by the Japanese infantry and ridden down by the cavalry, who went through them twice in dashing style, cutting them pretty well to pieces. Between the infantry and cavalry few escaped of this body of "Boxers." The Japanese claimed that they had killed 400 of them, but 300 is probably nearer the mark. The Japanese incurred some slight loss in dislodging them from the village, and a cavalry captain was killed in the charge. Three guns were taken and five "Boxer" banners. Comparing Japanese cavalry with Cossacks— the only comparison that can be made here so far—the former obviously lacks weight, both in men and horses, and for uses to which heavy cavalry is put might prove wanting; but for light cavalry work and scouting there seems to be no reason to doubt its efficiency. The small body out on the morning of the 9th certainly showed up very well. Another gun was taken in a village by the Japanese, making in all four guns (small Krupp field-pieces) captured. The only remaining opposition to the advance of the force on the arsenal was made by Chinese artillery at long range. It was not serious, and our whole force now converged on the West Arsenal, advancing in open order across the open country lying between the racecourse and the mud wall. As we drew near to the West Arsenal we could see the bluejackets and American marines advancing towards it under cover of the mud wall, and presently they went in over the wall with a cheer, and the Japanese flag appeared upon it. The Chinese had fled. There was to be no fight. The grumbling among the British officers was great. But the operations had achieved their end, the naval battery was relieved in flank and rear, and the settlements were subjected to no further cross shell fire. After shelling the mud houses outside the South Gate of the city and setting many on fire the forces returned to barracks before noon.

To the Japanese was assigned the most difficult and dangerous part of the operations. They were to make straight for the South Gate of the city, blow it up, and effect an entrance. The rest of the allied force then following up, it was proposed to take the city by working round on top of the walls. The tough part of the day's work was now about to begin, the Japanese leading the attack in the centre. On their right were the French. Two battalions of the 9th American Regiment under Colonel Liscombe were sent out to the left along the mud wall, where they remained a short while under its cover, preparatory to going over it to support the Japanese left. To their left again two companies of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers under Captain Gwynne were making ready to follow. Colonel Liscombe called on his men and instantly the whole dark blue line climbed up and over the wall and ran forward towards the city, from the old-world battlements of which a furious rifle fire was now pouring. As ill-luck would have it, Colonel Liscombe appears to have changed his direction under the impression that the Japanese urgently needed his help on their right. In any case, instead of keeping to their left, he crossed in their rear from left to right, and eventually brought up where the fire of the enemy was so hot that it was alike impossible to go on or to extricate his men from the position. He behaved with the utmost gallantry, not taking cover himself, but directing his men where to take it, and showing them a splendid example of courage and coolness. While thus occupied he was struck by a bullet over the heart, surely not an unenviable end for an old soldier.

The fact alluded to by this correspondent, namely, that Japanese infantry run and can keep on running when celerity of movement is desirable, indicates his keen observation. Of course, we that live in Japan are aware of the remarkable capacity possessed by the Japanese for sustained rapid movement. They can scarcely be said to have a great turn of speed, but they certainly have quite exceptional "wind." Probably they owe it to their rice diet.

The second fight described is the capture of the walled city of Tientsin.

But all this took some time to happen. In the meantime the Royal Welsh Fusiliers had gone over the mud rampart, and Captain Gwynne had found cover for his men in the position assigned to him on the left of that which should have been occupied by the 9th American Regiment. The extreme left was guarded by a company of the Hongkong Regiment, under Captain Rowcroft and a party of American Marines. From the inside of the gateway in the mud rampart the guns of the Royal Asiatic Artillery, under Major St. John, shelled the city wall, as did also the two batteries of Japanese field guns from the arsenal. The American field guns had been at work previous to this, but were now retired, having exhausted their ammunition. Along the mud wall to the right the naval guns thundered. For two hours from now a hot shell and rifle fire continued. Towards 10 a.m. the fire of the Chinese slackened somewhat and sanguine onlookers thought the end had come, but those informed as to the nature of the news which had been coming in from the fighting line knew better. Apart from this it could be seen that our men were still for the most part in the positions which they had taken up a couple of hours earlier. Some were taking shelter behind houses at the outskirts of the suburb surrounding the approach to the South Gate, others, to the right and left, in ditches or behind graves in the open. The Japanese storming party we could not see. They were evidently working up through the mud houses of the suburb towards the gate. Outside the city wall, between it and the suburbs, is a ditch dignified with the title of "moat" on the maps. In my recollection it was usually dry and so I found it the following morning, but even dry it was difficult to cross in the face of such heavy fire. A report came back from the front that the Chinese had destroyed the bridge by which the Japanese had intended to cross. Evidently things were not going so smoothly as had been anticipated, and by the number of wounded being brought back for shelter behind the mud wall it was plain to be seen that the losses were going to be very heavy. News of Colonel Liscombe's death had just been received. Six other officers of the 9th American Regiment were reported wounded, and two United States marine officers. From the 9th American Regiment came an urgent request for assistance, and the naval brigade which had been held in reserve was now ordered out. Commander Beattie with a company of seamen, and Major Luke with a company of marines from H.M.S. *Barfleur* went down to strengthen the Japanese right, and Lieutenant Philmore with a second company of *Barfleur* bluejackets crossed over to the right to support the 9th American Regiment. In reserve now only remained a company of 1st Chinese Regiment, some French and American bluejackets, and some Australian and Japanese bluejackets, hardly a sufficient force to protect the left flank if a descent were made upon it by the body of Chinese infantry and cavalry which during the whole morning had been up on the plain away to the westward. Their banners could be easily seen, but it was hard to tell how many troops there were. Fifteen hundred was the military estimate. But the possibility of their being but the advance guard of a larger force existed, and was somewhat disturbing. The slight slackening of the Chinese rifle fire noticeable about 10 a.m. proved to be only a lull. It grew fierce wherever and whenever our men showed any signs of moving, and continued so for several hours later. But our shell fire was clearly telling on theirs. Requests for more rifle ammunition came in from the fighting line about midday, and orders were sent in to hurry it out.

Clearly the action was going to last all day. At the outset many officers had prophesied that it would be all over by 11 o'clock. At a quarter-past 1 the look-out man reported to Captain Menzies, Chief of Staff to General Dorward, that the Chinese on our left flank were advancing. Had it been true, the position would have been distinctly awkward. General Dorward went down along the mud wall to the left, and, after a careful personal inspection of the enemy, came back satisfied that the force had not moved. In the position in which they were first seen they remained till late in the afternoon when they moved off apparently in the direction of the West Gate of the city. Hour after hour passed, and still we watched in vain for the South Gate to be blown up. Then came a letter from Fukushima to General Dorward saying that it was his intention to hold his present position throughout the night, and asking General Dorward to protect his left flank during it. General Dorward of course agreed, being very unwilling to withdraw under the circumstances. General Fukushima's plan was to throw a bridge over the moat under cover of darkness and resume the attack on the South Gate early in the morning. Up to this time General Dorward had received no message from the Russian general informing him of the progress of the operations on the left bank of the river. Contradictory reports were flying about. First we heard that the Russians had captured the battery of guns on the Lutai Canal with but little opposition, and that they were swooping down on the fort and the city from the east. Next the rumour ran that they had been repulsed with heavy loss, then, again, though successful as at first reported, they were retiring from the position captured and returning to barracks. Their operations were designed to be the leading feature of the day; those undertaken by Generals Fukushima and Dorward were assumed to be in support of, and to be dependent upon the operations conducted by the Russian general. It was therefore rather strange that he should have left General Dorward all day in ignorance of his movements. However, this failure to communicate had no practical result. General Fukushima had decided to remain where he was, and General Dorward to stand by him, before they knew for certain that the Russians had been successful. They had been very successful. After heavy fighting they had captured the batteries on the north bank of the Lutai Canal and pushing on to the north had destroyed the two Chinese camps. Leaving a force to attack the forts at dawn, the main body returned to camp in the evening, having lost in round numbers 150 men. I have already given some idea of the difficulties in the way of obtaining accurate returns of the casualties. On our side of the river they were far heavier. A constant stream of wounded seemed to emerge from the gateway in the mud wall. Outside to right and left of it they lay in long lines, often two or three deep. Splendid work was done by British naval officers and men and by the men of the 1st Chinese Regiment in bringing them in. Nearly all the American wounded were carried out of fire by our men, who returned again and again to get more.

Whatever the future may show as regards the active fighting qualities of the 1st Chinese Regiment they certainly possess in a highly-developed degree the quality of passive courage so often before displayed by Chinese coolies. The incident of the scaling ladders at Taku in 1859 is a well-known case in point. Major Pereira, of the 1st Chinese Regiment, was hit while making his third journey to the place where the 9th American Regiment were. Twice he went for their wounded and the third time to take them ammunition, men of the 1st Chinese Regiment accompanying him each time. Needless to say our own men, mostly of the naval contingent, were not behind in this way. The unexpectedly heavy casualties threw upon Major Watson, R.A.M.C., and Captain Bryanne R.A.M.C., very heavy work. They came up with the British troops sent from Hongkong, but, as may be easily imagined, their services was not confined to attending to their own men. As in all other respects, the Japanese army is splendidly equipped medically, but even their arrangements were inadequate thoroughly to cope with the number of their cases that came along. But though his losses were heavy General Fukushima expressed himself well satisfied at the end of the day. And, indeed, the fight was won. His knowledge of the Chinese told him that they would sneak away in the night. Most of them did.

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The Japanese met with but little opposition when at 3 in the morning of the 14th they crossed the moat, blew up the entrance to the bastion of the South Gate, scaled the walls and, opening the gate itself from the inside, admitted the rest of the force. The French were nearest to the gate when the Japanese flag went up over it, and they immediately rushed in and hoisted a huge tricolour on the wall, the British and Americans following.

Commenting editorially on the above, *The Times*, says:—

The interesting account of the fighting about Tientsin sent to us by our Special Correspondent shows, as usual, that intelligent foresight did not characterize our military preparations in that part of the globe. It is not exactly creditable to the wealthiest State in the world to learn that in some respects our equipment was distinctly inferior to that of the Japanese. The Japanese, for example, were able in at least one instance to employ excellent modern artillery where the British contingent had only obsolete muzzle-loaders, and the Japanese medical arrangements appear to have thrown ours altogether into the shade. It is consolatory, on the other hand, to see that the naval "handy man" was as handy and as useful as ever in improvising mountings for the big guns brought up from the ships, and to know that those guns proved highly effective in action. Our men, including our new Chinese Regiment, fought well, of course, as, indeed, did those of all the allies, but the brunt of the work fell on Japan, and the greatest share of credit for the ultimate success of the operations seems fairly to belong to her. Her proximity to the scene of action gave her great advantages, no doubt, but it is plain from every line of our Correspondent's letter that she has known, in this campaign as in the last, how to make the most of the splendid military gifts of her people.

THE GRASS-WIDOWER.

"She is a grass-widow; her husband is in some Indian service"

Saturday Review.

We have squired our wives for a full ten months—
Oh! they held us hard to heel—
And there's never a stitch of all their kit,
Our pockets did not feel.
We have lunched and dined, when disinclined,
We have danced with a gouty toe,
If now's the time for their widowhood,
Dear hearts! but we'll let them go!

The Song of the Grass-Widower.

He is the result of climate—a thing peculiarly Eastern. When the earth and the air swim in an unconquerable heat, when the heavens above are of brass, and the punkah swings without stay or cease, then the wife of his bosom tears herself limply away—to the Hills, if it be India; to Japan if it be our dear, disrupted China. From cool altitudes she writes to him of fires in the sitting-room, and such things – which at first sight would seem a refined cruelty. But he doesn't mind.

Upon the day of his wife's departure he puts on a look of furtive youth—he gives the impression of a gun at half-cock. He meets the men of his time—grass-widowers like him—with a manner of exaggerated bonhomie, but has a preference delicately shaded for "the ingenuous youth of nations," in whose company he reverts to a forgotten manner. He tiffins—even dines—at the Club, and partakes of the unholy joys of whisky-soda at hours usually sacred to the hearth. The habits of marriage are so strong upon him that he does not enter into his freedom at once, but gradually. He lifts the veil of respectability coyly, and looking upon a young world sees that it is good. The bright prospect invites him to remembered pleasures, and steps he towards it on a well-trodden way. Thus he becomes an anomaly—a married bachelor, a masterless slave, an unyoked captive.

Of the days of his freedom who shall tell? The Grand Stand knows him, far Trefancha hears his voice, and the houses of young and irresponsible friends stand agape for him. The smoke of many Perlas, the pleasant hiss of iced drinks, and the careless laugh which belongs to twenty-five and a debit balance with the compradore—these things arouse in him a zest for reminiscence. He wakes the memories of his unmarried days, gently at first, with a nice compunction, but more boldly, more copiously, as days go on. Perhaps he tints these stories—none shall judge. For grass-widowers conspire among themselves, to the end that the days that are gone shall show rosy-coloured—they extol the hogshead with a severe forgetfulness of the headache. And Twenty-five listens with rapt attention, flinching slightly to know that the young men of to-day are a weaker breed, lacking that gallant recklessness which distinguished their forbears. Those were sparkling days, when youth went free as air, when thought and action flew hand-in-hand along adventurous paths. Thus the grass-widower. And Twenty-five bites hard on a passing jealousy.

Two months is the limit of grass-widowhood. Then, by swift steamer, heralded by telegram, comes the wife of his bosom. She commences to arrive a full three weeks before the busy tender receives her at Woosung. She is reflected in her husband, in the finer shades of his deportment. Then it is that the grass-widower shows masterly in retreat. Quote him a story of his own, a pet exploit, and the airy hand that waves it off, the smile of gentle deprecation, seem to say, "Ha' done with callow youth. I, who have sported awhile, would wear again the garment of my manhood." So, with rare subtlety and finish, does the grass-widower return to the state of marriage. And upon a day, pranked out in clothes innocent of tobacco, he is carried to Woosung, and there greets his wife.

Poor grass-widower! From the clear, unclouded heights of bachelordom your toiling figure in the valley of marriage has something of pathos in it. Some day there will arise a man who will read you and know you, and you will live imperishably in words. For the present let this stand as a greeting from one who sees dimly your dramatic possibilities—an address to the twilight of your short life. For cool gales have come, and every tide washes up the travelling boxes of the better half. Your house is making ready for the coming of its mistress, your freedom is as a blown bubble, and you are marked down again for dire respectability. Ten weary months shall pass in dining and giving of dinners ere you shall taste again the sweets of Bohemianism. Twenty-five will be Twenty-six then—but no wiser. Only his laugh will be louder, and his debit balance larger.

To the goodly company of you, hail and farewell!—L. H. in *N.-C. Daily News.*

THE ORIGIN OF LIFE.

Sir William Turner, the new President of the British Association, dealt in his inaugural address with the progress made during the past century in his own special line of study,—viz., the science of the structure and organisation of the bodies of men and animals. After briefly recapitulating the various provisional hypotheses held by earlier investigators, and laying stress on the immense impulse given to research by improvements in the microscope and other methods and appliances, Sir William found the great starting point of modern biological science in Schwann's enunciation of the principle that the elementary tissues consisted of cells, and thence proceeded to a minute review of the progress of our knowledge of these "visible anatomical units." A great step in advance was made by the establishment of the proposition that cell-formation was a continuous development by descent—the *omnis cellula e cellula* of Virchow—as opposed to the doctrine of spontaneous generation or abiogenesis, now virtually abandoned. Passing thence to the growth of more accurate conceptions as to the structure and polymorphic character of cell-plasms and nucleus, and the difference between secretive and nerve cells, Sir William Turner reviewed the successive discoveries made in the last thirty years as to the shape, structure, function, and propagation of the group of organisms known as bacteria or microbes, on the economic value of which he laid especial stress, described the process which led to the formation in the egg of a bird of the embryo or chick: reviewed the progress made in morphology—in which science he placed Goethe as one of the pioneers—and concluded by describing the illuminating results of the Darwinian theory that variations could be transmitted by heredity to younger generations. In the course of an impressive peroration the President observed: "We know not as regards time when the fiat went forth, 'Let there be Life, and there was Life'" The last word of modern science offers no clue to the great mystery of the origin of life on our planet.

SERIOUS CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.

A carriage accident, which was unfortunately attended with rather serious consequences, occurred in Main Street on Wednesday afternoon about half past three o'clock. Mr. U. Durand had just left his stable yard at No. 83, driving a pair of young horses in a light brake or wagonette, when the horses were frightened and got out of hand, bolting up Main Street. In front of Brett and Co.'s premises the runaways dashed the wheels of the trap against the curb, nearly overturning the vehicle. Mr. Durand was thrown from his seat with great violence against the curb, and the frightened horses continued their mad career. On reaching the corner of the Chartered Bank, the brake collided with a lamp post and carried away one of the hind wheels, but the horses still continued their way at a gallop, dragging the three wheeled trap behind them. Just opposite Langfeldt and Co.'s store, the runaways encountered a string of drays laden with sugar. Into the first of these the maddened horses smashed at full gallop, with the result that the shafts of both vehicles were broken off, the brake over-turned and all three horses thrown down on their sides with violence, the two runaways on one side of the road and the dray horse on the other. All three were get on to their feet again, but the injuries they had received could not be determined at the time. In the meanwhile Mr. Durand had been assisted up by Mr. F. W. Thomas and taken into Messrs. Brett & Co's., where a little later, he was attended by Drs. Eldridge and Munro, and afterwards by five other medical men. He had received several cuts on the head, one rather severe, and some injury to his hip, besides a severe shock, but whether the injuries were serious could not be ascertained at the time. We believe that a betto or jinrikisha man was slightly injured.

We are glad to be able to state that Mr. U. Durand, who was thrown from a carriage on Wednesday afternoon, is improving, though he suffers from a very nasty cut on the head and a severe abrasion on the thigh.

CHORAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of members of the Yokohama Choral Society was held on Monday evening. Mr. J. T. Griffin in the chair. There was a small attendance.

The reports of the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer and the accounts were read and passed. The accounts showed a credit balance of *yen* 100.68.

Rev. E. S. Booth regretted that owing to lack of time he must resign his position of Hon. Secretary. Mr. S. H. Somerton was elected in his stead.

The former Committee were re-elected. Mrs. Griffin was elected President; Mrs. Poole, Vice-President, Mr. W. K. Vincent, Conductor; Mr. S. H. Somerton, Hon. Secretary; Mr. H. J. Sharpe, Hon. Treasurer; and Mrs. Wheeler and Miss Thomas, members of Committee.

After some discussion as to putting on Sullivan's Opera "The Chieftain" it was decided to leave to the Committee the decision of the advisability to prepare the opera for next spring and a ballad concert before Christmas.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Max	Min	Air Temp Lake.	State of Weather	Remarks in General.
Sunday, 7th	62°	58°	66°	Fine	—
Monday, 8th	60°	56°	66°	Fine	—
Tuesday, 9th	60°	58°	66°	Rain & wind.	—
Wednesday, 10th	68°	61°	66°	Fine	—
Thursday, 11th	62°	59°	66°	Overcast	—
Friday, 12th	62°	58°	65°	Rain	—
Saturday, 13th	63°	57°	65°	Overcast	—

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FERRIS SEMINARY.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

The twenty-fifty anniversary of Ferris Seminary was celebrated on Friday in Van Schaick Hall, 178 Bluff (Yamatecho). Public exercises took place at 3 p.m. to which all friends of the school were welcome, and the programme of which was as follows :—

INVOCATION.

Welcome .....Rev E. S. Booth
Chorus.....“Recessional”.....De Koven
Japanese Essay..“Congratulations”...Miss R. Inouye
Historical Address ....Rev. E. R. Miller
Organ and Piano Duet— { Mrs. Murohara
“Nocturne”—Chopin. { Miss Hayashi
English Recitation—
“The Teacher's Diadem” ...Miss Okada
Address... .... Miss Hirano
Song...“A Dream of Paradise”—Gray..Miss Hayash
Address ....Miss Matsuda
Vocal Trio—
a. “The Ocean Spray”—Richards { Mrs. Murohara
b. “Once Again the Day Hath Flown”—Abt. { Miss Asada / Miss Hayashi
Congratulatory Essays...Rev. K. Hoshino and others
Chorus—
a. “Seek Ye the Lord”—Andrus.
b. from Mors et Vita”—Gounod.

Benediction.

CHINA NOTES.

Major J. C. Moore, I.M.S., who has been ordered to report to the P.M.O. Expeditionary Force, cannot be found.

The Yangtze Viceroys are sending large supplies of men, money, military stores, and rice to the Court at Hsianfu almost daily.

It is stated that His Highness the Maharajah Scindia of Gwalior may shortly be expected to visit Shanghai, and the hospital ship *Gwalior* is shortly expected at Shanghai for duty.

The N.Y.K. steamer *Awa Maru*, which arrived in Kobe on Oct. 15th, brought 3,000 tons of English coal for the Japanese Government. Coal has been purchased by the Japanese Government in England to the amount of 60,000 tons and it is to be shipped by N.Y.K. steamers.

The approximate initial expenditure of sending the Indian troops to China is about £910,000, and the recurring monthly cost of pay is estimated at £34,000, all of which the Home Government will pay, thus considerably reducing the Indian military outlay for the year.

The World says :—“Commodore F. Powell has been given the good service pension vacant by the promotion of Captain Craigie to Flag rank. He is in command of the Naval Establishment at Hongkong, and is recognised throughout the service as an officer of great merit.”

By the M.M.S. *Sydney* there arrived at Shanghai Major Marchand, the hero of Fashoda. He came as a representative of France on the international commission composed of officers entrusted with the settlement of diplomatic questions and any difficulties arising between the different portions of the foreign corps.

Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., British Minister to China, left the Ewo Jetty at 3.55 p.m. on Oct. 9th to join H.M.S. *Snipe* in which he was taken out beyond the Woosung Spit Buoy to be transferred to H.M.S. *Orlando* for Taku. A guard of honour of the Baluchis was present with their music, and a large number of residents saw him off. He was accompanied by Mr. K. Willis of the Consular Service, and Captain E. C. Pottinger, R.A.

Wiring from Berlin, under date of October 5, the representative of the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* said :—The promise which the Emperor of China, Kuang Hsü, has given to H. M. the Kaiser, to punish the instigators of the rebellion in North-China, is—we are assured from an absolutely reliable source—considered a useful base for future peace negotiations. The political atmosphere is beginning to clear up, united action of the Powers confronting China seems absolutely assured, since President McKinley has now also formally consented to the punishment of the instigators of the Peking crimes. France too has sent a circular note to the various Governments which is practically identical with the German note.

The launch of the steamer *Meiyū*, built by S. C. Farnham and Co. Ld., for the Ichang trade, took place at Shanghai on Oct. 10th. Many members of the German community and a number of naval and military officers went by invitation on the steam-launch *Bremen* to witness the ceremony at the Cosmopolitan Dock. As the vessel left the slips the customary bottle of champagne was broken over the bows by Mrs. Korff, wife of the Shanghai manager of Messrs. Melchers and Co., for whom the ship has been built.

The Pom-Pom battery brought to Shanghai by the *Ashruff* consist so far of only two 1lb. Vickers-Maxim guns, but she brought a reserve of horses for the British troops. The squadron of Jodhpur Lancers under the command of H. H. Colonel Sir Pertab Singh, K.C.B., left Shanghai for the north in the transport *Mohawk* at 9 a.m. on Oct. 10th. General Creagh, V.C., and staff went on board to say good-bye to the gallant Colonel and his men, whose departure was much regretted by every one in Shanghai who is fond of sport.

The Dum Dum bullet would appear to have been absolutely abandoned. The Secretary for War has given definite instructions that no small arm ammunition shall be sent to China that could be regarded as expansive or explosive, and thus the recommendation of the Peace Conference is to be literally observed. There are four private firms engaged in the manufacture of small arms ammunition at the present time, and the instruction has been given to each of them.

The report presented to the nineteenth ordinary meeting of the Canton Insurance Office, Ld., on Saturday last gave the final accounts for the year 1899, and an estimate of the present year's working to Sept. 30th. On the 1899 account, the result of the year's working is a credit balance of $182,053.70 out of which and with the approval of the shareholders it was proposed to pay a dividend of 24 %, (=$12 per share) to shareholders, the balance, $62,053.70, to be carried to the current year's account. On the 1900 account, there is an estimated balance at credit of $597,492.

These are heroic days, remarks the *N.-C. Daily News*. A correspondent of an Indian paper has found a “Hero of Taku” in a certain Captain R. Dobrovolsky, of the Imperial Russian Forces. The writer says :—“The capture of Taku was made by him and his brave regiment after a great struggle, and he has already been decorated with distinguished orders by his own Government, and also by the German, French and Japanese. Captain Dobrovolsky spent a few hours in Colombo and resumed his journey homewards, where he will receive the personal congratulations of the Czar and his Government, and be recommended for promotion in the Army.” Strange, that in China we know nothing of him! Stranger, that one man—and a regiment—should have captured Taku!!

The following translation (from the *N.-C. Daily News*) of an Imperial Decree issued *en route* to Hsian (Si-ngan) on Oct. 4th, refers to the occurrence reported in the Saigon telegram :—“When the Imperial cortège was proceeding on its way to our new capital, Hsian, and while passing through, this morning, the village of Yian, district of Kiashiu, Shansi province, a certain madman named Kuo Têng-yuan, who styled himself a Boxer Chief, suddenly rushed upon the Imperial cortège with strange language and in strange attire (meaning thereby “with cries of vengeance and weapons on person”—Translator), thereby disturbing our line of progress (that is to say, there was an attempt at assassination—Translator). The said Kuo Têng-yuan was therefore summarily executed on the spot without trial. As for Ch'êu, magistrate of the said district of Kiashiu, who has been guilty of instigating and encouraging the Boxers, he is hereby forthwith cashiered and dismissed for ever from the public service.

[NOTE.—The summary decapitation of Kuo Têng-yuan without trial of any sort, must therefore contain itself something very serious which later news will perhaps explain.—Translator.]

Of the vessels recently ordered to the Far East to reinforce the British Squadron on the China Station, the cruisers *Isis* and *Dido* have made a record passage, said *The Times* of Sept. 1st. These two vessels when with the Mediterranean Squadron under Vice-Adm. Sir John Fisher at Castellamare on June 20, were at midnight suddenly ordered to go to Malta to be coaled, docked, and completed with stores, then to proceed to Hongkong as fast as they could. They left Castellamare at 5 a.m. next day and arrived at Malta at daylight the followed morning, and started on their long voyage at 8.30 a.m. June 23. The *Isis* arrived at Hongkong 11.30 p.m. July 15, and the *Dido* at daylight the next morning, not six hours afterwards. As time at Hongkong is always eight hours in advance of that at Malta, the *Isis* took 22 days and seven hours in making the passage. Both ships passing through the Suez Canal were unfortunate in meeting a considerable number of ships going in the opposite direction, and they took 20 hours in getting through. They coaled at Aden, Colombo, and Singapore, but, owing to the primitive arrangements at the two former places, they were delayed about 24 hours at each. The actual sea speed maintained by the *Isis* for the whole passage, which is about 7,500 miles, was 16.3 knots. It is by far the fastest passage ever made to Hongkong and reflects great credit on the ship and engine-room staff. The *Isis* and *Dido* are sister ships of 5,600 tons, and were built and engined by the London and Glasgow Company at Glasgow.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The foreign and Japanese banks were closed on Wednesday in celebration of the Harvest Thanksgiving.

The first snow of this year fell at Sakai, Hoki province, and Iwateyama, Iwate prefecture, on the morning of the 16th inst.

The Russian volunteer steamer *Saratoff* with 55 officers and 516 men, left Nagasaki for Vladivostock on the evening of the 16th inst.

The Japanese war-vessels *Shikishima*, *Matsushima*, *Tokiwa*, *Chiyen*, and *Satyu* arrived at Fukuoka on the 16th inst. from Saseho.

The steamer *Hoko Maru*, which received some damage at Formosa some days ago, arrived at Nagasaki on the 16th inst to be repaired.

The French chartered steamer *Melbourne* with 280 men, arrived at Nagasaki from Taku on the 16th inst. and after coaling left for Saigon.

The Japanese Government chartered steamer *Ogura Maru* arrived at Ujina with 412 troops and 166 horses on the 16th inst. from North China.

A collision occurred between some goods cars at Tabata Station on the Nippon Railway, early on the morning of the 16th inst. Two goods cars were damaged.

The Japanese sailing ship *Kishiyei Maru*, belonging to Den Yohei, of Tsuruga, Fukui Prefecture, left Hokkaido laden with manure on the 10th inst., bound for Osaka. She struck a sunken rock near Retbun Island and sank.

A maid servant named Arai Fumi, employed by Mr. Nishimura Michihiko, living at Kobikicho Kuchome, Kyobashiku, Tokyo, capsized a kerosene oil lamp in an upper room on the 15th inst and in trying to extinguish the fire with her sleeves was so badly burned that she died in the hospital the following day.

Judge Kato, Chief Prosecutor Kosaka, and Procurator Suzuki went to Hadano, Kanagawa prefecture, on the 16th inst. and inquired into the trou

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ble of the tobacco growers. Afterwards the headmen of the rioters, Takahashi Naojiro, Higashi Hadano-mura, and Yamaguchi Tasuke, Minami Hadano-mura, were arrested and sent to Yokohama.

Two burglars, one of them armed, entered the Saifukuji Temple at Kamakura on Oct 15th and extorted 60 *sen* from the couple of aged caretakers, whom they also compelled to prepare food for them.

The U.S.A. transport *Kintuck*, which arrived at Nagasaki on Friday morning from San Francisco, with 6 officers and 99 men as well as 752 horses on board, left on Saturday morning for Manila.

A foreign cyclist, after passing a number of Japanese in Naka-yamate-dori, Kobe, on Tuesday, was knocked off his wheel by a stone, presumably thrown by one of them. They ran off without molesting him further.

The Austrian steamer *Maria Teresa*, chartered by the Russian Government, has arrived at Nagasaki from Odessa, *en route* to Vladivostock. She had on board 67 Russian officers and 504 men, as well as a large quantity of ammunition.

M. Delauney suggests that the "canals" and "seas" of Mars are in reality fogs caused by evaporation in the rare atmosphere of the planet, and the "doubling" of the "canals" in summer he thinks an effect of increased evaporation.

The conversion of the German transport *Wittelkind* into a hospital ship is rapidly proceeding at Nagasaki, and from present appearances the ship will be ready for sea in a very short time.

It is stated that there are in Yokohama 55 foreigners who have failed to pay the national and other taxes imposed on them. They will be proceeded against by process of law.

A coolie named Watanabe Kyujiro, living at Kitagata, Yokohama, was arrested on the 16th inst. on a charge of stealing 12 bundles of iron valued at 76 *yen* from the Yokohama Trading Godown, belonging to Ogawa Tasaburo of Aioicho Itchome, Yokohama. He sold 6 bundles to an iron shop kept by Ito Kotaro, Ogicho Itchome, for *yen* 2.50 and 6 bundles to a *sendo* at Minatocho, for 13 *yen*.

An alarm of fire was given about 1.30 a.m. yesterday by the look-out at the Fire Brigade station. Supt. Morgin with a hose reel and a stand-pipe proceeded to the spot and found a house on fire at No. 72, Minami-naka-dori, Shichome. The native brigades were also promptly on the scene and with plenty of water available were able to check the spread of the flames, but, owing to the strong northerly wind, not before eleven houses were destroyed.

A civil suit has been raised by the Toyo Shokai, a Japanese firm in Yokohama, against Mr. James Dodds, representing Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. It is alleged that the plaintiff shipped a cargo of lead pipes from Glasgow on the steamer *Stentor*, for which the foreign firm is the local agent. On the arrival of the goods at Yokohama it was found that some of the pipes were damaged, and plaintiff claimed *yen* 400 damages. An attempt by Judge Matsuda recently to get the parties to consent to a compromise failed.

Dr. Alfred von Flesch has been appointed Consul of Austria-Hungary at Chicago, vice Mr. Alexander Nuber, who has been acting consul-general in New York and has been selected as consul at Pittsburg. Dr. Hans Schwegel, imperial and royal attache, who has been acting as consul in Chicago, has been promoted to the vice-consulship.

Dr Alfred von Flesch was born in 1859. He first served his country in Egypt, and afterwards was made vice-consul at Odessa, Russia. After having occupied posts at Bombay, Bucharest and Berlin, he was transferred to Yokohama where he remained until last year.

A charge of fraud instituted by Mr. D. H. Blake, of the American Trading Co., against Morofuji, an employe of the firm, and Uyano, a silk dealer in Otamachi Shichome, owing to some misunderstanding in a business transaction, has been dismissed by the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho.

A woman named Shimizu Matsu, was arrested in a bazaar known as the Toyokan, Isezakicho, Yokohama, on the evening of the 14th inst. and charged with stealing articles of the value of 8 *yen* from several shops. The stolen articles were found in her *obi*. She was accompanied by another woman who escaped.

The big fire at Mongkoksui, near Kowloon, is supposed to have been caused by the carelessness of a Chinaman cook. During September, says the *China Mail*, the Central Fire Brigade have had no fewer than nine calls to attend to. There were four outbreaks in Yaumati, four in the Central District, and one a false alarm. It is stated that at the recent big fire $40,000 was lost in launches alone.

The public hearing of a suit brought against H. R. Raspe, representing Messrs. M. Rapse & Co., by Nishida Yoshimatsu, No. 50, Shinmachi, Minamidori, Nishiku, Osaka, claiming the surrender of a promissory note for £1,000, on which *yen* 924 had been paid and offer of a further payment of *yen* 96 been made, took place before Judges Kamada, Nozawa and Hiyama at the Kobe Chiho Saibansho, on Oct. 11th instant. The hearing was adjourned till the 25th instant.

The British hospital ship *Maine*, the gift of American ladies to the British for service in South African waters, arrived at Nagasaki on Saturday morning from Taku and Wei-hai-wei, with 6 officers and 96 men, either wounded or invalided. She had a fine passage across from Taku, but reports that two deaths occurred at sea. The *Maine* left for Yokohama on Wednesday with 7 officers and 50 men, who are her sick to be brought to the British hospital here.

The *Board of Trade Journal* states that the Dead Sea is to have a line of motor boats. Owing to the continued increase in traffic and the influx of tourists, a shorter route is to be found between Jerusalem and Kerak, the ancient capital of the Land of Moab. The first little steamer, built at one of the Hamburg docks, is about 100ft. long An order has already been given for the building of a second steamer. The one already built is named *Prodomos* (that is, "forerunner") It will carry 34 persons, together with freight of all kinds. The promoters of this new enterprise are the inmates of a Greek cloister in Jerusalem. The management of the line is in German hands.

It will be seen from the official list of awards at the Paris Exhibition, that Huntley & Palmer, Ltd., of Reading and London, have been awarded two "Grand Prizes" for their plain and fancy biscuits for home consumption and for exportation. This is the second occasion upon which the jury of a Paris Universal Exhibition have conferred upon Huntley & Palmer, Ltd., the highest honours obtainable. In 1878 the jury, in awarding to Messrs. Huntley & Palmer, Ltd., the only "Grand Prize" given to the Biscuit Industry, expressed their judgment in the following terms:—"Unrivalled House known throughout the world for its enormous production and the excellent quality of its manufactures." The jury of 1900 have enhanced the value of their renewed award by the addition of the following special mention:—"This firm has not ceased to progress either in the extension of its business or in the excellence of its manufactures."

The Feast of St. Bartholomew, 1900, will indeed be a memorable one in the history of the Church in Australia, where, on the occasion of the consecration of the Venerable Gilbert White, Archdeacon of Queensland, to the See of Carpentaria in Sydney Cathedral the offertory for the Australian Board of Missions was probably the largest on record—£8,500. The Archbishop of Sydney was the consecrating prelate, being assisted in the laying on of hands by the fourteen Australian Bishops and the Bishops of Nova Scotia, Tokio, New Guinea, and Melanesia. There were 300 clergy in the procession, and an enormous congregation, including all ranks, from the Governor downwards. The office of the Holy Communion was sung to music by Dr. Martin, of St. Paul's Cathedral. It is believed that the largest offertory in the Victorian era was that in Llandaff Cathedral—the preachers being Bishops Wilberforce and Ollivant—on the occasion of its reopening, after being practically in ruins; but that included a large cheque from the Marquis of Bute.

One thousand two hundred boys and girls belonging to the Ishikawa Primary School had their autumn picnic on Tuesday on the large piece of ground at the back of Takigahira break water, Negishi. The boys and girls gathered at half-past eight o'clock at the school, where a procession was formed, headed by 225 boys belonging to the cadet corps, carrying rifles. All the children marched to the sound of the National Anthem. Arriving at Takashira at 10 a.m., various evolutions were carried out very prettily. Then a May-pole was set up, and the little girls went through the weaving of the May-pole drill in approved kindergarten style.

One thousand three hundred scholars of the Kotobuki-cho school held their picnic the same day on a piece of ground near the race-course.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirty-fourth ordinary meeting of the China Traders' Insurance Company, Ld., to be held at Hongkong on the 23rd instant, shows that the net Premia for the year ended 30th April last, amount to $1,150,004.06 and the Working Account shows a balance at credit of $476,862.64, which sum the Directors recommend be appropriated in the following manner:—

	$
A Dividend of 16 per cent. to Shareholders ($4 per Share)	96,000.00
A Dividend of 15 per cent. on Contributions, payable to all Contributors of business whether Shareholders or not...	125,000.00
To be carried to New Account	255,862.64
	476,862.64

Mr. Poultney Bigelow contributes to the *Contemporary Review*, under the title of "What I saw in Kansas City," a lively account of the Democratic Convention at which Mr. Bryan was nominated for the Presidency of the United States. The journey to the trysting place in a sleeping car was entertaining enough. On the way Mr. Bigelow encountered a fellow-traveller of the "Silver" persuasion, who had a novel argument to advance for his party's platform. The Silverist laid down the doctrine that the first duty of a good Government was to make money, not to leave it to "selfish private bankers." But why not, asked Mr. Bigelow, go in for a brass dollar—it would cost less than silver? To this he got a crushing answer:—"No, sir, silver it must be, because silver is the stuff first mentioned in the Bible as legal tender—silver is the coin of manifest destiny—when Abraham was buried they paid the undertaker in silver—and you can't go behind that."

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Saturday morning, before Judge Fujise, a Chinaman, named Lu Chung, of No. 6, sued Chen Shou-peng, of No. 183. Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Fujiwara and defendant by Mr. Akiyama. Plaintiff's case was that defendant, in November and December of last year, entered into contracts, through the medium of plaintiff, with Mr. J. R. Morse and with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. for a loan of *yen* 25,000. Defendant, however, did not borrow the money and did not pay plaintiff the commission agreed upon. Plaintiff, therefore, claimed payment of *yen* 438. Defendant said he did not make the transaction through the medium of plaintiff, but through the instrumentality of Mr. C. W. Ure. Messrs. J. R. Morse and T. A. Singleton were examined as witnesses, the former stating that he had advanced *yen* 1,000 to the defendant through the medium of the plaintiff, while Mr. Singleton deponed that he agreed to loan the plaintiff *yen* 20,000, but was afterwards told by the latter that the money was not needed. The Court acceded to the motion of the defendant to summon Mr. C. W. Ure and a representative of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. as witnesses and adjourned *sine die*.

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ENGLISH NOTES.

Col. Sir Alfred Gaselee, K.C.B., who is now commanding the British troops in China, has been selected for appointment as Quartermaster-General in India, with the rank of Major-General, succeeding Lieut-Gen. Badcock, C.B., who resigns.

The longevity of East Anglian sea-dogs (says the *Newcastle Chronicle*) is proverbial, but few vessels' crews, drawn even from this hardy class, can compare in point of age with the muster of the *William Crow*, the vessel that was wrecked off Hartlepool during a recent gale. The age of the captain was 70, that of the mate 69, the A.B. 68, and the "ship's boy" 72. The vessel carried a big spread of canvas, and it is the proud boast of the crew that all sails were closely reefed when the vessel went ashore.

Judging from a return just issued, there is still a good deal of shebeening in Ireland. In Dublin alone during the fifteen months ended May last there were 795 prosecutions and 678 convictions for this offence. Imprisonment was imposed in 396 cases, and in Belfast, where there were 91 prosecutions and 85 convictions there were 11 cases of imprisonment. Cork and Limerick each represented but two prosecutions, and only in the latter city were there convictions. Waterford came next to Dublin, with 28 prosecutions and 22 convictions, but here there were no cases of imprisonment.

Holders of all classes of Australian securities will read with interest a carefully compiled table of trade statistics which appears in the *British Australasian*. From this it appears that the total trade of Australia in 1899 reached almost £14,000,000 above the highest previously touched, and 15½ millions more than in 1891, two years prior to the great financial crisis. In 1894 the low water mark of £109,691,000 was touched, whereas in 1899 the total is £160,498,000. This result, says our contemporary, "has been achieved in the face of very adverse seasons, which, it is estimated, has cost the colonies nearer 200 than 100 millions, and following a financial crisis which brought losses of more than £10,000,000."

Seaweed seems to be almost as productive of bye-products as coal-tar. The following articles, states the *Oil and Colourman's Journal*, can be made from it:—1. Sodium can be extracted through the aid of acids. From the offal can be produced (2) an admixture to so-called size paint (instead of using Iceland moss). 3. There is also obtained from sea-weed a finish for use in cloth mills, and this product can also be used as a glue for paper. 4. The half fluid-like pulp can be made into a kind of leather for binding books. 5. The pulp may be coated on sheeting, whereby is produced a kind of oilcloth, and the pulp can also probably be used in the manufacture of linoleums. 6. Mixed with silex, the pulp can serve as an insulting material for piping. 7. Finally, seaweeds can be used by the soap manufacturers.

An arrest has been made in connexion with the robbery from Parr's Bank, Bartholomew-lane, in January last year of £60,600 in notes. The accused is Edwin Goss, of Norfolk Villa, Stanley-road, South Woodford, who at the time of the robbery was a clerk at the bank. About twelve months ago he left Parr's service, stating that he was going to marry a lady who had money. It will be remembered that shortly after the robbery notes of the value of £40,000 were returned to the bank by an anonymous sender through the post. The prisoner according to the evidence of a detective-inspector has admitted cashing some of the notes, which he declares he found in the pocket of a coat he had hung up in the lavatory of the bank.

Quite unexpectedly, states the *Daily Telegraph*, the Worshipful Company of Joiners has regained possession of its valuable corporate seal, which had been missing for nearly a century. The seal dates back to the year 1551. The curious feature is that it was formerly kept in a chest having three locks and three keys, and how it ever went astray no living man knows. It was, however, recently restored to the guild by Aldermen Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale, who, in casually examining a collection of old seals acquired by his father, found the missing property. The long-lost article has since been presented to the guild by Sir Joseph, who, in acknowledgment of the discovery and the gift, has received an emblazoned vote of thanks, bearing at the foot the impress of the seal, this being the first use to be made of the restored property.

Over two months ago a letter was posted at Battersea, addressed to Farringdon-street. It has now been returned, according to a correspondent in a contemporary, from Bagdad.

Mr. Clark Bell, an American lawyer, had a private interview at Aylesbury Prison lately with Mrs. Maybrick, who is at present located in the prison infirmary. She is suffering from a gastric complaint and had a very jaundiced appearance She still asserts her innocence.

On August 31st the steam trawler *Empress* towed into Hartlepool a huge whale measuring over 80 feet in length. The monster was caught about 13 miles off Hartlepool, and its presence in the harbour created quite a sensation, as it had all the appearance of a derelict being towed in. It is the largest whale ever caught off the north-east coast

We learn from recent London papers that among London members who did not contest their seats again were Sir Samuel Montagu in Whitechapel; Mr. Harry Marks in St. George's-in East; Sir H. M. Stanley in Lambeth, Mr. Lafone in Bermondsey; and Mr. Bailey in Newington.

An attempt to swim across the English Channel, which was made on Sept. 5th by an Austrian lady, Mme. Walburga Icacescu, ended in failure. The lady started from Calais at 7.30 A.M. and abandoned the attempt at about 6 in the evening, as a heavy mist had settled on the water. She had swum a distance of about twenty miles.

It is understood that Lord Salisbury has decided to resign the office of Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, and that he will be succeeded by Mr. Arthur Balfour, who will find Walmer Castle a convenient and agreeable country residence, especially for "week-end" visits during the session of Parliament, Walmer Castle has been usually closed since Lord Salisbury's appointment as Warden of the Cinque Ports.

Seven human skeletons well preserved, with enamel on quite white teeth, were dug up on the common at Larlyn Bay, Padstow, on Aug. 18. They were in slate coffins, and the legs were doubled back, and lay in diverse directions, indicative of Pre-Christian burial. The skulls are very thick and long, which leads to the belief that they belonged to an ancient and savage race. Mixed with the earth were many pieces of pottery, some deep blue pigments quite moist and flints in various shapes.

Sir Charles Warren landed in England on Aug. 25th. The Central News states that he has submitted to the War Office a detailed explanation of his action at Spion Kop, in which he contends that the hill might not have been lost if Colonel Thorneycroft had not been given the command on the summit, and ordered the retirement of the troops without his knowledge. On arriving at Ramsgate, Sir Charles was the subject of hearty demonstrations, and in the evening he spoke a few words to the crowds from the Mayor's balcony.

Bugler Dunne again appeared, by command, before the Queen on Aug. 31st. He arrived at Cowes with Capt. Bromilow, of the Dublin Fusiliers, and was in his uniform, and carried the bugle which the Queen gave him. A Royal pinnace conveyed him across to Trinity Wharf, where a carriage was waiting to take him to the Castle. The Queen received Dunne on the lawn. Her Majesty, after making gracious and kindly inquiries of the lad, told him he must not go out to the war again, as he was about to do. Dunne, after partaking of some refreshment at the Palace, left for Portsmouth. He appeared dejected at his Sovereign's command, as he had hoped to see more fighting.

When the last mail left London a movement was on foot in Northampton to call a meeting of the electors to consider what action should be taken with regard to Mr. Labouchere's complicity in the South African correspondence. Complaints are being made by travellers of the staple trade of the harmful and humiliating influences to the town and trade by Mr. Labouchere's association, and the disagreement in Radical ranks is very marked.

At the sitting of the Hospital Commission, in London on Sept. 12th evidence of a startling and sensational nature was given. Lord Stanley stated that the presence of Mr. Burdett Coutts at Bloemfontein caused others to apply for permission to go there, and this embarrassed the authorities, who tried to prevail upon him to return to Cape Town. He refused, and threatened if ordered back, to make a bad report on the Hospital conditions. The threat had no deterrent effect, and Lord Roberts compelled Mr. Coutts' departure, and hence the sensational story appeared in the *Times*.

A remarkable engineering feat has just been accomplished at the Agecroft Colliery, near Manchester. The colliery is the second deepest in England, the shafts going a perpendicular depth of 725 yards to a rich trencherbone seam. It has only recently been opened, and in connection with the machinery outfit three large boilers were got down the shaft complete and ready for fixing. It is the first occasion in connection with colliery developments that such a feat has been accomplished, boilers having previously been sent into mines in pieces and fitted down below.

There seems at last to be real foundation for the reports of Sir W. White's immediate retirement from the post of chief construction of the British Navy. It has been a matter of common knowledge for months that this was impending, though there was doubt as to when exactly it would come. No constructor has left a more powerful impress upon any navy than Sir W. White upon the British; indeed, something more may be said of him—that he gave the world the finest type of battleship yet designed. In the *Royal Sovereign* he built a vessel which is the direct progenitor of the *Indiana* and the various United States battleships, of all the Japanese ships "which are fit to be in the line," and of the German and Russian fighting ships.

Quite recently the Bishop of Lagos escorted Mrs. Randle, an African lady, and her two little children, by Royal command, to Windsor Castle, where Her Majesty received the visitors with the utmost cordiality, and gave presents to the negro children, whom she kissed. The Queen has long taken the warmest interest in this West African family. Many years ago the then King of Dahomey gave a little slave girl, who was of Royal blood, but captured in a slave raid, to the late Captain Forbes, commanding a British cruiser. The captain brought the child to England and introduced her to the Queen, who became godmother to the little African girl and had her well educated. Ultimately she married a negro merchant in Lagos. She had a daughter, who likewise became the Queen's godchild and was educated at the Queen's expense. It was this daughter, now Mrs. Randle, who visited the Queen with her children

The *Bombay Gazette* gives a curious example of the wisdom of discretion in dealing with recalcitrant native villagers where plague is concerned. A fishing village at Worli, on the Bombay coast, with a population of from four to five hundred souls, was attacked by plague, over 60 succumbing in two or three days. The authorities ordered the evacuation of the village, and offered to assist with materials or otherwise in the construction of huts on another site. The villagers turned out armed with boathooks and iron-shod sticks, and positively refused to move from their old quarters. It would have required some companies of infantry to compel compliance. The contumacious villagers were informed that if they preferred to die where they were, they were free to do so.

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The next day they improvised tents and huts with sails and mats on an excellent site chosen by themselves, and removed there with wives and families. The women returned to the old village every morning to take from the underground grain stores the day's supply of food. The plague ceased as if by magic.

Ranjitsinhji's 220 against Kent on Aug. 30th enabled him to achieve an extraordinary record —that of scoring 11 centuries in one season. On Aug. 31st, Abel equalled this feat by scoring 193 against Derbyshire, while Hayward has tied Dr. Grace's record of 1871. The three leading batsmen's scores are as follows :—

Abel.	Hayward.	Ranjitsinhji.
221	193	275
165	146	222
153*	131*	215*
137	127	202
135	124	192*
120*	120*	158
112	120	158
110	118	127
104	111	109
103	108	103
193	—	220

* Signifies not out.

A great national as well as a great civic institution is the Mansion House at all times, remarks the *Globe*, though it is rarely so clearly illustrated as it is to-day by the publication of the figures in connection with its various Funds. First and foremost, of course, comes the War Fund, which shows the very handsome total of £1,001,000, a sum which, standing by itself, is a sufficient answer to the croakers who declared that the English people were becoming callous to the sufferings of others. In fact, it is nearly double the amount (£550,000) raised in 1897 for the Indian Famine Fund. But it does not stand alone by any means. £287,000 was subscribed for the refugees and C.I.V.s, and the last-mentioned may be regarded as a matter of peculiar concern for the City. It was thought and said that the drain of the War Funds would have made it impossible to collect any substantial sums for charitable purposes. Yet the appeal for the Indian famine sufferers has produced £358,000, and the subscriptions to the Ottawa Fire Fund have reached £54,000. And it must be remembered that these funds are totally independent of certain newspaper and other collections in London and throughout the country on behalf of sufferers by the war, while India and the Colonies have also made substantial voluntary contributions in money, in addition to patriotic sacrifices of other kinds.

The terms offered to the Taff Vale Railway Company were submitted to a meeting of the men on August 31st by Mr. Bell, secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, who described them as disappointing, but as nevertheless, under all the circumstances, a satisfactory solution of an unfortunate dispute. He pointed out that the men had acted hastily, and that their action might have involved the society in a very considerable expenditure. The terms, which were formally accepted, are practically those offered by the company at the earlier stages of the dispute, and provide for the formation of a conciliation board by the four or five local railways before the 1st October. They further provide that the men's claims shall be considered by the board, or, if such board be not formed, by the directors. It may be remembered that the trouble arose over the discharge of a signalman whom the Railway Company refused to reinstate.

In the not at all improbable event that Dr. Clark's seat for Caithnesshire has been retained by the Liberals, the following would seem to indicate his successor :—A meeting for the purpose of selecting a candidate to represent the county of Caithness (Dr. Clark's constituency) in the next Parliament was held at Wick on 1st Sept. There were more than thirty delegates present, representing practically every parish in the constituency. Mr. R. Leicester Harmsworth was unanimously adopted by the Liberal Association as the Liberal candidate. The unanimity and enthusiasm with which Mr. Harmsworth was adopted was very striking, and came as a surprise to some of those present, as over a dozen of the delegates were well known as former strong supporters of Dr. Clark. But one after another these delegates warmly expressed their endorsement of Mr. Harmsworth's candidature, and their intention to do their utmost to secure his return.

Mr Henry Solomon, a prominent merchant in Capetown, who died the other day in his eighty-fifth year, was born in St. Helena in 1816, and was present as a child at the funeral of Napoleon in St. Helena in May, 1821. Mr. G. H. Bennett, of Capetown, who is now in his eighty-fourth year, is one of the few survivors of those who were present at Napoleon's funeral. Mr. Bennett, who was born in St. Helena, was present at the exhumation of the body of Napoleon when, twenty years after his death, the remains were removed from St. Helena to France in the French frigate *La Belle Poule*, commanded by the Prince de Joinville.

A good many Ministerial members, said the *Westminster Budget* of Sept. 7th, are retiring from political life, and a great deal of work remains to be done in filling up their places. Among the most notable retirements are those of Admiral Field, Commander Bethell, Sir Donald Currie, Sir Thomas Sutherland, General Russell, Mr. Seymour Foster, Mr. Lewis Fry, Mr. Usborne, Mr. Michael Biddulph, Mr. Faithfull Begg, Captain Phillpotts, and Viscount Chelsea. On the Liberal side, Sir Gibson Carmichael, Sir Charles Cameron, Mr. Joseph Arch, Sir William Wills, Sir William Wedderburn, Mr. Carvell Williams, and Mr. McEwan will not contest their seats again. Of Welsh members Mr. Tudor Howell is one of the few who will not fight again.

Early on Sept. 5th a naval attack was made on Dover from the Channel by two fleets of torpedo boats, representing battleships. The operations were witnessed by, amongst others, Lord Wolseley and Sir Evelyn Wood. A very lively scene followed the advance of the boats, a murderous fire being opened by the powerful guns of the forts on the heights. The manœuvres were the most interesting ever witnessed at Dover, the land and sea fight being quite a novel feature. The new Long Tom batteries were used for the first time, and were found most effective. The attack was made on the west of Dover, but a force had in the meantime effected a landing between Dover and Deal, and had seized the railway connection with London. The combined naval and military manœuvres were intended to illustrate an invasion of the country. Every piece of artillery in the Dover forts was manned, and the roar of artillery was at times deafening. The forces of the garrison went out to repel the invaders, and a battle took place about mid-day, resulting in a victory for the defending force. The sea fighting was very effective. Notwithstanding the early hour, crowds of people watched the manœuvres from the seashore. The Commander-in-Chief expressed his general satisfaction with the conduct of the operations. It is said that one result of the mimic warfare will be the substitution of modern quick-firing guns for the obsolete ordnance which still remains in the Dover forts.

A private correspondent writes to the London Correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* from Adelaide expressing the indignation that is felt in Australia at the bungle made over the *Protector*, the gunboat of the colony which was offered for service in Chinese waters. The colony wired to Downing-street the offer of the vessel and crew, and the offer was accepted on July 6. The Colonial Secretary telegraphed an inquiry as to when the vessel would be available. It was impossible to get from Downing-street a reply to the subsequent inquiry whether the vessel was to be manned by the navy or by the Australian crew, but the Adelaide Government got the gunboat ready for sea in a week. Members of the Australian crew gave up their land-going situations, sold their businesses, and took out life insurance policies in expectation of going on active service almost immediately. Stores and ammunition to the value of £1,500 were put on board. The crew was considered to be an excellent one, such as could hardly be surpassed in the navy proper. They were fitted out with two suits of blue and two suits of white and had to shave off their moustaches, navy fashion. Suddenly the news came that the British Government declined their services and the use of the *Protector* after all. Great is the indignation. Coming after the reports as to the treatment of Australian volunteers, the incident has created a very unpleasant impression, and that not among the crew alone. It was the Admiralty that put the spoke in the wheel. The South Australian Government have formally expressed to Lord Tennyson, the Governor, their regret that, if it had to be taken, the adverse decision was not taken earlier; and altogether a strained situation is the result.

YACHTING.

Two races were fixed for Saturday but the weather prevented their being sailed. *Kodesu*, *Yugao*, *Nadeska* and *Vixen* started to sail for prizes presented by the Club under Club time allowance, but the wind was so light—indeed there was no wind—that all gave up. One got round the Tsurumi mark but all were glad to get home out of the stark calm. *Madelaine*, *Titania* and *Vera* also started to race for a prize presented by Mr. Buckland and a second prize by the Club, but the two first named gave up first round and *Vera* gave up second round.

The race for Club prizes presented to the 21-raters, which could not be sailed on Saturday last owing to lack of wind, came off on Wednesday. There was a strong N.E. breeze. Five boats started and the result was an easy victory for *Vixen*, which also gains two record points, *Sodeska* being second with one point. The times were :—

	Finish. h.m.s.	Club all'ce. m.s.	Corrected. h.m.s.
Stella	2.27.00		2.27 00
Yugao	2.24.30	1.43	2.23.47
Abunai	2 25 05	1.51	2.23 14
Sodeska, ...	2 24.15	1.51	2.22.24
Vixen	2.18.30	1.51	2.16.39

The 12-raters also sailed a postponed race, *Madelaine* winning the first prize and two points, *Titania* second with one point.

The times were :—

	Finish.
Madelaine	2.10.10
Titania	2.10.35
Dora	2.13.20
Vera	2.11.03

The first prize for the 12-raters was given by Mr. Buckland.

These are the last races of the season for those classes, and a race on Saturday next for 39-raters will bring the season to a close for all yachts.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

THE MISSIONARY IN CHINA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have just read in the *Japan Daily Mail* of Oct. 16th the Monthly Summary of the Religious Press and would like to write anent the article from the *Taiyo* entitled *Toyo Mondai to Kirisutokyo*. The author claims to have heard from some one who has resided in Szechuan, a province of West China. The writer's informant says that he is intimately acquainted with the state of affairs there and "that the missionaries are universally hated in that province on account of their manner of acting." I have lived in the province of Szechuan for four years, have travelled extensively in that province, having practiced medicine—part of the time in connection with a hospital in the city of Chentu, which is the capital of that province, and part of the time itinerating among the larger towns—I had the best of opportunities for becoming acquainted with the Chinese of every class and ought to know something of the opinion of the Chinese and their feelings toward the missionary. As the result of my experience I would say that the informant of the writer above referred to is utterly unreliable, having either wilfully perverted the facts or else being entirely ignorant of affairs there.

When I went there I found that a missionary who had lived in that province and had returned to

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America previous to my arrival was universally admired and respected by the Chinese. Even to the present time in many cities and towns he is spoken of in terms that show that the Chinese do appreciate the work of missionaries even though they do not always accept Christianity at first sight.

I am acquainted with nearly all if not all the Protestant missionaries in that province and I know that they have not stirred up bad feelings nor are they hated by the Chinese nor have they appealed to or relied on foreign military power to protect them. I am acquainted with the officials there and I know that the missionaries did not leave that province until the foreign consuls insisted on their doing so, and they, the missionaries were very unwilling to leave, for the simple reason that there was no trouble there—no apparent cause for leaving.

Two years ago an ambitious official tried to excite the people to rise in revolt and drive out the foreigner. His name is U Man Tse. He found little support, was taken prisoner, and the last I heard of him, which was less than three months ago when I was in Chentu, he was still in durance vile. His chief lieutenant was decapitated and there was no appeal to any foreign power, but the provincial authorities handled the affair themselves without any foreign interference.

The *Taiyo's* article reads to me like theories made to order and facts twisted up to prove the theory. I have read Lord Salisbury's speech referred to and can find no such admission in it as he claims to see, and if Lord Salisbury had made any such admission there is no evidence from Szechuan to justify such an admission.

Thanking you for affording me so much space in your valuable columns.

I am, yours sincerely, W. E. SMITH.

Tokyo, Oct. 17th, 1900.

MAPS TO SELL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—If anyone wants to get someting of real interest as a curio let him buy one of the cheap maps of China and Japan now advertized in the *Japan Mail* and glance at the names of places in the northern part of Japan. These maps are invaluable!

The best selling maps of the century!

Let everyone get one before they go out of print!

Collectors in the future will make big money on them. People who now buy defaced postage stamps will prefer these maps. They represent the ripe fruit of the tree of knowledge that China must swallow if we have to ram it down with the mailed fist. The Japanese Educational Department should make these maps a part of the compulsory system of education for the youth of this land, for the reason that there are places named on them new, strange and wonderful that cannot be found elsewhere.

TODAI, MOTO KURASHI.

October 18th, 1900.

THE INTERPORT MATCHES AT KOBE.

KOBE "EN FETE."

Writing prior to the beginning of the cricket matches, a correspondent with the Yokohama team said:—Kobe is *en fête*. Both the Yokohama and Shanghai teams arrived at 11.30 on Sunday morning, and, as the weather is perfect and looks like continuing, there is every prospect of the elaborate programme which has been arranged being carried out within the week. That it is an elaborate programme will be gathered when one has read it. Here it is, (we leave out the baseball fixtures):—

Monday, October 15th.
10 a.m.—Cricket—Y.C. & A.C. v. K.C.C. (1st day).
1 p.m.—Tiffin in the Gymnasium.
4 p.m.—Tea in the Ladies' Pavilion, Mrs. Murray presiding.

Tuesday, October 16th
10 a.m.—Cricket—Y.C. & A.C. v. K.C.C. (2nd day).
1 p.m.—Tiffin in the Gymnasium.
4 p.m.—Tea in the Ladies' Pavilion, Mrs. Lightfoot presiding.
9 p.m.—Jujutsu in the Gymnasium.

Wednesday, October 17th.
10 a.m.—Cricket—Shanghai C.C. v. Y.C. & A.C. (1st day).
1 p.m.—Tiffin in the Gymnasium.
4 p.m.—Tea in the Ladies' Pavilion, Mrs. R. Home Cook presiding.
7.45 p.m.—Interport Dinner.

Thursday, October 18th.
10 a.m.—Cricket—Shanghai C.C. v. Y.C. & A.C. (2nd day).
1 p.m.—Tiffin in the Gymnasium.
4 p.m.—Tea in the Ladies' Pavilion, Mrs. Abell presiding.
9 p.m.—Smoking Concert at the Gymnasium.

Friday, October 19th.
10 a.m.—Cricket—Shanghai C.C. v. K.C.C. (1st day).
1 p.m.—Tiffin in the Gymnasium.
4 p.m.—Tea in the Ladies' Pavilion, Mrs. Barton presiding.

Saturday, October 20th.
10 a.m.—Cricket—Shanghai C.C. v. K.C.C. (2nd day).
1 p.m.—Tiffin in the Gymnasium.
4 p.m.—Tea in the Ladies' Pavilion, Mrs. Hall presiding.

(The programme is a very neat affair, the title page bearing in colours the flags respectively of the Kobe Cricket Club, the Shanghai Cricket Club, and the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club.) Continuing our correspondent said:—The excitement aroused by the result of the baseball match has not yet subsided, and Kobe will tackle the events which have yet to be decided with the courage that is inspired by having drawn "first blood." No change has been made in the *personnel* of the teams, but Kobe will be somewhat weakened by the fact that J. R. Gillingham had a finger put out twice in the baseball match, and it is doubtful whether (although he will play) he will be able to bowl.

Shanghai aver that they are "no use," and perhaps the team is not thoroughly representative, but I expect it will prove quite good enough for our two ports separately. Shanghai has a tried veteran in Farbridge as captain, and there is, moreover, no lack of what is wanted, namely bowling talent. The team that wins both matches will, of course, be "on top," and I do not see that any one team has better chances than any other.

BASEBALL.

FIRST GAME.

We gather from Kobe comments upon the first baseball game played on Friday afternoon at Kobe that the home team fielded very poorly, though Hellyer played well at second base. Kobe's batting was also weak, Weed and Bissell were struck out several times at crucial points of the game. Yokohama on the other hand played a very good and steady game. We take the following from the *Kobe Herald*. The teams were:—

Kobe.		Yokohama.
M. A. Shaw	Catcher	E. C. Swan.
C. E. Bissel	Pitcher	D. H. Blake.
A. J. Chalfant	First Base	F. W. Kilby.
A. T. Hellyer	Second Base	W. L. Merriman.
D. Weed	Short Stop	E. B. S. Edwards.
W. Braess.	Third Base	H. K. Onderdonk.
C. H. Lightfoot	Left Field	H. W. Kilby.
H. S. Wheeler	Centre Field	A. M. Watt.
W. D. S. Edwards	Left Field	W. C. Read.

Yokohama won the toss, and Kobe went in to bat first.

1st Innings:—Chalfant started, made his base on balls, and got to third base with Hellyer in. Hellyer, however, was struck out. Catcher Swan slipping one, Chalfant was able to get home—drawing first blood. Then Wheeler was out on strikes. Edwards followed and had a low fly to start him off. Then a bungled throw at second base got him round to third and he followed home immediately after—the second run. This was all Kobe could get, for Lightfoot came in and made his first base on balls but was neatly got out at third base by Edwards. The innings thus closed with two runs. In Yokohama's venture Read made his first base on balls but he was cleverly thrown out by Braess at second base. Blake, third in, had a double bagger from a fly down on left out field. This brought Edwards to third base and he was home on Merriman's first try. E. W. Kilby had a decent fly to centre field to start with giving him first base. He was home on Swan's hit.

The first innings closed:—

Kobe	2
Yokohama	3

2nd Innings:—Shaw for Kobe got his first base by being hit. Braess followed and sent a hit down centre field, Shaw being out, however, at second base to the pitch from it. Weed hit himself on first base, bringing Braess one from home. Then Bissell was out, caught on a tall fly to left field—H. W. Kilby taking it easily. Next Chalfant was struck out and Kobe's 2nd innings closed without addition to their score. A strong sun shone straight in the striker's face when Onderdonk started for Yokohama. He opened out with a beautiful hit out on centre field and made three bases on it. Then Watt, a little fellow—made his first base on a good hit and both he and Onderdonk were home next throw—two more on the score. Braess brought the innings to a close by getting Read out very cleverly on third base. The innings, however, had given Yokohama a useful lead, the telegraph reading:—

Kobe	■
Yokohama	5

3rd Innings:—Hellyer was caught out by catcher Swan, on a foul hit. Wheeler made first base on balls. Then a disaster occurred. Edwards was third and hit to right field and the hit was cleverly kept by E. W. Kilby at first base. Meantime Wheeler had left for second base and was thrown out on the pitch

an abrupt close to the innings. Blake for Yokohama had a base hit to start off and Merriman made his base on balls. E. W. Kilby was then caught out by Braess at third base, but Swan made a two base hit to left out field and Blake came home. Swan immediately after made a sacrifice hit and Merriman came home—the second run of the innings. Onderdonk made first base on his third strike: then Watt closed the innings—out to Weed and to first base. Score:

Kobe	2
Yokohama	7

4th Innings:—Lightfoot opened and was thrown out on a low hit to first base. Shaw followed in exactly the same way—two men out. Then Braess had a three base hit to the outfield on the right but did not get home, Weed going out on strikes,—the innings closed without any addition to the score. Yokohama again started well and kept up excellent play, Onderdonk getting away a fine two-base hit out to centre field. A very well played innings closed with an addition of five to the Yokohama total, made on well-judged play all round. Score:—

Kobe	2
Yokohama	12

5th Innings.—Kobe started with the outlook quite the reverse of bright—a leeway of ten to make up. Bissel opened and was at once out to a pitch on first base. Chalfant, who followed, was easily caught by Kilby at left field. Hellyer came next and put up a fly which Blake easily negotiated—an abrupt close without a score. Yokohama, again on the bat, opened well. Edwards made a base hit past Braess at third base, and Blake followed with a two base hit in the same direction. Merriman made first base on balls and both Merriman and Blake got home on a base hit by E. W. Kilby. Then Swan was beautifully caught by Wheeler, who pitched from this on to the end. Chalfant immediately after caught Onderdonk and got Kilby out on double play at first base—the innings closing with an addition of three to the Yokohama score. Total:—

Kobe	2
Yokohama	15

6th Innings:—Wheeler opened with a base hit and Edwards brought him home on an attempt at double play—Edwards himself out. This was the first run Kobe had had for some time and there was some revival of enthusiasm. Lightfoot came in and also brightened hopes with excellent running but his attempt was frustrated when Braess was thrown out on first base, Shaw having previously been caught out by Onderdonk at short stop. The Yokohama innings closed abruptly without a score.

Kobe	3
Yokohama	15

7th Innings:—Weed got his first base on a hit, and then stuck at second base. Chalfant and Wheeler got away on balls. The innings closed, however, Edwards being beautifully caught by E. W. Kilby at first base. Blake, for Yokohama, had a splendid hit over Lightfoot at left field—a three base stroke. He lost the run home, however, on some smart play between Kobe second and third base. The innings closed without change in score:—

Kobe	3
Yokohama	17

8th Innings:—Lightfoot got away on a base hit and was home on another of the same by Shaw, who got round on a sacrifice hit by Braess. Weed was struck out—for the third time—and Bissell was caught out by Pitcher Swan. The Yokohama venture was brief and without note.

Kobe	5
Yokohama	17

9th Innings:—Chalfant made his base on balls. Hellyer was struck out. Chalfant came home on a hit by Wheeler after a finely stolen third base. Edwards got away on a strong hit, but Lightfoot, usually also a hitter, was struck out. Then, on a base hit by Shaw, Wheeler and Edwards both got home. But the end came on Weed being thrown out. The game ended here, Yokohama having no need to go in again. Final score:—

Kobe	8
Yokohama	17

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Details:—

KOBE.

	A.B.	R.	B.H.	P.O.	A.	E.
Mr. M. A. Shaw, c.	4	1	2	2	3	3
Mr. G. E. Bissell, b.	4	—	—	—	2	2
Mr. A. J. Chalfant, 1 b. ...	2	2	—	3	1	1
Mr. A. T. Hellyer, 2 b.....	5	—	—	5	4	—
Mr. D. Weed, s.s.....	5	—	2	1	3	4
Mr. W. Braess, 3 b.	5	—	1	3	5	—
Mr. C. H. Lightfoot, l.f. ...	4	1	2	—	—	—
Mr. H. S. Wheeler, c.f. ...	3	2	2	1	2	—
Mr. W. D. S. Ewards, r.f...	5	2	1	—	—	1
	37	8	10	20	20	10

YOKOHAMA.

	A.B.	R.	B.H.	P.O.	A.	E.
Mr. W. C. Read, r.f.....	5	1	2	—	—	—
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, 3b. ...	5	3	3	1	—	—
Mr. D. H Blake p.	4	4	1	1	3	1
Mr. W. L. Merriman, 2b.....	2	3	—	2	1	3
Mr. E. W Kilby, 1b.	5	3	4	11	3	1
Mr. E. C. Swan, c.	5	1	1	2	3	1
Mr. H. K. Onderdonk, s.s. ...	5	1	—	1	2	—
Mr. A. M. Watt, c.f.	5	1	2	—	—	—
Mr. H. W. Kilby, l.f.	4	—	1	3	—	—
	40	17	14	20	12	6

The umpires were Messrs. E. W. Tilden and Justus Briggs; and the scorers Messrs. Mendelson and A. W. Taylor.

SATURDAY'S GAMES.

We print to-day (from the *Kobe Herald*) full details of Saturday's Baseball games. The teams as altered were :—

Kobe.		Yokohama.
M. A. Shaw	Catcher.....	E. C. Swan.
H. S. Wheeler	Pitcher ...	H. K. Onderdonk.
J. Briggs	First Base ...	E. W Kilby.
A. J. Chalfant	Second Base...	W. C. Read.
W. Braess.....	Short Stop ...	D. H. Blake.
J. R. Gillingham.....	Third Base....	E. B. S. Edwards.
C. H. Lightfoot	Left Field ..	H. W. Kilby.
W. D. S. Edwards..	Centre Field.	A. M. Watt.
A. T. Hellyer.....	Right Field...	W. L. Merriman.

FORENOON GAME.

Play commenced at 10.30. The weather was again the best.

1st Innings:—Kobe opened, Chalfant facing Blake's pitching. Chalfant was thrown out on a short hit to first base. Hellyer went out on strikes and Wheeler followed him—thrown out on a hit exactly like Chalfant's. Read opened for Yokohama and made his base on balls. Edwards was thrown out on first base. Blake, who followed, hit high past short stop and made his base. Read got home—first run—on a two base hit by Merriman. Wheeler got E. W. Kilby neatly out at first base, but immediately after both Blake and Merriman came home on a two base hit by Swan which Chalfant at short stop slipped through his hands. Onderdonk was struck out and this completed the innings—three runs to Yokohama. Score.

Kobe 0
Yokohama 3

2nd Innings:—Edwards opened brilliantly for Kobe—a splendid fly to right field which took him round three bases. Lightfoot, succeeding him, sent one in the same direction but scarcely so far. It was slipped and Edwards came home—Kobe's first run. Lightfoot was then thrown out at second base, and Shaw was struck out. Braess with a clear field made his base on balls. Gillingham—one of the new men—skied one which Swan easily kept. Watt, starting for Yokohama, was caught by Hellyer at second base. H. W. Kilby was next brilliantly caught by Wheeler on a straight, a strong hit into his hands. Then Read was thrown out by a neat exchange from Braess—an innings smartly closed by good work. Score:

Kobe 1
Yokohama 3

3rd Innings:—Briggs, the second of the new men, made his base on a low hit to short-stop. Chalfant was struck out. Hellyer made a high fly over 2nd base which was not taken. Wheeler took his base on a hit. Edwards, on his second strike, made a splendid three base fly past left field. Three men came home on it—Briggs, Wheeler and Chalfant. This brought a burst of deserved applause. Lightfoot made his base on balls, then Edwards came home—the fourth run—on a muffed attempt to throw him out at third base. Shaw was struck out. Lightfoot, however, got home on a base hit by Braess—the fifth run. The venture ended on a disputed point in Gillingham's play—settled against Kobe with, however, a run on Braess coming home on Gillingham's play. For Yokohama Edwards was thrown out on a base hit. Blake made his base on a hit past second base, and Merriman with a tall two bagger brought Blake to third base. He then came home on a passed ball. Merriman followed on a hit by E. W. Kilby. The latter also came home. The other Kilby finished the innings—caught by Braess on third base.

Kobe 7
Yokohama 6

4th Innings:—Briggs opened and made his base on balls. Chalfant was struck out. Hellyer who followed had a bad smash on the right thumb. He played on, however, and on a base hit by Wheeler came to third, coming home on a hit by Edwards. Wheeler followed home on a wild pitch, and Edwards also came home on a hit past first base. Onderdonk went on to pitch vice Blake. Shaw made his base on balls and Braess made a sacrifice hit, getting Lightfoot home. Kobe finished on a foul hit by Gillingham—beautifully taken by Catcher Swan—five runs added. Yokohama made two, the resulting score being:—

Kobe... 12
Yokohama 8

5th Innings:—Briggs was caught out by Edwards, and Chalfant struck out. Hellyer made his base on a hit to centre field, and came to third base. He went home on a hit by Wheeler, or which the latter was thrown out—no score. For Yokohama Onderdonk was struck out, and Watt was thrown out by Wheeler immediately after, E. W. Kilby went the same way:—

Kobe 12
Yokohama 8

6th Innings:—Edwards came home on a hit of his own, a stolen base, and some wild pitching. Lightfoot, Shaw and Braess were soon out, however. Yokohama lost Reed and Edwards thrown out. Gillingham in taking a strong hit by the latter had a finger knocked out, but Swan of Yokohama gave his medical services gratis and Gillingham kept on. The innings closed soon after without addition to the Yokohama score.—

Kobe 13
Yokohama 8

7th Innings:—Gillingham soon came home—a first base on balls and others on a good hit by Briggs. The latter himself came home on a base hit by Hellyer to centre field and Wheeler by a sacrifice hit brought Hellyer home—three runs—losing himself however. Yokohama began badly—Swan thrown out on first base, and Onderdonk beautifully caught out by Edwards. Then Watt was thrown out on first base, the innings closing—

Kobe 16
Yokohama 8

8th Innings:—Lightfoot opened well for Kobe—coming home on a hit past second base by Braess. Gillingham was unfortunate—a fine hit being taken by left field. Braess, however, came home on a similar hit—wide of the fielders—by Briggs. Chalfant placed a similar hit but it was easily taken. The Yokohama innings was brief, without score.

Kobe 18
Yokohama 8

9th Innings:—Hellyer opened the last innings for Kobe with a base hit. He was thrown out on the last base. A brilliant hit by Braess past right field brought Edwards, Lightfoot and Shaw home. Gillingham was out on a base hit, closing the Kobe innings. Yokohama started in a hopeless position. Blake was at once out to a beautiful catch by Edwards at centre field and Merriman followed to a catch by Gillingham. The innings closed soon after. Final score:

Kobe 21
Yokohama 8

AFTERNOON GAME.

The deciding game started at 2.25—Yokohama going in to bat.

1st Innings.—Read came home almost at once—first run of the game—and a little later Blake and Edwards came in on an error by Chalfant. Bad play at second base and short stop gave away a number of Kobe chances at this point. Wheeler also pitched rather wildly to start and Yokohama piled up an excellent starting score. A fly, well caught by Lightfoot, stopped the Yokohama total at six and Kobe opened. Chalfant was thrown out on first base and Hellyer was out to a catch by Kilby at first base. Then Wheeler made his base on a neat hit, and Edwards sent him home on a splendid fly over centre field—himself reaching third base. Edwards came home on a hit, the innings closing on Shaw being struck out. Score:—

Kobe 2
Yokohama 6

2nd Innings.—The Yokohama venture was short—Blake, Edwards and Merriman thrown out on first base. Then Kobe lost Braess and Gillingham in the same way, and Chalfant was struck out—no score for either nine.

Kobe 2
Yokohama 6

3rd Innings.—Swan for Yokohama was at once caught out—by Lightfoot at left field. A catch from Watt was lost through a misunderstanding between Gillingham and Braess, and Onderdonk came home, followed by Watt. Kobe came in to bat on Read being struck out. Kobe again started badly—Wheeler and Hellyer easily out. Edwards made his base on balls but Lightfoot was thrown out on first base, the innings closing:

Kobe 2
Yokohama 8

4th Innings:—Merriman and Edwards were soon out on a pretty play—a fly from Merriman caught by Braess and a throw-out by Chalfant at second base. After some smart play Yokohama finished on a fly by Watt caught by Chalfant. Shaw for Kobe made his base on balls and a base hit by Braess sent him to second. He came home on a fly by Gillingham which Merriman failed to take. Braess and Gillingham both came home on a two bagger by Chalfant—three runs. Briggs also came home on a base hit by Wheeler, the venture ending on Lightfoot being thrown out on a base hit—four added.

Kobe 6
Yokohama... 12

5th and 6th Innings:—Reed was struck out—Wheeler's pitching having improved considerably. A fly to centre field by Edwards and some other good play brought two Yokohama men home, but smart double play by Briggs at first base got Blake and Merriman out. For Kobe Shaw was struck out. Braess made two bases on a hit, and got home on a wild throw by Edwards to a hit by Gillingham. A very smart piece of double play then disposed of Gillingham and Briggs. In the sixth innings, wild pitching by Wheeler and some muddled play in the Kobe field brought Onderdonk and Swan home, and a little later Watt and E. W. Kilby also reached home on a tall fly by Edwards which Lightfoot just failed to hold. Edwards for Kobe then kept a similarly tall hit by Blake and brought Kobe in to bat. Chalfant opened for Kobe, taking two bases on a hit and a wild throw by Edwards. Hellyer got away on a good centre field fly. Then Chalfant got home on a hit by Edwards and Hellyer also completed the round on a tall hit by Lightfoot which Onderdonk, pitching, slipped. Shaw was caught out thereafter.

Kobe 9
Yokohama 16

7th Innings:—Merriman was caught out on a long fly by Lightfoot. E. W. Kilby had a very fine two bagger over left field and he came home on a base hit by Onderdonk, but the innings closed on a fly by Watt caught by Lightfoot. Kobe started with Braess out to a catch by Watt in the outfield. Weed—who had taken the place of Gillingham, whose finger again unfortunately came out—got away, but was soon out and Wheeler, a little later, was out a first base.

Kobe 9
Yokohama 17

8th innings:—H. W. Kilby was struck out. Read came home on a hit of his own and another by Edwards who himself ran home on a fly by Merriman. Merriman made a third run off a three bagger by E. W. Kilby. The latter came home on a hit by Swan, but the venture closed on Wheeler catching Onderdonk. Edwards, opening for Kobe, made two bases on a hit of his own and completed the run home on a foul throw. Lightfoot and Shaw got away safely and Braess took his base on balls. Weed and Briggs hit out and Lightfoot and Shaw came home. Weed added a run when Hellyer took his base on balls, and Briggs also ran home on a passed ball. Chalfant got home on a wild throw by Blake, and Hellyer followed in course of some exciting play. The end came soon thereafter, but a splendid innings had added 8 to the Kobe total, leaving the score:

Kobe 17
Yokohama 21

9th Innings:—The last innings started amid excitement. Watt was at once out to a brilliant catch just on the ground by Lightfoot—a play for which he was deservedly cheered. Then the Yokohama innings closed dramatically. Read, batting, was caught out by Hellyer at second base and a brilliant double play to Briggs enabled the latter to throw out another man at first base. Kobe came in to make four to tie and five to win. Braess was thrown out on first base, and Weed, who followed, was easily caught on a foul hit by third base. Briggs came and put a base hit past second base. Chalfant went in and sent a beautiful fly over centre field's head, bringing Briggs home and carrying himself to second base. Hellyer followed and had his first base on being hit. Wheeler came next and on a base hit to centre field sent Chalfant home—the second run. Edwards,—Kobe's leading hitter—got his base on being hit and Lightfoot came in to bat with Hellyer standing on third base. Lightfoot tied the game. He sent a fine hit down the field and Hellyer and Ed-

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wards both came home, making the tie. Shaw, the Kobe Captain, took up the bat to win. He sent a low neatly-taken hit between second and third base and Lightfoot romped home and Yokohama's score was topped. The game therefore ended:

Kobe..... 22
Yokohama 21

Mrs. Shaw again presided at tea, assisted by the American ladies. Mr. Rizetti's band was on the grounds and rendered selections. Messrs Mendelson and Taylor again scored.

THE CRICKET MATCHES.

The following are our own Correspondent's notes on Monday's play —

The weather was splendid. Yokohama won the toss and went in, sending in Clarke and E. W. Kilby. Scoring came pretty fast at first. Clarke after scoring ten was badly missed by J. R. Gillingham, and later on gave another chance. 50 was hoisted without the loss of a wicket, and Murray and Green, who had been bowling from the start, gave way to Edwards and Lucas. The change was effective, as E. W. Kilby was soon out l.b.w., and Clarke, after a rather lucky innings, played a loose one into his wicket from the same bowler—2 for 70. Anton came in on E. W. Kilby's retirement but did not stay long, a low ball from Edwards clean bowling him, and Duff, who succeeded him, was run out shortly afterwards—4 for 71. E. B. S. Edwards and H W. Kilby now became partners, but the former was soon bowled by a "yorker" from his brother—5 for 73, and Yokohama supporters looked unutterable things. Wheeler came in and he and H. W. Kilby played steadily for some time until Wheeler, letting out at a full pitch from Murray, was caught by Thompson at leg—6 for 82. Braess filled the vacancy but was bowled at once by Murray, and Fradgeley came to the crease. Slow play ensued for some time; then runs came more rapidly and by the time Fradgeley was bowled 29 runs had been added —8 for 119. Lias was the next comer and confined himself to "blocking" operations, and soon afterwards H. W. Kilby was run out in a very stupid manner. Kingdon was last man but arrived at the wicket only to see Lias get in front of one from Green and be out l.b.w., the innings closing for 125. Considering that two wickets were thrown away the total should have been more The Kobe fielding was ragged at the beginning, but improved, it was a smart piece of fielding on the part of J R. Gillingham which put Duff out.

Lightfoot and Lucas opened the Kobe innings. Runs came very slowly at first and 27 was hoisted before Lightfoot was "yorked" by Lias, who had gone on first change in place of Clarke, who had opened the bowling. Fradgeley was the trundler at the other end. On 30 being put on the board Edwards bowled in place of Lias, and with his first ball bowled Lucas with a trimmer. The retiring batsman had made 22 by steady play. Then Fradgeley bowled J R. Gillingham and the board showed 3 for 45. Green and Murray were now partners and the play became slow, any runs that were made being due to laxity on the part of Yokohama. Murray was out l.b.w. to Fradgeley after 3, and A. Gillingham joined Green, but was shortly after bowled by Braess. W. Braess filled the vacancy and after making 17 in a spirited way was missed by E. W Kilby at point, but the next ball from his brother clean bowled him. Edwards was the next comer but never had a chance to get going. He was badly missed by Kingdon in the long field but was eventually caught by Clarke in the same place. The next three wickets fell rapidly and the innings closed for 111, or 14 short of Yokohama's total.

At ten minutes to 5 Anton and Kingdon opened Yokohama's second innings, but Murray soon bowled the latter with a "teaser." Anton and Wheeler then played out time, the former having made 15 and the board showing 1 for 16.

W D. S. Edwards was the most successful bowler for Kobe, and Braess for Yokohama. More spirit in the field is needed if Yokohama is to win the match.

MONDAY'S PLAY.

We take the following from the *Kobe Herald* of Monday:—

The Interport Cricket Match—Yokohama v. Kobe—opened this morning under the best possible conditions—the finest weather and a pitch which played about as truly as a pitch may. For the greater part of the day the sun shone brilliantly and on one or two occasions spoiled palpable catches. The play in all departments was, however, good, as indeed is evidenced by the scores on each side. Yokohama probably had the advantage in securing the first of the wicket Their batting was consistently good down to the ninth man. Clarke's style and play were specially admired and his pre-eminence in the Yokohama score accurately indicates the superiority of his batting powers in the northern team. The two Kilbys also deserve some special notice, both playing stylish cricket, in respect of defence as well as hitting. Fradgeley was the only other member of the Yokohama team who did noticeably well, but most of the others indicated good cricketing ability and may show up on the second innings. The Kobe fielding was on the whole good and well-sustained throughout, but there were comparatively few chances for the display of brilliant form. Thompson's catch dismissing Wheeler was well taken, however. The Kobe bowling was ineffective until Edwards was put on. The Kobe batting when the team went in was good—better probably than most expected in view of the considerable total made against them. Lucas, Green, Lightfoot and Braess and Arthur Gillingham all did well and only bad fortune stood in the way of J. R. Gillingham. Murray and Edwards also running up scores, good form being shown by these players during the time they were at the wicket. The batsmen who did score were quite on a level with the leading men on the Yokohama side, although, perhaps, Clarke's play for Yokohama was unsurpassed The Yokohama fielding was good all through, the team in this respect being about even with Kobe.

Messrs. Bathgate and Hansell umpired and Rev. G. H. Davies and Mrs. Davies scored. Tea was served to a considerable attendance of ladies in the afternoon under the superintendence of Mrs. Murray, who throughout was kept almost as busy as Mrs. Tilden and her assistants were in the Pavilion on Saturday, amid the exceptional excitement of the third and last Base-ball match.

The scores at the fall of the successive wickets were:

YOKOHAMA.

1—61, 2—70, 3—71; 4—71; 5—73, 6—82, 7—82; 8—119; 9—125; 10—125.

KOBE.

1—27; 2—32, 3 45, 4 62; 5—79, 6—98; 7—103, 8—106, 9—110, 10—111.

Scores:—

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. P. B Clarke b Edwards	45
Mr. E. W. Kilby, l.b.w, b. Edwards	19
Mr A. S Anton, b. Edwards	3
Mr. C M. Duff, run out	1
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards b. Edwards	0
Mr. H. W Kilby, run out	18
Mr S. Wheeler, c. Thompson, b. Murray	6
Mr. G. Braess, b. Murray	0
Mr. E. G. Fradgeley, b. Gillingham	23
Mr. F. J. Lias, l.b.w., b. Green	6
Mr. A. Kingdon, not out	0
Extras	4
Total	125

KOBE.

Mr. C. H. Lightfoot, b. Lias	12
Mr. S. E. Lucas, b. Edwards	22
Mr. J R Gillingham, b. Fradgeley	2
Mr. H. E. Green, b. Braess	23
Mr G. C. Murray, l.b.w., b. Fradgeley	3
Mr. A Gillingham, c. and b. Braess	10
Mr W. Braess, b. Braess	17
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, c. Clarke, b. Braess	6
Mr F. J Abbott, b Edwards	1
Mr. H. S. Thompson, b. Edwards	3
Mr. R. H. Clark, not out	1
Extras	11
Total	111

BOWLING AVERAGES.

YOKOHAMA.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Murray	15	3	42	2
Green	6 3	2	18	2
J. R. Gillingham	13	1	31	1
Edwards	11	6	16	4
S. E. Lucas	11	4	14	0

KOBE.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Clarke	7	2	15	0
Fradgeley	16	8	21	2
Braess	8	2	20	4
Lias	4	0	10	1
Edwards	10	2	22	3

There was ten minutes' play after the close of the Kobe innings and Kingdon lost his wicket to Murray for 0—clean bowled. Anton and Wheeler carried the score to 16 when time was called.

TUESDAY'S PLAY.

The Kobe v. Yokohama Interport Match was resumed this (Tuesday) morning said the *Kobe Herald*. The weather remained chilly throughout the day with occasional breaks of sunshine. The cricket on the whole could not described as specially interesting. There were few attempts at lively hitting or forced play and the standing of the game in the afternoon naturally robbed the match of much of the interest which would have attached to a contest in which a conclusion was probable. It might have suited Yokohama better to have forced play during the forenoon on the chance of securing a large enough margin of runs early enough to permit a reasonable prospect of the Kobe eleven being got out before the call of time at five in the evening. There was no apparent scheme of this kind, however, for none of the Yokohama batsmen, who "stayed" any time, forced the pace and it was not till 3 o'clock in the afternoon that a declaration was made. There were then only two hours of play to go and only a bad break-down in Kobe's batting would have given Yokohama the chance of a win, or the match the chance of a definite finish. There was no remotest possibility, of course, of Kobe clearing the score which Yokohama set them to beat -201 to win, and therefore as indicated, the day's play, all along, had a rather negative interest. Excellent play was made, however, by both teams, and on a broad judgment most critics would have said they were about equally balanced.

There is little doubt that Kobe's chances were diminished through several palpable fielding blunders. As a whole the fielding was good, but there were one or two conspicuous mistakes, in which were included "lives" to some of leading scorers on the Yokohama side. Few runs were given away but chances missed lost more to the team than the gift of a few runs on loose fielding. The Kobe bowling was as good as it was possible to have it, which is perhaps another way of saying that there was no man in this department who really told against the Yokohama batsmen. In the end, Lucas proved the team's mainstay in bowling, Edwards, who yesterday did the best work here, being knocked about. There were many changes, however, before a real impression was made, and the team certainly seemed to lack a thoroughly good bowler. Probably a man with a speciality in "lobs" would have done damage on both sides for none of the batsmen seemed able to "launch out." Of the Yokohama batting it need only be said that it was pretty all through, but slow. Anton took the honours from Clarke to-day, and the two Kilbys again played picturesque though sometimes tedious cricket. Lias, the hitter, did not have a chance of hitting out of the grounds but he looked like doing it when the closure was declared. Anton in his 53 had three 4's and nine 3's

Kobe, on going in to stave off defeat, succeeded admirably, so well, in fact, that on their play a third day to the match might have brought them out on top. Lightfoot was mainly responsible for the successful defence against time and there was no room for complaint as to his apparent unwillingness to risk wickets for runs. Edwards hit out, however, and, as will be seen, topped Lightfoot's total in a much shorter innings. Yokohama's bowling was played with to the end. Their fielding was again good, and special mention of E. W. Kilby is perhaps due.

The end of the match is to a certain extent unsatisfactory, as draws usually are, but probably no previous contest has seen finer cricket in the real sense of the word.

Mrs. Lightfoot presided at tea to-day, and Rev. G. H. Davies and Mrs. Davies again scored.

YOKOHAMA SECOND INNINGS.

A. S. Anton, b. Lucas	53
A. Kingdon, b. Murray	0
S. Wheeler, c. Lightfoot, b. Murray	18
P. B. Clarke, c. Murray, b. Lucas	39
E. W. Kilby, c. Abbott, b. Gillingham	13
C. M. Duff, c. A. Gillingham b. J. R. Gillingham.	21
H. W. Kilby not out	16
E. B. S. Edwards, c. Lightfoot, b. Lucas	1
E. G. Fradgley, b. Lucas	4
G. Braess, c. Thompson, b. Lucas	9
F. J. Lias not out	5
Extras	6
Total (innings declared closed)	185

KOBE SECOND INNINGS.

C. H. Lightfoot, not out	40
F. Abbott, b. Fradgley	4
W Braess, c. H. W. Kilby, b. Fradgley	6
H. E. Lucas, b. Braess	0
W D. S. Edwards, not out	41
G. C. Murray, A. Gillingham, J. R. Gillingham, H. E. Green, R. H. Clark, H. S. Thompson	to bat
Extras	7
Total (3 wkts.)	98

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The totals at the fall of the separate wickets were

YOKOHAMA.

1—4; 2—60; 3—79; 4—126; 5—127; 6—156; 7—157; 8—163; 9—185.

KOBE.

1—12; 2—26, 3—27.

BOWLING AVERAGES.

YOKOHAMA.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Murray	14	5	25	1
Edwards	15	5	25	0
Gillingham (J.R.)	32	8	62	2
Lucas	29	9	55	6
Green	4	0	12	0

Bowling in Kobe's second innings Fradgley had 2 wickets for 20 and Braess 1 for 8. Five other bowlers were tried—Clarke, E. W. Kilby, Edwards, Lias and Anton.

It should be noted that Kobe's score of yesterday was actually 110—a bye too many having been given. Yokohama's total yesterday was 125.

YOKOHOMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

AN APPEAL TO THE COMMUNITY.

The Committee of the Yokohama General Hospital find it necessary to make an urgent appeal to the foreign community to assist them to make good the deficit of some *yen* 4,000 incurred in the working expenses of last and the previous year.

Before considering, however, the combination of unfortunate circumstances to which this deficit is due, it will be well to recapitulate briefly some facts connected with the past history of the Hospital, which may not be within the knowledge or recollection of all the members of the community.

The Hospital was founded early in the Sixties in the Settlement and was removed to the Bluff about 1868, and has always been open to foreigners of all nationalities. It is the only foreign Hospital available for women. The revenue was never equal to the expenditure, and, especially after the time when patients began to be received at the German Naval Hospital. Formerly the expense of maintenance ordinarily exceeded the income by several thousand dollars for many years, the contribution from subscribers amounting to from $3,000 to $4,000.

In December, 1884, in consequence of the increasing deficit, it was resolved to close the Hospital, with the exception of the Infectious Diseases Ward at Nakamura, and steps were actually being taken to wind it up, when Dr. Mècre made a proposition to take over the premises.

During the earlier years of Dr. Mècre's occupancy, the rent received from that gentleman was sufficient to cover the expenditure upon charity patients, and upon the Infectious Ward, which may be roughly estimated as averaging about *yen* 2,000 per annum. It must be borne in mind that this amount at least must under any circumstances be provided for.

In April, 1896, Dr. Mècre's 15 years' lease, and the building by him of the new main buildings began. The principal terms of the new agreement with Dr. Mècre, which are in force at the present time, are the maintenance of the hospital in an approved modern condition, the reception of charity patients at *yen* 1 per diem, per head, the cession of the buildings to the General Hospital Committee at the end of the 15 years' term, and the employment by Dr. Mècre of a qualified English-speaking medical assistant. The latter post is now held by Dr. James Bull.

In November 1899, Dr. Mècre associated Dr. Munro with himself in the working of the Hospital, an arrangement which subsisted till Dr. Munro's resignation in February, 1900.

It would be impossible to describe in detail Dr. Munro's work. He at once set about improving the sanitation of the Hospital, and during his engagement a sum of some seven or eight thousand dollars was raised by his efforts for the erection of other wards and an operating room and a ward for the insane, and various appliances, all of which constitute a valuable property to the foreign community. It should always be remembered with gratitude that these and many of his medical services were rendered by Dr. Munro entirely gratuitously.

A variety of causes, especially during 1899, contributed to the financial ill-success of that part of the Hospital working not included in Dr. Mècre's own finance. War and rumours of war diverted shipping from the port, prices advanced, competition, perfectly friendly, but none the less effective, diminished the number of well-paying patients, with the result that while the adequate equipment of the Hospital remains, a considerable portion of it is still unpaid for, and it is natural that some of the creditors should be less patient than the majority.

The Committee, therefore, very earnestly solicit a liberal response to their appeal for *yen* 4,000, to enable them to discharge pressing liabilities. Every effort was made by them to place the Institution on a more economic basis, but it was impossible at once to retrench. The absence of Dr. Mècre in Europe, and other causes, prevented the Committee from closing up matters earlier, and procuring a clear report of the state of the finances.

After all, the amount is not more than was constantly needed in former years, and the foreign public have the use of a first-class modern Hospital available to them, at moderate cost, in time of sickness, necessary for those deranged in mind, and the only place available for the invalid woman patient within its walls, or others of her sex.

In conclusion the Committee have every confidence that the benevolence and foresight of the community will duly appreciate the situation, and that the Committee will speedily be in a position to satisfy all due claims, and that they will not lightly abandon to liquidation property on which has been expended treble the amount required. The necessity for a general hospital available for the use of the public is a fact not to be gainsaid. And it should always be remembered, that unlike most similar institutions in home countries, the Yokohama Hospital possesses neither grant nor endowment.

THE COMMITTEE.

Oct. 15, 1900.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Oct. 11.

The Boers have entered Vicksburg, Wepener, and Rouxville, and a large British force is endeavouring to surround them.

THE QUEEN AND HER COLONIAL SOLDIERS.

It is stated that the Queen will receive a representative Colonial Contingent of 5,000 men towards the end of November. Lord Roberts will present them to Her Majesty.

THE BRITISH CABINET.

The *Daily Telegraph* says that the members of the Cabinet have formally handed in their resignations to Lord Salisbury, in order to facilitate any contemplated reconstruction

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

The election returns so far are 334 Unionists, 107 Liberals, and 82 Nationalists. The Unionists have gained Burton, the Liberals have gained Torquay and Highpeak.

[Note—The Burton division of Staffordshire was represented in the last parliament by Mr. Sydney Evershed (L), who was returned unopposed. The High Peak division of Derbyshire, which the Liberals have gained, was formerly represented by Lieut.-Co.. William Sidebottom, who defeated Mr. A. G. Symonds by a majority of 400. Torquay Division of Devonshire, which has thrown-off allegiance to the Conservatives, was represented by Com. A. S. Phillpotts in the old House. His majority was 175—ED. *J. M.*]

THE MILITIA

An Army Order disembodies the bulk of the Militia.

THE BOER WAR

Shanghai, Oct. 12.

De Lisle's Colonial division has dispersed Dewet and 1,000 followers with five guns after three days' fighting near Vredeport.

THE CEZAREWITCH.

The result of the Cezarewitch is as follows:

Clarehaven	1
Saturday	2
Sardonic	3

CHAMBERLAIN ON BRITISH POLICY.

FRIENDLY TO EVERY POWER, MORE PARTICULARLY TO THE U.S.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, speaking at Stourbridge, said his foreign policy consisted in a desire to remain on friendly relations with every great country in Europe, and something more than friendly with the United States, though he did not himself presume to meddle with the Government's foreign policy, which was in the hands of Lord Salisbury himself.

BRITISH ELECTIONS.

There have now been elected 355 Unionists; 127 Liberals, and 87 Nationalists.

The Liberals have gained seats at Wisbeach, Barnstaple, Lancaster and Cardiff, while the Unionists have gained Dumfriesshire, and the Nationalists, Dublin South.

BRITISH ELECTIONS.

Shanghai, Oct. 13.

The British election returns now stand:—373 Unionists; 146 Liberals; 79 Nationalists.

Dr. Gavin Brown Clark has been unseated for Caithness-shire.

[Note.—Dr. G. B. Clark incurred considerable odium owing to his pro-Boer proclivities, and his letters of advice written to Kruger after war was seen to be inevitable, recently published, added fuel to the flames of popular dislike. Dr. Clarke at one time was Consul-General in London for the South African Republic. Soon after Parliament rose in July, he visited his constituency, but his reception was so warm that he had to beat a hurried retreat to sea, taking refuge on a steamer in Wick harbour. Before the war he was very popular in the north of Scotland, his majority at the last election being 1,300.—ED. *J.M.*]

The Unionists have gained Tyneside, Southport and Sutherlandshire, and the Liberals gained Otley, Westbury, and Radnorshire.

THE AMERICA CUP.

Sir Thomas Lipton has sent another challenge for the America Cup.

DEATH OF THE MARQUIS OF BUTE.

The Marquis of Bute is dead, aged 53

[Note.—The Most Honorable John Patrick Crichton Stuart, Marquis of Bute, K.T., LL.D., was the son of the second marquis. He was born at Mount Stuart House, in the Isle of Bute, Sept. 12, 1847, succeeded to the title on the death of his father in 1848, and received his education at Harrow School, whence he proceeded to Christ Church, Oxford. He was admitted into the Roman Catholic Church by Monsignor Capel, in London, on Dec. 1, 1868. He was created a Knight of the Order of the Thistle in Feb. 1875, and was Hereditary Sheriff of the county of Bute. The honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him by the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh, and he presented the Great Hall to the buildings of the former. Lord Bute published "The Early Days of Sir William Wallace," a lecture delivered at Paisley in 1876; "The Burning of the Barns of Ayr," 1878, "The Roman Breviary, translated out of Latin into English," 1879; "The Coptic Morning Service for the Lord's Day, translated into English," and the "Altus of St. Columba," 1882, as well as different articles, including a description of Patmos from a personal visit, of some Christian monuments of Athens, &c. He was elected Lord Rector of St. Andrew's University in 1893. He married in 1872 the Hon. Gwendoline Mary Anne, eldest daughter of Lord Howard of Glossop, and had issue, living, three sons and a daughter. The late Marquis was one of the richest of English peers, owning several entire towns, and he practically controlled the Welsh slate industry. He was the hero of one of Disraeli's novels.—ED. *J.M.*]

ANOTHER SOUTH AFRICAN AMBUSCADE.

A detachment sent to aid a train that had been upset at the crossing of the Kaap river, was ambuscaded, and Captain Stewart, of the Rifle Brigade, and four men were killed; Captain Paget, two other officers, and 20 men were wounded; and Lieutenant Sewell, of the Engineers, and ten men were taken prisoners.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

Shanghai, Oct. 14.

It is reported from St. Petersburg that an Imperial Order has been issued providing for the gradual demobilization of the troops in Eastern Asia, and their return to Europe as

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soon as the negotiations show that the restoration of order in China is possible.

THE ELECTIONS.

Later.

The latest returns are: 383 Unionists, 166 Liberals. The Ministerialists have gained 34 and the Opposition 31 seats.

THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.

Shanghai, Oct. 15.

The election returns to date are:—398 Unionists; 178 Liberals; 80 Nationalists.

[Note.—Only 14 seats remain to be contested, and the Government majority is still 140.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK.

The Empress Frederick of Germany is in a critical condition.

[Note.—Writing on Sept. 7th the *Globe* said—Arrangements have been privately made for the Queen to proceed to Germany early next month if the health of the Empress Frederick should continue to be unsatisfactory. The Queen is anxious to see the Empress, who is to proceed for six months to the south of Europe at the end of October, and there does not appears to be any prospect of her being able to pay her promised visit to Balmoral. The precarious state of the Empress Frederick's health has been a cause of great anxiety to the Queen and the Royal Family for several months past.—Ed. *J.M.*]

DEWET'S ACTIVITY.

Dewet has issued a proclamation to the Burghers in which he says that all who refuse to fight will be made prisoners of war.

THE SWING OF THE POLITICAL PENDULUM.

The most striking features of the British elections is the growth of Toryism in Scotland and the English boroughs. Though the Unionist gains according to latest advices are only three seats, exclusive of London, the total Unionist poll in the boroughs has increased by 82,000 compared with the Liberal increase of 9,000.

THE ELECTIONS

Shanghai, Oct. 17.

Latest returns show that the Unionists have secured 389 seats, the Liberals 184, and the Nationalists 80. The Unionists have gained East Aberdeenshire.

GERMANY IN THE RED SEA.

The Sultan of Turkey has leased to Germany for a term of thirty years the island of Uraon, near Kamaran, for a coaling station in the Red Sea

[The island of Kamaran is close to the east coast of the Red Sea, over 200 miles north of Perim.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK.

A specialist who has been summoned to Cronberg reports that the Empress Frederick is in no immediate danger

AFFAIRS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The Boers threaten to attack Philippolis.

Colonel Grove, with the West Kents, surprised a Boer laager near Frankfort, killing and wounding 16 and capturing 18.

THE ELECTIONS FINISHED.

Later.

The Elections are finished, except in the Orkneys. The returns are:—

Conservatives	333
Unionists	68
Liberals and Labour men	185
Nationalists	83
	669
Orkneys to hear from	1
Total	670

The Government has a Majority of 133.

(In 1895 the Unionist and Conservative majority was 152.—Ed. *J.M.*)

THE NEW LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.

Lord Alveston, formerly Sir Richard Webster, has been appointed Lord Chief Justice.

WILHELMINA BETROTHED.

Queen Wilhelmina is betrothed to Duke Henry of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, Oct. 17.

It is officially reported that General French has left Machadodorp towards Heidelburg, with orders to clear the country.

General Mason, commanding the Mounted Infantry, engaged the enemy successfully, but Captain Taylor, of N. Battery, and Lieutenants Wylam and Jones, of the Eighth Hussars, and eight men were killed, and three officers and 25 men wounded.

General French has occupied Carolina.

CHINA AND THE POWERS.

M Delcassé's Note covers much the same ground as the German proposal, but proposes various specific measures, including the establishment of permanent posts to keep open the route from Peking to the sea. The Powers generally have assented to the Note with varying reservations.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

Saigon, Oct. 13.

English journals announce the death of the Empress-Dowager, but the news is not confirmed

THE FRENCH FORCES.

Later.

General Bouguie replaces General Frey in the command of the First French Brigade, as the latter officer has to return to Europe on account of sickness.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Saigon, Oct. 15.

It is announced from Shanghai that Lun Vinh-phuvc is in Yunnan with his Black Flags. They will go to join the Empress Dowager in Shen-si.

An international column of 5,000 men has left Tientsin for Paoting under the command of General Bailloud.

A second column sets out from Peking to co-operate in this operation.

ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE CHINESE EMPEROR.

Saigon, Oct. 17.

A telegram from Hankow says that on the 13th instant the Chinese Court arrived at Si-gnan. During the journey an individual tried to assassinate the Emperor of China but His Majesty was not wounded. The man was beheaded.

Saigon, Oct. 18.

The Council of Ministers has fixed the 6th of November for the re-assembly of Parliament.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs confirms the news that the Powers have accepted the French propositions as the basis of negotiations.

Li Hung-chang has ordered Liu Vinh-Phuoc (the leader of the Black Flags) to return to Canton.

CHINA

(Received at the War Office.)

(From Lieut. General Yamaguchi.)

Peking, Oct 12

The Colonel commanding the Russian troops came to bid me farewell to-day, and explained that only a small force of Russian soldiers, under the command of a Captain, would be left as a Legation guard in Peking.

The repairs of the railway between Feng-tai and Hwang-tsung have been completed so far that trucks can run.

[This interval is about 20 miles.—Ed. *J.M.*]

The section of the line between Ma-kia-po and Feng-tai has been handed over by the Germans to the English.

The German troops guarding the Tung-pien gate of Peking obtained possession of a letter from the Governor of Paoting to Viceroy Li, saying that there are 30,000 Chinese troops in Paoting, but most of them are unarmed and the remainder have the old-style equipment. The letter added that the forts between Peking and Paoting were in the hands of the Boxers.

The allied force left Peking this forenoon (for Paoting?).

Taku, Oct. 13.

A column composed of German, British, French and Italian troops, about one brigade strong, started to-day for Paoting-fu under the command of the French General Bailloud A column of equal strength under the British General Gaselee leaves Peking at the same time for the same destination.

Field-Marshal Waldersee is to leave for Peking on the 14th instant. General Fukushima will accompany him.

(Non-official.)

According to intelligence from Tientsin, the programme of the allied forces towards the Boxers is to attack their villages and destroy every Boxer There is evidence that the Boxers continue their outrages against the native Christians, and that the Chinese Government, instead of repressing them gives them encouragement. The only effective plan, therefore, is to treat them with the utmost rigour, so as to convince peaceful Chinese subjects that the object of the Allies is to preserve order. In pursuance of that plan, a detachment of German troops was sent, some days ago, to a village near Yang-tsung, and a number of Boxers having been seized, were shot by sentence of a drum-head court-martial. Similar detachments will be dispatched in various directions from time to time.

Peking, Oct. 13.

Viceroy Li visited the Japanese Minister to-day and I met him at the same time.

The troops remaining in this city after the departure of the Paoting expedition are:—

	Infantry.	Cavalry.	Guns.
British	2,500	440	4
Russian	1 company under a Captain.		
German	2 battalions of marines, 90 engineers and 2 field-guns.		
French	2 battalions of infantry and 11 guns with gunners.		
American	1,116 men of the 9th Regiment of infantry, 1,036 do 14th do, 445 cavalry of the 6th Battalion. 6 guns.		
Italian	500 infantry; 250 marines; 2 machine-guns.		
Austrian	306 marines.		

(Unofficial.)

Tientsin, Oct. 14.

Captain Hineno returned to-day from Shan-hai-kwan.

Many of the Russian troops have left Shan-hai-kwan by rail and road for Mukden, and about a thousand only remain.

The railway is open from Shan-hai-kwan to Kin-chow, and, in the other direction, from Shan-hai-kwan to the Chu-keh-chwang.

Peking, Oct. 15

According to information obtained from a trustworthy Chinese, the rebels at Wei-kan-chwang, to the south of Hwang-tsung, and those on the left bank of the Ying-hing river, have dispersed on reading a proclama-

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tion issued by Li Hung-chang. (These places are about 20 or 30 miles south of Peking —ED. *J.M.*) The Imperial troops at Ku-ngan have burned Wei-keh-chwang.

There is no news yet from Pao-ting.

Only one company of Russian troops remains in Peking. The part of the city hitherto guarded by Russia has been handed over to Germany.

(From the same).

Peking, Oct. 16.

Four transport coolies of our force were attacked by rebels at a place mid-way between Peking and Tung-chow, and it is not known what has become of them. A body of troops was sent to-day to the place, but they found that the rebels had fled. The village was therefore burned, proclamation of the reason being made.

(Non-official).

Tientsin, Oct. 15.

The railway from Pe-shih-tan (about 12 miles to the south-west of Kai-ping) to Peking (?) is not open to traffic. The line is greatly injured, 400 mètres of iron bridge being destroyed at one place; at least a month will be needed to complete the repairs.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT).

THE "ASAHI."

The *Asahi* left Hongkong to-day (15th). and should reach Yokosuka by the morning of the 22nd.

THE "AZUMA."

The *Azuma* will leave Hongkong on the 14th and should reach Yokosuka about the 24th.

THE "IZUMO."

The first-class cruiser *Izumo* arrived at Malta on the 16th instant.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE).

EXPEDITION TO PAOTING-FU.

Tientsin, Oct. 11.

It has been decided that a force consisting of German, British, French and Italian troops should start from Tientsin for Paoting on the 12th instant, and that a similar force should proceed thither from Peking.

REVIEW.

There is to be a general review of the allied troops on the Tientsin Race-course on the 11th instant, under Field Marshal Waldersee.

Peking, Oct. 12.

Li Hung-chang arrived here on the 11th instant.

CHINA.

Hongkong, Oct. 13

A body of the Triads, numbering 2,500, attacked Sa-wan in Sin-an last Friday Chinese troops were sent to the place. These insurgents are not anti-foreign. Chinese officials are the objects of their animosity.

A French tranports from Marseilles with about 1,100 French troops, and an English transport with 600 troops from Calcutta, have passed, going north.

Shanghai, Oct. 13.

The Governors of Honan and Hupeh have been interchanged, by an imperial decree of the 10th instant.

Chefoo, Oct. 13.

Telegrams for Newchwang *viâ* Port Arthur will be transmitted by the Union Cable Company from the 14th inst.

Vladivostock, Oct. 16.

During the night of the 1st instant, the detached column under Lt.-General Subachichi (?) captured Mukden.

PRAISE FOR JAPANESE TROOPS.

The following letter was received on the 29th of August by Viscount Aoki through the British Chargé d'Affaires in Tokyo:—"I am instructed by Lord Salisbury to inform your Excellency that her Majesty's Government desires to express its profound sense of admiration for the bravery and endurance displayed by the Japanese troops in marching in the van to the relief of the Legations in Peking, and fighting with such skill and determination as to contribute largely to the victories gained by the allied forces and to the success of their operations for the relief of Peking."

To this Viscount Aoki replied as follows on the 1st of September:—"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch informing me that you are instructed by H.E. the Marquis of Salisbury to convey warm expressions of approbation from the Government of Her Britannic Majesty with regard to the part taken by the troops of Japan in the expedition for the relief of Peking. I beg to assure you that the Government of Japan is fully sensible of the friendly spirit of these expressions, and that it regards the marked success gained by the allied forces as largely owing, to the courage and high qualities of the British troops. It is a matter of sincere rejoicing to the Imperial Government that its soldiers fought side by side with the soldiers of Great Britain and of the other Powers in the campaign, and had a share in the task of bringing speedy relief to the Legations in Peking."

The French Representative in Tokyo addressed the following despatch to Viscount Aoki on the 2nd of September:—"I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Representative of France in China and the officers commanding her military and naval forces have placed on record their high sense of the conspicuous assistance rendered by the troops and officials of Japan in the rescue of the Foreign Ministers and of the native Christians, and in the care of the French wounded. The Government of France desires to express its profound appreciation of these acts, and its sincere satisfaction that the troops of Japan and France marched in line, and by the success of their united efforts on the field of battle cemented a sincere friendship. I am instructed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to convey to Your Excellency this statement of the sentiments of the Government of France."

To the above, Viscount Aoki replied on the 4th of September as follows:—

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's despatch stating (here follows a recapitulation of the French Representative's despatch) The Imperial Government heartily shares the satisfaction felt by Your Excellency's Government and by the Governments of the other Powers, that owing to the bravery of your country's soldiers and of the rest of the allied troops a conspicuous success was achieved and the rescue of the Legations speedily effected. I beg further to assure Your Excellency the Imperial Government sincerely appreciates the gratitude expressed by the Government of France for care rendered to the wounded; care which it was a happy duty to be able to give in the cause of humanity"

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Tientsin, Oct. 16.

Field-Marshal Waldersee and his suite left this place for Peking on the 14th instant. They will go to Yang-tsung by train and thence they will ride to Peking. The Field-Marshal will have his head-quarters in the Empress-Dowager's palace. He proposes to return to Tientsin within 3 weeks.

Sir Ernest Satow arrived here on the 13th instant, and started for Peking by river at noon on the 15th. The Russian and German Ministers are still in Tientsin.

Vienna, Oct. 14.

The semi-official *Fremdenblatt* argues that as there is a rebellion against the Throne in the South of China, the Court should return to Peking, by Japan's invitation, and commence negotiations for peace.

IMPERIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letter was addressed by the Emperor of China to the Emperor of Japan:—"The Emperor of China has the pleasure of addressing himself to the Emperor of Japan. The unfortunate fate of Mr. Sugiyama, who lost his life owing to a trifling dispute, in violation of the principles of neighbourly amity, caused me profound regret, and I caused the rebels by whom the outrage was perpetrated to be arrested and punished. But it gives me still greater pain that I did not appreciate the facts of the crime until a subsequent date. I have therefore, this day, issued an emphatic edict directing Chamberlain Na Tung to proceed to the place of worship, and, taking a sum of five thousand taels, to cause suitable ceremonies to be performed for the dead. Further, on the arrival of the remains in Japan, I have directed my Representative, Li Shin-tah, to send a Secretary who will again perform suitable rites, as an evidence that my regret is lasting. Your country has the same form of script and is of the same Asiatic origin as mine. Our relations should therefore be very close. My country has been guilty of transgression towards yours, yet Your Majesty has exerted your influence to avert the worst consequences from China. My gratitude is most sincere and unlimited. I earnestly entreat and beseech that Your Majesty will use your influence to instruct the Powers, and induce them to restore peace and preserve the condition of East Asia in the general interests. (Sept. 26.)

The Emperor of Japan replied as follows on the 10th of October:—"The Emperor of Japan, in reply to the Emperor of China, begs to state that he has received with satisfaction the intimation that His Majesty has reflected with regret on the death of Mr. Sugiyama, who was killed by Imperial Chinese troops under circumstances of a violent and lawless character; that His Majesty has sent a chamberlain to perform funeral rites in memory of the deceased, causing a sum of five thousand taels to be appropriated for that purpose, and further that His Majesty has directed his Representative in Japan to send a Secretary to assist at the burial ceremonial. His Majesty the Emperor of China further intimates that he earnestly solicits the good offices of the Emperor of Japan to convey information to the Powers and thus, by contriving the restoration of peace, to preserve the condition of China in the general interests of Eastern Asia. The Emperor of Japan profoundly shares His Majesty the Emperor of China's desire for the restoration of peace. If, however, His Majesty the Emperor of China sincerely desires the restoration of peace, he will issue a clear edict removing from office all those that entertain conservative and anti-progressive views, and, replacing them by liberal statesmen that enjoy the confidence of the Chinese nation and of foreign Powers, will organise a new Government. It is further to be wished that His Majesty the Emperor of China, instead of proceeding to Shensi, should return to Peking at once, thereby

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calming the people's minds, and, by affording unequivocal proofs of regret for the offences that have been committed against the Treaty Powers, will establish an undeniable claim to the consideration of Foreign Governments. Most earnestly does the Emperor of Japan venture to hope that this counsel will be accepted by His Majesty the Emperor of China."

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

INTERPORT CRICKET.

YOKOHAMA V. SHANGHAI.

Kobe, 6.25 p.m., Oct. 17.

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. P. B. Clarke, b. Potter	11
Mr. E. Kilby, c. Turnbull, b. Jackson	18
Mr. A. S. Anton, b. Potter	5
Mr. C. M. Duff, b. Potter	9
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. Potter, b. Jackson	0
Mr. H. Kilby, c. Sheldon b. Potter	6
Mr S. Wheeler, b. Jackson	0
Mr. G. Braess, b. Jackson	0
Mr. E. G. Fradgeley, c. and b. Jackson	8
Mr. F. J. Lias, b. Jackson	22
Mr. F. L. Taverner, not out	0
Extras	0
Total	79

SHANGHAI.

Mr. J. W. Stephenson-Jellie, l.b.w., b. Fradgeley.	20
Mr. A. E. Lanning, c. and b. Fradgeley	14
Mr. W. J. Turnbull, c. Braess b, Fradgeley	12
Mr. B. P. Sheldon, b. Fradgeley	0
Mr. F. W. Potter, b. Edwards	42
Mr. A. J. Wicks, b. Edwards	8
Mr. R. C. Farbridge, b. Kilby	1
Mr. W. H. Jackson, c. E. Kilby, b. Edwards	30
Mr. J. B. Walsh, b. Edwards	0
Mr. H. S. King, not out	14
Mr. H. J. Clark, b. Fradgeley	0
Extras	7
Total	147

[The Shanghai total as telegraphed is only 147, but the individual scores make 148.]

The weather is splendid. Yokohama was out early on Shanghai's excellent bowling.

In the Yokohama second innings Clarke and Anton were out for 5, but the brothers Kilby made a very fine stand playing out time. The score at the close is 69 for 2 wickets, E. Kilby having made 56, and H. Kilby 9, both not out.

Kobe, 8 p.m., Oct. 18.

YOKOHAMA. SECOND INNINGS.

Mr. P. B. Clarke	0
Mr. A. S. Anton	0
Mr. E. Kilby c. Sheldon, b. Jackson	68
Mr. H. W. Kilby, b. Jackson	10
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, b Jackson	4
Mr. C. M. Duff, b. Potter	6
Mr. S. Wheeler, b. Potter	4
Mr G. Braess, c. Lanning, b. Jackson	12
Mr. E. G. Fradgeley, c. Sheldon, b. Jackson	17
Mr. F. J. Lias, l.b.w., b. Jackson	2
Mr. F. L. Taverner, not out	0
Extras	3
Total	137

SHANGHAI. SECOND INNINGS.

Mr. A. E. Lanning, b. Fradgeley	10
Mr. J. W. Stephenson-Jellie, c. E. Kilby, b. Fradgeley	2
Mr. W. J. Turnbull ,b.w., b. Fradgeley	0
Mr. W. H. Jackson, c. H. Kilby, b. Braess	10
Mr. F. W. Potter, not out	24
Mr. B. P. Sheldon, b. Fradgeley	3
Mr. R. C. Farbridge, b. Braess	6
Mr. Wicks, not out	4
Mr. J. B. Walsh, Mr. H. S. King, Mr. H. J. Clark } To bat.	
Extras	2
Total (for 6 wickets)	61

Fradgeley and Braess were in fine form, the first-named especially so.

This afternoon a match was played between the Kobe Ladies and the Visiting Teams with the result that the former made 75 and the latter 71.

(From the "Ostasiatische Lloyd.")

GERMAN NEWS.

Berlin, Oct. 8.

The Secretary of Foreign Affairs Count Bülow has to-day handed to the representatives of the other powers a new note with regard to the China question.

At the Germania-wharf in Kiel a new large cruiser has been successfully launched in the presence of Prince Henry of Prussia. The ship was christened *Amazone*.

Near Heidelberg two trains collided, whereby five persons lost their lives.

Berlin, Oct. 10.

The British Premier, Lord Salisbury, and the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Delcassé, have ordered the representatives of their respective countries in Peking to operate in accordance with the sense of the circular note, laid before the Powers by Germany.

Berlin, Oct. 11.

The German Government has officially notified the Viceroys Liu Kun-yih and Chang Chih-tung in answer to their telegraphic remonstrances against military operations in Northern Shantung, that an extension of the joint operations to the province of Shangtung has not been taken into consideration.

[FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY."]

THE REVOLT IN SOUTH CHINA.

BRITISH TROOPS RECALLED TO HONGKONG.

Hongkong, Oct. 10.

The European portion of the British Forces in the North, and also the Hongkong Company of Asiatic Artillery, have been ordered to return to Hongkong immediately.

Ten thousand more troops from India have been requisitioned for the defence of the colony, while the 16th Bengal Lancers and the Hongkong Regiment have been recalled to Hongkong.

It is thought that these changes and additions to the forces here are due to the development of the Triad Rebellion in the Southern Provinces.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

The French transport *Peiho*, the British transport *Nowshera*, with bullocks, and the Japanese battle-ship *Asahi* have arrived here. The German gunboat *Tiger* has gone to Canton.

THE REBELS GOING INLAND.

The rebel force which has been operating in the Hinterland beyond the new Kowloon boundary, is moving away from the frontier.

(FROM THE "N.-C DAILY NEWS.")

TROUBLE IN THE SOUTH.

Hongkong, Oct. 11.

Riots are reported at Wuchou, Waichou, Chungluk, Tungkun, and at Kaihingchou, where five missions have been looted and destroyed. A French gunboat has gone to the scene of action to co-operate with the authorities.

The Taotai at Swatow has been superseded by reason of his anti-foreign attitude and for encouraging rioters. The new Taotai has assured the Consuls at Canton of his desire to protect foreigners and their interest.

THE KOWLOON SCARE.

The latest news of the New Territory scare is that all was quiet up to last night. The rioters have moved away from the border. The police pickets are vigilant, and the authorities here do not anticipate trouble.

PRIZES AT THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

The Paris correspondent of the *Stationary Trades Journal*, writing to his magazine, says: -

"Everybody has won, and all must have prizes.' That, it will be remembered, was the decision of the Dodo, after the Caucus Race in "Alice in Wonderland. It has also been the decision of the juries at the Paris International Exhibition it would seem to anyone who looks at the portentous list of prize winners, which contains more than 27,000 names, but in reality, I am told, not one in every five obtained a prize, for there are more than 160,000 exhibitors.

Well, the prizes were duly distributed at a grand function in the big circus known as the Salle des Fêtes, and the President and the Minister of Commerce spoke, and the band played, and the people cheered, and everybody seemed pleased. But "it was right there that the trouble began," as the Americans say. The Exhibition became from that moment a veritable cave of Adullam where everyone that was discontented was gathered together. Many of those whose names were not mentioned at all accepted their fate philosophically, but others did not—especially if a hated rival in the same line had received a high award. On the whole, however, the losers were less noisy and less disaffected than those who received a prize which they thought below their merits. Sarcastic placards sprang up like mushrooms all over the buildings. One exhibitor who had received an honourable mention, expressed a hope that the document would be printed on strong, thin paper, so that it could be carried in a pocket-book ready to show to anyone who cared to see it. Another who was not mentioned at all, immediately stuck up a list of all the awards he had received at previous Exhibitions at various places, and at the bottom added a note that the jury had not given him a prize this time because they probably considered him *hors concours*, or too good to compete. The Commissioners were at once down on him, and insisted that this note must be struck out, because one of the regulations was that no exhibitor must find fault with the verdict of the jury. He replied by striking out the note, and printing under the list of prizes the sunple words, "Without comment!" This brought back the Commissioners the next day, who declared that to write "Without comment" *was* a comment, and must come down. After a long squabble, the exhibitor agreed to remove the objectionable inscription, but put in its place three huge notes of interrogation. Back came the Commissioners, complaining of even this "criticism by suggestion," and they eventually won the day, but the exhibitor took care that the whole story should go to the papers, and obtained a better advertisement than he would if his first placard has been treated with indifference or contempt.

These are but a couple of cases out of dozens, or hundreds. My own opinion is that, on the whole, the juries did their work fairly and honestly.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Oct. 13th:—

	Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up		30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders		16,790,891
Amount of convertible notes issued		188,076,469
Government deposits		35,547,614
General deposits		5,233,575
Exchange liability		10,736
Total		275,659,285
	Cr.	
Discount notes		61,194,362
Foreign discount notes		7,726,633
Loan to Government		22,000,000
General loans		57,049,714
Exchange liability		1,758,921
Government bonds		52,477,260
Property		2,181,177
Bullion and Specie		71,271,216
Total		275,659,285

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	187,824,627
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	67,231,851
Silver	3,000,000
Total	70,231,851
Securities:—	
Government bonds	25,855,704
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,862,753
Commercial notes	59,874,319
Total	117,592,776

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	86,976	—
Silver	—	—
General loans	361,398	—
Government deposits	—	31,445
General deposits	—	673,289

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MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer	Date
America ...	P M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro 1	Su. Oct. 21
Canada, &c. ...	C P R Co.	Em. of India 2	M. Oct. 22
Hongkong ...	P. M Co.	China 3	M. Oct 22
Europe ...	N D. Lloyd	Bayern	Sa. Oct. 27
America ...	O & O Co.	Coptic	M. Oct. 29
Hongkong ...	M M Co.	Tonkin	W. Oct. 31
Hongkong ...	C. P. R. Co.	Em of China	Th Nov. 1
Hongkong, ...	O & O Co.	Doric	Th Nov. 1
America ...	T. K. K.	America Maru	M Nov. 5
Hongkong ...	T K. K.	Nippon Maru	Th Nov. 8

1 Left San Francisco on the 2nd inst
2 Left Vancouver on the 8th inst
3 Left Hongkong on the 13th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong ...	N D Lloyd	Oldenburg	Sa. Oct. 20
Hongkong ...	C P R Co.	Em. of India	M. Oct 22
Hongkong ...	P M Co.	Rio de Janeiro	M. Oct. 22
America ...	P M Co.	China	W. Oct. 24
Europe, via S'hai.	M M Co.	Sydney	F. Oct. 26
Hongkong ...	O & O Co.	Coptic	Tu. Oct. 30
Shanghai ...	N Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Oct. 31
Canada, &c. ...	C. P R. Co.	Em. of China	F. Nov. 2
America ...	O & O Co.	Doric	Sa Nov. 3
Hongkong ...	T. K K.	America Maru	Tu. Nov 6
America ...	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa Nov. 10

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 493.

Key move Q to Q 8

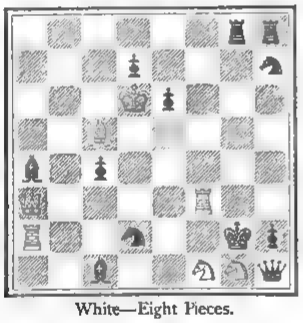
Correct solution received from "P.A.H."

PROBLEM No. 495.

By Mr. T. D. CLARKE (Merino, Victoria).

The first prize position in the Fifth Intercolonial Problem Tourney of the *Sydney Morning Herald* concluded March 17th

Black—Eleven Pieces.



White—Eight Pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 630.

KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Gottschall. Black—Jacob.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	13 B Kt5	R Ksq
2 P KB4	B B4	14 P KR4	PxP
3 Kt KB3	P Q3	15 KtxKt	BxKt
4 B B4	Kt QB3	16 Q R5	Q K2
5 Kt B3	P QR3	17 B Q2	K Rsq
6 P KR3	Kt B3	18 Castles	R KKtsq
7 P Q3	Castles	19 Q R6	R Kt7
8 P B5	Kt QR4	20 R R3	QR KKtsq
9 P KKt4	P QKt4	21 K Ktsq	P Q4
10 B Kt3	B Kt2	22 B Kt5	PxB
11 P Kt5	KtxB	23 PxKtP	P KB3
12 PxKKt	Kt Q5	24 PxBP	Resigns

GAME No. 631.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

White—Jacob. Black—Maroczy.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P QB4	13 B Q2	P KB4
2 Kt KB3	P K3	14 B QB4	P K5
3 P Q4	PxP	15 Kt Ksq	Q K4
4 KtxP	Kt KB3	16 P B4	QxKtP
5 B Q3	Kt B3	17 R Qsq	K Rsq
6 B K3	P Q4	18 B K3	Kt B6
7 PxP	KtxP	19 Q Q3	B B2
8 KtxKt	PxKt	20 Kt B2	KtxB
9 Q K2	B Q3	21 RxKt	PxKt
10 Kt Q2	Castles	22 B Q4	QxBch
11 Kt B3	P K4	Resigns	
12 Castles	Q K2		

CHESS IN THE FAR EAST.

The interest of Far Eastern communities in Chess seems for the moment moribund. The *China Mail* has stopped its chess column and we hear nothing of the Colonial Club. Shanghai appears equally lifeless. The Singapore Chess Club, it is true, has been revived after a lapse of nearly five months. Mr. T. B. Elcum has been elected President, and a match by cable with either Hongkong or Batavia suggested. When, we wonder, will some one with infinite tact, chess enthusiasm, and ability arise in Japan and breathe new life into the dry bones of the Tokyo and Yokohama Chess Clubs?

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, N. Tateyama, 11th Oct.,—Uraga, 11th Oct., Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla, British steamer, 2,216, C. H. S. Tocque, 12th Oct.,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, General. P & O. S N. Co.

Saint Bede, British steamer, 2,287, A. McPherson, 12th Oct.,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 10th Oct., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd

Skarpsno, Norwegian steamer, 1,140, Tillefson, 12th Oct.,—Hongkong via Kobe, 10th Oct., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 12th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 11th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, K. Nunome, 12th Oct., Shanghai via ports, 6th Oct., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Oldenburg, German steamer, 3,156, H. Peager, 14th Oct.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 13th Oct., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Bellerophon, British steamer, 1,318, J. Lyons, 14th Oct.,—Hongkong, 7th Oct., Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire,

Sarnia, German steamer, 2,052, Schlaepke, 14th Oct.,—Hamburg via ports, and Kobe, 13th Oct., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 14th Oct.,—Otaru via Hakodate, 11th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 15th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 14th Oct., Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 16th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 15th Oct., General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 16th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Reuce, American ship, 1,828, D. Whitmore, 16th October,—New York, 3rd June, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Ohokochi Hioi, 16th Oct.,—Newchwang, 7th Oct., Beans.—Tachikawa.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,793, W. Townsend, 16th Oct.,—Kobe, 14th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Aubert, 16th Oct.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 15th Oct., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, A. Yamashita, 16th Oct.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, N. Tateyama, 16th Oct., Yokkaichi, 15th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 17th Oct.,—Shioyetsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konigsberg, German steamer, 3,135, Schiider, 17th October,—Hamburg via ports, and Moji 15th October, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,201, H. Takeda, 17th Oct.—Uraga, 17th October, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 12th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Konouni Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K Shima, 12th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 12th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,364, A. E. Moses, 12th Oct.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Queen Adelaide, British steamer, 1,834, F. McNair, 12th Oct.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, N. Tateyama, 12th Oct.,—Handa and Yokkaichi, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olga, Austrian steamer, 1,951, R. Descovich, 13th Oct.,—San Francisco, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Laos, French steamer, 2,331, Flaudin, 13th Oct.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 13th Oc.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gen. Baguedano, Chilian gunboat, 2,250, Captain Valdez, 13th Oct.,—Nagasaki.

Skarpsno, Norwegian steamer, 1,140, Tillefson, 13th Oct.,—San Francisco via Portland, Ore., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Pax, Dutch barque, 1,391, J. E. Reimers, 12th Oct.,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast —T. M. Laffin.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 13th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, F. W. Horton, 14th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 15th Oct.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 15th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogul, British steamer, 2,354, D. S. Bailey, 15th Oct.,—Seattle, Wash., Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Strombus, British Tank steamer, 3,928, Hocken, 16th Oct.,—Nagasaki via Kobe, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Idomeneus, British steamer, 4,298 James Riley, 16th Oct.,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, K. Nunome, 17th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 16th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 29th Aug., Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 17th Oct.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Andreta, British ship, 1,635, J. E. Ritchie, 17th Oct.—Portland, Oreg., Ballast.—J. M. Laffin.

Brutus, U.S. Navy transport, 1,984, Lt. Meyer, 17th Oct.—Uraga.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 18th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 18th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Rohilla*, from Hongkong via ports.—Com. Hickley, R.N., Com. Dampier, R.N., Com. Simpson, R.N., Com. Saunders, R.N., Mr. Abdoolly, Mr. Wm. Humpureys, Mr. and Mrs. Chin Sui Wing and child, in cabin; 11 Chinese on deck.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Eng. Fujinuma. Mr. H. S. Leanald, and Mr. and Mrs Newman, in cabin, Mrs. Y. Fujinuma, in second class.

Per German steamer *Oldenburg*, from Bremen via ports.—Mr. Bapt. Runge, Mr. Nolke, Mr. F. Ribeiro, Mrs. F. K. Gudierez, Mr. Jules Mulkay, Mr. J. W. Kudz, Mr. H. Picard Desbelan, Mr. Charles M. Gubanji. Mr Tuen Tse Cheong, Mr. Mos Tung, Mr. C. T. Keurenaer, Mr J G. Maas Geesberanus, Mr. Th. de Berigny, Rev. S. Goodchild, Miss Bennett, Miss Ingram, Miss Wilkinson, and Miss Bibb, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. S. Togo, Gen. T. H. Barry, U.S.A., Mr. Washington, Mrs. Washington and servant, Mr. T. Murakami, Mr. C. A. Hershey, Mr. J. G. Fairburn, Mr. B. Roth, Lieut. Singleton Sweitzer, U.S.A., Mrs. Jones, child and amah, Mr. R. Takeshima, Mrs. F. Parsons, and Mr P. C. Kilderry, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mrs. Masuda and child, and Miss Murakami Rio, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. W. B. Williams, Rev. V. C. Hart, Mrs. Hart, Mr. R. D. Tata, Mr. T. H. Hopler, Mr. F. A. De Roza, Mr James Harvie, Miss McCoy, Mr. K. Yokoo, and Mr. Z. C. Beales, wife and child, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, from Marseilles via ports.—Mr. L. Bridel, Mr. S. Suemari, Mr. Fioravanti, Master Fioravanti, Mr. F. W. von Roskowski, Mr. N. Braibant, Mr. Ferra and boy, Dr. von Schab, Mr. C. R. P. Froc, Mr H Stel, Mr. Merecki, Mr. Bimeetret, Mr. Vachier, Mr. Chinon, Mr. Dubash, Mrs. Suemari and infant, and Mr. A. Hatche, in cabin.

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DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for Hongkong via ports.—Mr. Brewster Cameron, Mrs. L. A. Coddington, Mr. H. Crombie, Mrs. H. Crombie, child and amah, Mr. W. E. Dennison, Miss Duryee, Mrs. F. R. Feinberg, Mr. B. Ford, Mrs. N. Fowler, Mrs. C. D. Harman, Miss Henshall, Miss S. Lagrave, Mr. Lam Sai, Mrs. Lam Sai and child, Mr. M. Lassen, Mrs. J. Leonard, Mrs. B. H. McCalla, Miss McCalla, Miss Marie McCalla, Miss Lillie McCalla, Miss Stella McCalla, Mr. W. F. McLaughlin, Mr. P. H. McKay, Mr. C. Mordhorst, Mrs. A. L. Moses, Mrs. M. Osborne, Mr. C. H. Osborne, Mr. W. T. Osborne, Mr. S. T. Paul, Mrs. J. W. Plumb, Miss E. Ridley, Mr. L. M. Robins, Miss Robins, Miss F. Russell, Mr. R. Schmidt, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Mr. W. J. Southam, Mrs. C. M. Thomas and amah, Miss Thomas, Miss Thomas, and Mr. Yuen Chang, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, for Sydney via ports.—Mrs. Johnstone, Mr. and Mrs. K. Okamoto and child, Mr. Bernard Logan, Col. S. C. Ralston, Mr. H. Lyman, Mr. and Mrs. F. Midzukawa, Capt. J. James, Mrs. and Miss Hunter, Countess de Hamel de Marion, Mr. S. Koage, Mr. and Mrs. McChicken, and Mr. A. J. Protheroe, in cabin; Mr. George Leigh, Mr. B. W. Thomas, Mr. O. Harder, Mr. W. Woodruff, Mr. N. Nagase, and Mr. S. Tanimura, in second class.

Per French steamer *Laos*, for Marseilles via ports;—Mr. F. J. Lias, Mr. A. B. Macdonald, Mr. Bernard Cogan, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Gause, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Barton, Mr. and Mrs. H. Grimble, Mrs. Jourdan, Mr. W. Ostopenks, Rev. J. C. Garritt Mr. J. T. Hamilton, General Stahel, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Neab, Mrs. Rult. Massey, Mr. A. Clerice, Mr. Shan Chan, Mrs. Wolff, Mr. H. E. Pollock, Mr. Smith, Mr. J. Isaacs, Mr. B. Guharbower, Mr Allev, Mr. and Mrs. Lippmann, and Mr. J. Hirano, in cabin; 7 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. H. R. Barnard, Rev. and Mrs. Geo. Douglas and children, Mr. W. Welsh, Mr. K. Mishiro and Miss Minna Grage in cabin; Mr. Alex. Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Taga, Mr. K. Minemura, Mr. R. Mayejima, Mr. T. Minami, Mr. M. Yamamoto, Mr. C. Katori, Mr. S. Okazawa and Mr. Kong Zah Kie, in 2nd class.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. L. Bagnall Mr. Henry P. Bowie, Miss L. A. Brooks, Mr. S. Caravella, Miss M. A. Foster, Rev. V. C. Hart, Mrs. V. C. Hart, Mr. James Harvie, Miss Masa Hasegawa, Mr F. H. Hopter, Mr. T. Iwasaki, Mr. T. Kutz Mr. G. T. Marsh, Master Marsh, Mrs. Masuda and child, Miss McCoy, Miss Rio Murakami, Mrs. A. S. Rice, Miss Rice, Mr. F. A. de Roza, Mr. F. Sakurai, Mrs. F. Sakurai, Mr. L. J. Salomon, Mrs. L. J. Salomon, Mr. R. D. Tata, Mr. W. C. Vaughan, Mr. W. B. Williams, Mr. K. Yokoo, and Mr. K. Yoshida, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Laos*, for Marseilles via ports.—Raw Silk for Europe, 864 bales, Waste Silk for Europe, 419 bales.

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

STEAMERS.

NAME.	FROM.	REPORTED.	
Agamemmon	Liverpool	Left S'pore	Sept. 28
Ajax	Liverpool	Left S'pore	Oct 17
Ambria	Hamburg	Passed Canal	Oct. 8
Annam	Marseilles	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Antenor	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 2
Athesia	Hamburg	Left H'kong	Oct. 16
Awa Maru	London	At Kobe	Oct. 15
Bayern	Bremen	Passed Canal	Sept. 30
Benvorlich	London	Passed Canal	Aug. 10
Chingwo	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Sept. 30
Claverley	New York	Passed Canal	Aug. 28
Dardanus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Aug. 28
Folmina	New York	Leaves	Sept. 18
Gisela	Trieste	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Glenfarg	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Glenartney	New York	Left	Aug. 30
Glenturret	New York	Leaves S'pore	Sept 25
Hillglen	New York	Left S'hai	Sept. 27
Hiroshima Maru	Bombay	Left	Oct. 13
Hitachi Maru	London	Left	Oct. 13
Hutton	New York	Leaves	Sept. 15
Inaba Maru	London	Left Colombo	Oct. 9
Kamakura Maru	London	Left Suez	Oct. 11
Kasuga Maru	Australia	Left Manila	Oct. 13
Menelaus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Sept. 28
Pyrrhus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Aug. 28
Riojun Maru	Seattle	Left	Oct. 10
Polarstjernen	New York	Leaves	Sept. 15
Sarpedon	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Sept. 21
Suevia	Hamburg	Passed Canal	Sept. 17
Tantalus	Liverpool	Left S'pore	Oct. 8
Tonkin	Marseilles	Left S'pore	Oct. 16
Ulysses	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Wakasa Maru	London	Leaves	Oct. 26

UNDER SAIL.

Alsterdam	New York	May 12	Y'hama
Ancona (1)	Phila.	May 22	Kobe
Arthur Fager	New York	Aug. 23	Y'hama
Arthur Sewall	New York	Aug. 23	Y'hama
County of L'gow	New York	Aug. 2	Kobe
Dunsdale	Phila.	July 26	N'saki
Dunstaffnage	Phila.	June 15	Kobe
Ellsland	New York	Aug 23	Y'hama
Eulomene	Phila.	June 24	Kobe
Ferdinand Fischer	Phila.	Aug. 9	Kobe
Flottbek	Port Tampa	May 12	Y'hama
Gertrude	Phila.	May 4	N'saki
Hassia	New York	May 20	H'date
H. S. Charlotte	Phila.	June 15	Kobe
H. Hackfield	Phila.	Aug. 13	N saki
Khorason	Port Tampa	Aug. 3	Y'hama
Liverpool	Phila.	Aug. 26	Kobe
Manchester	New York	Aug. 23	Y'hama
Nereide	New York	Sept. 6	Y'hama
Niobe	New York	Aug. 11	Y'hama
Otto G'meister	New York	May 21	Y'hama
Queen Victoria	Barry	May 27	N'saki
Thessalus	Phila.	Aug. 23	N'saki
Torrisdale	Cardiff	April 16	N'saki
Wega	Cardiff	Aug. 28	Y'hama
Willy Rickmers	Phila.	Aug. 5	Kobe

(1) Passed Anger on Sept. 11.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

In Imports there is no business and consequently nothing to report. Prices for raw cotton are slightly easier.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE	
Grey Shirting—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.	2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches		4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirting—24 yards, 14 inches		2 50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches		3 00 to 5 00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD	0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannels	Y.	0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.		0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches		0 24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 to 56 inches		0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 65 inches		0.90 to 1 10
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches		0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb		0.68 to 0 78
	PER PIECE	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches		9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches		0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches		2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches		2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.	
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y.	150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28, 32, Singles		Nominal
Nos. 38 42, Singles		Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles		190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 42, Doubles		190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain		Nominal
Nos 2/100, Plain		Nominal
Nos 2 60, Gassed		295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed		360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed		Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling		30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach	}	Nominal
Chinese	}	

METALS.

Still nothing doing in metals. Positively no enquiry.

	PER PICUL	
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y.	5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted		5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron		6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets		12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted		7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box		7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3		2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)		6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

The kerosene market is weak.

American	$2 90
Russian	2.75
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

Prices have hardened for brown sorts and some 7,000 bags Hongkong refined have changed hands at full rates.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	Y.	5.20 to 6.00
Brown Manila		5.70 to 6.95
Brown Daitong		4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton		5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang		7.00 to 8.70
White Refined		8.10 to 9.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been practically no market for raw silk this week, dealers being engaged in "settling" last week's settlements. Considerable difficulty has been found in weighing up these "bargains," and until they are satisfactorily disposed of the market is not open for fresh business. Prices, however, will undoubtedly be lower when buying recommences.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	
Common—Coarse	
Re-reels—Extra	
Re-reels—No. 1	
Re-reels—No. 1½	
Re reels—No 2	
Re-reels—No. 3	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	
Kakedas—No. 1½	
Kakedas—No. 2	
Kakedas—No. 2½	

WASTE SILK.

Very little doing in the Waste Silk market and quotations still remain nominal. Sellers ask a rise of five dollars per picul all round but there is little disposition for business on either side.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	135 to 140
Noshi Filatures, Good	125 to 130
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi Shinshiu, Best	95 to 100
Noshi Shinshiu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi Joshiu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	50 to 52½
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	40 to 42½

Nominal

TEA.

The Tea market is about the same as last reported, and there is still a good demand at slightly firmer prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	33 to 34
Finest	31 to 32
Fine	29 to 30
Good Medium	27 to 28
Medium	25 to 26
Good Common	23 to 24
Common	21 to 22

COPPER.

There is no fresh business.

FISH OIL.

Fresh sales have taken place at unaltered prices, sufficient to encourage dealers to keep firm hold of the small stock left.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, October 18.

No alteration in the London price of silver, but discounts are ⅛ lower, China sterling quotations are unaltered, as also are local rates.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅜
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞@51
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	2½% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	Par.
Shanghai—Bank sight	70
— Private 10 days' sight	71½
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29⅜

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BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, October 18.

Grand Hotels can be had at *yen* 240. Oriental Hotels—Offers for founders, old and new shares are wanted. Club Hotels are steady at *yen* 80. Helms are firm at *yen* 55. Engine and Iron Works are quiet at *yen* 207.50. Langfeldts can be had at *yen* 90. Laundries have sellers at par.

Debentures—Y. U. Club can be had at *yen* 107. Laundries are obtainable at par.

Tokyo Ropes were sold to-day at *yen* 72.50.

Hodogaya Breweries were sold to-day at *yen* 23.50.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	207 50 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	90 S
Helm Bros., ¥50	55 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	100 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	106 N.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, October 18.

Helms have sellers at *yen* 55. Langfeldts can be had at *yen* 90.

Japan Brewery debentures have buyers at *yen* 108. Brett & Co. debentures can be had at par. Y. U. Clubs can be had at *yen* 107.

	YEN.	
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207 50	Sales.
Grand Hotel	240	Sales.
Club Hotel	85	Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150	Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90	Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	150	Sales.

TELEGRAPHIC QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, Oct. 16.

BANKS.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	$314 % prem.	B.
National Bank of China, Limited	26	Buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.

China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited	58	Sales.
North China Insurance Company, Limited	Tls. 165	Sales.

FIRE INSURANCES.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	$295	Buyers.
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	78	Buyers.

SHIPPING.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, Limited	32	Sellers.
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	43	Buyers.

MINING.

Punjom Mining Company, Limited	3¼	Sales.
Raub A'lian Gold Mining Company, Limited	55	Sales.

DOCKS, WHARFS AND GODOWNS.

Hongkong & W'poa Dock Company, Limited	545 % prem.	Sa.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ld.	84	Sales.

LANDS.

Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited	184	Buyers.
H'phrey's Estate & Finance Company, Limited	11¼	Buyers.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Indo-China Steamship Company, Limited	86	Buyers.
Green Island Cement Co., Limited	19¼	Sales.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS,
Stock and Share Broker,
75, Main Street.

TOKUMIYA.

BROKER IN LOAN BONDS, DEBENTURES, SHARES, AND STOCKS.

Tokyo, Oct. 18.

	YEN.
Redemption Loan Bonds	91 90
War Loan Bonds	91 91
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	95.20
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	405.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	61 70
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	162.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	93.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	92.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	62.50

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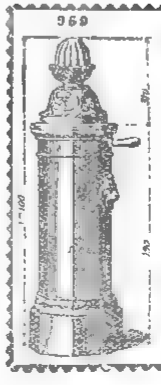
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25		32 30
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50		72 70
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 44		62.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 12 50		23.00
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45		98.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25		68.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47		54 30
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50		40.60
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50		52 30
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 45		39 40
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50		82 70
Hokkaido Colliery R'way 2nd issue—paid up yen 33		73.50
Sohu Railway—paid up yen 50		71 50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50		32.00
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50		16.90
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50		73.00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37 50		17 00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50		26 50
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 38		23 50
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 32		8 0
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13		19 50
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50		200 50



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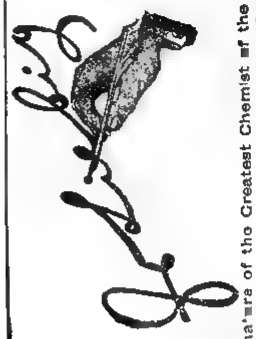

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（毎土曜日一回發行）

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 27TH, 1900.

DEATH.

At 68-A, Bluff, at 3.20 p.m. on Friday, the 19th Oct., ELIZA WILSON, beloved wife of C. G. Wilson, C.E.

BIRTHS.

At No. 60-C, Bluff, on the 22nd inst., the wife of Mr. A. ORR EWING, of the China Inland Mission, of a daughter.

On the 26th October, at No. 7-C Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of A. BELLAMY BROWN, of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FIVE new cases of dysentery were reported at the Sugamo Hospital on Oct. 25th.

MADAME NISHI was received in audience by the Empress on the morning of the 20th inst.

A JAPANESE *sampan* capsized in Hakodate harbour on Oct. 22nd and three men were drowned.

A WOMAN named Yasushira Shuye, living at Inarimachi, Nambu, Osaka, was attacked by plague on the 15th inst. and died on the 18th inst.

THE N. Y. K. steamer *Yamaguchi Maru* cut down the French transport *Caravane* in the Inland Sea this week. Three lives were lost.

A FRENCH transport with 30 officers and 1,665 men arrived at Nagasaki on the 22nd inst. from Taku and left for Saigon the same evening.

SEVERAL coolies were buried by an earthslip at Shinagawa on Oct. 23rd while engaged on railway works there. One was fatally and one seriously hurt.

THE upper gallery of the wrestling booth at Oimura, Yebara-gori, near Tokyo, broke down on the 19th inst. and several persons were injured.

A MAN named Nomura Kanekichi, employed in an export shop at Hemi, Yokosuka, was killed by an engine at Yokosuka station on the evening of the 21st inst.

KAMADA MASAKICHI and two other persons were robbed by three footpads at Fujita-mura. Kotamagori, Saitama-Ken, on the evening of the 17th inst. They lost *yen* 10 and a bag.

FIRE broke out at Izushimachi, Toyama Prefecture, on the afternoon of the 19th inst. and sixty houses were destroyed. This Prefecture has seen three big fires this year.

ON Wednesday as the Empress of Japan was driving through Tokyo, a lunatic threw his clogs at one of the carriages of her escort. The man has been sent to the Sugamo asylum.

A GRAIN merchant lost *yen* 385 while travelling by rail between Totsuka and Hodogawa on the evening of Oct. 19th. A thief had cut a hole in his small bag and so taken the money out unobserved.

A MAN named Tsuchiya Matsugoro living at Ishikawa Nakamachi Ichome, Yokohama, was arrested by the Isezakicho police on the 17th inst. on a charge of stealing bicycles in Tokyo and Yokohama.

A THIEF entered, through the roof, a godown at the residence of Viscount Hosokawa, Riusenji-machi, Shitaya, Tokyo, on the night of the 17th inst. and stole sixty suits of garments, valued at 1,500 *yen*

A KOREAN named Gosei Sei, employed at the Hotel Metropole, Tokyo, was arrested on Oct. 22nd charged with stealing *yen* 50 and a cheque for *yen* 25 from a Russian guest at the hotel on the previous day.

A FIRE occurred at a confectioner's shop at Nekozane, Urayama-mura, Higashi Katsushika district, Chiba Prefecture, on the night of the 17th inst., and in the conflagration that ensued over sixty houses were burnt.

A MAN named Tanaka Motokichi was arrested in the wilds of Mumeyama on Oct. 20th. He is charged with stealing copper piping to the value of *yen* 200 from the Yokosuka Arsenal, which he afterwards sold for *yen* 11.

A MAN named Oye Sataro, employed in a *habutai* shop at Ogicho Sanchome, Yokohama, was arrested by the Kotobukicho Police on the 21st inst. on a charge of stealing 493 handkerchiefs, valued at 150 *yen*, from his employer.

THE British hospital ship *Maine*, flying the red cross, admiralty and transport flags, came into Yokohama on Sunday. As already stated, she brings six officers and ninety-six men either wounded or invalided for treatment in the Naval Hospital here.

SERGEANT FUJII FUSAKICHI, who was the first to gain the walls at Tientsin, commited suicide by shooting himself with a Murata rifle, at Hiroshima barracks, early on the morning of the 20th inst. He had been greatly depressed in mind since returning to Japan.

THE ceremony of presenting the prizes at the exhibition of Products of Kanagawa Prefecture, at Totsuka, took place on the 21st instant. Over 600 persons attended, including the Governor and Secretary of Kanagawa. There were 13 first prizes, 40 second, 134 third, and 900 fourth and fifth prizes.

WE learn that the Committee of the Yokohama Choral Society have decided to give a ballad concert in December, at the same time practising Sullivan's Opera "The Chieftain," which they hope to put on early in the spring. The practices will commence on Monday next, in the Vestibule of the Public Hall.

A ROBBER named Taniguchi Chozo, was arrested on the 17th inst. on a charge of stealing several pieces of cloth belonging to Ito Kiujiro, living at Suginami-mura, Toyotama-gori, Tokyo, on the night of the 16th inst. He made up the articles into a package and was caught in a cemetery near the village while sleeping, using the bundle as a pillow.

THREE drunken jinrikishamen stopped traffic on the Tokyo tram line for over an hour on the evening of the 17th. They started by striking two horses over the head with sticks, and when remonstrated with jeered at the driver. When the police interfered the men took off the constables' hats, and refused to give them up. Five men were eventually arrested.

A WOMAN named Watanabe Tama, who formerly kept a restaurant at Ota, near Yokohama, was arrested on Oct. 19th on a charge of attempting to defraud an insurance company. She had insured her furniture for *yen* 600, but afterwards pawned a considerable portion. Later her premises were burned down and she received *yen* 537 from the insurer.

WE hear that the marriage will take place early in January of Commander Ernest H. Grafton, of H.M.S. *Pembroke*, and Ethel Maud, eldest daughter of W. M. A. Wright, M.D., Ulverton, Dalkey, County Dublin. Commander Grafton, many of our readers will recollect, was on the Asiatic station in the *Porpoise* and afterwards in command of the *Redpole*.

THE general conference of Evangelical Protestant Missionaries in Japan will be held at Tokyo in the Y.M.C.A. building, Mitoshirocho, Kanda, from the 24th to the 30th of this month inclusive. An extensive programme has been prepared, covering every branch of missionary effort and a very large attendance of missionaries from all parts of the Empire is expected.

A TELEGRAM has been received from the Governor at Hsianfu, the capital of Shensi, to the effect that nine Scandinavian missionaries of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, belonging to Ningsha, in Kansu, had passed through Hsian all right, on their way to Hankow. This news will be a great relief to those who have anxiously been looking for tidings from them, and have feared for their safety.

PROFESSOR HENRY SIDGWICK crowned a noble life by a noble death. When, last spring, after a medical consultation in London he came back to Cambridge, he knew that his days were numbered. To a man of his temperament and his intense interest in all phases of life the blow must have fallen with terrible force. But the philosophy which he taught at Cambridge for so many years stood him in good stead at that hour of supreme need. There was not a moment's flinching before the inevitable. Everything went on as before. Bravely the stricken man did his duty, uttering no complaint, and bravely he went on till a few weeks before the end, when he took to bed. Only then did he relinquish work.

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THE NEW CABINET.

Monday, Oct. 22.

Quite unexpectedly the new Cabinet received their portfolios from the Emperor on the afternoon of the 19th instant, at 4 o'clock. Even the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai* themselves are said to have been unprepared for this rapidity of action. The inference now drawn, with apparent justice, is that nothing but Marquis Ito's illness caused the delay. The Marquis returned to Tokyo on the 18th instant, and though still confined to his room, took measures to submit to the Emperor the names of a new Ministry. His Majesty immediately gave his sanction, and the ceremony of installation was performed at the Palace on the 19th, Prince Iwakura acting in Marquis Ito's place. The Cabinet is formed as follows:—

Minister President.....Marquis Ito.
Minister of Finance .....Viscount Watanabe.
Minister of Home Affairs.....Baron Suyematsu.
Minister of Justice.....Baron Kaneko.
Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.....Mr. Hayashi.
Minister of Education .....Mr. Matsuda.
Minister of Foreign Affairs...Mr. Kato.
Minister of Communications..Mr. Hoshi.

The most noteworthy point about the Cabinet is that it includes no less than five names formerly borne on the roll of the Liberal Party, namely, Viscount Watanabe, Baron Suyematsu, Mr. Hayashi, Mr. Matsuda, and Mr. Hoshi. Many people will be disposed for that reason to call it a party cabinet, and to say that Marquis Ito's declaration of ministerial responsibility to the Emperor alone, has not been confirmed by his practice. But the inclusion of Baron Kaneko and Mr. Kato—especially the latter—shows that the Marquis has not been limited by party lines.

Of course there is much surprise at the appointment of Viscount Watanabe to the portfolio of Finance. Every one looked to see Count Inouye in that position. Count Inouye took probably a larger and more influential part than any one else in organizing the *Seiyu-kai* His financial ability is universally recognised to be of the highest order. He and Count Matsukata have always worked together and would have continued to do so. He possesses the complete confidence of business circles. And, finally, his intimate relations with the elder statesmen would have proved a most useful element of strength to the Cabinet. It is easy, however, to see what has happened. Count Inouye, true to his invariable custom of unselfish self-effacement, has voluntarily stood aside in order to smoothe a difficulty which had assumed almost the dimensions of a scandal. We observe that some writers allude to the affair as a victory for Viscount Watanabe Thoughtful persons will have no hesitation in ascribing the victory to Count Inouye.

Viscount Watanabe has shown remarkable determination. We can not recall in the story of Occidental politics, any precedent for the course he has taken. It may be said that he has accepted an important portfolio in the very teeth of strong condemnation by the political party to which he belongs. After the manifesto issued by the General Committee of the *Seiyu-kai*, it seemed to us impossible that the Viscount should remain a candidate, or even that he should continue to belong to the *Seiyu-kai*. It seemed to us also that the action of the General Committee had been insubordinate and precipitate, and that it presaged a difficult task for Marquis Ito when he came to exercise control over such an association. But the unexpected has happened as usual. It is the General Committee that loses face. Marquis Ito displaced the whole Committee, and then reappointed the greater part of them, nominating Mr. Ozaki Yukio in place of Viscount Watanabe. In short, of the 15 members of the old Committee, 12 are re-appointed and, 3 are removed, Mr Ozaki being named in place of one of the three, and the other two places being left vacant, so that the number of the Committee is reduced to 13. Viscount Watanabe, who was Chairman of the Committee, ceases to belong to it, and Marquis Saionji becomes Chairman in his stead. Thus, as a Tokyo contemporary well says, Marquis Ito has buffeted them all with one hand and caressed them with the other. The Committee has received a gentle hint, but has been restored again to favour—with the exception of Messrs. Oguri and Hirade —, and Viscount Watanabe has lost his post of Chairman of Committee but has received instead the portfolio of Finance. Thus the Marquis has asserted himself without greatly hurting any one, though it must be confessed that the members of the former Committee receive a very severe slap in the face when the man they denounced as "out of his mind" is immediately appointed Minister of Finance.

On the whole, the vernacular press—or, at any rate, such journals as have had time to publish comments—speak favourably of the new Cabinet. The *Mainichi* alone is scathingly abusive. It calls the new Ministry a "bundle of rags," and finds nothing wholesome in the whole slate. The *Nichi Nichi* evidently disapproves strongly of the Watanabe appointment, and is inclined to think that round men have been put into square holes. For the rest, the *Kokumin*, the *Jiji*, the *Hochi*, the *Shogyo*, and the *Jimmin* all write in a more or less laudatory strain. The *Jiji* remarks that the Cabinet indicates a clear transfer of power from the hands of the elder statesmen to those of the younger. Mr. Kato, Baron Suyematsu and Baron Kaneko, it says, are all children from Marquis Ito's point of view, and Messrs. Hayashi, Hoshi and Matsuda are raw students in his eyes. The *Jiji* has always contended for new blood and is correspondingly pleased.

Foreigners, of course, are particularly interested in the appointment of Mr. Kato to the Foreign Office. It is universally recognised that Mr. Kato is one of the ablest among the rising statesmen of Japan, and great hopes were entertained that the portfolio of Foreign Affairs might fall to his share, for with Marquis Ito at the head of the Cabinet and Mr. Kato at the Foreign Office, Japan will surely follow a wise course. Mr. Kato speaks English perfectly and has had intimate experience of foreign affairs for many years. During his tenure of office as Japanese Representative in London, he acquitted himself in such a way as to acquire exceptional popularity among Englishmen while at the same time sensibly promoting his country's interests.

Count Okuma has of course been interviewed about the new Cabinet. He expresses great regret that Count Inouye is not a member. Marquis Ito is a man of theory; Count Inouye a man of action. The two in combination make a great force, but the Marquis without the Count will have a very much more difficult task to perform. Mr. Kato as Foreign Minister meets with Count Okuma's entire approval. He heartily congratulates the Cabinet Ministers in having such a colleague in such a position. He also approves of Baron Kaneko as Minister of Justice The Baron is a graduate of Harvard, and an erudite jurisconsult, to say nothing of the large training he has had in drafting laws. At the same time, Count Okuma wonders that Baron Kaneko's reputation does not stand higher. He is not very sanguine about Baron Suyematsu's success at the Home Office, though he fully grants the Baron's singleness of heart and his amiability. With Marquis Ito's assistance, however, the Baron may do well. The Count refrains from any detailed comment on Messrs. Hoshi, Matsuda or Hayashi, and he speaks in the most contemptuous terms of Viscount Watanabe. But though the Progressist leader offers no opinion about Mr. Hoshi's success as a Minister, he expresses unqualified applause of his ability as a politician, and of the magnanimity shown by him in neither demanding a seat in the Cabinet nor attempting to make any choice of portfolios when he was offered one.

An unusual feature marked the installation of the new Cabinet at the Palace on the 19th instant. Prince Iwakura read to the assembled Ministers the following Imperial message:—"The multiplicity of problems of domestic and foreign policy now pressing for solution cause us profound solicitude. We trust that Our Ministers of State will harmoniously unite their efforts to fully discharge their important functions so as to relieve Our anxiety."

Most of the newly appointed Ministers seem to have been taken by surprise, the general impression having been that the ceremony would be deferred until Marquis Ito was sufficiently recovered to take part in it. They repaired subsequently to the residence of the Premier, where Marquis Ito exhorted them to work harmoniously, in accordance with the Imperial behest.

The Ministers of War and of the Navy are reported to be fixed in their resolution of resigning, and it is expected that Lieut.-General Baron Terauchi will succeed Viscount Katsura, and that either Vice-Admiral Viscount Ito, or Vice-Admiral Baron Shibayama will have the portfolio of the Navy.

Tuesday, Oct. 23.

One view of the new Cabinet, expressed with special explicitness by the *Nippon*, is that it is conspicuously without the so-called "elder statesmen." In proof of this assertion, the composition of the last eight Cabinets is referred to. Thus:—

Yamagata Cabinet	(1890)	 6	elder statesmen.
Matsukata "	(1891)	 6	"
Ito "	(1892)	 7	"
Matsukata "	(1896)	 4	"
Ito "	(1898)	 3	"
Okuma "	(1898)	 2	"
Yamagata "	(1899)	 4	"
Ito "	(1900)	 1	"

The presence of a large number of elder statesmen has not been conducive, in the *Nippon's* opinion, to the rapid conduct of business, and has been especially embarrassing in matters of finance, for the elder statesmen always obtained the appropriations they desired for their Departments, and the younger were left in the lurch. In the new Cabinet Marquis Ito himself is the only "elder statesman." He will have complete control and sole responsibility. The *Nippon* professes to be much pleased with this arrangement, but we suspect that its satisfaction is connected with the responsibility rather than with anything else.

Baron Iwakura and Mr. Mizuno Rentaro have been appointed Private Secretaries to the Minister of State for Home Affairs; Mr. Matsumoto Yokichi receives the same post in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

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THE CHINESE CRISIS.

Saturday, Oct. 20.

Diametrically contradictory telegrams are to hand about the rebellion in the South of China. One says that the Triads have been badly beaten by the Government's troops, that Hwui-chow has been recovered and that the insurgents have retreated. Another message says that the rebellion is assuming still larger dimensions in the neighbourhood of Hwui-chow, and that Viceroy Li's order to Liu, the leader of the Black Flags, to return south is in consequence of the necessity of dealing vigorously with these rebels. We may explain for the information of our readers who may not happen to possess maps, that the scene of the Triads' insurrection is the coast-wise district of Kwan-tung, between Swatow and Hwui-chow, and that their possession of the latter town places them within striking distance of the East River, which forms the line of communication between Canton and the Sea.

Monday, Oct. 22.

The Chinese authorities at Paoting have adopted the prudent policy pursued at other towns which the allied troops visited on their present expedition. Formal surrender was made of the city without resistance, but the allied commanders were requested not to allow the troops to enter, as the inhabitants would certainly fly *en masse*. To this the commanders appear to have agreed. It may be hoped, perhaps, that Paoting will escape looting. No excuse can apparently be found for theft in this case.

The Foreign Office in Tokyo publishes a telegram from a French source to the effect that a battalion of French infantry with two guns and a squadron of cavalry, occupied Paoting on the 18th instant, without encountering any resistance. We do not see how that can be correct. The Tientsin column, to which the French belonged, left that city on the 12th, and can not possibly have reached Paoting, 110 miles distant, on the 13th. The telegram adds that the remaining allied troops were expected to reach Paoting on the 19th. That would mean eight clear days' marching, whether from Peking or Tientsin, and we do not understand how any French column can have distanced the rest by seven days, unless it started a week earlier, of which there is no intelligence. At all events it is pretty certain that Paoting has fallen without fighting, so that the dangerous contingencies which might otherwise have attended the expedition have been averted.

A telegram received by the Foreign Office from Newchwang says that communications by the Liao River are interrupted owing to the depredations of bandits, and that supplies of beans have ceased to reach Newchwang. There appears to be little hope of quiet being speedily restored. After all, the Chinese Authorities, when they were in power, used to be able to avert these troubles.

The Russians have occupied Mukden. They found that the ancient palace of the Manchu, the residences of foreigners, and a part of the city had been burned by the Chinese.

According to the latest news, the insurgents in the south of China are gaining head daily. It is now evident that there are two centres of insurrection; one in the coast districts between Swatow and Kowloon, the other in the vicinity of the East River. Attention has hitherto been directed chiefly to the latter rebels, who gained possession of Hwui-chow a few days ago, and are said to have now taken Shinsu, Pakman, Ping-tow and Ma-gan—these four names are telegraphed phonetically, so that we can not be certain of their orthography. It is added that the Government's troops under General Liu encountered the insurgents at Ping-tow and Ma-gan, but were driven back with heavy loss. Further, the two bodies of insurgents are reported to have joined hands and to be acting in concert.

Accounts from Shanghai are conflicting. A telegram to the *Shogyo Shimpo* represents an improved state of affairs owing to some of the Chinese banks having resumed payment. But the *Jiji* has a telegram from Nagasaki which alleges that the Chinese merchants at that port have received most discouraging messages, representing the Shanghai banks as reduced to great straits. There are 32 Chinese banks in Shanghai. Supplies of specie, which generally reach them at this season from Chefoo, have ceased, and, at the same time, large drafts have been made on them since the commencement of the troubles in the north. The Nagasaki Chinese merchants predict that there is little hope of any improvement before next year.

Tuesday, Oct. 23.

Prince Ching and Viceroy Li are said to have had their powers increased for the purposes of the peace conference We are not quite clear what the change signifies, for the two commissioners were already supposed to be full plenipotentiaries. But the ancient usages of China appear to furnish subtle distinctions of degree which do not enter into the practice of Western diplomacy. Whatever be the powers of the two commissioners, however, it must be confessed that their action hitherto does not promise well for the speedy restoration of peace. They must be fully aware that foreign Powers have no idea of ignoring the terrible outrages committed by the Boxers against foreign life and property in Shantung, Shansi, Chili and elsewhere, and that foreign Powers will insist on holding the Chinese Government responsible for those outrages. Yet in the proposals put forward by them they make no allusion whatever to any incident except the attack on the Legations, which they confess to have been a violation of international law. The flagrant violations of the treaties that took place in connexion with the Boxer movement are totally ignored by the Chinese plenipotentiaries. That is surely bad policy. It is said that Sir Robert Hart is acting as adviser to Li and Ching, but we can scarcely believe that Sir Robert Hart counselled an attitude which will at once arouse the indignation of foreign States

Wednesday, Oct. 24.

Symptoms of disturbance are reported from Chekiang and Hupeh, but the news is very indefinite.

Rumour has it that Viceroy Liu Kun-yi has tendered his resignation on the ground of old age and ill-health, and that there is much difficulty about his successor. Chao Shuchiao, Wang Wen-shao and Luh Chuen-lin, all men of note and influence, have recommended Chang Chi-tung as Liu's successor, but the Empress Dowager is reported to be of opinion that Chang is not the kind of man to deal with an emergency. Her Majesty doubtless has a vivid recollection of the services rendered by Liu Kun-yi at the time of the Taiping Rebellion. If Liu persists in his resolve of quitting office, the situation will certainly not be improved.

The insurrection of the Triads continues to grow. The acting Viceroy of the two Kwang is said to have sent his family for safety to Hongkong. We do not understand this rumour, however, for the two Kwang have a duly appointed Viceroy, Li Hung-chang's successor.

Field Marshal Waldersee is expected to have his head-quarters for the winter in Tientsin. His occupation of the Phœnix Palace in Peking was only temporary, but we shall not be surprised to hear that even if no other difficulty stood in the way of the Court's return to Peking, the fact that the Palace had been used as military quarters by a foreign General would be conclusive. The Field Marshal is now engaged, it is said, fixing the limits of the districts to be occupied by the troops of the various Powers during the winter. Not more than eight battalions of German troops will be quartered in Chili; the remainder will have their barracks at Kiaochow.

Thursday, Oct. 25.

A telegram received a few days ago said that the Chinese Plenipotentiaries had asked to have the peace negotiations opened on the 20th instant. It is now stated that the Foreign Representatives, as might have been expected, declared themselves unprepared to commence the discussion at that date, not only because some of their number were absent from Peking, but also since they were still without definite instructions from their respective Governments. Meanwhile an extraordinary story reaches Tokyo from Shanghai to the effect that Field Marshal Waldersee has addressed an ultimatum to the Chinese Government, demanding the return of the Imperial Court to Peking. The Marshal is represented as saying that full guarantees for a safe conduct will be given, but that unless the Court consents, and unless its consent is signified within ten days, two columns will be despatched to attack Si-ngan. It will be at once apparent that Field Marshal Waldersee has no authority to take any such step. His functions are purely military, not diplomatic, and he has nothing whatever to do with the movements of the Imperial Court. Moreover, we think it very doubtful whether he could undertake to send a column of allied troops to Si-ngan, since his command is understood to be limited to Chili. The story may be put down as a Shanghai canard. Count von Waldersee has shown himself, thus far, a man of sound judgment and moderate views. Nothing is less likely than that he should so palpably overstep the limits of his functions. It is much to be desired that telegraphic correspondents would exercise more circumspection. Everything coming from a source so tainted as Shanghai is naturally viewed with suspicion, but London has lately been responsible for two very misleading items of news; one that the Chinese Plenipotentiaries had rejected a part of the proposals submitted by the Foreign Plenipotentiaries, though it was quite obvious that no proposals could yet have been submitted by the latter; the other that M. Pichon had demanded the heads of Prince Twan and Generals Kang and Tung. We are very sure that M. Pichon did nothing of the kind. Prince Twan's head, however, is not by any means secure. Another telegram alleges that a memorial signed by fifteen Viceroys and Governors has been addressed to the Throne, calling for the decapitation of that illustrious personage. The Empress Dowager finds herself veritably between the devil and the deep blue sea. As for General

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Kang, rumour insists that he has committed suicide. A similar act on the part of Twan and Tung would greatly ease the situation. An indication that Twan no longer occupies his old position of pernicious adviser is perhaps furnished by the fact that although the Court has set out for Si-ngan, Twan remains behind in Ta-yuen.

The Chinese Court seems to be perplexed about the choice of a temporary capital. Rumour now says that objections have been raised to Si-ngan on the ground that Shensi is suffering from something like famine and that the support of the Court's large entourage would be very difficult in that province. Moreover, if the foreign Powers blockaded Hankow, the communications with Si-ngan would be severed. Under the circumstances Chengtu in Szechuan is recommended as more suitable, and the problem is said to be receiving close attention. Chengtu was the capital in the era of the Three Dynasties. It is said to be exceedingly difficult of access from the direction of the Yangtsze Valley, but as many military expeditions were made from it in old times' towards Peking, the Court may possibly reflect that so long as Peking is held by the allies, Chengtu would not be an eligible capital.

Liu Kun-yi and Chang Chih-tung do not appear to be very hopeful as to the speedy restoration of peace. They are adopting measures to strengthen the defences of the districts under their control. Chang is reported to have arranged a loan of five hundred thousand taels from a Belgian firm, assigning the Customs dues as security. But Chang has no power to hypothecate the Customs dues, which are collected by the central Government. The story sounds apocryphal.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

The Government of France is said to have addressed to all the Powers a proposal in the sense that it is quite useless to open negotiations with China unless a full agreement has been arrived at beforehand with reference to the demands that are to be advanced. This proposal embodies what may almost be called a truism, for if the foreign plenipotentiaries go into the conference without any definite previous understanding as to their own intentions, there is not even a remote chance of a settlement being made within a reasonable time.

Japan, meanwhile, has submitted to the Powers a proposal which is thoroughly practical, and which will dovetail excellently into France's idea. It is that the Foreign Powers should instruct their Representatives in Peking to hold preliminary conferences with the object of elaborating a programme of demands. The French proposal does not indicate any method of reaching a preliminary agreement. It leaves the question open whether steps for that purpose should be taken in Europe or in China. The Japanese proposal is explicit as to Peking, and we should think that there can be no doubt about its commending itself to the various Governments, for not only are the Peking Representatives in the best position for judging what should be asked for, but also, since they presumably will have to conduct the negotiations, it will be a manifest advantage that they should have an accurate knowledge of the line of reasoning upon which each demand is based.

The indemnity question, simple as the general fact seems, demands most careful consideration. To approach China with a bill to be paid would be a plainly futile operation unless not only the amount of the bill is definitely fixed, but also the means to be adopted by China for paying it are settled. It is not generally necessary to indicate to a debtor a route for discharging his liabilities, but such a step is most essential in China's care, first, because she will certainly plead helpless impecuniosity, thus creating a deadlock, unless some exit is distinctly indicated; and, secondly, because, if the process of obtaining money be left an open problem, all sorts of complications and unwelcome conjunctures may ensue. Japan's proposal provides a route and France's gives a general direction. Between the two, some working theory will probably be evolved.

But if it be true that M. Pichon, in replying to the application for a cessation of hostilities preferred by Li and Ching, answered that there could be no cessation of hostilities until the heads of Prince Twan, General Kang Yi and General Tung had fallen, then indeed the prospect of peace is indefinitely postponed. It is to be observed that the telegram received at the Legation of France in Tokyo with reference to M. Pichon's answer does not indicate that he specified the names of those whose execution was demanded. He merely spoke of *les têtes des principaux coupables*. There is a radical difference between that form of reply, and the form attributed to M. Pichon by a telegram sent from London and published in Yokohama and Tokyo, for in the one case the Chinese Government is given the duty of choosing the guilty; in the other, the father of the heir apparent to the Throne and two of China's leading Generals are indicated. We do not think that there is the remotest possibility of China's consenting to such a demand, and we hold it to be exceedingly problematical whether evidence justifying the execution of Prince Twan and Generals Kang and Tung has come into the possession of the Foreign Representatives. M. Pichon doubtless spoke as the *Doyen* of the Corps Diplomatique in Peking, and it is difficult to imagine that the Representatives would have agreed to his preferring such a demand unless they had full testimony. Still we can not forget that the public remains in ignorance of such testimony, nor can we fail to infer that convincing testimony does not exist since it has not been published. At all events, so long as the Manchu dynasty occupies the throne of China, or, at any rate, so long as the Empress Dowager is in power, we can not conceive the possibity of Prince Twan's being beheaded at the demand of the Foreign Powers in consequence of complicity in the Boxer outrages, and we therefore conclude that if such a demand has been formulated in the name of the united Representatives, a renewal of military operations on an extended scale is inevitable. But we do not believe that any such demand has been preferred.

THE CHINESE HORROR.

It is remarkable how completely the overwhelming interest taken by the public in the fate of the Peking Legations and community, dwarfed all other considerations, and caused people to lose sight of horrors which, had they stood alone, would have stirred the world to profoundest indignation. The following record, which we take from the columns of *The Times*, recalls the terrible facts:—"Details which have come to hand here (Shanghai) show that 93 Protestant missionaries, of whom 28 were men, 40 women, and 25 children, have been murdered in the province, of Chi-li, Shan-tung, Shan-si, Honan, and Che-kiang, while little hope is entertained of the safety of 78 adults and 17 children who are returned as missing. The Roman Catholic missions have also suffered. It is known that five Bishops, 28 priests, and two sisters belonging to that communion have been killed, while 20 others are reported to have been murdered in Shan-si and Shen-si. During July from 15,000 to 20,000 native converts were massacred in the northern provinces.

"The utmost care has been taken in compiling this list, and none have been inscribed as killed except those whose murder is established on absolutely trustworthy evidence. Many women were subjected to unspeakable barbarities, and several cases are known in which these victims endured horrible tortures prolonged for several days. It is not possible to enter into details, but it is sufficient to say that even the Indian Mutiny did not produce such instances of revolting atrocity. A feeling of most intense indignation prevails among all foreigners in China, and this is increased as fresh stories come to hand. The heads of the various missions are sending copies of these reports to their home headquarters to be laid before their respective Governments, which, it is hoped, will be influenced thereby to leave no stone unturned to secure the prompt and condign punishment of all concerned in any degree in the perpetration of these crimes."

It is strange to observe how the delusion about the Indian mutiny survives. The sender of the above telegram—*The Times'* Shanghai correspondent—evidently labours still under the impression, long proved to have been based on falsehoods, that English women were subjected to the worst kind of outrages in the Indian Mutiny. They were ruthlessly murdered, it is true, but no indignities were perpetrated against them during life. If the casé has been different in China, the Chinese must be declared more inhuman than the Sepoys. And to think, too, that 25 children certainly, and 42 probably, perished by the hands of these butchers!

COLLISION IN THE INLAND SEA.

As briefly reported in our special telegram, a collision occurred at midnight on the 22nd instant between the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Yamaguchi Maru* and the French transport *Caravane*, near Oki-no-shima, off the coast of Sanuki, in the Inland Sea. The *Caravane* went to the bottom and 3 of those on board perished, the rest being saved by the *Yamaguchi Maru*. There were no other casualties. The *Yamaguchi Maru*, a vessel of 2,038 tons net, was *en route* for Yokosuka at the time of the collision, being under charter to the Japanese Naval Department for the carriage of troops. The *Caravane*, a steamer of 2,063 tons, built in 1876, also a transport, was bound south from Kobe at the time of the collision. The *Yamaguchi Maru* proceeded at once to Kobe with the crew of the *Caravane*.

THE PEST.

A case of pest, a woman, is reported from Kobe. It ended fatally on the 19th instant.

A case of pest has occurred at Nakamazumura in Izumi; that is to say, within the limits of Osaka prefecture.

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WESTERN IDEAS ABOUT JAPAN.

Telegrams from the officers commanding the Japanese forces in China daily transmit details of the embarkation of troops at Taku returning to Japan. We have not published these particulars, as our readers can not be expected to take much interest in learning which detachment proceeds by what ship. The general fact, however, is distinctly of interest. Japan is the only Power that has begun to diminish the number of its troops in China. She is not leaving in Chili even as large a force as some of the other Powers have in North China, notably Russia and Germany. There is some difficulty in ascertaining what strength England has. Her transports have been perpetually passing Hongkong during the past three months, and it would seem that by this time she must have about a division and a half, or, say, thirteen thousand men. But Germany has at least that number, and Russia, though she has been obliged to draw off a considerable force for use in Manchuria, may at any moment be found in the greatest strength of all. The Russian Colossus, it may be remarked *en passant*, has shown feet of clay, comparatively speaking. It used to be commonly reported that she had a force of from twenty to thirty thousand troops at Port Arthur, but the reality proved to be less than ten thousand—six thousand is, perhaps, nearest the truth. She has largely augmented her various East-Asian commands within the last three months, however, and so soon as she feels herself relieved from immediate pressure in Manchuria, she will be in a position to pour a considerable army into Chili if she pleases. In the face of all these circumstances, Japan is reducing her forces to one Mixed Brigade, or twelve thousand men at most. What renders this noteworthy is that there undoubtedly prevailed an impression in some European quarters that Japan would steadily augment her *corps d'armée* in Chili, so as to raise its strength from 23,000 to forty or fifty thousand, and that she would thus be mistress of the situation. Her answer to such suspicions is very conclusive. We must confess that they never seemed worthy of consideration in our eyes No one Power could seriously think of assuming a free hand in Chili under existing circumstances. Germany might engage in a campaign in Shangtung were she disposed to do so. The Chinese themselves would probably be her only obstacle. Russia, of course, is pretty well her own mistress in Manchuria. France might act independently in the South, and it is conceivable—though not very probable—that if England showed herself determined to strike a strong blow in the Yangtsze Valley, she might have nothing worse to apprehend from her present allies than clamour and abuse. But assuredly did any one Power attempt to obtain and exercise full command of the situation in Chili, it would find itself confronted by a formidable combination. Therefore to suppose that Japan contemplated anything of the kind was a thoughtless hypothesis. Yet we may be very certain that some apprehension of that nature has been present from the first in the mind of the editor of the *Spectator*, to say nothing of more illustrious and powerful personages. Japan, however, having achieved the purpose for which she despatched a Division to Chili, namely, the relief of Peking, is quietly withdrawing her troops and leaving a number only just sufficient to secure to her a voice in the settlement which she has so largely contributed to bring about.

PAOTING.

Saturday, Oct. 20.

Telegrams received in Tokyo suggest indirectly that Paoting has already been occupied by the Allies. Thus we are told of a body of French cavalry moving southward from Paoting, an operation which plainly implies that the latter place has been taken. Another telegram alleges that Prince Ching at the instance of the Foreign Representatives, addressed a communication to the officer commanding at Paoting suggesting that, as resistance to the Allies would be hopeless, and as it would only have an injurious effect on international relations, the better plan would be to retire quietly and surrender the place. It was consequently expected that Paoting would fall into the Allies' hands without fighting. Rumour says that Field Marshal Waldersee, having been asked about his reasons for organizing the expedition said that he considered it necessary as a means of protecting the railway and also of averting the danger of any attempts against Peking on the part of the Chinese. The Field Marshal added that after the capture of Paoting, there would not, in his opinion, be any reason for further military operations. If he made that statement, we must of course regard as incorrect the rumour that a body of French cavalry has moved from Paoting towards Cheng-ting. The latter town lies to the south of Paoting, and both are on the direct road from Peking to Tai-yuen. It is therefore evident that if the Imperial Court returns to Peking, it will have to pass through at least one town which is in occupation of foreign troops.

Perhaps a word may be said here with advantage about charges advanced by a German correspondent in a local contemporary's columns against this journal's so-called "anti-German bias." It appears that some Germans are so extremely sensitive as to be quite unable to endure criticism of any kind. They are exceptional, we imagine, for the average German being himself a very free, and generally a very astute, critic of other's actions, must be prepared to find his own criticised in turn. Certainly for every ounce of anti-German comment that appears in English journals, there can easily be found a pound of anti-British comment in the German press. The plain fact is that Germany is "booming" now-a-days Her commerce is growing apace, her influence in the world is increasing immensely, and her empire seems likely to receive considerable accretions. She is thus an object of special interest, and unless she choses to efface herself, she must be content to be much talked of. We are all at liberty to have our opinions about the appointment of Count von Waldersee, and those of us who do not admire it, need not, for that reason, be suspected of anti-German prejudices. So, too, of the Paoting expedition None but a very silly person would attempt to deny that, from a military point of view, the Field Marshal knows thoroughly well what he is about, and can best judge of its necessity. But it is not the custom of English observers to take things on trust merely because a high authority's sanction has been obtained, and we are not aware that the Germans either are wont to display such servility of judgment. Besides, in the case of the Paoting expedition, there are special considerations apart from the mere military aspects of the problem; considerations which apply to Germany's general position in the Far East. If to discuss those considerations is to be anti-German, we must e'en lie under the accusation. Were our own country circumstanced as Germany now is, we hesitate to say that she would act differently, but assuredly the change of nationality would not silence British criticism. It is as amusing to us to be charged with being anti-German as it was recently to be charged with anti-Semiticism by one of the wildest and most unscrupulous critics that ever gained access to newspaper columns. If there be any Germans who imagine that the role their country is now playing, a role requiring a vast deal of elbow-room, should be regarded by the world with silence and indifference, they do themselves an injustice. We, among others, find their doings very interesting and very striking, and if our comments hurt them, they should remember what a large space Germany has begun to occupy in the international vista, instead of girding at publicity which is the inevitable outcome of their bigness.

Tuesday, Oct. 23.

It is pleasant to learn that the story of the capture of Paoting constitutes a brilliant exception to the little creditable record of cities hitherto captured by the allies in China. In consideration of representations made by the Chinese Authorities, the officers commanding the allied troops agreed to halt their men outside the place, and the citizens, re-assured by this procedure and by the intimations received from their officials, made no attempt to fly from the city but continued the pursuit of their regular avocations. Whatever be the explanation of this contrast between such orderly procedure and the sackings and outrages that disgraced previous operations by the allies—whether it be due to the absence of particular troops or the presence of special restraints—Field Marshal Waldersee is to be sincerely congratulated on the fact that the first military operation of importance directed by him has been so creditably conducted.

THE FRENCH AT PAOTING.

All reports go to indicate that the French troops took the leading part in the Paoting expedition. In fact it would seem that they got ahead of all the rest, and that they managed the matter practically without assistance. Concerning this the *Tokyo Asahi* has a telegram which says that the Germans are complaining bitterly of the action of the French, which, they allege, was in open violation of the principle of cooperation. The French, according to this story, reached Paoting, made arrangements with the Local Authorities for the surrender of the place, and, having completed everything, sent to invite the approach of the rest of the allies. The event is said to have created a very bad feeling between the forces of France and Germany, but we should like to learn something more about this matter before crediting such a rumour. The column that marched from Tientsin against Paoting was under the command of a French General, and, as was pointed out in these columns at the time, it could not possibly have been expected to synchronise its movements with those of a column moving at a distance of nearly ninety miles. If General Bailloud reached Paoting in advance of the Peking column, we see no reason why he should not have proceeded at once to deal with the place, unless there was some special understanding that he should refrain from doing so until the Peking column arrived. Besides, there were German, Italian and British troops in his column. How could he have detached the French troops.

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KOREA.

Another change of Cabinet is said to be imminent in Sōul. The unexpectedly rapid departure of Cho Pyong-sik, Representative of Korea in Japan, is believed to be connected with this event. It is expected that he will be the new prime minister

The Korean Cabinet has enjoyed an unusually protracted tenure of power, but a change has now taken place. The *Jiji Shimpo* has a telegram giving the following re-distribution of portfolios :—

Minister President	Yun Yongsön.
Foreign Affairs	Pak Che-sun.
Finance	Kim Yöngchun*
Household	Min Chhongmeuk.
Justice	Kim Kyuhoing.*
War	Min Pyonghyök.
Home	Li Könha.
Education	Kim Kyuhoing.*
Chief of Police	Li Chongkön.
Agriculture & Commerce	Kwön Chaihyöng.

* *Locum tenens.*

It is curious to observe how completely Korean affairs have ceased to interest the public. Not so long ago, a change of Cabinet in Sōul attracted much attention and suggested many explanations and inferences. But now nobody seems to care a row of pins whether the Lis, the Mins, or the Kims are in power. The only point that suggests itself about the new Cabinet is that it does not contain the name of Cho Pyong-sik, recently Minister in Japan, whose return to Sōul was supposed to be for the purpose of taking a Cabinet post. It will be observed, however, that there are three *locum tenentes*, so possibly Mr. Cho may become Minister on his arrival.

As if to awaken our interest, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* publishes a wonderful story from Sōul. It says that the Russian Representative recently waited on the Emperor, and after proposing some measures of domestic reform, suggested that it would be advisable for the Government to take preliminary counsel with him—M. Pablov—whenever it had any negotiations to conduct with the Foreign Ministers. Subsequently when the Court addressed a note to M. Pablov with reference to these suggestions, he denied them *in toto*, alleging that his interpreter had made a mistake. What a story! The *Yomiuri's* correspondent is to be congratulated on wiring conspicuous nonsense.

It is stated that evidence has been obtained indicating that the burning of the Korean palace on the 14th instant was the work of an incendiary. The guards have been arrested, and vigorous search is being made for the culprit.

Rumours begin to come from Korea. The inevitable anonymous Minister is represented as calling on the Emperor and remonstrating that he, the Minister, had been treated of late with marked coldness, and that the Court's proclivities had been in another direction. The usual inference is drawn that a certain anonymous Power is again beginning to stir itself in the peninsula. That local colouring of anonymity adds much to the mystery. We are reminded of the renowned cat-fish that lies buried in a certain district of Japan, occasionally moving its tail and producing an earthquake.

Then there is a tale of two "engineer-looking" Frenchmen who have arrived in Sōul, and are at once supposed to be bent upon renewing the defunct charter for the Sōul-Wiju railway. They must have more money than brains. It is added, on the one hand, that the Government will immediately undertake the Sōul-Kaisong section of the line, procuring materials and expert aid from France; and, on the other, that an American syndicate projects an electric railway over the same route.

MINOR CHANGES IN THE GOVERNMENT.

Mr. Asada, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary *en disponibilité*; Mr. Sameshima, formerly Marquis Ito's Private Secretary, becomes Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and Mr. Anraku Kanemichi, hitherto Chief of the Criminal Bureau in the Home Department, is nominated Chief of Police.

Mr. Kosai Uchida, hitherto Chief of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office, has been appointed Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs, in succession to Mr. Asada, who becomes a Minister Plenipotentiary. Mr. Uchida will continue to discharge the duties of his old post. We use the term "Under Secretary" to translate the recently created office of *Sōmu Kyoku-chō* (Chief of the General Business Bureau), but our readers doubtless understand that the post corresponds with that of Vice-Minister. Mr. Uchida enjoys a high reputation in the Foreign Office. He speaks English with remarkable fluency and accuracy.

Mr Furuya Hisatsuna, hitherto a teacher in the High Commercial School, becomes Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, in succession to Count Hirosawa.

Mr. Saito Jiro, a well-known barrister, Mr. Hoshi Toru's right-hand man, naturally becomes Private Secretary to his leader at the Department of Communications

Mr. Abe Moritaro, Councillor of the Foreign Office, receives the additional appointment of Private Secretary to the Minister.

Vice-Admiral Yamamoto has consented to retain his portfolio of the Navy, but Viscount Katsura is said to be resolved on resigning With reference to these portfolios, the *Jiji* has a strong article advocating a change of Ministers of War and the Navy whenever a change of Cabinets occurs. Our contemporary's principal argument is that military experts are not needed for such posts, and that they ought rather to be filled, as is the case in England, by men who are in political touch with their colleagues and who have an intimate knowledge of finance.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE EMPERORS OF CHINA AND JAPAN.

The following are full translations of the correspondence that recently passed between the Emperors of China and Japan :—

We, the Emperor of China, to His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Greeting!

We, apprehending that the recent murder outside the "Yung-Ting Gate," of Sugiyama Akira, Chancellor of Your Majesty's Legation, in consequence of a certain altercation, was a serious violation of friendship with a neighbouring Power, have immediately commanded that the offenders should be brought to justice. The memory of that crime having called forth Our profound regret, We have, in order to give expression to the abiding nature of such regret, this day issued a Rescript ordering Natung, the Vice-President of the Board of Ceremonies, to perform religious ceremonies for the deceased, and to offer 5,000 taels for the funeral expenses, and at the same time, commanding Li-sheng-toh the Sub-chancellor of the Grand Secretariat, to instruct one of his Secretaries to perform once more the ceremony of libation on the arrival of the coffin of the deceased, in Your Majesty's Empire. Our two Empires, using the same literary symbols and lying in close proximity to each other, have long maintained relations of mutual esteem and good neighbourhood, and even when Our subjects had violated the obligations which we owed to friendly Powers, Your Majesty endeavoured to aid us, and we, therefore, feel enduring gratitude to Your Majesty. We request that Your Majesty will induce the other Powers to speedily enter upon negotiations for peace, which We hope, will secure the integrity of Our realm and give great benefit to Our Empire. We most earnestly wish that the above will receive Your Majesty's consideration.

Given the 3rd day, the 8th month, the 26th year of Kwangsu (September 26, 1900).

We, the Emperor of Japan, to His Majesty the Emperor of China,

Greeting!

It is with satisfaction that We have received Your Majesty's telegram in which Your Majesty expresses regret at the event, whereby Sugiyama Akira, Chancelier of the Imperial Legation, came to his death in consequence of the cruel and barbarous acts committed on him by Your Majesty's soldiers. Your Majesty also announces that in order to testify the sense of such regret, Your Majesty has commanded the Vice-President of the Board of Ceremonies to perform religious ceremonies for the deceased, and to present 5,000 taels for the funeral expenses, and has moreover, ordered the Secretary of Your Majesty's Legation in Tokio to perform the ceremony of libation on the arrival of the coffin of the deceased in this country. Your Majesty adds that it is Your Majesty's earnest wish that We should endeavour to induce the Powers concerned to speedily conclude peace, so that the safety of Your Majesty's Empire may be assured and many benefits ensured. As to the restoration of peace, it is not only Your Majesty but We Ourselves earnestly desire it, and if Your Majesty is really anxious for peace We would strongly recommend Your Majesty to issue an edict formally announcing the discontinuance in office of all bigoted and conservative persons, and the appointment at once, in their places as Ministers, of those persons who are able and highly respected both at home and abroad, thus organizing an entirely new Government. Finally, if Your Majesty will speedily return to Peking, instead of proceeding to Sheng-shi, thus composing the apprehensions of Your Majesty's subjects, and by these measures afford practical evidence of reproach for having given offence to the friendly Powers, we do not see any reason why the Powers should not agree to the conclusion of peace. And we earnestly desire that our sincere suggestion may meet with acceptance at the hands of Your Majesty.

Given Oct. 9th, 1900.

THE GUILT OF THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

Taotai Shèng made an interesting statement, a month ago, to a representative of Laffan's Telegraphic Agency in Shanghai. It relates to the part taken by the Empress Dowager in the Boxer riots :—

"The period of imperial support of the 'Boxers' was a brief one. The Dowager-Empress and the Emperor soon saw their mistake, in fact, they had 'acted under compulsion in issuing all the pro-Boxer' edicts. All the military strength was in the hands of Tuan and the 'Boxer' adherents, and opposition from the Throne was, for the time impossible. The Emperor never favoured the anti-foreign edicts. He wept for several hours when the report of a special commission advising the extermination of foreigners was submitted to him. He sent for Ching and they discussed the matter and wept together, but there was no escape from the action recommended under such pressure.

'The Dowager-Empress soon realized the mistake which had been made. This was before the advance of the allies towards Peking had begun. She issued a secret edict to the Viceroys, and under it Li Hung Chang and Yuan Shih-kai planned to lead a force against the 'Boxers' to exterminate their leaders and suppress the movement. The plan failed because a public edict in authorization of it was refused.

This was remarkably confirmed by a statement of Li Hung-chang's to a representative of Reuter's Agency :—

"There is," I remarked, "great curiosity abroad for an explanation of the contradictory edicts which were issued in the name of the Empress during the siege." Li Hung Chang meditated a moment, and, speaking deliberately, said :—

"The Empress in the beginning was badly advised. She was told that the 'Boxers' had supernatural powers, that they could not be injured, and that they were able to get the upper hand of the foreigners. She believed this, but afterwards she found that it was all untrue. It is incorrect to say, as the newspapers have done, that the Empress was coerced into issuing edicts. The Chinese Government is a despotism, and no one can coerce the Empress. She is, however, like all other rulers, dependent on her advisers. Sometimes the advice she receives is bad and she may be misled."

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A LUNATIC.

On the 24th inst., as the Empress and her suite were passing along the street between the buildings of the Mitsú Bishi Bank and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Tokyo, a man who had been standing near the corner of the latter offices, threw both of his wooden clogs at Her Majesty's carriage. He was immediately apprehended by the police, and received very rough treatment from them, being thrown down and severely beaten before they performed their legitimate duty of tying his hands and leading him off. The man's countenance was strongly suggestive of idiocy, and indeed, unless dire distress drove him to commit the act, it can scarcely be explained on any ground save that of an unsound mind. He was tolerably well dressed, and seemed to be about twenty-five years of age.

The unfortunate youth who threw his clogs at the carriage of the Empress, turns out to be an undoubted lunatic. His name is Kaneyama Iwasaburo, and he belongs to Aichi prefecture. On the 11th instant, he was found loitering near the Sakashita gate of the Palace, and being questioned by the police, he explained that he desired to meet the Emperor. The police gave him some wholesome advice and sent him back to Aizu, but he made his way again to Tokyo, and the clog-throwing incident resulted. It further appears that on the morning of the 24th, the young man presented himself at the Tokyo Municipality and asked to see the Governor, but his demeanour suggested imbecility, and he was refused admittance. On his way back to Shiba, where he lodged, he saw a number of people collected, and, asking the reason, was informed that the Emperor would presently pass. His own account is that finding no hope of attaining any distinction in his native province, owing to the unsympathetic attitude of the local officials, he determined to proceed to Tokyo and apply direct to the Emperor. Baulked in that purpose by the police, he next repaired to the Governor of Tokyo, who also refused to see him. Then, learning from a bystander that the passage of the Emperor was expected, he determined to wait and address His Majesty as he passed, but seeing only the Empress, his disappointment induced him to throw his clogs. He has been sent to the lunatic asylum at Sugamo.

The Assault on the Empress.

REPORT FROM THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE TOKYO POLICE CONCERNING THE THROWING OF A PURSE AT H.I.M. THE EMPRESS'S TRAIN.

Sir,—Having been notified by Viscount Kagawa, Grand Master to H.I.M. that H.M. the Empress would go to Hama Rikiu, I instructed the heads of district police divisions to see that the roads by which H.M. would be passing should be well guarded so that no insults might be offered. It was about 10.40 a.m. as H.M. the Empress' train was passing Yurakucho, outside the Babasaki bridge that a man threw a purse at the train and then again he began to take off his "geta" (wooden clogs) to throw them. When a policeman named Sagawa Uchiro standing about 12 or 13 paces from the place saw the act done he immediately ran to the place and caught him, but he had already thrown his "geta" which had hit the side of the carriage in which were H.M.'s suite. The man was taken to Kojimachi Police Station and examined, when it was found that he had an ordinary appearance, but his answers to questions from the Police Inspector were far from being coherent.

He said that he was born in November of the 11th year of *Meiji* at Uchikawa Mura in the Province of Mikawa (Aichi Prefecture) and that his name was Iwasakuro, being the oldest son of a peasant named Sakubei Kageyama.

He said he had left Kobe on the 23rd instant (yesterday) and on reaching Shimbashi at a little past 9 p.m. he went to an inn named Tanakaya at Shibaguchi Sanchome and stopped the night there.

He said as he could not bear, being born an Imperial prince, to have become a peasant since the time he was three years old, and to have been put under the care of such a man of low class as Sakubei, he wished to make his individuality clear and obtain his proper position by birth.

For this purpose he had come up to Tokyo on the 12th instant and went to one of the gates of the Imperial Household Department to have his request granted, but was not able to attain his object, so he came up again this time to have his wish fulfilled.

He had left his inn this morning to go to Kudanzaka and after going to two or three police stations to have his individuality identified, but having been dismissed on each of the occasions, he went to the prefecture of Tokyo and explained his request. There he was advised to send in a written request with any written proofs that he may have, but as he had no manuscript which could be used as proof, he knew that it would be impossible for him to attain his object and so having made up his mind with sorrow to live as a peasant to the end of his life he was leaving the gate of the prefecture when he heard that the Empress would soon be passing by. He then with others waited for H.M. to pass. As H.M.'s train passed by he felt more and more vexed that he could not attain his wish, and he threw the purse and "geta" (wooden clogs) as the third carriage of H.M.'s train was passing when he was captured by the police.

The above is the man's confession. As can be seen by the confession the man is to be identified with the one that came to Sakashita gate on the 12th instant and spoke to one of the police guards about the request, but was refused and upon his dismissal went to the police station at the Babasaki gate where the policeman advising him to return to his country home, sent him in a jinrikisha to Shimbashi Station and started him thence on his homeward journey.

On the next day, 13th, the Kojimachi Police station notified the police of the man's domicile in the country about this matter, giving advice as to taking special note of him.

Consequently he was seen and examined by the police doctor when it was found that he was suffering from insanity.

But the offence being so grave he was dealt with in accordance with the law and it is intended afterwards to subject him to the Law for the Protection of the Insane.

I have the honour, etc.,
KANEMICHI ANRAKU,
Inspector-General of the Tokyo Police.

Viscount TANAKA,
Minister of the Imperial Household.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

Satisfaction seems to have been caused generally by the Anglo-German agreement, except in Paris and St. Petersburg. The French are said to be indignant because Russia was not invited to join the compact. But this telegram is difficult to understand. Two very different versions of it are given. One, published in Yokohama, represents the omission of Russia as due to a misconception; the other, published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, realleges that the idea of Russia's omission was a French misconception. We have no doubt whatever that the latter version is correct. It is inconceivable that any blunder can have prevented the taking of due steps to invite Russia's cooperation in common with all the other Powers, but it is very conceivable that an erroneous impression may have gained currency in Paris as to the measures adopted by Germany and Great Britain. It is permissible to hope, therefore, that when the truth is clearly established, the French nation will approve of this arrangement, and will continue to treat the Chinese problem with the conspicuous moderation and good sense that have marked France's attitude throughout. Nevertheless we can not hide from ourselves the fact that there is a disposition in Paris to look askance at the agreement. As for the comments of the Russian press, reported by Reuter, they are in one sense natural, in another markedly partial. Their partiality is shown by the fact that whereas England and Germany are equally parties to the agreement and must be considered to have had an equal share in bringing it about, Great Britain alone is attacked by the St. Petersburg journals. Apart from that display of bias, it is not, we think, unnatural that Russia should feel a little sore. There is, first, the consideration—pointed out in these columns at the time when the news of the agreement reached us—that Russia had already pledged herself publicly to evacuate Manchuria after peace was restored, and that, supposing her pledge to be thought worthy of credence, no reason existed for any separate agreement to enforce it. There is, secondly, the fact that the agreement, whatever disavowals may be made, is in some degree directed against Russia. As to the former of these points, it might have validity in the sense of an argument against Russia's coming into the agreement. She might say, with considerable show of justice, "I have already announced my determination to abide by the principle embodied in this compact, and my dignity forbids me to reduce to writing a promise which should command full confidence without any such confirmation." But it can not be denied that if Russia is absolutely sincere in her resolve to evacuate Manchuria, she should not feel any serious reluctance about joining England and Germany in this matter. Conviction of the integrity of one's own purpose is the best possible safeguard against umbrage of every kind. As to the second point, namely, that the agreement is in some sort directed against Russia, to deny it would certainly be disingenuous. Russia is in possession. That is a solid fact. She stands at present in full occupation of Manchuria, and there is not the smallest prospect of her being displaced unless she chooses to displace herself. Will she choose to do so? Has any great Power ever chosen to do such a thing since the history of the world began to be written? Would England choose to do so were she in Russia's position? Then again, though we write it with reluctance and with full appreciation of the extenuating circumstances that may be pleaded, the hard fact is that Russian pledges do not command confidence. That they were ever given with deliberate bad faith, no moderate man supposes for an instant, but that they have often failed to withstand the pressure of circumstances and the suggestions of statecraft, is matter of history. England can not reasonably be expected to believe that Russia will evacuate Manchuria, nor can she be expected to consent that such an immense slice of the Chinese empire should pass into Russian possession while she herself, in common with the other Powers, adheres to the principle of non-partition. The less this agreement is liked in St. Petersburg, the greater necessity may be inferred for its conclusion. If Russia puts her name to it, we may confidently count on an amicable settlement of the Chinese trouble. If she declines to become a signatory, the significance of her abstention will be very sinister for the integrity of the Chinese empire.

JAPAN'S PROPOSAL.

Germany and America are said to have both signified their approval of Japan's proposal that the Foreign Representatives in Peking should hold a preliminary conference for the purpose of fixing the terms to be demanded of China. Very often the most obviously essential step is precisely the one that fails to attract the observation of persons engaged in attempting to solve a difficult problem. Japan's proposal commends itself as eminently practical. Indeed, it offers the only hope of reducing the complications to a working basis.

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GERMANY AND ENGLAND.

It may be interesting to point out that, according to telegrams transmitted from Shanghai, Reuter's message of the 22nd with reference to the Anglo-German agreement, was read in Shanghai according to the sense given to it editorially in these columns. The difference of punctuation is really worth considering :—

Lord Salisbury and Count von Hatzfeldt, German Ambassador in London, have signed an agreement to uphold the principle of keeping the ports of China free and open to the trade of all countries; and both Governments engage not to utilize the present complications to obtain any territorial advantages, but will direct their policy towards maintaining the territorial integrity of China, should another Power utilize the complications to obtain such territorial advantages under any form whatever. The two Governments reserve to themselves the right to come to a preliminary understanding regarding the eventual steps to be taken for the protection of their own interests. The two Governments will invite the other Powers to accept the principles of this agreement.	Lord Salisbury and Count von Hatzfeldt, German Ambassador in London, have signed an agreement to uphold the principle of keeping the ports of China free and open to the trade of all countries and both Governments engage not to utilize the present complications to obtain any territorial advantages, but will direct their policy towards maintaining the territorial integrity of China. Should another Power utilize the complications to obtain such territorial advantages under any form whatever, the two Governments reserve to themselves the right to come to a preliminary understanding regarding the eventual steps to be taken for the protection of their own interests. The two Governments will invite the other Powers to accept the principles of this agreement.

It appeared to us that there could be no possible doubt about the second of the above being the correct rendering, and we therefore handed the telegram to the printers without transcribing it from the telegraphic form, with the result to which our readers' attention has already been drawn Subsequently, however, we observed that the *Japan Times*, which took its version from the original form, adopted the same rendering as our printers. Shanghai, on the other hand, read the message in the sense given to it editorially by ourselves. The difference is that, in the one case, Germany and England are represented as pledging themselves to direct their policy towards preserving China's integrity should any other Power seek to impair it; whereas, in the other, they merely agree that should any other Power endeavour to obtain territorial advantages, they reserve to themselves the right of coming to a preliminary understanding for the protection of their own interests. One version represents the preservation of China's integrity as the object of the contingent understanding; the other substitutes the protection of their own interests for the preservation of China's integrity. In short, the agreement seems to bear a close resemblance to Russia's declaration as to Manchuria, which amounted to saying that she would be good so long as no one set her a bad example. Germany and England will not take the initiative in land-grabbing, but if any other Power is guilty of that naughtiness, well then—. That seems to us to be the unquestionable nature of the compact. Germany and England will not take up arms for the preservation of the Chinese empire. If Russia, for example, declines to move out of Manchuria, neither London nor Berlin will attempt to expel her by force. Great Britain and Germany, in that event, will simply proceed to redress the balance by helping themselves to due compensation at China's expense. The agreement means just two things, first, that Germany and England will refrain from spoliation at their own initiative, and secondly, that whatever they do will be done in concert. Perhaps the simplest way of stating the case is to say that the Powers are now engaged in arranging the preliminaries for a game of "follow my leader," but that all desire to disavow any intention of playing the part of leader. Evidently, if Russia, France, Japan and the rest subscribe the agreement, it will bind all the signatories not to establish a pernicious precedent, and if all abstain, China will be safe. But if any stand aloof, if Russia, for example, says, "I have already made my declaration and I see no occasion to combine with others for the purpose of repeating it," then the question of leader in the game will become highly interesting. But there will be no restraint upon the followers. Meanwhile, the German China Association in Shanghai are said to have telegraphed to Berlin their profound satisfaction at the conclusion of such an agreement between their country and England. It is on an occasion of the kind that the true feelings of Germans are shown. They are not to be judged by the hysterical utterances of an excited press during the South-African war.

GERMANY.

Count von Bülow's appointment to be Chancellor is said to be universally approved by the German press. It is further predicted that his accession to the head of the Government will produce a marked change in Germany's Far-Eastern policy. A marked change has already occurred in the shape of a written compact with England. That, however, must have been for some time under discussion, and was doubtless the work of the Kaiser himself and his Foreign Minister. The Emperor has always been a firm believer in the advisability of a co-operative *entente* between his country and Great Britain, and he has now been able to achieve his aim. We cannot suppose that Prince Hohenlohe ever placed any obstacles in the path of such a purpose.

RUSSIA'S PROGRAMME OF SETTLEMENT.

In the *Tokyo Asahi* we find a telegram despatched by that journal's Tientsin correspondent on the 23rd instant, which attributes to the Russian Representative in Peking a remarkable proposal. The lines are that all matters relating to Peking, Tientsin and Taku should form the subject of joint negotiation on the part of the Powers; that the reparation due to each Power on account of outrages against the lives and properties of its nationals, should be independently discussed between China and the Power concerned; and that matters relating to Manchuria should be settled between China and Russia without reference to the rest of the allies. We reproduce this story because of its interest, but we have no hesitation in declaring our complete disbelief in its truth. If Russia attempts to separate Manchuria from the general settlement, her designs with respect to it will invite the gravest suspicion. She is not at all likely to make such a diplomatic blunder.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.

The Japanese contributions to the Indian famine amounted to 14,578.97 *yen* and the number of subscribers was a hundred thousand. Interest on the money while lying in the bank came to 117 44 *yen*, and the expenses of collection totalled 196.11 *yen*, so that the total sum forwarded to India was 14,500 *yen*, omitting fractions.

THE YOSHIWARA.

There has been one signal result of the new legislation about the social evil. Seven girls left a house in the Yoshiwara *en bloc* on the 24th instant, and made their way to a police station, where they announced their intention of abandoning a life of shame. It appears that these girls had made full preparations to resist obstruction. When they emerged from the brothel they wore their fine garments, but no sooner did they encounter opposition than they cast off these encumbrances, and appeared with sleeves tied up and ready for the fray. There seems to have been something like a free fight before the damsels reached the protection of the police, but they did reach it and are now free. Two girls had previously escaped from the same house, and only three now remain there. The proprietor is said to be in a state bordering on insanity.

BELGIUM AND JAPAN.

Baron d'Anethan, Belgian Representative in Tokyo, has presented to the Japanese Government a despatch from the Belgian Government expressing, in warm terms, the latter's appreciation of the conduct of the Japanese forces in the Peking expedition, and of the material aid given by Japan in rescuing the beleaguered Legations. To this message the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kato, replied in the sense that while thanking the Belgian Government for its gracious expressions, Japan felt that her troops had merely assisted in an allied movement which, owing to the courage and endurance of the forces with which her troops had the good fortune to be associated, happily resulted in the relief of Peking.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The submarine cable from Chefoo to Tsingtao—in Kiao-chow Bay—has been completed.

News from Korea is to the effect that an insurrection of the Pedlars and the Tonghaks has taken place in the neighbourhood of Wiju; that is say, in Phyonyang-do, in the north of Korea. Their leader is said to be a man named Chang Kwi-myong, who enjoys much popularity and wields great influence. The rebels have gained possession of three towns, Kusong, Yongchhon and Chholsan, and they are believed to be acting in collusion with a number of fellow-thinkers in the neighbouring southerly province, Hwanghai-do, their plan being to unite and march against Phyong-yang and Sŏul so soon as the Tadong River becomes frozen. Eleven of these men were recently arrested at Wiju, but it appears that the Korean troops in that region are not sufficiently numerous to deal with the emergency, only 200 of them being properly equipped. The citizens of Phyong-yang are forming a corps of volunteers and preparing to resist the insurgents, whose object is said to be the overthrow of the present dynasty and the expulsion of foreigners. They have already destroyed a Christian church, and murdered some native converts. Rumour represents them as acting in collusion with the Boxers, but probably it would be more correct to say that the Boxers' example has inspired them.

The *Asahi* arrived at Yokosuka on Monday. Japan has now the honour of possessing the finest battle-ship in the world. The *Asahi* is the second of the battle-ships ordered

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under the *post bellum* programme, the first being the *Shikishima*. Her tonnage is 15,443, and she is thus 400 tons bigger than her sister-ship the *Shikishima*. There remain to arrive the *Hatsuse* and the *Mikasa*, which will be sister-ship, each 15,243 tons displacement. Japan will then have six first-class battle-ships. The *Asahi's* horse power is 15,207, and her speed is 18 knots. She has four 12-inch guns, fourteen 15-cent. quick-firers, twelve 47-m. m. quick-firers, and five torpedo-tubes. Her bunker capacity is 1,400 tons.

The Japanese troops have made an attack upon Formosan bandits at Hyorin in the neighbourhood of Taipeh, and killed over 60 of them. No particulars are yet to hand.

Sergeant Fujii Fusakichi, who distinguished himself so greatly at the capture of Tientsin, committed suicide in Hiroshima on the morning of the 20th instant. The outer gate of Tientsin was blown up by a party of sappers under the command of Sub-Lieutenant Inouye, who fired the fuze with his own hand under circumstances of great danger. The gate was found closed, and as no provision had been made for blowing it up, there was a moment's check. Sergeant Fujii then scaled the wall, and with the assistance of two privates who followed him, succeeded in opening the gate. On the 17th instant, he returned with his battalion to Hiroshima and received an enthusiastic welcome. But apparently something preyed on his mind, for at 6 a.m. on the 20th, he placed the muzzle of a Murata rifle to his throat and destroyed himself. The Tokyo newspapers allude to the event in terms of great regret.

The National Union had a friendly meeting on Sunday in the Maple Club. Over a thousand persons attended. No speeches were delivered, but the affair seems to have been marked by enthusiasm. Prince Konoye and his associates are much bent upon the preservation of China's integrity.

Tokyo newspapers state that a foreign firm in Yokohama, finding itself face to face with a heavy loss resulting from transactions in silk, endeavoured to evade its bargains by various pretexts, which its Japanese creditors declined to entertain. The dispute is still going on. The name of the firm given by our contemporaries is Messrs. Nabholz & Co., and it is said that Mr. Abegg is endeavouring to act as mediator.

Lieut.-General Baron Oku is to command the troops at the review on the Emperor's Birthday this year, and Major-General Tamura will be Chief of Staff.

The Minister of Justice, in reply to the deputation sent by the Barristers' Association for the purpose of remonstrating against the hardships undergone by prisoners awaiting trial at Yamura in Yamanashi prefecture, admitted the justice of the complaint, but pleaded that want of funds prevented the erection of a proper prison. Application would be made to the Diet next session for a grant, and, in the meanwhile, the relief of bail would be applied as largely as possible. The Minister added that he proposed to send an inspector to the place, and that he would be glad if the barristers despatched some one to accompany him.

The Emperor has granted a sum of 2,000 *yen* to relieve the distress caused by the storm in Shizuoka at the end of last month.

The *Nippon* publishes a table showing that the exodus of specie from Yokohama to China and the United States during the course of the present year has been over 16 million *yen*. The figures for the various months are :—

1	2,216,033
2	366,670
3	1,640,566
4	3,519,805
5	3,569,809
6	733,443
7	1,606,479
8	478,668
9	1,026,480
10 (up to 16th)	852,700
	16,000,742

The financial crisis in Shanghai is not yet over, according to telegraphic news, and it is said to have extended to Chefoo also. The alleged reason is that owing to the closure of inland markets great quantities of goods have accumulated, and some of the banks are embarrassed by being unable to recover the advances they have made. The latest telegram seems to indicate, however, that things are becoming easier, for it is said that whereas accommodation could not be obtained a few days ago at less than 12 per cent., the rate has now fallen to 10.

The *Keiseikon-to*, that is to say, the Progressists and their allies, are taking a step which might have been anticipated. They are seeking to effect a coalition with the National Union, which, under the leadership of Prince Konoye, recently created sensation by its vigorous declarations about Chinese affairs. As yet the movement towards fusion seems to be entirely on the side of the *Kenseikon-to*, but it may be assumed that some private *pour-parlers* have taken place with Prince Konoye's association. Fusion with the National Union would not bring any special accession of parliamentary strength to the Progressists, but it would certainly improve the vitality of their position.

In compliance with the instruction of the Emperor of China, a ceremonial was organized at the grave of the late Mr. Sugiyama in the Aoyama cemetery, on the 18th instant at 10 a.m. The rites were according to Chinese custom, flowers and viands being ranged before the tomb. The chief official present was a Secretary of the Chinese Legation.

The Tenth Division maintains its unenviable reputation for ill-treatment of its soldiers. Recently another scandal was reported in connexion with the conduct of its officers. In order to discover the author of a theft, they took a vote in the company to which the robbed man belonged, and the unfortunate private against whom the greatest number of votes were cast, being innocent of the crime, committed suicide. The real culprit has since been discovered and the affair has been submitted to a court martial. It is curious to observe this reversion to the jury system as it originally existed in England. An English jury in old times did not judge according to evidence. No testimony was submitted to it. The jury consisted of a dozen persons from the district of the accused, who were invited to pronounce an opinion in accordance with their own belief as to the guilt or innocence of the suspected individual.

The latest news about the *Katsuragi* is that owing to the boisterous weather prevailing at the scene of the wreck, it is impossible to conduct salvage operations, and all hope of floating the ship has now been abandoned.

A party of four men working at Usatannai are said to have found a nugget of gold weighing 203 *monme*, and therefore worth some 800 *yen*. A new impetus to mining has been given by the discovery, as the biggest nugget previously found weighed only 16 *monme*.

The section of the Central Railway (Government) between Shinonoi and Saijo (17.65 miles) has been finished, and will be opened for traffic from Nov. 1st. The line runs through a very hilly country, and has stations at the celebrated scenic spots, Inari-yama, Obasute and Atsumi. Between the two last mentioned places there is a tunnel 8,712 feet long. The succeeding section (25¼ miles) from Saijo to Matsumoto, will not be opened until next August. There are five tunnels in this section the longest being the Onikuma (1056 ft.) and the Shirasaka (6798 ft.)

The great expectations of a rice crop this season seem to have been exaggerated. It will be remembered that the Department of Agriculture and Commerce published two estimates, thus :—

First official estimate	44,543,446 *Koku*
Second official estimate	45,155,705 „

But, since then, other estimates made by private investigators indicate a very different state of affairs. These are the figures :—

	Koku.
Estimate by the Yamazaki Store (20th Sept.)	39,918,253
Estimate by the Shibusawa Store (22nd Sept.)	39,466,670

The public evidently adopts the latter estimates, for the price of rice has appreciated considerably.

A force of artillery sent from the Tokyo and Sakura garrisons to China returned to Tokyo by rail on the 20th instant by the 1.30 p.m. train, under the command of Major-General Yamakawa. The troops consisted entirely of field artillery—20 officers, 451 gunners and 23 horses. They received an enthusiastic welcome from the citizens. These troops fought at Peh-tsang and took an important share in the attack of Peking.

Marquis Ito has not yet recovered completely. His disquieting symptoms—a high temperature and a threatening of lung trouble—have disappeared, but he is said to be still suffering from a swelling of the throat and mouth which renders articulation painful. The medical men peremptorily prescribe a week's complete rest.

The Russian Minister and his suite were to leave Tientsin for Peking yesterday (19th) and Sir Claude Macdonald was to start from Tientsin for Tokyo on the same day. There has been some uncertainty on the part of the public with regard to Her Majesty's intention of sending Sir Claude to Japan, but we learn that the usual preliminary inquiry was addressed to the Government of this country at the beginning of October, so that Sir Claude's appointment to Tokyo is beyond question.

It was reported recently that the Russian Government had countermanded the sailing of two brigades of sharp-shooters, who were then in readiness to start from Odessa. The telegraph now states that these troops have again been placed under orders, and that their departure is imminent. Russia is most happily situated. She has practically obtained everything that she wants; namely, the whole of Manchuria, and she can now afford to behave with the utmost magnaminity towards the empire which she has despoiled of this magnificent province. Russia's star is assuredly in the ascendant. She must be surprised sometimes to find such luscious plums dropping into her mouth without stretching out

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her hand to shake the tree. Her aggressions may provoke the indignation of moralists, but it must be confessed that her temptations are sore, and that she would be more than human if she resisted them.

Shanghai continues to be very suspicious of Li Hung-chang's intentions. He is now believed to be endeavouring to bring about independent negotiations with each of the Powers, in order to play them off against each other. It is further alleged that he proposes to place the Customs under international control. Such a course would probably mean the displacement of Sir Robert Hart in favour of an Inspector General of another nationality. China, we believe, is under some kind of pledge to keep Sir Robert Hart where he is, but at a time like the present, pledges formerly given may be easily disregarded. Naturally the post of Inspector General and the great influence wielded by its holder—influence which increases in direct proportion to China's financial liabilities—are objects of ambition to other Powers. We can not wonder that there should be jealousy and intrigue, nor can we wonder that an acute statesman like Li Hung-chang should endeavour to take advantage of those jealousies and intrigues when his country's interests suggest such a course.

A telegram from Tientsin dated the 20th instant says that snow has fallen in North-China, that the cold is severe and that the troops are suffering. This is most unusual. Up to the close of October, as an almost invariable rule, and generally as late as the middle of November, fine bright weather prevails in Chili. The nights are cold and the wind is often very piercing, but a fall of snow is something quite exceptional. It is to be feared that the troops engaged in the Paoting expedition have suffered very much. They can scarcely have been prepared for anything so unseasonable. Fuel will be a serious question for both Tientsin and Peking during the winter unless the railway from Kaiping is quickly restored and the mine put into working order. In Peking there is the celebrated coal hill to which unwilling recourse will be had if the worst comes to the worst; but Tientsin is without any such resource. It is interesting to note than an untimely cold snap in Japan synchronized exactly with this snow-fall reported from North China.

Count Mutsu used to say that Baron Nishi was one of the few Japanese who remained thoroughly Japanese after long residence abroad. *The Times'* correspondent in Peking does not altogether share that view. In a reeent telegram to the great journal, commenting on the predominance of Russian influence in Peking, he says:—"The outlook is not promising, for it is unaccountable why Japan, to whom belonged the chief honours of our rescue, whose marvellous military organization is praised by officers of every nationality accompanying the expedition, and who brought the largest number of men, should consent consistently to give way to Russia and apparently accept Russian predominance. Fortune favours Russia, for Baron Nishi, the Japanese Minister, who was formerly Minister in St. Petersburg, is credited, perhaps unjustly, with being much under the influence of his able Russian colleague."

The German press seems to have been almost unanimous in condemning the loan of four millions sterling, contracted by Germany in the United States. It is asserted that to go abroad for such a paltry sum was not only undignified, but also financially unwise. The fact seems to be, however, that the Government did not see any hope of procuring the money in Germany at 3 per cent., and that to issue it at 4 would have shaken the stability of the Three Per Cents, which do not yet stand upon a very firm foundation None the less the necessity was harsh, and the effect upon German credit will not be good.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

There was but a scanty attendance at the annual general business meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society on Friday evening, the other attraction at the Public Hall evidently being a better drawing card. The President of the Society, Mr. N. W. McIvor, presided and at the outset of his remarks apologised for the absence of the Secretary's report, usually a feature of the annual meetings, and to the break-down of the musical arrangements for that evening owing to various unforeseen circumstances. In introducing the Treasurer's accounts, the Chairman said the Society's cash balance had increased from *yen* 115.88 last year to *yen* 296.21 this, while the property account, though nominally put at *yen* 634.50, should work out at over *yen* 660 if all their assets were taken into account. The outgoing Committee had one suggestion to make to the meeting; it was with reference to the matter of the refreshments. The Committee felt that the Society had outgrown this feature of their meetings: when they had fewer members and met in one another's drawing-rooms the serving of refreshments was a natural outcome of their environments. Now that their membership exceeded 250, and they met at one permanent place, the refreshments had grown a burden on the Society, exceeding in fact, the amount spent for rent. He and the Committee were in favour of the refreshments being abolished, and in their stead a few minutes spent in such a manner as would tend to support the literary character of their gatherings. This could be done by means of a question box into which suggestions could be dropped at one meeting and discussed at the next; or even introduced the same evening. At any rate, if anything was done on the lines suggested a special committee should be appointed and the regulations duly amended at a subsequent meeting.

The Treasurer's accounts, on the motion of the Chair, were then put. They were seconded by Mr. Neville and carried.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT—SEASON 1899-1900.

RECEIPTS.	*Yen.*	*Yen.*
To Balance from last year...	115.88	
Members' Subscriptions:—		
134 ladies at ¥2.00 ...268.00		
136 gentle'n at ¥3.00...408.00		
8 families at ¥10.00 ... 80.00	756.00	

EXPENDITURES.		
By Rent of Van Schaick Hall	120.00	
26 New Chairs	84.50	
Advertising and Printing	53.14	
Refreshments	145.41	
Prof. Wright: Lecture on Glaciers	50.00	
Miss Benjamin: Lecture on Manila	25.00	
Postage and Stationery	41.17	
Paid for collecting	11.95	
Boy hire and oil	20.10	
Hire of Stereopticon	21.70	
New Cups and Saucers	2.70	
Balance in Bank	296.21	
	871.88	871 88

E. & O. E.
B. F. JOLINE, Hon. Treas.
Examined with vouchers and found correct.
H. A. POOLE.

ASSETS.	*Yen.*
Piano, costing	550.00
Chairs, „	84.50
	634.50

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of Officers and Committees, the following being elected:—President—Rev. J. L. Dearing, D.D.; Vice-President—Mr. A. Bellamy Brown; Secretary—Mr. O. M. Poole; Treasurer—Mr. F. J. Lias. Literary Committee—Mrs. H. Loomis and Mrs. A. M. Apcar. Music Committee—Mr. W. Karl Vincent, Mrs. W. T. Payne, and Miss Page.

THE QUESTION OF REFRESHMENTS.

The Rev. E. S. BOOTH proposed, and Mr. A. BELLAMY BROWN seconded, that the Refreshment Committee be expunged.

The CHAIRMAN—Then failing the appointment of a Refreshment Committee, there can be no refreshments. (Laughter.)

The resolution was carried.

The Rev. E. S. BOOTH proposed that "the regulations of the Society be further amended, in the sense that a Committee be provided which shall have the direction of the interval between the two parts of the evening programmes, providing for an entertainment on the lines of a conversazione, the details of such scheme being left in that Committee's hands."

Mrs. J. G. DOERING seconded.—Carried unanimously.

Votes of thanks to the retiring President, Vice-President and members of Committees were then duly proposed and carried, and Mr. McIvor returned thanks.

THE OPENING PAPER OF THE SEASON.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in moving the adjournment of the meeting, announced that the first lecture of the season, a fortnight hence, would be on "November Meteors," which would be contributed by Mr. J. J. Plummer, M.A., F.R.A.S., of Hongkong Observatory.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES IN JAPAN.

Tha General Conference of Protestant Missionaries opened on the morning of the 24th in the Young Men's Christian Association Hall in Tokyo. It is the third conference of its kind held in Japan. The first was held in Yokohama in 1868, at which about twenty missionaries were present. The second was held in Osaka in 1883.

The Conference was opened by the Rev. A. Oltmans of Saga, chairman of the committee of arrangements. Permanent organization was effected by the election of Rev. J. D. Davis, D.D., of Kyoto as president of the Conference, Revs. William Imbrie, Andrews and Spencer, Vice Presidents, and Revs. Hanson and Landis Recording Secretaries.

The opening address was delivered by Dr. Davis. Dr. D. C. Greene followed with a paper on "The Conditions under which the Work has been carried on," and Dr. David Thompson with another on "The Progress of the Work." The subjects of Christian evangelization in all its phases, Christian education, Christian literature, social movements, Bible revision and circulation are on the programme for discussion.

The membership of the Conference consists of Protestant Missionaries in Japan, and China missionaries as advisory members. The enrollment thus far is over 500.

The Conference is to close on the afternoon of the 30th, and on the evening of that day the Conference will be tendered a reception by the American Minister, Col. Buck.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Air Temp. Max.	Min.	Lake.	State of Weather.	Remarks in General
Sunday, 14th.....	62°	56°	...66°.....	Rain	...
Monday, 15th	...58°	56°	...66°.....	Fine	...
Tuesday, 16th	...54°	52°	...66°.....	Fine	...
Wed'sday, 17th...	56°	48°	...65°.....	Fine	...
Thursday, 18th...	56°	50°	...65°.....	Fine	...
Friday, 19th	57°	48°	...65°.....	Fine	...
Saturday, 20th ...	60°	58°	...65°.....	Fine	...

Six days splendid weather.

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GERMANY AND ENGLAND.

WE publish this morning an important telegram, indicating that an agreement of a very definite character has just been concluded in London between Lord SALISBURY and the German Ambassador. The two Powers pledge themselves not to take advantage of the present complications to make any territorial acquisitions; they further engage to direct their policy towards maintaining the integrity of China, and they promise to uphold the principle of the open door. The conditions embodied in an explicit compact between two Powers possess much greater weight than similar statements could possibly possess in the form of a declaration by one Power, or even in that of a general announcement by several Powers. Each of the contracting parties incurs an obligation towards the other, and in this particular case each party may be fully trusted to observe that obligation. The document does not end there, however. It extends to the contingency of some other Power's utilizing the present complications to secure territorial advantages "under any form whatever," in which event Germany and England engage to come to a mutual understanding with regard to taking eventual steps to protect their own interests. They do not, it will be observed, pledge themselves to forcibly oppose territorial aggression on the part of another Power, nor do they promise to draw the sword in the interests of China's integrity. In fact, their compact points to something very different. It indicates that they will confer and come to some new agreement for indemnifying themselves in the supposed situation. Speaking without circumlocution or diplomatic euphemism, they will thus consider the advisability of helping themselves to slices of Chinese territory, but they will do it by mutual agreement, assisting each other, if necessary, and certainly not quarelling.

The first sentiment evoked by this intelligence is one of hearty satisfaction that Germany and England have placed themselves shoulder to shoulder in the Far East. We ourselves have always been firm believers in the eventual union of the two Powers, and our faith was not at all shaken by the bitter hostility to England that the German press showed throughout the South-African war.

The second reflection is that this agreement will create for Russia and France a difficult position. After all, it is somewhat extravagant to expect that Russia will evacuate Manchuria. Not only has she conquered the vast region, but she is building railways there for whose protection continued tenure of the territory is practically essential. Is it conceivable that England would surrender any place under similar circumstances? We do not think so, and although Russia, in the interests of peace, has explicitly disavowed any intention of remaining in Manchuria, her destiny has planted her there, and there she must stay. She will now be invited to subscribe this written compact which Germany and England have concluded, and it will be very hard for her either to comply or to refuse. She knows in her inmost heart that evacuation is out of the question, and she knows, also, that between a voluntary declaration with a reservation, on the one hand and a written agreement with her signature appended, on the other, there is a vast difference. But if she refuses to sign, the world will draw most sinister inferences from her reluctance. As for France, the integrity of her purposes in China is beyond question. But in this matter she will certainly be disposed to shape her course by Russia's, instead of adopting the frank line that her inclinations and her general policy dictate.

We do not believe that this agreement will greatly prolong China's life. What it ensures is that, in certain contingencies, Germany may occupy Shantung with England's full connivance, and, probably, with Wei-hai-wei thrown in, while England may follow her own line in the Yangtsze Valley with German co-operation.

CHINA'S PROPOSALS.

THE Chinese plenipotentiaries have put forward the following proposals as a basis of peace negotiations:—

1.—That as the attack on the Foreign Legations was a manifest violation of the law of nations, there can be no question about China's obligation to apologise.

2.—That China is bound to pay a proper indemnity.

3.—That the amount of the indemnity to be paid to the Powers collectively shall be fixed first, and subsequently, the indemnities to each Power separately, and that so soon as an arrangement is arrived at on these points, the allied forces shall be withdrawn.

4.—That if any revision or supplementing of existing treaties or any concluding of new conventions be contemplated, the present opportunity should be taken.

5.—That as the allied forces were put in motion solely for the avowed purpose of succouring the Legations, an armistice should commence simultaneously with the opening of peace negotiations.

These proposals amount simply to an apology and an indemnity. It is farther plain that the Chinese plenipotentiaries desire to utilize the occasion for revising the tariff, so that they shall be able to carry out the old projecting of converting the *lukin* into customes adres. Such a change would give an additional revenue of about 25 million taels, which would go far towards paying the contemplated indemnities. Of course the proposals advanced by the Chinese plenipotentiaries do not by any means represent what they are prepared to yield. Their omission of any reference to the outrages in the interior is most unsatisfactory. A telegram from London published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, alleges that they have rejected the proposals set forth by the Foreign Representatives for the replacement of the *Tsung-li Yamên* by a Ministry of Foreign Affairs according to Western models, the dismantling of the Taku forts and the establishment of direct intercourse between the EMPEROR and the Representatives of treaty Powers. But it may be confidently affirmed that this is incorrect. No proposals can have been formally submitted as yet by the Foreign Ministers. There has not been any news as to definite concord between the Powers with regard to a basis, and since the German and Russian Ministers had not left Tientsin at the date of latest advices, it is plain that no programme of negotiations can have been formulated on the part of the Powers collectively.

PENDING QUESTIONS.

IT is permissible to hope that the new Minister of State for Foreign Affairs will see his way to settle finally the questions that have been pending since the Revised Treaties went into operation. The foreign community have shown remarkable patience and moderation, a fact which ought to carry weight. As to the nomenclature of the land titles, it is pretty generally admitted, we imagine, that the arrangement made by the Japanese Government to have the titles registered as "superficies" with "perpetual lease" in brackets, was conceived in absolute good faith, and that no valid ground exists for doubting the permanence of such an arrangement. So long as the owner of the land keeps faith, the superficiary can not be disturbed, and the owner in this case is the Japanese Government, which lies under a solemn treaty obligation to respect the perpetuity of the leases. Nevertheless the foreign land-holder wants to have the letter of the treaty observed accurately. He asks for his "perpetual lease" and nothing else, and we do not see that the Government has any right to enforce a different nomenclature. The Government's difficulty is understood, and its desire to make things pleasant for the foreigner is appreciated. But the supposed difficulty does not appeal to all minds with the same force that it seems to possess for the Government. That difficulty is that the laws do not provide for the registration of perpetual leases, and that it is consequently necessary to adopt some substitute which, without impairing the quality of the lease, will bring it within the terminology recognised by law. Evidently that idea rests on the hypothesis that the law courts can not take cognizance of the treaties without specially enabling legislation. But, as a matter of fact, the law courts do take cognizance of the treaties. It is from the treaties that they derive their jurisdiction over the persons and properties of foreigners in Japan. Without the treaties they could not exercise that jurisdiction, for most assuredly they do not derive it from any provision of law. Thus we are confronted by the flagrant contradiction that, while performing most important functions under the direct authority of the treaties, the courts profess their incompetence to give effect to a certain provision of those very treaties without specially ennabling legislation. It appears to us that there is something wrong here, and that the new Cabinet might advantageously set it right.

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As to the problem of the house tax, we are unable to discover any line of valid reasoning for the claim of exemption. Whatever may be said about the scope of the word "property" in this language or in that, there should be no room for doubt about its scope in the case of the treaties, for a distinct limit is therein imposed, namely, the property mentioned in the leases. Land and land alone is mentioned in the leases. There is nothing whatever about houses. The land would remain subject to the same tax though a house were never built upon it. How to find an exit from that argument we do not perceive, and inasmuch as none of those advocating exemption has ever seriously attempted to indicate an exit, the fair conclusion is that one does not exist. It is on written record that during the course of the negotiations for revision, one of the Great Powers incidentally recognised the "property" in question to be land and land alone. If we insist that the Japanese shall so strictly observe the letter of the treaties with regard to the terminology of the leases, does it not appear right that we should ourselves be equally scrupulous in our own interpretations?

There is finally the question of mortgages: the Japanese Authorities are understood to claim that the treaties do not confer exemption from payment of fees for registering mortgages. Registration is not necessary in such cases, neither is mortgaging an essential feature of the tenure of land. A land-holder mortgages entirely to suit his own convenience, and registers the mortgage in order to secure the priority of the mortgagee. Can such transactions be reasonably included in the acts exempted by treaty from all payment of taxes?

Whatever be the conclusions formed by experts, it can scarcely be denied that these questions have been left too long unsettled, and the new Cabinet is in a most favourable situation to settle them.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The *Taiyô* and other magazines have published a very large number of articles on the crisis in China, but most of the essays possess little value, the writers being quite ignorant of the real state of the country and of the influences that are now being brought to bear upon it from the West. That of Mr. Shiga Chôkô, which appears in No. 11 of the *Taiyô* is, however, an exception. This writer has evidently given a large amount of attention to China and the Chinese, and has very decided opinions as to the policy Japan ought to follow in that country. The article is of great length and we can do no more than give a short *précis* of it, as follows:—(1) Japan is not in need of any addition to her territory. She possesses abundant outlets for her surplus population without undertaking new responsibilities. The Pescadores can accommodate a million and a half of people, Oshû 3 millions, and Hokkaidô 10 millions at least. But it is not a question of what Japan would prefer, but of what policy will be forced on her by the action of Western Powers. It seems certain that the final outcome of the events now taking place will be a partition of the country by the aggressors. When this takes place, is Japan to quietly look on? It goes without saying that her own defences will have to be increased, but the question is, should she in order to make herself more secure endeavour to obtain control of adjacent territory now governed by the Chinese? (2) The nearest place to Japanese territory belonging to China is the island of Haitan. This island is only 86 nautical miles distant from Tamsui, a voyage of 5 hours only by steamer. On the south of this island there is a bay called Mei-chan Bay, which affords excellent anchorage for ships. On the northern side of Haitan there is the Loyuen Bay, which also offers many advantages to a Naval Power. To the north of this bay, close to Che-kiang is the Bay of Nan-kwan, a first-class harbour for large ships. Two years ago this harbour was surveyed by Austria, it was thought, with designs on it. The matter was taken up by the *Times*, which pointed out that Japan's interests were intimately concerned in the ownership of this bay, and this resulted in the withdrawal of Austria. Still further to the north is situated the Sanmun Bay, on which Italy had designs, but which is still unappropriated by any Western Power. If the three above-named bays were to fall into the hands of any Western Power Formosa and the Pescadores would immediately be exposed to danger. These three bays are all within what is supposed to be Japan's "sphere of influence," Fokien. (5) But the pushing of Japanese interests in the province of Fokien is attended with great difficulty, because Europeans have had the start of us and are already very firmly established there. It was to this province that the first Jesuit missionaries went at the suggestion of Marco Polo. The prestige of Europeans in this province is immense. Statistics showing the relative positions held by England, America, Germany, France, Russia and Japan have been published, which demonstrate that Japan is far behind the other Powers. (4) Japan should concentrate her attention on Fokien and endeavour to exercise a predominating influence there. It is not only the nearest province to her dominions, but it is the only region that has not been distinctly recognised as the exclusive sphere of any Western Power. All other parts of China have already been appropriated. Northern China is recognised as Russia's sphere, the Yangtze as England's, Shantung as Germany's; Kwang-tung, Kwang-si and Hunan as France's. Japan's course then has been made clear by the trend of events. She must establish herself on the coast of Fokien. She must make the Tsushima Straits her naval basis, must be prepared to defend her interests in Korea, and to be mistress of the Formosa Strait. Thus only can she render Formosa, the Pescadores and Kyûshû secure. (5) Fokien is bounded by a branch of the great Nanling range of mountains in such a way that it would be an easy province to defend on the land side. (6) Although the province of Fokien offers all the above named advantages, regarded from a political point of view, considered from a commercial point of view the province is extremely unproductive. The land is poor and useless for agricultural purposes. Whereas this is so, the population is unusually large. The area of the province is 38,500 square miles and the population 22 millions, which makes 574 persons to the square mile, more than double the density of population in Japan. The situation is saved by emigration. There is no province that sends so many emigrants to foreign countries as Fokien. From Amoy there is an ever flowing stream of outgoing coolies and from Tsuen-chow and Chang-chow in one year the number of emigrants was 70,000. This outflow has been going on for more than 300 years. Out of 300 Kobe Chinamen 250 were found to be Fokien men. The first Chinamen to settle in Nagasaki were Fokien men. In Formosa there are 2,800,000 Fokien men, eight-tenths of these being from Tsuen-chow. The average emigration every year may be said to be 100,000 at least. It is calculated that each year some 50,000 emigrants return to the province and that they bring back 20 million dollars with them. Thus it happens that in one of the most sterile provinces of China the inhabitants live lives of comparative luxury. In proportion to the deterioration of the land, emigration has always increased, and thus a source of poverty has been turned by the thrifty Chinaman into a source of wealth. But it is by no means certain that there are no natural sources of wealth in the province. Even supposing there are none, the province has always flourished without them and would go on doing so under Japanese rule. (7) It is necessary to consider the connection of Fokien with Che-kiang. Though the two provinces have a natural boundary between them in the form of a branch of the Nanling range of mountains, they have been connected by the Chinese, forming one viceroyalty and last year a Government official in England argued that since branches of the great river Yangtze flow into Che-kiang, the latter province is certainly within the British sphere of influence. This reminds one of what Napoleon is said to have remarked in joke about all the territory along the banks of the river Rhine belonging to France. If the argument of the English Under-Secretary is sound then we may as well extend it and say that according to authorities in physical geography the Nanling range starting from Che-kiang makes its way under the sea to Satsuma and Higo, and hence these territories are naturally connected with Che-kiang. Che-kiang is therefore within the Japanese sphere. But joking apart, there is little doubt that England would have no objections to Japan's including Che-kiang in her sphere. England's sphere is large enough without this province. The Yangtze valley covers an area of 125,000 square miles and contains a population of 200 million people. It would be all that England could do to govern this territory did it become necessary for her to do so. A large army would be required. It is questionable whether an army consisting of Chinese only officered by Englishmen would answer. The English themselves have doubts about this. The Indian army could not be relied on to any extent for this purpose.* England must know that in the event of trouble the Japanese army alone can be relied on for assistance and hence she will welcome us as her near neighbour. Italy's claim to posses a *point d'appui* in these parts has not been substantiated and is not likely to be. But even if Sanmun Bay were ceded to her, her dominion would not extend to the interior of Che-kiang, even supposing that she could undertake to govern the whole of the province. All things then go to show that Japan should aim at establishing herself in Fokien and Che-kiang. This is absolutely essential to her safety.

* * *

Commenting on current Japanese literature the *Bungei Club* says everybody is deploring the dearth of authors and the poverty of thought that characterises the modern novel. To quote a few instances of the undisguised contempt felt for Japanese modern fiction writers by men who have read foreign novels, a certain Count who is the head of a political party (Count Okuma?) is reported to have said, "For men like Zola and Tolstoi we have admiration, but our Japanese novelists are not worth 5 *rin*". A well-known prince who has travelled in foreign countries (Prince Konoe?) observed a short time ago that he was in the habit of reading foreign novels, but never opened a Japanese one. Another eminent politician now unconnected with the Government † (Mr. Hoshi Toru?) says that European and American bookshelves are loaded with original works and that he has read a great many of them with pleasure, but that in Japan not even the works of such men as Rohan and Kôyô have the slightest interest for him. Another critic who is also a politician says that he has perused all the very noted works of fiction produced in Europe and America with the intention of writing something himself, and the conclusion he has reached is that there is nothing worth reading in Japanese in the shape of a novel. A very highly educated Japanese lady (the late Mrs. Shimoda Utako?) once observed that though deeply impressed by the perusal of foreign works of fiction, the Japa-

* This seems to us by no means so certain. The love of foreign service is growing among the Indian troops. There is no difficulty about increasing the Indian army to any extent if more troops are required. Funds for the support of an army in China would come from the Chinese of course.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† This was true when it was written.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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nese novel seemed to her only designed to corrupt the young men and women for whom it is written. An eminent missionary noted for his learning, is reported to have said that though he had studied the works of Kyôden, Samba and Saikaku, he had never got beyond the fifth or sixth page of a modern novel, knowing quite well what would follow. Modern fiction writers should take these criticisms to heart and try and discover the reason of their failure to satisfy the requirements of the highly educated reader. For ourselves, says the *Bungei Club*, we by no means despair of the future of Japanese literature. Year by year scores of the best books produced in the West are greedily devoured by our literary men and the effects of this study will sooner or later certainly be the production of a new class of works. We must remember that even the greatest geniuses have had their days of obscurity and failure. When Kano Hôgai commenced his sketches he found no buyers for them at 20 *sen* each, and it is recorded that on one occasion he parted with fifty superb drawings for 3 *ryô*. At the present time no genuine work of Hôgai's is to be had under 100 *yen*, and it is said that the value of Hôgai's sketches exhibited at the Boston Art Exhibition was over 100,000 dollars. The advice we give our leading authors is to bear patiently the treatment their works are now receiving from high-class readers, and to endeavour to strike out a new line for themselves.

* * *

The 自識錄 *Jishikiroku* is a book that gives the views of Mr. Nishimura Shigeki on ethics and philosophy. Mr. Nishimura is more than half a Confucianist. He has studied Western philosophy, but in the warp and woof of his system we find that Chinese ideas are most conspicuous. His cosmogony traces all things back to a substratum of spirit and matter called 元氣 *Genki* (Original Energy). In the book now published Mr. Nishimura rejects Utilitarian theories, and adopts the conclusions of intuitionalists. There is nothing specially new in the views expressed in the *Jishikiroku*, but Mr. Nishimura being one of the recognised leaders of ethical thought in this country, his admirers and followers will doubtless value the volume he has now published.

A few magazines hitherto unmentioned in these columns demand a passing notice as branches of literature prepared for special classes of readers.

On February 1st last appeared the first number of the *Ryôyû* (*Sportsman's Friend*) a monthly magazine devoted to sports of all kinds, covering some 100 pages, published by the Nihon Jûryô Kyôkai. The object of this association is to discuss all subjects in any way connected with sport, and by means of its periodical to keep members informed as to the breed of dogs, the merits of various fowling-pieces and the like. For ordinary members the subscription is 2 *yen* per annum. The sports of various countries are discussed and interesting translations from the writings of foreign sportsmen are inserted.

The 通商彙纂 *Tsûshô-isan*, which has now reached its 75th number, is published monthly by the Foreign Office Tsûshô-Kyoku. It consists of a collection of valuable statistics on commerce and industry in all parts of the world. For purposes of reference it must prove an immense boon to business men. The reports of boards of trade and chambers of commerce at all the great commercial centres of the world are reproduced in a condensed form. The printing and general get-up of the magazine is excellent.

The *Meiji Hôgaku*, which is published by the Meiji Hôgaku-kai, has been appearing monthly since Sept. 15th, 1899. The object of the magazine is the discussion of modern legal changes and of the progress of law in Japan and in the West. The contributors are, of course, all lawyers. Some of the subjects chosen are of considerable interest. A few may be cited as examples. "The different Ideas of Right in England, France and Germany." "Franchise Laws," "Fraud by Means of Counterfeit Private Seals." "The Training of Lawyers." One of the distinctive features of the magazine is the questions and answers which appear in every number on knotty points of law.

The journal of the Nôgakukai, called the *Kaihô*, is issued to members only. It appears monthly and has now reached its 45th number. It is designed for the use of the graduates of various Agricultural Colleges, which are now tolerably numerous. The papers published in this journal are extremely technical and will only be read by very earnest students.

The *Hôgaku Kyôkai Zasshi* is a very old magazine, having already reached the tenth number of its eighteenth volume. It is said to be one of the best supported of the numerous law magazines that appear. By no means the least useful part of this magazine is that published under the heading of *Hanketsurei* (Typical Verdicts). New foreign books on Law receive special attention from various legal contributors to this publication. One of the characteristics of the magazine worthy of being commented on is that it opens its pages to psychological discussions that have a distinct bearing on law. A series of interesting articles on "The Development and the Use of the Will" is now undergoing publication in the *Hôgaku Kyôkai Zasshi*. The writer, Mr. Ishibata Isaburô, B.A., could not have chosen a subject that more needs elucidation in this country than this. It is, we think, undoubtedly true that the Japanese give little or no attention to the development of this useful faculty. As Mr. Ishibata remarks in one of his articles, even the treatment the subject of the will has received by western writers is not on an equality with that devoted to the discussion of the intellect and the emotions.

A small paper devoted to literature has recently been published in Hakodate called the *Hokuto* (Polar Star). It is to appear twice a month. The compositions consist of short pieces in prose, with a sprinkling of the stereotyped verses that appear in such numbers in other literary periodicals.

* * *

In the *Gwaikô Jihô* Dr. Ariga has a great deal to say on England's connection with the despatch of Japanese troops to China. Dr. Ariga, after carefully perusing the 40 despatches on the subject recently published in an English Blue Book, has come to the conclusion that it was England's promise to defray expenses which induced the Japanese Government to despatch the first instalment of the force now in the field. Dr. Ariga complains of the tone of the Marquis of Salisbury's despatch to Mr. Whitehead dated July 16th, 1900, which, he says, reads like reproof of the Japanese Cabinet for their delay in sending off the 4th body of troops destined for China. Dr. Ariga thinks that there is much to criticize in the way the correspondence on the despatch of troops was conducted by the officials concerned, and confesses to having printed some trenchant remarks on the subject, which, however, for fear of embarrassing the Japanese Government, he refrains from publishing just at present.

Dr. Ariga regards Russia's proposal to the allies bearing on the withdrawal of troops from Peking as principally designed to oust Japan from the position which the part she had taken in the relief of Peking had given her among the allies. Dr. Ariga fears that an attempt at forming an anti-Japanese alliance may be made later on and regrets that England's hands are still not free to lend the aid that would be required to render any such combination powerless. Dr. Ariga goes on to observe that in preparing for the winter France, Germany and Russia will all have to depend largely on Japan or England for the quick transport of military stores of all kinds, as only these two Powers have a number of ships at their disposal. And he adds that this fact may make Russia more conciliatory to this country than she would otherwise be.

* * *

No 123 of the *Nipponjin* discusses the situation in China at considerable length. This magazine, as is well known, favours the reduction of Japan's armaments. It argues that Japan does not need 200,000 troops for the defence of her shores, that the only reason for maintaining such a large force is the possibility of her finding it necessary to enter on a serious contest in the neighbouring continent. But if ever she is drawn into a big war in China, she will fight rather to gratify her ambition than to further her permanent interests. Japan's extreme love of war is a dangerous tendency that calls for repression, says the *Nipponjin*. History shows that the rule of men who like Napoleon and Hideyoshi have fought from mere love of conquest has been very short-lived. The healthy sentiment is for a nation to dislike war and only to engage in it as a last resource. The *Nipponjin* goes on to criticise severely Japan's action in China during the recent crisis. The gist of what it says is that Japan's policy has lacked backbone, that despite the fact that she is the best prepared of all the Powers to act decidedly, she has been conspicuous for vacillation. The burden of the *Nipponjin's* articles is that while insisting on the necessity of maintaining armaments out of all proportion to the resources of the country, the Japanese Government has not the resolution to take the lead in settling one of the greatest questions of Far Eastern Policy.

* * *

The *Nijisseiki* (*Twentieth Century*), a monthly magazine started a few months ago, already noticed in these Columns, seems so far to be well sustained. No 5, which lies before us, has several interesting articles. Count Okuma gives us his views on "Modern Changes in Customs." The following is the gist of the Count's remarks. The old recognised moral guides of the nation, Buddhist and Shintô priests and Chinese scholars, have entirely lost their hold on society and their successors have not yet appeared on the scene. It might seem at first sight as though the men by whose efforts the great revolution was effected would by precept and example arrest the moral decay which is undoubtedly going on. But when it is remembered that the men who are now at the head of the State were originally mere *rônin*, with nothing but their swords and their daring to depend on, and that their rising to fill the highest offices in the State is to be attributed to the soundness of the principles they espoused, to their intellectual acumen and to the spirit of the age rather than to any moral excellence of character they may possess, it is plain that the nation cannot rely on them to supply the moral impulse of which it stands so much in need. When we turn to education a similar disappointment is met with. Intellectual knowledge is the one thing with which school teachers are concerned. They do not feel that the teaching of morality is their business. So the process of shifting the responsibility goes on. In the meantime the youth of the country are breathing in a polluted atmosphere. It is plain that things cannot be allowed to drift any longer. Those in authority must take some steps to purify society or the nation will suffer from their neglect a few decades hence.

In the same magazine we have the views of Mr. Katô Takaaki, now Minister of Foreign Affairs, on "Japan's position in the World," which were originally expressed in a lecture delivered to the Oriental Young Men's Society some weeks ago. From this lecture we make a few quotations, it being too long to be reproduced even in an epitomised form. Having referred to the disdain with which Japan was regarded prior to her war with China, and to the way in which her success in that war aided the revision of the treaties, Mr. Katô goes on to ask whether Japan since the revision has obtained the confidence and respect of Western nations, and gives a somewhat doubtful answer to this query. On this subject this is what Mr. Katô says: Although the revision of the treaties appeared to Japanese to be a very great event, because it raised their rank in the world as a nation, yet the Western world taken as a whole was not by any means impressed by the magnitude of the event. A certain reluctance to believe in Japan's merits has manifested itself in Europe for a long time. There were many who suspected that even the accounts of Japan's victories in China were falsified. . . . Since the war what has happened? We have found ourselves in financial straits. We have discovered that we were hardly prepared as a nation to live up to the position which the revision of the treaties conferred on us. To help us out we have had to borrow from foreign countries. These things have tended to make us take a lower estimate of ourselves than we formed at the end of the war 5 years ago. And we realize that though the war did a good deal for us, it left much still to be accomplished be-

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fore we are qualified to rank with the great Powers. I am sorry to have to say so, continues Mr. Katô, but I see enormous difficulties in the way of Japan's attaining the rank of a great Western Power. (*Ware wa, zannen nagara, Nihon wa taikoku no nakama-iri wa muzukashii to iu hoto wo kôgen* (公言) *su.*) I have no hesitation in saying that we are not yet qualified to take a place alongside of Great Western Powers. I call your attention to the present state of our finances. Year by year our imports exceed our exports by large sums*. Since the war we have made desperate attempts to raise the sum of 57 million *yen* for various industrial enterprises, but have failed. England asks for 300 million *yen* for her South African War and it is subscribed at once *13 times over*. England's foreign trade during the past few years has figured up to 7,000 million *yen* per year. Japan's foreign trade stands at about 430 millions, and the bigger part of this is import trade. Look at our industry. Progress everywhere is lamentably slow. It is not otherwise with our railways. Great Britain is smaller than Japan and yet she has 23,000 miles of railway against 3,500 miles in Japan, and as regards quality our railways are as mere toy lines compared with those of England, and our railway cars are mere match-boxes. Compare our schools and our newspapers with those of England, and you will find the same inferiority on our part. In morals too we are behind the West. There is no such high moral tone in Japan as exists in England. It is my opinion that as yet we have not qualified ourselves to enter the comity of western nations. In all the particulars enumerated above we are inferior to them. What we can regard with entire satisfaction when compared with those of foreign countries are our Army and Navy. We now have a navy of over 200,000 tons and our ships are of the most approved models. The *Shikishima Kan* is said to have no equal in the world. But even better she is than her will arrive next year. Then we shall be in a position to hold our own on the seas against even 2 or 3 foreign Powers. Our Army need not be further increased. No Western Power could send without enormous difficulty fifty or a hundred thousand troops to Japan. About the country's defences there is not the slightest cause for anxiety. The position we hold in foreign eyes is almost exclusively owing to our position as a military Power. This fact should impress itself on our minds, and steps should be taken to maintain this reputation in future years by developing our navy to the utmost. Mr. Katô ended his extremely interesting and instructive lecture by pointing out in detail the defects and weaknesses of Japanese young men when compared with Europeans and Americans and urged upon the audience the need of increased effort and perseverance.

In the number of the *Twentieth Century* from which the above is quoted, Count Itagaki give us his views in the following terms:—I can't say that I am pleased with the course followed by the Jiyutô in recent years, but to state the grounds of my discontent would involve the exposure of the weaknesses of my friends, and so I refrain. The Liberals have succeeded in attaining two great objects they set before them. The country has a Constitution and political organization. Henceforth I propose to devote my attention to the development of society in various ways rather than to politics. On what is needed in this direction I have definite views. I am of opinion that we Japanese would do well to adopt a course between that followed in England and that followed in Germany. The attention of Germans is absorbed in the formation of political parties and factions whose one object is the reform of government. In England public attention is absorbed by charity, business, education and the benefit of the lower orders. In Japan we can't afford to neglect either the duty of improving government or of improving the condition of the masses. The labour and capital trouble will be felt by us before very long. Efforts ought to be made to improve the state of the working classes at once. The following measures should be adopted. The *nagaya* system of life should be abolished. It is the cause of much corruption. Poor men should have cheap separate houses furnished for them. They should be encouraged to save money by the offer of reward to those who lay by a certain sum. They should have money lent them at a cheap rate of interest and they should be aided in getting employ free of charge. Any kind of charity bestowed in this country is attended with the danger of spoiling the recipients, since the Japanese are so such accustomed to depend on others for help. And, moreover, we have one or two instances of charity being used as a means of enriching the collectors of money. But notwithstanding all this, the condition of our poor calls for earnest and sustained effort. The surroundings and the home education of the children of the very poor turns them into criminals. Any one who is acquainted with the juvenile faces to be seen in our prisons will bear witness to the fact that they display no pronounced criminal tendency. These youths look in most cases as innocent as the majority of children seen in our streets. It is the atmosphere these children have breathed that has polluted them. There is a great field for the earnest reformer among the lower orders and to the improvement of their life in every way I propose to devote my attention forthwith.

* This argument from the excess of imports is so often met with that we refer readers to a very interesting paper on this subject by Sir Robert Giffen, read to the Royal Statistical Society in January, 1899, and summarized in the *Times* January 18th, 1899. Speaking of England, Sir R. Giffen says:—"It is not singular that a country like the United Kingdom should show an excess of imports. The excess is also not a new thing in our case, because since the year 1854, from which date exact comparisons can be made, we know that there has been uniformly an excess, the amount rising from 37 million pounds on the average of the three years 1854-56 to about 120 million pounds on the average of the three years 1878-80 and to 140 million pounds on the average of the three years 1893-95. The average at the present time is probably still higher—about 160 million pounds."—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

PIRACY NEAR HONGKONG.

Information reached Hongkong on Oct. 13th, that the Chinese-owned steam launch *Kong Hot*, with a passenger boat in tow, was held up and looted, on the West River on Oct. 9th. She was boarded by armed men and the passengers were relieved of clothing, jewellery and money of the value of Tls. 500. The pirates afterwards escaped ashore with their loot. Information of a second outrage was obtained on Oct. 14th. Messrs. Sculfort and Co., merchants, Hongkong, reported to the police that their launch *Nanchau*, flying the French flag, had arrived in the Harbour with the dead bodies of two of the crew on board, and with the intelligence that the vessel had been looted of 14 boxes of specie (value $32,000), a cargo of cotton yarn, the arms and other articles belonging to the vessel and crew. The piracy took place on the voyage from the French port of Kwangchouwan on the 13th.

YACHTING.

The last race of the season in connection with the Yokohama Yacht Club took place on Saturday over the No. 1 course, six miles, once round the Tsurumi mark and the Lightship. There was a moderate south-easterly breeze, which suited *Maid Marion* admirably. Six 39-raters started, the *Maid* taking the lead at once and keeping it all round the course. Following were the times:

	Finish.	H'cap. Club	Corrected.
	h m s.	m s.	h.m s.
Haidee	3.41.32	—	3.41.32
Kingfisher	3.35.15	—	3.35.15
Mary	3.33.29	1.05	3.32.24
Maid Marion ...	3 31 32	1.50	3.29.42
Golden Hind ...	3.41.25	1.50	3.39.35
Spray	3.42.04	3.54	3 38.10

The first prize therefore fell to the *Maid*, which also gained two record points, and the second with one record point to *Mary*. *Kingfisher* made her first appearance after having her after part lengthened, but did not distinguish herself particularly.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. Fukai, formerly the distinguished editor of the English columns of the *Kokumin Shimbun*—an office which is nowably filled by Mr. Furuya—and subsequently Private Secretary to Count Matsukata, has been raised to the Second Rank of the Sixth Grade. Mr. Okuda Yoshito, hitherto Vice-Minister of Education, becomes Chief of the Legislative Bureau in the Cabinet, *vice* Mr. Hirata Tosuke. Mr. Sato Aimaru goes to Mexico as Minister and Consul General. Major-General Arisaka, now in Germany for the purpose of arranging for the manufacture of the Arisaka gun, has been ordered to return to Japan

THE REPORTED RUSSIAN LOAN.

The Russian *Official Gazette* publishes a formal denial of the recently circulated rumour that a loan was to be placed on the foreign market. The *dementi* says that the State's income leaves an ample margin to meet all present demands, and that the talk of recourse to a foreign loan is quite baseless.

JAPAN AS ENGLISHMEN SEE HER.

We quoted in a recent issue some verses from *Fun*, which, very abominable from a poetical point of view, embodied a good sentiment. The following verses from the *Daily Express* are decidedly cleverer as a composition and have the same ring of friendly gratitude and appreciation:—

TO OUR COMRADE.

You're a funny little fellow,
Quite a miniature affair,
With a skin a browny yellow,
And a bristly sort of hair.
Yet we know when once you're started
You can hit a tidy tap;
If you're small, you're honest-hearted,
And we like you, Mr. Jap.

You were centuries behind us,
But you bustled, little man,
And a dozen years may find us
Buying patents from Japan.
You'd a handicap tremendous,
But you're gaining every lap,
And we like the goods you send us,
And their makers, Mr. Jap.

Mr. Bruin is your neighbour:
He is cunning, bold, and wise,
And his agents they will labour
To seem loving in your eyes;
But remember how he sold you
In that slim Port Arthur trap,
Should his mighty arms enfold you
You'll be done for, Mr. Jap.

There's a girl in love with Bruin,
Sworn to honour and obey:
She would gladly see your ruin,
Whatsoever she may say.
As a friend her name is shady;
If at you she sets her cap,
Have no dealings with the lady—
No flirtations, Mr Jap.

Men have hailed us with derision,
Called us sharpers—yes and worse,
But they lie who say our vision
Never goes beyond our purse;
And the heirs of Nelson's glories,
And of those who conquered Nap,
Love to hear the gallant stories
Of your valour, Mr. Jap.

Adding ever to your glory,
Every day fresh praise you win,
Till you finished off the story
With the capture of Pekin.
We who fought beside, behind you,
Saw you fill each blood-stained gap
We just take you as we find you—
You're a white man, Mr. Jap.

B. FLETCHER ROBINSON.

In this context we may quote the following from the *National Review* for August:—

MISLEADING THE JAPANESE.

One or two "viewy" Englishmen apparently think the present the proper moment to try and make mischief between Japan and Great Britain—the two

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Powers who above all others ought to keep step with one another in this terrible Far Eastern Question, for their interests are as nearly identical as national interests can ever be, and their *entente* is perhaps the principal pillar of the world's peace. Mr. Frederick Greenwood, however, who is a man of many aversions, which he expresses with a caustic pen, has made a very violent and foolish attack upon the Japanese in *The Westminster Gazette*, happily without affecting that paper, which has consistently advocated an Anglo-Japanese understanding. Similarly, Mr. Freeman Mitford, in a letter to *The Times*, gives expression in more temperate terms to the prejudice against Japan which educated Englishmen used to entertain a generation ago, and which still lurks in the minds of a few disappointed missionaries who resent the reluctance of the Japanese to change their religion. As Mr. Mitford has held considerable official positions, and was originally in the Diplomatic Service, his utterance appears to have attracted excessive attention in Tokio, where it is misconstrued as representing responsible British opinion. Consequently, *The Times* Tokyo correspondent, who is in close touch with the Mikado's Government, cables this indignant protest:—"I am authorized to say that Mr. Freeman Mitford's letter in *The Times* of July 12th has created a profoundly painful impression in official circles in Tokyo, where it is affirmed that the sole motive of Japanese action is the single-minded desire to restore peace and promote the interests of humanity in frank co-operation with the European Powers, and that such baseless suspicions must inevitably shock and discourage the nation's friendly impulses." Surely Japanese statesmen, many of whom have done us the honour to study our political institutions and habits as no other foreigners have, know better than to regard a casual letter in *The Times* as expressing anything beyond the opinion of its writer. Mr. Mitford is as much entitled to his views on the Far Eastern Question, however exploded they may be, as any other man, but it would be truly deplorable if such sentiments were accepted in Tokio as typically British, and were permitted to prejudice our friendly relations. So far as one can observe they are the precise opposite of the opinions prevalent in London.

Indicting a Nation.

After reluctantly admitting that "the attitude taken by the Japanese Government in the present crisis in China appears to me worthy of all praise," Mr. Mitford proceed to warn us "lest we should allow our admiration and sympathy for this fascinating and energetic people to lead us into playing their game to our own peril." The rest of the letter is devoted to emphasizing this "peril," and consists of a general indictment of the Japanese nation such as would have excited the scorn and derision of Burke. We are invited to hope that Russia will succeed in excluding Japan from China, because "barely a quarter of a century has elapsed since Japan was murdering foreigners with as wild a fanaticism and as unreasoning a cruelty as China." In the interval it is true, she "has donned a veneer of Western civilization. But how deep does it go? Can the leopard have changed his spots so quickly. . . ." Then we are told that "the national character of Japan is restless, ambitious, and aggressive in the highest degree. Her statesmen were clever enough to see thirty years ago that it was only by adopting the science and civilization of the West that she could hope to take her place among the nations, and so at one leap she bounded from the thirteenth into the nineteenth century from the darkness of the feudal system into the light of a constitutional government." Having armed herself, she picked a quarrel with China over Korea and smashed her enemy, but her great ambition, "the ambition to become the military leader of a vast Manchu-Chinese-Japanese League, was foiled by European diplomacy. At the present moment it would almost seem as if circumstances were bringing the coveted prize once more within her reach." Great Britain should therefore reject the military assistance which Japan alone is in a position to give. It is better, apparently, that Europeans should be massacred by the Chinese than be rescued by the Japanese:—

"Japan is spoken of as the principal factor in the relief of Peking, and this on account of her proximity to the scene of disturbance. . . . Is Japan really so important in this crisis as some people appear to think, and as she herself would have us believe? At any rate, there can be no justification for giving her a leading part. For the forces of the Allied Powers to be placed under the orders of a Japanese Commander-in-Chief appears to me, as it must to all who know the East, a proposition which no responsible statesman could seriously entertain."

Having thus dismissed the Japanese on account of their "restless, ambitious, and aggressive" character, Mr Mitford declares his willingness to hand over all Northern China, including Peking, to Russia, presumably on the principle that "only the meek shall inherit the earth." It is evident that he is not acquainted with Prince Ukhtomski's expositions of Russia's Far Eastern policy, for the direction of which the Prince is supposed to be largely responsible. From his articles and pamphlets it is manifest that the Forward Party in Russia cherish the very ambitions which affright Mr. Mitford in the case of Japan. The truth is the civilized world cannot afford to let any single Power lay exclusive hands on the Chinese Empire, but Russia, in sole control, would be an infinitely greater terror than Japan.

British Public Opinion.

As the British Foreign Office ultimately conforms to public opinion, of which it perhaps stand in exaggerated awe, the opinion of the ordinary Englishman on matters of foreign policy is of no little importance, and during the last few years he has been slowly shaping his sentiments with regard to Japan. These may be thus briefly epitomized. The development of "the England of the Far East" into a first-class Power is unreservedly welcome to the overwhelming mass of Englishmen, though opinion was somewhat divided during her war with China owing to the confused manner in which the issues were presented. But we all greatly admired the foresight and thoroughness with which she prepared for the struggle, the excellence of her Intelligence Department, the ability of her Generals, and the splendid gallantry of her troops, which we are even better able to appreciate to-day than at a time when the Chinese were considered contemptible foemen. At the close of the war a combination of European Powers, consisting of Russia, her French ally, and her German jackal, intervened to rob Japan of the fruits of victory. Mr. Mitford expresses approval of that action:—"The Powers were well-advised six years ago when they refused to allow Japan to possess herself of the Leao-tong Peninsula." He is the very first Englishman who, during the intervening years, has been heard to express such an opinion. Lord Rosebery has been warmly applauded by all Parties for declining to join the anti-Japanese Concert, and to-day the only reflection upon his policy arises from the feeling that he ought to have gone a good deal farther in supporting the Japanese. We can now realize that, if Japan had retained Port Arthur, none of the painful and humiliating developments of the last three years could have taken place and we should have been spared the present catastrophe. Again, when Mr. Mitford advises us to assist Russia in excluding Japan from Northern China he stands absolutely alone. Such a policy would not even receive the support of Mr. Greenwood. The average English view is that there is plenty of room for both Japan and Russia in Northern China, but that the ultimate possession of Korea is vital to the Japanese if they are to remain a Great Power. That Englishmen do not share the eccentric objection to Japan being 'the principal factor in the relief of Peking" or the not less eccentric objection to the appointment of a Japanese Commander-in-Chief, may be inferred from the rising tide of criticism at the supposed failure of the British Government to give Japan the mandate she sought.

That responsible British statesmen do not share the antiquated prejudices we have referred to is clear from their utterances in Parliament. Mr. Balfour in particular—who has much discernment in foreign affairs—has cordially urged Japan to contribute all the troops she can spare to the International Army slowly assembling in China, and under the stress of circumstances the Japanese quota has risen to over 20,000 men.

FERRIS SEMINARY.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Ferris Seminary was celebrated on Friday, the 19th inst. In the forenoon a devotional service was held by the teachers, pupils and friends, followed by a collation at 1 p.m. In the afternoon from 3 o'clock to 5.30 literary and musical exercises took place in Van Schaick Hall. On one side of the Hall all the seats were occupied by pupils, showing the large increase which has taken place within the past year or so, while the centre seats and those on the other side were filled to the doors with the relations of the pupils and foreign friends of the Institutions.

The proceedings were opened by an address of welcome from the Principal, the Rev. E.S. Booth, M.A., who said—It is my pleasant task to voice the word of welcome to the graduates, former pupils, and attending friends on this occasion, in which we celebrate the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of this school. It is with a deep sense of gratitude and sincere pleasure that we are privileged in having with us to-day one who was chiefly instrumental in founding this school. She laid the foundations well, and we feel assured that she takes a true pride in the superstructure that during these long years has grown up upon them. We had fondly hoped that she would consent to preside at this meeting, but deferring to her wishes we have excused her from that burden. We are, however, glad that she can grace this occasion by her presence. We extend to Mrs. Miller a most hearty welcome. As President of the North Japan Mission of the Reformed Church in America, of which this school is a beloved ward, I bid you welcome. As principal of the Ferris Seminary, an office which it has been my lot to hold for nearly nineteen years, during which period all the *alumnæ* have been sent forth, I bid you welcome to the place made sacred to both you and to me by memories that refuse to die. There are many others who would be here to day, but family cares, growing responsibilities, and long distances forbid their presence. Their thoughts will turn to us to-day and in memory they will live over again some of the scenes of their childhood and youth enacted in these now—relatively speaking, venerable halls. Their absence gives us a feeling of disappointment and regret. Their unvoiced "Shibaraku" makes the joy of this occasion incomplete. Others there are who have entered that "bourne from whence no traveller returns," 'but their works do live after them." Our loss is their gain. And the tears we shed are because of the pain which wells up in our hearts, as the empty place reminds us afresh of our irreparable loss. We have, however, called the living to meet once again their *Alma Mater* that they may enjoy a few hours together with their old school-mates, teachers and friends, to be young again, and to live over once more the hours when cares and responsibilities were myths; when building "air castles," and dreaming dreams of royal pageants gave to life the roseate hues of youth. We have invited you for another purpose as well. It is that you may have the opportunity of taking up and sharing with your *Alma Mater* the burden of Christian education for the women and girls of Japan. To this high and holy calling we bid you welcome. You have both seen and felt the great need of Christian womanhood since you took up the responsibilities of life; you have seen and felt it in a sense that you could not have done while you lay enfolded in the maternal arms. You can now intelligently lend a helping hand to your school, that will aid it in its efforts to attain the aims for which it has struggled for the past twenty-five years. Its aim has been and ever will be to develop a Christian womanhood that shall ring true when brought into close contact with the stern realities of life: a womanhood that shall make and maintain an ideal home life: a womanhood that shall exalt the nation in coming generations through the practice of those altruistic principles which display the highest qualities of human character. This is a Mission School, and its existence, maintainance and continuance can be accounted for and relied upon only through the operation of those altruistic principles and modes of action which the Christian religion has both revealed to the world and made practical. Here in these buildings from foundation stone to rafter, we have a practical example of it. Here too, in the breadth and sweetness of your lives, my dear pupils, we have an example of it. Thousands of Christian men and women in America, whom you have never seen, and upon whom, in the language of the world, you have no claim, have laboured, and toiled, and prayed to the end that you, who are without the privileges of Christian Education, may have those privileges to profit thereby. We invite you here to-day that you may catch anew that Spirit of Christian love which pulsates through every limb of your *Alma Mater*, and is stamped upon her every feature. Those across the sea who have wrought the keel and shaped the course of this craft have been enriched not by that which passes current in the markets of this world's commerce, but by your love and fidelity, by your regeneration into a new and higher life—the true "treasures in Heaven." For such wealth we bid you labour. You will gather richer stores than those who seek wealth by traffic in this world's staples. One thought more and I close and give place to others who have come to address us upon this glad occasion. That thought is that next to the Christian home, the Christian school takes rank in importance to the State. Where Christian homes are few and far between, the Christian schools, necessarily exotic are of chiefest importance, for out of them and by means of them Christian homes will be formed and will multiply until in due time they will become the strength and hope of the commonwealth. Patriotism is intelligent devotion to the highest ideal of fatherland one can form. The highest ideal you can form for Japan is that she be regenerated by the power of the holy spirit, and in this way become a Christian nation. To unite with us, and to co-operate with us to this end we bid you to-day a most hearty *welcome*.

It is appropriate that I should read, right here, a letter from the Women's Board in New York City, acknowledging the gift which the graduates and pupils of this school (which is the first fruit of its efforts) sent forward upon the occasion of that Board's Twenty-fifth Anniversary held in New York in January last. The letter also contains congratulations upon the quarter century which this school celebrates to-day.

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From the Women's Board of Foreign Missions, to the Graduates and Pupils of Ferris Seminary—Greeting,

Dear Friends and Daughters:

When we received the letter from Mrs. Booth telling of the meeting which you held in January, in union with our Twenty-fifth Anniversary, and expressing your love and congratulations to the Mother Board, our hearts were deeply touched, as we thought of the many daughters in beautiful Japan, who have so responded to the love and anxiety for them and for their souls' salvation.

We thank God for the Christian women who have gone out from Ferris Seminary, as teachers in schools and communities, or in lovely homes letting their light shine, and influencing in greater or less degree the life of their nation.

We earnestly hope that this influence may never grow less, that their children may be taught to love God and keep His commandments, and thus the pure and holy stream may widen as the years go by.

A later letter from Rev. Mr. Booth, enclosing your generous cheque for one hundred *yen* (fifty dollars), was very gratifying. It is delightful to think of the daughters of Ferris Seminary, uniting with the Mother Board, in sending the gospel to "regions beyond."

We congratulate you, on your Twenty-fifty Anniversary, so soon to come, and ask God's blessing on you as you begin another quarter century.

May God bless you beautiful country, making it a Christian land—a blessing to its neighbours of the Pacific and to the world.

Yours in the bonds of Christian love and fellowship,

Mrs. Henry N. Cobb,
President of the Women's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America.

April sixteenth, 1900.

After a chorus, a "Recessional" by Dr. Koven, excellently rendered by about a score of pupils, and in which the soloist, Miss Hayashi, displayed a remarkably sweet soprano voice, an essay in Japanese, "Congratulations," was read by Miss B. Inouye. This was followed by an Historical Address by the Rev. E. B. Miller, who was introduced by Rev. E. Booth as having been associated with the Ferris Seminary at its start. The address was in Japanese; a very creditable performance of one of Chopin's beautiful "Nocturnes" for organ and piano by Misses Murohara and Hayashi followed, and the programme further included an English recitation by Miss Okada, a song, "A Dream of Paradise," by Miss Hayashi, addresses by Misses Hirano and Matsuda, a particularly well rendered vocal trio by Mrs. Murohara and Misses Asada and Hayashi, some congratulatory addresses by Rev. K. Hoshino and others, read by Mr. Ike, with another chorus by the vocal students. The advance made by the pupils in their musical studies reflects the greatest credit on their instructress, Miss Moulton.

CHINA NOTES.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* of the 6th inst., says that Prince Tuan is in the possession of the Imperial seal, and none of the edicts now being issued are properly sealed; when they are, it is to be presumed that they are Tuan's.

Mr. Black, British Consul at Chiengmai, reports that British subjects, who have invested £2,000,000 in the teak industry, are anxious as to the course the Siamese Government will take when the leases run out, as they will do shortly.

The necessary gear for wireless telegraphy is to be sent out to Hongkong to be fitted on two ships of the China Squadron. The Portsmouth Dockyard authorities have been ordered to submit estimates for fitting wireless telegraph apparatus to shore stations at Dover, Culver Cliff, Rame Head, Scilly, and Roche Point. The *Alexandra*, *Powerful*, *St. George*, *Gibraltar*, *Brilliant*, *Gladiator*, and *Juno* are also to be fitted with the apparatus. On the Mediterranean station the *Ramillies*, *Andromeda*, *Theseus* and *Venus* will be equipped with the apparatus.

It is not generally known, writes a correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, that Sir Claude MacDonald was in very poor health in the early part of the siege and in fact was only kept alive by milk diet. The genial Commissioner of Customs who ran the dairy, as he did many other things during the siege, told me a somewhat droll story about the most valuable cow running dry. A universalist, one of those handy fellows who knows something of everything, suggested hanging weights on poor Vacca's flanks; this was done and straightway the good honest beast went into milk again. After Captain Strouts' death Sir Claude took military duty and assumed command; this seemed to do him all the good in the world, and at the end of the siege he was physically better than at the beginning.

Referring to the trouble in the South of China, we note that native official telegrams from Canton report that there is now in existence a very serious rebellion in Kwangsi province, the rebels being also joined by large numbers from the neighbouring provinces of Yunnan and Kweichou. Marshal Su, who is Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Kwangsi, considers the rebellion so serious that he has repeatedly appealed to the Governors of the three provinces above named to send him reinforcements and join him in making an organised war against the rebels, as he considers the rebellion is rapidly spreading, which will soon make it more formidable than even the Taiping rebellion of the fifties. Marshal Su further reports that his own force of 30,000 well-armed and seasoned veterans is insufficient for the task of suppressing the rebellion, and insists on having at least 100,000 modern-armed men for the task.

Dr. Morrison, correspondent of *The Times*, writes to the *N.-C. Daily News* from Peking under date Sept. 28th:—In the *Daily News* of the 13th the statement is made in your leading article that "the Russians have forcibly ejected Dr. Morrison from the house in Peking which he had assumed since the siege." Will you kindly spare me space to say that this statement is wholly untrue. I was never ejected from any house nor even asked to leave. I moved of my own wish from the Russian section of Peking to the British section in the Imperial city for the simple reason that I wished to be nearer the British legation and British headquarters. While it is true that the Russian methods of police administration differ in various respects from those followed in other sections of the city, I, personally, was treated by the Russian authorities with the utmost courtesy and consideration. So far from wishing me to leave, they gave me every facility to retain the house which I had occupied in their quarter; I still retain that house, and it at present is occupied by my servants.

During the serious plague visitation in Hongkong in 1894, one of the first to volunteer his services when the help of highly trained medical men was urgently needed was Dr. J. F. Molyneux, the much respected doctor of Chefoo, remarks the *N.-C. Daily News*. The work that he did in Hongkong received the highest praise from the British authorities and from the Japanese experts. When again in the recent dispatch of an expeditionary force to Peking the services of surgeons were urgently needed, Dr. Molyneux was against foremost in offering his assistance. He marched with the expeditionary force of Peking and was one of the very first to enter the British Legation and witness the dramatic scene of the relief. He has the distinction of being the only surgeon of the many in the service of the Imperial Maritime Customs who marched to the relief of Peking. He gave his services voluntarily, only stipulating that he should be always with the advance guard. On leaving Peking General Barrow, the chief of staff, addressed a very complimentary letter of thanks to Dr. Molyneux.

The following official telegrams have been received from Houma, Shansi:—Kang Yi, while accompanying the refugee Court as far as Wen-hsi-hsien, near the Shensi borders, fell ill at that place, necessitating his stopping there. His illness is reported to be dangerous.

Yung Lu, who was ordered to remain at Peking when the refugee Court left the capital in August, has been ordered by special edict of the Empress Dowager to join her at Hsian.

As soon as it became manifest that the Allied forces were to attack Paoting, Ting Yung, Provincial Treasurer of Chihli, at once transferred all the Government funds in his hands to the Honan borders, the example being followed by most of the gentry and rich men of the city. The city is now almost deserted by the inhabitants.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

The death of Mr. R. H. de Courcy, of the Imperial Customs, announced in the *N.-C. Daily News*, is one of several which typhoid fever has produced among the men who stood the Legation siege at Peking this summer. Mr. de Courcy, the son of an Irish clergyman and a distinguished graduate of Trinity College, only came to China about a year ago when he commenced duty at Peking. He was employed almost immediately as Assistant Professor of English in the T'ung Wên Kuan, a position for which his scholarly habits and his promising knowledge of Chinese rendered him specially suitable. His genial humour and ready wit made him always a pleasant companion and a popular man. Mr. de Courcy was one of the Customs' Volunteers during the siege and did his duty manfully, though at times in indifferent health.

A Weihaiwei correspondent, writing to a Shanghai paper on Oct. 6th, said:—The dredger *St. Enoch* is proving a useful vessel in a variety of ways. Dredging, indeed, has been foregone for weeks past, in favour of lighter work, as the *St. Enoch* does much to accelerate the discharge of cargo. Weihaiwei is badly off for tugs and lighters. The same vessel was requisitioned to help the *Terrible* herself out of difficulty the other night. The great cruiser had been "standing by" in readiness to proceed to Taku for several days, and on Monday afternoon (1st October) the expected orders arrived. Steam was got up immediately and in order to save time an attempt was made to draw out into the channel. The mooring of the *Descartes*, however, necessitated a too narrow margin and the current carried the *Terrible's* starboard bow on to the ground in the extreme western end of the island. She was got off uninjured the next morning by the help of the *St. Enoch*, the crew going over the side to lighten the ship. Meantime orders to proceed to sea were countermanded. Had not this accident occurred, it would have been an interesting spectacle, Wei-hai-wei under the sole protection of two French men-of-war. Thus was averted a combination that would have added to the long list of anomalies in this anomalous land.

Marshal Su, Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Kuangsi, according to letters received in Shanghai by his friends, lately memorialtsed the Acting Viceroy of the Two Kuang, Tê Shou (Governor of Kuangtung), asking to be permitted to resign his post. This, says our contemporary, is due to his demand for more troops, in addition to the 30,000 men he has at present, being ignored by the high authorities of both Kuangtung and Kuangsi. As a matter of fact, it is conceded by most people in the South that Marshal Su is the only man who will be able to cope with the rebellion in the South, being very popular with the masses and people of both provinces of the Viceroyalty of the Two Kuang and beloved by the troops. The acting Viceroy of Kuangtung; and the Governor of Kuangsi, however, seem to have placed all their reliance on Ho, Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Kuangtung, and his subordinates, and it now remains to be seen how they will manage to stop the rebellion. On the part of the rebels it may be, however, stated that they would much prefer that matters are left as they now are, as they consider Acting Viceroy Tê Shou and Governor Huang Huai-sên of Kuangsi, as well as Ho, very weak men; the last being a young man and inexperience.

A Chinanfu letter received in Shanghai on October 7th stated that Governor Yuan Shih-kai, having received information that the Boxers on the borders of Shantung and Chihli are preparing for a last great struggle in his territory, in order to drive him out, and it being believed that the Boxers' patrons have promised their aid, is also making ready for it and has ordered his four Bri-

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gadier-Generals to each raise 10,000 extra men. These recruits, the letter went on, have now been all enrolled and are being armed as quickly as his supplies arrive from the South. It is computed that Governor Yuan Shih-kai has since May last summarily executed no less than 4,000 Boxers, having never pardoned a single man. His subordinates would make a capture and then report asking whether the prisoners should be sent to Chinanfu for trial or not; but Governor Yuan would merely scribble his rescript on the back of the dispatch with the word: "Execute on the spot. No necessity hereafter of sending Boxers to capital for trial." Furthermore, whenever Yuan's Generals go out to oppose the Boxers in Shantung province his Excellency's last word is always: "No mercy. Kill all you can." It is not to be wondered at that Governor Yuan has succeeded so well in freeing his province of the Boxers, who hate him with fathomless hatred. Many attempts have been made against Yuan's life, but he has always managed to kill his would-be assassins on the spot. Not a single refugee who has come down from the North, but blesses Yuan Shih-kai's name as his saviour, and declares that after undergoing the terrors and dangers in Chihli it seemed like entering heaven to get over the border of Shantung.

An eyewitness—not a convert—writing from the city of Taiyuan to a relative in Shanghai with reference to the massacres of missionaries in the Governor's yamên in that city, states that the Boxers, when sent out by the Governor to attack the missionaries of Shansi province, had no intention, at first, to bring any of their victims to the provincial capital, but to slaughter them wherever found. But, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, Yü Hsien was so anxious to be the first to wreak vengeance on his victims that he sent special orders after his Boxers to bring all their captives to Taiyuanfu "for trial" first and not to harm them on the way. When the first batch of missionaries was brought to Taiyuanfu, therefore, Yü Hsien ordered them to be brought straight into his yamên and taken to an archery ground in the rear and then placed standing at a distance of a few feet from each other. The sanguinary Governor then took off his outer official robe and necklace mounted a horse ready saddled for him, and then taking a long sword from an orderly cantered to the other end of the ground. As Yü Hsien turned his horse towards his victims, standing some 15 chang (about 200 feet) away, he started at a hard gallop towards them swinging his long sword as he swept past them, carrying off four or five heads on the onrush. Then his horse baulked and would not go further, so Yü Hsien had to get off his horse, and the rest of these unhappy missionaries were then massacred by the Boxers and soldiers who were present. This was Yü Hsien's way of "setting example" to his myrmidons. The rest of the massacres were for many days also held in the Governor's yamên "in order to be sure that none escaped," but Yü Hsien refrained after this from setting any more "examples." The writer also states in conclusion that before Yü Hsien's arrival in Shansi there was not a single Boxer in the province.

The *North China Daily News*, in the course of a leading article on the troubles in South China, gives the following description of the people who are now in arms against the Government:—

Once more the people of the Canton province are on the warpath. How many times in Chinese history the restless provincials have fought the government and each other no one can say, and what it is that has stirred them to rebel once more seems as yet matter of controversy. Probably the motives are as mixed as the people. Kuangtung is blessed with a very considerable admixture of Hakkas, the almost mysterious "strangers" who came from the northern provinces as long ago as the times of the Ts'in Dynasty, some 250 years before Christ, and reached the South only after suffering cruel persecutions in the provinces en route. Hence it is that to this day, although there are Hakka districts in the plains, a great many still live amongst the hills where their forefathers found refuge centuries ago.

They are an interesting people having a dialect which bridges the gulf between Cantonese and Mandarin. Their customs differ considerably from those of the surrounding provincials. Their head dress is not the same, their clothing is different, most of their ornaments are unlike those of the Cantonese, and the women do not bind their feet, a fact which is said to be accounted for by their having emigrated from their northern home before that custom had come into force. Altogether it reckoned that the Hakkas can count some four millions in the province of Kuang-tung alone, but there are others in Fukien, Kiangsi, etc. It is nearly forty years ago now that there was a terrible strife lasting over two years between these people and the Puntis or natives of the Canton province. No less than 150,000 people, some say more, lost their lives in this internecine strife. Finally after more than ordinarily vigorous action the authorities got the better of the outbreak, and deported considerable numbers of the Hakkas to neighbouring provinces and Hainan. As might be expected from his history, the Hakka is pugnaciously inclined. It was he who supplied the leader and his lieutenants in the Taiping rebellion. The nucleus of the vast horde which for years dominated all China south of the Yangtze was composed of Hakkas. They supplied much of the fighting spirit, and their example made such soldiers of the rest that no Imperialist troops could be brought to face the levies of the Wangs on even terms. Little behind them in turbulence are certain classes of the real Cantonese. As little in common is there between these and the gentle law-abiding hind of the Kiangsu flats as between the Montenegrin mountaineer and the native of Holland. Fighting men by nature, fearless, tricky, cruel, and tenacious, the Southern peoples are foes to be respected. They sometimes betray their nature, no other course being open to them in Hongkong, by going to law.

The following detailed account of a battle which occurred on the 8th inst., at Tsangchou, Shantung-Chihli borders, ending in the utter defeat of the Boxers, has come to hand. It states that General Mei, commanding Governor Yuan Shih-kai's troops at Tsangchou and engaged in keeping the Northern Boxers from entering Shantung, has had no fewer than fourteen battles (including skirmishes) with the enemy since the beginning of September, during which the troops suffered defeat only twice, that is, in a couple of skirmishes, during which the Boxers outnumbered the troops five to one. All these fights occurred in the vicinity of Tsangchou, which is still held in force by Governor Yuan's troops, who have hitherto succeeded very well in preventing the entrance of all Boxers who have tried to fight a way into the province of Shantung. On the 9th instant, however, the Chief Boxer leader, a Tientsin man named Ch'ên, whose followers have the reputation of being the most ferocious and pitiless of their kind, concentrated his forces, numbering 5,000 men and joining them to the Shantung Boxers on the early morning of that day marched against General Mei's troops and offered battle in the plains below the city of Tsangchou. The Boxers combined numbered over 12,000, while General Mei's forces only numbered 8,000 of all arms. But the challenge was accepted and General Mei, after leaving a little over 2,000 men to hold the city and placing 1,500 men with artillery on the rising ground outside the city walls to cover his retreat should he be outnumbered by the enemy, marched out with nearly 4,000 to attack the enemy. The battle raged from 8 o'clock in the morning to dusk, just before which, seeing that the right wing of the Boxers, who were strongly posted in the villages and dykes and forced the troops to attack them in the open, were suffering severely from a battery posted near by and had begun to waver, General Mei sent his 1,500 covering troops to attack them on the flank. The Boxers did not wait for these fresh troops, but were soon seen streaming to the north-west of the town into the marshes. This was the signal for a general advance and pursuit by the troops. The covering troops then made a detour and stopped the Boxers from getting into the marshes while, the pursuing troops coming up, the enemy were cut down almost to a man. This right wing happened to be entirely composed of Tientsin Boxers under Ch'ên, who was fortunately captured. This man with some 300 desperadoes refused to retreat when he saw the battle was lost, but held his ground in a strongly entrenched and walled hamlet. Here General Mei with 200 cavalry found him and a desperate fight ensued. The troopers dismounted and stormed the place and a couple of Maxims being brought up the whole band were slain without a single cry for quarter. Ch'ên's head was then brought back to Tsangchou in triumph and it now adorns the walls of that city. Nearly 6,000 Boxers were killed in this battle, over 3,000 of whom were Tientsin men. General Mei was wounded, his losses being some 300 killed and twice the number wounded. The Shantung Boxers belonged to those who went to Peking in May last, had been defeated and were now trying to get back to their homes to find the door shut against them by Governor Yuan: hence their persistency in attacking Tsangchou.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

TRAINING NOTES.

The course has been in splendid condition during the week, and was thrown completely open on Tuesday and Thursday, galloping days. It looked very much at the start as if, with no fresh importations, the events would be dull and devoid of competition, but matters have now assumed a much different aspect and with the exception of one class there is every appearance of keen racing. The class referred to, I may as well say at once, is that of the Chinese Subscriptions, one member of which, Siskin, had to be killed two days ago, because of a broken leg. In the same class Huckabein was up on Friday for the first time in three weeks, having been taken off on account of lameness. On his reappearance he was merely jogged round the course. The rest of this lot call for no remark.

The honours at this meeting will probably be divided among the larger stables. The best of these are beyond doubt Messrs. Worthington, Russia, Hugo, and Schertz, all of which are well represented, each with two good Australians in the respective classes. Moreover the best China ponies on the course also belong to the above stables.

In addition to his work on the galloping mornings, The Count was also sent for several shorter distances on Friday morning, and shows a great improvement in speed, although he does not seem when trotting to have got over his stiffness. He will probably go only over the short distance as he will be unable to put on sufficient flesh for longer efforts.

Savoia does not appear on the course every morning, but seems to be fulfilling the desire of her trainer that she should keep on more weight than in the spring. It is doubtful whether her speed will be reached by any other horse over her distance—¾ mile.

Faule Grette also goes very strong, and these three horses should be warm favourites over all short distances.

Nothing apparently has developed sufficiently to meet Mira as a stayer. She is, probably on doctors' orders, kept very quite after her little mishap.

The matter of overtraining by certain jockeys, already referred to, seems to have had its natural result. Tobu was decidedly off colour on Thursday morning, and when trotting on Friday did not seem to have the free use of both his fore legs,—his left shoulder certainly did not appear to be moving properly. In this case overwork is distinctly to blame.

For the same reason also Dobriak does not promise as well as at the outset of the training.

Nonsuch showed on Thursday a marked improvement in stride: there is now more extending and less high action.

Aldebaran takes a lot of exercise every morning and is occasionally opened out, but no time is forthcoming for any given distance.

Lady May receives very careful handling. In her gallop on Thursday she displayed a beautiful stride and a very willing spirit. Her time was very creditable. To avoid injury such as she sustained on a previous occasion by being pulled rudely up, she was after her spin cantered easily back all round the course.

Moonshee (Molly) is getting over her obstinacy considerably under careful treatment, but there seems very little hope of her ever really liking the course. The same remark applies to Cousine.

As to the others—Iltis (Fin McCoul) is in very good form. None of the rest call for any mention.

Among China Ponies, Aberdeen was off the course for some days undergoing his periodical course of medicine, but returned on Thursday and Friday.

Standard Rose moves a bit languidly but otherwise seems in good shape.

It is difficult to say anything about Sunrise, but it may be noted that in the opinion of several this pony is not in as good form as at the spring meeting.

Emerald was cantered on Thursday and on being challenged by Sunshine the former's jockey could not hold in his mount, and as a result Sun-

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shine was distanced. Which may mean a great deal, or nothing at all.

The Japanese trainers are sending out their ponies in batches, and in the tussles which ensue McMorse usually comes in an easy winner with Suzume on his quarter up to the mile, Yaeyama and Murokoshi being left hopelessly behind.

Saturday's and Tuesday's galops showed several ponies in good form, but as the grass course was not open on the latter day few trustworthy times could be taken. On Saturday Sunrise, accompanied by Mikazuki, did the mile in very good time, both going well.

Aberdeen and Standard Rose went only at an easy pace over the same distance on Saturday, and the favourite was galloped with Mikazuki on Tuesday for 1½ miles.

Emerald went for a mile and a distance, being joined at the stand by Torcross. Going up the dip the pace was too fast for the latter and Emerald was pulled considerably to allow Torcross to come up. The time was indifferent.

Boxie galloped exceptionally well on Saturday, and McMorse went satisfactorily on Tuesday.

Excelsior and Sunshine went by themselves, both moving well.

The Australian horses were nearly all galloped and there is little new to report as to them.

Aldebaran's speed is certainly considerably over-rated, although the mare looks in good shape. On Saturday she was joined at the three-quarters by Torquay and Cousine, the latter having a blinker over her left eye. This proved a decided advantage, as Cousine ran kindly, drawing away from Aldebaran at the finish, Torquay being left third. I missed Aldebaran on the course yesterday.

Dobriak made fast time his first half mile (58 seconds) but he fell off considerably in the second half (66 seconds), Boomerang getting away in front of him at the stand.

Non Such went for the mile doing a speedy pace, time 2.03.

Silvertail and Wallaby galloped their own gait without being ridden out.

The Country Breds have not improved. Saikio and Hayakaze are going fairly well, but Peacock, Tomboy and Tatsuta appear less fresh than during former trainings.

ROSCOMMON.

INTERPORT CRICKET.

The Interport teams dined together on the evening of the 17th, Mr. A. H. Groom in the chair. In proposing the health of the visiting teams Mr. Groom said the first cricket match which was played in Kobe with an outside team took place in November, 1869. There were two gentlemen present there that night who played in that game and he could assure them that those two gentlemen were quite as enthusiastic as ever although they might be a little more stiff than they were then (applause). He did not desire to carry the company through the history of the Kobe Cricket Club, but he could assure them that if it had not been for that Club Kobe would have had a very much duller time (hear, hear). He thought he was right in saying that about seven or eight years ago the first game of Base-ball was played in Kobe. The Base-ball Club was afterwards joined with the Cricket Club to the advantage of both. Some of their early cricketers were exponents of the game of Base-ball (hear, hear), and some of them very often made high scores at Cricket. To-day they very frequently saw some of the best fielding in base-ball done by cricketers (hear, hear). He thought the more they could play one another's games it would be the better for both clubs. He wished to refer briefly to what had been going on during the last few days. He thought that Kobe last Friday and Saturday just escaped with the skin of their teeth, and if it had not been for a mascot—he did not know who that mascot was if it was not Mr. Shaw the captain (applause)—it might have been otherwise. Mr. Shaw, as captain of the Kobe nine, upset the luck of Mr. Blake, and otherwise Yokohama might have been invincible. Therefore he concluded there must have been a little of the mascot about Mr. Shaw. In the cricket match two of the Kobe invincibles came to the front, Mr. Lightfoot playing one of those innings of which they knew none better (applause) and he was very ably assisted by Kobe's "slogger" (applause). The interest of the match between Yokohama and Kobe was kept up to the finish. The play of the match they had seen that day had led to one of the most unexpected finishes that they could have expected, and he should like to put it on record that in all the years he (Mr Groom) had been in Kobe and in Yokohama he had never seen a better display of batting than was shown that day by the two young Kilbys (loud applause). The proudest man in Japan that day would be his old friend Kilby of Yokohama, another "old sport" (applause).

Messrs. Duff (Captain of the Yokohama team) and Farbridge (Captain of the Shanghai team) duly responded.

THE KOBE-SHANGHAI MATCH.

The Cricket match between teams representing Kobe and Shanghai respectively began (as already reported by telegraph) on Friday in capital weather. Kobe lost the toss and Shanghai went in to bat. By way of contrast to the start in the game between Yokohama and Shanghai, the latter began very badly. The opening is thus described by the *Kobe Herald*: "Jellie and Lanning again opened the innings, the attack being put in the hands of Lucas and Edwards—the former starting from the north end. The game had a disastrous start for Shanghai, two wickets, those of Lanning and Potter, among the best batsmen in the team, going down for as many runs. Jellie put Lucas nicely to leg for a single, and this brought the bowler to bear on Lanning, who was at once out to a catch at the wicket by Lightfoot, the decision against the batsman being given by Mr. Inglis, the Shanghai umpire. Lucas, with his succeeding ball, got Potter, the newcomer's wicket. The ball broke from the off and took the leg stump high—2 wickets down for 2 runs, a remarkable contrast with the Shanghai start against Yokohama. There was as bad to follow however. Turnbull came in and only three runs were added when, on a pitch from Edwards, very short and rising almost to the batsman's head, he pulled the ball round to leg and sent it comfortably into the hands of Braess standing about 20 yards out at square leg. Braess took the catch without difficulty and sent the Shanghai man back with the score reading 5-3-0. Another surprise came when Jackson, after playing one ball, was bowled by Edwards on a ball apparently presenting no special difficulty.

The match had thus opened in a more sensational way than any of the series. Four Shanghai wickets were down for five runs, and all four players were out without scoring—the 5 made up to 10.35 consisting of four singles by Jellie and one bye. Sheldon, the wicket-keeper of the team, went in to stop the rout and after playing guardedly sent a loose one from Lucas to the leg boundary. Jellie, however, could not stay. Two overs were played—one from Edwards, a maiden, when Lucas, whose bowling Jellie had been playing forward steadily, played over a ball pitched far up—the fifth wicket going down for 17 at five minutes past 11, Jellie having a half dozen, all in singles."

Yet the Shanghai team were able to put together 174. Kobe went in at 3 p.m. and when time was called the score stood at 135 for 8 wickets. Following is the score:—

SHANGHAI.—FIRST INNINGS.

Mr. J. W. Stephenson-Jellie, b. Lucas	6
Mr. A. E. Lanning, c. Lightfoot, b. Lucas	0
Mr. F. W. Potter, b. Lucas	0
Mr. W. J. Turnbull, c. Braess, b. Edwards	0
Mr. W. H. Jackson, b. Edwards	0
Mr. B. P. Sheldon, c. A. Gillingham, b. Lucas	31
Mr. H. S. King, c. Thompson, b. Lucas	60
Mr. R. C. Farbridge, b. Green	32
Mr. A. J. Wicks, b. J. R. Gillingham	8
Mr. E. T. J. Blount, c. Lightfoot, b. Green	21
Mr. H. J. Clark, not out	0
Byes 7; leg byes 5, no-balls 4	16
Total	174

Score at the fall of wickets:—

Shanghai first innings: 1—2; 2—2 3—5; 4—5; 5—17, 6—54; 7—116; 8—133; 9—169; 10—174.

KOBE.—FIRST INNINGS.

Mr. C. H. Lightfoot, c. Turnbull, b. Potter	15
Mr. J. R. Gillingham, b. Jackson	0
Mr. C. L. Stephens, b. Jackson	17
Mr. S. E. Lucas, c. Potter, b. Jackson	0
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, b. Potter	24
Mr. W. Braess, b. Potter	1
Mr. G. C. Murray, not out	45
Mr. H. E. Green, b. Turnbull	1
Mr. A Gillingham, b. Turnbull	25
Mr. F. J. Abbott, not out	1
Byes 5, Leg byes 1	6
Total	135

Mr. H. S. Thompson to bat.

The Kobe score at the fall of the wickets was:—1 for 0, 2 for 20, 3 for 20, 4 for 52, 5 for 61, 6 for 70, 7 for 85, 8 for 134.

BOWLING ANALYSIS: KOBE.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Lucas	21	5	38	5
Edwards	18	3	41	2
Green	1.35	4	41	2
Gillingham (J.R.)	11	1	38	1

Lucas bowled 4 no balls.

SATURDAY'S PLAY.

The last day's play of the Kobe Cricket Week opened at 10.15 on Saturday morning when Kobe went in to complete their unfinished first innings against Shanghai, having scored 135 for 8 wickets—Murray not out 45, and Abbott not out 1. The completion of the innings was soon accomplished, says the *Herald*. Turnbull bowled one maiden over to Abbott and Potter came on against Murray, who was bowled by his first ball. Thompson went in as last man but was beaten on his first ball from Potter, the innings therfore closing without addition to the over night's score.

SHANGHAI SECOND INNINGS.

Mr. J. Stephenson-Jellie, c. Lightfoot, b. Murray.	36
Mr. A. E. Lanning, b. Murray	54
Mr. B. P. Scheldon, b. Murray	2
Mr. W. H. Jackson, run out	40
Mr. F. W. Potter, b. Lucas	8
Mr. R. C. Farbridge, not out	26
Mr. H. S. King, not out	11
Mr. E. T. J. Blount, Mr. W. J. Turnbull, Mr. A. J. Wicks, Mr. H. J. Clarke } did not bat,	
Byes 1, leg bye 1	2
Total (inning declared closed)	179

KOBE SECOND INNINGS.

Mr. H. Lightfoot, b. Potter	2
Mr. S. E. Lucas, c. and b. Potter	0
Mr. F. J. Abbott, b. Jackson	14
Mr. J. R. Gillingham, b. Jackson	5
Mr. G. C. Murray, c. Potter, b. Jackson	1
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, c. and b. Jackson	28
Mr. H. E. Green, c. Potter, b. Jackson	5
Mr. W. Braess, c. Lanning, b. Wicks	15
Mr. C. E. Stephens, c. Lanning, b. Wicks	0
Mr. A. Gillingham, l.b.w., b. Jackson	3
Mr. H. S. Thompson, not out	9
Byes 3, Leg Byes 1	4
Extras	86

INTERPORT TENNIS MATCH.

In the Tennis match, Messrs. W. F. Page and H. R. Barnard represented Yokohama, and Messrs. E. Buxton Forman and George Millward Kobe. The result of the "Doubles" was a win for Kobe by 3 setts to 2. Score as follows:

(5—7)-(1—7)-(6—1)-(6—3)-(7—5.)

The "Singles" were also won by Kobe—Mr. Forman beating Mr Page two setts to love: (6—0)-(6—3); and Mr. Millward beating Mr, Barnard two setts to love: (6—4)-(9—7).

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Capt. Misu, commanding the new battleship *Asahi*, visited the Naval Department on Oct. 24th.

The usual chrysanthemum party at Akasaka Palace is expected to take place about the middle of next month.

The Crown Prince arrived at Saseho on the afternoon of Oct. 24th and is expected to reach Nagasaki to-day.

A robber entered a hotel at Totsuka on the evening of the 21st, and stole several articles valued at 100 *yen* belonging to two guests.

The Japanese steamer *Ikuta Maru* was wrecked near Ishizaki District, Kutani, Hokkaido, on Oct. 23rd. All the crew were saved but ship and cargo will be a total loss.

A Mosquito Club yacht race took place on Wednesday afternoon in which *Kodesu*, *Sodeska* and *Yugao* took part. The race, which has been postponed twice, was won by *Kodesu*.

One of a party of students bicycling along the embankment at Mukojima on Oct. 24th lost control of his wheel and ran into the Sumida River sustaining severe injuries by falling against a post in his descent.

A large company gathered at the Public Hall on Friday evening to hear Mrs. Brent tell the story of her personal experiences during the siege of Peking. Mr. J. P. Mollison introduced the speaker,

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and the lecture was listened to with the deepest interest.

The cruiser *Argonaut*, said the *China Mail* of Oct. 15th, is now ready to go to sea. The Naval Yard authorities had received instructions to expedite the work on the vessel so that she might be in immediate readiness to answer the Admiral's summons.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Grand Hotel, Ltd., was held on Wednesday for the purpose of considering the revised specifications for the proposed new building. The additional sum asked for by the directors, *yen* 15,000, was granted unanimously.

Messrs. Blackwood will publish immediately "The Englishman in China during the Victorian Era, as illustrated in the Life of Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B.," for many years Minister in China and Japan. The author is Mr. Alexander Michie, and the work will give an exhaustive narrative of the events and policy which have led up to the present crisis in the Far East.

Tenders for a supply of railway material (Contract No. 130) have been settled with the following result:

China and Japan Trading Co.	£2240.19.10
Okura & Co.	2249. 3.00
Isono & Co.	2255. 9.11
Takata & Co.	2269. 4. 9
J. Birch & Co.	2283. 1.10
Mitsui & Co.	2288. 4.00

Messrs. C. & J. Favre-Brandt write us that the convenience of the "Sodor Fabrick," of Zurich, being now well-known and appreciated in this country, it may be of interest to know that it has been awarded the gold medal (the highest award in this line of products) at the Paris International Exhibition this year.

Dr. Mecre, we understand, has withdrawn his claim for hospital rent, against Dr. Munro, and has made an arrangement to deduct the amount from the counter-claim of *yen* 2,400, which was presented on behalf of the Hospital. Dr. Munro has also withdrawn his appeal and counterclaim, the balance of which will be paid by Dr. Mecre to the Hospital.

Herr Engel, head of the Stenographic Bureau of the Reichstag, whose duty it is personally to report every speech delivered by the Kaiser, has, says an *Express* correspondent, compiled a few interesting details, from which it appears that since 1889 the number of Imperial speeches and allocations works out to the respectable total of 700. The Emperor's volubility, says the correspondent, is a terror to reporters. His rate of speaking ranges from 275 to 300 syllables a minute.

No mention has been made of the fact that Mr. A. H. Groom presented three bats for the respective top scores in each of the matches played during the recent Cricket week. On the scores the bats fell to A. S. Anton (Yokohama) who scored 53 in the second Yokohama innings in the Kobe-Yokohama match; to E. W. Kilby (of Yokohama in the Yokohama-Shanghai match for his 68 in his Club's second innings; and to H. S. King (of Shanghai) who scored 60 in the first Shanghai innings of the Kobe-Shanghai match.—*Kobe Herald.*

We learn that on Wednesday forenoon on the outgoing P.M. steamer *China*—at the point of departure for San Francisco—it was found that one of the Chinese passengers was ill, showing suspicious symptoms. An examination took place the result of which had not been announced late in the evening. Meantime the steamer has been sent to Nagaura Quarantine station. She may possibly sail this evening.

A bill collector employed by the *Box of Curios* Printing Office is being sought by the police. It appears that the man who was formerly in the detective branch of the police force, by some means obtained a cheque of the Chartered Bank which he filled up for *yen* 700 and appended the name of Mr. E. V. Thorn. The forger presented the cheque at the exchange Van Tai, where he was well-known and requested payment in American gold so far as concerned *yen* 600, and the remainder in *yen*. His desire to have gold created the impression that he intended to leave on the *China* but it seems to be established that he is still on shore.

It is reported from Manila that a Frenchman of Corsican birth, named J. Canoi, murdered his wife Sabeni, and after committing that terrible act took his own life by blowing out his brains, in his rooms above the distillery at Sampaloc, Manila. It appears that a quarrel arose between the couple owing to their son having run away from home and joined the rebel forces, and with the usual impetuosity of Corsicans, words came to blows, followed by the fatal result now chronicled.

A New York telegram dated Oct. 1st stated that the board of underwriters had received a cablegram from Montevideo saying that the ship *P. M. Blanchard* of Boston, Captain Courtney, from Baltimore, April 6th, for San Francisco, had been burned at sea and was a total loss. Her crew were safe at the Falkland islands. The *P. M. Blanchard* has frequently made trips to Japan.

A man named Yazawa Otojiro has been arrested the police in connection with a fraudulent sale of land. He falsely represented that he had been authorised by a woman named Watanabe Kane, residing in Kotobukicho, Yokohama, to sell some land belonging to her. On the strength of this representation bargain money amounting to *yen* 2,300 was handed to Kagawa Rokunosuke, by Suzuki Seigoro. Rokunosuke passed the money on to Yazawa and then disappeared.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Thursday morning, before Judge Sato, the hearing was resumed of a civil suit in which Mr. A. O. Gay, representing Messrs. Walsh, Hall and Co., as plaintiff, claimed *yen* 498 from Goto Fusakichi, alleged balance of payment for articles sold to him, to wit certain metal checks, etc., during the past three years. The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Akiyama and the defendant by Mr. Minagawa. The defendant, Goto, was examined. He deposed that the letter sent to the firm in his name ordering metal checks, etc., was probably written by himself. But the signature on the godown order was not in his own handwriting. He had not received the goods mentioned in that godown order. The banto of Messrs. Walsh, Hall was examined and the hearing was again adjourned.

The following persons were attacked by dysentery in Kanagawa prefecture from the beginning of the outbreak to the 22nd inst.:—

	Patients.	Died.	Under treatment.
Yokohama	297	50	22
Karagi	77	30	7
Tachibana	60	14	2
Tsutsuki	2	1	—
Miura	66	17	5
Kamakura	126	26	19
Koza	184	47	33
Naka	368	93	20
Kami-Ashigara	505	107	14
Shimo-Ashigara	536	147	42
Aiko	289	64	13
Tsukui	169	31	39
Total	2,679	627	216
Last year	2,682	675	122

An action was heard on Tuesday in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho before Judge Sato, in which J. Puig, representing the Compania Generale de Tobacco Philipines sued W. B. Walter representing Jardine, Matheson & Co., for *yen* 2,640, being compensation at the rate of *yen* 6 per picul for a loss of 794 bales or 440 piculs of sugar short delivered by the defendant. The plaintiff alleged that on November 28th, 1899, his company shipped from Manila 19,915 bales (12,829 piculs) of sugar, and on December 12th, 1899, 54,123 bales (26,700 pieuls) from Iloilo on the steamer *Shangtung*, of which Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., are the agents. The goods arrived in Yokohama on December 26th, and they were taken delivery of by representatives of the Matsushita Transport Agency in the presence of the first and second officers of the steamer. It was then found that the goods were short by 794 bales, or 440 piculs. As this shortage must have occurred during the voyage the loss resulting therefrom should be borne by the defendant. Preliminary objection was taken by Mr. Masujima, for the defendant, that the plaintiff had not shown his capacity to sue for the Compania Generale, which moreover was not registered in Japan. On Tuesday Messrs. Akiyama and Inouye, who appeared for the plaintiff, produced a certificate from the Spanish Consul stating that the plaintiff had appeared before him and declared that he represented the Compania Generale and that it was established under Spanish law. For the defendant, however, it was pointed out that this document merely certified that the plaintiff had appeared and made a declaration, and that it constituted no proof of plaintiff's capacity to sue. The Court upheld this view and dismissed the case.

It is alleged that naturalization frauds are being perpetrated by Japanese in British Columbia. One of these men whos name is given as Shibata was brought up in Vancouver on Sept. 24th, before a Police Magistrate, the information reading that he falsely swore that he had resided in Canada for four years that he might secure naturalization papers, when, as a matter of fact, he had only come into the country in March last. The notary who signed the declaration that Shibata had taken the oath of residence swore that he had issued 400 such declarations and could remember none of the men who had come before him. The Japanese labour contractor, whose signature was on the declaration as witness, said he could not remember those who came to his office and asked to be taken to a notary, and he did not remember Shibata. He swore that he had taken 40 Japanese during the season to various notaries to have them sworn for naturalization at their own request. The fraudulently obtained naturalization certificate and the passport showing that Shibata had left Japan in February, 1900, and had been naturalized the following June, were produced. It was contended that the passport was no evidence, as a Japanese had to take out a fresh passport every time he went to Japan, but later the prisoner made a statement to the effect that he arrived at Victoria on March 22nd last. The charges of perjury against this man and three others were withdrawn, but the Trades and Labour Council claim that over 1,000 Japanese were naturalized this season, two notaries swearing over two-thirds of them. They ask for a royal commission and claim that they can bring the guilty parties to book. It was subsequently stated that an application had been made to the Attorney-General by persons interested in bringing the guilty parties in the naturalization frauds to justice, to have the commissions of the notaries mixed up in the affair cancelled. The grounds for taking this action are that two notaries took the oaths of some 500 Japanese out of a total of 700 naturalized, and, through carelessness or otherwise, aided in wholesale frauds being perpetrated; that caution was not observed in swearing the Japanese, and that evidence was forthcoming to show that certain notaries referred to drummed up business, one of them going so far as to canvass the Japanese boarding houses for candidates desiring to swear out their naturalization papers.

NEW RAILWAY TICKETS.

New railway tickets available for several days will, says the *Nippon*, be issued by the Railway Works Bureau on and after the 1st of November next. These tickets are to be made available over the following sections:—Shimbashi-Shinagawa; Shimbashi-Omori; Shimbashi-Yokohama; Shinagawa-Yokohama; Kanagawa-Yokohama; Kioto-Osaka; Osaka-Sannomiya; Kobe-Osaka; Sannomiya-Sumiyoshi. It is said that the tickets above referred to will be issued at a reduction of 20 per cent. on the ordinary fares.

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TOPICS AMERICAN.

Both in respect to the comparative results as exhibited in the earnings and the statistics which have reference to the operations of the system during the year ending June 30, 1900, the annual report of the Northern Pacific Railway Company makes a most favourable impression. In common with the other north-western and trans-continental lines, the Northern Pacific has, during the period in question, enjoyed a large traffic, while its management added to the benefits derived therefrom by operating the property upon an advanced scientific basis. The results of the year, accordingly, compare most favourably with the returns for the same period exhibited by other large railway systems. The gross earnings are reported as $30,021,317, an increase of $3,972,643, and the net earnings, which were $15,626,689, show a gain of $1,927,467. Deducting taxes and adding the miscellaneous income leaves a revenue available for interest of $15,461,620, or $1,510,925 more than the same amount at the end of the twelve months terminating on June 30th, 1899. Interest on the bonded debt of the company and rentals required $5,977,801, and the 4 per cent. dividends on $75,000,000 of perferred stock, together with the 3 per cent. paid on the $80,000,000 of common, took $5,500,000, making a total deduction from income of $11,377,801. This left a surplus for the year of $4,083,818, and raised the total surplus account of the company to over $5,504,000. Out of this sum $3,000,000 was appropriated for additions and betterments, which made the net surplus $2,504,804, or $1,083,818 in excess of the same account at the end of the preceding fiscal year.

Now that there is so much being said of the shortage of American cotton, it is interesting to note that the 1899 report of the British Chamber of Commerce of Egypt gives the following as illustrating the rise of cotton-growing in Egypt: 1878-79, 209,963,500 pounds; 1888-89, 339,538,100 pounds; 1895-96, 657,920,260 pounds; 1897-98, 815,928,061 pounds; 1898-99, 696,987,455 pounds. This same report adds that the Egyptian cotton-crop outlook for the current season is not promising, but, on the other hand, the London *Economist* says it is not discouraging.

The Chicago *Economist* has compiled a statement of individual deposits of State and national banks in the western and northwestern States under the recent detailed statement to the Comptroller of the Currency. The aggregate is $717,578,222, an increase over the previous year of 6½ per cent., or $43,827,356. This follows an increase in 1899 of $114,530,381, or 20 per cent. Illinois is credited this year with $259,526,674; Wisconsin, $114,375,133; Iowa, $78,751,148; Michigan, $73,852,588; Indiana, $72,246,443; Minnesota, $61,187,248, and Nebrasko, $57,629,288.

The disbursements in October by the leading industrial companies of the United States are estimated by the New York *Journal of Commerce* at $20,516,500. For the year to date these companies have distributed among their stockholders the following sums: January payments, $18,876,200; April payments, $20,903,500; July payments, $23,092,000; October payments, $20,516,500; total, $83,388,900.

A tabulation by the New York State Banking Department of the reports of the 200 State banks, showing their condition on September 4, 1900, discloses the fact that the total resources of these banks compared with the date of their last report on May 31, 1900, have decreased $14,758,643. The total capital of these banks decreased $50,000, while the surplus fund increased $250,553 and the undivided profits decreased $345,179. The total amount due depositors fell off $12,864,817 during the three months. The total amount of loans and discounts decreased $2,488,300, the mortgages owned increased $300,000 and the amount of stocks and bonds held by the State banks decreased $3,426,771.

In his report as retiring Commander of the Department of the Lakes, General Joseph Wheeler says:—"At least four-fifths of the recruits from this department have gone into foreign service without any instructions in rifle practice, and many of them without handling a rifle. In case recruits of this character become engaged with disciplined and trained soldiers, the result must be terribly disastrous to our troops. When the effective range is 400 or 500 yards, it is easy to see how a lot of poor shots could be killed by well-trained soldiers before they themselves could do any damage." As a remedy for this, General Wheeler advises two or three months' training in pointing and aim drills and firing of at least thirty shots by each recruit under careful supervision before a soldier is allowed to go on the battle line.

Archbishop Ireland, when passing through London, from Rome, on his way to the United States, said in an interview, "In one of the audiences which he granted me, the Pope said:—'We are well pleased with the relations of the American Government to the Church in Cuba and the Philippines. The American Government gives proof of good will and exhibits a spirit of justice and respect for the liberty and rights of the church You will thank in my name the President of the Republic for what is being done.'"

Representatives of some 400 stove-making concerns scattered throughout the United States were to meet at the Auditorium, Chicago, on October 6 to take definite action on the formation of the National Stove Manufacturing Company, which will be capitalized at about $60,000,000, aside from a possible large issue of bonds. The promoters of the enterprise have already taken out a charter under the laws of the State of Delaware, and about 200 of the stove manufacturing companies have optioned their properties and business. John W. Baker, the corporation attorney and financier of Philadelphia, is at the head of the enterprise. Directors of the Pittsburg Stove and Range Company, one of the largest in the country, have authorized the delivery of an option on their extensive properties.

Rear-Admiral R. B. Bradford in his forthcoming report will recommend that Congress be urged to make an appropriation for a cable across the Pacific. The survey of the Midway islands has been completed by the tug *Iroquois*, it is understood, and there is no doubt of the value of the islands as a site for a cable station. The bed of the ocean has been completely surveyed from San Francisco, by way of Honolulu, the Midway islands and Guam, to the Philippines, and from Guam to Yokohama. The Chinese trouble has demonstrated the need of an American cable across the Pacific, and it is likely that Rear Admiral Bradford will point out the value of such a cable in case of international trouble.

The Chicago Drainage Board has adopted the report of the joint commission for a $2,500,000 bond issue. The money will be spent in river improvements. Among them will be the substitution of one-span bridges for the centre-pier bridges now spanning the river.

One of the schemes for the future protection of Galveston is to raise it far enough above the sea level to keep it from being flooded by the waters of the Gulf of Mexico when driven before a hurricane. It is estimated that it will cost $1,000,000 per square mile to raise the site of the city ten feet.

Immense damage has recently been done by forest fires in Sonoma and Marin counties, California. Estimates place the loss in timber and ranch and railroad property in Sonoma County alone at $1,000,000. One hundred square miles of territory was swept by flames.

It is expected that representatives of the various armour producing concerns in the United States will shortly confer with Secretary Long of the U.S. Navy concerning the armour required for the warships now in course of construction. This armour amounts to about 36,000 tons for eight battleships, six armoured cruisers and three protected cruisers, and constitutes the largest amount of the kind ever recommended by the Government. When the first bids were opened it was found that the Carnegie and Bethlehem companies had divided the amount of armour, each bidding the same price, $445 for class A armour and $45 added for royalty. The Midvale Steel Company's bid was $438 per ton without charge for royalty, but with the condition that considerable time be given before deliveries begin. All the bids were rejected and new bids were called for. In the meantime the Midvale Company protested that as the lowest bidder it should receive the contract. Efforts are now under way to adjust the matter so that the chief aim, that of securing the armour at the earliest possible time and at a reasonable price, may be realized.

Statistics show that the average yearly earnings in forty-four diversified industries of Pennsylvania distributed among its employees, skilled and unskilled, in 1899 were $506.27, against $491.90 in 1892, the "banner" year preceding 1899, while 17,540 more persons were employed than in 1898. The amount of wages paid in these industries in 1899 was $78,179,333, about $15,500,000 more than in 1898 and practically $11,000,000 more than in 1892. The capital invested in 855 establishments was about $40,000,000, 20 per cent. greater in 1899 than in 1896. The average earnings of the workmen engaged in making pig iron were $495.18, an increase of almost $100 over the earnings of 1898. In the manufacture of steel the average was $559, against $495.81 in 1898.

The North German Lloyd piers at Hoboken, N. J., which were recently destroyed by fire, are to be rebuilt in solid masonry, and the wharf sheds over them will be erected of non-combustible materials. The big steamship company has gone through an experience which it cannot afford to have repeated.

The quarterly statement of the Commissioner of Navigation shows that 508 sailing vessels, of 88,790 gross tonnage, were built in the United States and officially numbered during the quarter ended September 30th, 1900. Of the vessels constructed of wood, 160 were sail and 127 steam. Of the steel vessels 4 were sail and 17 steam. Of the whole number 190 were built on the Atlantic and gulf coasts, 28 on the Pacific, 32 on the Great Lakes, and 58 on the Western rivers. The largest tonnage, 37,037, was on the Great Lakes, and the next largest was on the Atlantic and gulf coasts.

ENGLISH NOTES.

The record for the highest chimney (according to the *Daily Mail*'s Antwerp correspondent) now undoubtedly belongs to Belgium. The Silver Works Company at Antwerp has just completed the construction of a shaft which is 125 metres (410 feet) high. The interior diameter at the base is about 25 feet, and at the top 11 feet, and the chimney is surmounted by a lightning-conductor nearly 50 feet high.

Her Majesty's cruiser *Archer*, Commander John P. Rolleston, sailed from Sheerness on Sept. 7th for Australia to replace her sister cruiser *Mohawk*, Commander Frederick H. P. W. Freeman, which has been temporarily transferred to the China Station to strengthen the fleet under Vice-Admiral Sir E. H. Seymour. The *Mohawk* will return to England to pay off when affairs in China assume a more peaceful aspect.

A correspondent states that the most recent letters from Dr. Sven Hedin, the distinguished Swedish traveller, are written in the highest spirits, and that he is able to give a most satisfactory account of the work he has already accomplished. Writing towards the end of June from Abdal, on Lobnor, precisely one year after he had left Stockholm, Dr. Hedin says that the last twelve months have been fuller of hard work than any twelve he remembers. His principal geographical discovery, the site of the ancient Lobnor lake, has already been announced, but interesting and important as this discovery is, it forms a comparatively trifling part of the harvest which Dr. Sven Hedin has gathered during his present expedition in Central Asia. Some idea of his extraordinary

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activity may be gathered from the fact that, beside establishing forty fixed points, for each of which five astronomical observations were taken, he has taken no less than 14,000 meteorological observations, has close on 500 sheets of topographical work, almost every inch of the country thus surveyed being hitherto unknown ground, and has actually found time to write 1,300 manuscript pages of geographical description. Should he succeed in carrying out his extended programme, he intends to cross Thibet to the sources of the Indus, and to return to Europe some time next year by way of India.

The steamer *Bulysses*, built to the order of the Shell Transport and Trading Company (Messrs. M. Samuel and Co.), of London, by Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth and Co., (Limited), has undergone her trial. The principal dimensions are:—Length, 410 ft.; beam, 52 ft.; and depth moulded, 33 ft. 9 in.; she had on board a total deadweight capacity of 8,500. The vessel has been constructed to carry both oil cargoes East and general cargo home, and is built under the direct supervision of Messrs. Flannery, Baggallay and Johnson, of London, and is equipped with the latest type of machinery. The main engines, by the North-Eastern Marine Engineering Company, have cylinders 28 in., 46 in., and 77 in. in diameter, with a 48-in. stroke, taking steam from three large single-ended boilers, each having four furnaces at a working pressure of 180 lb., an important feature of this vessel being the consumption of either liquid fuel or coal, as the owners may desire, the change of apparatus necessary occupying only a short time to effect. The most complete arrangement have been made for the quick handling of both liquid and general cargoes, a very complete pumping installation being fitted for oil cargoes and powerful winches and derrick gear for general freight. The machinery worked without the slightest hitch during the trial, the oil consumption and performance of boilers being highly satisfactory.

An Odessa correspondent states that the Russian Government has purchased in England, from a private steamship Company, the *Potosi*, a steel boat of eight thousand tons, for one million one hundred and seventy-two thousand roubles. Two other ships, the *Catalonia* and *Pavonia*, bought from the Cunard Company, are to be fitted up as cruisers. All three ships are destined for the Volunteer Fleet, and will be sent out to the Far East under the orders of the Russian Admiral in command there. It is intended to acquire several other large steamships in England for transports between Odessa and Pacific ports. The *Sicilian*, a Belfast built boat, which has been employed in the transport of troops to South Africa, is now in Odessa, whence she will proceed with some four thousand Russian troops for the Far East.

HOKKAIDO GOLD MINES.

According to investigations made by the Department of Communications last summer in regard to the gold mining districts in Hokkaido, the prospects are not so gloomy as had hitherto been supposed by the public, remarks the *Shogyo*. Although the work of enquiry has not yet been completed—it is expected to require the whole of this year—there is every reason to believe that the utilization of proper machinery will render it possible to work the gold mines in Hokkaido with fair profits. Below are figures showing the extent of the districts from which gold dust is now obtained:—

Name of province.	Mining stations	Extent of mining districts. River beds. Miles	Other places *Tsubo*.
Oshima	24	62	2,343,946
Shiribeshi	28	130	1,610,880
Ishikari	118	368	186,100,041
Teshio	147	513	44,188,914
Kitami	434	968	46,213,632
Iburi	10	53	—
Tokachi	79	354	249,000
Kushiro	23	206	112,815
Nemuro	7	47	112,815
Total.....	920	2,872	287,074,220

Of the above districts those extending from Inakura to Futamata in Oshima are divided into five mining sections and are worked under the names of eight proprietors. The output from June 20 to July 31 this year is reported to have reached 16 *momme*. In Ishikari there are three distinct stations, with a mining area extending over 8 or 9 miles. The labourers engaged at present in gathering dust number 33, and the amount of their production from June to July reached 20 *momme*. In Sorachi no less than 50 men are at work, with an average production of 0.12 *momme* per day. Teshio has 130 labourers for an area of 5 *ri*, whereas Tokachi is reported to be producing 2 *kwan* and 400 *momme* per day with only 100 miners. Another district in the same province is said to have secured an output of 1 *kwan* 800 *momme* from April to August by the employment of 60 workmen.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CRUELTY TO AN ELEPHANT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR, I visited the Zoological Gardens in Tokyo recently and was pained to find the elephant chained to the ground by his fore feet. The chain was so tight that the poor beast could not lift either foot from the ground and so far as one could judge, it suffered great pain.

Our Japanese friends are noted for their kindness to children but their treatment of animals is, to Western eyes, most inhuman. In the hope that this may meet the eye of some responsible official at the "Zoo" and thereby obtain some mitigation of poor "Jumbo's" lot,

I am, your obedient servant, "IDA."

Yokohama, 25th Oct. 1900.

THANKS!

(To Japan lies the honour of heading the Rescue of the Legations at Peking—*English Papers.*)

Europe :—

Here's to the brave little Jap!
How can I thank him enough?
Surely I'd met with mishap
From the celestial rough,
Had he not shown at my call,
Physical courage and moral;
Leaving my children to brawl,
Backbite, and bicker and quarrel!
"I'm to be first!" said the Bear,
"Oui!" cried the tigerish Monkey,
Taking his arm with an air
Vastly suggestive of flunkey.
"Pooh! who are you?" screamed the Bird
Who thinks he's an eagle of culture,
Though he is but an absurd
Caricature of a vulture!
Over their yells and their cries
Loud rose the roar of the Lion;
Roused to an indignant surprise,
All of them *he* kept his eye on.

"*We* must be first!" shouted all,
"Who for the last place cares a rap?"
Strange, you'll agree,
That I should be
Rescued at last by a Jap!

Here's to the brave little Jap!
He didn't flinch from the fray—
Seeing me caught in a trap,
Soon he was fighting his way.
Germany's bombast and brag—
Russia's intriguing and spite—
France with her tattered flag—
America fearing to fight—
Britain's reluctance and doubt,
'Spite my position so grim,
Jap seemed to care nought about,
All of it's nothing to him,
He'd but to do or to die,
On he pressed fiercely and fast,
And to-day rescued am I,
Rescued and happy at last.
Diplomacies vexed not the mind
Of him who dashed on to my aid—
To Europe's duplicities blind,
Of nobody seemed he afraid.

"Help me!" I cried, and he came—
Straight to the bars of my trap—
And it must seem
Strange as a dream
That I was saved by a Jap!

Here's to the brave little Jap!
Careless of slaughter was he—
Hearing of Europe's mishap,
Cried he: "Her children I'll free!
China I know as a foe,
Ruthless and cowardly, too,
On to Peking I shall go
And who oppose shall rue
The day that they grappled with me;
I know their tricks and their ways,
Civility weakness would be,
Nought but severity pays!
I shall press on till I win
The goal I am keeping in sight,
And at the gates of Peking
I'll teach my rival to fight!"
Aye, and he did as he said;
His path to the city was straight—
With blood he has painted it red,
Red is each fortress and gate.

And now, that he's reached me in time,
Broken my death-dealing trap—
His hand though I clasp—
I hardly can grasp
That he who thus came is a Jap!

Here's to the brave little Jap!
Honoured for ever he'll be,
Nor shall he meet with mishap—
He who thus came to help me.
Surely my sons shall afford,
To him who rushed on my aid,
A rich and fitting reward;
I say it, and will be obeyed.
No more shall the Bear from the north
My brave little saviour oppress;
No more shall the Leaguers come forth,
To rejoice at a pigmy's distress
What he fights for, aye, that he shall win,
And Britain—the chief of my sons—
Shall defend him when Cossacks begin
Their game of Peace Missions and guns,
Aye, he shall have friends at his need,
My bravest shall come at his call,
Or I am dishonoured indeed,
And Europe's proud name have a fall.

No more shall he struggle to free
Himself from the Muscovite's trap;
When the time comes he'll see
I remember that he
Who saved me at last was a Jap!

—*Fun.*

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Oct. 20th:—

	Yen.
DR.	
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders...	16,940,633
Amount of convertible notes issued ...	188,412,250
Government deposits	34,735,791
General deposits	6,221,200
Exchange liability	32,037
Total	276,341,912
CR.	
Discount notes	60,368,680
Foreign discount notes	10,286,152
Loan to Government	22,000,000
General loans	56,533,491
Exchange liability	1,715,362
Government bonds	32,477,260
Property	2,181,115
Bullion and Specie	70,779,848
Total	276,341,912

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	188,632,447
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	66,175,146
Silver	3,000,000
Total	69,175,146
Securities:—	
Government bonds	27,065,004
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,887,940
Commercial notes	60,504,357
Total	119,457,301

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	1,056,705
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	516,223
Government deposits...	—	811,823
General deposits...	987,625	—

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TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

Shanghai, Oct. 18.

The Imperial Parliament will not meet before the middle of January.

PRINCE HOHENLOHE RESIGNS.

It is stated in Berlin that Prince Hohenlöhe has resigned the post of Chancello r of the German empire.

[Note.—Prince Hohenlöhe-Schillingfürst, who was born on March 31, 1819, has had a distinguished and varied career. He was appointed Chancellor of the German Empire in succession to Count von Caprivi in October, 1894.—Ed. *J. M.*]

BRYAN AND THE PRESIDENCY.

Mr. W. J. Bryan has opened a vigorous campaign in New York, addressing large audiences, but the betting is 5 to 1 on McKinley.

THE KAISER AND CHINA.

It is understood that the German Emperor has latterly been personally directing the Chinese policy of the Government with Count von Bülow, consulting Prince Hohenlöhe very little.

THE REICHSTAG.

The Reichstag is summoned to meet on the 14th of November.

COUNT VON BÜLOW.

Shanghai, Oct. 19, 9.40 p.m.

Count von Bülow has been appointed Chancellor of the German Empire and Foreign Minister.

THE "AMERICA" CUP.

The New York Yacht Club has accepted Sir Thomas Lipton's challenge with his new *Shamrock*. The cup races begin on the 20th of August, 1901.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO AUSTRALIA.

It has been decided that all branches of the Services including the Volunteers will be represented in the Duke of York's guard of honour during his visit to Australia.

SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

General Botha is advancing on Lydenburg which will possibly be besieged.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Shanghai, Oct. 21.

It is officially reported that a party of Boers entered Jagersfontein on the 16th inst., and in the fight which ensued the British lost eleven killed and the Boers twenty killed, including their Commandant.

KRUGER SAILS FOR EUROPE.

Mr. Kruger, ex-President of the Transvaal, embarked at Delagoa secretly on a Dutch warship at five o'clock in the morning, fearing an attack from the Boer refugees now gathered in that place.

The French press are making much of Kruger's journey, and it is evident that the Nationalists will strain every nerve to make the occasion an Anglophole demonstration

GERMANY, GREAT BRITAIN, AND CHINA.

Later.

Lord Salisbury and Count von Hatzfeldt, German Ambassador in London, have signed an agreement to uphold the principle of keeping the ports of China free and open to the trade of all countries; and both governments engage not to utilize the present complications to obtain any territorial advantages, but will direct their policy towards maintaining the territorial integrity of China Should another Power utilize the complications to obtain such territorial advantages under any form whatever, the two governments reserve to themselves the right to come to a preliminary understanding regarding the eventual steps to be taken for the protection of their own interests. The two Governments will invite the other Powers to accept the principles of this agreement.

SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

Shanghai, Oct. 23.

General Buller has embarked at Durban, homeward bound.

The responsible Parisian papers discourage any Kruger demonstrations.

Mr. Joseph Choate, American Ambassador in London, has been instructed to ask for the transference to a more salubrious place, or the release on parole, of any Irish-Americans imprisoned in Ceylon.

ENGLISH POLITICS.

The Imperial Liberal Council has adopted resolutions calling for a reorganization of the party on an Imperialist basis and a disavowal of all sympathy with "little Englanders."

THE BRITISH NAVY.

Shanghai, Oct. 24.

It is stated that the British Admiralty is organizing an additional reserve squadron to replace the Channel Fleet when the latter is cruising.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

The adhesion of the Powers, including Russia, to the Anglo-German agreement is considered certain. The newspapers dwell on the high importance of the agreement.

LORD ROSEBERY GIVES UP RACING.

Lord Rosebery sells his racing stables on Thursday. The reason is unknown.

RUSSIAN PRESS COMMENTS.

Shanghai, Oct. 24, 6.50 p.m.

The Russian press comments caustically on the Anglo-German agreement, which, it says, simply proves British distrust of Russia. The protecting principle need not be protected, because it is already the basis of the policy of all the Powers.

FRANCE SENDING MORE TROOPS.

It is stated that France is sending 3,800 more troops to China in view of the rising in the southern provinces.

DRASTIC MEASURES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Owing to the increased activity of the Boers in Orange River Colony and the growing tendency of neutrals to assist them, drastic measures have been resolved upon with the object of crushing marauding parties and of punishing neutral abettors.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

THE ELECTIONS.

Saigon, Oct. 18

The English elections are over. The Government has gained two seats.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

The French column has occupied Paoting without encountering any opposition.

[This news requires confirmation. Nothing official has been received in Japan, though we have telegrams up to the 17th instant from Peking. Still, as the French column advanced from Tientsin, it is possible that the news may have have come *vid* Tientsin. According to intelligence received in Tokyo, the authorities of the principal towns *en route* from Peking to Paoting went out to meet the column under General Gaselee's command, and invited the troops to enter the place peacefully. The column marched through without any trouble. Probably the same policy has been adopted at Paoting.—Ed. *J.M.*]

VON BÜLOW.

Saigon, Oct. 20.

Count von Bülow is named Chancellor in succession to Prince Hohenlohe.

PEACE PROPOSALS.

A note from Li Hung-chang to the Ambassadors fixes Saturday the 20th instant as the date for opening negotiations.

[This requires confirmation. The German and Russian Ministers are not yet in Peking, and, so far as we understand, the Powers have not agreed upon any basis of negotiations.—Ed. *J.M.*]

GENERAL VOYRON.

Saigon, Oct. 21.

News from Peking says that General Voyron has arrived there, and has presented their flags to the French troops, passing them in review

PEACE PROPOSALS.

Li Hung-chang and Ching have presented to the Ambassadors a note offering an indemnity as well as new commercial advantages and proposing the cessation of hostilities. M. Pichon has replied that hostilities will cease when the heads of the chief culpables have fallen.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

Saigon, Oct. 22.

Germany and England have concluded a special agreement by which they pledge themselves to maintain the "open door" and the integrity of Chinese territory.

SPANISH CABINET RESIGNS.

Saigon, Oct. 23.

The Spanish Cabinet has resigned in consequence of the nomination of General Weyler to be Captain of Madrid.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

The Emperor of China has written to the President of the Republic, asking for his good offices to hasten the negotiations.

General Voyron telegraphs from Taku on the 21st, that the French occupy the station and the railway at Paoting, and that they are pushing reconnaissances to the north and south.

The situation in Kwantung is improving.

(Received at the War Office.)
(From Lt.-General Yamaguchi).

Peking, Oct. 17.

At 11 a.m. to-day the Field Marshal entered Peking and took up his quarters in the Phœnix Palace. Guards of honour were sent out by all the allied forces.

RUSSIAN TROOPS.

Hongkong, Oct. 20.

An Austrian steamer with Russian troops has left for the north.

THE CHINESE RAILWAYS.

Peking, Oct. 19.

The agreement between the Russian and Japanese commanders about the railway is that Russia will direct all traffic arrangements on the section between Shan-hai-kwan and Yang-tsung and at the Shan-hai-kwan station, but the allies shall have the right to use the line for military purposes. With regard to telegrams, they are to be sent in the Morse alphabet or in Russian characters. Russia is to have the right to use the line outside Chili as far as Newchwang and Sinmin-ching, provided that sufficient rolling stock is left on the Chili section to enable the allies to despatch two or three trains a day. For the repairs of the line between Yang-tsung, Russia has handed over the materials already used and those now in her possession.

SHAN-HAI-KWAN.

According to a report received from Peking on the 19th instant, the forces of the various Powers at Shan-hai-kwan are as follows:—Russian, about 5,000 (1 regiment of infantry and a squadron of cavalry);

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British, 2,000 (infantry, cavalry and artillery); French, 1 battalion (infantry); German, three companies (infantry); Austrian and Italian, 100 men. Germany has a company of infantry on Tsin-wang island, and France, Italy and Austria have small forces of which the strength is not clearly known. Russia has one company of infantry and a detachment of railway engineers at Si-keh-chwang. There are also 20 Russians at Lutai, as well as five companies of infantry and some engineers at Pe-tang.

[Japan has one battalion of infantry and one company at Shan-hai-kwan.—ED. *J. M.*]

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.

Tientsin, Oct. 22.

The two companies of Japanese troops required to increase the Shan-hai-kwan garrison left Tientsin to-day.

(NON-OFFICIAL.)

About 1,503 Russian troops left Tien-tsin two or three days ago. It is supposed that their destination is Shan-hai-kwan. Russia is devoting all her strength to fully completing the Tongku-Shan-hai-kwan and the Shan-hai-kwan-Vladivostock railways.

PEKING.

Peking, Oct. 23.

The head-quarters of the Fifth Division, hitherto at the Legation, has moved to a position inside the Tse-hwa Gate.

(NON-OFFICIAL.)

The following is the composition of the force in Peking on the 20th:—

British, under Major-General Barrow, the 7th Bengal; the 1st Sikh, the 24th Punjaub, the 26th Bombay, namely, four battalions of infantry; the Australian Contingent; the 1st and the 16th Bengal Lancers; the 12th Battery of Field Artillery; and one battalion of Sappers.

Russian, one company under the command of a captain.

German, under Major-General Schopener (?); two battalions of Marines; a detachment of 90 Engineers; and 2 field-pieces.

French, under Captain (Naval) Conte (?); 2 battalions of the 18th Regiment of Marines; 1 battaion of the 17th Regiment of Marines, and 11 guns.

American, under Lieut.-General Chaffee; the 9th Regiment of Infantry (1,116 men); the 14th Regiment of Infantry (1,036); the Sixth Brigade of Cavalry (445); 6 guns. N.B.—The 16th Regiment and the greater part of the cavalry have left.

Italian, under Captain (Naval) Coroli (?); one battalion of infantry (500); a naval brigade of 250, and 2 machine guns.

Austrian; a naval brigade 306 strong.

The column that left Tientsin for Paoting on the 12th instant was composed as follows:—

Under Major-General Bailloud; French, two battalions of infantry one squadron of cavalry, a detachment of artillery and a detachment of Engineers. German and Italian: a regiment of 2 battalions of infantry, a squadron of cavalry, a battery of 4 Canot guns, a field hospital, a battalion of ————(?), a battery of 6 guns and a detachment of engineers. British: an Australian naval brigade with 2 machine guns and one 12-p. naval gun; the 6th company of the 20th Regiment of Punjaub Infantry; four companies of the Hongkong Regiment; 2 companies of the Madras Sappers, 2 companies of the 13th Bombay Cavalry, one company of the Bengal Lancers, B battery of horse artillery; 1 battery of quick-firing guns; and half of the 12th company of Bombay Sappers.

The column that left Peking for Paoting at the same time was composed as follows: Commander, Major-General Gaselee: French, 2 battalions of marine infantry; German, 2 battalions of infantry, 12 troopers; 2 guns (Canot) of the Third Battery; 4 guns of the Naval Brigade; Italian, 1 battalion of infantry; British, 2 battalions of infantry, 1 regiment (4 squadrons) of cavalry; 4 guns of the 4th Battery, and 1 company of engineers

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

THE ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

Rome, Oct. 22.

The *Popolo Romano* applauds the Anglo-German agreement and says that it will serve not only to secure the open-door policy, but also to dispel the doubts entertained of sinister intentions on the part of certain nations, and to preserve the integrity of China. The semi-official Journal adds that, with the exception of Russia, all the Powers will doubtless subscribe the agreement gladly.

SIR ERNEST SATOW.

Peking, Oct. 22.

The British Representative arrived here on the 20th, and the German Minister on the 22nd.

DEATH OF GENERAL KANG.

Chefoo, Oct. 23.

Governor Yuen has reported to the Inspector-General of Customs the death of General Kang, which news reached him from Tung-kwan in Shensi.

THE CHINESE COURT.

Shanghai, Oct. 24.

The Imperial Court left Tung-kwang on the 21st instant, and was expected to reach Si-ngan about the 27th instant. The Emperor and the Empress Dowager, when about to leave Ta-yuen, orderd Princes Chwang and Twan to remain there, and the two princes are now in Ta-yuen.

A report has reached this that General Kang died near Wan-hi-hien.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.)

"THE IZUMO."

The first-class cruiser *Izumo* left Malta on the 20th for Port Said.

THE "AZUMA."

Oct. 25.

The *Azuma* (first-class cruiser, 9,900 tons) reached Saseho to-day, and after taking in coal will proceed to Yokosuka.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

INTERPORT CRICKET.

KOBE V. SHANGHAI.

Kobe, 8.35 p.m., Oct. 19.

Shanghai started sensationally, five wickets going for 17. Farbridge made 32, King 60, Sheldon 31, Blount 21, total 174.

Kobe then went to bat, three wickets going for 20. Edwards made 24, Lightfoot 15, Stephens 17, A. Gillingham 25, Murray not out 45, total for eight wickets 135.

INTERPORT CRICKET.

KOBE V. SHANGHAI.

Kobe, 7 p.m., Oct 20.

Kobe's first innings closed for 135. Shanghai in their second inning made 179, and Kobe's second innings produced 86, of which W. D. Edwards contributed 28. A good stand was made by Edwards, Abbott, Braess and Thompson. The match was an easy win for Shanghai.

COLLISION NEAR KOBE.

THREE MEN MISSING.

Kobe, 0.25 p.m., Oct. 23.

The N. Y. K. steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*, chartered as a transport, bound in, collided last night with the French transport *Caravane*, hence. The latter sank and three of her men are missing. The *Yamaguchi Maru* put into Takamatsu, and is expected here shortly with the survivors of the *Caravane's* crew.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

A WHIRLWIND.

Tsingtao, Oct. 14.

Tornado here to-day at noon. Sixteen buildings damaged, one man killed, and eight injured.

THE NEW CAPITAL.

A telegram was received from Hankow yesterday announcing the arrival of the Emperor Kuang Hsü at Hsianfu.

PIRACY NEAR HONGKONG.

Hongkong, Oct. 15.

M. Sculfort's launch *Nanchan* under the French flag, left Kuangchouwan on the 12th instant for Hongkong. She was pirated on the 13th at Mongchan; the booty was $32,000, and two men were killed. Six supposed passengers turned out to be pirates and left in a junk. The launch has reported at Hongkong.

EXCITEMENT AT MACAO.

A mob of Chinese countrymen stoned the Portuguese Marine Guard at the Barrier at Macao on Saturday. Great excitement was created at noon on Sunday by the firing of the alarm guns, when all the troops went to their stations in readiness.

It is reported that the Chinese mob approaching the barrier was dispersed after a few rounds by the Marines.

The Governor assumed charge of the troops and things are quiet to-day.

The civilians were greatly pleased by the smartness of the Portuguese troops in occupying their stations.

GERMAN NEWS.

Berlin, Oct. 12.

An international conference has been held at Paris to discuss the question of abolishing the export-bounty on sugar in all countries.

The Empress Frederick is very ill at Cronberg; Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia are staying with her.

In accordance with the German law an allowance has been granted to the families of the soldiers of the German troops in China.

At the Howald-wharf at Kiel a steamer has been successfully launched, which has been built for the Jebsen line, and is intended to run between Shanghai, Tsingtao, and Tientsin. The ship was christened *Gouvernour Jaeschke.*

Berlin, Oct. 15.

The condition of H.M. the Empress Frederic is most critical. Heart and lungs are very weak. The Duke of Connaught has arrived at Cronberg to-day to see his sister.

Privy Councillor von Kusserow, one of the founders of the German colonial policy, has died, as has also Senator Cochery in France. (It was Cochery who by his interpellation in July, 1870, induced the Duke of Grammont to make his famous warlike speech of July 6th. Cochery voted then against the war credit in the French Chamber. In 1874 he assisted Thiers in bringing about an armistice).

(FROM THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.")

JOINT MEMORIAL BY MINISTERS.

Shanghai, Oct. 11.

The Chinese Ministers in London, Paris, St. Petersburg, Tokyo and Washington have presented a joint memorial impeaching Li Peng-heng as the chief instigator of the late disturbances, Yu-hsien as his chief aider and abettor, and then Kang-yi, Chao-hsuchao, Tsung-fuhsiang as blameworthy, with Prince Tuan and Tsailan at the bottom of the black list.

It is obviously intended to whitewash the Empress-Dowager, Prince Tuan and the other members of the Imperial Family.

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(FROM THE "OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD.")

NEWS FROM GERMANY.

Berlin, Oct. 17.

The state of health of the Empress Frederic has improved considerably. In the meantime the Reichstanzler Prince Hohenlohe, the Secretary of the Interior Count Posapowski, as also the Princes Eitel-Fritz and Adalbert of Prussia have arrived at Homburg near Cronberg. The King of Saxony and the King of Sweden are also staying at Homburg.

The German Reichstag has been summoned for the 14th of November. The Emperor will open it himself with a speech, in which he will refer to the China question.

The Press discusses with great satisfaction the betrothal of the Queen of Holland to Prince Henry of Mecklenburg.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The *Keizai Zasshi* gives the following figures with regard to the foreign trade of Japan for the 1st half of this month as compiled by the Customs Section of the Finance Department :—

	1ST HALF OF OCTOBER. Yen.	TOTAL FROM JANUARY. Yen.
Exports	10,081,433	152,163,983
Imports.....	10,083,738	238,694,720
Excess of Imports..	2,285	86,530,737
Exports of Specie...	1,623,610	45,197,072
Imports.....	138,812	10,317,067
Excess of Exports..	1,484,798	34,880,005

The total excess of imports since January being 86 millions approximately, the average per month exceeds 8 millions, but the figures for the 1st half of October show only a paltry difference of 2,200 *yen*. If this decreasing tendency of imports is to continue for any length of time, it may reasonably be expected that the exports will soon be in excess of imports. Indeed the exports of specie still exceed the imports by nearly 1½ millions, but the reduction in the imports of merchandise will surely bring about a corresponding decrease in the exodus of gold and silver. This equality of trade for the current month may in a great measure be ascribed to the cessation of warfare in China, which opened the way for the export of Japanese manufactures, as well as to the sudden increase in the exports of silk to Europe and America. But there is no denying that the main and direct cause of this tradal adjustment was the reduction in the issue of convertible notes. In the beginning of August the notes issued by the Bank of Japan had reached the high figure of 209 million *yen*, of which the amount issued above the legal limit was to no less than 14 millions. At present the figure for the former account stands at 187½ milions approximately, showing a decrease of 23 millions and the issue above the legal limit has entirely disappeared. The reduction in the note issue has not as yet had any tangible effect on the prices of commodities, but it can hardly be doubted that a falling off in prices will soon become apparent, with a resulting tendency to increase exports and reduce imports.

TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

According to the *Keizai Zasshi* the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce has under discussion the advisability of revising its general regulations and its rules of election. Summarised, the proposed alterations are as follows :—

1. A memorial to be presented to the Imperial Diet urging the necessity of reducing the membership of the Chamber to 100.

2. Article IV. of the Chamber's regulations to be revised in the sense of fixing the number of members at 100.

3. Simultaneously with the enforcement of this alteration, 75 members to be elected at the next meeting, so that the 25 members now in office may be increased to 100, with a period of service fixed for 2 years for such former members as may be appointed by ballot.

4. The election to be conducted by means of unregistered ballots each bearing a single name.

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 494.

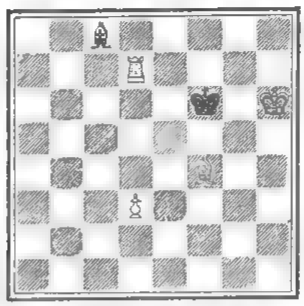
Key move Q to Q B 7.

Correct solution received from Mr. Mata, Mr. A. V. C. Maher, and "P.A.H."

PROBLEM No. 496.

By Mr. A. Monk (Goolwa).

Black—One Piece.



White—Five Pieces.

White to play and mate in three moves.

GAME No. 632.

GAME FROM THE MUNICH TOURNAMENT.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT.

White.—Showalter. Black.—Burn.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q 4	P Q4	26 B KB4	KR QBsq
2 P QB4	PxP	27 B K5	Kt Q4
3 P K3	P K3	28 R Q3	B R3
4 BxP	Kt KB3	29 B R5	Q Ktsq
5 Kt QB3	P B4	30 R K Kt3	R R2
6 Kt B3	Kt B2	31 B Kt6 (e)	B Kt4
7 Castles	B K2	32 R Kt5	Kt B3
8 Kt K5	PxP	33 R B3	Q Bsq
9 KtxKt	KtPxKt	34 R (B3)-K B K7 (f)	
10 PxP	Castles	Kt3	
11 B K3	B Kt2 (a)	35 BxRP	KtxB
12 Q K2	Q R4	36 RxP	RxR
13 P QR3	B Q3	37 RxR	QxR
14 PR Qsq	Q B2	38 BxQ ch	KxB
15 P R3	P QR4	39 Q K7 ch	K Rsq
16 B KKt5	Kt Q2	40 QxP	B R3
17 QR Bsq	P R5 (b)	41 P Q5 (g)	Kt Bsq
18 Q Kt4	K Rsq	42 QxRBP	K Ktsq (h)
19 Q R4	KR Ksq	43 P Q6	R Ksq
20 Kt K4	P B3	44 P Q7	R K8 ch
21 KtxB	QxKt (c)	45 K R2	KtxP (i)
22 B B4	Q K2	46 QxKt	B Kt4
23 B Q2	Q B2	47 P R4	R K7
24 B Q3	P KB4 (d)	48 P R5	RxBP
25 B K2	Kt B3	49 P R6	Resigns.

Notes by Emil Kemeny.

(a) Preferable was Q to R 4, followed eventually by P to B 4 or P to K 4.

(b) With the intention to weaken the adverse Pawns on the Queen's wing. The play is not well timed, for it gives White a chance to start a promising King's-side attack. Better was B to B 5, exchanging Bishops.

(c) He could not play B takes B, on account of Kt to B 7 ch and Kt takes P.

(d) Hardly any better was P to Kt 3, or P to R 3, Q to Kt sq. The White Bishops are well placed, and they will get actively into play.

(e) Stronger, perhaps, was R to Kt 6, followed eventually by R to R 6 and B to Kt 6. The text play, however, is quite effective.

(f) To guard against B takes R P, followed by R to R 5, and, eventually, R to Kt 6 and R to R 6, leading to mate. The move selected does not stop the B takes R P continuation, as the progress of the game shows. Nor did black have a satisfactory defence. P to R 3 might have been answered with B takes B P, followed by R takes Kt P and B takes Kt or Q takes R P ch, according to Black's Q takes R or R takes R reply.

(g) Black's moves from the thirty fifth turn were all forced. Rook and two pieces are of more value than the Queen, but the text move either wins a piece or the advanced Q P will decide in White's favour. White evidently had this continuation in view when he played B takes R P. The combination was both brilliant and deep, and surely it did not lack soundness.

(h) P takes P would be answered with Q to B 6 ch and Q takes B.

(i) R to Q 8 would not stop the Pawn. White continues P to Q 8 (Q) ; Q to Kt 5 ch and Q takes R, winning easily.

GAME No. 633.

Pillsbury's last game in the Munich Tournament ; RUY LOPEZ.

Pillsbury—Berger. WHITE.	BLACK.	Pillsbury—Berger. WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	31 B Q4 ch	K Q3
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	32 R B7	Kt K2
3 B Kt5	P QR3	33 P B4	P B4
4 B R4	P Q3	34 B Kt7	Kt Kt3
5 Kt B3	B Q2	35 K B2	Kt K4
6 Castles	P KKt3	36 R R7	Kt Kt5 ch
7 P Q4	B Kt2	37 K B sq	R K sq
8 B KKt5	Q Bsq	38 P R3	Kt K6 ch
9 PxP	KtxP	39 K Kt sq	KtxBP
10 Kt Kt	BxKt	40 BxR	R KKt sq
11 B Kt3	P R3	41 R KKt7	RxR
12 B Kt3	B K3	42 BxR	Kt Q5
13 P B4	BxKt	43 P QKt4	Kt K3
14 PxB	BxB	44 B B3	PxP
15 RPxB	Q Q2	45 BxP ch	K K4
16 QxQ5	Q B3	46 B K7	K Q5
17 QxQ	PxQ	47 P B5	K Q4
18 R K5	P B3	48 K B sq	K B3
19 KR Rsq	R KR2	49 K K2	K Q2
20 RxP	RxR	50 B B6	K B3
21 RxR	R K2	51 K B3	P Kt5 ch
22 R R4	P KB4	52 PxP	PxP ch
23 P K5	PxP	53 KxP	KxP
24 B B5	R K3	54 B K5	K Q4
25 R R8ch	K B2	55 K B5	P B6
26 R B8ch	K Kt2	56 PxP	Kt B4
27 R B8	P P	57 B B3	Kt Q6
28 RxPch	K B3	58 K B6	K Q3
29 K B2	K K4	59 B Q2	K Q4
30 K B3	P Kt4	Draw	

8. B to Kt 5 has long ago disposed of the King's Fianchetto Defence. It was formerly considered one of the best defences, very much favoured by the late Mr. Steinitz; but even he abandoned it eventually. It is therefore surprising that a scientific player like Professor Berger should have adopted it. Pillsbury conducted the attack vigorously, and obtained practically a won game on the nineteenth move, when Black had to abandon the Q R P; but from this point he relaxed in vigour, for, instead of capturing an indefensible Pawn at once he might have strengthened his weak K P with 20 K to B2, and K to B3, and take the RP afterwards without incurring any unnecessary risk. He neglected a second and final chance of a winning ending by omitting to play 29. P to R4 (instead of 29 K to B2), and later on he could do no more than draw. This game was played on the last day, and the half point which he thus threw away cost him a division of the first prize with Schlechter, and five more heavy games—one with Maroczy and four with Schlechter in the tie match. Professor Berger made a capital fight in the ending.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Bayern 1	Sa Oct. 27
America	O & O Co.	Coptic	M Oct. 29
Hongkong	M M Co.	Toukin 2	W. Oct. 31
Hongkong	C P R. Co	Em. of China	Th Nov. 1
Hongkong	O & O Co.	Doric 3	Th Nov 1
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 4	M Nov 5
Hongkong	T K K.	Nippon Maru	Th Nov 8
America	P M Co.	City of Peking	W Nov 14
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Sa Nov 17
Canada, &c.	C P R Co	Em of Japan	M Nov 19

1 Left Nagasaki on the 24th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 23rd inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 23rd inst
4 Left San Francisco on the 5th inst

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. Oct 30
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	W. Oct. 31
Canada, &c.	C. P. R Co.	Em. of China	F Nov 2
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Bayern	Sa. Nov 3
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Nov. 3
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Tu Nov 6
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Tonkin	F Nov 9
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. Nov 10
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th Nov 15
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov 19
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu. Nov 20

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, F. W. Horton, 18th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otto Gildermeister, German ship, 2,009, W. Wilmsen, 19th Oct.,—New York, 21st May, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co,

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Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 19th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, 13th Oct., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumunoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto 19th Oct.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,911, N. Trennt, 19th Oct.—London via ports, and Kobe, 18th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, Y. Oda, 20th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 20th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 19th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, K. Sakai, 20th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Maine, British Hospital steamer, 1,811, F. Stone, 21st Oct.,—Wei-hai-wei via Nagasaki.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,710, T. Murai, 21st Oct.,—Taku via Ujina, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 21st Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 20th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 22nd Oct.,—Vancouver, B.C., 20th Oct., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 22nd Oct.,—Kobe, 20th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 22nd Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 21st Oct., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Brutus, U.S. Navy Transport, 1,984, Lieut. Meyer, 22nd Oct.,—Uraga, 22nd Oct.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, C. Christiansen, 23rd Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 23rd Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 8th Oct., Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Shima, 23rd Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, G. Kanshiro, 24th October,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Esmeralda, American schooner, 130, R. G. Lowden, 24th Oct.,—Guam, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Athesia, German steamer, 3,654, Brunst, 24th Oct.,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 16th Oct., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 24th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 24th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Agamemnon, British steamer, 4,461, Hugh Nish, 25th Oct.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 24th Oct., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hillglen, British steamer, 2,501, Pulford, 25th Oct.,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 23rd Oct., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Bodlewell, British steamer, 2,209, W. Baines, 25th Oct.,—Middlesborough and Antwerp via Singapore, 9th Oct., General and Explosives.—Mollison & Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, S. Muramatsu, 25th Oct.,—Kobe, 23rd Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strombus, British Tank steamer, 3,928, N. Hocken, 25th Oct.,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, N. Tateyama, 25th Oct.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 25th Oct.,—Nagahama Quarantine Station, 25th Oct., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,201, H. Takeda, 18th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, N. Tateyama, 18th Oct.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sarnia, German steamer, 2,052, Schlaefke, 18th Oct.,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 19th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Ohokochi Hioi, 19th Oct.,—Moji, Ballast.—Tachikawa.

Saint Bede, British steamer, 2,287, A. McPherson, 20th Oct.,—Muroran, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Oldenburg, German steamer, 3,156, H. Prager 20th Oct.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,793, W. Townsend, 20th Oct.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konigsberg, German steamer, 3,135, Schuder, 20th Oct.,—Kobe via Uraga, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, S. Yamamoto, 20th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 20th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, F. W. Horton, 21st Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alsterufer, German ship, 2,598, R. Neef, 22nd Oct.,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 22nd Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, Y. Oda 22nd October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 23rd Oct.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyo Maru, Japanese stermer, 1,548, K. Sakai, 23rd Oct.,—Muroran, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 24th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, C. Christiansen, 24th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pentan, British ship, 2,283, F. W. Amsbury, 25th Oct.,—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon Evers & Co.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 25th Oct.,—Nagahama Quarantine Station, Mails and General. P. M. S.S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 25th October,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakuma, 25th Oct.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 25th Oct.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,911, N. Trennt, 25th Oct.,—Kure, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 25th Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. King, Mrs. King, Master Arranger, Mr. J. A. C. Smith, Mr. Y. Kanetoyo, Mr. and Mrs. Matsuura, Mrs. K. Sisa, Mr. K. Yaguti, Mr. Donovald, Mr. and Mrs. T. Oiso, Mr. Y. Fuji, Mr. S. Fuji, Miss Hume, Mrs. Hume, Mr. Komor, and Mrs. Komor and 2 children, in cabin; 7 Japanese, and 2 Chinese, in second class; 33 Japanese, and 7 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. K. Akabane, Mr. E. Auger, Mr. H. S. B. Brindley, Rev. C. W. Briggs, Mr. F. E. Coney, Mrs. F. E. Coney, Mr. Sackville W. Caldbeck, Mrs. Sackville W. Caldbeck, Miss S. M. Couch, Mrs. J. Chapman, Dr. E. H. Edwards, Mrs. Enlle and 2 children, Mr Fullerton, Mr. A. Fukuhara, Mrs. C. Gilchrist, Mrs. A. K. Gregson, Rev. W. Gauld, Mrs. W. Gauld and child, Mr. T. Gejo, Miss G. Hughes, Rev. W. B. Harrison, Mrs. W. B. Harrison, Mr. Walter Hatfield, Mr. Henry Reed Hatfield, Mrs. Henry Reed Hatfield, Miss Julia E. Hand, Capt. J. Honner, Mrs. T. Honner, Miss E. Honner, Miss I. Honner, Mr. S. Hirayama, Mr. S. Hancock, Mr. Emil Hug, Mrs. Emil Hug, Mr. T. A. Hardcastle, Mrs. Hardcastle, Mr R. Imamishi, Rev. J. A. Ingle, Mrs. J. A. Ingle and 2 children, Mr. Lacy R. Johnson, Mrs. J. Jacobi, Mr. P. Kropp, Mr. Lee Kang, Mr. A. Landre, Dr. O. Leow, Mrs Leow and child, Mr. W. N. Lovatt, Mrs. W. N. Lovatt, Rev. Lacy Little, Mr. H. E. Morse, Sir John Murray, Mr. McCabbe, Mrs. H. McArthur, Mr. J. A. McKay, Mrs. J. A. McKay, Mr. Saxton W. A. Noble, Mrs. Saxton W. A. Noble, and and maid, Mr. C. Nishimura, Mr. T. Okohira, Mr. J. Ohara, Mr. Pinkard, Mr. H. J. Ranger, Mr. T. Endo, Mr. K. Unno, Mr. A. McPherson, Mr. R. W. Smith, Mr. F. N. Smith, Mrs. Smith and maid, Miss Smith, Dr. F. O. Stedman, Mrs. Stedman, Mr. C. B. Tenny, Miss E. Terry, Mr. Watanabe, Mr. F. E. White, Mr. Arnold Williams, Mrs. Arnold Williams, Miss Daisy Williams, Rev. W. Wynde, Mrs. Wynde and 2 children, Miss M. L. Winn, and Mr. J. Clifford Wilkinson, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Master Bishop, Mr. E. T. Blunt, Miss Duberly, Mr. and Mrs. H. Grimble, Mr. F. J. Lias, Mr. P. de C. Morriss Mr. S. van Rensalaar, Mr. J. S. Sandford, Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Capt. Wilson Walker, Rev. B. F. Buxton, Mr. C. S. Downes, Mr. F. Duberly, Miss E. Garner, Mr. T. E. Hamond, Mr. D. W. Lyon, Mr. C. M. Myers, Mr. A. B. McDonald, Mr. E. W. Rutter, Rev. and Mrs. T. H. Hadden, Mr. F. L. Tavener, Mr. E. Wudelin and servant, and Mr. M. Young, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Rev. A. E. Cory, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Dr. Josephine M. Boxley, Mr. W. A. Daland, Rev. D. T. Huntington, Mr. G. Leinung, Mr. L. A. Levy, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. H. von Redesky, Mr. P. Sorhagen, Mr. and Mrs. C. Bogdanovitch, Miss Huntington, Comd'r. P. de Lemaschefsky, Mr. A. W. Macpherson, Mr. U. Porter, Mr. W. W. Rich, Miss H. E. St. John, and Mr. Chuck Sai, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss L. A. Ally, Miss F. S. Singer, Mr. C. H. Hall, Mr. C. L. Harding, Miss Alice Miller, Com. F. D. Williams, Mr. F. B. Talbott, and Mr. L. W. Lewis, in cabin. For Kobe:—Rev. and Mrs. F. S. Miller and family, Miss Florence J. White, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. de Lucy Fossarieu and family, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. W. W. Witham, Mr. J. K. Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Stuart, and Miss M. M. Lean, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Oldenburg*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Th. de Benigny, Miss Archer, Mr. A. Hasche, Mr. Poirson, Mr. P. Kummel, Lieut. V. Eberstein, Mr. Richter, Major and Mrs. J. H. Parsons, Dr. C. Bieler, Miss Ingram, Miss Wilkinson, Miss Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Faris, Mrs. Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Nickolls and child, Miss Read, Miss Lifton, Mr. H. Muller, Mr. Rudolf Arnold, and 22 Deutsche Marine, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. F. Eca da Silva, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Newman, Miss K. M. Jackson, Mr. G. Noel, Mr. E. Wildman, Mrs. Wildman, Mr. L. H. Schauer, Mr. C. N. Crosse, Prof. E. Hamilton Sharpe, Mrs. C. J. Decker and child, Rev. and Mrs. J. Ingle and 2 children, Mrs. W. H. Williams, Mr Emile Hug, Mr. Krauss, Mr. Lafrance, Mr. A. Reid, Mr. W. T. Marlow, Mr. W. T. Copman, and Mr. D. J. B. Deepignac, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss L. A. Alby, Mr. H. O. Ansell, Mr. J. K. Carpenter, Mr. A. L. J. Dewette, Mr. H. M. S. H. Esmail, Mr. P. H. de Lucy Fossarieu, Mrs. P. H. de Lucy Fossarieu and 6 children, Mr. B. Forshaw, Mr. R. A. Gubbay, Mr. Hazelaire, Miss May McLean, Rev. F. S. Miller, Mrs. F. S. Miller and 3 children, Mr. J. Neill, Mr. A. B. Stuart, Mrs. A. B. Stuart, Capt. W. Walker, and Mrs. W. D. Witham, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Dr. Josephine M. Bixby, Mr. C. Bogdanovitch, Mrs. C. Bogdanovitch, Mrs. C. L. Brent, Lieut. Geo. R. Clark, U.S.N., Rev. D. S. Cory, Mr. W. A. Daland, Mr. P. G. Maas Geesteranus, Major John Van R. Hoff, U.S.N., Miss Huntington, Rev. D. T. Huntington, Lt. N. E. Irwin, U.S.A., Mr. C. J. Keurenaer. Mr. M. M. Kuhn, Miss R. L. Kuhn, Comd. P. de Lemaschefsky, Major Lenne, Mr. G. Lenning, Mr. L. A. Levy, Mr. A. W. Macpherson, Mr. H. A. Noble, Mrs. H. A. Noble, Mr. J. Porter, Mr. W. W. Rich, Dr. A. C. H. Russell, U.S.N. Mr. C. W. H. von Bedesky, Mrs. C. W. H. von Redesky, Mr. Chuck Sai, Miss H. E. St. John, Mr. P. Sorhagen, Mr. M. Thiel, and Mr. K. Tsuji, in cabin.

EXPECTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Inaba Maru*, from London via ports:—Mr. Nortatsu Matsui, Mr. Kisaburo Oda, Mr. Tomekichi Ishida, Mr. A. Meyer, Mr. H. Fischer, and Mr. Tomotoki Matsui, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Oldenburg*:—

		RAW.		WASTE.		
	Option.	France.	Italy.	Italy.	Austria.	France.
Siber, Wolff & Co.	158	10	30	86	—	—
Nabholz & Co. ...	132	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	206	—	—	18	—	52
O. Reimers & Co.	145	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	17	—	—	—	—	—
Robison Silk Trading Co. Ltd. ...	—	15	—	30		
Kaitsu Gomei Kaisha	—	60	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co. ...	—	47	—	—	—	—
Bell'Oro & Co. ...	—	—	—	40	22	—
Bavier & Co.....	—	—	—	54	—	—

Total—820 bales, Raw Silk; 332 bales, Waste Silk.

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LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Absolute stagnation prevails in the import market.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y.0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ...	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach ... ... } Chinese ... ... }	Nominal

METALS.

Prices still show a lower tendency.

	PER PICUL
Round and square ½ inch and upward ...	Y.5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

The usual volume of business has been done.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.75
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

A fair business has been doing.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y 5.20 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.70 to 6.95
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 8.70
White Refined	8.10 to 9.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The Raw Silk market is nominally open again at the under-mentioned quotations, but telegrams from abroad give limits quite 5 per cent. below those prices, and consequently little or nothing is done. Holders here will have to reduce their asking rates if they want to be moving. Stock on the market is about 18,000 piculs of all kinds.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse...	Y. 870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	920 to 930
Filatures—No 1, Coarse...	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse...	None
Common—Coarse	None
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1½	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 3	730 to 740
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 1	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 1½	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 2	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 2½	720 to 730

WASTE SILK.

In Waste Silk there is a small business doing at quotations, but there is very little life in the market and news from consumers is not very encouraging.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	135 to 140
Noshi—Filatures, Good...	125 to 130
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium...	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filatures, Best...	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	50 to 52½
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	40 to 42½

TEA.

There is a fair demand at unchanged prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	33 to 34
Finest	31 to 32
Fine...	29 to 30
Good Medium...	27 to 28
Medium	25 to 26
Good Common	23 to 24
Common	21 to 22

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco, Oct. 9:—

	Bales.
H Dent & Co.	10
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	145
Vivanti Bros.	25
Doshin Kaisha	12
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	34
Total	226

Per N. Y. K. steamer *Kinshiu Maru*, for Seattle, Oct. 10:—

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	25
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	139
Otto Reimers & Co.	10
Kito Gomei Kaisha	34
Total	360

Per N. Y. K. steamer *Iwaata Maru*, and P. & O. steamer from Hongkong, for France, Oct. 12:—

	Bales.
Findlay Richardson & Co.	10
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	10
Total	20

Per M. M. steamer *Laos*, for France, Oct. 12:—

	Bales.
P. Dourille	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	227
Nabholz & Co.	82
Otto Reimers & Co.	163
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	20
Siber, Wolff & Co.	127
Sieber & Co.	100
Varenne & Co.	113
Kito Gomei Kaisha	22
Total	874

Per T. K. K. steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for New York, via San Francisco, Oct. 17th:—

	Bales.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	176
Nabholz & Co.	25
Otto Reimers. & Co ..	134
Robinson Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	65
Sieber & Co.	20
Varenne & Co.	20
Vivanti Bros...	65
Kito Gomei Kaisha	45
Doshin Kaisha	29
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	105
Total	749

Per N. D. L. steamer *Oldenburg*, for Europe, Oct. 20:—

	Bales.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	206
Nabholz & Co.	132
Otto Reimers & Co.	145
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	15
Siber, Wolff & Co.	198
Sieber & Co.	17
Varenne & Co.	47
Kitto Gomei Kaisha	10
Doshin Kaisha	50
Total...	820

Per N. Y. K. steamer *Sakura Maru*, and P. & O. S.S. from Hongkong, for France, Oct. 20th:—

	Bales.
W. M. Strachan, & Co., Ltd.	20

TO 22ND OCTOBER, 1900.

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	25
Avenli & Co.	460
Bavier & Co.	477
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	120
H. Dent & Co.	313
P. Dourille	70
Findlay Richardson & Co.	100
C. Gussani	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	1,735
Longin & Co.	275
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	886
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	669
Otto Reimers & Co.	1,058
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	313
Siber, Wolff & Co.	1,550
Sieber & Co.	720
W. M. Strachan & Co. Ltd.	176
Varenne & Co.	748
Vivanti Bros.	767
Kito Gomei-Kaisha	2,414
Doshin Kaisha	550
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	681
J. Ishii	68
Total	14,495

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, October 25.

London silver unchanged and discounts ⅛ higher. China sterling quotations unaltered and local rates as they were.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2 62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞@51
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	*¼% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*¾% prem.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 68¾
— Private 10 days' sight	* 70½
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London) 22nd	30 3/16

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, October 25.

Kirin Breweries were sold to-day at *yen* 150. Grand Hotels can be had at *yen* 240. Club Hotels are steady at *yen* 80. Helms are firm at *yen* 55. Langfeldts—A few shares can be had at *yen* 90. Engine and Iron Works are quiet at *yen* 207.50. Laundries have sellers at par.

Debentures—Y. U. Clubs can be had at *yen* 107. Laundries are obtainable at par.

Offers for Hodogaya Breweries are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd, ¥50	207.50 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd, ¥50	150 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd, ¥100	80 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S
Nagasak. Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	115 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd, ¥100	90 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	55 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd, ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	100
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	106 N.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, October 25.

Japan Breweries changed hands at *yen* 150. Helms have sellers at *yen* 55. Grand Hotels are obtainable at *yen* 240. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85.

Brett & Co. debentures can be had at par. Y. U. Clubs are obtainable at *yen* 107.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207.50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	240 Sellers.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90 Sales.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Buyers.

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TOKUMIYA.
BROKER IN LOAN BONDS, DEBENTURES, SHARES, AND STOCKS.

Cash and time transactions.
No. 1, KABUTOCHO, NIHONBASHI-KU, TOKYO.
TELEPHONE No. 921, NANIWA OFFICE.

MEAN PRICES OF SHARES AND STOCKS FOR DIRECT DELIVERY.

Tokyo, Oct. 25.

	YEN.
Redemption Loan Bonds	92.05
War Loan Bonds	92.03
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	95.20
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 200	403.00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	6.70
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	163.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	93.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	92.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	62.50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	95.50
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	32.20
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	72.90
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 44	62.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 12.50	20.50
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	58.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	68.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	53.10
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	39.70
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	51.20
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 45	38.70
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	81.20
Hokkaido Colliery R'way 2nd issue—paid up yen 33	73.60
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	72.50
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	32.30
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	16.00
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	73.00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37.50	17.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	28.00
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 38	92.80
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 31	8.0
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 13	29.50
Tokyo Tramway—paid up yen 50	200.50
Tokyo Tramway, new—paid up yen 25	188.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	65.40
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	23.30
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 24	23.80
Nippon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 29	23.50
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	39.00
Yokohoma Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32.00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	38.00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	16.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	179.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	149.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	137.50
Tokyo Merchandize Exchange—paid up yen 25	83.80
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	47.50
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 32.50	23.00

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

STEAMERS.

NAME.	FROM.	REPORTED.	
Ajax	Liverpool	Left S'pore	Oct. 17
Ambria	Hamburg	Passed Canal	Oct. 8
Annam	Marseilles	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Antenor	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 2
Bayern	Bremen	Left N'saki	Oct. 24
Benlarig	London	Leaves H'kong	Oct. 25
Chingwo	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Sept. 30
Claverley	New York	Passed Canal	Aug. 28
Dardanus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Aug. 28
Folmina	New York	Leaves	Sept. 18
Gisela	Trieste	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Glenfarg	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Glenartney	New York	Left	Aug. 30
Glenturret	New York	Leaves S'pore	Sept. 25
Hiroshima Maru	Bombay	Left	Oct. 13
Hitachi Maru	London	Left	Oct. 13
Hutton	New York	Leaves	Sept. 15
Inaba Maru	London	Left S'pore	Oct. 18
Kamakura Maru	London	Left Suez	Oct. 11
Kasuga Maru	Australia	Left N'saki	Oct. 22
Menelaus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Sept. 28
Pyrrhus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Aug. 28
Riojun Maru	Seattle	Left	Oct. 10
Polarstjernen	New York	Leaves	Sept. 15
Sarpedon	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Sept. 21
Silesia	Trieste	Left H'kong	Oct. 22
Socotra	London	Left S'hai	Oct. 15
Suevia	Hamburg	Passed Canal	Sept. 17
Tantalus	Liverpool	Left S'hai	Oct. 24
Tonkin	Marseilles	Left H'kong	Oct. 23
Ulysses	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Wakasa Maru	London	Leaves	Oct. 26

UNDER SAIL.

Alsterdam	New York	May 12	Y'hama
Ancona (1)	Phila.	May 22	Kobe
Arthur Fitger	New York	Aug. 23	Y'hama
Arthur Sewall	New York	Aug. 23	Y'hama
County of L'gow	New York	Aug. 2	Kobe
Dimsdale	Phila.	July 26	N'saki
Dunstaffnage	Phila.	June 15	Kobe
Ellisland	New York	Aug. 23	Y'hama
Eulomene	Phila.	June 24	Kobe
Ferdinand Fischer	Phila.	Aug. 9	Kobe
Flottbek (2)	Port Tampa	May 12	Y'hama
Gertrude	Phila.	May 4	N'saki
Hassia (3)	New York	May 20	H'date
H. Hackfield	Phila.	Aug. 13	N'saki
Khorason	Port Tampa	Aug. 3	Y'hama
Liverpool	Phila.	Aug. 26	Kobe
Magdalene	New York	Sept. 20	Y'hama
Manchester	New York	Aug. 23	Y'hama
Nereide	New York	Sept. 6	Y'hama
Niobe	New York	Aug. 11	Y'hama
Queen Victoria	Barry	May 27	N'saki
Thessalus	Phila.	Aug. 23	N'saki
Torrisdale	Cardiff	April 16	N'saki
Wega	Cardiff	Aug. 28	Y'hama
Willy Rickmers	Phila.	Aug. 5	Kobe

(1) Passed Anger on Sept. 11.
(2) Passed Anger on Sept. 9.
(3) Passed Anger on Sept. 9.

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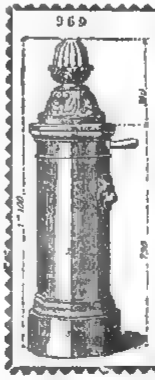
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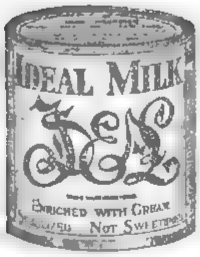

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

毎土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回發行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 3RD, 1900.

DEATHS.

On the 23rd inst., at Hase, Kamakura, TSURU, wife of John Nicholson Seymour.

At Brattleboro, Vermont, U.S., on October 21st, FRANCES NIXON, wife of Edward Barrett, Esq., and only sister of Mrs. G. W. Bramhall.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

TO-DAY is the Birthday of the Emperor of the Japan.

WE print to-day the latest proposals of the Powers to China.

THE Crown Prince is continuing his tour int he southern provinces.

COUNT OKUMA'S chrysanthemum party will be held at his residence on the 7th Nov.

THE Emperor will attend the meeting of the Nippon Race Club at Yokohama on Tuesday.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN VICTOR, grandson of Queen Victoria, has died at Pretoria from enteric fever.

TELEGRAPHIC communication between Mishima and Shuzenji, Izu, was opened on the 1stNovember.

FIRE broke out in a timber shop at Tamachi, Yonezawa, on the 27th ult. and three houses were burnt.

A MAN named Watanabe Sanosuke, a workman in a charcoal shop, was arrested on the afternoon of the 24th ult. on a charge of conducting a lottery from August last.

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD has beeen appointed "Chulasurabhorn" or Grand Officer of the most honourable order of the Crown of Siam.

FIRE broke out at half-past twelve o'clock on Tuesday morning, at Hanabusa-cho, Ota, Yokohama, and four houses were damaged.

A GARDEN party was given by Marquis Tokugawa at Nagoya, on the 28th ult., which was attended by the family of the ex-Shogun.

AN armed burglar entered the Buddhist temple at Saimunji, Daimachi, Mita, Tokyo, on the night of the 24th ult. and stole 50 one *yen* notes and one 5 *yen* note.

A MAN named Shiokame, living at Arai-machi, Hamana-gori, Shizuoka Prefecture, committed suicide with his two children, on the railway on the night of the 20th ult.

A STUDENT named Sakamoto Tsunemasa, of the Normal School, Yamanashi Prefecture, won on the 25th ult. the gold cup presented by the *Jiji Shimpo* for the 1,000 yards flat race.

THE body of an officer belonging to the ill fated French transport steamer *Caravane*, was found on the morning of the 30th ult. at Azukijima. The body of a sailor was found the same day.

A FIREMAN named Imai Kumataro was arrested on the afternoon of the 29th ult. on board the *Hakata Maru*, then in Yokohama harbour. He is charged with firing a pistol at another fireman.

A TELEGRAM from Hakodate on Oct. 30th stated that the Japanese steamer *Hinode Maru* stranded off Otsu, Tokachi Province, Hokkaido, on Oct. 23rd, and many fishermen in the locality rendered assistance to her.

Two jinrikisha men were arrested by the Kotobuki-cho police on the afternoon of the 24th ult. They have been inducing a great number of jinrikisha men to indulge in gambling at Miyoshicho, Yokohama.

AN armed burglar entered a weaving shop at Yazaki-mura, Tsutsuki gori, Kanagawa Prefecture, early on the morning of the 47th ult. and stole 30 *yen*, one silver watch, one pistol, and several bundles of cloth.

A MAN named Shozo, employed in a grocers' shop kept by Hirano Tetsuo, Ogicho Sanchome, Yokohama, was given four 100 *yen* notes to pay into the Soda Bank for his master on the 26th ult. He, however, absconded.

Two fires, neither of which caused serious damage, but both of which are attributed to incendiarism, occurred in Yokohama on Sunday evening. One was in Sumiyoshicho, Sanchome, and the other in Chitosecho, Itchome.

A THIRD case of plague has taken place at Kobe, a carpenter at No. 21, Yamamoto-dori, Sanchome, becoming ill on the 20th and dying on the 26th. Three more cases (two of which have resulted fatally) were reported at Osaka on Oct. 29th.

A REPORT from the Governor-General of Formosa to the Home Department, received on the 29th ult., says that a big storm swept over Taito prefecture on the 20th ult. 85 houses were destroyed and 27 damaged; one man and one horse were killed.

STATISTICS prepared at the end of September show that the Japanese residents in Fusan, Korea, were estimated to number 5,722 persons, viz., 2,965 males and 2,757 females. These figures are said to show an increase of 40 persons compared with those of August.

A COLLISION took place between some railway cars at Kurume station, on the Kyushu Railway, on the evening of the 24th ult. at 9.50 p.m. Two engines, five goods cars and a great distance of the permanent way were damaged. One engineer and one fireman were hurt.

YAMADA RYOTARO, aged 23, formerly employed by Messrs. Sale & Co., who absconded on the 30th Sept. with some *yen* 1,500 belonging to his employers, has been arrested at Taipeh, Formosa. Information to this effect was received by the Yokohama Police by telegraph on Tuesday.

JUDGMENT in the disputed bill case — Yeto versus Reich—was given at the Kobe Ku Saibansho on Saturday. The defendant was ordered to pay *yen* 11.45 for milk supplied in July last; but the claim for *yen* 11.05 for March, 1899, was dismissed. Plaintiff was ordered to pay costs.

A PICKPOCKET named Kobayashi attempted to rob a fish-seller in Tokyo on the 27th ult., of a small bag containing money, but was detected in the act. The fish-seller hit the would be robber on the head, and the rascal jumped into the river at Nihon bashi. On his arrival at the other bank of the river he was arrested by the police who were awaiting him.

Two men named Okazaki Kishiro and Ikeda Tsunekichi, and three women named Hasegawa Tome and Yaye, of Aichi prefecture, and Suzuki Kiyo, of Nagano prefecture, were arrested on the 25th ult., and charged with stealing over sixty pieces of cloth valued at over 460 *yen* from two weaving shops Tsuruya, and Furuya, at Ishikawa-machi, Yokohama.

WE are in receipt, from the *Kokumin Shimbun* Office, of two little books written by Mr. Tokutomi, the editor and proprietor of the journal named. One is entitled the *Nichiyo Kodan* or "Sunday Lectures"; the other *Seikwatsu to shosei*, or "Life and its Methods." Both are well designed to guide young men in their early career towards future eminence or distinction.

A MAN named Nagamine Toranosuke, living at Tomoye-mura, Kagoshima-gori, Ibaraki province, was seen carrying two long swords under his arm in a street at Koishikawa, Tokyo, on the 27th ult. When asked his business by the police, he said he wanted to see Marsha. Marquis Oyama. After a few further inquiries the police found he was a lunatic and at once deported him from the capital.

A MAN named Tochikawa Shimpei has been arrested in Yokohama on a charge of making a false statement as to his name, because, having had presented to him by a bailiff a summons meant for his master (a sake dealer at Kumoicho, Nichome), he signed it "Ozaké Nomisuke" ("Drunkard"). He pleaded that he thought the document one of no consequence. The charge against him was adjourned.

THE hearing of the appeal against the first judgment in the case between a Japanese woman called Ishida Kiku and V. Dussaud and H. Delmas took place before Judges Fukano, Hamado, Tanimura, Taira and Kashiwada at the Osaka Appeal Court on Oct. 29th. The former judgment was in favour of the Japanese woman, and the defendants appealed against it. The appellants in this case failed to appear and judgment by default was given for Ishida Kiku. The appeal was dismissed and costs given against the appellants.

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THE ATROCITIES IN CHINA.

Although much reticence has been observed by the Japanese press with reference to the excesses committed by foreign troops during the recent campaign in China, it was not to be supposed that American and European journals would be equally forbearing Accordingly we find some of the United States journals writing in terms of the most scathing character. The *New York Tribune*, for example, after describing how everything valuable and portable was stolen, and everything else smashed or burned; how women were violated; how peaceful workmen in the fields were used as targets and shot to death; how women were knocked down and their brains pounded out with rifle butts; how babies were picked up by the feet and their brains dashed out against stones; how children and old men were impaled on bayonets and others thrown into rivers and clubbed to death as they tried to swim ashore, says:—

"If these reports be true, the deeds themselves constitute, as we have said, one of the most abominable crimes of the century. How dreadful it is we may perhaps best estimate by thinking what would be our feelings if the Chinese were thus treating Americans. How we should rage against the 'yellow devils'! . . . Hitherto we have protested against the Chinese appellation of 'foreign devils' given to all Americans and Europeans. But what are we to say now when the Chinese support that opprobrious term with the reminder that the foreigners who came to China to repress crime, to restore order, and to preserve property and life inviolate busied themselves with indiscriminate theft, rapine arson, and murder? Are not these latter the work of the devil?

The Brooklyn *Eagle*, writes thus on the same subject:—

"And this is a war of civilization! This is a war carried on in the name of a merciful God! This is a rebuke for the protest of a faction against white men's interference? It is to this end that white missionaries have been preparing the yellow people for the coming of the forces of law, morality, and enlightenment! Is there one man with a human heart in his breast who would not be a Boxer, if he were a Chinese, and fight to the last gasp against the entrance of this devil's horde into his empire? If there is, let him hide himself in knowledge of the shame in which his fellow men would hold him."

Another journal, the *Commercial Appeal*, endeavours to explain away these charges by alleging that "England controls the sources of information and is not beyond colouring the news to suit her own purpose." But that is nonsense. The intelligence published by American journals comes from American correspondents, who are entirely independent of English control, and for the rest, English journalists may justly claim to be at least as level-headed and truthful as any in the world. These reports of atrocities came equally, perhaps originally, from Japanese sources, but the *mot d'ordere* of the Japanese military censors, to say nothing of hints given in Tokyo, was that such news had better be suppressed as far as possible. We ourselves believe that there has been a great deal of exaggeration; there always is exaggeration in such cases. But it has not been all exaggeration. There has been a solid substratum of terrible facts. With what face are we to denounce Boxer atrocities when such things stand to the credit of the Europeans themselves? It sends a thrill of horror through every white man's bosom to learn that 40 missionary women and 25 little children were butchered by the Boxers, but Mr. Taguchi, whose testimony is beyond impeachment and who speaks in the sequel of investigations personally conducted by himself, tells us, in the columns of the *Keizai Zasshi*, that in Tung-chow alone, a city where the Chinese made no resistance and there was no fighting, 573 Chinese women of the upper classes committed suicide rather than survive the indignities they had suffered. Women of the lower orders fared similarly, he tells us, at the hands of the soldiers, but were not unwilling to survive their shame. It is all very well to advance the stock excuse that among thousands of soldiers some are always found whose elementary passions are roused to an uncontrollable degree by the scenes and doings inseparable from warfare. Grant all that, grant that our brute nature resumes the mastery under certain conditions, we have then to answer the question, why should not the same excuse apply to the case of the Boxers. With what show of consistency is the Occident to denounce the barbarity of the Chinese when Occidental soldiers go to China and perpetrate the very acts which constitute the basis of the charge of barbarity?

LIBELLING OFFICIALS.

The nominal editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, Mr. Nakamura Hikobei, has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment and a fine of 10 *yen* for libelling officials. The case was tried in the Tokyo Local Court, where judgment was delivered on the 25th instant. It is impossible to sympathise fully with the *Mainichi Shimbun* in this matter. The violence and extravagance of its language exceeded all tolerable limits, and merely injured the cause it professed to espouse. The subject was the recently much-agitated question of the social evil. The *Mainichi* took the line that the police acted in collusion with the brothel-keepers. It called them "slaves" of the latter; declared that they were in receipt of regular bribes; named several officials who had received such bribes, as well as the amount of the bribes, and couched its accusations in language of such a nature that some action on the part of the police became inevitable. Had the *Mainichi* been able to prove that any of its charges were true, the plea that they were preferred in the interests of the public must have been admitted by the Court But it failed to adduce any satisfactory evidence, and under the circumstances it deserved to be punished for circulating baseless slanders. With regard to Mr. Nakamura Hikobei, we have never heard of him previously, and we are inclined to think that he is nothing better than a scape-goat. The only disquieting point is that we can not doubt the sincerity of the *Mainichi's* purpose. Its proprietor, Mr. Shimada Saburo, is a man who would not permit his journal to be put to such uses did he not believe that the public interest dictated such a course. Thus we find that the *Mainichi* is not in any way silenced by this sentence. It has merely changed its ground. It now directs its attack against three members of the Tokyo City Council, giving their names, and declaring that they fraudulently obtained a sum of three thousand *yen* in connection with the purchase of lead pipes for the Water Works. The *Mainichi* allows these men three days either to furnish proofs of their innocence or to institute legal proceedings, and if they adopt neither course, it promises to denounce them openly as robbers We trust that our contemporary is better informed in this matter than it was in the case of the police, for being persuaded as we are of its honesty of purpose, we should regret to see it expose another editor to fine and imprisonment.

CHANGES OF LOCAL GOVERNORS, &c.

Governor Omori of Hyogo becomes Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, and is succeeded at Hyogo by Governor Hattori of Nagasaki, whose place at Nagasaki is given to Governor Arakawa of Kagawa Prefecture.

Mr. Suyehiro, formerly Governor of Iwate, becomes Governor of Kagawa *vice* Mr. Arakawa.

Governor Yamada goes from Fukushima to Saitama

Governor Arita, from Tokushima to Fukushima.

Governor Ogura, from Wakayama to Tokushima.

Mr. Fubaki, Secretary of Wakayama, becomes Governor of that Prefecture.

Mr. Kawaji, of the Police Police Department, becomes Governor of Gifu. Governor Tanaka goes from Gifu to the directorship of the Police Bureau in the Home Department.

Mr. Nakane, Councillor of the Administrative Court, becomes Director of the Local Affairs Bureau in the Home Department.

Governor Okimachi of Saitama is placed on the Retired List.

Mr. Shibata Kamon, Director of the Local Affairs Bureau in the Home Department, is placed on the Retired List.

Marquis Saionji has been appointed President of the Privy Council, which post was formerly held by Count Kuroda, and has also been entrusted with the duties of Minister President of State, pending Marquis Ito's recovery, which will probably be a matter of two weeks.

The following appointments, &c., are announced also:—

Professor Ume of the Imperial University to be under Secretary of State for Education.

Mr. Ishizuka Jyuhei, formerly a Manager of the Liberal Party, to be Parliamentary Under-Secretary of the Finance Department.

Mr. Kainō Kuzo, a Manager of the Seiyu-kai, to be Parliamentary Under-Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

Mr. Okazaki Kunisuke, who took a leading part in the organization of the Seiyu-kai, to be Parliamentary Under-Secretary of Communications.

Mr. Shiokawa Sanshiro to be Private Secretary of the Minister of Finance, *vice* Mr. Fukai Eigo (formerly of the *Kokumin Shimbun*).

Mr. Kashiwara Sajiro to be Councillor of the Department of Justice and Private Secretary of the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Minakami Umehiko, of the Naval Archives Bureau, to be Private Secretary to the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Okano Keijiro resigns his post of Parliamentary Under-Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

Mr. Furuichi Kintake resigns his post of Under-Secretary (Parliamentary) of Communications.

Mr. Hirayama Seishin resigns his post of Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Finance.

Mr. Kodera Shinsaku, hitherto First Secretary of Legation (Siam), and Consul, is appointed a Secretary of the Foreign Office.

Mr. Ishii Kikujiro, hitherto First Secretary of Legation (Peking), is appointed a Secretary of the Foreign Office.

Mr. Omaye Taizo is relieved of his post of First Secretary of Legation and retains his post of Secretary of the Foreign Office only.

Various minor appointments are announced also, but they would scarcely interest our readers.

Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro is appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Education. Mr. Shigeoka is a prominent member of the former Liberal Party. He studied law for several years in Germany, and enjoys the reputation of being a fine scholar.

Marquis Ito becomes President of the Codes Investigation Committee, *vice* Marquis Yamagata, and Baron Kaneko Kentaro becomes Vice-President. Mr Harada Juyei becomes Private Secretary of the Minister of Justice.

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CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, Oct. 27.

A body of troops has been despatched by the allies to the Ming Tombs, doubtless to protect them against desecration.

Wang Chi-chun, Governor of Anhui, has been appointed Viceroy of Szechuan. This is the official who proceeded to St. Petersburg during the China-Japan War, to bespeak the good offices of Russia, a mission which is supposed to have had much to do with the Liaotung *coup*.

The Chinese Court is said to have addressed an inquiry to the Viceroys with reference to the proper punishment to be meted out to the persons upon whom the Foreign Powers demand judgment. The reports that reach us on this subject are bewildering. A short time ago, we were informed that the Viceroys Chang, Liu, and Li, together with Governor Yuan, had memorialized the Throne in the sense that Prince Twan and General Kang should be decapitated. Now, we are told that the Court is seeking the advice of the same officials on the same subject.

Rumour says that an insurrection has broken out at Chi-yan in Shantung, and that Governor Yuan's troops show no disposition to attack the insurgents. Another outbreak is reported on the borders of Honan and Shensi, the rebels having their headquarters at Takung-shan, in Kwantung.

There is no appearance of any improvement in the state of affairs in Kwantung. The insurgents appear to be getting the better of the Imperial troops wherever any encounters take place between them. It should be noted, however, that no really trustworthy information is forthcoming, vague rumours alone reaching us at present.

The Tokyo *Asahi* publishes a telegram from St. Petersburg saying that the *Novoe Vremya* objects to the principle of the open door being applied to any part of the Chinese coast northward of the Peiho River. At that rate Newchwang would cease to be an open port. The Russian journal's objection reads curiously in the context of Russia's declaration of disinterestedness in Manchuria.

It is expected that a conference of the Foreign Representatives will soon assemble in Peking to discuss a list of demands for presentation to the Chinese Government. The schedule of six items put forward by France will be taken as a basis of discussion; namely, (1) that the ringleaders of the Boxers be duly punished; (2) that adequate indemnities be paid to the Powers; (3) that all exports of arms to China be interdicted, (4) that certain points of vantage be selected in North China; (5) that these places be occupied by foreign troops as a guarantee; and (6) that the Taku forts be demolished.

According to telegrams received from Berlin, the German press approves the Anglo-German agreement. The *Allgemeine Zeitung*, for example, says that the unique purpose of the compact is to secure equal advantages for all the Powers by keeping the Chinese markets open to their trade, and that it ought to conduce materially to the restoration of peace. What opinions these journals express about the contingency of some other Power's showing the cloven hoof, we do not learn.

Monday, Oct. 29.

There are said to be symptoms of dissatisfaction among the Allies in consequence of Russia's action with regard to the Yangtsaug and Shan-hai-kwan Railway. This is a matter that has been much commented on journalistically, but so far as concerns the portion of the Railway within the province of Chili—and that is the greater portion—of the section referred to we understand that Field Marshal Waldersee has the full control of the arrangements, and thus, whatever position Russia occupies on the line, must be with his consent. Indeed, the consciousness of that fact induces some people, it is said, to question whether Russia and Germany may not have some special understanding with a view to utilizing the occasion in their own interests, but we should have thought that all suspicions of that nature would have been completely dispelled by the recently concluded Anglo-German Agreement.

Sir Claude MacDonald left Peking on the 25th instant for his new post in Tokyo, where he will find the conditions of life very different from those to which he has been accustomed in Peking.

The Government of the United States, replying to the proposal of Germany and Great Britain that America should join the recently concluded agreement, is said to have expressed approval of the agreement, and to have suggested that before submitting a programme of peace proposals to China, a copy of the agreement should be placed in her hands, so as to give her a clear conception of the intentions of the Powers. That is a very excellent suggestion in one sense, but, after all, when the proceedings of the allied Powers are calmly considered, it must be confessed that they present a character quite unprecedented in international relations. China has been guilty of the grossest violations of her treaty pledges and of the cruelest outrages against the persons of foreign men, women and children whom she was bound by the conventions to protect; moreover, she has been engaged in warlike operations against the Powers; their troops are in military occupation of her capital province, and her Court is fugitive. Yet the prime purpose of the Powers seems to be to persuade her that no one has any intention of depriving her of any part of her possessions. Under ordinary circumstances, a country which had behaved in such a manner would be invited to give its attention to a heavy bill of costs, and the question of taking territory from it would be left for discussion according to its treatment of the bill. But in China's case the allied Powers are to begin by offering her a solemn assurance that she need not have any apprehension whatever as to the permanent consequences of her misdeeds, for no one intends to deprive her of any part of her empire. The Chinese are not wanting in psychological acuteness. They will easily recognise that these curious steps on the part of the Powers are not taken for the reasons ostensibly dictating them, and that when they offer to her solemn assurances of their purity of purpose, they are in reality addressing one another. The Anglo-German agreement has not the remotest motive of consideration for China. Its framers were not influenced for one moment by any benevolent purpose towards her. Their object was uniquely to avert trouble among the Allies over the division of the spoils. It would be carrying diplomatic simulation a little too far were their agreement presented to the Chinese Government as though it were drafted for her sake, nor can we clearly see that the success of the peace negotiations would be promoted by promising the Chinese plenipotentiaries before hand that, however obdurate they show themselves, they need not apprehend any seriously unpleasant results. The truth is that distrust of one another is driving the Allies to take some very unprecedented steps, and the less parade there is made of them, the better.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* says that the Anglo-German agreement is meeting with approval on all sides, and that the endorsement of the other Powers is almost certain. Russia has not yet made any reply, but her reticence is attributed to the absence of the Emperor from St. Petersburg.

In our last issue we published a report that the Chinese Court had addressed to the Viceroys and Governors a query as to how they would recommend the promoters of the Boxer movement to be punished, in view of the demand preferred by the foreign Powers. It is now alleged that some of the high officials to whom this query was addressed find themselves greatly embarrassed in replying, for they regard the question, not as a *bonâ fide* query from the Court, but as a device on the part of Prince Twan to sound their sentiments.

The Russians are extending their sphere of military occupation in Manchuria. The officer in command at Mukden is said to have sent a force against Kung-kin-ching, which was occupied without resistance, and the march is now being continued in the direction of Heilung. Further, the Kirin column, with the intention of opening communications with Mukden, has captured Ilmen and other places.

The deaths of General Kang Yi and ex-Viceroy Yü seem to have really taken place, and rumour is confident that they died by their own hands, foreseeing the hopelessness of escaping the consequences of their anti-foreign campaign. This news, combined with the fact that Prince Twan has not been permitted to accompany the Court to Singan, seems to indicate that the Chinese Government is sincerely resolved on punishing the instigators of the trouble. We may place in the same context the intelligence that the newly-appointed Manchu Governor of Hupeh hesitates to take up the duties of his post. His appointment seems to contradict the inferences suggested by the deaths of Kang and Yü and the disgrace of Twan, but it would appear, at all events, that he appreciates the uselessness of pursuing his reactionary policy.

Italy and Austria-Hungary are said to have declared their adhesion to the Anglo-German agreement. Japan also is believed to be willing to subscribe, but it is necessary for Japan to assure herself thoroughly as to the terms upon which her association is admitted.

There is a rumour that the Emperor of China has solicited the intervention of the King of Italy in the cause of peace. The ill-starred Kwang Hsü is going the round of his brother-sovereigns and heads of States. Another report is to the effect that Li Hung-chang has asked the Italian Government whether, in the event of the Court returning to Peking, the Italian troops would be withdrawn from that city, and has received a reply to the effect that the troops would leave Peking immediately on the entry of the Court.

Judging from the telegram received at the French Legation and also from news publish-

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ed in the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo*, the Kwantung rebels have not the sympathy of the people in the province. The French telegram merely tells us that the rebels have killed 2,000 villagers and burned their villages; but the *Jiji's* news is that the villagers attacked the rebels and were defeated, with the above result. Whether the people were sufficiently hostile to the insurgents to attack them, or the insurgents sufficiently hostile to the people to wantonly slaughter 2,000 of them, the inference is the same, namely, that the rebellion is unpopular. Two thousand regular troops are said to have been despatched to fight against the rebels.

A London telegram, embodying news from Berlin, says that Germany has signified her adoption of Japan's proposal that the basis of a settlement with China should be fixed by preliminary discussion among the Foreign Representatives in Peking.

The Chinese troops which were quartered at Paoting prior to the Allies' movement against that place, seem to be retreating steadily into the interior, and placing as wide an interval as possible between themselves and the foreign forces. The Boxers also are dispersing in all directions, but unfortunately the peaceful inhabitants of Chili are said to be equally indisposed to remain in their homes. They fly at the first sight of a foreign reconnaissance.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a telegram to the effect that the disposition shown by Prince Ching and Viceroy Li to consult Sir Robert Hart about the terms of peace and the steps of the negotiations, has given much offence to the Representatives of Russia and France, whereas the other Foreign Ministers raise no objection whatever, and the United States Minister openly approves of Sir Robert's assistance being sought.

There is a report that the Russians have applied to Marshal Waldersee to allow them to take entire charge of Shan-hai-kwan, the flags of all the other Powers being lowered, and that the Field Marshal has given his consent. We do not believe a word of it.

Tuesday, Oct. 30.

It would seem that the principal Chinese officials, outside those forming the immediate *entourage* of the Court, are earnestly endeavouring to bring about the return of the Emperor and Empress Dowager to Peking. No less than six memorials are said to have reached the Throne, all urging their Majesties to take that step. The Court officials, however, many of whom probably feel that their conduct during the recent troubles constitutes a record not easy to efface, are placing obstacles in the way of the return project, and are said to be representing that the imperial personages would be imperilled if they placed themselves within reach of the allied forces. Prince Ching and Viceroy Li are sedulously endeavouring to combat these misrepresentations, but although they insist in their memorials that no hope of restoring peace can be entertained unless the Court returns, there are not yet any signs that their advice will be accepted. From the other direction it is alleged that Viceroys Liu and Chang have addressed the Throne in the sense that the delay in concluding peace is furnishing an opportunity for agitators to spread a propaganda of insurrection, and that unless the Court returns speedily to Peking and effects some settlement with the foreign Powers, the whole empire is likely to fall into a state of unrest and disorder. Assailed from so many directions, the Court ought to yield, but it is impossible not to appreciate the objections their Majesties must see to returning to Peking so long as the city is occupied by foreign troops. They may well reflect, especially if they judge by Chinese standards, that from the moment they place their persons within the power of foreign forces, they make unconditional surrender of the whole situation, for if, after their return to Peking, they find it impossible to accept the terms of peace dictated by the allied Powers, the inevitable issue would be a renewal of military operations. In that event, could the Court hope to escape again from Peking, the city being occupied and its gates guarded by hostile troops? Leading Japanese statesmen are understood to be convinced that the return of the Court is an essential preliminary to a successful peace conference, but that the withdrawal of the allied forces is an essential preliminary to the return of the Court, and that if the latter were publicly made conditional on the former, all danger of misconstruction by the Chinese nation would be averted. But it is evident that the question bristles with difficulties.

Wednesday, Oct. 31.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent telegraphs that the Foreign Representatives have agreed upon a basis of negotiation with China, and that the terms are as follows:—

1. The payment of an indemnity of 400 million taels within the space of 6 years.
2. The placing of the *likin* collection and the Customs Dues under foreign management.
3. The foreign troops to quit Peking and the Imperial Court to return thither.
4. Prince Twan to be imprisoned for life.
5. The Powers to keep 2,000 troops in Peking.
6. The Powers to retain permanent possession of Tientsin.
7. The privilege of trade to be openly granted to the subjects and citizens of the Powers in every part of China.
8. The Powers not to allow any import of arms into China.

It is not possible to place absolute reliance on the accuracy of this report, but there is no apparent reason to doubt it. With regard to *likin*, we presume that the idea is to commute it wholly in consideration of an additional payment at the port of entry, for the task of organizing stations for collecting it in the interior of the empire would be stupendous. At all events, if the *likin* and the customs dues—the latter being revised—can be fully applied to the purposes of a foreign loan, China should have no difficulty in obtaining 400 million taels. We are sincerely glad to see that Prince Twan's imprisonment alone is to be demanded. The Chinese Government may possibly be induced to agree to that measure, but his execution would be out of the question. On the other hand, the proposal for the permament tenure of Tientsin by the Powers appears an almost fantastic scheme. Is it really contemplated that a mixed garrison of Russians, Germans, French, Japanese, Italians, Americans, Austrians, Dutch and Belgians should be stationed there? That item will require a great deal of explanation. We suspect that it represents the make-weight of the programme, and that it will be quietly sacrificed by-and-by.

Marshal Waldersee is said to have issued orders that the allied forces should disperse the Boxers throughout all the regions on the left bank of the Peiho. In compliance with that instruction, a Russian force has proceeded from Shan-hai-kwan towards Yuh-tien-hsien; a German force from Lutai in the same direction; a French force from Tung-chow to San-ho-hsien, and a Japanese force from Tientsin to Hoshi-wu. We have already had news that the Japanese reached their destination without finding any Boxers and that they were welcomed by the inhabitants *en route*.

The Field Marshal is reported to have contemplated the despatch of an expedition to Chin-teng also—a place between Paoting and Ta-yuen—where some foreign missionaries were believed to be in a perilous condition. But it appears that the Chinese officials have afforded due protection to these missionaries, and in consideration of that fact, as well as of the near opening of the peace negotiations, the Field Marshal has abandoned the idea of an expedition.

The Five Princes—Chwang, I, Tsai-lien, Mai-luh, and Tsai-yuen—are in a parlous position, if telegrams from China may be credited. They have not yet been impeached by the Viceroys or the Censors, but they are said to be charged with the somewhat indefinite crime of having behaved in a "non-illustrious manner" in connexion with recent events, and an imperial edict has removed them from the neighbourhood of the Throne. At the same time, the Court has addressed Prince Ching in the sense that if the penalty is not deemed sufficient, he had better send in a memorial of impeachment.

A force of 2,500 men has just reached Vladivostock from Odessa, and additional troops are expected to follow shortly. These men are intended to fill up vacancies in the garrisons throughout eastern Manchuria as far as Kirin. Apparently the Russian basic line of operations throughout the winter, is to be from Vladivostock to Port Arthur and Newchwang.

Thursday, Nov. 1.

Teleg rams received in Tokyo allege that in addition to the proposals already published in these columns as having been formulated by the Foreign Representatives in Council, there are three others; namely, that each Viceroy and Governor should be required to employ a foreign adviser; that Manchu officials should be disqualified to act as Viceroys or Governors; and that China should be called on to suppress the Boxers within 3 months, Manchuria being restored to her within the course of the following 3 months. If these proposals are correctly stated, which we doubt most emphatically, they must be denounced as very unreasonable and, at the same time, unpractical. What would be the use of forcing foreign advisers upon the Viceroys and Governors? They might employ them, no doubt, and probably would do so if such a proceeding were essential to the restoration of peace. But who could ensure that advisers engaged under such conditions would be put to any use whatever? They would be mere figure-heads. Truly it appears that some Occidentals find it very difficult to regard a Chinaman as a being endowed with the ordinary sentiments of humanity. Conceive the notion of English Colonial Governors or Lord Lieutenants being compelled to engage Chinese advisers? Would they consult the advisers or pay the remotest deference to any opinion the advisers might be disposed to volunteer? Then, as to the idea that Manchus are to be disqualified for acting as Viceroys or Governors—the present dynasty of China is Manchu. The Emperor himself is a Manchu. Are the occupants of the Throne to be required to declare themselves unfit to hold the principal administrative posts in the empire they govern, and is it conceivable that after the world had imposed that disqualifi-

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cation on them at the point of the sword, they could still command the obedience and reverence of their own people? Such proposals seem to us to be the suggestions not of calm reflection but of unreasoning passion, and we repeat that we do not believe they have been formulated.

Japan has joined the Anglo-German agreement. She has not merely signified her willingness to adhere to it, but she has also obtained a clear understanding that she enters as a full participator in all the conditions. This, of course, has special reference to the third clause of the agreement, the clause which says that "should any other Power attempt to utilize the present complications to obtain territorial advantages in any form, the High Contracting Parties agree to come to a preliminary understanding as to the eventual steps which should be taken for the protection of their own rights and interests in China." The gist of the agreement lies in that clause, for it means that the signatories of the agreement will not adopt in China any measures, whether of territorial aggrandisement or otherwise, without mutual consent. In fact, any Power signing the agreement without reservations on the part of England and Germany, secures to itself an equal voice in the final settlement of all Chinese questions. Japan, while fully approving of the spirit and purpose of the agreement, was naturally careful to assure herself as to the exact interpretation that would be put on her adhesion before she appended her signature, and the steps necessary for obtaining that assurance seem to have involved some delay.

Baron Nishi has been allowed to resign his position because of ill-health. The Baron was constantly confined to his house during his tenure of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, and his appointment to Peking was regarded by his friends as a doubtful experiment, in view of his impaired constitution. The hardships of the siege seem to have weakened him greatly, and rest is prescribed as absolutely necessary. Mr. Komura, now Japanese Representative in St. Petersburg, has been nominated to succeed him. It is an excellent appointment. Mr. Komura has shown himself to be a man of remarkable ability and vigour. Moreover, he possesses quite exceptional knowledge of Chinese affairs. It would not have been possible, we think, to make a happier choice.

A telegram received by the Tokyo *Asahi* from Berlin says that the German Diet has just passed the Kiao-chow Budget. The ordinary expenditure is put at 11,050,000 marks, of which amount the Imperial Treasury gives 10,050,000 marks; and the extraordinary expenditure stands at 6,575,000 marks, the continuing expenditures being 4,383,395 marks. Harbour improvement figures for 3,385,000 marks; public constructions are put at 1,590,000, and residential buildings at 30,000 marks. Thus the whole amount of ordinary and extraordinary expenditures is 17,635,000 marks, or £881,250. Kiao-chow is an expensive acquisition.

THE PEST.

Another case of pest is reported from the South District of Osaka. A child is the sufferer.

Two fresh cases—both women—of pest are reported from Osaka. The southern ward of the city is the scene of this new outbreak.

THE TOKYO CITY COUNCIL SCANDALS.

The charges preferred by the *Mainichi Shimbun* against three members of the Tokyo City Assembly have created much excitement in Tokyo. The *Mainichi's* accusation was that three persons had taken bribes in connexion with the purchase of lead pipes for the Water Works, but it is now alleged that in reality they "cooked" the accounts, changing a sum of fourteen thousand *yen* into seventeen thousand and pocketing the difference. The citizens of Kanda, Ushigome and Kyobashi, to which districts the incriminated members belong, have held meetings, and passed resolutions that unless legal proceedings are instituted against the newspaper publishing the charges, the constituencies will draw their own conclusions. Meanwhile the *Mainichi Shimbun* has another editorial couched in flaming language—language so violent, indeed, that the affair is dragged down to a very low level and deprived of all semblance of moderation. However, if the charge is established, no one will quarrel with the *Mainichi's* manner of preferring it.

This scandal is growing in dimensions. It is now alleged that Mr. Hoshi Toru some time ago made investigations which convinced him that not only in the matter of lead-pipes, where a theft of 3,000 *yen* had been effected, but in other directions also a system of pretty peculation had been going on. In consideration of this scandal, Mr. Hoshi proposed that the allowance of the examining committee of the Council should be suspended, and he has now proposed that the Council should resign *en bloc*, so that, by re-election, it may be purged of corrupt elements. This second proposal has been unanimously approved. Opposition journals contend that Mr. Hoshi's method will have the effect of covering up the tracks of the offenders, since if all resign, the public can not discriminate. But that is surely a somewhat extravagant view.

Discussing this matter, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Shogyo Shimpo* speak in a remarkably similar strain. They allege that the citizens of Tokyo shrink from the trouble of discharging the duties of city assemblymen or councillors, and that they are satisfied to abandon those posts to low adventurers, who seek office solely for the sake of the surreptitious gains connected with it. It is most unfortunate for the city that the control of its affairs should be in the hands of such men, at a time when there is question of spending immense sums on harbour construction, drainage, street improvement and other enterprises.

The question of bribery in Tokyo is about to be brought before the Courts. Mr. Kai Shozo has lodged a complaint against the incriminated members of Council, Messrs. Ota, Minada and Mineo. The document states that these three Councillors demanded a sum of money from the Lead Pipe Company, and that, upon the latter's objecting that its estimates had been made too accurately to permit any such expenditures, the councillors suggested the device of amending the estimates, which had been presented on June the 19th. The Company complied, the estimates were withdrawn, and their figure having been altered from 104,207 *yen* to 107,875 *yen*, they were re-submitted on July 2nd, and passed by the City Council on July 3rd, the added sum of 3,368 *yen* being subsequently paid over to the three councillors. The facts that the estimates were withdrawn and amended, are recorded in the proceedings of the City Council, but the only proof furnished by Mr. Kai Shozo of his charge against the councillors is the allegations published by the *Mainichi Shimbun*. He appends two copies of that journal to his petition, and explicitly refers to them as evidence. It seems to us quite plain that the public procurator can not possibly institute proceedings on such testimony. Meanwhile the City Council is divided in opinion. One party supports Mr. Hoshi Toru's view that the whole council should resign *en masse*; the other takes a line which appears to us to be much more rational, namely, that no resignations should be tendered until the persons really culpable have been determined.

Mr. Hoshi Toru has carried his point. On the 29th instant, a meeting of the Tokyo City Assembly was held, when, after some discussion, it was finally decided that the whole council should resign *en bloc*. Mr. Hoshi said that he had failed to discover any evidence of the act attributed to three of the members, but that after such an accusation had been preferred openly, the most dignified course would be for the whole body to resign. He took occasion—if the *Jiji Shimpo's* report may be credited—to declare that no reliance whatever could be placed in what appeared in newspaper columns, and he insisted that the resignation of the Council was not to be interpreted as any acknowlegement of guilt on the part of its members. The Assembly adopted his proposal, accepted the resignations *en bloc*, and then proceeded to elect a new Council. Mr. Hoshi and four of the old councillors were re-elected, but the three incriminated men as well as three others did not appear on the new list.

FEMININE NOBILITY.

A report compiled by the Missionaries themselves and therefore to be taken as a correct account of the proceedings of the General Conference of Missions, represents Miss S. A. Searle of Kobe as saying:—"In Japan we see many beautiful and gentle women but few noble women." We persume that Miss Searle's essay was sufficiently explicit to enable her hearers to understand what she meant by "noble women," but the meagre report furnished to the newspapers contains no information on that point. We may be doing Miss Searle an injustice, but her statement sounds to us like one of those glib generalizations that betray more force of diction that strength of reflection. What are the qualities that constitute nobility in a woman? Are they modesty, unwearied patience in the presence of trial or suffering, unselfishness, readiness to make any sacrifice in the interest of husband or children, remarkable freedom from vanity in every form, conjugal fidelity in a much higher degree than the annals of most other nations show, cheerfulness under privation and a lofty sense of family honour? If Miss Searle has failed to detect these qualities in Japanese women, the fault lies with her own defective observation. We confess that we have only a very vague idea of what she means when she speaks of "developing symmetrical Christian womanhood," but we have no hesitation in saying that if she and her colleagues are guided by the impression that nobility is seldom to be found among Japanese women, they greatly mistake the nature of the people among whom their work lies.

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M. DELCASSÉ'S VIEW.

A telegram received in Tokyo says that M. Delcassé has put forward a view already expressed in these columns. His Excellency affirms that nothing like calm dispassionate treatment of the Chinese question can be expected from the Foreign Representatives in Peking, who have been through all the hardships of the siege, and have had intimate experience of the shocking events connected with the Boxer outrages. He considers, therefore, that the settlement of terms should not be left to these diplomats, but that each point should be decided by the home Governments. This proposition of the French Foreign Minister breathes an admirable spirit. The public has already been able to gather from telegrams sent from Peking to London how strongly the resentment of those shut up in the city from the close of June to the middle of August was roused by the pains and perils of the siege, and what wholesale ideas of vengeance they entertained at the close. It is only natural that the Foreign Representatives should share the sentiments of their nationals, and that their dominant wish should be punishment and retaliation. M. Delcassé's objection is therefore worthy of the fine spirit shown by him in every department of France's foreign affairs since he came into office. Yet, we must confess that this difficulty causes a feeling of despair. What is to be the end of it all? The situation grows more and more hopeless. From many points of view the Foreign Representatives in Peking are obviously best qualified to discuss and suggest the steps that should be taken for restoring peace; nevertheless, as Mr. Delcassé truly says, to entrust them with plenipotentiary powers would be like deputing one of the parties to a deadly quarrel to decide upon the rights and wrongs of the contest. It is the duty of the Powers to constitute a tribunal which shall at least present the appearance of justice. On the other hand, if every point in the bases of negotiation is to be made the subject of discussion by the Governments of Europe, America and Japan, the problem will be interminable. There is, of course, the alternative of appointing a special tribunal in Europe, or better still, in Tokyo, but if new men are to be commissioned to compose it, we have at once a delay of several months. The only practical plan seems to be that the Foreign Representatives in Peking should elaborate a scheme of negotiation for approval by the home Governments, and that no plenipotentiary power should be given to any commissioners until the Governments have agreed upon the irreducible minimum of their demands. Meanwhile, there is the other difficulty, namely, that the credentials of Prince Ching and Viceroy Li are insufficient, since they do not carry the great seal, which is in the keeping of Prince Twan, whose execution or imprisonment for life is clamoured for by so many foreigners. Certainly an Ædipus is required to thread this labyrinth.

Another telegram represents M. Delcassé as having expressed full approval of Japan's proposal that the duty of negotiating should be entrusted to the Foreign Representatives in Peking. His Excellency is said to have characterized that method as the natural and most practical plan. From this we infer that M Delcassé merely advocates the expediency of withholding plenipotentiary power from the Representatives until the proposals recommended by them have received the full approval of the home Governments.

RUSSIA'S ATTITUDE.

The *Chiugai Shogyo*, which, as we have more than once remarked, has an excellent correspondent in London, publishes a telegram to the effect that Russia objects *in toto* to the proposal that a revision of the commercial treaty in the sense of granting greater liberty of trade and the placing of the customs under foreign control shall be among the conditions of restoring peace to China. The statesmen of St. Petersburg are understood to maintain that Great Britain would be the chief gainer by such arrangements, and that they would probably have the ultimate effect of converting China into a second Egypt. It can not be denied that such a thought might naturally present itself to Russia. Plainly if China is to be helped to obtain money for the payment of an indemnity and if her customs dues as well as the *likin* and the salt tax are hypothecated as security, being placed for that purpose under foreign control, England is pretty sure to lend the money and to have chief place on the board of control. That result could not be pleasant for Russia, and modern Englishmen must fully appreciate her sentiment. But, after all, what is to be done? Money has to be found somewhere, and if England, owing to the industry and enterprise of her people, happens to be in the best position for lending money and also to be in the best position for taking advantage of any new tradal concessions obtained from China, it is unreasonable to suppose that she is to be debarred from enjoying the fruits of her efforts merely because of the jealousy of another Power, which occupies a lower place in the ranks of progress and material prosperity. An objection of that nature coming from St Petersburg argurs ill for the success of the peace negotiations. It means, we presume, that if Germany and England insist on following the line of least resistance in arranging terms of peace, Russia will stand aloof, and negotiate on her own account, or will pretext the unequal division of advantages as a reason for holding Manchuria permanently. In that event, the Anglo-German agreement, now endorsed by so many Powers, will acquire very practical significance. We think, however, that all these accounts of proposals and objections must be received with much reserve.

SOUTH AFRICA.

It seems plain that the Boers are making a last strong struggle for their lost cause. Two special reasons probably inspire their renewed activity. One is the advent of spring, which relieves them of all embarassment on the score of fodder, so that campaigning becomes a kind of picnic; the other is the visit of Kruger to Europe. Doubtless the old man's effort to procure the intervention of foreign States is viewed with hope by many of his fellow-burghers, and it may well be that some arrangement was planned before he left the Transvaal for organizing such an display in the field as should convey the impression of a large residuum of resisting force. That more bloodshed should be necessary is a painful fact, but we confess that we have always anticipated some rejuvenation of Boer energy at the opening of spring. The tenacious courage of these burghers is worthy of all praise. Its fruitlessness does not render it the less picturesque If Kruger had not resorted to wholesale lying for the purpose of keeping up the spirits of his nationals, he would stand out as a grand figure on the pages of history

KOREA.

It is reported from Korea that a French syndicate is prepared to furnish the money for building the Söul-Wiju railway, but the people circulating these rumours do not take the trouble to inform us how the syndicate is to obtain a charter for the line. The charter was originally granted to Frenchmen, it is true, but they suffered it to lapse, not discovering any financial inducement to undertake the work. In resuming the charter, the Korean Government announced its resolve not to grant any more railway concessions to foreigners, and it subsequently made that resolve a pretext for refusing other applications. It is not impossible that if the French used their influence they could obtain a renewal of the charter, but we want to know something about that before we credit the story that they are going to build the line. Meanwhile the Americans are said to be contemplating an extension of the electric railway to Kaisong

From Korea comes intelligence that the revival of the Söul-Wiju railway question is connected with a loan which the Korean Government in anxious to raise. The Korean Government appears to be in a chronic state of anxiety to float loans, but its success is not proportionate to its appetite. There was, it is said, a project of pledging the customs dues, but Mr. McLeavy Brown put in an objection. Then the mines came upon the tapis, but here also difficulties presented themselves. Now it is the Söul-Wiju Railway. We do not gather, however, that the railway charter is to be given to a foreign syndicate. The plan is to pledge the line, obtain a loan of 5 million *yen*, and spend 2 millions building the road as far as Kaisong, the remaining 3 millions being appropriated to meet the Treasury's requirements in other directions. Can any foreign capitalists be found to advance money on such terms?

THE MEMORIAL MUSEUM.

It has been decided, we read in the Tokyo newspapers, that the Fine Arts Museum in commemoration of the Prince Imperial's marriage, will be erected in Uyeno Park, on a spot called Take-no-dai. The idea hitherto was that the Hibiya Park would be chosen, but we dare say that those charged with the management of the affair did not see much to tempt them in a site which as yet bears not the faintest resemblance to a park. As to funds, the amount actually subscribed is 410,000 *yen*, of which 10,000 having been needed for expenses, there remains only 400,000, whereas the building is estimated to cost 500,000. It is calculated, however, that since 5 years will be required for the work, and since the outlay during the first three years will be covered by 200,000 *yen*, the remaining 200,000 can be lodged in the banks at 7 per cent., giving an additional sum of 42,000 *yen* and leaving only fifty or sixty thousand of a deficit. The Minister of the Household Department is said to have been applied to on the subject, and to have answered that, although he could not speak in his capacity of Minister about events three years hence, he might venture to say that if he were then in office, the deficit would probably be made good from the Imperial Treasury. The work will therefore be commenced shortly. But we do not hear anything about the furnishing of the museum. Apparently no funds are to be reserved for that very necessary purpose.

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THE CHINESE COURT AND CAPITAL.

The decree issued by the Chinese Court in reply to memorials urging its return to Peking, is almost plaintive in tone :—

At present Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang are in Peking with the purpose of opening negotiations for peace with the Ministers of the Foreign Powers, which have not yet, however, begun; while foreign troops hold the various parts of the capital, making it difficult for both officials and well-behaved people to go about at ease. Hence we would ask, how we are to be treated if the Court suddenly returns to Peking? But only let the Foreign Powers show sincerity in their desire for peace, let them not take away our independence of action or forcibly insist on our performing those things which we cannot do, then, as soon as the negotiations are carried out, we will surely issue, on that very day, notice of the day of departure of the Court back to Peking. Our present journey to Hsian was originally intended as a temporary measure, concerning which we have already clearly given due notice by a former decree. This was a step which force of circumstances compelled us to undergo with all its troubles and sufferings to ourselves. And this we feel sure all our officials and people throughout the empire clearly know and sympathise with. Hence we feel surprise that the said memorialists with all their weight of years and experience in governing the empire should not consider these circumstances. It is our earnest hope therefore, that our Viceroys, etc., carefully guard the frontiers of their several jurisdictions and diligently send us supplies (during our absence from the capital).

Their Majesties may well ask how they are to be treated if they return to Peking while the city is still in the hands of foreign troops. They can not return. It is idle to talk of Field Marshal Waldersee's guaranteeing them safe conduct. He may guarantee them safe conduct for the purpose of their return, but is he prepared to guarantee that they will be allowed to quit the city unopposed in the event of the peace negotiations' failure? Truly it appears to us that the unpracticality shown by the foreign Powers in dealing with the Chinese problem is very wonderful. When has it been heard of in history that the Sovereign of a belligerent Power consented to place himself in the hands of his enemies before terms of peace had been arranged? The idea is preposterous. If the invitation to return to Peking is seriously intended, it must be accompanied by an engagement that the foreign troops will be withdrawn previously.

The Court equally commands our sympathy when it says :—"Let not the Foreign Powers forcibly insist on our performing things that we can not do" Foremost among these things is the execution of Prince Twan, Generals Tung and Kang, and other high personages. It is astonishing to note the reception that was given in Europe to Germany's proposal that China should be required to surrender the chief instigators for capital punishment by the Powers. An universal shout of applause was raised. The proposal was considered to "mark a distinct step forward in the Chinese question"; Germany was congratulated on being "the first to announce a policy in this respect worthy of a great nation," and her demand was characterized as "just and politic." But of all the publicists that discussed her remarkable proposal, not one seems to have paused to reflect whether China could be expected to accede to it, or what steps the Powers would take in the event of her refusing to accede. Even *The Times*, generally so shrewd in its judgments, after penning nearly a column in support and applause of Germany's idea, proceeded calmly to adduce evidence that the Empress Dowager herself encouraged the Boxers, and failed apparently to perceive that if she did so, nothing could be more fatuous than to demand from a Court where the Empress Dowager is supreme the surrender of her own confederates for execution by foreign Powers. Whether Emperor William or Count von Bülow suggested the proposal we can not tell, but whichever did so must have a very rudimentary knowledge of China and the Chinese. Many Europeans evidently regard the people of the Middle Kingdom as a savage tribe to which any kind of terms may be dictated without serious difficulty in enforcing them. What astonishes us above all is the fact, which until now we deemed incredible, that the Foreign Representatives in Peking have endorsed the execution theory and maintain that all these high dignitaries should be decapitated, and that their execution ought to be made an essential preliminary to entertaining any peace proposals. These gentlemen, were they not temporarily blinded by the vividness of the events through which they have just passed, ought to know very well how impossible their proposal is, to say nothing of its injustice.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

The text of the Anglo-German agreement is given as follows in the columns of the *Japan Times* :—

"The Imperial German Government and Her Britannic Majesty's Government being desirous to maintain their interests in China and their rights under existing treaties, have agreed to observe the following principles in regard to their mutual policy in China :—

"First :—It is a matter of joint and permanent International interest that the ports on the rivers and littoral of China should remain free and open to trade and to every other legitimate form of economic activity for the nationals of all countries without distinction, and the two Governments agree on their part to uphold the same for all Chinese territory, as far as they can exercise influence.

"Second :—The Imperial German Government and Her Britannic Majesty's Government will not on their part make use of the present complications to obtain for themselves any territorial advantages in Chinese Dominions, and will direct their policy towards maintaining undiminished the territorial condition of the Chinese Empire.

"Third :—In case of another Power making use of the complications in China in order to obtain, under any form whatever, such territorial advantages, the two contracting parties reserve to themselves to come to a preliminary understanding as to eventual steps to be taken for the protection of their own interests in China.

"Fourth :—The two Governments will communicate this agreement to the other Powers interested, and especially to Austria-Hungary, France, Italy, Japan, Russia, and the United States of America, and will invite them to accept the principles recorded in it."

Now that the exact terms of the contract are before us, we observe that it confirms the view already taken of it in these columns on the evidence of the telegraphic summary. The signatories of the document do not bind themselves to take any active measures for the preservation of China's integrity. They will merely "direct their policy" to that end. Of course, such a declaration has great force. We do not underestimate its value. But it appears to us that any Power which does not sign the agreement need not apprehend military obstacles from the signatories even though it take the step deprecated by the agreement. What the agreement will certainly effect is to separate the sheep from the goats, and to pledge its signatories to amicable cooperation in any steps that they may consider essential for the protection of their own interests

BURNING OF THE SAISEI-GAKKO.

A fire broke out in the dissecting room of Dr. Hasegawa's School in the Hongo district of Tokyo on the 31st ultimo, and three buildings were destroyed.

THE FRENCH PROPOSALS.

[Published by the Foreign Office.]

The French Government reeently put forward a series of proposals intended to form the bases of demands to be presented to the Chinese Government by the allied Powers. These proposals were communicated to the Government of Japan by the French Representative in Tokyo on the 5th of October. They were as follows :—

(1) The chief instigators of the Boxer riots to be indicated by the Foreign Representatives in Peking and duly punished.

(2) All import of arms into China to be permanently interdicted.

(3) The Chinese Government to be required to pay a suitable indemnity to foreign States, companies and individuals.

(4) A permanent force to be organised in Peking for guarding the Legations.

(5) The Taku Ports to be destroyed.

(6) Garrisons to be posted at two or three points between Peking and Tientsin for the purpose of securing free communications from one city to the other.

The Government of Japan expressed its concurrence with these proposals in the main, but pointed out that a permanent veto on the import of arms into China would prevent the Government of that country from restoring and preserving order, and from properly discharging its conventional duty of affording security to the property and persons of foreigners Further, that the organization of a single force out of materials drawn from troops having different tactical systems and speaking different languages would present many difficulties, and it would therefore be more advisable that each Legation should have a guard of its own nationals, the strength of such guards being determined by the Powers in consultation.

On the 17th of October the Government of Japan, through the medium of its Representatives in foreign countries, conveyed to the Governments of England, Russia, Germany, France, Austria-Hungary, Italy and the United States, a proposal that, as it would be expedient to have a distinct preliminary agreement about the details of the demands presented to China, the Foreign Representatives in Peking should be constituted a committee of investigation to draw up a basis of negotiation. Were this plan adopted, the demands presented to China would have the unanimous endorsement of the Powers, and the progress of the negotiations would thus be greatly facilitated.

The French Government, through its Representative in Tokyo, communicated to the Japanese Government, on the 20th of October, that in consideration of suggestions made by the Powers, the French proposal had been modified, and it was now desired that each Power should convey to its Representative in Peking instructions to submit this proposal in an identical note to the Chinese peace commissioners. The modified proposal was as follows :—

(1) The same as before.

(2) The import of arms into China to be interdicted in accordance with a system determined by the Powers after consultation.

(3) The same as before.

(4) Each of the Legations in Peking to have a guard permanently stationed there for its protection.

(5) The same as before.

(6) The same as before, with the addition of a provision that the posts to be garrisoned shall be chosen by the Powers after consultation.

It was evident from the above that the French Government had given full effect to

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the suggestions made by Japan, but as there remained Japan's proposal for a preliminary consultation among the Foreign Representatives in Peking, the Japanese Government signified its approval of the amended French basis provided that its own proposal was attached. The French Government, however, pointing out that, as could be seen from the terms of the altered basis, full consideration had been given to Japan's suggestions, requested that Japan should instruct her Minister in Peking to present the amended basis in a note identical with that addressed by the other Ministers to the Chinese Commissioners. The Japanese Government, although sensible of the importance of giving effect to its own suggestion with regard to a preliminary investigation by the Foreign Representatives in conference, nevertheless complied with France's desire, being of the opinion that such a course would conduce to the entente between the Powers and thus promote the progress of the negotiations. The condition was added, however, that the Representatives of all the Powers must take the same step.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE SITUATION.

Count Okuma—speaking through the columns of the *Kokumin Shimbun*—thinks that Russia will not take the lead in territorial aggression in China. He interprets her policy to be guided by the principle of always seeking a decent pretext. Her material gains in the Far East have been made by taking advantage of the violence and aggression of other Powers, and stepping in herself to save situations which she ultimately converted to her own advantage with much show of justification and propriety. Russia then being unwilling to adopt a prominent part as aggressor, and the other Powers being disposed to follow the Anglo-German example of pledging themselves to a non-aggressive policy, China's integrity will probably be preserved. On the other hand, a fate something like that of Turkey seems to threaten her. The Powers will assume a sort of protectorate over her. They will thrust aside the conservative elements among her administrators and elevate men of liberal principles, and they will attach foreign advisers to the latter, so that the control of affairs will be virtually directed from aboad. Count Okuma is perplexed to understand why China should be so reluctant to adopt the civilization of the Occident. Chinese philosophy is essentially cosmopolitan. Japan, brought up at the feet of the same ethical teachers, had no difficulty in adapting herself to the ways of the West. In Turkey's case Mahommedanism was a fatal obstacle, but neither Buddhism nor Confucianism should have any such tendency.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

The wind has been effectually taken out of the sails of the National Unionists by the Anglo-German agreement, and by Japan's adhesion to it. Their policy of preserving China's independence is now secured so far as any security can be obtained without recourse to heroic measures. The Unionists are not convinced, however, that their *metier* is over. The journalists espousing their cause have held a meeting, and have decided that while fully endorsing the Government's action in signing the agreement, they must now exert themselves to see that there is no departure from the terms of the contract. Some amusement is shown by the *Kokumin* and the *Nichi Nichi* with reference to this action of the journalists. And, indeed, it is not without a comical side. For when the National Unionists pledge themselves to keep the Government of Japan up to the level of its engagements in such a matter, they appear to forget that their country is now one of a band of Powers engaged to act together, and that the problem has been placed under the control of considerations which are not likely to be at all influenced by the movements of any petty political party or small association of journalists.

THE CHINESE PLENIPOTENTARIES AND THE EXECUTION PROPOSAL.

The telegraph (*Asahi Shimbun*) tells us that Prince Ching and Viceroy Li have objected to the decision of the Foreign Representatives in Peking with regard to the execution of Prince Twan, General Tung, General Tang, Prince I, and the rest. The Chinese Commissioners are said to have urged that such a decision, if submitted to the Court, would effectually deter their Majesties from returning to Peking, and to have further argued that the punishment of these men should be left to the independent judgment of the Throne. They have asked the United States Representative to use his good offices in the matter, and we sincerely trust that he will, if only for the sake of history's verdict. We wonder whether Sir Ernest Satow was a consenting party to this extraordinary decision. He and the new German Representative were not shut up in Peking during the siege of the Legations, and can not therefore be supposed to feel the burning resentment which has betrayed their colleagues into such an intemperate resolution. The German Minister, however, is peculiarly circumstanced. His sense of right must be more or less obscured by the shadow of Baron von Ketteler's fate and by the vehement language of his Sovereign. Sir Ernest Satow, therefore, is the only one among the Representatives that can approach the problem with a perfectly calm and unwarped judgment We shall be astounded and disappointed to learn that his voice has been raised to swell the unreasonable and unpractical hue and cry.

THE TAMURA JAIL.

The barristers sent by the Barristers' Association to accompany the committee of investigation despatched by the Department of Justice, have published a report of the state of affairs found at Tamura jail in Yamanashi Prefecture. We learn from the report that the complaint as to insufficient space was not well founded: the arrangements allowed an area of 2½ mats to 5 persons, which is the usual computation, though it must be confessed that men are pretty closely packed when two are required to sleep in a space only 3 feet wide. However, the real abuses were bad ventilation and insufficient exercise. The rooms were dark and close, and it was found that, since July last, the inmates had been allowed into the open air only once. Three times per half-year seemed to be the maximum of access to fresh air and exercise. In cases where ventilation existed, the rooms were open to the elements. The mats were in a decayed condition. Forty-one persons were confined awaiting trial, and 15 of them were suffering from the same illness, namely, swellings of the glands, obviously due to foul air and damp. Of four men who had been released a short time previously on bail, three had died within a very brief space, and the fourth declared that he would rather commit suicide than re-enter the jail. The barristers condemn the police and the jail officials in the strongest terms, alleging that they would not take the smallest trouble on behalf of the prisoners, and that if the latter were guilty of any offence, they were beaten. They add that the number of judicial officials in the place is quite insufficient, which accounts for the delay in disposing of cases. It is possible that this report may be exaggerated, but it proves how necessary was the transfer of prison expenditures to the Central Government. It proves, also, that the latter has not properly discharged the responsibility thus assumed by it.

THE SOCIAL EVIL.

The recent legislation for securing greater liberty of action to inmates of brothels, has already produced remarkable results. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, which, having taken a prominent part in the campaign, has naturally watched the consequences, says that the following figures show the number of women who abandoned their life of shame during September and October in the two districts of Yoshiwara and Susaki:

	September.	October.
Yoshiwara	52	135
Susaki	11	49
Totals	63	184

This shows a total of 247 women, the greater part, if the not the whole, of whom owe their deliverance to the movement inaugurated by the Rev. U. G. Murphy in Nagoya, carried on by the Salvation Army, and the journals *Niroku Shimbun* and *Mainichi Shimbun* in Tokyo, and consummated by the action of the Home Department and the Police.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* continues to publish statistics showing the effects which the new legislation produces upon the class of abandoned women. These new figures relate to the suburbs of Tokyo, and show the number of withdrawals from brothels:—

	September.	October.
Shinagawa	8	18
Senju	6	23
Shinjiku	9	21
Itabashi	3	10
Totals	26	72

Out of this aggregate of 98, some, of course, were independent of the new regulations, but there is no mistaking the significance of the great increase that took place in October. If we include the statistics already published, the result is that 89 women withdrew in September against 256 in October, or a grand total of 345 in the two months. These results must be causing great uneasiness to brothel-keepers and all the scum that earn a livelihood in connexion with them.

It now said that the effect of the new legislation and of the liberty thereby conferred on the inmates of brothels will be to break up the Yoshiwara. The women are leaving in such numbers that an impossible situation is created for their employers. The effect of this is likely to be painfully felt by a great many petty tradesmen who have hitherto plied business in that quarter of Tokyo. The newspapers speak of 30 restaurants, 40 tailors, 100 money-lenders, and so on, and say that altogether about 4,000 persons will be thrown out of employment. There are said to be signs of a riot, but the police are on their guard. We trust that the measures taken by the Authorities may not prove to have been too heroic. There is no possibility of going back now.

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"THE POST-BELLUM FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION IN JAPAN."

THIS is the title of a volume just issued by His Excellency Count MATSUKATA, who held the portfolio of Finance in the last Cabinet, as well as in several preceding Cabinets. Count MATSUKATA has placed the foreign public under great obligations by compiling and issuing four books—"Report on the Adoption of the Gold Standard;" "The History of Japan's National Debts; the History of Paper Money in Japan," and "The *Post-bellum* Financial Administration"—which, being in the English language, and being written in a clear style with voluminous details and explanations, make it possible for every diligent student to obtain an exact idea of this country's national economy. Up to the war of 1894-5, the only problem of Japanese finance which occupied a large place in foreign attention was the fiat currency and the method of resuming specie payments. That, however, was a problem sufficiently important to elicit voluminous comment, the main part of which was unfavourable to Japan. In truth, had a moiety of the criticisms then penned by foreigners been true, Japan's condition might almost have been despaired of. Yet how simple and sound the measures taken by the Government seem by the light of the wisdom that succeeds the event, and how extravagant do the disastrous predictions of the pessimists appear! The first part of that experience has been repeated with regard to the *post bellum* scheme of finance. Foreign observers have described Japan as a bankrupt State, and very wise people have shaken solemn heads over her extravagance. The second part of the experience will be accurately repeated, we venture to think. Up to 1895, Japan led a modest, retiring kind of existence, content to raise a small revenue from her people and to be correspondingly sparing in her expenditure. But after the war with China she emerged from her shell, and proceeded, on the one hand, to supply herself with a greatly increased army and navy, and, on the other, to inaugurate various enterprises which, by developing her resources and increasing her income, would assist her to bear without inconvenience the burden of these new expenditures. Her outlays in connexion with the *post-bellum* programme were of two kinds, temporary and permanent. The former she proposed to meet by means of the indemnity paid by China and by domestic loans; the latter she contemplated defraying with the proceeds of additional taxes. It was in consequence of these taxes that her financial condition became an object of foreign criticism, for the Diet made so much difficulty about voting the projected increase, and supported its refusal by so many references to the over-burdened people, who were not overburdened at all, that strangers were naturally misled. For two years, indeed, the Diet steadily refused to endorse the Government's fiscal proposals, and the result was that the Treasury found itself, in both of those years, with a considerable deficit, which could not be met except by premature loans from the indemnity; in other words, by drawing on it for purposes which, according to the programme, it was not intended to meet. Finally, in 1899, the Diet passed the Government's bills, thus placing the finances on a sound footing, and saving the Treasury from continued recourse to the false system of defraying ordinary and permanent outlays by means of extraordinary and fortuitous assets. It is right to note, however, that although the public in general gathered the idea of an obdurate and unreflecting Diet, which thought more of opposing the Governmen; than of managing the country s finances prudently, the actual facts were not so unfavourable. Parliament was asked to make two considerable addition to the taxes; the first involving a sum of 33⅓ million *yen*; the second, a sum of 40⅓ millions. The former amount was voted without hesitation in 1896. But the latter included an increase of the Land Tax, and the idea of increasing the Land Tax was exceedingly unwelcome to a House of Representatives which had signalized the early years of its career by clamouring for a reduction of that very impost. Thus two years passed before the second programme of taxation could become law, and during those two years the Treasury had no recourse but to borrow from the indemnity a sum of 70⅓ million *yen*. Further, owing to the high cost of money in the domestic market, it had not been found possible to float a home loan of 8⅓ million *yen* which ought to have been issued in 1898-9, nor was there any reasonable prospect of floating another home loan of 21 millions, which, according to the original programme, was to be issued in 1899-1900. If we add these sums to the borrowings from the indemnity—which had to be replaced, inasmuch as the indemnity was already pledged for definite purposes—the final result was that a total of 100 million *yen* had to be found. It was on that account that the foreign loan of 10 million pounds sterling was floated in 1899. Returning now to the question of increased taxation, we observe that the Diet was at length induced to vote the Government's programme, so that, from the fiscal year 1899-1900, the Treasury's receipts were augmented by 40⅓ million *yen*—we are speaking in round numbers without noting minor details—and equilibrium was at length restored in the Budget.

We may remark here, *en passant*, that an addition of 74 million *yen* to the burden of taxation between 1896 and 1899—namely 33⅓ million under the first scheme and 40⅓ under the second—seems a serious matter. But out of that total, no less than 45 millions are obtained from *sake* and tobacco, so that only 29 millions can be regarded as general taxes. There have been no symptoms that the nation could not put its hand into its pocket much more deeply if the occasion arose.

In order not to push this statement to wearisome length, we conclude with a word on the question of public loans. Under the original *post-bellum* programme, the sum to be raised by loans was 263⅓ million *yen*. Of that amount, 57 millions have been obtained in the domestic market and 98 millions in the foreign market, so that 108 millions remain to be obtained. The Government, we learn from Count MATSUKATA's volume, does not intend to go abroad for the remaining money. It will obtain the money at home, not, however, by actually selling the whole of the bonds to the public, but by purchasing its own bonds with sums set apart in the yearly budgets for redeeming the national debt, and with funds deposited at the Finance Department, a small residue only being floated as a public loan. How this part of the programme will work, remains to be seen, but it is at any rate highly satisfactory to know that the finances have been placed on a sound footing, and that definite plans exist for future needs.

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE INSTIGATORS.

ACCORDING to a Peking telegram published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, Prince CHING and LI HUNG-CHANG, having asked the Foreign Representatives what punishment ought to be inflicted, in their opinion, on Prince TWAN, Prince CHWANG, Prince TSAI, General KANG, CHAO SHUCHIAO, YUNG NIEN and General TUNG, received for answer that they should be decapitated. It is very difficult to believe this statement. The meaning of such an answer if made with authority, would be that a settlement is out of the question, for China can not possibly be expected to concede such terms. If these three princes and four high dignitaries are to be executed for their share in the Boxer troubles, the sentence will have to be carried out by the Foreign Powers themselves, for surely the Chinese Court is not competent to enforce it even though it had the will. Apart from that there is the question of justice. The princes, ministers and generals certainly acted according to their lights. They had very great provocation, and if the instruments they employed to vindicate their country's honour violated the laws of humanity, they did not violate the ethics of their own nation. To insist on their capital punishment would be contrary to the teachings of the religion by which Western States profess to be guided, for at the worst such malefactors deserve to be classed with the heathen who are beaten with few stripes. There is, moreover, that other most unwelcome though cogent reflection, that the instruments used by foreign Powers themselves to overcome the Chinese, have been guilty of atrocities differing very little, if at all, from the acts of the Boxers. Finally, it can not be forgotten that among these seven men there must be degrees of culpability. To condemn them all to the same fate without the fullest evidence of their equal guilt, would be a deed of ferocious vengeance rather than of even-handed justice. For all

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these reasons, perfectly apparent to foreign Governments and their representatives, we can not credit the above telegram, and our incredulity is strengthened by the reflection that the foreign Ministers in Peking can not yet have received authority to formulate such a demand. This point, already sufficiently evident, is confirmed by a telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun*, which says that the first meeting of the Foreign Representatives in Peking took place on the 26th instant, but that, as some of the Ministers had not yet received their credentials as peace commissioners, the meeting could not transact any business and had to adjourn *sine die*. Evidently the Ministers are not yet in a position to make any joint reply to a question so momentous as that addressed to them by Ching and Li—if, indeed, it was addressed, which point, also, is open to grave doubts, China, so far as we know, not having surrendered, or shown any disposition to surrender, her title to deal with her princes and officials in her own method and according to her own laws. It may be remarked, parenthetically, that the delay in opening the peace negotiations seems to be now due entirely to the difficulty foreign Powers find in making up their minds.

"EARNEST ENQUIRER."

WE wish that it were possible within any reasonable limits of space to deal with the curious string of accusations contained in an article from *The American Monthly Review of Reviews*, published on Thursday in our columns. The article comes to us from a correspondent who is evidently anxious to learn the truth about Japan, and who has naturally been shocked by Mr. VAN BERGEN'S essay. We should be glad to help our correspondent and his friends, but truly we shrink from the task of replying seriatim to Mr. VAN BERGEN'S wonderful prejudices. Much of what he says takes the form of generalizations which can not be refuted by special proofs. Perhaps the justest description of his writing is to say that it represents the extreme views entertained at one time by a small section of the foreign residents, who, in the course of their protracted and vehement effort to retain consular jurisdiction, gradually conceived a hysterical horror of treaty revision, and learned to regard it as a cruel catastrophe. We do not know anything about Mr. VAN BERGEN, or the opportunities he may have enjoyed for deriving at first hand the impressions his article embodies. But we shall probably not be in error if we conclude that he obtained his materials from some of the foreign local journals published in Japan, which formerly reflected a very vivid image of the prejudices entertained by the extremists in the Settlements. There was much excuse to be made for those men, and their opinions received gentle treatment during the heat of the struggle. But in these days when passions have grown cold and judgments are less precipitate, the old errors and extravagances look particularly unsightly. Nor can we think that Mr. VAN BERGEN should escape severe censure. If his researches had been conducted with anything like the diligence prescribed by his subject, he must have avoided many false beliefs which greatly disfigure his essay. Thus, when he speaks of "the *Joi* spirit daily growing more and more rampant among all classes," it is plain that he bases the assertion on some wild utterance of an ignorant writer; an utterance contradicted not merely by all responsible persons, but by the whole history of foreign residence in Japan. He repeats the statement in another part of his essay—"The anti-foreign feeling is shared equally by all classes, the Government and a very few notable persons excepted"—and we dare say that this libel constitutes the chief cause of our correspondent, "Anxious Inquirer's," uneasiness, for in the eyes of a man contemplating a long residence in Japan, nothing could be more deterrent than the thought that he would be living among a people hostile to his race and anxious to display their hostility on every occasion. Evidently this is a charge which can not be rebutted by tangible proofs. We can only assure our correspondent that the anti-foreign feeling mentioned by Mr. VAN BERGEN is, in our belief, almost mythical. Assuredly, if it exists among any class, it does not obtrude itself unpleasantly on the foreigner's observation. From the Japanese he meets with nothing but courtesy and kindness in all the affairs of life, and we have no hesitation in saying that a more delightful people to live among it would scarcely be possible to find. Our correspondent and his friends need not allow themselves to be misled by misrepresentations like those of Mr. VAN BERGEN on that score.

We can not attempt to discuss Mr. VAN BERGEN'S numerous errors in detail, but some of them are too flagrant to be left altogether without answer. When he says that there was ample evidence from cases brought against Japanese and adjudicated in their courts that foreigners "*could not* obtain justice against a native"—observe the emphasis on the negative—he errs most grossly, for the evidence furnished by the records of the courts tells precisely the opposite story. Some years ago, we produced in these columns a detailed schedule of the cases in question, and analysis proved that in the vast majority of instances the judgment of the courts had been in the foreign suitor's favour. In fact, from the opening of Japan in modern times until this day of writing, instances of foreigners being cast in civil cases adjudicated by Japanese tribunals may be truly said to be exceptional. The rule is judgment in their favour. We might suppose that Mr. VAN BERGEN would be sorry to learn how egregiously he had been misled in this instance did not his subsequent statements convey the impression that he finds pleasure in the task of misrepresentation. What he means by alleging that treaty revision was "a crime against Japan's real progress," we can not pretend to understand, but we must denounce as a most iniquitous falsehood the accompanying statement that "Marquis ITO, Prime Minister of Japan, opposed the treaty." The obvious intention is to imply that Marquis ITO entertained the theory that to revise the treaties would check Japan's progress. That is absolutely untrue. Mr. VAN BERGEN says that it is "fully proved by the British Blue Book of 1894." Then it is plain that Mr. VAN BERGEN never read the Blue Book. He goes on to talk about the Japanese "disregarding the Codes when they clash with old-established usage" and he predicts that they "will be amended until not a shred of the original is left," in support of which remarkable allegations he quotes the KENT case. If we had nothing before us but his summary of that case, we should still be justified in pronouncing him the victim of almost incredible bias. But we shall not follow him into the details of the case. We will merely ask why, if he had any intention to be fair, he stopped short at the judgment of the court of first instance. Why did he not tell that, on appeal, KENT'S punishment was reduced to 10 days' confinement? And why did he not tell that the quarter-master was sentenced to the same punishment on KENT'S complaint? If every accusation levelled against the Japanese by Mr. VAN BERGEN were true, he would still fail to convict them of such bias as his own account of the KENT case displays. It is of a piece with his egregious blunder that "a lease of twenty-five years is the utmost that can be granted" to a foreigner in Japan. Does not Mr. VAN BERGEN know that many foreigners hold land in Japan under titles good for 999 years, and that any foreigner can obtain such a title in any part of the empire? If this important fact is unknown to him, what qualification has he to discuss the subject of land tenure at all? It is the same with his treatment of the social evil question: nothing is conspicuous save his own colossal ignorance.

We do not wish to be mistaken. We do not deny that anti-foreign feeling was displayed with disquieting prominence two or three years ago in Japan. Does Mr. VAN BERGEN desire to learn one of the principal reasons? It is because of the hysterical exhibitions of anti-Japanese prejudice made by him and some other writers—as, for example, the editor of the periodical which he calls "a prominent paper"—and because of the publication of gross libels and misrepresentations like those with which his essay abounds. We can assure Mr. VAN BERGEN of one thing, if he cares to hear it, namely, that never in an experience extending over a great many years have we seen in a Japanese newspaper an anti-foreign article betraying anything like the virulence, ignorance, unfairness and falsehood that distinguish his own essay in *The American Review of Reviews*. We can assure him of another thing also, if he cares to hear it, namely, that we are all living very peacefully and happily under the

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conditions which, when they were in prospect, are supposed to have made us "tremble with apprehension," and that the operation of the revised treaties has not caused us the smallest inconvenience, except that we have lost our delightful immunity from taxation. As for "Earnest Inquirer," we assure him that whereas, at the time of his visit two years ago, there certainly were some grounds for complaining of the rudeness of the coolie and student classes towards foreigners, evidences of that transient mood no longer make themselves apparent, and if he found the people kindly and pleasant then, he may be entirely confident that he will find them still more amiable now.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The last issue of Industrial Bank bonds, 1 million *yen*, produced subscriptions aggregating 1,251,260 *yen*. Fukushima prefecture was conspicuous among the subscribers.

The Paris Exposition has been prolonged for 20 days. It was to have been closed on the 5th of November, but it will remain open until the 25th.

The autumn manœuvres of the Imperial Guards will take place this year in the vicinity of Mito. They will commence on the 5th of November and will occupy about eleven days. The Emperor will proceed to the scene on the 15th or 16th.

On the 25th instant, Chamberlain Inouye, on behalf of His Majesty the Emperor, and Miss Kitajima, a Lady in Waiting, on behalf of the Empress, proceeded to the British Naval Hospital at Yokohama, to inquire for the wounded, in the names of their Majesties.

A portion of the Shizuoka Paper Mill was destroyed by fire on the morning of the 25th instant. Two buildings seem to have been burned, and the loss, which was fully covered by insurance, is estimated at twenty-nine thousand *yen*.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha have ordered a steamer in England to replace the *Futami Maru*, which was recently lost on the voyage from Australia. The new vessel will be considerably larger than the *Futami*, and will have better accommodation for passengers. She is to cost fourteen hundred thousand *yen*.

Marquis Ito is still suffering from sore throat and finds himself unable to conduct conversations. His medical attendants have strongly urged a trip to Atami for a couple of weeks, and the Marquis has followed this counsel, appointing Marquis Saionji as *locum tenens* in the meanwhile.

The Birth-day Review will be on an unusually large scale this year, owing to the presence of the new brigade (4 regiments) of artillery. The 13th Regiment of Artillery will parade also with the new quick-firing guns—the Arisaka gun, presumably. The cavalry will be increased by the *Kyodo-daitai* (Construction Brigade) of the *Kihei Jisshi Gakko* (School of Practical Cavalry Instruction School).

A letter to the *Jiji Shimpo* from Thursday Island says that the effect of the exclusive policy adopted by the Queensland Government has been to bring the pearl fishery to the brink of ruin. Labour has ceased to be procurable except on prohibitive terms, and even a batch of Filipinos brought from Manila, have gone on strike. Under these circumstances the men who formerly led the agitation against Japanese labourers have now completely changed their views, and a petition has been addressed to the Queensland Government, urging that in the interests of the island's industry, all Oriental immigration, other than Chinese, should be permitted.

The Minister of Marine has given orders to the Kure Dockyard to construct six torpedo boats, of 120 tons each. Their names and numbers are to be :—

No. 6 .....*Kari* (Goose)
No. 7 .....*Awataka* (Falcon)
No. 8 .....*Hato* (Pigeon)
No. 9 .....*Tsubame* (Swallow)
No. 10 .....*Hibari* (Lark)
No. 11 .....*Kiji* (Pheasant)

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has now published a third estimate of the amount of the rice crop this season. The three sets of figures are as follows :—

	Koku.
First estimate (compiled 3 days after the Two hundred-and-tenth Day—*i.e.* Sept. 1st)	44,543,446
Second estimate (compiled 5 days after the Two-hundred-and-twentieth Day—*i.e.* Sept. 10th)	45,155,705
Third and final estimate	43,303,521

This last estimate is accompanied by figures showing the yield in every prefecture. It may therefore be accepted as accurate, though estimates formed by private associations are less favourable. The crop thus becomes 3,600,000 *koku*, or 9.1 per cent., better than last year's yield, and 4,330,000 *koku*, or 11.1 per cent., better than the average (38,966,858 *koku*).

BASEBALL.

A very good game was played on the Yokohama Cricket Ground on Saturday afternoon between teams from the Tokyo Keio Gijuku and the Y. C. & A. C., resulting in an easy win for the home team.

The game was close and exciting up to the seventh innings, when the Club players bunched their hits and netted three runs, which gave them a margin that was impossible for the Japanese to overcome.

As usual the Japanese out-played the foreigners in the field, but in turn were entirely out-classed by them at the bat. There was a large attendance, both native and foreign, and the former especially were enthusiastic over a number of good plays that were scored by their compatriots.

The following is a summary of the game :—

TOKYO KEIO GIJIKU.

	Pos.	A.B.	R.	B.H.	P.O.	A.	E.
Tokito	1B.	5	1	2	12	0	0
Hotta	S.S.	4	0	0	1	6	1
Miyahara	2B.	4	0	0	1	1	1
Watanabe	C.	2	0	0	1	3	1
M. Tanabe	C.F.	4	1	1	0	0	1
Hiranuma	3B.	4	1	1	3	0	1
Miyamoto	R.F.	3	0	2	0	0	0
Kameyama	P.	4	0	0	0	4	0
T. Tanabe	L.F.	4	—	1	1	0	0
Totals		34	3	7	19	14	5

Y. C. & A. C.

	Pos.	A.B.	R.	B.H.	P.O.	A.	E.
Edwards	3B.	3	1	1	1	2	2
McChesney	L.F.	3	1	1	0	0	0
Blake	P.	5	2	3	0	4	1
E. W. Kilby	1B.	4	1	1	7	1	1
Swan	C.	4	2	3	0	4	0
Merriman	2B.	4	1	0	6	1	0
H. W. Kilby	S.S.	4	1	1	0	0	2
Watt	C.F.	4	0	1	0	0	0
Fisher	R.F.	4	0	0	0	0	0
Totals		36	9	11	14	12	6

RUNS BY INNINGS.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Keio Gijiku	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	=3
Y. C. & A. C.	1	0	4	0	0	0	1	3	—	=9

SUMMARY.

Earned runs, Y.C. and A.C. 6; Tokyo 2; 2 Base Hits, Blake: Base Stolen, McChesney 2, E. W. Kilby, Watanabe 2: Double plays, Merriman to E. W. Kilby. Bases on called balls, Blake 2, Kameyama 3: Hit by Pitcher, Blake 2, Kameyama 1: Struck out, Blake 12, Kameyama 7: Passed Balls, Swan 2, Watanabe 4: Wild Pitches, Kameyama 3: Left on bases, Merriman 2, Edwards 2, Watt, McChesney, Swan, Tokito, Hotta 2, Miyahara, Watanabe 2, Miyamoto 2, T. Tanabe.

Time of game 1 hour 40 minutes. Umpire, E. Mendelson, Scorer, J. S. Happer

CUSTOMS WAREHOUSES.

As our readers may already know, warehouses for the temporary storage of goods have been established in the precincts of the Custom Houses at Yokohama and Nagasaki, in accordance with Law No. 82 issued in the beginning of this year, having indeed been opened on the 1st May last. The object of the establishment of these warehouses is to afford extended facilities to importers for storing their goods with the least trouble. They are in themselves an indispensable factor in the development of Japan's foreign commerce. The ground now set apart for the buildings in Yokohama covers no less than 2,266 *tsubo*, bearing godowns of over 220 *tsubo*. In Nagasaki the area comprises 786 *tsubo* with buildings extending over 366 *tsubo*. The facilities thus afforded, together with the cheapness of the charges imposed have, remarks the *Official Gazette*, increased to a serious extent the quantity of goods brought in for storage. Below are the figures for the five months ended with September last :—

WAREHOUSES IN YOKOHAMA.

Classification of goods	Stored. Number of packages.	Removed Number of packages.	Balance Number of packages
Arms and ammunition, watches and clocks, scientific instruments, and machines of all descriptions	2,881	1,591	1,290
Food stuffs	21,536	19,898	1,638
Clothing and its appurtenances	196	164	32
Medical materials, medicines and chemicals	1,473	1,360	113
Dyes, colours, and paints	3,044	2,720	324
Glass and its manufactures	3,004	2,983	21
Cereals and seeds	302	300	2
Horns, ivory, furs, and shells	2,138	2,037	101
Metals and metal manufactures	237,080	219,430	17,650
Oils and wax	983	562	421
Paper and stationery	918	764	154
Sugar	1,286	1,197	89
Silk and cotton fabrics, threads, and materials	1,234	1,129	105
Tobacco	85	79	6
Wines and liquors	10,450	6,657	3,793
Miscellaneous	37,339	26,759	10,580
Total	323,949	287,630	36,319

NAGASAKI.

	Stored. Value in *yen*.	Removed. Value in *yen*.	Balance *yen*.
Silk and cotton fabrics	10,309	5,609	4,700
Threads and worsted	500	500	—
Clothing and its appurtenances	60	60	—
Food stuffs	81,516	64,993	16,522
Liquors of all kinds	17,380	10,990	6,390
Dyes, colours, and paints	5,390	2,640	2,750
Metals and metal manufacturers	24,626	23,906	720
Horns, ivory, hides, and leather	789	279	510
Glass and its manufactures	128	108	20
Oils and wax	10,609	2,379	8,230
Paper and stationery	454	454	—
Medical materials, chemicals, and drugs	321	321	—
Miscellaneous	329,111	268,919	60,192

A gambler named Tsuchiya Tokutaro, living at Kita nakadori, Yokohama, was arrested at the hot springs of Yoshida-mura, Izu Province, Shizuoka Prefecture, the other day. He stirred up *soshi* to assault Mr. Honye Saijiro, a member of the Yokohama City Assembly, and Dr. Suto, a few months ago and then escaped to the country.

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CHINA NOTES.

The auctions of loot at the British Legation had produced $50,000 up to the end of September.

It is stated that nine new powerful modern guns have lately been mounted on the Woosung Fort.

The members of Sir Robert Hart's famous Brass Band are all alive and in Peking, but their instruments were unfortunately destroyed by the indefatigable Boxers.

The troops in the north from Great Britain, the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, are to return to Hongkong before the winter, and reinforcements of Indian troops are to take their place.

The British Force in Peking has an organized "Camel Corps" to carry coal from the mines in the Western Hills to the Imperial Carriage Park, for use during the forthcoming winter.

Mr. Lindberg, the German pilot of Taku, has been decorated by the German Emperor with the Royal Order of the Crown with swords for his gallant conduct on board the *Iltis* during the bombardment of the Taku forts. Mr. Lindberg, a few hours before the commencement of hostilities, voluntarily offered his services to Commander Hans of the *Iltis* and he remained on the bridge from first to last.

A Chinanfu telegram has been received in Shanghai reporting that the remnants of the Boxer forces who were badly defeated by General Mei at Tsangchou, on the 8th inst., have retreated towards the district of Yenshan, abandoning almost entirely their old haunts round about the vicinity of Tsangchou. A force of cavalry is now scouring the neighbourhood for any Boxers that may still remain, while General Mei with 4,000 men is now in pursuit towards Yenshan. It is stated, says a contemporary, that the Boxer influence at Tsangchou is now completely broken.

A Chinese paper published in Shanghai says—At the taking of Kirin the destruction of life was terrible and the city was for the time being absolutely cleared of Chinese inhabitants. The Russian authorities afterward put out proclamations calling on the people to return, but they have responded but slowly, fearing to trust themselves to the vengeful Russian soldiery. A few merchants have returned and opened their shops and sell at prices far above the ordinary. They are dependent upon the Japanese, however, for assistance.

A high Chinese official who returned to Shanghai from Shansi on Oct. 17 reports that when he was at Tatungfu with the Court he neither saw nor heard of the Heir-Apparent, Pu Chün, Prince Tuan's youngest son. He therefore asserts his belief that the Heir-Apparent was assassinated or slain in some way during the flight from Peking. This belief, he says, is further strengthened by the unexpected suicide of the Heir-Apparent's Chief Preceptors, Duke Chung Yi and the Grand Secretary Hü Tung, who as such are responsible with their lives for the safety of their charge day and night, until he becomes of age at sixteen when he is supposed to be ready to marry.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* records the death at Pokfolum on the 12th inst. of Monsigneur Chose, the Roman Catholic Bishop and Vicar Apostolic of Kwangtung. He was in excellent health and in full work at Canton until Wednesday last. On Saturday he had a slight apoplectic attack and came down to the Convalescent Home of the Missions Etrangères. Two days afterward he lost consciousness and never spoke again. He has been on the missions continuously in China since 1893, and laboured strenuously on the different stations in the Canton province from that date to this. He was highly respected and esteemed by all visitors to Canton who had the honour of making his acquaintance, and few men had a more intimate knowledge of China and of the Chinese

Loot from the Imperial Palace at Peking is beginning to find its way for sale in Shanghai. The latest arrivals are some valuable furs and skins which were taken from the apartments of Prince Tuan, one of which was believed to have been worn by the Empress Dowager herself.

The Chinese who invaded the Amur Province carried out very thoroughly their work of destruction at many of the stations on the Manchurian Railway. At Chailar all the buildings, carriages and trucks were burned, the permanent way was torn up, and one of the engines derailed and practically destroyed.

The *Universal Gazette*, of Shanghai, gives some details of the organization of the rebels in the South. Their companies are composed of 300 men, and each company is divided into ten squads. Ten companies form a regiment. At the beginning of hostilities there were but three regiments but the number quickly doubled. They are well armed with Mauser rifles and Krupp guns.

Our contemporary, the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, has the following paragraph :—

Mr. Tewkesbury is still busy prosecuting enquiries, dictating terms, and arranging indemnities in some of the villages around Tung-chow, and all with the sanction and approval of the U. S. Minister and the officers commanding the American troops in Peking. These enquiries are bringing to light cruelties of the most hellish and barbarous description as practised upon the native converts in that neighbourhood by the Boxers. Some of these poor Christians—and not only the Christians themselves suffered, but all their relatives and connections whatsoever—were *buried alive;* others were *burnt at the stake*, and others again *were first saturated with kerosine oil and then set on fire*. A Belgian (presumably a Roman Catholic priest) *had strips of flesh cut out of his limbs, and the holes filled with kerosine which was then ignited!*

The British troops in Shanghai are being gradually housed in winter quarters along the Bubbling Well Road and at Jessfield. The mill buildings and godowns along the creek at Jessfield have been rented by the Military authorities, and are to be occupied by the Rajput and Baluchi regiments, which will be a great improvement on the mat sheds and low lying ground of the Yangtzepoo Camps. The Royal Artillery Pom Pom section, with the remounts, are encampend near the Bombay Cavalry on the Bubbling Well Road. The Brigade Staff and Office is to be removed from their present quarters to a more convenient building near the Country Club, off the Bubbling Well Road, while No. 3 Muirhead Road is to remain the headquarters of the Ordnance and Commissariat department.

A letter received by the *Sin Wen Pao*, of Shanghai, and dated from Herma on the tenth of last Moon, gives unfavourable reports of the condition of affairs in Shansi. All the region around Kiang-chou is in a disturbed condition. The native Christians are clamorous for revenge, and the people are very apprehensive. At Mach'ang, in the district of Luch'eng, the banditti aided by Government forces attacked the Christians but were defeated by them. In addition to these disturbances the country is suffering from famine, the distress of the people being augmented by the necessity of supplying the itinerant Court, and also by the depredations of the bodies of lawless soldiery stationed among them. Only the forces from Hunan are said to preserve proper military discipline.

Along the China-Burma frontier some valuable mineral ground has been discovered within the last year or so, and now Mr. Datta, of the Geological Survey of India, has written a report of an interesting find of iron ore, associated with limestone, along the Mandalay-Kunlon Ferry route. Mr. Datta says:—"There is no doubt that it is very rich stuff, but the ground around and about the hills must be a little more cleared before one could estimate, with any degree of certainty, as to the quantity of the ore here, which is apparently large." Ferruginous rocks was also met with by Mr. Datta in two places near the Wetwin village, about the 55th mile-post on the cart-road, and again about three miles south-west of Maymye on the Mandalay-Lashio road."

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Messrs. E. T. Mason & Co. are now making considerable quantities of habutai, before an exclusively Japanese production, at their mills in Paterson.

Mr. Arthur C. Armstrong, one of the founders of *Scribner's Magazine*, and one of the oldest publishers in New York, died at his country home at Stamford, Conn., on Oct. 8, aged 71 years.

In compliance with instructions given by Rear Admiral Bradford, Chief of the Bureau of Equipment, an extensive survey of the south side of the island of Cuba is to be begun during the coming winter.

Prof. Carl Braun, of Bangor, Me., who recently received 10,000,000 eggs from Japan, is experimenting to secure a superior silk worm by crossing breeds, and aims to establish sericulture in Cuba and Porto Rico.

The Presbytery of Chicago decided on October 8 to recommend to the General Assembly the preparation of a supplementary creed. The report of the committee making the recommendation was adopted by a vote of 87 to 18, after a discussion lasting seven hours.

The florist business in the United States is by no means an unimportant industry. It is estimated that the retail value of flowers sold annually is $12,500,000 and of potted plants $10,000,000. There are no less than 10,000 establishments in the United States devoted to the growing of plants under glass.

It is announced that Senator W. A. Clark will spend a year's income in his campaign of vindication in Montana. His income is between $8,000,000 and $10,000,000 a year, and the voting population of Montana will be this year about 55,000. Besides a company of vaudeville performers which he has engaged to accompany him in his speechmaking campaign, he has employed James R. Sovereign to make labour speeches for the sum of $10,000.

The failure of the Peary exploring steamer *Windward* to return from the north leads the Newfoundland observers to believe that the explorer will not attempt to get back this autumn. Probably the season just passed was an open one in the far north. Should that have been the case Peary is likely to have taken the *Windward* into some high latitude, hoping to use her in a further expedition next season. This would mean that he has made no special record during the present year.

Six astronomical stations have been established on the same degree of north latitude to determine the north polar variations of this planet which now cause the equator to deflect at certain periods fifty feet farther north than at other times. One of the stations is located at Ukiah, California. The others have been established at Gaithersburg, Md., Cincinnati, O., Japan, Turkestan and Sicily. The stellar observations made at these places will be conducted simultaneously for a period of five years, and longer if necessary.

A San Francisco paper says—Revenue officers have brought down from the Mare Island Navy Yard on a Government tug 154 cases of rare Oriental goods, which had been brought by the hospital ship *Solace*. The articles seized would net a small fortune. The duty is nearly sixty per cent. On this account most of the stuff, which includes loot from Tientsin, probably will be abandoned to the Government. The cases of silks and curios are addressed to persons all over the United States.

It is a somewhat interesting fact that while France and America consume about the same quantity of raw material in the silk manufacture, the two countries together using two-thirds of the world's supply (in the season of 1896-7, the United States consumed 14,000,000 pounds, nearly half the total product of the world, which was 30,818,000 pounds in that year), the finished annual product of this country is valued at from $85,000,000 to $90,000,000, whereas the French

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produce goods to the value of about $122,000,000 per annum. The difference is in the richer and costlier fabrics made in France, quite largely on the hand loom.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company issued on Oct. 1st a statement of revenue account for the half-year ending June 30th. The gross earnings for the six months to June 30th, were $14,167,797.89. The working expenses were $8,889,851.06. The net earnings were, therefore, $5,277,926.83. The statement is considered highly satisfactory, because the half-year covered by it is always the lean half for the Company. The present figures show earnings at the rate of about 7 per cent. for the year, and if the following six months maintain a fairly reasonable rate of increase, the earnings should at least show 8 to 8½ per cent., making it one of the banner years in the history of the Company.

The United States has more than 50,000 tons of coal distributed at various points throughout the world for the use of its war ships, and this amount will be increased by additions to be made by schooners *en route*. This largest coal pile is at Manila, where there are 24,000 tons. As large a quantity is now on the way to the Far East. At Guam there are 2,856 tons, and a station to accommodate 10,000 tons is to be established. Honolulu has a naval coal pile of 10,918 tons, and Rear Admiral Bradford has prepared plans for locating 20,000 tons there. There are about 2,500 tons at Pago-Pago and an increase of 2,500 tons will be made upon completion of the coalhouse under construction at that point. San Juan, Porto Rico, has 3,436 tons.

A sensational gold strike has been made in the northern part of the Sandia mountains, a few miles south of the new placer mining district, New Mexico. Ore carrying free gold that assays as high as $30,000 to the ton has been found, but not enough work has been done to demonstrate the value of the find. H. T. Brown, one of the discoverers, calls attention to the interesting fact that rich gold ore was found within a few feet of the spot where General Ulysses S. Grant camped in 1881 during the two days he was president of the Canon del Agua Copper Company. Scratching of the surface would have revealed the bonanza, and would probably have made the Grant family millionaires.

The Catholic total abstinence union of America held its convention in Philadelphia, recently, and among its resolutions was the following:—Whereas, it is a lamentable fact that the drinking customs of society to-day foster the use of intoxicants among women—women of the higher grade of society, women of culture, wealth, and influence, who should be eminent in respectability and virtue as the example is apt to be followed and the customs become normal in society; be it resolved, That we urgently advocate the establishment of women's total abstinence societies and the forming of public opinion against this growing abuse; That we recommend open meetings, lectures, and the distribution of temperance literature in places in which the interest in total abstinence is flagging.

Lieut.-Gen. Miles, commanding the United States army, in his annual report to the Secretary of War, will, it is stated, renew his recommendation for the further use of the automobile in the army. There are now at Fort Myer, Va., three automobiles, but they have not been proved quite satisfactory on account of lack of facilities for recharging them with electricity. Meanwhile, Gen. Miles and other officers interested in making the automobile useful for the army, have been making trials of powers other than electricity with a view of making the machine available for military purposes. Gen. Miles says that automobiles may be adopted for use as couriers, carrying despatches; movement of staff officers from one command to another, for small reconnoitring parties, for investigating the topography of the country in which the army proposes to operate, for small detachments engaged in constructing bridges or establishing depots, for rapidly supplying ammunition, and for the movement and care of the wounded. In fact, in cases where small detachments operate, the general thinks that automobiles will be found useful.

The cry of "imperialism" is not altogether new in American politics. It was raised against Andrew Jackson in 1832 when he was seeking re-election, but, as history shows, it did not defeat him. An old caricature which was used by the opponents of the great Democratic leader during that campaign has been found. It represents Jackson, clothed in an imperial robe and wearing a crown, sitting on a throne with the Constitution of the United States trampled under one foot and the "Internal improvements and the United States Bank" under the other, while he carries a ball labelled veto in his left hand and the sceptre of a king in the right. Around thepicture are these inscriptions: "Born to command," "Of veto memory," and "Had I been consulted." Under the illustration are the words "King Andrew the First." Then follows this reading matter: "King Andrew the First, born to command. A king, who, possessing as much power as his gracious brother William IV., makes a worse use of it. A king, who has placed himself above the laws, as he has shown by his contempt of our judges. A king, who would destroy our currency, and substitute old rags, payable by no one knows who, and no one knows where, instead of good silver dollars. A king born to command, as he has shown himself by appointing men to office contrary to the will of the people. A king who, while he was feeding his favourites out of the public money, denied a pittance to the old soldiers who fought and bled for our independence. A king, whose prime minister and heir apparent was thought unfit for the office of ambassador by the people. Shall he reign over us, or shall the people rule?" This diatribe reads funnily in these days.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The announcement is made from St. Petersburg that Prince Gagarin has been appointed Russian Consul at Nagasaki.

On the 27th ult. official sanction was given to the issue of Industrial Bonds for the 7th period, to the amount of one million *yen*.

Three police-constable were badly injured while arresting a robber named Tanaka Kinnosuke at Kagoshima on the 31st Oct.

Lieut.-Colonel Saji and Lieut.-Colonel Mihara, of the Ninth Division, were injured by their horses at the manœuvres at Otsu on the 31st Oct.

A woman named Hara Hiro, living at Onomura, Nakagori, Kanagawa Prefecture, was arrested on the 29th ult. on a charge of having killed her baby in September.

Fire broke out at Shinanojiri-mura, Midzusashigori, Nagano Prefecture, on the 30th Oct and twenty-five houses were destroyed. All the houses in the village, in fact, were burnt.

A man named Yamamoto Kumaju, living at Chitosecho, Yokohama, was arrested by the Kotobukicho Police on the 31st ult. on a charge of beating his wife's head with an iron hammer.

The missing boats' crew of the ill-fated steamer *Indra*, which went ashore below the Gulf of Aden on August 24th, as already chronicled in these columns, has fortunately been picked up on the Arabian Coast.

Vice-Admiral Yamamoto, Minister of the Navy, accompanied by Captain Misu, Commander of the *Asahi*, and Captain Kokura, Commander of the *Azuma*, attended the Palace on the 31st Oct. and reported upon the condition of these vessels to the Emperor.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Thursday, before Judge Sato, the hearing of the Francois divorce case was resumed. Mr. Inouye appeared for Madame Francois, appellant, and Mr Takahashi for Mr. Francois, respondent. Counsel for for appellant said that respondent not only maltreated plaintiff, but insulted her, accusing her of adultery. Appellant asked a divorce on these grounds. Counsel for respondent denied the ill-treatment. The case was adjourned *sine die*.

According to a German trade journal, the value of military rifles exported from Germany to China in 1899 was Tls. 4,400,000, against Tls. 1,400,000 in 1898; artillery fuses, Tls. 2,500,000, as compared with Tls. 1,500,000 in 1899, and gunpowder Tls. 900,000 as against Tls. 500,000 in 1899.

Officers of the American Asiatic Association of Japan, elected at the meeting held at the U.S. Consulate General, Yokohama, on Oct. 31, 1900. A. O. Gay, President; John Lindsley, Vice-President; G. H. Scidmore, Secretary, B. C. Howard, Treasurer, J. W. Copmann, N. W. McIvor, Rev. E. S. Booth, N. F. Smith, G. W. Bramhall, J. R. Morse, F. H. Ziegfeld, Executive Committee.

The recent urgent appeal for funds issued by the Committee of the General Hospital, has induced the Yokohama Circle of King's Daughters—ever ready to extend a helping hand to the deserving—to come forward and organize a Harvest Festival and Dance in the Public Hall on Wednesday, November 7th. A display of flowers, fruit, and hortjcultural products will be made, besides many attractions usually associated with bazaars, and Kermisses. The public response we hope will be substantial.

Since the establishment of blanket factories in Osaka, the quantity of blankets imported has decreased considerably, says the *Osaka Asahi*. This year the import of blankets has virtually ceased, the output in the native factories having reached 30,000 per month, including both red and striped blankets. No differences are noticeable in the value of the respective manufactures, quotations being fixed at the prices of imported goods. At present red and white blankets are sold at 70 *sen* per lb. whereas striped blankets whether native or foreign, are quoted at from 2.50 *yen* each.

Transactions in cotton yarns, say the native papers, appear to be brisk. On Oct. 26th no less than 1,700 bales were taken by Kajima, Mitsui, and other firms at prices ranging from 96 to 96.50 *yen*, with a view to exporting them to Chefoo. A telegram from Bombay published in the *Shogyo* announced that yarn from Bengal had fallen in value to 20 *yen*, new American manufactures (middling) being quoted at 30 *yen*. Yarns imported to Japan appear to have suffered a similar fate, "Western" No 3 yarns being sold at 160 *yen*, showing a falling off of 18 *yen* as compared with the highest quotations previously attained.

The appeal against the judgment delivered in what is known as the Bardens-Tanaka Rice Contract Case, on 10th July last, when the claim of F. J. Bardens, representative of Samuel, Samuel & Co., merchants of this port, for recovery of *yen* 54,000 from Tanaka Rikuyemon, of Kawasakicho, Kobe, for failure to carry out a contract for the supply of rice was dismissed, was heard in the Osaka Court of Appeal on Oct. 29th before Judges Okura, Miura, Inouye, Kimura and Yema. Mr. Sunagawa, for appellant, made a formal statement and applied for an order quashing the first judgment, delivered at the Kobe Chiho Saibansho, and an order to defendant to pay *yen* 54,600. Mr. Tai, for defendant, in opening his case, applied for an order dismissing the appeal. After hearing Counsel the Court adjourned *sine die*.

At a general meeting of the Hankwaku Railway Company held on the 22nd instant, it was resolved that application should be forwarded to the Government for a provisional charter for the extension of the line to Maizuru and Miyotsu to the north of Fukuchiyama. The estimates for the proposed extension indicate the probable amount of the receipts to be 143,188 *yen*, of which 81,931 *yen* are expected from the coaching traffic and the remainder from the transport of goods, whereas the expenses are stated at 63,129 *yen* only, leaving a net profit of 80,000 *yen* approximately. Nevertheless, as the total expenses of construction are estimated at three million *yen*, the ratio of profits

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to the same do not exceed 5.4 per cent. per annum. In connection with these calculations the effect which the proposed enterprise may produce upon the existing line is expected to be very great, the interest on the gross capital (6 million *yen*) of the company being anticipated to reach 3.1 per cent. annually.

In accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 37, issued on October 3rd in the 18th year of *Meiji*, and with the Ordinance of the Finance Department promulgated on the 4th of the same month in the same year, with regard to the issue of War Bonds to the amount of 10 million *yen*, a sum of 2,000 *yen* was issued on the 15th instant with a view of making pecuniary donations to persons engaged in the war of the 27th and 28th years of *Meiji*. The issue value was fixed at 90.51 *yen* against 100 *yen*, being 20 *sen* lower than the rate allowed to the bonds floated in September last for the 32nd period. The amount of issue from the beginning has now reached 9,924,150 *yen*, leaving a balance of only 75,075 *yen* for future issue.

The following figures with reference to the Imperial Bonds recently issued by the Government and delivered to the Bank of Japan to the amount of 3½ millions of *yen* at 5 per cent. interest, are given in the *Keizai Zasshi* (these bonds were issued at 90 *yen* against 100 *yen* face value) :—

Date of issue.	Amount in Yen.	Issue-value in Yen.
March, 1897	3,000,000	99.00
October, 1897	10,000,000	95 53
November, 1897	10,000,000	95.70
December, 1897	3,000,000	92 41
January, 1898	8,000,000	94.09
March, 1898	3,900,000	90.21
June, 1899	78,052,250	90
March, 1900	3,229,050	90
October, 1900	3,500,000	90
Total	122,681,300	

We have to acknowledge the receipt from Mr. Otani Kahei, the well known merchant in this port, of a neatly bound book containing his observations gathered in Europe and America, through which he travelled at the end of last year. The book is in fact, a diary of his journey, and gives in detail his impressions of the greatness and prosperity of the commercial centres of the two continents. It was evidently compiled, as the preamble indicates, not so much for purposes of general reading as for the entertainment of the writer's friends and relatives, who are naturally anxious to learn the condition of the Occident through his personal remarks. The volume, however, deserves praise, not only for its literary merit, but also for the intelligence and accuracy with which the features of western civilization are unfolded. The plates attached to the first portion of the book are very attractive.

Writing with regard to the Japanese teahouse established within the grounds of the Paris Exposition, the *Shogyo* gives the following particulars :— The total number of visitors during August reached 7,366, showing a decrease of 1,132 in comparison with the figures for July. Green tea is rapidly gaining popularity with the visitors, as is evident from the fact that in spite of the falling off in the total number as remarked above, those drinking green tea have increased by 549. Buyers of the leaf exhibited in the teahouse as the product of Kiushiu and Shizuoka are also on the increase, and this fact alone should prove the growing popularity of Japanese teas with customers abroad. After the close of the Exhibition enquiries were made by several persons as to the places where green tea could be obtained, while others, being afraid that they might lose the opportunity of procuring the leaf, for which they had acquired such a preference, bought large quantities for themselves at the teahouse mentioned above.

At the Singapore Police Court on October 13, Nai Manit, the Siamese student charged with shooting his wife on the *Kanagawa Maru*, on August 31, was committed for trial. Maud Marie Manit, who appeared in Court for the first time, said that she married the prisoner at a registry office in London, in July last, leaving for Bangkok by the Japanese steamer *Sanuki Maru* on July 27th and arriving in Singapore on August 28th, where the prisoner awaited her. At Singapore, she received a letter from her aunt, stating that her mother was dying. She at once decided to wait until the next steamer, the *Kanagawa Maru*, came in, which was then expected in a few days, and to take a ticket by that steamer for London. She dined with her husband on board, and afterwards she went up on deck with the prisoner. They talked together, leaning over the rails, and then both sat down on a chair. Prisoner pulled out a revolver and said, "I will die at your feet." Witness said, "Don't be so silly." Witness leaned forward to get the revolver and prisoner stepped back, putting his hand behind him. Witness sat back and tried to reason with him, but before she could do anything, she was shot.

The change of the Cabinet, remarks the *Nippon*, has brought about an extraordinary fluctuation in various securities.

Circumstances appear to have tended to disturb the market; there was talk of the necessity of raising the rate of interest, and the commercial prospect is even now on the whole, extremely gloomy. The following figures will show the extent to which the share market was recently affected :—

Shares.	Quotation on Oct. 12nd. Yen	Quotation on Oct 20th Yen	Fall in value. Yen.
Nippon Railway	73.60	73.20	0.40
Third issue	23.30	22.80	0.50
Sanyo Railway	54.80	53 70	1.10
Kwansai Railway	40.30	40.40	0.10
Kushiu Railway	52.90	51.80	1.10
Same, 1st new shares	40.20	39.50	0.70
Tanko Railway	84.10	83.00	1.10
Same, 3rd new shares	74.70	73.50	1.20
Nippon Yusen	64.80	63.70	1.10
Oriental Steamship	26.60	26.20	0.40
Tokyo Stock	159.50	151.00	8.50

The period of subscriptions to Industrial Bonds issued for the 8th term was to expire on the 20th instant, but it was prolonged for three days, and although no accurate reports have yet been received from local agencies, the result is expected to be as follows —

Subscriptions secured.	Amount in *yen*.
At the Tokyo Head Office	100,000
Osaka	200,000
Gifu prefecture	70,000
Miye prefecture	80,000
Six agencies in Tokyo	130,000
Kioto	50,000
Shiga prefecture	70,000
Six prefectures in Ou	80,000
Total	780,000

In addition to the above figures subscriptions to the amount of 50,000 to 60,000 *yen* are expected from Aichi, Hiogo, Ishikawa, and Okayama, and it is reasonably supposed that the aggregate will be little under one million *yen*. To make the prospect still more brilliant, favourable reports are said to have been received from twenty other prefectures. Under these circumstances an excess in subscriptions to the amount of from 300,000 to 400,000 *yen* is anticipated.

The *Keizai Zasshi* gives some valuable information with regard to arable land in Hokkaido as investigated at the end of last year. Wet land in the island covers an area of 8,573 *cho*, against dry fields aggregating 207,021 *cho*, making a total of 215,595 *cho*. Compared with the statistics for the previous year, these figures show an increase of 1,749 *cho* in the area of the former, and 43,552 *cho* in those of the latter, or a total of 45,302 *cho*, the rate of augmentation being over 26 per cent. In comparison with the figures recorded in the 19th year of *Meiji*, in which the Hokkaido Office was first established, over a seven-fold increment is noticeable. In respect of extent, the land reclaimed now covers an area of more than 138 square miles, comprising .8% of the total area of the country, over 29 miles having been added to the total of the previous year. According to investigations completed at the end of last year, the ratio borne by wet and dry fields to every 100 *cho* of reclaimed land was 3 *cho* 9 *tan* of the former against 96 *cho* of the latter. Last year, land cultivated on the owner's own account aggregated 121,627 *cho*, whereas that reclaimed under the system of tenements totalled 93,968 *cho*, the increase in the former case as compared with last year being over 6 *cho*. In comparison with the 19th year of *Meiji*, however, a decrease of 25 *cho* is noticeable. Peasant proprietorship shows a tendency to decrease. Below are the details :—

Name of province.	Area of dry and wet land
Ishikari	988 827
Shiribeshi	199.255
Oshima	300.833
Iburi	293.418
Hidaka	99.358
Tokatsu	121,907
Kushiro	32 102
Nemuro	10.883
Chishima	1 109
Kitami	66,638
Teshio	41,628
Total	2,155,958

The silk market remains calm. Foreign firms appear to be waiting for telegrams from home. No. 3 firm has shown a disposition to buy, remarks the *Nippon*, at prices ranging from 820 to 830 *yen*, but the native merchants are scarcely prepared to comply. No. 90 has lately opened negotiations for fine silk, but is also awaiting a telegram from home for final settlement. As for other firms no transactions have yet been concluded owing to the unyielding attitude of sellers with regard to prices. Following are the figures up to date :—

	Bales.
Previous stock	30,529
Arrivals	857
Total	31,386
Sales	—
Transported to the interior	81
Balance	31,305

Of the stock on hand the details are as follows:— Filatures, 22,929 bales; re-reels, 7,387; *orikayeshi*, 793; Kawatsuki and others, 196; total 31,305. The total arrivals for the year are reported to have reached 55,581 bales.

With regard to the new railway tickets available for several days, the *Nichi Nichi* extracts the more important provisions of the rules relating to them. For example :—

1. These tickets will not be issued to children.
2. Tickets that do not bear marks of having been punched at the time the holder alighted, or cut into coupons, to be held by the passenger, shall lose their validity.
3. Should the journey be suspended at any point on the section for which the ticket is issued, the passenger shall be regarded as having travelled over the entire section.
4. Should tickets be lost they shall not be replaced nor shall the fares be refunded. Moreover, when all the coupons of a ticket have not been used during the period of their validity, the fare already paid shall not be returned.
5. When a passenger rides in a carriage of a class higher than that specified by ticket, he shall be required to pay the difference of fare between two classes.
6. When an alteration takes place in the amount of fare for a ticket issued, no additional payment shall be required, nor shall any amount of excess be refunded.
7. A set of tickets thus issued shall be available for 50 journeys, the period of their validity extending over 90 days.

YACHTING.

The season was wound up on Saturday with the usual race for the benefit of the sendoes in 17-raters round the Lightship and back. *Daisy May* got out of the harbour entrance first, with *Wettinge* second, and they finished in this order, though *Devonia* came up in time to take second prize on her allowance. The times were :—

	Finish. h.m s.	Allow'ce. m.	Corrected. h.m.s.
Wettinge	2.45.10	—	2.45.10
Eclair	2.45.45	1	2.44.45
Daisy May	2.41.45	1	2.40.45
Congre	2.53.10	2	2.51.10
Bonito	2.50.55	4	2.46.55
Devonia	2.46.45	4	2.42.45
Shamrock	2.51.48	7	2.44.48

The prizes were won therefore as follows :—1st (*yen* 10) *Daisy May*; 2nd (*yen* 7) *Devonia*; 3rd (*yen* 5) *Eclair*; 4th (*yen* 3) *Shamrock*.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

ヤ ヰ ㇾ.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—What is this word ヤ ヰ ㇾ? Is it Japanese? Why is it not found in seven dictionaries of that language (all that I have at hand)? Being in *kata kana* is it not some foreign word? What language is it? In what foreign dictionary is it to be found? Why is it used in the Bibles printed in Yokohama? Is IEHOBA the correct Roman letters for ヤ ヰ ㇾ? Who authorized the use of this word in the Bibles? Do the Bible Societies abroad consent to the use of their funds for such a purpose? Do the people who support the Bible Societies know anything about the subject? Has this foreign word any meaning whatever? Would not the sacred tetragrammaton—the Hebrew word—convey the meaning better? What has been the custom of all monotheistic religions in this matter of giving a name to God? Granting the exclusive existence of an individual divinity, does he need any name? Is not the monotheistic idea rather weakened by the adoption of a personal name? Does it not imply the existence of other divinities? To accomplish the purpose of teaching monotheism would it not be wise to drop the use of a personal name? Do Christians believe that their God spoke to Moses at the burning bush?—(Exod. III.) Did not that God distinctly refuse to be known by a personal name? Did not Jesus Christ, quoting the same words, claim for himself the same eternal self-existence?—(S. John VIII. 58). If a name had been of any use would he not have used it? If the argument in S. John I. is for the essential divinity of Jesus Christ why is no name used for that divinity? Is not the term Yahvey, so common in the Hebrew Old Testament, rather the expression of the eternal self-existence than any personal name? If it is the personal name of the God of the Christians why don't they print Yahvey and not another word? If it is only the name of the local divinity of an obscure nation what is the use of trying to teach it to the Japanese? Is the use of this word consistent with the letter or spirit of the third commandment about taking "His name in vain"? What would be the probable effect of the constant repetition of this word ヤ ヰ ㇾ upon an agnostic? Upon a polytheist? Is it a powerful word? Is it a proper word? Is it a reverent word? Is it a polite word? Why do the Japanese avoid the use of the personal name of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor? Do Christians regard their God as inferior? Why do they speak of him without any honorifics in a way that would be resented by the lowest coolie? Is there no danger that the Japanese may be taught profanity by such practices? Is it not true that the only Japanese who know how to swear are the coolies of Kobe who have learned the habit from Christian sailors? Is there not danger that Japanese Christians may finally learn to use this wood ヤ ヰ ㇾ in their prayers, their speeches, and sermons and in the *fukuhiki* that are so common at Christmas?

Is it desirable to have an early revision of the Japanese revision of the Scriptures now in general use?

The above subject is to be discussed at the Y.M.C.A. Hall on Monday, Oct. 29th at 2.30 p.m. and I earnestly hope that the *Japan Mail* may print all that may be said on the subject for the benefit of

INAKA CHAN-CHAN-BOZU.

THE REAL CONDITION OF JAPAN: A QUERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you, or some of your readers, throw some light on the following question of an earnest enquirer?

About ten years ago, I, the writer spent a holiday of some six months in Japan, and became so charmed with both country and people, that I was strongly tempted to become a permanent resident. But I could not then find an easy or practicable means of making a living, and accordingly returned to the United States. I carried back with me the determination to save up every dollar I possibly could, so that as soon as I had amassed a small competency I could return to "the happy kingdom." Almost the only indulgence I have allowed myself has been the purchase of every work on Japan I could hear of. I have even learned enough of the language to enable me to carry on an ordinary conversation with Japanese, for I have kept in close touch with men of that nationality who are living here.

At last the opportunity seemed to be almost arrived, and I had set the beginning of the summer of 1901 as the period of my departure, when, lo and behold! I ran across an article in the *American Review of Reviews*, which almost seemed to crush all my hopes. I enclose this article, and ask you to either re-produce it, or give such extracts as you think fit. And then, Mr. Editor, will you, or some of your readers, tell me the real truth. For it is not for myself alone that I want to know. During all these years I have been talking Japan to everyone I met, and I expected to take with me next year quite a small colony of people with means enough to make them desirable immigrants anywhere. I don't ask for light on the Kent case. You are aware probably that I am one of your subscribers, and therefore well acquainted with the details of that matter.

What I and my friends would like to know is this: Is it a fact that Japan has now become so undesirable a place for foreigners that those who are there would evacuate the country gladly if their material interests did not compel them to remain? I was there in 1893, and found a welcome from the natives wherever I went, although I had not more than 20 words of Japanese at my command. Nay, much more than a welcome. Many of them treated me with a substantial kindness that I might have looked in vain for amongst mine own familiar people, and I cannot for the life of me realise that the whole character of the race has been so revolutionised as Mr. Van Bergen asserts. I shall await the reply, or replies, that may eventuate from this enquiry with greatest anxiety.

Yours truly, "EARNEST ENQUIRER."

JAPAN'S NEW ERA.

Nine months ago, or, to be quite exact, on July 17, 1899, Japan attained its majority, as it was poetically expressed. The extraterritorial privileges hitherto enjoyed by foreign residents were abolished by the assumption of judicial autonomy, granted by the revised treaties which entered into effect on that date. Except the few hundreds of foreigners in Japan, the world beyond those isles did not evince any great interest in the event. But those few hundreds, whom business interest forbade leaving, trembled with apprehension at the prospect before them.

It is true that for twenty three years the Japanese had been clamouring in vain for a revision of the old treaties, and that they were perfectly justified in pressing this claim. On the other hand, the avowed object on the part of the Japanese was persistently to bring foreign residents and visitors under Japanese jurisdiction, a demand which was absurd. This was the purpose of the first representative embassy under the Kugé Iwakura Tomomi, which reached Washington in 1873. Every intelligent man acquainted with the country opposed Japan's claims to be entrusted with power over the life and property of a foreigner,

This opposition was based upon unanswerable reasons. The Japanese possessed no written codes, and in criminal cases torture was resorted to for many years to extract a confession. Besides this, the *joi* or *anti-foreign spirit* was *daily* growing *more and more rampant among* all classes, and there was ample evidence from cases brought against Japanese and adjudicated in their courts that foreigners *could not* obtain justice against a native. These facts prevented the heads of legations at Tokyo from recommending a favorable consideration of Japan's reiterated requests until on July 17, 1894, it was suddenly announced that Lord Salisbury had signed the revised treaty, granting all of Japan's demands on condition that it should go into effect after five years, and provided that at that time the written codes should have been in operation for one year. After this decisive act of Great Britain the other treaty Powers could no longer resist, and Japan's most ardent desire was fulfilled.

It was more than a mistake—it was a crime against Japan's real progress. Marquis Ito, then Prime Minister, had opposed the treaty, as is fully proved by the British Blue Book of 1894, in which the negotiations are published at length. That the Japanese were clamouring for an authority which they would surely abuse was no more excuse for granting it than for an over-indulgent parent to give his child unripe fruit because it cries for it. Admitting that Japan had adopted written codes and that they had been in operation for a year, it would have been a duty to examine these laws. The discovery must have followed that they might suit a Christian nation from whom they had been copied, but that it was ridiculous to expect an essentially Oriental people to obey them. Because our ladies look well dressed in the costumes they wear, it does not follow that their Japanese sisters appear to advantage in similar dresses. Indeed, the Japanese women have wisely discarded our fashions and returned to their *kimono* and *obi*. Even so the codes now in existance in Japan have been quietly disregarded by the authorities when they clashed with old-established usages. But they will be amended until not a shred of the original is left.

While the masses of the Japanese were jubilant as the time drew nigh when no consular court should continue to afford much-needed protection, it was not the foreigners only who looked with apprehension upon the approaching date. The Government of Japan dreaded the excesses of its uncontrollable subjects, who fancied that from that day the hated *to-jin*—foreign devils—must pay due homage to the divinely descended son of Dai Nippon. As a prominent paper published in Japan * expresses it:—

"We have often said, and now repeat it, that from a Japanese standpoint the foreign treaties—since then unfortunately revised—were 'the safest and best which the wisdom of Japanese statesmen could have devised or into which they could have blundered.' We are still of the same opinion, and we are not alone in it. Japan to-day has the shadow of judicial autonomy for the substance of solid and substantial progress and internal consolidation. The building is completed, but the roof leaks, the wind gets in, the accommodation is dear and defective, and the world is beginning to recognize that there are other and better places to live in."

The fear of the Cabinet that the lower classes, the servants and coolies, might interpret the new departure to mean that every foreigner henceforth would be at the mercy of Japanese was by no means unfounded. Had not the native courts arduously and indiscriminately defended every native guilty of an unprovoked assault upon a foreigners? Had not acquittal uniformly followed the most flagrant case of cheating or embezzlement committed upon an alien? These facts could not be denied. But while this line of conduct had not displeased the Government at a time when it could not be held responsible, it was now deemed necessary to invoke the highest power, the Emperor's writ, in restraining the ardent patriots from such embarrassing behaviour. An imperial rescript was issued a few days prior to July 17, 1899, strongly advocating a more civil and just line of conduct.

This rescript was unheeded. The majority of those natives whom business or social relations bring into contact with foreigners looked upon it as a mere formality to allay fears. With the strongly biased actions of the judges before them, the people could come to no other conclusion. Regrettable though it be, it is nevertheless a fact that even in the most enlightened countries few judges are wholly indifferent to popular approval. In Japan, where from the immaturity of codes and bench no precedents had been established to assist in the interpretation of the law, and incidentally in restraining the judges, the inexperienced and ill-paid members of the judiciary are wholly biased by national and popular sympathies. To show how deeply seated this is and the danger it constitutes to our American citizens in Japan, the following instance of recent occurrence deserves attention.

On September 30, 1899, the *Tamba Maru*, a Japanese steamer owned by the *Nippon Yusen Kaisha* (Japan Mail Steamship Company) lay at anchor in Moji harbour. The third officer, Mr. H. R. H. Kent, an Englishman not quite twenty-three years of age, bearing an excellent reputation, was in his room, when the door opened and a quartermaster of the ship entered, evidently intent upon mischief. After a wordy attack Umezoko Toyomatsu, the quartermaster, struck his superior, who replied by knocking the man down. The latter rose, and pulling the legs from under Kent bit him severely in the thigh. The noise brought several officers of the steamer on the scene, who witnessed the greater part of the fray. The quartermaster was arrested by Constable Yoda, of the water police. He retaliated by causing the arrest of Mr. Kent.

Kent was refused bail for two days on a simple charge of battery, while Umezeko was at once released on his own recognizance. The trial was postponed for an absurd length of time, detaining both the defendant and witnesses, and it was only on December 7, or *sixty-eight days* after the occurrence, that judgment was pronounced. When the trial did take place cross-examination and the calling of witnesses for the defence were prohibited, and when at last Messrs. Hill and De la Hayde, both esteemed officers of the steamer, were examined by the court, their testimony, wholly exculpating the defendant, was simply pronounced "not credible" because it contradicted the unsupported statement of the quartermaster. Mr. Kent was sentenced to *six months of rigorous imprisonment.*

Even the *Japan Mail, the organ of the Japanese*, stands aghast at this miscarriage of justice, while the Japanese mob is jubilant. It is therefore not incredible that a Tokyo merchant named Otaki Motu brought suit against the highly responsible and old-established firm of Worch & Co., of Yokohama, asking for the restitution of 10,000 cases of alcohol deposited with the firm as security for a loan of 132,700 *yen*. The firm does not know the man, never loaned him any money, and never handled the alcohol. But the Japanese trusts to the bias of the judge and he hopes to obtain judgment in his favor.

When the new treaty went into effect the Japanese expected that foreign capital would pour in for investment. This expectation has not been realized. There is no security whatever for capital in Japan, and those who made careful inquiries withdrew at once. It was not at all necessary to trust to the universal sentiment among foreigners. The anti-foreign spirit pre-

* The *Eastern World*, December 2, 1899, page 4.

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dominating among the Japanese is so strong that Marquis Ito, than whom no man can be more patriotic, has repeatedly felt it his duty to openly comment upon and rebuke it. The last time he did so was at a banquet on December 16, 1899. The following fragments of his speech on that occasion are literal quotations:

"But it is a matter for deep regret to observe that the conduct of some classes of the people is not altogether free from blame. Whether as a consequence of our late success in arms or from some other causes, it looks as though a section of the nation had become animated by an anti-foreign spirit and inspired by anti-foreign sentiments. Such sentiments are altogether irrational and out of place in our present state of progress. They are simply the products of ignorance and stupidity, and it is a duty of all leaders of thought like yourselves to eradicate the evil and mistaken sentiments of this description from the people's minds.

"The occasion of the coming into effect of the revised treaties was made memorable, as you all know, by the issue of an imperial rescript, but judging from what I observed in the course of my recent tours in the country, I am sorry to say that the people in general appear to attach comparatively little importance to the document in question. . . .

"It should be borne in mind that imperial rescripts are only issued on occasions of particular importance and in connection with matters of especial gravity. For instance, when a fundamental departure in the national policy is to be proclaimed it cannot be proclaimed by means of a law, but only by means of a rescript under the seal of the Emperor, whom we all obey as our common lord. Such were exactly the circumstances under which the particular imperial rescript we are speaking of was promulgated, and in importance and weight there is not the slightest difference between it and the celebrated imperial message on education. . . .

"What should we, then, say of those who in a cowardly manner insult these strangers [the foreign residents and tourists] by jostling them or throwing stones at them? These things may appear to be trifling matters, but really they are very serious affairs, fraught as they are with far-reaching consequences."

This *anti-foreign* feeling is *shared equally* by *all classes*, the Government and a very few notable persons excepted. Among these latter the *Jiji Shimpo* and its patriotic editor, E. Fukuzawa, deserve mention. They have dared brave a storm of vituperation for insisting that Japan should deserve her rank in the comity of nations by permitting foreigners to own real estate. As the law is now, a lease of twenty five years is the utmost that can be granted. Japan is anxious that American capital should make investments; but capital is timid and demands the best of security.

Another improvement essential to the execution of the new treaties is an adequate salary for the bench. What can be the *personnel* of the most important branch of the Government when an industrious *jinrikisha* coolie, who is entitled to 20 *sen* per hour, can earn more than a learned judge? The many vacancies now existing evidently point out the fact that bright lawyers do not court the honour of a judgeship.

Those whose financial interests demand the adulation of Japan may offer as an excuse that Chinese coolies have been assaulted in some parts of the United States. Without attempting to palliate the offence, it must be remembered that such acts were committed by an irresponsible mob or its members, and also that the sufferers were of the very lowest class of Chinese. In Japan those who are assaulted are ladies or gentlemen of the *very best class of Americans* or Europeans, *quiet, industrious reputable* merchants or missionaries; and the men committing the offense were often, if not most frequently, of the class of merchants or *shizoku*. There is at present absolutely no safety for a foreigner in Japan, and ladies especially are liable to be insulted anywhere and in broad daylight. It is out of the question to obtain redress.

This condition of affairs must necessarily come to light and finally will result in serious trouble with Japan. If the authorities of the treaty Powers had made an earnest investigation as to the claims of Japan to be admitted on terms of equality into the comity of nations, the request would have been denied. Japan copied institutions, or rather gave fine-sounding civilized names to innovations the scope of which not 1 per cent. of its people understood. Here is an illustration of this fact in the account of an affair of recent occurrence, in which an American citizen was involved.

One of the most ineradicable, because distinctly Oriental, customs, strong enough to defy any law, is the right of parents to sell their daughters for immoral purposes. The custom is based upon the only religious (the word is absurd, but there is no other adequate expression) sentiment possessed by Japanese and Chinese alike—viz., ancestral worship. There are many literary productions in Japan in which a woman who has sold herself to a life of shame in order to relieve her parents is the heroine. It happened that one of these unfortunates held in bondage at Nagoya, disgusted with her life, applied to the courts for release. The Rev. U. G. Murphy, an American missionary located at that place, interested himself in the case, and the girl won the suit, judgment being based upon Article XC. of the civil code: "A juristic act whose intended effect is contrary to the public welfare or good morals is void."

After judgment was pronounced the buyer of the girl, backed by other members of his class, defied the court by refusing to give up the girl, and, what is more to the purpose, he is sustained by the chief of police and the governor of Nagoya. The former official graciously admits that the law may be just, but maintains that he is powerless to enforce it because the local regulations constitute the keeper of an immoral resort the arbiter as to when its inmates shall be released. The governor agrees in this opinion, and the law is set aside. Of what import, then, is Article XXIII. of the Constitution of Japan, which says:—"No Japanese subject shall be arrested, detained, tried, or punished unless according to law"?

The question may be asked why foreigners do not, leave Japan if conditions exist as described above. The editor of the *Eastern World*, quoted before, answers:

"Because the large majority would have more to take away with them than a trunk and a gripsack. They have been here for a greater or lesser number of years, have invested money in the business they have built up, and are only kept here by sheer force of circumstances; but there are few of them who would not leave if they could wind up their affairs without loss or with no more loss than they can well bear."

JAPANESE WOMEN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Permit me to call attention to a criticism based upon an imperfect report in your issue of Monday relative to a quotation which occurred in a paper read by Miss Searle, of Kobe, before the Missionary Conference now in session at Tokyo.

The remark to which exception was taken is as follows: "There are many gentle and beautiful women and comparatively few real noble women."

This sentiment was from the lips of a young Japanese woman whose education and position qualifies her to express an opinion on the subject, but the expression, although quoted by the writer of the paper in the way of illustration, was properly accredited and in no sense indorsed by her.

SECRETARY.

Tokyo, Oct. 30th, 1900.

[If the opinion emanated originally from a Japanese lady, we have merely to transfer our criticisms to her.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE "CHICAGO RECORD" POLL.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have the honour to announce the following as the result of the poll of U.S. citizens in Japan with reference to the Presidential campaign:—

McKinley and Roosevelt	115
Bryan and Stevenson	14
Woolley and Metcalf	19
Dooley and Henessey	1
Not-voting	11
Total	160

Although I am somewhat disappointed in regard to the number of votes cast, and hoped for a larger poll of voters, yet I am inclined to think that the proportion of votes cast for each ticket represents quite fairly the trend of public opinion out here. It is not unlikely that, if every citizen had been polled, a larger proportion of non-voters would have resulted, because many of those who failed to respond to my two appeals probably did not have sufficient interest in the campaign even to drop me a line stating that fact. And unquestionably the non-voters are mostly Democrats who can not choose between Bryan and McKinley.

The poll, however, has been a representative one, as the votes have come from merchants, clerks, missionaries and teachers, and the voters hail from different sections of both Japan and the United States. The poll has revealed some interesting features, and especially shows a mixed-up condition.

For instance, one Republican votes "with reluctance" for McKinley; another "must vote" this year for Bryan; while several Democrats vote for McKinley. One missionary "of Republican instincts" votes for Bryan, because "I feel imperialistic sentiments so suicidal." One "life-long Democrat" writes: "I feel that I have no party, and should not exercise the privilege of an American citizen."

One missionary, voting for Bryan, adds the following apt quotation from Froude's "Cæsar?—" "If there be one lesson which history clearly teaches, it is this, that free nations can not govern subject provinces. If they are unable or unwilling to admit their dependencies to share their own constitution the constitution itself will fall to pieces from mere incompetence for its duties."

The votes for Woolley and Metcalf all came from missionaries, one of whom says that they represent the "only party and platform worthy of a Christian's ballot." Another states that Dr. S. C. Swallow declined the nomination of the United Christian Party for President and has been supporting Woolley.

One veteran missionary, also a veteran of the Civil War, has never cast a vote in a Presidential election. But another missionary offers, in case McKinley and Roosevelt haven't enough votes to elect them, to send another; while the Thorns of the "Box of Curios" are ready to vote "early, late and often." The vote for Dooley and Henessey, or "a go-as-you please ticket," was cast by the well-known Senda, humorist, and is perhaps not far from representing the state of mind of some voters in the United States!

It is quite evident that the U. S. citizens in Japan care nothing for the minor parties; if they can not vote for either McKinley, or Bryan, or Woolley, they prefer not to vote at all.

Moreover, from the fact that some Prohibitionists expressed sympathy with McKinley in his foreign policy, but could not vote for him on account of the canteen matter, it seems perfectly fair to assume that three-fourths of the U. S. citizens in Japan are in favour of expansion. This is the principal lesson of our poll.

ERNEST W. CLEMENT.

Tokyo, Oct. 31st.

CHRISTIAN WORK AMONG THE AINU.

The following paper was read by the Rev. J. Batchelor, on Oct. 25th, at the Second General Conference of Protestant Missions in Japan.

When honoured with an invitation to prepare a "Paper" on "Christian work among the Ainu" to be read at this Conference, I was duly reminded that "the time limit for presentation is twenty-five minutes." Such being the case it is evident that only a few remarks under each of the heads of the subject may be made. And this indeed is all that is expected, for the text of the invitation further runs:—"Doubtless you could present the most salient features of your work in that time."

In order to present a fairly full and faithful idea as to what Christian work among this race really means, it seems to me that besides tracing a history of the beginning and progress of the work, some short account ought to be given of the fundamental principles and essential ideas which lie at the basis of the native's own religion. For if somewhat of these be set forth and apprehended, not only may comparison be made with the old Japanese native religion as distinct from Buddhism, but the inner or spiritual difficulties to be met with and combated will become more apparent, while the mighty power of the glorious Gospel of Christ, in overthrowing error and superstition and renewing the soul in that light, truth, and life which nothing else in this world ever has done or can do, will stand out in more bold and well-defined relief. I propose therefore to class the remarks made in this paper under the three following general heads —

1.—The Beginning and Progress of the Work.
2.—Some Elements of Ainu Religion
3.—Methods of Working.

1.—The Beginning and Progress of the Work.

The Ainu were first visited with a view to their evangelization by the Rev. W. Dening in the year 1876. Mr Dening was at that time residing in Hakodate as the honoured Agent of the Church Missionary Society and had come to Yezo from Madagascar after several years' good and faithful service in that land. He came here with a great and blessed trust, namely to labour in the bonds of Christ as a Missionary with the special object of eventually reaching the Ainu. The time he was able to give this people, however, was necessarily so little and his visits to them so far between that he was unable, amid much work among the Japanese, to do more than study the language with a view to future operations. Mr. Dening therefore was not able to do any direct evangelization by preaching the word to this people, and there were no converts made during his ministrations. Nevertheless, he has the great honour of being the first Missionary sent to tell the "Good News" to the Ainu of Yezo.

My own first visit to the Ainu took place in 1878 one year before my name appears in the C.M.S. list; and from that time to this it has been my great privilege to continue visiting them, staying in their villages a longer or shorter time as circumstances allowed. My regular appointment to this sphere as a special work, however, did not take place till 1882, but since

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that time the Ainu have been my particular study and care.

As one would naturally expect, the first few years was a time much given to the acquirement of the language, which was made doubly difficult by there being no text books to read nor much trustworthy information to work upon or guide one. The people had therefore to form my only books on the language and everything else connected with themselves; and I must admit that I sometimes found them very difficult to decipher, while at others I read them wrongly. Until the year 1885 there was no sign to show that any of them were taking any particular interest in the Gospel message, and many Japanese, irresponsible and otherwise, who then dwelt among them were working so that they should not do so. In the early spring of that year, however, the first Ainu asked for baptism and I gave God thanks. This man entered the visible Church of Christ on Christmas day in 1885 and into his rest in the summer of 1898. After this baptism the people came out by ones and twos, till in the year 1893 there was a great ingathering from various places of 171 souls. From that time to this they have gone on coming into the Church till there are now more than 1150 persons joined to the Lord.

At the beginning and for several years my wife and I were the only workers in the Ainu Mission, but in 1893 Mr. C. Nettleship joined the Society and was stationed at Horobetsu in charge of a small school for lads. This arrangement, however, did not meet with the approval of the representatives of the Japanese Government then residing at Mororan and as a consequence had to be give up. The school was therefore closed and another opened at Hakodate. Under the efficient care of Mr. Nettleship this school has done well and lads have come to it from the farthest of the outlying villages, instead of from that one village of Horobetsu, as formerly. Thus the work has not by any means been all plain sailing as could be made further clear were it necessary; but one can afford to allow petty annoyances and also covert opposition alone, for the work is the Lord's own and prosper it must.

Among the personnel our Japanese friends, the evangelists, should not be forgotten, for they have worked hand in hand with us and have in four special cases rendered efficient help. There are also now two Ainu Readers and one Catechist labouring with us. The Mission too has lately been divided up among all the C.M.S. Clergy on the Island. Mr. Andrews at Hakodate: Mr. Niven at Otaru: Mr. Lang at Kushiro; myself at Sapporo—each is now looking after the Ainu residing in his own district so that with some slight reservation it may be said that all the members of this race are more or less in touch with us. Out of some 18,000 souls more than half reside in what is called, for the sake of convenience, the Sapporo district, and therefore remain under my charge.

Nor should we forget Miss Payne, who is now in England on furlough. This lady most nobly lived for several years quite alone at Kushiro and during her time there laboured assiduously to reach the Ainu in the surrounding villages. Miss Bryant, a properly certificated and fully qualified nurse from Guy's Hospital, London, joined us in the year 1896, and has since been working very acceptably among the Ainu of Piratori and the villages around. She is at present on the way to her home in Australia, whither she has gone on account of ill-health. And lastly there is Miss Hughes who joined the Mission in 1897, and who, besides delivering the Message to the Japanese ladies, superintends a small Home for Ainu girls at Sapporo. Thus has "Christian work among the Ainu" progressed in Agents and in Fruit gathered in. The Lord has been found faithful to His promise which reads:—"Lo, I am with you alway even unto the end of the world," "And my word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereunto I sent it."

There are some Christians belonging to the Russian Church on the Island of Shikotan, and the Roman Catholic Sect has also commenced work among our people. The persons whom I thought had been perverted to their form of the faith, however, deny having joined them. But time forbids any further notice being taken of these Sects in this paper. The 2nd point to which I would draw your attention is:—

2.—Some Elements of Ainu Religion.

(A) The first element I would mention is fetichism.—Upon making a casual visit to the Ainu, any person, even though he were but poorly endowed with the gift of observation, would soon conclude that this people is deeply imbued with ideas which can find their foundation in nothing other than pure fetichism. Upon entering a village, for example he would see peeled sticks, wands, and shavings, together with the skulls of animals set up on high at the eastern end of each dwelling, while about every hut, inside and out, he would see other small wands, called *inao*, stuck about. Were he to visit the places whence the drinking water is drawn, the river ferries, fishing stations, and such like localities, he would find the same thing. After a longer stay among them and more careful observation he might find out that—the men especially—they keep by them a great number of charms such as feathers, bird's nests, snake skins, and other objects: and should he still further dip into the matter he would also see that they have in their sacred collections, carefully stowed away in boxes, the skulls of various animals and birds, and in some cases of fish. These are supposed to possess souls and are called "guardian deities." Their function is to watch over the body, soul, and spirit of any who keep them, and they are especially worshipped during sickness and other adversity. All of these external objects are without doubt securely linked to some principles of religious thought and belief. They do not stand alone; and when they are placed side by side we cannot help concluding them to infallibly spel. Fetichism. The Ainu prize these things, unsightly though some of them are, as much as the most faithful and earnest Roman Catholic of the dark ages did the most efficacious *fetico* of those times, from a piece of the wood of the true cross or the skull of S. Peter down to the newest madonna or ordinary crucifix.

(B) The second element to which I would draw your attention is totemism. Upon a first acquaintance with this people I had no idea that such a thing as totemism existed among them, but found out later that their minds are impregnated to the very core with ideas which are centred in this cultus. The great bear festival is a prominent example of this. Bruin is sacrified, slain, and eaten. But *why* it may well be asked? That it is a sacrifice cannot be doubted. But it must be remembered that the sacrifice is in no way *piacular*. The animals' blood is not shed for the remission of sins, for this is an idea altogether alien to Ainu religion. But mark, in this feast and sacrifice we find an astonishing and realistic parody,—a living commentary—in fact, on the Romish materialistic doctrine of Transubstantiation! The blood of the bear is taken and drunk by some of the officiators at the feast, and his flesh is eaten by all, by way of direct communion with him—their god! In the Ainu idea this festival is a very solemn and happy sacrifice of God Himself to Himself, and in essence forms the highest expression of religion. It is a carnal communion with their god—a communion of kinship and right good fellowship in which the people bite him with their teeth, swallow him, and by digesting him in their stomachs assimilate him into their very persons. Some of the men also besmear their garments with his blood so as to obtain a further share of his virtue or powers! Thus the bear is not sacrificed simply as a bear, nor even as a representative of all bears, nor even as one god out of many, but as a special god of the Ainu—as their totem god, indeed, (as might be shown were this the place or time), as the direct ancestor of the Ainu race.

There are also other totem gods, a fact which probably points back to the time when the Ainu race was divided into clans. Thus, foxes, wolves, racoons, and even moles and mice are sacrificed and partaken of; so also are eagles, kites, cranes, storks, snipe, quails, wrens and other birds. Whales, sea lions, swordfish, sharks, sturgeons, salmon and many other inhabitants of the sea and rivers are, there are grounds to believe, also totem gods. All of these things, together with a thousand others proclaim with no uncertain voice that the Ainu are totemistic in their religious belief, and this cultus is, as I take it, the twin sister of fetichism.

(C) The next element is Animism. In this cultus the people imagine themselves to find individual deities and demons in all kinds of things. The lightning and thunder; the air, clouds, and fog; sun, moon and stars; the gentle breeze and roaring storm of wind, the rushing torrent and steady flowing stream; land and sea; mountain, plain and valley; hill and dale; the heights above and the depths below; tree, shrub, and herb; all and every one of these things is supposed to possess a personal life of its own, and to be the home also of other personal and individual life besides. Indeed, it is persistently asserted by some of the old men that all of these objects, yea even heaven and hell themselves, are peopled with gods and demons, elves and imps, ghosts and ghouls. Hence they think it to be essentially necessary for every man to move warily wherever he may be lest he should offend the gods or rouse the anger and spite of the demons, who though quiet and indifferent at times, are yet on occasion to be looked upon as struggling, the one to help and the other to injure mankind. Hence, say they, it is a dangerous and serious thing to be living in this world, there being more to fear than to love, more to be shunned and hated than sought after and cherished. So thoroughly are the people given over to this kind of animism that all true joy in life is eaten away and they are left almost entirely without hope in the world.

(D) The last element which I would draw your attention to is Sympathetic Magic.—That the Ainu soul is honeycombed with ideas connected with this superstition can not be doubted. I have met with it many times, from the beginning till now, and have had to take it much into account in my dealings with the people. The fact that no woman may mention the name of her husband, or that a sick person must change his name, has its seat in sympathetic magic just as clearly as the custom of cutting another person's clothes with a view to inflicting bodily harm. Making an image out of straw to represent a person one desires to injure, then burying it, or nailing it to a tree, is another form of the same thing. The person is cursed under the form of the image and the demons are worshipped and earnestly asked that the body represented by it may gradually grow weak and the life fade away as the image decays. Further views of this grotesque faith may be seen in the great care the people are accustomed to take of their hair and nail parings lest an enemy should get hold of them and work his diabolical spells through their means.

But time forbids me to dwell on these and kindred matters further, such as witchcraft, sorcery, ophiolatry, demon worship, and so on. The curtain has been lifted a little way from the soul of this race and behind it we have caught a glimpse of a four-fold delusion of Satan, namely Fetichism, Totemism, Animism and Sympathetic Magic. For untold ages have the demons been darkening the minds of the Ainu with such superstition and driving them into the lower depths of the great pit by their means.

Such then is some of the darkness the light of the glorious Gospel is dispelling, and such is part of the bondage of error and superstition from which Christ is setting the Ainu free. "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness," is now truly shining in their hearts, "to give the light of the knowledge of the Glory of God in the face of Christ Jesus; (2 Cor: 4. 6). to whom be praise for ever."

3.—Methods of Working.

(A) Evangelization.—The Master's command to His Apostles and through them to His whole Church was that the "good news" should be preached among all the nations, and that the souls which are gathered in should be taught to observe all things whatsoever He Himself had commanded. The expressed promise to this being that those who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Therefore following the Master's commands the preaching of the Gospel Word to the Ainu has been our first endeavour. And in doing this we have at all times striven to tell—and tell simply—the old, old story of Jesus and His cross, following that story as set forth in the New Testament. And this story, so told, is accepted by many, for they believe it to be true and find in it that rest to the soul and peace of mind with God which this world can neither give nor take away. They have through faith found it to be the power of God unto salvation, and in this they rejoice.

The beginnings of evangelistic work among them were very difficult, for unless the utmost care was taken one was bound to trample on some superstition or other or unwittingly commit some grave offence against etiquette, tradition, or religious custom. The first task was therefore to quietly watch the people, make a few friends among them and tell the story bit by bit, and from hut to hut, without casting any reflection on the absurdity of what one saw going on around or showing any surprise at what they held sacred.

(B) In the prosecution of my work I found that care had to be taken in searching for truth in the native religion.—After having made a few friends among the people I considered it my next duty to exercise the greatest possible care not to do or say anything which would be likely to upset any truth which might be found lurking in the native religion. Truth, wherever found, ought always to be nurtured. This is a principle I have always held fast by, for truth is eternal and one truth can never be contrary to another wherever seen and however much it may be covered up. I firmly believe that there are some, nay many, points where the truths of the Christian religion may be brought to bear upon the truth contained in every human faith with great advantage. Yes, in my opinion at least, religious truths discovered by reason may well be made points of contact—may be made the groundwork—upon which to rest in the first instance God's own revealed truth. For it is true among the Ainu as among every other people, that in His great mercy God has not left them entirely without light.

But in the phase of the work now being discussed, however, it is always necessary to exercise great care in lopping off the adventitious growth—in taking away the branches of error, and suckers of superstition, credulity and self-delusion which have clustered round the root and stem of the truth. Allow me to explain. I have already mentioned that the highest ideal in Ainu religion finds its expression in the bear festival, the true underlying principle of which is communion with God. This principle being so sound, ought one to do anything likely to destroy it? I trow not. The great thing to be done is to take the idea just as one finds it and then simply show in the first place who God is,—show that "God is Spirit" and tell how "they who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth," at the same time en-

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deavouring to make it plain that communion is to be had with Him not by eating Him with the mouth, (He being Spirit)—but by opening the soul to Him that He Himself may enter and make the heart His own abiding-place. After this the blessed results of such communion may be dwelt upon till in His own good time the learner himself experiences the indwelling Spirit. He then naturally and of course drops the bear festival and in heart feasts on God with thanksgiving by faith. The bear festival he sees is an ugly insinuating growth by means of which Satan has been sapping the very life from the heart of the people for years untold. I am happy to be able to point to several men who have now given up the practice and are fully satisfied. Oh that we, brethren, that the Ainu, that the Church, that the whole world would know more fully and more clearly understand that the most blessed peaceful thing for all is a free and constant Communion with God and nothing less.

But in seeking out foundation truths upon which to set one's first building great care must be exercised lest mistakes be made—lest some error, through its likeness to a known truth, be itself taken for a truth. I have found myself thus caught and will, by way of example, now show how. As Christians we of course look upon it as a right and pious act to acknowledge God's goodness and care over us in Providence by giving Him thanks in grace before our meals. Now, I was very much surprised as well as pleased to see many of the Ainu say grace before eating when I first came into their midst. Here thought I, is another grand truth to build upon. The people believe in God and His Providence. The grace used was "O God our nourisher, I thank thee for this food; bless it to the service of my body." But alas, I discovered some years later that what the Ainu call grace differs very vitally from our own idea thereof. Their grace is idolatry, and is founded in totemism. The God they thank is the food itself. It is cereal worship? I discovered this upon hearing another grace said which ran thus:—"O thou cereal deity, we worship thee. Thou hast grown very well this year and thy flavour will be sweet. Thou art good. The Goddess of fire will be glad and we shall rejoice greatly. O thou God; O thou divine cereal; do thou nourish the people. I now partake of thee. I worship thee and give thee thanks." Thus was I mistaken. No doubt the original and central truth here again is communion with God; but the idolatry, superstition, and error in which it is now enshrined is so gross that the natives themselves have lost the orginal idea altogether; though when placed before them carefully they still have power to recognize it. But time forbids any further remarks on this and kindred subjects.

The next matter to which I would draw your attention is:—

(c) The care needed to be exercised in the use of terms.—In preaching to this people, especially when the subject has been sin, or holiness, and their allies, a very great difficulty has sometimes arisen and mistakes been made through difference of definition in terms. I have found that the Ainu general definition of sin is, for example, the practice of isolated acts considered immoral, as theft, lying, disobedience to parents, and such like; so that the more of these acts one commits the greater sinner he is thought to be. According to them sin is in the first place some wrong act done against the established rules of society. The evangelist has therefore to be careful to explain that when he speaks of sin he means corruption of the heart, and that wicked deeds are as it were but the fruits springing from the roots. They need to be shown that men are sinners in the sight of God first, and not in man's; in other words, one must tell them that man's soul has lost the image of his God and has become depraved and corrupt. Without this explanation, to call an Ainu a sinner would be equal to telling him that he is a thief or a robber, or a quarrelsome fellow. Naturally he would resent this and want to retaliate on his accuser. Indeed, the very fact of calling him a sinner would be tantamount to transgressing the laws of society as he understands them; thereby making one's self a very bad sinner in his eyes. To him it would be a clear case of the pot calling the kettle black. I wonder whether we have not sometimes made such mistakes in our dealing with the Japanese! If so, it is a grievous thing and it is no wonder if some of them who have heard us preach have, till they have understood what we meant, been against us. My advice therefore to the young missionary, if I may presume to advise him, is to make himself well acquainted at the outset with the native definition of the terms he uses in the prosecution of his work, for he will thereby save himself an infinite amount of trouble.

Other terms it is highly necessary to properly understand and explain are Holy and Holiness. I have found during my labours that such words as these must not be too lightly handled. To us the idea of holiness is ethical, and men are holy only in so far as they are pure and God-like in their renewed nature and character, having been born again in spirit by the Holy Spirit of God, thus having their minds conformed to the will of God Himself. But among the Ainu there is no term for Holy in this sense in their whole vocabulary, and the nearest idea they have to it would be for the most part expressed by the word "taboo," and when speaking of things that means, as I take it, something set apart for some purpose or forbidden to a person, or class of people, for some reason. When speaking of men, holiness, according to their idea, would be a state of being in which the person is actuated by precepts handed down from bygone ages in tradition and governed by custom, and is thought of rather in connection with right acts than with purity of heart. A man is holy only in so far as he obeys the injunctions contained in the taboos or ordered by the chiefs of the people. And thus it happens that an inexperienced missionary may be saying one thing to such a people when he thinks himself to be setting forth quite another. He might be saying for example:—"Mind ye the taboos, for I mind the taboos," when he thought he was quoting the text "Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 S. Pet: 1. 18.) Indeed, when he imagines himself to be very orthodox indeed he may perhaps be in reality most heretical, and all this because the terms he uses mean one thing to him and something totally different to his hearers.

(D) The next point I would mention is auxiliary work.—That the Church Missionary Society has several auxiliary aids in the spread of the Gospel among the Ainu has already been mentioned. The "Home" for Girls and the "Rest" for the sick at Sapporo,—the schools for lads at Hakodate and elsewhere, with their 180 pupils,—Miss Bryant's work at Piratori, etc., are cases in point. But as these have all been incidentally mentioned before there is no necessity to dwell more at length upon them now.

But the "time limit" has been reached, and the most salient features of the work, as I understand them, have been briefly set forth. Here therefore this "paper" must end. The race is a dying one and nothing that can now be done can save it, even were the authorities really in earnest in trying to do so. The language too is fast becoming obsolete so that in most places I visit on evangelistic tours it is necessary to use Japanese instead of Ainu, that being understood by the younger generation much better than the mother tongue. Thus, in the dispensation of Providence, does one nation go and another come in its place. But thanks be to God, some have already been saved and others are being saved from among this decaying race; God's mysterious purposes in and for them are being worked out according to the laws established by His own good will and in His own time, for "The Lord God omnipotent reigneth"; to whom be "Salvation and glory, and honour, and power" for ever.

EDUCATIONAL RESULTS AND PROSPECTS.

The following paper was read on Oct. 26th at the Missionary Conference in Tokyo by the Rev. S. H. Wainright, Principal of the Kwansei Gakuin, Kobe:—

The subject assigned to me contemplates a practical consideration of our educational interests. The purpose is to have presented to this Conference, so far as they relate to schools and colleges for boys, the results of Christian education; and to have discussed in the light of past results and present conditions and needs, prospects for the future.

It is in accord with the spirit of the age to advertise successes, to tabulate and publish results, and, through the influence of science, to bring everything to the test of quantitive measurement. It is necessary therefore at the outset to remind ourselves, and the public who judge our work by the showing we are able to make, that the changes effected in Japanese life by means of Christian schools are not so definite and obvious in nature as to yield themselves to expression through language or number. Spiritual ends have been our chief consideration and spiritual results are the most difficult to exhibit in tangible form. What it is possible to present here will only give some indication of the trend of things, some conception of progress made through the visible changes which appear.

So closely interwoven are our schools with the life of society that it will be necessary to discuss them in connection with the environment in which they are placed. Their history falls within the present reign, a most remarkable period in Japanese history. The characteristic features of the period, its ethical mould, its marked tendencies, find their explanation in two streams of influence which have merged together and formed one current, the one pouring in from the west, the other coming out of the Tokugawa times. The forms of the feudal past have disappeared, leaving behind a heritage of ideas, sentiments and inclinations; the forms of western life have been largely introduced, but the spirit, ideals, and principles which they embody have not been fully appropriated.

Yet the change has not been natural and easy. It has been epochal in character. The advance made has not been one upward step in that progress of society wherein custom and reason react upon each other and the former is gradually reshaped into new forms by the latter. It has been rather a passage, almost at a single leap, from the mediæval to the modern type of existence.

Only three aspects of the change concern us in this connection. The first is the relaxation of social and civic restraint which has taken place, and the extension of the principle of personal liberty. Blocked in by family, or guild, or clan, and enfolded in the meshes of an intricate fabric of custom and ceremony, the citizen of old Japan was outwardly constrained to an orderly walk. How great is the contrast, for example, between the former ways of doing business and enforcing its obligations and the present methods which presuppose personal integrity and mutual trust on the part of those engaged in it, of a very high character. How different are the fettered intellect and culture of former times and the mind of Japan to-day, free to act and incited to activity by pulpit, platform press and school. How sharp are the lines which set off the political inertness and indifference of the past from the ballot-box contests, party agitations and parliamentary struggles so conspicuous in the present period. In every phase of social life there has been a loosening of the bonds of the former generation. The second point is the substitution of principle, in the ordering of national life, for local usage or individual caprice. The administrative, legislative and judicial functions of the Empire are henceforth to be conducted in accordance with general principles, embodied in the Constitution and in the new Codes. The old courts where cases were settled according to custom or expediency or by compromise, have passed away and judgments are now rendered in the name of justice and equity. Local interest, or prejudice, or usage must yield to law, and the political life of the nation take shape around rules which are to be applied to all and govern all alike. The importance of this change cannot be over-estimated.

The third aspect of the transformation, to which attention is called, is the awakening of the sleeping energies of the nation. This has come about through the impact of civilization, and the very depths of Japan's existence have been stirred in consequence. The most far-reaching impulse aroused has been that toward industrial effort, commercial expansion, and accumulation of wealth. Next to this, but to a lesser degree, intellectual activity and a thirst for knowledge have been awakened; and, to a more limited extent still, a desire for the higher and more spiritual elements of Christian civilization has been quickened. Instead of a people spending their time sitting on mats and at ease, we have a restless, eager, active community, seized by new ambitions, moved by new impulses, possessed of new and mighty instruments of power and prompted to greater undertakings than ever before attempted.

There is one feature prominent in all three aspects of Japan's revolution just pointed out. The new form of existence is more highly ethical in character and makes enormous demands on the moral and intellectual resources of the nation. Conscience must play a greater part and assert itself with greater power where outward restraint has been removed, where prejudice, self-interest, and habit must drop out and conduct be squared to principle, and where mighty impulses and energies must be held in check and made to minister to man's highest needs. But while the transition Japan is passing through requires an upward movement in the direction of virtue, it is too painfully evident that the tendency of society is in the direction of license. A hundred extracts from current periodicals could be easily presented here to show that the Japanese themselves believe the nation is moving along the downward path of moral degeneration. All this may be admitted, it will perhaps be said, but the facts have no connection with Christian education, with Mission schools. As the first impression of western civilization, the conviction prevailed early in this era that knowledge is power, but morality is now emphasized and has become the all-absorbing topic of discussion; and agencies are at work, the public and private schools, the press, literary and scientific societies, reform associations and other influences, which are able to cope with the situation, enlighten the masses, and bring them up intellectually and morally to the high standard of life required by the country's free institutions and more complex social conditions. If this is true, there is no need for Christian schools, no place and no prospects for Christian education in the country. But is it true? That is the question. There is not the slightest disposition to depreciate the value of agencies outside the Church which make for culture. The splendid efforts of the State for education have received and deserved the admiration of the world. 3,994,826 pupils attend the elementary schools, 53,691 the middle schools, 4,436 the colleges, and 2,255 the universities. Add to these facts, the technical and special schools and the 49 normal schools under State supervision and the comprehensiveness of the new system becomes impressive.

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Many private schools, secular, have been established, the most widely known of which is the one founded by Mr. Fukuzawa. And besides institutions of learning, there is great literary activity, and numerous societies and periodicals have for their aim the dissemination of knowledge and the elevation of the people. The contrast in this respect between Japan and her near neighbour, China, is very great; for in China, the forces exercised in behalf of modern civilization, outside of Missionary circles, are insignificant.

But Japanese thought and activity, outside of the State system of schools, or inside of it, though vigorous, earnest and inquiring, is incapable, to our mind, of meeting the moral needs of the country, because of the serious limitations which it is under. State education is circumscribed in scope because of its neutral point of view; and for two reasons, it is more restricted than State instruction in Western countries: (1) because of a greater variety of opinions and beliefs existing in the country; and (2) because no one of them, like Christianity in Europe and America overshadows the rest and is universally acknowledged as the faith of the nation. The State system is thus cut off from the richest treasures of human knowledge to a great degree and from spiritual aims, spiritual means and spiritual resources. Hence, in the very nature of the case, the moral significance of the State system can never be great. In both Japan and India, the only two countries where education has been rigidly secular, the moral results of the system have been lamentably disappointing.

Culture in Japan in general, apart from Christian influence, is confined within certain limits. The thought of the country has become encysted, it has ranged within the borders of the temporal, relative, finite sphere: and has been divorced from religious sentiment and religious conceptions. All those grand conceptions—the personality of God, the creation of the world, the over-ruling Providence, the purpose running through the ages, the communion between the finite and Infinite; the existence of eternal sympathy behind eternal power—have lain outside the range of Japanese thinking.

The origin of the indifference, so general, to religious ideas has been historical rather than natural. It has been due perhaps (1) to the low form of religion, superstitious and idolatrous, which has existed in Japan; (2) to the impractical nature of the Buddhist teaching; and (3) to the positive influence of Confucianism. Unfamiliar with religion in its highest form, it is not strange that men should look upon it as suited only to children, the ignorant and the uncivilized.

Count Okuma tells us that the whole body of Japanese thought is imbued with Confucianism—and the statement is made in explanation of the fact of indifference to religion among Japanese politicians. For a long time in the care of Buddhists, the education of the country passed out of their hands in Ieyasu's time and became Confucian and secular in tone. The Buddhist religion arising as a reaction, in India, against caste was anti-social in principle; and being pessimistic in doctrine, was hostile to the world and condemned the gratification of desire. Confucianism, on the other hand, laid great stress on authority and the social relationships and concerned itself with no interests beyond the affairs of this life. The latter teaching, was preferred by the founders of the feudal system. The form of Confucianism which prevailed during the Tokugawa period was that taught by the Sung scholars in China, who eviscerated the classics of the element of personality much as Mathew Arnold expurgated it from the Bible. So to-day we hear Japanese praising Confucianism, though few formally accept it for (1) its avoidance of the miraculous, (2) its secularity, and (3) its matter-of-factness; virtues no doubt in contrast to Buddhist extremes, but serious defects when considered from a comprehensive point of view.

This movement of Japanese thought within the sphere of the contingent and relative accounts for its fragmentary character, its attempt to settle moral questions without reference to ultimate truths and eternal principles, and its exaltation of single aspects of life—the social relationships, or the development of individual character, or the pursuit of utility or self-respect—without comprehending man in all his characteristics, all his relationships, and all his possibilities.

Thinking men have been confirmed in their views by the introduction from the West of agnostic and positivist teachings. Materialistic science and secular theories have found a good soil in Japan. So, to sum up and characterize the thought and culture of Japan and express the dominant tone and peculiar condition of all forces open for the moral renovation of the country apart from Christianity, there is on the one hand culture linked with infidelity, and on the other religion bound up with ignorance and superstition. The naturalism which circumscribes culture fatally weakens it; and the ignorance pervading Buddhism, not to mention other elements of weakness, makes it impotent to cope with the situation. The only force commensurate with the moral and religious needs of the times, in our opinion, is Christianity, which embodies in her schools throughout the world the highest culture and the purest religion in the possession of the race.

Christianity has projected her institutions into Japanese society, and Christian education is bound up with the history of the Meiji era. Nineteen schools and colleges, under Protestant denominations, now exist in different parts of the country, some of which antedate the new State schools in the time of their establishment. Sites have been purchased for most schools not larger in size than was needed, good but inexpensive buildings erected, libraries (with from 1000 to 2,500 vols,)* and apparatus provided, a staff of Japanese teachers and one or two missionaries employed for each school, and fixed courses of study followed. With but one exception there are no schools with endowment funds. But all possess experience, reputation, influence, traditions, besides the affection and confidence of an increasing circle of friends, patrons and alumni—resources which the munificence of wealth cannot bestow, but which only accrue through long and patient toil. The expense of running them is about one third that of similar schools in America; yet they are far from being self-supporting. For two reasons self-support has been delayed in Japan; (1) because of the low standard set by State schools in tuition charges, and (2) because of the general indifference to higher education among the moneyed classes. Concerning the latter point, it must be remembered that the aptitudes for learning have been strongest among the *samurai*, who were averse to business and therefore not possessed of wealth as a class. The interest in higher education does not extend far beyond this class. After the moneyed classes are more fully awakened to an interest in culture, the Rockfellers and Vanderbilts and Leland Standfords of Japan may be expected to provide more amply for the needs of institutions of learning. But while the schools are not self-supporting, the students are. Very few students in Japanese Mission schools are dependent upon the charity of the Church.

The grade of our school work has been almost wholly secondary. The point of contact with national life has been the rising generation between the ages of 12 and 18. The possibilities of schools of this grade are not to be under-estimated. They take the youth at a most important juncture in his development, at the period of adolescence, of rising ambition, self-reflection, independent decision and religious conversion, and bridge him over the interval between family nurture and the beginning of adulthood. The high school is the last stage of training of nine-tenths of those who enter it. It teaches a large number of students, sends them forth to a greater variety of social pursuits and conditions, and lies on the one hand nearer the homes and parents of the pupils, and on the other nearer the masses, and is the object of more widespread sympathy, than institutions of higher grade. Hence its course must not be specialized or adapted to suit any one class or vocation. It must be broad enough to touch every phase of man's life, including science, literature, art, institutions and religious belief, and must afford an education which will be of service to one in any or every pursuit. Technical knowledge does not come within its scope. Good health, strong elements of character, manly qualities, the free use of one's powers, honesty, self-respect and piety are virtues which lie at the very foundation of modern social life and condition the progress of civilization; and the school creating these virtues will shine with unwonted splendour and perform a high office in the building of the nation. Technical skill is of value, the Germans are teaching us that, but sterling qualities of manhood and "ability to perform justly," as Milton has said, "skilfully and magnanimously all the public and private offices of life" are of more universal utility and are more greatly needed at the present time.

But the high school has its limitations. Through it conscience and character may be strengthened and contribution to the moral and intellectual resources of the nation made; but it needs to be supplemented by the college. Only two Mission schools, the Aoyama Gakuin and the Doshisha, have advanced beyond desultory effort in the sphere of collegiate education. One of the most painful facts in connection with the history of Christian education in Japan is the failure of the Church to undertake and fulfill her high mission in this sphere. Outside of India, there is not a Mission field in the world where thought is so awakened, where it has freer play, where it is occupied with more vital problems and where it needs so much the guidance of Christianity as the field presented to us in Japan. Yet in reply to a question as to plans for higher education, a well-known educator, in a well-known Mission school, wrote me recently: —"We are trying to build up our advanced department which has for several years been practically closed; but we cannot plan very satisfactorily, because of lack of earnest sympathy at home." College education has always had to overcome prejudice and indifference. Its training is for the few and its results are indirect. Its work is of a character which hinders it from becoming popular. It can have no place in a time-serving, short-sighted, over sanguine, around-the-world-in-80 days, Mission policy. It fits into a programme which has for its aim the laying of deep and lasting foundations for the Church of God. That this aim can be accomplished without Christian scholarship we are unable to believe. Christianity in Japan cannot rest content with simple experiences and implicit faith. Her answer to all the disputed questions of this unsettled period must be made clear and explicit; and the answer she makes must be justified and the evidence of her claim to the whole life of man be examined and the application of the principles of her teachings to all human aims, activities and institutions be elucidated, in the focused light of the highest and most patient scholarship. For Christianity to expect to gain leadership in all the spheres of life in a land of colleges without colleges of her own is a hope not likely to be realized. And in order to correct, expand, purify and elevate the culture of Japan, as she did that of Greece and Rome, and cause the beams of God's truth to shine through it and give it a glory hitherto unpossessed, and bring it under the quickening influences of the Holy Spirit that it may possess elements of permanence and power, the Church should equip herself with institutions of the very highest order, and be able to give young men a training that will fit them for positions of commanding influence throughout the nation."

Such work as is here indicated cannot be done by the secondary school, the schools we now have. The higher discipline of faculty, the broader examination of subjects, the synthetic construction of diversified departments of knowledge into one whole, accomplished in higher education, is beyond the scope of the middle school. We are not urging here, however, the establishment of colleges for special training. What is needed in Japan is a liberal education, an education which will draw out, and strengthen that side of man, give supremacy over his whole nature, which lies nearest the Infinite and the Spiritual; an education which will correlate him with the life of his age in a way that will enable him to minister to it, and lead it on to better things. So in the matter of grade, we hope that this Conference will mark a step in advance, and that higher courses will be added—with special emphasis on the liberal arts course—to our schools which are already possessed of reputation and experience and a good plant. Cooperation may be helpful in certain respects, but we look with disfavour upon plans for correlation at this early and formative stage—too much system would impose upon our schools the uniformity which hampers all State systems.

As a rule, we believe our schools in Japan are truly Christian in character. Most of them have daily chapel, weekly prayer-meeting, and Sunday services. Not all of them include the Bible in the regular class room subjects of instruction. The teachers and pupils of some of them engage in Sunday school and other religious work outside the school. We are sorry that the Bible is not universally taught and that it is not a general practice for teachers and pupils, higher pupils at least, to have religious work in the community outside. Such work would not only help the Churches but would react upon the school, overcoming the tendency of school life to become abstract, unsympathetic and selfish. The strength of religious conviction in many of the Mission schools was revealed by the recent regulations issued by the Department of Education. Rather than put Christianity in the background and occupy an equivocal position, they gave up government privileges. They did right. If Christ cannot have the first place in our schools, let His sacred name be forever disconnected with them. No doubt larger privileges could be obtained, and a greater number of students, by not bringing Him into view. But what would it profit a Mission school to gain the whole world and lose its own soul? A record of the number of conversions has not been kept by many schools. Those who reported under this head showed a decline in the number converted annually during the last few years. Not much can be made of this because the same has been true of the general work of the Church. We think, however, that one or two missionaries in a school cannot meet the needs which they are expected to do most in supplying. Missionaries should be free to give much of their time and strength to the religious interest of the school. They should throw themselves heart and soul into the work of evangelizing the students and awakening an interest in Bible study, and of instructing students in the Scriptures not only in the class room, but out of it. Yet they cannot do this as long as their time is filled up in class room work. Every one of our leading Mission schools should have the whole time of three earnest and capable men; and the employment of a less number is unfair to the ones employed and fails to meet the needs of the school. A teacher who is kept too busy for daily devotion, Bible study, and personal work among students is apt to make the impression that he is lukewarm and indifferent, when he really

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is not so. The close touch between student and missionary so characteristic of a school in its earlier stages, and so fruitful of results, cannot be maintained as the school becomes larger without an increase in the missionary force.

Reference has been made to the number, equipment, grade and religious conditions of our schools, and now what can be said of the attendance of students? We have heard much of the failure of our institutions to command patronage. We have heard of a decline and such like discouraging reports. But what are the facts?

At the Conference in 1885, 9 schools were reported having a total attendance of 454, or an average of 51 to each school. Late statistics in China give 74 as the number of higher educational institutions and 3,819 as the total number in attendance, making an average of 54 to each school. The most recent statistics in Japan report 19 schools of the higher grade for boys and a total attendance of 3,891, or an average attendance of 150 to each school.* In the United States, where secondary education has been long established, the average attendance in purely denominational schools is only 158. The average enrolment in our schools in Japan for the last fifteen years has been over a hundred, or in exact figures 108.† These figures do not indicate failure or anything like it. In this country we have tempted the Lord by not numbering the people. Had we looked into the facts in the case, our hearts would have been grateful rather than disappointed at results. We have heard too a great deal about the depletion of the upper classes in our middle schools, of not being able to hold the students until they graduate. I think here also there has been a false impression existing in our minds. I haven't exact statistics, but we certainly have as strong a hold upon students as the Government Middle Schools, for out of every hundred who enter their schools of this grade only five students graduate.

The figures just given will show that a fairly large number of young men have been brought under Christian influence and have enjoyed the advantages of a Christian education, since the Osaka Conference. Hundreds of them have gone forth into society, carrying with them impressions of the class-room or the chapel service, and armed with faith as well as knowledge for the conflict of life. They have entered the ministry; they have become helpers, lay-preachers in Christian work; they have become in their village homes the centre around which new Churches have been formed, they have been employed as teachers in public and private schools; they have entered Japanese and foreign business firms; they have edited periodicals and engaged in other professional pursuits; they have occupied positions of trust in legations and consulates abroad and they have become the secretaries of Premiers and other Cabinet Ministers. They have been excluded in fact from no sphere of life, though prejudices have blocked their way to a greater or lesser degree according to the locality in which they lived. The influence they are exerting, with their enlarged ideas and firmer convictions, on national life, we are unable to measure. But as a body of men we have faith in them; and we believe they represent more nearly than any other class of young men the type of the future Japan. With colleges added to our high schools and the growing excellency of the latter, we shall be able to make Christian influence even more powerfully felt, through school agency, and send out young men far more throughly trained, during the coming twenty years than we have been able to do in the past. Besides the influence exerted by students, mention should be made of the Japanese officers and teachers in Christian schools who by thorough discipline of faculty and enlargement of view, coming to them as a result of their work as teachers, have become a strong body of men. College presidents have had a prominent place in American history and the names of Nejima, Honda, Ibaka, Ebara, Ashikawa, Yoshioka and others remind us of the prominence attained by such men in Japan.

One of the greatest results, involving the greatest consequences, is the fact that a large number of Christian schools have gained a footing in the country. Every enterprise must be judged by its final outcome. The value of Oxford and Cambridge, as institutions, to English life cannot be measured by their work as monastic schools in the Nunnery of St. Frideswyde or the Oseney Abbey seven hundred years ago; nor can the wisdom of the founders of Harvard and Yale Universities, and the changes effected by these institutions in American life, be estimated from their first efforts in the 17th century. Neither can the value of our Mission schools in Japan, to the life of this nation, be measured by present results. A great deal more than has yet appeared is involved in the fact that they have attained a legal status, a reputation and a constituency in the country. It is true our legal standing seemed threatened last year by regulations which appeared to be directed against Christian schools. But the legislation in question served to strengthen the position of Christian schools and enlarge Christian freedom for (1) it developed the fact that a powerful public opinion was in favour of giving them a free hand; (2) it lead the Minister of Education to declare that all Government schools were open to individual religious effort, (3) it ended in the removal of conscription disabilities from Christian middle schools fulfilling certain required conditions, and (4) it gave graduates of Christian colleges the privilege of receiving without examination teacher's licenses granted by the Department of Education. All of these were distinct gains for the cause of Christianity and were the unexpected outcome of the anti-Christian move on the part of ultra-conservatives. We appreciate the enlarged privileges granted to us and hope the same liberal policy will soon give recognition to our certificates of graduation for entrance into Government schools of higher grades.

That we are able to carry on our educational activity under an enlightened Government which recognizes the right of the mind to know the truth and the conscience to believe is a matter of profound gratitude, and the opportunity it affords for Christian effort should deeply impress the Church. There is a great work to be done in the field of secondary and higher education before the nation can carry to a realization her enlightened policy and her modern institutions. No competition can be possible between private and public schools in this sphere for years to come. The field has hardly been touched as yet. Only about two out of every hundred boys entering the Government elementary schools pass on into the secondary schools, which are not compulsory in attendance. Nor is there unhealthy rivalry among Mission schools. They are widely distributed; there is very little over-lapping; there is an immense field of opportunity for all, and there is small ground for flourish of oratory or effervescence of sentiment on the subject of comity in connection with them. We do not advocate an increase in the number we have, but inasmuch as the schools already established are not likely to be self-supporting soon, we do urge that they be put upon a more solid financial basis. The very nature of a school requires that it be subject to no irregularity or uncertainty; yet having to depend as we do upon the annual appropriations of the Mission Boards, we are subject to this very inconvenience. It would be a happy thing for our institutions if a permanent fund could be raised for them at home, and the benefits of it be sent out from year to year for their support.

In conclusion, it may be well to notice some of the current unfavourable criticisms of Mission schools.

The *Japan Mail* fully appreciates the value of Christian educational effort in Japan, but in a criticism of Mission schools a few years back it stated well what exists in the minds of a good many concerning our aims. "Any one," said the *Japan Mail*, "whose eyes are open must have seen that education is sometimes carried on in Japan not purely for its own sake, but for the sake of collateral purposes. We are disposed to think that Christian missionaries are responsible for the innovation. Education in their hands has been employed as a machine for propagandism."

Missionaries themselves, by their own way of stating the educational aim, are partly responsible for such misconceptions. The Church in establishing schools has an object in view as definitely educational as that outlined by philosophica. pedagogy. The purpose of Christian schools is in fact not very different from the general object of education as defined by a theoretical writer on the subject; *i.e.*, the perfection of man's nature and the fitting of man for all his relationships. But the means used for the accomplishment of this end the Church draws from the realm of grace as well as nature, both of which have their source in one Person, who is the author of creation and redemption. The Church does not, like Buddhism, occupy itself wholly with the unseen; like Confucianism, wholly with the seen; it claims authority over both spheres, the spiritual and the secular; and the experiences, laws, facts and circumstances of the natural order may as properly be made to minister to the end in view was the gracious influences which come down from above. But as human life now is, grace must come first and is the condition of success; for until a man is restored to right relationship with God, until he is converted, he cannot in the fullest and truest sense become a man and fulfil his destiny. First that which is natural and then that which is spiritual was once the order, but it has been reversed. Hence the emphasis given to the conversion of the soul even in school work. At the same time the whole equipment of institutions and outlay of strength and means contemplate an educative process, and I think our schools have exercised the patience and put forth the energy and made the sacrifices, in the discipline and development of the powers of youth, sufficient to clear them from the charge of indifference to strictly pedagogical results.

The *Rikugo Zasshi* says there are three objections to education imparted in Mission schools. (1) It is not scientific and cannot be made so; (2) the pupil is apt to acquire moral notions that do not accord with Japanese moral instincts; (3) sectarian religious education is unavoidably narrow and one-sided.*

With regard to the first point, if reference is made to the place of authority in the teaching of religion in our Mission schools, it may be replied that science is accepted largely, in secondary schools, on the authority of text-book or teacher. If it means that the appeal of science is to experience, the answer is, so is that of Christianity, which makes experience the rational basis for faith in its profoundest teachings. If it means that faith puts an end to inquiry, it must be remembered that inquiry has its issue, that suspension of judgment ceases to be a virtue after facts are discovered and that faith urges us to forget the things which are behind and press on to the things which are before. If it means that scientific method requires the surrender of prejudice and prepossession and the criticism of tradition, it must not be over-looked that the Bible before science taught the eye to be single, the mind to be child-like, and the teacher to avoid teaching for doctrines the traditions of men. If finally, it means that the facts of Christianity are not in harmony with the facts of science, the statement is a dogmatic assumption and incapable of proof.

With regard to the second point, it may be said that Japanese moral instincts are not endangered. The Mission schools are not foreign institutions. Japanese have a leading place in their management, and the thought, temper and sentiments which pervade them are thoroughly Japanese. As far as Christianity is concerned, if that be the meaning, it destroys no race instincts that ought to be preserved. When it crossed over from the Semitic to the Aryan race, from Asia to Europe, and found acceptance and response in mind and heart and life in its new home, it demonstrated the unity of the human kind and the adaptation of Christianity to essential human nature wherever found.

With regard to the third objection, we reply that no school is free from similar limitations. There is not an institution of learning in existence not identified in some way with sect, or State, or party, or private corporation or some some particular point of view by which limitations similar to those referred to are made unavoidable.

It is objected by Mr. Kato, a prolific writer of the day, and by a great many others, that the idea of universal brotherhood, inculcated by Christianity, is calculated to undermine the feeling of citizenship, long existing in Japan. The fact here is overlooked that Japan has already adopted a policy by which the feeling in question is bound to undergo a certain degree of modification. Japan has entered into the living community of nations and the characteristic feature of the life of this great community, through trade and intercourse, is reciprocity. The position of Japan to-day, participating as she does in the common stock of culture and trade and contributing her share to the same,* involves the idea of universal brotherhood. And Christianity in teaching this idea and cultivating this spirit in her schools is in direct accord with the enlightened policy adopted by the rulers of the nation.

Akin to this objection is the oft-repeated assertion that Christian emphasis on the dignity of the individual is radical and dangerous. The criticism ignores the plain teaching of the Scriptures and of Christian history. The individual idea and the institutional idea run parallel through the Bible. Take up the Gospels and you will find them both; examine the Epistles and you will find both alike receiving emphasis. And Christianity moreover gives a rational account of institutions and places obedience to authority on the high plane of conscience. The family and State have a place in the Divine plan, in the Providential ordering of the world; and they are both, according to the Scriptures, moral in essence and purpose,—a much higher and nobler aspect than the utilitarian view. And here again Christianity avoids the extremes of the two great systems of Japan and of the greater part of Asia.

Christianity is not, like Buddhism, an extreme individualism which cuts away in principle the foundations of social institutions; nor does Christianity, like Confucianism, efface the individual in over-stressing social forms and relationships. Christ raises individuals to the dignity and liberty of sons of God, but at the same time places them in subjection to every ordinance of man for His sake.

What Christianity does in her schools is to gather up all of the fragmentary and one-sided views, human in origin, and illuminate them, perfect them, and construct them into unity, and show what the end is to which the conditions, ordinance, and relationships of our humanity should be made subservient And Christianity not only gives meaning and purpose and dignity to the secular life; it expands the knowledge of the nation by its reach into the spiritual and eternal sphere and by its unveiling of the face of the Father of whom every family in heaven or earth is named.

* From Spencer's Statistics.
† From Loomus' Tables.

* From the *Japan Mail's* Monthly Summary of the Religious Press.

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and strengthens the morality of a people by bringing them into living and personal relationship with a living and personal God.

Many interesting points have been left unnoticed in this paper. Attention has been called to some important results and emphasis given to the need of advance in certain important lines. First, we should urge the raising of a special fund at home in order to place our schools hereafter on a more stable financial basis.

Secondly, we should ask for an increase of missionary teachers, earnest and spiritual as well as thoroughly trained men, that more time may be given by the missionary to personal work among students, to visiting the homes and parents of students, to social intercourse among teachers in secular schools, and to public lecturing and preaching.

Thirdly, we should build up college courses—three years rather than four in length—on the high schools already well-established and well equipped. A university for post-graduate work and professional training may be needed, but the immediate need is colleges given to academic training of a higher grade to the building up of manhood, to the creation of a new *bushidō*, to the formation of Christian gentlemen finished in culture, devout in spirit, pure and holy in life, and obedient servants of Jesus Christ. I hope I have this great Conference with me on these three points.

THE TRADE OF KOREA.

Reporting on the trade of Korea last year, Mr Consul-General Jordan says:—

After having been able to report for the last two years an increase in Korean trade, it is disappointing to find that during 1899 trade declined to the extent of 2,627,568 *yen*, or over £260,000, at the rate of 2s. per *yen*, and this in spite of an increased gold export to the extent of 557,567 *yen*, or £55,765; and as gold is, so to speak, an indirect article of trade, the total diminution of Korean trade amounts to no less than 3,185,225 *yen*, or nearly £320,000, more than 13 per cent. of last year's figures.

These figures, however, must not be taken to mean that the trade of Korea is declining. The determining factor, affecting both exports and imports, is the export of rice, and the value of the rice exported in the year under review is £137,761 less than that of the preceding year; and this in spite of an excellent crop in 1899.

Export of Rice.

A Korean entirely ignores such questions as supply and demand, and having once got high prices for his rice, he holds out for the same rate until he is absolutely forced to sell from want of ready money. Japan is practically Korea's only customer for rice, and the export trade of the country largely depends on the yield in Japan and the amount she can take from Korea. There must be large stocks of rice in the country still unsold, and when this is sold the import as well as the export trade will feel the benefit, and for this reason an average of the returns for three or five years would be a far better index as to the growth of Korean trade than just the figures for one year.

Currency Difficulties.

Another factor which seriously hampers trade is the currency of the country. The only Korean coins are nickel 5-*sen* and copper 1-*sen* pieces and cash, all of which vary from 5 to 50 per cent. discount as against Japanese gold *yen*, the real currency of the country so far as foreign trade is concerned. The rate of discount varying suddenly as it does and with its wide margin it is not difficult to understand how a merchant's business in Korea must largely partake of a speculative character. The Chinese made an effort to insist on their piece-goods being paid for in Japanese currency, with the result that they were boycotted and had to give in, and the Koreans at Chemulpo have now formed a Chamber of Commerce to protect themselves against Japanese and Chinese.

Korea has adopted Japanese currency so far as customs duties have to be paid in Japanese *yen* and the further extension of it as the Government currency throughout the country, with a fixed amount 5-*sen* pieces as legal tender, would tend to greater stability and result in a large expansion of trade.

Exports.

The total diminution in exports as compared with 1898 is £71,164, but this is very nearly accounted for by the decrease of the value of the ginseng exported. This ginseng is a Government monopoly and it is, therefore, hardly to be looked upon as an item in the commerce proper of the country; its value varies greatly from year to year and it is liable to give a mistaken estimate of the export trade. The reason for the export of this root varying so much is that it takes properly about eight years to come to maturity; but if the prospects for its sale are good every available root is taken, and vice-versa, hence the difference of nearly £60,000 between the yields of 1899 and 1898. Incidentally I may remark that this year's ginseng, that is, the crop reaped in the autumn of 1899, has been sold for £103,000, thus showing a still greater difference between two successive years.

This only leaves a deficit in the exports of a little over £11,000, and this in spite of the fact that the rice export diminished by £137,671, which shows that other exports have increased to the extent of over £120,000, without any reduction in the rice crop which was above the average.

Imports.

As stated above the imports during 1899 fell off to the extent of 1,517,439 *yen* (£151,744), a decrease almost entirely due to the stagnation of the rice market and the unsettled state of the currency. The principal items which make up this large deficit were as follows:—English shirtings, £8,000; Japanese shirtings, over £3,000; lawns and muslins, £8,000; Japanese piece-goods, £8,000, metals, £30,000; grass cloths, £13,000; millet, £40,000; railway plant and machinery, £9,000; timber and building materials, £27,000; while the import of Japanese yarn increased by £47,000, American kerosene oil by £15,000, and mining supplies by £17,000.

The British piece-goods trade is almost entirely in the hands of Chinese merchants, who either import their goods from Shanghai or buy from the foreign merchants at Chemulpo, which is the headquarters of both Chinese and foreign merchants and the distributing centre of European and American products for the whole country. The export trade of the country being almost entirely in the hands of the Japanese, they are in a much better position to dispose of their imports; and Japanese, too, understand far better how to deal with Koreans than do Chinese. British piece-goods are at a still further disadvantage in that they have to be indented for some six or eight months ahead, and to order so far in advance, under existing conditions of trade, is by no means unattended with risk whereas, it is a comparatively easy matter for the Japanese with their manufacturing centres so close at hand.

Notwithstanding these favourable conditions, Japanese shirtings have almost disappeared from the returns and their sheetings have increased only some £6,000, while English shirtings are fairly steady, and sheetings have increased to the extent of £7,000, both articles continuing to hold their own. The favourite brands of grey shirtings are S.S.S., F.F.F., and A.F.S., varying in price according to weight, from 9s. 2d. to 10s. 2d. per piece, sheetings ranging from 8s. 9d. to 9s. 1d. per piece; while Japanese grey sheetings vary, according to weight, from 8s. 9d. to 10s. 3d., the measurements being the same as that of English goods. British piece-goods have so far not suffered from Japanese competition in the same line, Japanese in some instances having to import English goods to exchange for native produce, but where the Japanese do seriously destroy our trade is in the importation of yarn, which, coupled with the rise in Manchester prices and increase freight, may oust our piece-goods from the market, at any rate when the conditions of the rice market are not favourable. The import of Japanese yarn rose from £99,749 in 1898 to £146,830 in 1899, nearly 50 per cent., while English yarn fell from £8,979 to £7,496 in the same years, this result being entirely attributable to the difference in price, which is, of course, largely in favour of the Japanese article. The prices of Japanese one-thread, two-thread, and three-thread cotton yarn were respectively 34, 38, and 40 *yen* per picul of 133⅓ lbs., while the corresponding prices of English yarn were 47 *yen* 60 *sen*, 47 *yen* 60 *sen*, and 48 *yen* 30 *sen*. Japan at present imports her raw cotton from Bombay and Shanghai, but experiments in cotton-growing are now being made in Japan, and should the enterprise be successful, it may result in a still greater contrast between the prices of the two articles.

Possible Development of English Trade.

But still there seems to be no reason why the trade in English piece goods should not be developed, provided English manufacturers are willing to adapt their goods to the requirements of the trade, experience, however, rather points to the conclusion that this "willingness" is a very uncertain factor.

What is necessary is that an exhaustive study of the piece-goods trade should be made by a Manchester expert on the spot, some thing on the lines of the Blackburn Mission to China, but on a smaller scale; he should travel over the most thickly-populated districts and see how far Manchester goods should be adapted to compete with native-made goods and how far new markets could be opened up; and this could not be done in a week nor yet in a month, necessitating as it would, extensive journeyings in a country with bad communications. The ordinary British merchant in the East cannot do this, as his presence is necessary at the treaty port to look after his various interests, nor can a Consul assist in this direction, for, to begin with, he has not the necessary technical knowledge, and, moreover, business or no business, he cannot leave his post. Where a British merchant in the East could do much in opening up new markets lies in learning the language of the country, but this seems to be the last thing an English merchant thinks of doing; and yet the disadvantages of not being able to speak the language are only too obvious. The Germans, always more practical than we are, have been quick to recognise this fact, and now it is almost the exception to find a German commercial house in the East, in which there is not at least one man able to talk business with the natives in their own dialect; there is one British firm in Korea and one German firm; it is almost superfluous to say that the German house has a German who can speak Korean, and that the English house has no Korean-speaking Englishman.

Cotton Goods.

The imports in cotton goods in 1899 were more than half the total imports of the country, and in nearly every branch the reports are Japanese trade increasing, British trade occasionally steady, mostly decreasing. It must be borne in mind that the chief reason for this decline is the rise in Manchester prices; English piece-goods have no rival in this country, and if they could be laid down now at the same price as they could a year or so ago, there would be a large sale awaiting them. The number of hands the goods pass through from the time of their leaving Manchester till they reach the actual consumer greatly increase their cost to the retail buyers. An interesting experiment was made at Chemulpo last year by a British firm, who started what was termed a sample warehouse, where bales of shirtings and other goods were broken open and sold strictly for cash; this business quickly developed beyond a retail business, and during the last three months of the year, when trade was brisk the takings averaged £100 a-day. This leads one to wonder whether it would not be worth while to open similar establishments in charge of Japanese at the important trade centres in the interior. The total import of all cotton goods was nearly £24,000 less in 1899 than in 1898.

General.

Sugar, which comes entirely from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., and Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's sugar refineries in Hongkong, declined from £11,031 to £8,114.

Price's candles are steadily growing in favour with Koreans, and a fairly good business is being done in this article; its import rose considerably last year and a still further increase is confidently looked for this year. Window glass, until late years an unknown luxury in this country, is gradually coming into use amongst the better classes, and its steadily increasing import is an interesting evidence of improved conditions of life. There is a steady demand, too, for Singer's machines, one firm alone having sold as many as 300 last year.

The figures for the shipping during 1899 are certainly the most encouraging part of the customs returns, showing as they do a total excess of 502 steamers and an increased tonnage of 159,128 tons as compared with the preceding year, 1898. The total number of steamers entered at Korean ports during the year under review was 1,666 with an aggregate tonnage of 746,020 tons. Of these, 1,159 steamers and 602,227 tons were Japanese; four vessels, representing 3,341 tons, German; 61 vessels, with a tonnage of 51,863 tons Russian; and the remainder Korean. The carrying trade of the country is practically in the hand of the Japanese, the four German vessels being also under charter to them.

Accustomed as one is to see the British merchant flag predominating everywhere, it is curious to find a country with any foreign trade with not a single British ship entering any of its ports for a space of twelve months, not even under charter; in this respect one would almost imagine that Korea held a unique record. The explanation is that the trade is not of sufficient dimensions to pay *per se*; both the Japanese and Russian lines are heavily subsidised by their respective Governments, and moreover, the export trade of the country is wholly in the hands of Japanese, who naturally prefer to ship under their own flag.

Railways.

By far the most interesting, if not the most important, event in the past year has been the opening of the Söul-Chemulpo Railway, the pioneer enterprise of its kind in the country, which took place on Sept. 18. The line, which is a single one, is open for passenger traffic as far as Nodol, a distance of 22 miles from Chemulpo, thence a small Decauville track to the river some 2½ miles, and after crossing the river, there is the journey into Söul by ricksha or the electric tramway, the entire journey taking between 2½ and 3½ hours, a long enough time for 20 or 30 miles, but still a great improvement on the old journey by launch or chair taking 7 or 8 hours.

It is as yet too early to forecast with any accuracy what share of freight, to which they look largely for their profits, the railway company will be able to secure, but even with the disadvantages under which they at present labour they have carried no inconsiderable amount which augurs well for the future.

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Work on the Söul-Fusan Railway has not yet commenced. The difficulty in raising the necessary capital appears to be at present the only cause of the delay. Capitalists were found who were willing enough to invest money in the venture, but alarmed at the proverbially unsettled state of affairs in the country they demanded better security than the prospects of profit from the working of the line, and finally the Japanese Government were approached with a view to their guaranteeing 5 per cent. interest on the invested capital. The question has been referred to Parliament and has not yet been decided, but it is doubtful whether at the present juncture the Japanese Treasury will see its way to pledging itself to a possible annual expenditure of 1 230,000 *yen*.

Preliminary negotiations are in progress for a concession to build a light railway between the capital and Mokpo. This latter is a fast-growing port situated about equi-distant from Shanghai and Nagasaki, with a fairly good harbour. The line would probably pass near several important towns, and by tapping new districts might prove a profitable venture.

Under the head of railways must be included the street electric railway in Söul, which has now been extended southwards to the river port of Riong-San.

MINING.

The development of the mineral wealth of Korea is generally agreed to be the one great resource of the country, and the important factor which will materially increase Korea's buying capacity, and it is encouraging to be able to report an increase in the export of gold to the extent of £55,765 during the past year. This is the amount as shown by the customs returns, but the export of gold being duty free a large quantity is taken out of the country as personal luggage, and it is probable that the real increase is far in excess of the figures given above.

The American mines mentioned in previous reports are now in full working order, and the German mines in process of development, and a British syndicate is now in possession of the Unsan gold mine, generally considered to be the richest mine in the country, it being known to Koreans as the "Pearl of Korea." The mines are now in full work, about 500 men in all, mostly Koreans, being employed thereon. Machinery is being ordered from home, and it is anticipated that in a year or so the sound of the stamp mill will be heard in the Unsan Valley. The district has been re-named "Gwendoline," to prevent confusion with the American gold mines, which are situated at Woonsan, the Korean pronunciation being very similar. The mines have the reputation of being the richest in the country, and the opinions of Dr. Jack and Mr. Gustav Braecke, the present manager of the mines, point to the conclusion that their value has not been over-estimated. The gold-bearing strata is a sedimentary deposit extending for a great distance, and is similar in many respects to the deposits on the Witwatersrand in South Africa.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CAPITALISTS.

Korea may be said to offer a very fair field for capitalists who stay in the country and watch their interests, and a word of advice to concession seekers may not be out of place. The two things requisite to success are unlimited patience and full power to accept a contract when the opportunity arrives, the delay incurred in telegraphing home and elsewhere being sufficient to give time for the growth of opposition which may prove fatal. Söul, and indeed the whole country, is a hot-bed of intrigue, and the revolutions of the political wheel are unceasing: ministers and favourites, no matter how strong their position are liable to be swept away at any moment's notice, and the grant of a concession which has met with the bitterest opposition under one *régime* may be perhaps easily obtained a few weeks afterwards. The introduction of European and American capital into the country, apart from the benefit to the Koreans in the shape of wages and other forms, tends to give a greater feeling of security as indirectly pledging more Powers to upholding the independence of the Empire and this feeling of security is likely to react favourable on trade generally.

UTILITY OF CATALOGUES.

English manufacturers are far less enterprising than their American competitors in supplying merchants in the East with illustrated and priced catalogues, a circumstance which often accounts for orders, which might otherwise have been placed in England, being sent to America. I do not mean to advocate that expensive catalogues should be sent indiscriminately to every port; but in non-manufacturing countries, such as China and Korea, where new industries are constantly being opened up, which are generally foreshadowed in the trade reports, manufactures might find it worth their while to send their catalogues to British firms in the district concerned. With this end in view I have drawn up the following list of articles which are likely to find a market in this country, and for which catalogues (in duplicate if possible) will be gladly received by Messrs. Holme, Ringer and Company, of Chemulpo:—Gold mills, gold-mining tools, picks and shovels, hauling ropes, pumping machinery, rock-drilling machinery, agricultural implements, irrigating machinery, bridge work, electrical and telephone machinery, overhead and underground telegraph and telephone wire. Also market reports touching upon chemicals used in gold-mining, candles, hardware, quicksilver, and oilman's stores.

SHIPPING DISASTER IN THE INLAND SEA.

From the *Kobe Herald* we gather some particulars regarding the loss of the *Caravane* in the Island Sea. The *Caravane* was struck almost amidships and sank in 13 minutes. The *Yamaguchi Maru* cut into her to the extent of 8 metres (somewhat over 24 feet), the point of contact being in a line with the bridge. The man at the wheel, was killed on the spot, literally falling at his post. The hour was midnight, precisely, and as a consequence all on board were in their bunks or hammocks, save the officer of the deck and the watch. When the crash came everyone below was awakened instantly, of course, and all hurried on deck. Nobody saved a thing beyond what could be snatched up to cover one's body. Fortunately the *Yamaguchi Maru* was not backed out and away from the French transport and as the two vessels remained locked together the French seamen, seeing that their own ship was doomed, clambered up over the bows of the Japanese vessel, whose hull loomed up large in the dim light, and there got hold of ropes which they passed down to assist the officers—the rest of their shipmates in fact—to save themselves. As soon as the survivors reached the deck of the Japanese steamer their wants were attended to in the best of ability by Captain Nakajima and his officers, everything being done that was possible under the circumstances.

We have said that one man was killed outright when the *Yamaguchi* crashed into the side of the smaller vessel. A very few minutes afterwards the ends of the *Caravane* were felt to rise. As they drew, as it were together, the masts fell, and one mast and gear in falling struck Second Captain Captaine and threw him overboard. The unfortunate officer was never seen again. M. Capitaine was not married. A few minutes afterwards the ship—now almost divided into two separate and distinct parts—settled down and disappeared completely. When all were mustered on the *Yamaguchi Maru* it was discovered that three men were missing. Several of the rescued were suffering from more or less severe wounds inflicted by the falling masts and spars. The injuries of one or two of the men are of a serious nature. Asked as to the weather and state of the atmosphere at the time of the accident, our informant said the night was fine and clear but a little misty. The officers who have arrived here are Captain Diacre, Lieuts. Du Dezert and Savey, and Dr. Guibeud and Mr. Castex. Advice of the ship's total loss was wired to the Admiral last night and the *D'Entrecasteaux* is now on her way up from Nagasaki.

A representative of the *Kobe Herald* obtained the following narrative from the First Officer of the *Yamaguchi Maru*. He said the transport was on the way from Ujina to Yokosuka, having left the former port on the afternoon of Monday with a number of marines from Sasebo to be transferred to the new battleship *Asahi*. Shortly after midnight, that is yesterday morning, the steamer entered the channel between Harima Nada and Bingo Nada. The sky was clear and the weather was fair, according to the officer's statement. The lights of a steamer proceeding south were seen when the transport was at a point about one mile on this side of the Ogishima Light, which marks the northern entrance to the Channel. Captain Nakajima and the Chief Officer were on the bridge at the time. The Officer declined to give particulars of the actual approach of the one vessel towards the other, or to say anything bearing on the question of culpability for the mishap. He proceeded to say that when a collision was seen to be inevitable the *Yamaguchi's* engines were reversed—full speed astern. The order was too late to avert disaster, and the *Yamaguchi Maru* struck the *Caravane* amidships on the port side. So great was the force of the impact, indeed, that the Japanese steamer was partially forced on top of the hull of the *Caravane*. Matters therefore looked most perilous from the moment of collision and as the *Yamaguchi* was apparently to come better out of the disaster than the other vessel ladders were thrown from her bows to the deck of the *Caravane*. There was, however, some belief that the two vessels were so badly placed that both would have to be beached. This proved unnecessary in the case of the *Yamaguchi*, but the *Caravane* made water very fast. Meantime part of the crew of the *Caravane* clambered easily on board the *Yamaguchi* by the rope ladders let down from the latter. Fairly good order and discipline were kept during this difficult procedure. All the men who could be saved in this manner were got on board and it was seen that the possibility of beaching the *Caravane* was hopeless. She broke in two, twenty minutes after the collision, and in this condition she went down. She sank in rather a curious manner. She had been struck almost amidships as stated, and on breaking into two pieces the inrush of water depressed the amidships ends of the two halves, and, at the moment when the vessel actually went under, bow and stern were tilted high in the air so that the fabric of the ship formed a modified V. shape, which, as it sank, brought the fore and aft masts of the *Caravane* into violent collision with the sides of the *Yamaguchi*, the crash and din attending the disappearance of the vessel being described by the officer as terrible to hear. The boats of the *Yamaguchi* were at once lowered in order that those of the *Caravane's* crew who had not been able to climb into the Japanese vessel might be picked up. This work was done as expeditiously as possible, and subsequently the roll of the *Caravane's* crew was called on board the *Yamaguchi*. Three men were found to be missing and the *Yamaguchi* stood by the scene of the *Caravane's* disappearance and various boats were kept searching till morning. The missing men were not found, however. The *Yamaguchi* then put into Takamatsu to report the disaster and to wait for instructions from the Naval authorities. The ship was ordered to proceed to Kobe with the French crew and to wait for further orders there.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

RACING IN ENGLAND.

Shanghai, Oct. 25.

The result of the Cambridgeshire is as follows —

Berill 1
Codoman 2
Good Luck 3

THE ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

Reuter learns that the Anglo-German agreement is in no wise directed against Russia, nor against any railway concessions in Manchuria or elsewhere.

GERMAN POLITICS.

Baron Richthofen has been appointed Foreign Secretary, succeeding Count von Bulow.

A NEW YORK SCANDAL.

Alvord, the cashier of the First National Bank of New York, has absconded, leaving defalcations of 140,000 pounds sterling. The position of the Bank is unshaken.

CHINA AND THE POWERS.

Austria has assented to the Anglo-German agreement

BRITISH WAR MATTERS

It is stated that Lord Wolseley has agreed to remain at the War Office until probably the end of December, owing to the detention of Lord Roberts in South Africa

A FAMOUS SINGER DEAD.

Shanghai, Oct. 26.

Mr. Sims Reeves is dead.

[NOTE.—Mr. John Sims Reeves, the famous tenor, was born at Shooters' Hill, Kent, on October 21, 1822. He made his first appearance on the stage at Newcastle in 1839, as a baritone. He then went to Paris and Milan but it was some years before he sang in London. By 1848 he was a "coming man" in the world of music, creating a furore by his work as *Carlo* in "Linda di Chamouni." He maintained his marvellous voice till late in life. Ultimately his means became straitened and he received a pension from Her Majesty's Civil List.—ED. *J.M.*]

SOUTH AFRICA.

Philippolis, which had been in the possession of the Boers for several days, was relieved yesterday by a column which ejected the enemy. It is stated that the latter lost heavily.

General French is marching from Bethel to Heidelburg, and some fighting takes place daily.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN ENTENTE.

The Kaiser Wilhelm, in a public speech delivered at Barmen, in Westphalia, said that the agreement just concluded with the

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most powerful Teutonic state outside Germany was the guarantee for a common effort in the open markets of the world, where both nations could meet in friendly rivalry and without acrimony.

THE BOER WAR.

Shanghai, Oct. 27.

The Boers have captured Jacobsdal, after a stubborn resistance by the garrison, who lost severely.

KITCHENER TO COMMAND.

It is understood that Lord Kitchener temporarily replaces Field Marshal Lord Roberts upon the latter's departure

ITALY JOINS THE BOND.

Italy has announced her adherence to the Anglo-German agreement.

RETURN OF THE C.I.V.

Twenty-four thousand Regulars and Volunteers will line the streets of London on the return of the City Imperial Volunteers.

LORD ROSEBERY'S STUD.

Lord Rosebery's horses have been sold at Newmarket. Eighteen of them fetched 7,305 guineas.

THE JACOBSDAL AFFAIR.

The Boers were repulsed at Jacobsdal. A detachment of the Capetown Highlanders, garrisoning the town, lost 34 men out of 52. The Boers have destroyed the railway northward from Norval's Pont.

INDUSTRIAL TROUBLES IN CANADA (?)

There is a grave situation at Valleyfield near Montrewl (Montreal). Three thousand French building operatives struck work and were joined by 2,000 mill operatives. Owing to the disturbances 600 militia were sent to the place. Bitter racial feeling prevails and nine militiamen were wounded in the fighting.

DE WET ROUTED.

Shanghai, Oct. 29.

Barton has routed De Wet at Frederickstad. Baillie of the Scots Fusiliers and 12 killed. Six officers and 39 men wounded.

ANOTHER AMBUSH.

The Colonial officers of Fitzjones' cavalry have been ambushed near Philippolis and all captured except seven.

(The above sentence is very indistinct.—ED. *J.M.*)

GERMANY AND THE RED SEA.

The lease of the island of Uroan (in the Red Sea) is officially denied by Germany.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

The United States adhere to the first two clauses of the Anglo-German agreement, but disregard the third until the contingency arises.

THE VALLEYFIELD TROUBLE.

The situation at Valleyfield is calmer.

TRANSVAAL PART OF THE EMPIRE.

The Transvaal has been officially proclaimed part of the British Empire.

SALISBURY RETAINS OFFICE.

The *Standard* states that Salisbury will retain office as Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary.

THE U.S. PRESIDENTAL ELECTION.

Shanghai, Oct. 30.

Mr. W. J. Bryan has re-visited New York and evoked an immense demonstration. He addressed five meetings, averaging 5,000 at each. There were upwards of 150,000 persons in the streets as he passed through.

DEATH OF MAX MULLER.

Max Muller, the Orientalist, is dead.

[NOTE.—*Who's Who* has the following brief resumé of this distinguished man's life:—Max-Müller, Rt. Hon. Friedrich, P.C., K.M., M.A., LL.D., D.C.L.; Corpus Professor of Comparative Philology, Oxford; *b.* Dessau, Germany, 6 Dec. 1823; *o. s.* of the poet Wilhelm Müller and Adelheid, *e. d.* of Präsident von Basedow; *m.* Georgina Adelaide *e. d.* of Riversdale Grenfell, Ray Lodge, Maidenhead, 1859. *Educ.*: Dessau and Leipzic, Universities of Leipzic and Berlin. Member of the French Institute. Taylorian Professor of Modern Languages, Oxford, 1854, Fellow of All Souls, 1858; Corpus Professor, 1868; Curator of Bodleian Library, 1856; delegate of the Clarendon, Press, 1877; Hibbert Lecturer, 1878; Gifford Lecturer, 1888-92. Hon. LL.D. Edinburgh, Cambridge, Bologna, Dublin, and Buda-Pesth. *Publications*: Ancient Sanskrit Literature: Lectures on Science of Language; Chips from a German Workshop; Hibbert Lectures; Gifford Lectures, and numerous other works; editor of the Rig Veda, 6 vols. quarto, and of the Sacred Books of the East, 50 vols.]

INCREASING UNQUIET IN SOUTH AFRICA.

It is stated that there is a great unrest in the east of the railway between the Orange River and Kimberley. Boer patrols are active, and commandering is proceeding extensively. 15,000 Boers are in the field, whereof nearly half are Free-Staters.

It is stated that Kruger will address from The Hague an appeal to the Powers to intervene, based on The Hague Convention.

RETURN OF THE C.I.V.

Shanghai, Oct. 31.

The march of the City Imperial Volunteers through the streets of London was the occasion for a display of immense enthusiasm, though marred by numerous accidents owing to the stupendous crowds.

THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The strength of the Home forces which are going to take part in the inauguration of the Australian Commonwealth is fixed at one thousand, with four guns.

DISGRACEFUL SCENES IN LONDON.

Scandalous scenes occurred in the London streets on the evening of the C.I.V.'s return, mobs of rowdies terrorizing sightseers and roughly handling women unchecked. The papers are full of indignant protests and urge that strong measures should be taken to prevent a repetition of similar scandals on the return of Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, and the visit of the Colonial contingents.

SOUTH AFRICA.

General Knox overtook Dewet on the 27th of October at Rensberg Drift. The Boers lost considerably, leaving two guns behind. Dewet escaped and darkness prevented pursuit.

DEATH OF PRINCE CHRISTIAN VICTOR.

Prince Christian Victor has died of enteric fever at Pretoria.

[Note.—Prince Christian Victor was a grandson of the Queen, being the son of Princess Helena and Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein. He was born on 14 April, 1867. He held his first commission as a Lieut. in the King's Royal Rifles, but he went out to South Africa as a Staff officer.—ED. *J. M.*]

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, Oct. 25.

Li Hung chang has telegraphed to the Chinese Minister in Paris, asking him to inform M Delcassé that, M. Pichon being sick, there is occasion to ask for the nomination of another plenipotentiary.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, having received on the same day a telegram from M. Pichon which said nothing of this sickness, considers Li Hung-chang's initiative as suspicious, and has telegraphed to Peking for information. The answer is awaited.

At the Council of Ministers, M. Delcassé announced that the Foreign Representatives had shown themselves favourable to the French proposals.

It is announced from Hongkong, on the 23rd of October, that the Consuls in Canton have received letters warning them that the town is in danger. Nevertheless Canton is calm.

SOUTHERN CHINA REBELLION.

Saigon, Oct. 27.

Four thousand rebels killed 2,000 villagers in the district of Kuei-chow and burned the villages.

THE FRENCH PROPOSALS.

Saigon, Oct. 29.

The Foreign Representatives at Peking have examined the proposals of M. Delcassé, and have decided that it is necessary to demand the execution of the principal culprit.

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, Oct. 30.

The President of the Council, in a speech at Toulouse, described the programme of the Cabinet, which is to present a law of amnesty, a law against the encroachments of religious congregations not authorized, a law on teaching directed to the university education of State functionaries, agrarian laws, and labour laws.

The pirates have pillaged the English steamer *Perseverance* plying between Macao and Hongkong.

(RECEIVED AT THE WAR OFFICE.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Peking, Oct. 25.

To-morrow (26th) the Foreign Representatives are to hold their first meeting with reference to the peace conference. Li Hung-chang has been appointed commander-in-chief of the Wu-wei army.

[The Wu-wei troops are those disciplined and equipped in foreign style.—ED. *J. M.*]

The 14th Regiment of the American troops and a part of the cavalry have left Peking for the south. The U. S. forces at Matou and Tung-chow are making a similar move, the custody of the north gate of Tung-chow having been given up to the French.

Peking, Oct. 27.

The detachment under Major Tanabe, which started from Yangtsung to disperse the Boxers, arrived yesterday at Hashi-wu, without having found Boxers anywhere. In fact, the troops were welcomed wherever they went.

The Foreign Representatives are to hold their second meeting to-morrow.

Paoting, Oct. 20.

There were some Chinese troops at Choh-chow on the 13th, but at the approach of the French advance guard, they dispersed in a southerly direction and nothing more has been seen of them. On the 14th inst., when passing through Choh-chow, the heads of eight Boxers were seen exposed. This is supposed to have been the work of the Chinese troops. On the 15th, on reaching Kau-pi-tien, the Chinese local officials came to meet the troops, and requested them to guard the railway. They also reported that the French column from Tientsin entered Paoting on the 13th instant. When halting at An-suh on the 18th, the German cavalry went out and found some Chinese troops about 20 kilometres westward. They killed one man and the rest surrendered. Before reaching Paoting on the 19th, the column

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was met and welcomed by the Chinese officials. The French were found guarding the gates and the column bivouacked outside the town. The advance troops of the Tientsin column had not yet arrived. The French are guarding the station and repairing the railway. From Paoting to Tsau-hochin the line is safe, but the remainder is wrecked.

Paoting, Oct. 21.

The town has been divided into four sections, which are guarded by the English, German, Italian, and French troops. The allied troops are still camped outside the town. From the 22nd the main part of the Germans and detachments of the French and Italians are to enter. Three columns left Tientsin by different routes. The French reached Paoting on the 13th; the Germans and Italians on the 20th; the English on the 21st. No sign of the enemy was seen *en route*. The railway is intact for a distance of about 60 miles south, and about ten waggons are available. (The telegram is here obscure). The people say that there are transport facilities to Tientsin. There were fifty thousand Boxers here at the end of July. They assassinated more than twenty missionaries in a cruel manner. Yung Lu came here from An-suh, on the north, and after staying for five or six days, went away on the 10th of October, and is believed to be now at Ho-hien-fu. Shiao Kei (?) was with him.

(NON-OFFICIAL.)

Peking, Oct. 26.

According to information received from a trustworthy source, General Kang has died a natural death, and General Tung has been put to death.

Peking, Oct. 28.

A flying column composed of one battalion of infantry, one squadron of cavalry and one battery of artillery of British troops; six companies of Russians, and two companies each of Germans and Italians, recently left Shan-hai-kwan and proceeded as far as Liuen-chow and Ying-ping. They did not find either Chinese troops or Boxers, and killed only a few bandits *en route*.

Various troops reached Ujina by the *Ikai Maru* on the 27th instant from Tongku.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.)

THE "IZUMO."

The first-class cruiser *Izumo* (9,900 tons) reached Port Seyd on the 24th instant, and left that place for Aden on the 25th.

THE "AZUMA."

The *Azuma* left Sasebo on the 27th at 2 p.m. and was expected to reach Yokosuka at 2 p.m. on the 29th.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE).

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Shanghai, Oct. 25.

Viceroy Liu and others have earnestly requested the issue of an edict announcing that the Court will return to Peking as soon as the peace negotiations are concluded. In consequence of this petition, a decree was issued on the 13th instant, saying, in the first place, that the language of the memorial shows a lack of sympathy with the Imperial Court in its great distress, but adding that Si-ngan has not been chosen as a permanent capital, and that so soon as the Allied Powers cease to prefer demands with which China can not possibly comply, and so soon as they conclude a treaty showing genuine recognition of China's sovereignty, the Court will return to Peking.

The foreign newspapers here say that the principal officials in Hupeh are much concerned about the evil counsels given by the Court party; that the appointment of the cruel and wicked Yu Chang to be Governor of Hupeh is the first step, and that it may be regarded as the earnest of trouble which will spread throughout the whole Yangtsze Valley, and will probably lead to the displacement of the various Viceroys by means of nefarious plots. The high officials of Hupeh have therefore solicited the intervention of the foreign Consuls.

RUMOURED DEATH OF CHINESE LEADERS.

Hankow, Oct. 26.

According to trustworthy information, General Kang Yi and ex-Viceroy Yü Hsien are dead, and Prince Twan has been forbidden to attend the Court on its journey to Si-ngan.

It is stated that General Tung has gone to Kansu to raise troops but the truth of this rumour is not ascertained.

Yü Yin-lin, Governor of Hupeh, is to hand over the seals of his office to Viceroy Chang and start for Honan on the 30th instant, the Viceroy temporarily discharging the duties of Governor.

The new Governor of Hupeh, Yu Chang, is said to have declined to come to Hankow (*i.e.* to assumes the governorship of Hupeh).

SUICIDE OF YU HSIEN.

Shanghai, Oct. 27.

Yü Hsien, ex-Viceroy of Shansi, appreciating that he had no hope of escaping heavy punishment in consequence of the demands formulated by the Foreign Powers, committed suicide on the 22nd instant by swallowing gold.

CHINESE AFFAIRS

Shanghai, Oct. 29.

The Imperial Court reached Si-ngan on the 26th instant.

It is untrue that Yú Hsien is dead.

(FROM THE "OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD.")

GERMAN NEWS.

Berlin, October 1.

The Reichskanzler Prince Hohenlohe has handed in his resignation to H. M. the Emperor owing to ill health. (Prince Hohenlohe is over 81 years old.) His Majesty accepted the resignation and appointed the Secretary of Foreign Affairs Count von Bülow to be Chancellor of the German Empire.

Tientsin, October 19.

The German Minister von Mumm will remove the legation to Peking; he leaves Tientsin with his staff in a few days.

A dispatch from Daochow, a town near the northern border of Shantung, reports that the allied troops, who had gone to Paotingfu to disperse the Boxers, have advanced beyond that city, pursuing them to the border of Shantung.

A telegram received from Houma by Chinese at Shanghai reports, that Kang Yi has committed suicide in the district of Wenhsi, Shansi, where he was left sick by the court the other day.

NEWS FROM GERMANY.

Berlin, Oct. 19.

The appointment of Count Bulow as Reichskanzler will be of great influence to the further development of the China question. In Germany it finds the approval of all parties.

A large number of sailors and marines, who have taken part in the fighting in North-China, have been decorated by the Emperor.

The ex-President of the Transvaal, Krüger, left Africa to-day for Europe.

The strike which broke out immediately after the shipment of the troops affecting especially the coal-districts has come to an end.

October 20.

Germany and Great Britain have come to an understanding with regard to China. This agreement will be of the greatest importance for the future. All rivers and coastports shall by all means be kept open for all nations. Germany and Great Britain declare that they do not desire any territorial advantages in China, they guarantee that China shall under all circumstances remain intact, even in the case of one or more trying to obtain territorial advantages. Germany and Great Britain have further come to an understanding with regard to their own interests in China, so that it is improbable that the new difficulties will arise between them in the future. They have asked the other Powers to join this agreement.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

Tientsin, October 20.

The German Minister von Mumm left Tientsin to-day; he expects to reach Peking on Monday next.

From Peking it is reported that 28 Russian have repulsed 600 Boxers who made an attack on the railway-bridge at Lanchou.

It is further reported that near Shanhai-kuan German and Russian troops have fought with Boxers.

As soon as the understanding between Germany and Great Britain with regard to China became known in Shanghai, the "Deutsche Vereinigung" (German Association of China) sent the following dispatch to the Chancellor of the German Empire:—

Shanghai, Oct. 21.

Reichskanzler Count Bülow.

Germany's agreement with Great Britain has given the greatest satisfaction to German merchants.

Deutsche Vereinigung.

NEWS FROM GERMANY.

Berlin, October 22.

From well-informed sources, we learn that the German-British agreement with regard to China does not contain any secret clause.

The Emperor of China, Kuang Hsu, has again requested the French Government to expedite the opening of negotiations for peace.

The British Government has taken possession of Rook Island. (Rook Island is situated between New Guinea and New Pommern [New Britain]).

Later.

From diplomatic sources we learn that the Under-Secretary of State Baron von Richthofen has been appointed to succeed Count Bülow as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. Richthofen was appointed Under-Secretary in the Foreign Office in the winter of 1897, shortly after Count Bülow took charge of the Foreign Office. From 1885 to 1896 Richthofen was a member of the Board of Administration of the Egyptian Debt at Cairo. From 1897 he was Director of the Colonial Department at Berlin.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

A telegram dated Hsianfu, October 23rd, reports that on that day the Emperor and the Empress Dowager left Tungkuan for Hsinfu. A large part of the retinue has been left behind. A considerable number of high courtiers and officials are said to have fallen sick on the way.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

THE RISINGS IN THE SOUTH.

Hongkong, Oct. 26.

It is reported that the Rebels in Kwangtung have done immense mischief in the villages. There was a desperate battle on the 19th, 20th and 21st, when 4,000 villagers (militia) from Samtochuk attacked the Rebels between Samtochuk and Yungfa. The action was stubbornly fought and the Rebels gained it with a loss of 400. The villagers lost 2,000 killed, their women and children slaughtered, and houses burned.

On the evening of the 21st, 2,000 Chinese troops went to the assistance of the villagers. The troops fought the Rebels on the 22nd. Two clans friendly to the troops were annihilated, and 51 villages utterly destroyed by the Rebels.

It is reported that the Rebels are 3,000 strong in the Yungfa-Kaising district, and are going northward in the direction of Swatow.

Admiral Ho, having burned several villages favourable to the Rebels, has himself returned to Wongkong. He left 600 troops at Pingshan.

Wuchou is safe.

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CHESS.

All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 31, Main Street, Yokohama.)

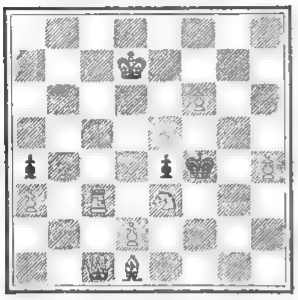
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 495.

1—R to K B 8; and 2—Q or R mates.

PROBLEM No. 497.

By J. K. MACMEIKAN (Repton).

Black—Three Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 634.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Showalter.		Black—Wolf.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q 4	P Q4	18 RxKtch	K Q2
2 P Q B4	P K4	19 R Kt2	PxP
3 PxQP	QxP	20 PxP	Kt B3
4 Kt KB3	P K5	21 B B5	P B6
5 Kt B3	B QKt5	22 R Kt7ch	K Bsq
6 Kt K5	BxKtch	23 BxP	Kt Ktsq
7 PxB	P KB3	24 R Kt6ch	KtxB
8 Q R4ch	P Kt4	25 RxKt	Q B5
9 Q R5	PxKt	26 R B6ch	K Q2
10 QxP	Kt Q2	27 R Q6ch	K B2
11 P K3	B Kt2	28 P Q5	Q Q6
12 B R3	Kt R2	29 R B6ch	K Kt2
13 R Qsq	P QR3	30 R Kt6ch	K Rsq
14 P QB4	PxBP	31 B K3	P B7
15 R QKtsq	R QBsq	32 B Q2	R QBsq
16 QxB	R QKtsq	Resigns	
17 QRch	KtxR		

GAME No. 635.

VIENNA OPENING.

White—Gottschall.		Black—Janowsky.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	17 Kt B5	P Kt3
2 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	18 P R4	B Qsq
3 B B4	B B4	19 Q Kt3	K Rsq
4 P Q3	P Q3	20 Kt K3	P B3
5 P KR3	Kt B3	21 K Rsq	B Kt3
6 P B4	Kt QR4	22 R B3	Q KKt2
7 B Kt3	P B3	23 R Rsq	R B2
8 Q B3	Castles	24 QR KBsq	QR KBsq
9 KKt K2	P QKt4	25 Kt K2	B B2
10 PxP	PxP	26 Q Ksq	P KB4
11 B Kt5	B K2	27 Q B3	B Q2
12 Castles	KtxB	28 PxP	PxP
13 RPxKt	B K3	29 R Kt3	Q R3
14 BxKt	BxB	30 Kt B4	P Kt5
15 Kt Kt3	B Kt4	Resigns	
16 R R6	Q Q2		

10.—PxP was an injudicious move, causing all the trouble. 10.—P to B5 is the best move, and White's position preferable then.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Oct. 20th:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders...	17,073,005
Amount of convertible notes issued ...	194,708,404
Government deposits	35,187,050
General deposits	4,410,800
Exchange liability	318,303
Total	281,697,563
CR.	
Discount notes	62,082,024
Foreign discount notes	11,076,245
Loan to Government	25,500,000
General loans	57,076,498
Exchange liability	1,507,586
Government bonds	52,477,260
Property	2,181,636
Bullion and Specie	69,856,311
Total	281,697,563

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	191,248,949
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	65,782,516
Silver	3 000 000
Total	68,782,516
Securities:—	
Government bonds	27,900,204
Government certificates	22,000,000
Government bills	9,929,037
Commercial notes	62,637,192
Total	122,466,433

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	392,630
Silver	—	—
General loans 483,007	—	
Government deposits... 551,259	—	
General deposits...	—	1,810,400

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T K. K.	America Maru 1	M Nov. 5
Hongkong.....	T K. K.	Nippon Maru	Th Nov. 8
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart	Sa. Nov 10
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 2	W Nov 14
Hongkong.....	M. M. Co.	Annam	W. Nov. 14
Hongkong	P M Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Sa. Nov 17
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 19
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Th. Nov. 22
Hongkong	O. & O Co.	Coptic	M. Nov 26
Hongkong ..	C. P R. Co	Em. of India	Th Nov 29

1 Left San Francisco on the 7th ult.

2 Left San Francisco on the 26th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong.....	N. D. Lloyd	Bayern	Sa. Nov. 3
America	O & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. Nov. 3
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Tu. Nov 6
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Nagato Maru	W. Nov. 7
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Tonkin	F. Nov 9
America	T K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. Nov. 10
Hongkong	P M. Co.	City of Peking	Th. Nov. 15
Hongkong ...	C P R Co.	Em. of Japan	M Nov 19
America	P M Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu Nov 20
Hongkong	O. & O Co.	Gaelic	F. Nov. 23
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. Nov 30

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 26th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,214, L. W. Haswell, 27th Oct.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, and Kobe, 26th Oct, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Alwin, 27th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 27th Oct., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 27th Oct.,—Kobe, 25th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, Y. Oda, 28th Oct.,—Kobe, 26th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bayern, German steamer, 3,128, H. Bleeker, 28th Oct.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, and Kobe, 27th Oct., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 28th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 27th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 28th Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 10th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tsurugisan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,438, I. Narasaki, 28th October,—Java, Sugar.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Silesia, Austrian steamer, 3,165, P. Craglietto, 29th Oct.,—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong, 22nd Oct., General.—Browne & Co.

D'Entrecasteaux (26), French cruiser, 8,114, Capt. de Maroll, 29th Oct.,—Nagasaki.

Tokomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 30th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pulutana, British steamer 1,934, G. S. Hutchison, 30th Oct.,—Madras Coast via ports, and Manila, 23rd Oct., Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Maine, British Hospital steamer, 1,811, F. Stone, 30th Oct.,—Uraga, 30th Oct.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Rujun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 30th Oct.,—Seattle, Washington, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumunoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 30th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, 29th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, K. Nakajima, 30th Oct.,—Yokosuka, 30th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suevia, German steamer, 2,663, Foerck, 31st Oct.,—Hamburg via ports, and Singapore, 13th October, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Konowa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakano, 31st Oct.,—Kobe, 29th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, Vaquier, 1st Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 31st Oct., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 1st Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 31st Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 1st Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 31st Oct., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, F. W. Horton, 1st Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Aubert, 26th Oct.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Maine, British Hospital steamer, 1,811, F. Stone, 26th Oct.,—Uraga.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sunmoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 26th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Athesia, German steamer, 3,654, Brunst, 26th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Brutus, U.S. Navy Transport, 1,984, Lieut. Meyer, 26th Oct.,—Manila, P.I.

Sevona, German Hospital steamer, 1,622, S. Behrens, 26th Oct.,—Taku via Nagasaki.—C. Illies & Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, S. Muramatsu, 27th Oct.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Alwin, 27th Oct.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Taleyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, S. Kaneko, 27th Oct.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 28th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell 28th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bellerophon, British steamer, 1,318, J. Lyons, 27th Oct.,—Uraga, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 29th Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J H Rinder, 30th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Agamemnon, British steamer, 4,461, Hugh Nish, 30th Oct.,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Bodlewell, British steamer, 2,209 W. Baines, 30th Oct.,—Yokosuka, General.—Mollison & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, Y. Oda, 30th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 31st Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 31st October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsurugisan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,438, I. Narasaki, 31st October,—Kobe, Sugar. Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Sumunoye Maru, Japanese steamer, S. Yamamoto, 31st Oct.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hillglen, British steamer, 2 501, Pulford, 31st Oct.,—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Silesia, Austrian steamer, 3,165, P. Craglirtto, 31st Oct.,—Trieste via ports, General.—Browne & Co.

Rosetta Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,039, N. Tate, 1st Nov.,—Otaru, Ballast.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, from Sydney via ports —Mr. C. Hearne and 4 children, Mr. H. Elkin, Mr. E. Elias, Mr. C. H. Reading, Mr. H. Sanotan, Mrs. G. Roach, Mrs. W. W. Greene, Mr.

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Okuda, Mr. J. W. Copman, Mrs. Marsluck, Miss Wistrap, Mrs. K. Wada, Miss Wada and maid, Mrs. C. M. Beme, Mr. W. H. Gill, and Mr. Koaye, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Wang Maiche and infant, and Mr. N. Asada, in second class; 43 Japanese, and 18 Chinese, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Bayern*, from Bremen via ports:—Mr. E. Binder, Mr. Denby, Mrs. Denby, Mr. Lisert, Lieut. Vessolkin, Lieut. D. Schapare, Mr. H. Worbs, Mr. Kershaw, Mrs. Kershaw, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Tata, Mr. Guthof, Mr. A. Clark, Mrs. Clark, Mr. J. Ellard, Mr. J. Coulson, Rev. A. Fuller, and Mr. A. Vass, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. F. B. Abenheim, Mr. H. F. Arthur, Mr. R. R. Bowles, Mr. A. J. Gillott, Mr. A. O. Gelderman, Mrs. A. O. Gelderman, Miss L. Lovell, Mr. A. Mayer, Mr. W. Oldenbourg, Mr. M. Takaki and servant, Mr. T. Tanaka, Mrs. J. W. Wadman and four children, Mr. Tevis Blanding, Mr L. L. Colver, Mrs. J. N. Jordan and son, Mr. F. B. Lawlor, Mrs. F. F. Lawlor, Mr. J. B. Metcalf, Mrs. A. W. Roberts, Miss J. Tucker, Mrs. Wallace, Mr. J. R. Dennett, Mr. T. Murakami, Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Field, and Mr. H. Renck, in cabin. For Kobe Mrs. M. J. Shea, Mr. F. N. Shea, Mrs. G. P. Godsey, Rev. S. S. White, and Mrs. S. S. White and two children, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Dr. R. I. Bowie, Mr. Geo. M. Diven, Mr. H. L. Douglas, Mr. S. D. Hepburn, Mrs. S. D. Hepburn, Miss M. C. Hubbard, and Mr A. W. Valance, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. C. S. Addis, Mrs. Addis, four children and nurse, Mr. J. B. Fearn, Mrs. J. B. Fearn and two children, Mr. Louis Goodnow, Mr A. Koehn, Capt. Maccabe, and Capt. Overton, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. M. Beyfus, Mrs. A. C. Jackson, Rev. E. Z. Simmon, Mrs. E. Z. Simmon, Mrs. T. L. Smith, Mrs. Ross Thomson, and Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Fearon and daughter, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Palitana*, from Madras via ports:—Miss Constance Hardie, and Mr. L. H. Phillips, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Ryojun Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.;—Mr E. A. Major, in cabin; Mr. S. Tokunaga, in second class, 6 Japanese, in steerage. In Transit,—Mr. Henry Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Lippard, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Brown, Miss L. A. Brown, and Mr. J. R. Brown, in cabin; Mr. A. L. Hwang, in second class, 34 Japannese, 5 Chinese, and 1 European, in steerage.

Per French steamer *Tonkin*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mrs. Schmidt and child, Mr. Kochube, Mr Misaki, Mr. and Mrs. Ito and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. Nees and 4 children, Mr. Sequerae, Mr. Salum, Mr. de Surgy, Mr. Conil, Mr. Ferre de Benox, Mr. Adamson, Mr. Seki, Mr. Perret, Mr. Delame, Mr Francois, Mr. Blanc, Miss Sekino, Miss Ito, Miss Mees, Mr. Creillon, Mr. Morris, Mr. Rouxel, Mr. and Mrs. Pintakoff and 4 children, Mr. Bougoure, Mrs Fredine and child, Mr. S. Luna, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. F. Morefori, Mr. Almachard, Mr. G. Compers, Mr. Chang Chow, and Lieut. Key and servant, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports —Mr and Mrs. H. E. Tomkins, Mr T. R. Wheelock, Mr. R. Finch, Mr. W. P. Wise, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Renters, Mr. A. B. Glover, Mr. J. R. Mikkers, Mr. A. Simon, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Sale, Miss Sale, Mr. H. Stell, Mr. P. A. F. Cabeldu, Mr. H. Geshers, and Mr. H. R. Raspe, in cabin. For Vancouver:—Mr. Jas. Kenworthy, Mrs. T. R Wheelock, Rev. and Mrs. E. James and 2 children, Lieut. A. Bonlock, Com P. Nelson Ward, R N, Mr H. S. Schtelig and servant, and Mrs. F. N. Fruth, Miss Grace Stevenson, in cabin 15 intermediate, and 244 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Marseilles via ports —Mr. A. Bonte, Mrs. Tallers, Mr. C. B. Downs, Mr. Ch. C. Goedkoop, Miss Roux, Mr. Chang Low, Mrs. A. S. Nadaroff, Mrs. S. A. Moukowska, Mr Vadislas de Zakouresky, Mr. Vachier, Mr I I May and valet, Capt. C. H. S. Tocque, Mr. P. S Ram, Mr. B. J. Ohlsen, Mr J. C. Gibbons, Mr J B Browning, Mr. H. C. Wilding, Mr. T. E. Menzies, Mr. E. T. J. Blount, Mr. A. Harmssen, Mr. H. Nemann, Mr. E. C Gover, Mr. J. M. Andrew, Mr. Pearte, Mr. Hadley, Mr. Mason, Mr. Harden, Miss Blum Mrs. Barbier and infant, Mr. de Mirny, Mr. and Mrs Butler, Mrs. Regina, Sister S. Dominique, Mr. Lalane, Mr. Pastural, Mr. Blanc, Mr. Barcet, Mr. Raynaud, Mr. Charreton Mr. Mariner, Rev. Father Golia, Mrs. C. Ortez Sparty, Mr Cojugol, Mr. Thonside, Mr. A. Affable, Mr and Mrs. Ho Hun Cho, Dr. Creasy Smith, Miss Nakamura, Mr A. H. Gutierrez, and Mr. Wang Tsu Yun, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports —Mr. C S Addis, Mrs C S Addis, infant and nurse, Master Tom Addis, Master Charley Addis, Miss Betty Addis, General T. H Barry, Mr Hugo Benedix, Mrs. M. Beyfus, Dr. I. R. Bowie, Mr. Hyde R. Bowie, Mrs. Brooks, Miss May Cochran, Miss Jean C. Cochran, Capt. J. R. Dennett, Mr. Geo. M. Diven, Mr. H. L. Douglass, Mr. J. B. Fearn, Mrs. J. B. Fearn, Miss Elizabeth Fearn, Master Kent Yates, Mr G D Fearon Mrs G D Fearon, Miss Daisy Fearon, Miss E. Garner, Mrs Gibson, Mr G P. Godsay, Mrs. G. P. Godsay, Mr Jno. Goodnow, Mrs. Jno. Goodnow, Mr. Louis Goodnow, Mr. S. D. Hepburn, Mrs. S. D. Hepburn, Miss M. C. Hubbard, Mrs. A. C. Jackson, Mr. A. Koehn, Mrs. E. H. Liscum, Capt. Jas. Maccabe, Mr. R. Masujima, Mr. A. L. McConnell, Mr. Jas. R. Morse, Capt. W. A. Overton, Mrs. M. J Shea, Mr F. N. Shea, Rev D. Z Simmons, Mrs. E. Z. Simmons, Mrs. T. L. Smith, Mr A. Turner, Mrs. A. Turner, Mr. W. A. Valance, Rev. S. S. White, Mrs. S. S. White, Master Kenneth White, and Miss M. White, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports —Mr. C Griffin, Mrs. A. S. Bagnall, Col. W. C. Hayes, Major J. A. Shipton, Mrs. Stanford, Mr. W. H. Gill, Rev. C. B. Moseley, Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Ayres and daughter, Rev. A. B. Bryan, Rev. R. B. Peery, Miss Gillespie, Mr. J. Gillespie, Rev. C. S. Brown, Mr. C. S. F. Dubain, Mrs. Forster and 2 infants, Miss E Birch Mr N L Ingram, Bishop and Mrs. S. W Wilson, Rev. John McFarlan, Miss Jensen Miss Cornwell, Miss J Sander, Mr S. M. Dyer, and Captain K Funi, in cabin, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Owen, Miss Ah Ching, Mrs. H. Shinagawa, Mr. M. Takei, Miss Shinta, Mr S Kuma, Mr. K. Nakao, Mr. R. Kono, Mr K. Yui, Mr. L. Kingshan, Miss S. Ninomiya, and Miss Ch Ninomiya, in second class.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Still little or nothing doing. Manchester prices are still far above the level at which local buyers wish to operate

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER P
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	¥ 2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Sattecns, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD 0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD
Flannels	¥ 0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 (in) 56 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 (in) 65 inches	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 (in) 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per P	0.68 to 0.78

	PER PIECE
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	¥ 9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24, 25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds 3.8 to 4lb, 24 25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE
Nos 16/24, Singles	¥ 150.00 to 155.00
Nos 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38, 42, Singles	Nominal
Nos 32, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos 42, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2 100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos 2/80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2, 100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS

American Middling	30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach	Nominal
Chinese	

METALS

Prices still show a lower tendency

	PER PICUL
Round and square ½ inch and upward	¥ 5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanized Iron Sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron ⅝ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE

There is no change to report in this market. Imports since the middle of last month were 147,936 cases of American (only); the total imports since July were 890,483 cases American and 354,500 cases Russian, and he estimated sales since Oct. 13th were 87,630 cases American and 31,043 cases Russian.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.75
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

Prices show an upward tendency for all kinds. There is a fair business at quotations.

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	¥ 5.40 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.40 to 6.35
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.30 to 8.70
White Refined	8.25 to 9.05

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Buying began towards the end of last week, the bulls hoping to drag up the consuming markets. Some business is said to have been done at quotations but they are practically nominal and buyers who can wait will profit by their abstinence. Stocks are over 18,000 piculs, of which two-thirds are Filature sorts. Kakeda is scarce and dear, supplies being held back up-country.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	¥ 870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	None
Common—Coarse	None
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re reels—No. 1	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1½	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2	750 to 760
Re reels—No. 3	730 to 740
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 1	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 1½	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 2	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 2½	720 to 730

WASTE SILK

There is a small demand. Prices are well maintained and holders await a fresh demand at enhanced figures.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi.—Filatures, Best	135 to 140
Noshi—Filatures, Good	125 to 130
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushu, Best	
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshu Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 105
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	50 to 52½
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	40 to 42½

TEA

There has not been much business. Stocks only amount to about 1,800 piculs and leaf held up-country is being kept back to maintain prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	34 to 35
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	26 to 27
Good Common	24 to 25
Common	22 to 23

COPPER.

Nothing new is reported, except one lot of 100 tons electrolytic. Exports since Oct. 18th aggregate 43,300 piculs.

FISH OIL.

Some business has been done at late prices with the result that nearly all old stocks have been disposed of. Two months will probably elapse before new supplies can come in. Shipments since Oct. 18th: 3,300 piculs

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per M. M. steamer *Sydney*, for France, Oct. 26 —

	Bales.
P Dourille	39
Nabholz & Co.	202
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	175
Siber, Wolff & Co.	30
Sieber & Co.	23
Doshin Kaisha	5
Total	474

Per P. M. steamer *China*, for San Francisco, Oct. 26

Vivanti Bros.	7
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	60
Doshin Kaisha	27
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	148
Total	242

Per N. P. steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Oct. 27 :—

	Bales.
Otto Reimers & Co.	35
Vivanti Bros.	80
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	58
Total	173

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TO 29TH OCTOBER, 1900.

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	25
Averill & Co.	460
Bavier & Co.	477
Chauvin, Chevalier & Co.	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	120
H. Dent & Co.	313
P. Doirille	109
Findlay Richardson & Co.	100
C. Gussan	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	1,735
Longin & Co.	275
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	1,088
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	844
Otto Reimers & Co.	1,093
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	313
Siber, Wolff & Co.	1,580
Sieber & Co.	763
W. M. Strachan & Co. Ltd.	176
Varenne & Co.	748
Vivanti Bros.	854
Kiito Gomei-Kaisha	2 532
Doshin Kaisha	532
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	829
J. Ishi	118
Total	15,414

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, November 1.

Silver from London $\frac{1}{16}$ higher and China sterling quotations $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$ higher have caused local rates on China to rule easier, but no other change and the closing quotations for the mails per steamer *Empress of China* and *Doric* as under.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0 5/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅜@51
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	*3¾% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*1% prem.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 69
— Private 10 days' sight	* 70½
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29⅜

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 1.

Kirin Breweries are steady at *yen* 150. Grand Hotels are obtainable at *yen* 240. Club Hotels are steady at *yen* 80. Helms have buyers at *yen* 57.50. Langfeldts—a few shares can be had at *yen* 90. Engine and Iron Works are quiet at *yen* 207.50. Laundries have sellers at par.

Debentures—Y. U. Clubs are obtainable at *yen* 107. Laundries can be had at par.

Offers for Hodogaya (Tokyo) Breweries are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	207 50 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥200	240 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	90 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	60 S.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	100
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	106 N
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, November 1.

Grand Hotels are obtainable at *yen* 240. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Langfeldts can be had at *yen* 90.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207.50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	240 Sellers.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Sales.

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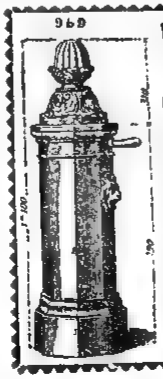

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RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.30, 8.55, 9.35, 10.15, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1.30, 2, 2.36, 3.10, 3.55, 4.33, 5.15, 5.33, 6.20, 7.21, 8, 9.13, 10, 10.50, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—5.20, 5.50, 6.50, 7.55, 8.30, 8.45, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25 a.m.; 12, 1.10, 1.40, 2.20, 3, 3.25, 4, 4.35, 5.10, 5.25, 6.24, 7, 7.35, 8.25, 9.20, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.

YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Leave.		Arrive.	
Yokohama	6.50 a.m.	Kobe	10.47 a.m.
Yokohama	1.14 p.m.	Kobe	9.00 a.m.
Yokohama	6.30 p.m.	Kobe	11.19 a.m.
Yokohama	10.32 p.m.	Kobe	6.36 p.m.
Kobe	6.00 a.m.	Yokohama	10.05 a.m.
Kobe	12.05 p.m.	Yokohama	8.05 a.m.
Kobe	6.00 p.m.	Yokohama	10.50 a.m.
Kobe	10.00 p.m.	Yokohama	6.13 p.m.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回發行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS, ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 10TH, 1900.

BIRTHS.

At No. 85 Bluff, on the 5th inst., the wife of Dr. N. GORDON MUNRO, of a Son.

On the 8th inst., at No. 173, Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of K. F. CRAWFORD, of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MARQUIS ITO left Oiso for Atami on the 2nd inst.

BARON SHIBUSAWA arrived at Söul on the 6th instant.

PROF. ONISHI SHUKU died at Okayama on the 2nd inst.

SNOW fell at Sapporo and on Bandaisan on the 2nd inst.

LORD ROBERT's daughter is ill with enteric fever at Pretoria.

MR. KRUGER, who is passing through the Red Sea, is seriously ill.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has been re-elected President of the U.S.A.

THE Boers are resuming active operations in the Orange River Colony.

THE Rev. Gilbert Reid is now acting as Interpreter to the 16th Bengal Lancers.

IT is stated that the Paotingfu officials paid the French Tls. 400,000 to spare the city.

THE body of a sailor belonging to the *Caravane* was found at Otsuchi-jima on the 2nd inst.

A VERY severe shock of earthquake was experienced in Yokohama at 4.42 p.m. on Monday.

PRINCE TOKUGAWA KEIKI arrived at Numazu on the 4th inst. and is staying at the Ogomeya Hotel.

FIRE occurred at Higashi Kawamachi, Hakodate, on the night of the 2nd inst. and one hundred and forty houses were destroyed.

THE *N.-C. Daily News* was informed on Oct. 30th that the Russians proposed to give up the port of Newchwang on Nov. 1st.

THE Rikugo Railway Company has resolved in general meeting to dissolve and to transfer its line to the Futami Railway Company.

FIRE occurred in a saddle-making shop at the Koishikawa arsenal, Tokyo, on the evening of the 1st inst. Two buildings were burnt.

THE receipts of the Tokyo Tramway Company on the Emperor's Birthday were *yen* 6,014.30 and on the following Sunday *yen* 4,744.83.

THE dead body of a boy aged about 15 years was found hanging on a fence in Sakuragicho Itchome, Yokohama, on the night of the 3rd inst.

A *sendo* named Sasaki Tamakich. was arrested on the night of the 31st ult. on a charge of beating a policeman with an iron hook on the face and head.

A WOMAN named Kikuchi Tsune, living at Aiolcho Sanchome, Yokohama, was arrested by the Isezakicho police on the 3rd inst. on a charge of having been in possession of a lottery ticket.

THE Japanese steamer *Shin Awaji Maru* ran ashore on a sand bank, and sank off the coast of Hikida, Ouchigori Takamatsu, on the morning of the 5th inst. The passengers and cargo were rescued.

FIRE broke out at the Yubari Coal Mine, Hokkaido, on the 31st Oct. As soon as the workmen were got out, the mine was shut down, and it is expected that mining will be possible within a few days.

REAR-ADMIRAL ARAI is reported to have gone to Vries Island to superintend the attempts that are being made to raise the *Katsuragi*. With the mainland communication will be kept up by pigeon post.

TANAKA TSUNETARO, aged 22, (employed by Mr. J. S. Anton), who absconded with *yen* 31 entrusted to him to be paid to Omiya, Sakaicho, on the 1st ult was arrested at Nagasaki on the 29th, sent back to Yokohama on the 5th inst., and handed over to the Court.

A TESTIMONIAL has been presented to Lieut. Gunji, I.J.N., in connection with the wreck of the steamer *Hokushiu Maru* in the Horomojiri Straits on Sept. 16th last. It appears that the lieutenant sent boats and rescued 182 persons from the ship.

A MAN named Yamaguchi Kishiya, who suffers from consumption, finding himself unable to purchase medicine wherewith to alleviate his trouble, tried to commit suicide on Nov. 2nd at Aoyama by cutting himself with a knife. He was found alive and sent to the nearest asylum.

SONOMA HIROTA employed by Mr. F. W. Horne, No. 70 Yokohama, was arrested in a restaurant at Shinagawa on Oct. 30th. It is alleged that he collected *yen* 233 from a Tokyo customer on the 23rd and forthwith went off with a jinrikisha-man as company to have "a good time."

A COLLISION occurred between a passenger and a goods train at Yashiro, Nagano prefecture, on the night of the 3rd inst. Two goods cars were smashed. A passenger car was capsized at Saka station, on the Riugasaki Railway, Mito, on the afternoon of the 4th inst. A defective wheel was the cause.

Two armed burglars, named Yendo Zentaro and Suzuki Mankichi, entered a house at Nitta-mura, Joshu, on the 9th Sept. and stole *yen* sixty, some cotton valued at *yen* 100, and a woman's *obi*. The men were arrested at Satta, on the 31st ult. Zentaro has entered over 100 houses in the neighbourhood.

THE British steamer *Ayr*, from Christmas Island, October 15th reports having experienced the N.E. Monsoon, with big head swell, throughout passage up the China Sea. She passed an American ship, on October 18th, ashore on the Shoal Water Island, Gaspar Straits, name unknown: a salvage steamer was in attendance.

A COOLIE named Namekawa Fukumatsu, living at Tobe-machi Rokuchome, Yokohama, was arrested at his house, on the morning of the 31st ult. on a charge of killing a weaver named Takijima Chosuke, and afterwards stealing 33 *tan* of cloth and one silver watch at Tachi-kawa-mura, near Hachioji, on the 14th ult.

THE body of Mrs. W. S. Davidson, one of the victims of the *Calanda-Ise Maru* collision, was recovered a few days ago by a diver who is working on the wrecked vessel. The remains were cremated and a funeral service was held over the ashes in Nagasaki by Bishop Evington at the Bishop's Chapel at Deshima.

WRITING of the losses sustained by the various spinning companies of the empire, the *Jiumin* remarks that the only means of maintaining the present establishments is to cut down the capital to half the amount and continue business as before. A scheme to this end, adds our contemporary, is now under discussion among the spinners concerned.

A MAN named Ogura Tokutaro, living at Hanazaki-cho, Nichome, Yokohama, was arrested on Nov. 5th. It is alleged that he received a cheque for *yen* 500 for a fellow-lodger but instead of bringing back the money went to Tokyo, Odawara and Atami and enjoyed himself, returning to Yokohama with *yen* 150 of the amount entrusted to him.

THE mulberry experimental farm of 50 acres worked by Mr. Tata of Bombay, at Bangalore, to rear the Japanese silkworm, is progressing favourably. The plantation, which is to the south of the Basavanna Temple is under the charge of two special agents from Japan, and shows signs of succeeding, according to the opinion of those competent to judge.

QUEEN DOWAGER MARGHERITA of Italy, according to the newspapers, has just completed the distribution of her personal effects and has finally retired from the world. Her 300 superb costumes have been apportioned among her friends. Immediately after King Humbert's funeral she sent to the museum at Florence the exquisite embroideries which made so fine an exhibit at the Chicago Exposition, and all her jewelry has been given to relatives. Young Queen Helena has received Margherita's royal diadem, valued at nearly $200,000.

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THE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.

The Imperial Guards and the First Division paraded for His Majesty's inspection at Aoyama on the 3rd instant, in very beautiful weather. No public statement has been made as to the exact number of troops that mustered, but they seemed to be about fifteen thousand. The Emperor arrived upon the ground at a few minutes before nine o'clock, and after a brief delay his Majesty rode round the ranks, accompanied by Lieut.-General Viscount Oku, who was in chief command, and by a brilliant staff, as well as by the foreign military and naval attachés. The troops then marched past, the infantry in close column, the cavalry and artillery in full-distance column. It was observed that some of the artillery had the new Arisaka gun. An enormous crowd assembled to witness the review.

The Emperor returned to the Palace at half-past eleven and gave audience to a large number of personages—exceptionally large this year, as the list had been extended so as to embrace all *chokunin* officials and holders of First-class Orders. His Majesty addressed a few words to the assembly, expressing the pleasure it gave him to celebrate the day in conjunction with the Representatives of Foreign Powers and his own principal officials, and thanking those present for their attendance. Baron Sannomiya, Grand Master of Ceremonies, translated his Majesty's speech for the benefit of the foreigners who were in attendance. Baron d'Anethan, as Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique, replied in the name of that body. His Excellency offered thanks for the honour of being summoned to take part in the ceremony as well as for the gracious words addressed by his Majesty to the Foreign Representatives, and tendered to the Emperor, in his own name and in the names of his colleagues, hearty congratulations on this auspicious day. Marquis Saionji, acting Prime-Minister, then made a suitable and brief address on behalf of the officials present, after which luncheon was served, over four hundred persons sitting down to the banquet, which was in the *Homei-den*. His Majesty retired at 1 p.m.

YOKOHAMA.

In Yokohama the business houses and residences of foreigners were profusely decorated, and it goes without saying that flags and illuminations were plentiful in the Japanese town. On Friday the fine new armoured cruiser *Azuma* had arrived from Yokosuka, and she celebrated Saturday by dressing ship, an example followed by the French cruiser *d'Entrecasteaux* and most of the shipping in the harbour. At noon salutes were fired by the two war vessels and the Japanese authem was played by the Grand Hotel Band. A return baseball match was played in the afternoon between teams representing Yokohama and the Tokyo Keio Gijuku with the result that the former won easily by 30 runs to 2. The schools throughout the town held holiday and many had open-air exercises which attracted large crowds.

THE BIRTHDAY BALL.

The Birthday Ball given by His Excellency the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Kato in the Imperial Hotel on the evening of the 3rd instant, was the most numerously attended function of the kind ever witnessed in Tokyo. In spite of the great size of the principal salon, it proved quite inadequate to accommodate the guests, and dancing was carried on under circumstances of considerable difficulty. The Imperial guests—Prince Komatsu, Prince and Princess Kanin, Prince and Princess Yamashina, Prince Kuni and Prince Nashimoto—arrived at a little before 10 o'clock, and after they had been escorted to their places, the first quadrille was formed. Much attention was attracted by the decorations which, carried out under the directions of Mr. Yoshida, were exceptionally pretty, especially those at the approach to the salon, where two large pillars had been converted into monster pedestal-lamps (*toro*) of summer-chrysanthemums and greenery, flanking the entry to a bower of artificial wistaria with many-coloured electric lights flaming among the blossoms. In the ball-room the decoration was wisely limited to festooning of the ceiling, for nothing of an elaborate character could have been appreciated among such a crowd of guests. Supper was served at half-past eleven, and though an immense marquee had been erected, with a buffet running down the whole length of two sides, the other two being occupied by tables and chairs, these arrangements proved inadequate for the urgent industry of viand-consumption displayed on such occasions. The following was the programme of dances:—

1 Quadrille.	6 Polka.
2 Valse.	7 Quadrille.
3 Polka.	8 Valse.
4 Lancers.	9 Galop.
5 Valse.	

DISTURBED CHINA.

PAOTING AND THE OPERATIONS IN NORTH CHINA.

Saturday, Nov. 3.

Field-Marshal Waldersee is said to have compiled for submission to the Emperor of Germany a detailed report of the operations in North China, and of the dispositions that he purposes making for the winter. It is also stated that the allied forces captured 300 Boxers and four Chinese officials at Paoting, and that a court has been appointed to try them.

The President of the Board of Punishments is reported to have memorialized the Throne in the sense that Prince Twan and the other dignitaries charged with instigating the Boxers ought not to be subjected to any severe penalty. They are in no danger, we imagine, unless they fall into the hands of the allied forces. Had some reasonable penalty been proposed, there might have been good hope of its infliction But the vindictive and unjust demand that has been put forward can only defeat its own purpose.

Great Britain is reported to be sending a commission to investigate the amount of damage suffered by British subjects in connexion with the Boxer riots. The commission is to commence its labours in Chekiang.

Prince I, says rumour, has shaved his head and taken holy orders. It is supposed that he will retire to Thibet and enter the Llama brotherhood. This Prince is one of the number designated as instigators of the Boxer troubles. His method of procedure is remarkably astute. No one can trouble him in the seclusion of Thibet, and he will have relieved the Imperial Court of the embarrassment of dealing with him. The most suspicious among Occidental onlookers can not deny that the men supposed to have favoured the Boxers are in plain disgrace. General Kang, if he has not committed suicide, is at all events removed from the scene of action Prince Twan has been forbidden to follow the Imperial Court to Si-ngan, and now we hear of Prince I taking the tonsure and becoming a Llama. The general attitude of the foreigner towards everything Chinese is sceptical. Nothing would persuade him, during the month of July, that the Peking Legations had not been captured and their inmates put to the sword, although all the leading Chinese officials outside the city were persistently and almost daily denying anything of the kind. Now again, he declines to believe that any real disgrace has overtaken Twan, Kang, I, and the rest.

THE POWERS AND THE ANGLO-GERMAN NOTE.

As might have been anticipated, the reply of the United States Government to the invitation to subscribe the Anglo-German Agreement does not contain any suggestion calculated to impart a sinister significance to the document. The Washington statesmen have expressed their entire accord with the first two Articles of the Agreement, but with regard to the third they say that as it appears to concern the two signatories only, the United States Government refrains from formally becoming a party to it. That seems to us to be an altogether sensible view. America justly interprets the third article in the sense of a declaration that should any third Power depart from its conditions of the first two Articles by seizing Chinese territory, the signatories of the Agreement will proceed, by mutual consent, to recoup themselves at China's expense. But inasmuch as America has no intention of seeking to acquire Chinese territory under any circumstances, she does not care to join a compact which points plainly to that contingency. The Washington Government, as we understand its policy, is purely and simply for the open door and for the preservation of China's integrity. It will not take up arms to enforce those ends, and neither will it depart from its non-acquisitive principle should they fail of consummation.

Russia's reply has been just what we expected. She endorses the first two Articles of the Agreement as simply a recapitulation of the declarations previously made by herself, but she sees no reason to subscribe the third, inasmuch as she has already announced her own intentions should any other Power make territorial acquisitions in China. In other words, since she holds in her hand the compensation which she proposes to take should occasion arise, there is no occasion for her to consult with either England or Germany about the matter. France's answer is to the same effect as America's. Thus the Powers have grouped themselves into Germany, England, Japan, Austria-Hungary and Italy on one side, France and Russia on the other, and America standing aloof from each; the first five being pledged to preface their proceedings by mutual consultation, to which Russia and France will not be parties.

THE MOST TRYING TIME OF THE CHILI CAMPAIGN.

It has generally been supposed that the most trying time for the troops in Chili was the march from Tientsin to Peking, when the men had to move very rapidly in great heat, with insufficient supplies and with the worst kind of water to drink. But now that the details are known, it is plain that the night of the 13th and 14th of July saw the men exposed to their severest trial in the whole of the operations. The allied column marched to the attack of the walled city of Tientsin on the morning of July 13th, and after a very hard day's fighting the brunt of which fell on the Japanese, the latter found themselves in the evening at a distance of about 150 metres from the walls and without any hope of capturing the place that night. Major-General Fukushima then issued orders that the men were to hold their position, neither retiring, nor advancing a yard.

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His belief, derived from his knowledge of the Chinese, was that after the losses they had suffered during the day, they would probably abandon their posts under cover of darkness, provided that they did not detect any sign of retreat on the part of the assailants. The ground then held by the Japanese troops was almost wholly under water. Only a narrow causeway leading to the gate of the city stood above the level of the water which covered the area on either side to a depth of some two feet. In that water the Japanese had to stand the whole night, and they stood. That is a record, we think.

America and the Anglo-German Agreement.

It is stated that the objection of the Washington Government to endorse the third clause of the Anglo-German Agreement, is due to apprehension that offence might thereby be given to Russia, thus injuring the prospects of a peaceful solution. That is certainly an excellent reason so far as it goes. But it is also a reason whose very statement tends to work the mischief America desires to avoid. For why should the third article of the agreement be held to refer to Russia more than to any other Power? It will of course be construed as referring to her if such a motive be openly assigned for the Washington Cabinet's conduct. But it need not have been so construed. The agreement, if it received the signature of all the Powers, would tend materially to promote the cause of peace, but from the moment that it is interpreted as being directed against any one of the Powers in particular, it becomes an obstacle to peace, and a part of the responsibility of destroying its useful purpose will rest on any State assigning to it that interpretation. We deem it very possible that Russia may decline to append her signature, her argument being that she has already pledged herself openly to evacuate Manchuria unless the action of some other Power obliges her to remain there. In fact, she has made a public declaration in the precise sense of the agreement and she may not unnaturally be disinclined to strengthen her word by a written bond. Of course, if she takes that line, she will expose herself to great misconstruction, but we are not at all sure whether, if we were Russian subjects, we should not regard it as somewhat undignified for our country to set her name to an agreement concluded by other Powers without consulting her, and embodying promises to which she had already pledged herself.

France and the Anglo-German Agreement.

It is stated that the French Government, being invited by England and Germany to join the recently concluded agreement, replied that the agreement does not contain anything contrary to the declarations already publicly made by France. We have been disposed to anticipate some such answer, especially on the part of Russia. The absence of the Czar in Livadia may be a sufficient explanation of Russia's delay in replying, but the probability is, in our opinion, that she will fail to see any necessity for joining an agreement which merely embodies declarations already made by herself, if we except the third clause, and that pledges the signatories to cōoperation which Russia might consider very inconvenient. There has not been the slightest semblance of cōoperation in her Manchurian proceedings. She has had an absolutely free hand there. Whatever declarations she made about the disposal of the territory were purely voluntary. She will naturally reflect that not much is to be gained by fettering herself now since the prize is already in her hands. France's alleged reply, therefore, may be taken, we think, as an earnest of Russia's attitude.

Russia in Manchuria.

Wednesday, Nov. 7.

The Chinese Representative in St. Petersburg is said to have telegraphed to Liu Kun-yi that the Russian Government has no intention whatever of retaining possession of Manchuria; that it will restore the whole territory to China, and that it will retain there only just sufficient troops to guard the line of railway. Russia has now avowed this magnanimous intention so often that no one can doubt the sincerity of her intention. Indeed, we ourselves have never doubted it. But what we do doubt is whether circumstances will permit her to be as disinterested as she desires to be. The experience of the past six months has given to the world a new impression of the Chinese people. They are evidently capable of being swayed, and very strongly swayed, by a national impulse. That was what Occidentals doubted altogether prior to the Boxer outbreak. The general hypothesis was that the Chinaman had become wholly absorbed by personal considerations, that his thoughts never rose above the level of his own family. We remember how, when the war between China and Japan broke out in 1894, the *Spectator* ventilated one of its remarkable theories. The very words of the great London theorizer are fresh in our recollection. Discussing the feasibility of the conquest of Japan by a Chinese General, the *Spectator* opined that he would experience no special difficulty in gradually overcoming the whole country. "Such a feat," it said, "might be impossible in Europe because of the national opposition, but in Asia such national feeling hardly exists. A Japanese could not be got to fight against the Chinese as the Spaniards fought against the French. The ideal of nationality is not an Asiatic product. Men there, as in the rest of the world, will fight to save their hearths and homes, but a national uprising cannot be counted on to defeat the plan of the great conquerors." Never was more amusing sciolism displayed by a great journal than the *Spectator* displayed in this matter, so far as Japan was concerned. Yet we should all have been willing to accept the verdict with regard to China, and we should still be willing to accept it, had not the Boxer rising and its accompanying incidents made us wiser. Russia, then, in estimating the force required for the protection of her railway in Manchuria, will have to adopt a new basis of calculation. She will have to reflect that a second Boxer uprising on a much larger scale may test her strength at any moment. Another point also will have to be included in her forecast. It is a point which we do not desire to elaborate, but to ignore it would be fatuous. Unless the Russian troops be incredibly belied, their conduct throughout the recent campaigns in Chili and Manchuria has been such that only by sheer force will the Chinese hereafter be induced to endure their presence. Thus a small army scattered along the route of the Manchurian railway would only invite hostile enterprises, and a large army would render the evacuation promise illusory. The solution of the question may depend onother things than Russia's good intentions.

The Conference in Peking.

Telegrams say that the Foreign Representatives in Peking have decided that it will be necessary to examine the credentials of the Chinese peace commissioners. A strange statement, surely, at this eleventh hour. Still, it is just possible that as all the Representatives were not fully accredited until quite recently, they may not hitherto have been able to constitute themselves into a regular tribunal. Rumour is very busy about the credentials of the Chinese commissioners. They are said by some to be without the great seal, which is in the possession of Prince Twan, and by others they are declared to be perfectly in order. It is scarcely credible that men like Li and Ching would have consented to act in such a capacity had their commissions been so glaringly informal. Meanwhile the Foreign Representatives are holding their meetings twice a week, according to some authorities, once every second day according to others. There is a rumour that differences of opinion have arisen between the newly arrived Representatives and those previously in Peking, but it is not thought that any embarrassment will result.

America in the Far East.

America's attitude towards the Anglo-German agreement is receiving various interpretations. One telegram alleges that she has not subscribed the third Article of the Agreement because she fears that it may prove an obstacle to the restoration of peace. Another telegram attributes to the Secretary of State an assertion that, in the event of the partition of China, the United States must have a port. If the latter opinion be entertained in Washington, the natural course for America would have been to endorse the Anglo-German Agreement in its entirety. But although there may be a feeling in the breasts of some Americans that, having "passed the rubicon of imperial responsibility," as the phrase goes, and having hitherto taken such a prominent part in dealing with the Chinese complication, they must not turn back now, but must allow destiny to lead them unresisting, the tendency of all the writing in American journals and periodicals, so far as we know, is to eschew every idea of taking Chinese territory in any shape or form. The Americans are not yet reconciled to their new part in the international drama. They can not bear to contemplate eventualities which appear quite natural and proper in the eyes of States with more callous consciences. Their present policy, then, being wholly anti-aggressive, and the idea of territorial expansion at China's expense being abhorrent to them, it appears to us that President McKinley's answer to the Anglo-German proposal was a perfectly frank expression of national sentiment.

The Conference in Peking.

The Foreign Representatives in Peking are said to have held a conference on the 31st of October, when they discussed the fourth proposition of the French note, namely, that a mixed force should be organized in Peking for the protection of the Legations and the community. It will be remembered that Japan objected to this proposal, urging that such a force would be extremely difficult to organise, and most inconvenient to control or use. The Representatives seem to have adopted Japan's view, for they decided that each Legation should have a guard of its own, and that no Chinese should be allowed to reside within the precincts of the Legations. The former decision appears very wise, but we are unable to appreciate the meaning of the latter. Does it signify that there are to be

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no Chinese servants in the Legation compounds? At any rate, the question of who shall and who shall not reside within the precincts of a Legation scarcely seems to call for international decision. Each Minister might be left to settle such a matter himself.

With regard to the fifth proposition, the opinion of the majority of the Representatives is said to have been that not only the Taku Forts, but also every fort between Peking and the mouth of the Peiho capable of interrupting communication should be destroyed. That, of course, means every fort without distinction, for even a parapet with embrasures for jingals is capable of interrupting communications. The Representatives are certainly "going one better." They will end by depriving China of all capacity for self-defence. What answer will then be made by the Powers should she come forward and ask them to push their procedure to its logical sequel by guaranteeing the neutrality of her territories?

The sixth proposal, namely, that garrisons be posted at two or three points between Peking and Tientsin to secure communications, was adopted with some slight verbal amendments. It means, of course, the permanent occupation of an important part of Chinese territory by the foreign Powers. The thing might be possible if the Powers were assured of remaining at peace with each other for the next century. But suppose that they fall out among themselves in the West while they are cooperating in the East for the protection of their mutual interests by force of arms? And even supposing that they do not fall out, it appears to us that endless complications are likely to result from an attempt to maintain a mixed garrison of Russians, Americans, French, Germans, English, Japanese, Italians and Austrians in the metropolitan province of China.

After the various items of the French note had thus been discussed and decided, the United States Representative presented a proposal that an Imperial Decree should be published declaring that in future should any anti-foreign riots or demonstrations occur in any province of China, the Governor, Vice-Governor and other high officials of the province will be dismissed and will become, *de facto*, disqualified to serve again in any official capacity. The British Representative also proposed that the present occasion be utilized to revise the treaties with China, but both the American and the British proposals were strongly traversed by one of the Foreign Representatives, whose habitual attitude is one of opposition to these two Powers, and the conference did not arrive at any decision. Other proposals relating to the reorganization of the Tsung-li Yamên and certain points of etiquette were brought forward but did not receive a final verdict.

We take these particulars from the *Shogyo Shimpo* and do not vouch for their accuracy. Indeed, it seems to us very strange that such publicity should be given to the proceedings of the conference of Ministers. If it be true, however, that the American and British Representatives put forward such proposals, we can not but express entire accord with the former's idea at any rate. All those parts of the programme that relate to the dismantling of forts, the posting of mixed garrisons, and the interdiction of imports of arms, seem to us unpractical and ill-advised. They constitute a half-hearted interference with China's independence, and would lead to a complicated and dangerous state of affairs. But that the Emperor should be required to issue an edict showing that his practical displeasure will fall on the heads of all officials who fail to render efficient protection to foreign life and property, appears to us to be a really practical and sensible step. We can not say as much for the British proposal. Its effect would to be delay the settlement of the trouble for an indefinite time.

Imperial Life in Peking.

Mr. Baba, correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, describes a visit recently paid by him to the Imperial Palace in Peking. He says that the arrangements and furniture in the purely Chinese section are much superior to those in the Manchu section, the latter being of a confused and rococo character. For the gardens he has nothing but contempt to express. There is no garden that would be looked at by a Japanese. What struck him most was the profusion of jade ornaments. All those capable of being secreted about the person had been stolen by foreigners—a quaint observation—but there remained many fixed to screens and other furniture. Among these highly valued objects was to be seen a quantity of inferior Japanese porcelain. That is a singular statement, for, so far as our own researches go, the Chinese never attached any value to Japanese porcelain, their own being incomparably finer. Japanese faience might have deserved their attention, but faience and pottery were never appreciated by them, with one solitary exception. In the Empress-Dowager's room was hanging a picture painted by one Li, with whom her Majesty's relations are said to have been of an equivocal character. The Empress Dowager herself is a splendid writer of ideographs, and many scrolls from her hand adorned the Palace. Her Majesty seems to have had an inordinate fancy for time pieces. Her bed-chamber was full of them. One in the form of an elephant drawing a cart with a clock two feet high, was conspicuous. In the Empress' reading room were numerous Chinese translations of foreign works on natural philosophy and chemistry. In proof of the bad relations between the Empress Dowager and the Emperor, Mr. Baba repeats the story that the Emperor's favourite mistress was murdered and thrown into a well by order of the Empress Dowager on the eve of the flight from Peking. He says that her body is still in the Palace. Mr. Baba adds a story for the truth of which he does not vouch, namely, that Prince I's suicide was in the sequel of his having been obliged to wash the clothes of certain foreign soldiers who did not know his rank.

Official Vicissitudes in China.

New rumours are circulated about the high dignitaries who have been so much *en evidence* since the outbreak of the Boxer trouble. They have been dying and coming to life again, suffering degradation and being reinstated in the most bewildering manner, until it has become quite impossible to know anything certain about them. General Kang Yi alone has passed completely out of sight, and it really would seem that he is no longer in the land of the living. The latest story is that Prince Chwang is dead. As for Prince Twan, he is now said to be at Ningshen. Yesterday he was supposed to be at Ning-hia. Where will the foreign Powers send to search for him should they decide that his head must fall, and should the Chinese Government decline to perform the function of executioner? Another rumour is that the Imperial Court, dreading the advent of foreign troops, has decided not to remain at Si-ngan but to proceed to Ching-tu in Szechuan. Ching-tu was the capital of China in the epoch of the Three Dynasties, but being on the banks of the Yangtsze, it is not by any means inaccessible for foreign Powers, though the task of reaching it would be heavy. The whole of the official vista in China is becoming kaleidoscopic.

ONE LAW FOR THEE.

Impartiality is not a characteristic of international intercourse at the close of the 19th century. We read in a San Francisco journal that when the *America Maru* reached San Francisco on the 16th of October, the authorities adopted strict measures to prevent the landing of three Japanese women who were supposed to be going to the States for immoral purposes. We have not yet read, however, in any journal that either Japan or China has adopted measures to check the advent of American women for immoral purposes, though it is a notorious fact that a regular supply of such persons has been received at all the important foreign settlements in the Far East for the past thirty-five years, and is still received. If only we folks of the proud Occident could see ourselves with the eyes of the Japanese and the Chinese, how signally our self-complacency would be shocked.

The so-called "dumping" of Chinese immigrants into the United States is another case in point. It appears that avenues for the advent of Chinese from the Canadian frontier have been opened, and that there is much indignation in America because of this unfriendly action on the part of the Canadians. Why should not the Chinese similarly legislate against the advent of Americans into China? The cases are not exactly parallel, it may be urged, since America's legislation is only against the labouring class of Chinese, whose presence injuriously affects the scale of living in the States. But the Chinese might urge, on their side, that while they have no objection to the coming of American labourers to China, they have a very great objection to the coming of the upper classes, who disturb old-time conditions, and whose presence and mode of life produce a most inconvenient effect upon prices generally. It would be difficult to deny the justice of such a claim, if we admit the justice of America's doings. The plain fact is that while the United States of America and some of the British colonies give full effect to their right of choosing what kind of foreigners shall be admitted to their territories, no such privilege of discrimination is permitted to China or Japan.

TAXATION IN KOREA.

News from Korea is to the effect that the Government is about to double the taxes, on the plea of money being required to support the national expenditures. That is a vague plea and, indeed, the intelligence is altogether of a very sketchy character.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has a note to the effect that the mining concession which has been sought by a French syndicate for some time, has now been granted. It seems to be a very extensive affair, the area being 15 miles by 10, or 150 square miles. The lease is to be for 25 years, and 25 per cent. of the profits are to be paid to the Korean Government, but nothing is said about the location of the mine or the nature of the mineral.

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THE QUESTION OF BRITISH ARTILLERY.

Every one remembers how much indignation and anxiety were caused by the supposed discovery that the British field artillery in Natal was greatly inferior to that of the Boers, so much inferior that English soldiers in and around Ladysmith found themselves constantly exposed to shell fire to which they could not make any adequate reply, and indeed in many cases could not reply at all. People immediately jumped to the conclusion that the British field artillery was armed with a weapon of much less force and efficiency than the weapon employed by the artillery of other Powers under similar conditions. We always expressed doubts as to the correctness of such a theory, and we rejoice to find that it is now completely exploded. It is now agreed by experts that "our field artillery was armed with a gun which, *pace* the ignorant critics who raised a tempest in the London press a year ago, was certainly the equal of any other gun in use of similar weight and calibre." The trouble was that the Boers had provided themselves with heavy guns such as had never previously been thought capable of accompanying an army in the field. The original British hypothesis was that the Boers, whom they supposed to possess artillery of the same calibre as our own, would find it rather an encumbrance than an assistance, owing to their want of practice in moving it about, whereas the actual fact was that they brought into the field guns much heavier than the British and showed, for the first time in warfare, that such guns could be subordinated to the operations of a particularly mobile army. It was a remarkable lesson, and it would have cost us very dear had not the shells fired by the Boers been rendered comparatively useless by the corruption prevailing at head quarters. They had splendid guns, but their ammunition was bad. On the other hand, it is recognised that the climatic conditions in South Africa offer exceptional facilities for long-range firing, and that weapons similar to those used by the Boers would have much less efficacy in an European country Hence, although in addition to the powerful 5-inch howitzers now forming part of the equipment of a British army in the field, there are to be land-service guns at least equal in range and weight of projectile to the naval 4.7-inch quick-firers, care will be taken not to sacrifice the mobility of the artillery to an object which may not always prove possible of attainment.

A most interesting question is discussed by the military critic of the *Westminster Gazette*, namely, how to supply small arm ammunition to the firing line of troops South Africa has showed that a line of infantry is often checked in its advance by the heat of the enemy's fire, and is obliged to lie down, remaining in that position for several hours without being able either to advance or to retreat. If any man moves, he attracts a storm of bullets. The question then arises how ammunition is to be supplied to these troops. If men are employed to carry it, as has hitherto been the habit, they are invariably shot down before they reach the front. The critic says that in some foreign armies specially trained dogs are employed for the purpose. They carry a saddle containing a quantity of ammunition, and they are taught to rush to the front, and allow themselves to be relieved of their burden It is expected that dogs will be of great service in future for this purpose, as well as for outpost duty and for seeking out wounded men.

We are often asked "What is a Pom-Pom?" and we are obliged to confess that the derivation of the term is not familiar to us. The weapon itself, however, is a 1-lb, Vickers-Maxim, mounted on a light carriage and firing about 8 1-lb shells in rapid succession, The shells burst on impact, and the gun can be handled with such facility that its stream of fire follows the movements of troops much as a stream of water from a fire hose can be directed on a mob at close quarters. The British troops had no Pom-Poms when they first engaged in the South-African war. The Boers had a good supply of them, and they did great damage, for their shells burst well on the hard rocky ground of Natal and the Free State, while, at the same time, the Boers managed to conceal the Pom-Poms so carefully that the direction whence their fire might be expected could seldom be anticipated. Finally the British themselves adopted this useful little weapon. It first went into action in British hands at Paardeberg. The trouble is that all these additions, though they give an enormous increase of efficiency when once the guns come into action, represent a corresponding degree of complication. If the lessons of South-African war be adopted without modification, a British army would take the field with horse and field artillery, howitzer batteries, long-ranging guns of position and Pom-Poms; or five varieties of weapon, with, of course, the corresponding necessity of supplying five different kinds of ammunition, which would be a serious matter, though not beyond the reach of careful organization.

THE "MAINICHI SHIMBUN" AND THE LAW COURT.

In commenting on the fact that the Editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun* had been criminally sentenced for libelling officials, we noted that his inability to produce any evidence in support of his charges must be assumed, for had such evidence been forthcoming, the court could not have failed to recognise the plea that he wrote in the interests of the public. The *Mainichi* refers to this point. It is evidently, distressed by the supposition that it went into Court without any proof of its allegations, and still more distressed by the inference that the accusations were untrue. Plenty of proof was forthcoming, it asserts, but the Court declined to admit any evidence of that nature. The fact is very surprising We can not perceive what right a Court of law has to refuse such evidence. But it can not be denied that the arbitrary attitude assumed by Japanese tribunals towards testimony tendered by defendants has provoked some criticism among foreign observers. In general the Court's anxiety to abbreviate the proceedings constitutes a more or less valid excuse for exercising great discrimination as to evidence, but when there is question of testimony absolutely essential to a just decision, we can not see what title a court possesses to respect it. Any tribunal pursuing such a method, becomes a court for administering injustice, not justice. In the case of the *Mainichi Shimbun* we have no information except that journal's unsupported statement, but the probability of our contemporary's account is strengthened by the acts of Japanese Courts in other instances. It is a point of procedure well deserving investigation by the Authorities

THE QUESTION OF THE SCRIPT.

Monday, Nov. 5.

In August the Educational Authorities issued a notification having for object the reduction of the number of Chinese ideographs employed in writing the Japanese language, and a simplification of the use of the *Kana* syllabary. The public was then given to understand that the abolition of the ideographs and the substitution of Roman letters were not regarded by the Department of Education as feasible reforms. It would appear, however, that grounds for that conclusion did not exist. The Department is said to have now determined that the displacement of the ideographs by the *Romaji* shall be experimentally essayed. Instructions in that sense will be issued shortly, says the *Hochi Shimbun*. The measure will not be compulsorily enforced: it will be entirely optional. Under those circumstances its success will, of course, be very problematical, for unless the authorities at the elementary schools are misrepresented, their conservatism is not likely to encourage any tentative steps for the abolition of the ideograph. Still the change is bound to come, and we heartily welcome any move in the right direction. Two of the distinguished men who worked with prominent deligence to lift this cruel load from the shoulders of their country's students, Professors Toyama and Yatabe, are under the sod It is generally so in this world The brave pioneers do not see the success of their projects, or do not live to reap the renown. But what Toyama and Yatabe did should never be forgotten.

Tuesday, Nov. 6.

In the *Official Gazette* of the 5th instant, the rules for transliterating Japanese sounds into Roman letters are given We regret very much to find that the Educational Authorities have considered it necessary to discard the system of transliteration hitherto in vogue and to substitute a system which possesses no apparent advantages and has the great disadvantage of upsetting the etymological habit contracted by long years of custom The change we refer to is in the transliteration of the sounds hitherto written *sha, shiu, sho, chi, cha, chiu* and *cho*. For these syllables students are now required to substitute *tya, tyu, tyo, ci, ca, cu* and *co* We do not know of any European language in which *ci ca, cu* and *co* are pronounced *chi, cha, chiu* (or *chu*) and *cho*, nor can we see what is gained by this arbitrary departure from the universally recognised sound of the Roman letters. When the Educational Authorities adopted the admirable resolution of seeking to replace the ideographs by Roman letters, it appears to us that their wisest plan would have been to adhere as closely as possible to the sounds the letters have among Anglo-Saxons, who, after all, represent the vast bulk of the Roman-letter-users of the world. No Englishman or American will be able to conjecture that *Sinbasi* should be pronounced *Shimbashi*, or that *cisyo* represents *chishio*. The framers of the new system have further decided that the distinction of *kwa* and *ka, gwa* and *ga, gwo* and *go* need not be preserved That is a decision which students will not be disposed to endorse. We observe with satisfaction that they have introduced the accent for long vowels, so that in future it will be orthodox to write *byôki, tcppô, hôritsu* and so on. The adoption of this reform is made optional. More could not have been expected, perhaps. At all events, it is a step in the right direction.

Wednesday, Nov. 7.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that the new

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system of Romaji is to be used by the officials of the Educational Department in communications with each other, and that it will also be enforced in the Elementary and the Middle Schools. This is indeed news. We understood originally that the adoption of the system was to be optional, for the present at all events. The satisfaction felt by reformers would be unalloyed if only the method of spelling had not been altered. What Anglo-Saxon could possibly suppose that *côcô* should be read as *chôchô*, or *sisi* as *shishi*, or *cici* as *chichi*?

MR. TAGUCHI.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, editor of the *Keizai Zasshi*, repeats in the column of the *Kokumin Shimbun* his accusations against the allied troops, especially the Russians, for the atrocities perpetrated by them in North China. He says that he has come back provided with many proofs of these charges, and that he intends to make a public indictment. Another point insisted on by him is the impropriety of entrusting the peace negotiations to the Foreign Representatives now in Peking, whose passions must necessarily have been roused by their experiences in the siege. In connexion with this he relates that, seeing how all the boats at Tung-chow had been pressed into the military service of the allies, he pointed out to Sir Robert Hart that the whole supply of food stuff for Peking was thus cut off, and that a famine was imminent. Sir Robert replied that he himself had felt great uneasiness on the same score, and had made representations to the Foreign Ministers, but had been answered that the sufferings of the Chinese people need not be considered in view of what they had inflicted on the Legation community. Mr. Taguchi did not gather that Sir Robert has much influence in the counsels of State. His power is limited to the sphere of the Customs, and he tenders advice when any cause suggests itself, but it does not follow by any means that his advice is accepted. Another interesting fact—if it be a fact—asserted by Mr. Taguchi is that whereas the taxes actually collected from the Chinese people aggregate 800 million taels, the sum paid into the Imperial Treasury does not exceed 80 millions. If this wholesale perversion of public funds were corrected, China could easily pay any indemnity.

ANOTHER DEBT TO CHINA.

Mr. C B Moseley, of Kobe, has contributed to the *American Antiquarian* for September and October a short but interesting essay, the object of which is to demonstrate that the so-called "Arabic numerals" were derived originally from the Chinese The demonstration being chiefly of a pictorial nature, we can not set forth the steps here, but it appears to us that in the main Mr. Moseley's proposition is proved Two or three of the connexions claimed by him require some elasticity of imagination, but the rest of the affinities are very palpable. Probably Mr. Moseley is not the first person to whom these resemblances have suggested themselves, but he is the first to set them forth systematically and exhaustively. His conclusion is that the Arabs were indebted to the Hindus, and that the latter, in turn, had borrowed from the Chinese If the proposition be granted, we have a new reason for treating the Chinese with respect.

NOTES ON CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, Nov 3.

A telegram in the *Asahi Shumbun* says that the Chinese Commander-in-Chief at Mukden has committed suicide and that three of his Generals have followed his example. It is added that the Chinese forces in that region have totally dispersed. It is strange that men who are thus ready to expiate their failures by death can not contrive better to avoid failure. There is no lack of bravery or ability in the individual Chinaman, and his sense of responsibility is plainly very well developed. Yet he fails completely in a military capacity, though in the field of civil organization he makes a decided success.

Monday, Nov 5.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, has a telegram to the effect that a detachment of French troops has been cut off by Boxers at a place on the south of Paoting.

News from Si-ngan represents the Empress Dowager as quite resolved not to return to Peking so long as there are any foreign troops there. That is just what might have been expected, unless her Majesty was suspected of having lost the sagacity for which she has hitherto been distinguished.

It is alleged that Prince Twan has set out for Si-ngan, but the rumour requires confirmation. If it be true that Prince Twan is in possession of the great seal, the Court may be puzzled how to deal with him.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has a telegram from Taku, to the effect that there are symptoms of trouble between England Germany and Russia about the tenure of the Peking-Shan-hai-kwan Railway. The line seems to be now wholly in the possession of Russia and Germany, a state of affairs against which England is disposed to protest. Rumours of that nature are to be accepted with great reserve, we imagine. Field Marshal Waldersee is not at all likely to have shown any want of impartiality in adjudicating on the control of the Railway.

Russia, England and Japan have hitherto managed the civil government of Tientsin, but it is now said that Germany has asked for a share. Her demand is supposed to be based on the fact that her military strength in Chili has been augmented, the inference being that the civil administration of the occupied districts is to be partitioned with reference to the forces of each Power at the scene.

Viceroy Li is said to have telegraphed to the Governors of Kwantung and Kwangsi urging them to put forth their strength and quell the rebellion in those provinces at once, without referring the matter to the Throne.

Li has also communicated with Viceroys Chang and Liu to the effect that memorials recommending the return of the Court to Peking are stopped *en route*, and that means should be devised to overcome that difficulty. We wonder whether Li, Liu and Chang seriously contemplate the return of the Court while Peking is in foreign military occupation. Such a recommendation is likely to impair their influence greatly in the finale.

Tuesday, Nov. 6

Many changes of officials have taken place in China, but as the names only are given by the telegrams, we have no indication of the significance of these measures.

News from Peking—non-official—is to the effect that Li Hung-chang is showing a very determined front to the demands preferred by the Foreign Representatives. No one will be surprised to learn it Li counts on a difference of opinion manifesting itself among the Powers, and only a very sanguine prophet could venture to deny that the old Viceroy has grounds for his hope. Meanwhile Li is said to have communicated to the various Governors of provinces intelligence of the heavy indemnity demanded by the Powers, and, at the same time, has asked the Governors to report whether the tax-paying capacity of their districts can respond to such needs. It certainly will not tend to mitigate the anti-foreign feeling throughout China if a heavy burden is laid upon the people in districts which took no part whatever in the *emeute*. That is one of the considerations which led us to hope that, when preferring a demand for an indemnity, the Foreign Representatives would have put forward, at the same time, a definite scheme for providing means of payment. Certainly such a step might be considered as a somewhat excessive exercise of diplomacy, but the Chinese question requires exceptional treatment, and there is no valid reason for clinging to stereotyped rules in such a case

The *Asahi Shimbun* publishes a telegram to the effect that the Empress-Dowager of Russia has addressed an autograph letter to the Empress-Dowager of China, and that the envoys carrying the communication arrived in Shanghai some days ago. The idea is very clever. Such a letter might produce a most excellent effect.

It is stated that a number of Boxers are carrying on depredations at Ching-ting—a town lying between Pao-ting and Ta-yuen—and that they are assisted by disbanded or fugitive troops. Application for assistance has been made by the inhabitants of Ching-ting to the Chinese officials in Pao-ting. Such incidents furnish food for reflection. They teach us that Chinese officialdom may not be always responsible for acts of violence perpetrated by Boxers and Chinese troops in combination.

General Liu, as recently reported, was ordered to concentrate his troops at Canton by a certain day—abandoning his northward march—and to attack the Triads. It is now stated that he pleads the absence of instructions from the Throne and also want of funds as a reason for not undertaking any vigorous operations against the insurgents. If he had funds enough to contemplate moving an army from Kwantung to the banks of the Yang-tsze, he should not be embarrassed by the prospect of a campaign within the limits of one province.

Viceroy Liu is reported to have ordered that a sum of 100,000 taels shall be issued from the Shansi treasury and 80,000 taels from the salt tax, for the purpose of building a temporary palace at Si-ngan. The Acting-Governor of Kiangsu, Neh, has also contributed a sum of 80,000 taels for the same purpose. This does not look like a return of the Court to Peking

The Russian Government is said to have made a contract with the Hamburg-America S S. Company for vessels to carry Russian troops home from Manchuria. The company's ships now lying at Taku, after transporting German troops thither, will be employed, among others, for this purpose.

A telegram from London, published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, says that the international committee at Pao-ting has condemned to death

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the chief Manchu official of that place and the principal Chinese military officer, on account of their complicity in the murder of missionaries. That is a sentence very different from the demand for the lives of Prince Twan and the other incriminated officials of the central Government. If valid evidence can be obtained showing the guilt of the men who directed the horrible massacre at Pao-ting, their heads ought certainly to fall.

Another telegram from the same source says that there has been a severe fight in Shansi. German and British troops attacked a mountain pass, and the Bengal infantry gained a position from which they turned the enemy's flank. This is the first news we have had of any expedition into Shansi Some time ago, intelligence arrived of a body of troops having been sent to Ching-ting, in order to protect the missionaries in that place, but immediately afterwards we learned that they had been recalled, the Chinese officials having undertaken to furnish the necessary protection.

Wednesday, Nov. 7.

Rumour is busy with Field Marshal Waldersee. The Field Marshal is said to have left Germany with the prospect of remaining two years in the East, and in the belief that full respect would be paid to his authority and complete deference to his orders by the forces of all the Allies. The first discovery made by him, however, on reaching Chili was that the American contingent, having been employed only for the relief of Peking, would not be under his command for any subsequent operations. That does not seem to have caused the Field Marshal much concern, since, after all, it was a very natural line for America to take. But the conduct of the Pao-ting expedition should have been completely regulated by him, whereas the French troops acted practically on their own account, marching ahead of all the rest, and they adopted a similar course with regard to the recent movement for occupying the Imperial tombs. Russia's behaviour also, with regard to the Shan-hai-kwan Railway is alleged to have been opposed to the wishes of the Field Marshal, who desired that the line should be controlled in such a manner as to create no jealousies among the Powers He has therefore submitted to the Government in Berlin a question as to the propriety of his return to Germany. We give these rumours for what they may be worth, but we can easily imagine that the Field Marshal has an immensely difficult task to discharge

The *Osaka Asahi's* Shan-hai-kwan correspondent reports that great ill-feeling exists between the English and the Russians at that place. He considers it quite natural, in view of the arbitrary conduct of the Russians with regard to the railway.

It is stated that great mortality prevails among the horses doing military duty in China. The animals brought from Europe have perished in numbers, so that the German and the French troops find themselves considerably embarrassed. Japanese ponies, on the contrary, have shown themselves hardy and enduring. They are much better fitted for service in China than Western horses.

It was reported some time ago that Admiral Seymour was about to leave Shanghai for a trip up the Yangtsze. But it appears that the Admiral is still in Shanghai, and there is no appearance of his departure from that place

Thursday, Nov. 8.

Various statements are telegraphed to Tokyo with regard to the pourparlers between the Powers and China, but nothing seems to be certainly known. It is alleged, among other things, that Germany objects to a part of the programme for the evacuation of Peking—a programme with which the public is not yet familiar—and that the same Power has protested against the measures apparently taken by China for increasing her forces in the Valley of the Yangtsze and laying in stores of provisions. This intelligence does not appear particularly worthy of credence.

The Allies appear to be operating in the direction of Ta-yuen; that is to say, in the region beyond Pao-ting. We hear of them occupying the Western Mausoleum, which is some 30 miles beyond the Great Wall, near Ichow; and also that a detachment of German troops and British Engineers had a sharp skirmish at a place called Shi-king-kwan, the Germans losing 1 killed and 6 wounded, and the Chinese having 50 casualties. The place was captured with 5 guns

The Germans in Shantung, according to telegrams in Tokyo journals, sent some troops to Kao-mi, where a party of Boxers had established themselves, and after a fight in which the Germans had 1 killed and 7 wounded, and the Chinese 250 killed, captured two villages and burned them, after clearing out the inhabitants. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that Governor Yuan approved of these doings, but the *Chuo's* correspondent alleges that the presence of Boxers was only a pretext. We find difficulty in imagining why the Germans should seek any pretext for taking such a step. They doubtless had excellent reasons for believing that unless Kao-mi was freed from the presence of Boxers, trouble would ensue. It must be confessed, however, that this burning of villages to which all the allied commanding officers resort, British not excepted, seems a terribly cruel method of procedure. Probably in the two villages at Kao-mi there were not half a dozen inhabitants who sympathized with the Boxers. Indeed all testimony goes to show that the Boxers are far from being popular, and that their treatment of peaceable citizens is very brutal On the other hand, the people are unable to resist them. If they come to a village and establish themselves there, what can the inhabitants do to drive them out? Yet on the arrival of foreign troops, the village is burned to the ground, and hundreds of women, children and old people are rendered homeless on the verge of winter. It seems a most inhuman procedure. We know that the Germans merely act in this matter as the rest of the allies act But is it necessary? Must we earn new execrations from the Chinese by all our acts?

Prince Twan is said to be living in retirement at Ning-hia and General Yung Lu is on his way to Si-ngan.

The *Nichi Nichi* has a telegram to the effect that the preliminary conference of Representatives in Peking is making very little progress The French and Japanese proposals are taken as bases of discussion—we were not aware that Japan had formulated any proposals—, but there is a tendency on the part of individual Representatives to advance proposals of their own. All are agreed as to the first item, namely, that the instigators of the Boxer riots must be punished with death, but they are now considering the question of dealing with the Empress Dowager, and also whether the losses incurred by Chinese subjects in foreign employ ought not to be indemnified by China. The Representatives have proved their unpractical mood quite sufficiently by deciding to ask for the execution of the high dignitaries and officials supposed to have countenanced the Boxers, but if they are seriously debating the propriety of punishing the Empress Dowager, while, at the same time, Field Marshal Waldersee is offering to her Majesty assurances of safe conduct if she returns to Peking, the whole business is becoming worse than farcical. Can any one picture to himself what the verdict of the foreign public would be were the tables reversed: were the Chinese Commander-in-chief offering safe conduct to a foreign potentate for the purpose of his coming to Peking while the Ministers of the *Tsung-li Yamên* where discussing whether and how he should be punished? Would not such a situation be regarded as another flagrant example of what we are pleased to call "Chinese duplicity."

THE ENGLISH CABINET.

The various statements that have reached us as to the composition of the new Cabinet in London seem now, so far as concerns the chief offices, to resolve themselves into this: Lord Salisbury retains the Premiership and, while relinquishing the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, assumes the office of Lord Privy Seal hitherto held by Viscount Cross. Mr. C. T. Ritchie, who was President of the Local Government Board in the 1886-92 Ministry, replaces Sir Mathew White Ridley as Home Secretary. The appointment of Lord Lansdowne to the Foreign Office appears to have aroused a great deal of disapproval. A large section of public opinion at home has persistently, saddled upon Lord Lansdowne the blame for many of the defects of organization in the War Office, and it is no surprise therefore to find that he has been removed. But that he should merely have exchanged one post for another, and that other probably the most exacting of all, was certain to provoke much angry feeling. Yet if we examine Lord Lansdowne's official record we see little cause for apprehension. He has been under Secretary for War, under Secretary for India, Governor-General of Canada, and Governor-General of India. Moreover, it is not conceivable that Lord Salisbury intends to abstract himself completely from foreign affairs. Mr. Brodrick's promotion to be chief of the War Office will be very popular—his career as Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs has been markedly successful, and he has the experience gained from terms of office respectively as Financial and as Parliamentary Secretary for War. Lord Selborne, who becomes First Lord of the Admiralty, has been Under Secretary for the Colonies

SOUTHERN CHINA.

It is difficult to ascertain the true state of affairs in South China. Villages appear to be burned in all directions, but there is no appearance that the Imperial troops have gained anything like a decisive victory, and, in the meanwhile it is evident that the rebels have sympathisers or accomplices in Canton, for an attempt has been made to blow up the Viceregal Yamên. Six persons were killed, eleven wounded and four buildings destroyed, but the list of casualties is a small matter compared with the feeling of unrest that must be engendered by such an outrage perpetrated in the very stronghold of officialdom. It is evident that the south of China is in a very disturbed condition.

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AN OLD RESIDENT'S OPINION ON THE CHINESE PROBLEM.

An old resident of China and Japan, whose name is well-known in the Far East, writes to us from Europe as follows, under date of Sept. 10th:

What has most pleased me in your latest numbers is the unprejudiced and courageous spirit with which you deal with affairs in China. I do not know of any other newspaper, in Europe or America, which has treated these affairs so considerately or reasonably.

The only paper in England that has ventured to say a fair word for the Chinese is the *Manchester Guardian*, but even it has been timid, feeling, I fancy, that its attitude on the Transvaal question exposes it to as much unpopularity as it can digest. The usually calm and judicial *Spectator* is, as you say, indifferently informed and generally prejudiced about everything connected with the Yellow Races; while the *Times* and the rest of the pack court popular clamour and do their best to mislead it. The fearless outspokenness of the *Mail* is most refreshing under such circumstances. I dare say it will cost you something in popularity, and otherwise, but I think you will come out a winner in the end. For it seems to me that your view that the outbreak in China was originally nothing but an insurrection against the Government, and got beyond that solely through panicky action on the part of the Foreign Powers—is the correct one which Time will fully establish. The humiliations imposed upon the Government by foreigners during the last five years, and the outrageous seizures of its territory were bound to produce an insurrection of some sort if the Chinese people retained any part of their old pride or self-respect. The weak precipitancy of the young Emperor towards a new regime, and the stern repressions of the old Empress and her advisers which followed, tended in the same direction. The so-called "Boxers," who seem to have been largely recruited from the literati and upper classes, had, at any rate from Chinese and patriotic points of view, ample reasons for a revolt against a Government which seemed to have no resource except to yield whatever a foreign Power demanded of it. Its resistance to the impudent demand of Italy not long ago, instead of helping it, may easily have inflamed its enemies by showing what might, or ought, to have been successfully done in the previous cases of Port Arthur, Kiaochow, Wei-ha-wei, and other places that had been sliced off the Empire.

That the insurgents acted as all insurgents have to act in China, that is with desperation, violence, and cruelty, ought not to surprise any one. There is no other way to carry out an insurrection in that country. It was natural, and inevitable that, with their inborn dislike and distrust of foreigners and all their ways, with the conviction that some, if not all, the foreign Powers intended to plunder and divide China if they could, the Chinese should turn on everything foreign; Ministers, Missionaries, Railways, and all that tended to undermine the ancient organization so precious in the sight of every true Chinaman.

Of course, in so far as an insurrection of this sort menaced our people and our treaty rights, we had full right to resist it, and to send forces to put it down and to protect our people if the Government proved (as no doubt it did) unequal to its duties. But what chance did we give it to do anything? Immediately on hearing of the disturbances in Peking, we began to denounce the Government and the tigerish old Empress. The Shanghai lies threw us all into a panic, and to attack the Government was everybody's first thought. At the end of May, the Government willingly allowed the 340 legation guards of the various nations to go up to Peking, and, for all we know, may have been very glad to have their aid to protect the Legations. Nor is it certain that Admiral Seymour's expedition, which started June 10th, was opposed by any one but the insurgents. If some Imperial soldiers joined the latter, both in resisting the Admiral's attempt, and in attacking the Legations, where is the proof that the Government assented to their doing so? Does not the course of known events from June 10th to June 17th show that it was at its wits' end to maintain order, and was itself almost or quite at the mercy of the insurgents, and needed all the support the foreign Powers could give it? Yet on June 17th we summon the Taku forts to surrender, and when their surely bewildered, but necessarily loyal, Commander refuses, and defends them (which the *Times* calls "attacking" us) we take them at the point of the bayonet and exult over the hundreds of soldiers that we kill! What was this but an open act of war on our part against the Government? I am glad to see that you so treat it, and that the American Admiral declined to take part in it.

It is possible, of course, that if this act had not taken place the forts might have opposed the passage of our relief expedition. But no sort of proof of that has yet appeared, and the probability is that if we had made no demand of surrender there would have been no difficulty with the forts: a little considerate and conciliatory management would probably have prevented all trouble there. But after that attack what could the Government do? What could have favoured and justified the insurgent party more than such an attack? It must have rendered the Government powerless against them, and it is no wonder that everything at once fell into confusion in Peking, and the reactionaries got complete control. That so many of the foreigners in Peking were left alive after that is the only thing to wonder at.

I hope this particular incident of the whole horrible business will be fully explored and finally cleared up, for to my view it appears to be the main one of the whole complication. If we were really right in that matter, I shall be glad to know it. If we were as wrong as we now appear to have been, we ought to think twice at least, before demanding apologies and indemnities of the Chinese.

I was glad to see that Japan had joined heartily with the European Powers, and had done her part so handsomely. I do not quite make out what hand she had in the Taku fort summons; but, apart from that, it was excellent policy on her part to aid the other Powers, and I hope she will be well rewarded in prestige and otherwise for her splendid work. Now that the foreigners in Peking have been rescued, and the city so cleared of disorder that the legitimate authorities can return to their posts, it is quite evident, I think, that our only wise and practicable course is to restore former relations with them, to give them all possible support, and to make Peace. Fortunately, if we have actually made war upon them we have not declared it, and we can retire with credit. I hope therefore that the Russo-American proposals will be accepted by the other Powers—England has not yet expressed her views, and I fear Lord Salisbury is too much influenced by the clamour of some newspapers for punishment. The "mailed fist" of Germany is also shaking with rage and threats, though her aggression at Kiao-chow was at the bottom of all the trouble; and it is sickening to see the contemptible Press of Italy supporting the Germans throughout, quite oblivious of the fact that all the soldiers and police of this country were not able, last month, to prevent the assassination of good King Umberto.

THE YOKOHAMA "SANSHI GINKO."

The *Sanshi Ginko* (Silk Bank) of Yokohama has stopped payment. This Bank has a capital of a million *yen*, of which one half is paid up. The directorate includes some well known names, Mr. Kubo Isamu, Mr. Wakao Ikuzo and Mr. Hiranuma Senzo. The Bank's affairs are said to have been unprosperous for some time, but the proximate cause of its suspension of payments is the withdrawal of large deposits by the Tokyo Fire Insurance Company and the Five Staples Guild of Yokohama. Rumour says that the manner of using the Bank's funds, pursued by Mr. Kubo, the Manager, led to the fixing of a large sum of capital, and that this was the original source of embarrassment. The Bank enjoyed ample credit, and the sudden declaration of its difficulties has caused consternation. It is said that some other banks will be affected, but as the Tokyo banks which corresponded with it have full security, they will not make any loss. Mr. Kubo's younger brother is manager of the *Futayama Shokai* which recently made large profits in connexion with sulphur mines in Etorup. The shareholders are men of substance, and it is not supposed that there will be any difficulty in settling affairs.

DEATH OF DR. ANDERSON.

We deeply regret to say that news of the death of Dr. William Anderson has been received in Tokyo. It is conveyed in a very brief telegraphic message, and we are unable to give any details. Dr. Anderson served as medical instructor in the Imperial Japanese Naval Department from 1872 to 1878, when he returned to London at the urgent solicitation of the Faculty of St Thomas' Hospital to take the post of Anatomical Demonstrator and Assistant Surgeon. He attained high distinction in his profession, but in the Far East he is chiefly known for his admirable works on Japanese pictorial art in all its branches, and all that had the happiness to associate with him will remember him as a man of the noblest and most winning disposition. He can not have been much over sixty at the time of his death, and when we last heard of him in the month of August, he was enjoying excellent health.

THE PRESS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

The South-African war has made one thing very evident, namely, that the influence of the press upon international relations is of the most pernicious character. Another outburst of Russian indignation against England has been provoked by the annexation of the Transvaal, and the language used by some of the leading Russian journals is of such a violent, virulent description that even the most level-headed Englishmen can not be wholly indifferent. We quote from the St. Petersburg correspondent of *The Times*:—

The *Rossia*, for instance, begins by referring to the necessity, in the circumstances, of exercising the greatest self-control in order to be able to refrain from using the most offensive language towards England, and then proceeds to show its own weakness in this respect by declaring that the British authorities in South Africa have now superadded to their acts of brigandage and robbery an insolent mockery of the victims and a further outrage on civilization and international law. The logic of Lord Roberts' proclamation, it says, is that of a freebooter, who denies the right of resistance to a man whom he plunders and threatens to murder him if he does not submit. The British Field-Marshal is compared with an Ataman of marauding Cossacks of the olden time, and the poor Boers with the early Christians singing psalms while being torn to pieces by wild beasts in the Roman arena. This painful picture is the effect of perusing the last pathetic appeal of the Boer delegation at The Hague. This spectacle of savage violence—the English devouring the last remains of a small band of Christians, who plead in vain for help to the troubled spectators in the great amphitheatre of Europe—produces the effect of a nightmare. The peoples of Europe can do nothing but sympathize, but their Governments are morally bound to interfere, if only for the sake of self-preservation, for they can be strong and respected among their own subjects only so long as the latter see in them the personification of right and justice.

According to the *Novoe Vremya*, Lord Roberts' proclamation is morally the most revolting document ever issued, exhibiting as it does an impudent disregard of the most elementary ideas of humanity and justice and a negation of the principles of international law. It must rouse the unanimous indignation of all nations not of the Anglo-Saxon race. The venerable Paul Kruger has in no way renounced the Presidency of his still unconquered Republic and his visit to Europe may yet give the impulse needed to falsify the bold announcement of non-interference by which Lord Roberts throws down the gauntlet to the Continental Powers. His reference to the usages of war in justification of threats of merciless revenge and draconian measures against the guerilla operations of the Boers shows that he must have been thinking of the Huns or the savages of Central Africa. If it be true that France is meditating intervention, she may confidently reckon on not being left alone. The greatest contempt is expressed for the action of the Portuguese authorities in arresting Mr Kruger on neutral ground, the result, of course, of English bribes and English Consular orders.

The *Novosti* is of similar opinion regarding the proclamation which, it says, adds nothing to the reputation of Lord Roberts, who makes another glaring addition to the other illegalities committed during the second half of the war. No war can be considered legally ended while a single man of the enemy refuses to lay down his arms. The only point in the proclamation with which the *Novosti* agrees is the statement that the Boers have nothing to expect from Europe, and this, luckily for England, is only because of the state of affairs in China.

The German *Petersburger Zeitung*, which compares the expected visit of Mr. Kruger to that of Thiers during the Franco-German war, declares that Lord Roberts has falsified truth and completely lost his fair renown. The *Swet* and other journals are equally uncomplimentary and abusive.

Writing of that kind betrays pure unalloyed hatred, and can not fail to beget an answer-

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ing sentiment in the breasts of ordinary English readers.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY.

His Excellency the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, speaking at a dinner given in his honour by the Nippon Club in the Hotel Metropole, explained that he fully recognised the necessity of continuity in the foreign policy of a country, and that the present Cabinet was following, and would follow, the method of concerted action with the Powers. At the same time he pointed out that concerted procedure where several Powers were parties to the concert, necessarily meant slow progress and many delays, and meant also that no one Power could adopt any distinguishing line.

He further spoke of the possibility of taking the public into his confidence, and said that while he desired to be as open as possible, people must recognise that there are limits in these matters, and that the interest of the State must never be sacrificed to popular curiosity. He would pursue the "open door" policy in this matter as far as might be consistent with considerations of utility, but while he could promise generally to make known the initiatory and the final stages of an affair, he could not promise to reveal details before a settlement had been made.

Mr. Uchida, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, speaking at the same banquet, described the horrors he had witnessed in China, the Peiho choked with human corpses and the districts devastated on either side of the river. He said that the discipline and good behaviour of the Japanese troops had been conspicuous, and that the Chinese had shown their appreciation by their demeanour. Referring to the fortunate result that the British and Japanese Legations were able to hold out during the siege in Peking, he attributed it to the fact that the inmates had not confined their defence to the Legation buildings, but had thrown out covering parapets which kept the enemy at a distance. Mr Uchida had some comforting information to impart about the looting. He explained that although the invading troops were allowed to loot, the soldiers generally parted with the stolen goods for a mere song to Chinese purchasers, who, in turn, sold them for five or six times as much to other Chinese, the upshot being that the articles merely changed Chinese owners.

THE YAMURA JAIL QUESTION.

The Department of Justice has taken a very prompt step with regard to the Yamura Jail question. It has sent a telegraphic order that the preliminary court at Yamura should be closed at once, and that all the prisoners held there awaiting trial should be transferred forthwith to Yamanash. Prison. This may be called Baron Kaneko's first important act since he assumed the portfolio of Justice. He is to be congratulated on the promptness and resolution shown by him in dealing with an abuse. The Tokyo Barristers Association also has deserved well of the public in this matter. To know that such an association is actively busying itself about judicial and prison affairs is very reassuring.

Although the authorities have taken prompt steps to put an end to the abuses at the Yamura Jail, the press is not disposed to let the matter rest there. The *Niroku Shimbun* is conspicuously earnest in its criticisms. It has discovered, it says, that two of the policemen in charge were men of great brutality, who, on one occasion, fastened a prisoner's hands to the bars of the jail window for a whole night, and would have kept him longer in that position had not the other prisoners unanimously supplicated for his release. The *Niroku* calls for strict investigation. It gives the names of the constables.

THE MINT.

The "Report of the Director of the Imperial Mint" for the year ended March 31st, 1900, shows that, from October 1st, 1897, when the gold monometallic system went into operation, until March 31st of the present year, the total value of the gold coins struck at the Mint was 115,194,600 *yen*. The largest coinage took place in the year ended March 31st, 1898, namely, 76,544,600 *yen*, of which amount twenty-*yen* pieces stood for 37,294,600 *yen* and ten-*yen* pieces for 38,691,000 *yen*. The wonder is, what becomes of all these gold coins. They are as scarce almost as the proverbial tinker's funeral or dead donkey The fifty-*sen* silver coin is now most *en evidence*, and we are not surprised to learn from the Report that whereas the total value of 50-*sen* pieces struck at the Mint from the date of its opening in December, 1870, until March 31st, 1897, was only 4,298,855 *yen*, the quantity struck in the following three years was 20,514,364 *yen*. Roughly speaking, there are about 45 millions of these coins now in circulation, and one sees them everywhere. The Mint has coined 8,738,730 gold pieces of various denominations during the past 3 years, and not one of them is ever seen in circulation, whereas although the silver 50-*sen* piece has been coined to the extent of only five for every one gold piece, the public is literally burdened with the former.

The net profit realized by the Mint last year (ended March 31st) was 1,029,357 *yen*, and the net profit since the introduction of the gold standard in 1897 was 6,681,319 *yen*. This last figure is noteworthy in view of the fact that the total profits from 1870 to 1897 had been only 12,152,444 *yen*. In short, during the past 3 years the Mint realized more than one half of its aggregate gains during the previous 27 years. That result was due, of course, to the striking of subsidiary silver coins under the new system. These gains are devoted to cover the losses incurred in connexion with the adoption of the gold standard.

GARDEN PARTY IN TOKYO.

His Excellency Count Okuma and Countess Okuma gave a garden party at their Waseda residence on the 7th instant. The weather was superb, and the beautiful garden looked even more than usually picturesque. About fifteen hundred guests were present, including all the notables of Tokyo—their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Komatsu, the Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, Generals, Admirals, prominent politicians, and a long list of lesser dignitaries. Count Okuma's garden has remarkable attractions, for in addition to the beauty of the grounds, there are splended collections of orchids and dwarfed trees. The party on the 7th was for the special purpose of viewing the chrysanthemums, which were really magnificent, a display not in any way inferior to that of the Palace. After the guests had enjoyed all these novelties to the strains of a band, they sat down to a sumptuous al-fresco collation, and the party broke up at half-past four o'clock. Count and Countess Okuma's garden parties now form one of the delightful features of Tokyo life, for not merely the "upper ten" are invited, but arrangements are made for a succession of days on which different classes of people receive invitations. Very seldom do owners of beautiful gardens and choice collections of flowers devote them so liberally to purposes of general entertainment.

THE MILITARY SCANDAL.

We recently reported the suicide of a soldier at Fukuchiyama in Tamba, in consequence of being suspected of theft. Suspicion had been fixed upon him by the process of drawing lots, which step had received the approval of the non-commissioned officers of the battalion, and was, indeed, carried out by them. A court martial was immediately ordered, and the result is published. One sergeant-major has been sentenced to four years' imprisonment with hard labour; another to six months' imprisonment; another to three months; a sergeant to three months, and two first-class soldiers to 40 days each.

THE DIET.

The *Official Gazette* publishes an Imperial Rescript ordering the assembly of the Diet on the 22nd of December. The 22nd will be Saturday, and as the official opening is always some days after the assembling of the members, we presume that it will take place on the 25th or 26th. The House will then rise at once for the New Year's recess, and thus business can not commence before about the 15th of January.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Mr. Haseba Jun, a well known member of the National Unionist Party, has been appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary in the Department of Home Affairs.

The Imperial Garden Party to view the Chrysanthemums will take place on the 12th instant, in the Akasaka Palace.

Mr and Mrs. Okura Kihachiro entertained a large party at dinner on the 2nd instant. Among the guests were Marquis Saigo, Marquis and Marchioness Oyama, Baron and Baroness Kaneko, Lieut.-General Baron Terauchi, Baron Ishiguro, Mr. and Mrs. Watanabe Koki, Mr. and Mrs. Noble, Mr. and Mrs. Angier, Captain and Mrs. Honour, Mr. and Mrs. Takashima, and Mr. and Mrs. Okura (Junior), &c. After dinner, two of the old *No* dramatic dances—scenes from the *Yanagisawa-sodo* and the *Ataka-no-seki*—were beautifully represented, and the guests were finally conducted to view the private museum now approaching completion, where Mr. Okura's fine collection of works of art will soon be displayed.

Tokyo newspapers seem to be much pleased by the evidences thus far furnished that the new Minister of State for Foreign Affairs intends to take the public into his confidence so far as expediency permits. It must be admitted that there has been a great deal of needless secrecy about foreign affairs in Japan—much more than there is in European countries. The effect is to suggest suspicions and cause uneasiness. If a new departure has really been made, as seems to

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be proved by the document published on Thursday by the Foreign Office and translated yesterday in these columns, the change will be welcomed and appreciated.

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes strongly in favour of increasing the secret-service fund and the entertaining allowance of the Foreign Office. At present the sum allowed for both purposes is only 250,000 *yen*, which, when divided among the various legations and consulates, makes a mere pittance for each. Now that the Government commands a large majority in the House of Representatives, our contemporary hopes that this question will be vigorously taken up.

We are asked to say that owing to indisposition Mrs. Kato has been ordered complete rest for a time by her medical advisers, and she will therefore be unable to receive visitors or return calls for the present.

The following paragraph from *The Times* contains interesting information which shows that, although the public was kept in complete ignorance of the projected change, the transfer of Sir Claude Mac Donald to Tokyo was contemplated last spring :—

Sir Claude MacDonald's health having suffered from the prolonged strain of Chinese affairs since 1896, arrangements had been made in April last at his request for his transfer to Tokyo which is a less exhausting appointment. The change was necessarily delayed by the siege of the Legations at Peking, but it is now held to be desirable, on medical grounds alone, that Sir Claude MacDonald should come away on leave, and Sir Ernest Satow has been instructed to undertake the care of the Peking Legation, if such shall still be the wish of Sir C. MacDonald.

We suppose that the State banquet given in the Tuileries Garden to 22,000 provincial mayors on the 22nd of September was the biggest thing of the kind in the world. Monster marquees were erected for the purpose, and monster indeed they must have been when we reflect that some twelve miles of seating accommodation had to be provided. The banquet was prefaced by an unpleasant little incident—an attempt on the part of Mr. Grébauval, President of the Paris Municipality, to organize a banquet on his own account the day after the State function. He received 1,600 acceptances, and then came to the conclusion, apparently, that the contrast of numbers would not be very creditable.

A conflagration broke out in Hakodate on the 3rd instant, and 152 houses were destroyed. The fire had its origin in No. 157, Higashi-kawa-machi

The Diet will commence its fifteenth session on the 20th or 21st of December, being thus a month later than usual. It will only have time to organise itself and receive the Budget before rising for the New Year's recess.

We explained in a recent issue that a sharp competition was going on between the Tokyo Electric Railway Company and the Tokyo-Yokohama Electric Railway Company (*Keihin Denki Tetsudo Kaisha*) for permission to lay a line between Kawasaki and Kanagawa. The former projects a line from Yotsuya to Kawasaki, and desires to extend it to Kanagawa. The latter is already engaged building a line from Shinagawa to Kawasaki, which it wishes to carry on to Kanagawa. A charter has now at length been given to the *Keihin Denki Tetsudo Kaisha*, so that there will soon be an electric railway from Shinagawa to Kanagawa, the longest in Japan.

We read in a vernacular contemporary that there have been three distinct outbreaks of pest in Japan. The first began in Nov. 1899 and ended in January 1900; and the number of persons attacked was 41 in Osaka, 23 in Hyogo and 5 in other places, a total of 69 The second began in April and ended in June of the present year, and the patients numbered, 50 in Osaka and 19 in Shizuoka; again a total of 69. The third began in September and has not yet terminated, but up to the 31st of October there had been 34 patients in Osaka and 3 in Hyogo. The disease, although apparently it can not be altogether stamped out, is evidently held in check by the vigorous sanitary measures of the Authorities, and there are reasonable hopes that it will be eradicated in time.

A collision occurred on the Hokuyetsu Railway in a tunnel between Hachizaki and Omigawa at mid-day on the 5th instant. One person was killed and four wounded. As the colliding trains were a goods train and a construction train, we presume that the sufferers were employés of the railway.

The Sphere is distinguishing itself by the attention it pays to Japanese affairs. It has had pictures of Baron Hayashi and his family, and also a large picture of the Emperor of Japan, with highly complimentary allusions to the conduct of the Japanese troops in the recent campaign. The *Kokumin Shimbun* notices these pictures and the comments accompanying them, and expresses gratitude to *The Sphere*.

Early on the morning of Oct. 30th, the Blue Funnel steamer *Menelaus*, coming into Hongkong from the South, went ashore just inside Green Island. It appears that the vessel, in navigating the narrow channel, was greatly impeded by a junk, and in avoiding one difficulty fell into another. The work of lightening the vessel, by transferring the cargo to lighters, was in progress all day, and it was expected that the steamer would be got off with the midnight tide. —*China Mail.*

It is stated that an epidemic has broken out among the military horses in China, and that owing to inefficient sanitary measures, there are signs of its spreading. This, we presume, is the sequel of the news recently received that the Japanese ponies were proving much stronger constitutionally than the horses brought to China by Western Powers.

Mr. Komura was to leave St. Petersburg on the 7th and proceed *viâ* London and New York to his new post as Japanese Representative in Peking. He will doubtless visit Tokyo *en route*.

At the next meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society, held on November 16th, Miss Alice Mabel Bacon, the well-known authoress, will lecture on "Common Sense in Education and Education in Common Sense."

A heavy snow-fall is reported to have taken place in Peking on the 20th of October. That is exceptionally early. It is to be hoped that the troops were prepared for it.

The *Nippon* tells a quaint story of an English barrister well known in Japan, whose doings used to be characterized by the epithet *genkin shugi* (ready-money policy). This gentleman, if a friend met him in the street and sought his advice on any topic, would inevitably send in a memo. at the end of the month, saying:—"To consultation on such and such a day, 25 *yen*." It happened one day that this barrister, meeting an expert Japanese gardener, asked his opinion concerning the disposition of some stones and trees. A bystander, himself a Yokohama barrister, by way of practical joke, induced the expert to send in a bill at the close of the month, couched in the usual formula. The "ready-money-policy" barrister paid it at once, observing that the Japanese were getting to be up to a thing or two.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, refers to Admiral Beardslee's comment that no monument exists to mark the spot where Commodore Perry met the Shogun's Representatives when the preliminaries for Japan's emergence from isolation first came under discussion. While strongly advocating the erection of some memorial stone at that historic place, our Tokyo contemporary observes that similar neglect has hitherto been shown towards what was really the pioneer movement of Japan's modern career, namely, the exhuming and dissection of a corpse on the Senju execution ground (*Kotsugahara*) by Maye no Rankwa and Sugita Issai in the year 1771. It was by comparing the results of the dissection with the drawings in a Dutch medical work that these students for the first time acquired a full conviction of the errors of Chinese teaching. Thenceforth they and their friends used to meet secretly in the house of a vassal of Okudaira, at Teppozu in Yedo, for the purpose of spelling out the Dutch book—a labour the details of which have been recorded, and show extraordinary perseverance and thirst for knowledge. The place was in the neighbourhood of the present Metropole Hotel in Tsukiji, and the book is still preserved.

Englishmen's devotion to cricket really begins to assume quite ludicrous proportions. It is quaint enough that Reuter's agents should deem it necessary to telegraph all over the world news that such and such a man has scored two thousand runs in the season, or that some one else has made so many centuries. But the strangest thing of all is an obituary notice of Lieut. H. T. Stanley, of the Imperial Yeomanry, which appears in *The Times*. There is not a word said about the young man's disposition, attainments, or prospects. The only facts recorded are that he just failed to get his "blue" at Oxford, that he scored 127 for Somerset against Gloucester last year, and that his cricketing parties at his father's place at Quantock Lodge will be pleasantly remembered by many. Nothing is now needed except that a man's cricket record should be carved on his tombstone. The temptation in that direction will be sore when "W. G." or the Indian Prince "sends in his checks."

H.I.H. Prince Kanin has been appointed President of the Fifth Industrial Exhibition, which is to be held in Osaka in 1902.

The official opening of the Sŏul-Chemulpho Railway is to take place on the 10th instant. The Emperor of Korea is expected to be present.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week :—

	Max	Min	Air Temp. Lake.	State of Weather.	Remarks in General
Sunday, 28th	61°	56°	60°	Fine	—
Monday, 29th	59°	58°	60°	Fine	—
Tuesday, 30th	59°	56°	59°	Fine	Snow on Fuji.
Wed'sday, 31st	62°	58°	58°	Rain	—
Thursday, 1st	57°	53°	58°	Rain	—
Friday, 2nd	56°	48°	57°	Fine	—
Saturday, 3rd	52°	47°	56°	Fine	—

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THE PEKING NEGOTIATIONS.

AN uneasy feeling begins to be entertained that the negotiations in Peking make little progress and are not likely to be expedited within any reasonable time. There appears to be a want of concurrence between the doings of the Foreign Representatives and the instructions of the home Governments, so that it is doubtful whether even the bases defined in the French note have yet been submitted *en bloc*. Unfortunate above all is the fact that the Representatives adhere to their resolution with regard to the capital punishment of the so-called "instigators" of the Boxer troubles, and that they are inclined to give to that demand a degree of prominence not contemplated, so far as we can judge, by the Governments in Europe and America. We have already said so much on this subject that we refrain from further comment, except to say that it is difficult to feel any confidence in the qualifications of negotiators who give the first place to a demand which they have no means of enforcing, and who do not appear to have reflected even upon the course to be adopted in the event of China's refusing to entertain the demand. Scarcely less unpractical is the project of interdicting the importation of arms into China. How can such a veto be enforced? It is plain that no control can be exercised at the ports of shipment, and it is equally plain that the control exercisable at the ports of entry must be limited to a few places in China—the places where foreign trade is carried on. Even there the matter would present much difficulty. The Chinese will certainly want arms, and there are fifty or a hundred points at which such things can be landed without falling under foreign observation. Do the Powers intend, in connexion with this interdict, to maintain in Chinese waters a large naval force which shall devote itself to the duty of preventing the smuggling of arms? And how is the veto to be made effective against the subjects or citizens of States that do not belong to the circle of confederated Powers? If a ship flying the colours of one of the central or southern republics of America, for instance, or of Spain or Portugal, arrives in China laden with arms, what measures can be adopted to prevent her from landing them? It really seems plain, though scarcely credible, that the processes of giving practical effect to this interdict have not been seriously considered, and that it has been put forward in a light-hearted, arbitrary fashion, under the influence of the misconception which prompted the capital-punishment proposal, namely, that the Chinese nation is a kind of petty tribal community only one degree removed from the bead-worshipping stage, and capable of being subjected to any measure of coercion. We should like to know, too, what answer the Powers will give should China push them to the logical issue of their own proposals. Suppose the Peking Government says that since the foreign Powers insist on depriving it of the means of defending itself against attack from abroad, they must assume the responsibility of guaranteeing its security from such attack, what would be the reply, we wonder. It appears to us to be singularly inconsistent that many of the Powers of the Occident should have just set their hands to a document declaring their desire to see the integrity of the Chinese Empire preserved, while at the same time they are planning to deprive China of the means of defending herself. If they intend to neutralize her territories and constitute themselves guardians of her inviolability, the compulsory disarmament of the empire might be regarded as an intelligible step, apart from the difficulty and trouble of putting the measure into practice. But if China is to be deprived of all capacity for self-defence without any definite agreement among the Powers as to some means of defending her, the situation will become ridiculous. Possibly the Chinese, being very matter-of-fact folks without many perturbing impulses of national ambition, might be content that their country should be made the Belgium of the Orient; a neutral State under the protection of a general guarantee. But we are very sure that the foreign Powers could not be induced to endorse any such programme or accept any such responsibility, and since, on the other hand, China would be logically entitled to demand that arrangement, the only possible inference is that this interdict has been framed without any careful consideration of the means of carrying it out or of its consequences. It is because of these palpable obstacles to enforcement of the Allies' demands that the hope of a speedy settlement is becoming daily more remote.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In the *Taiyô* (No. 11) appears an article from the pen of Dr. Katô Hiroyuki on "the Vital Parts of Christianity and Buddhism," the object of which seems to be to show that both religions are considerably hampered by their political connections, and have to lower their standards in various ways. The following is the gist of what Dr. Katô maintains in his essay:—There can be no doubt that originally both Buddhism and Christianity were designed to be universal religions. National distinctions are swept aside by the teaching of their founders. But they have both been converted into national religions and have come under the influence of various Governments and been forced to conform to national customs and sentiments in quite a number of particulars. This conformity has often involved action that is the exact opposite of the teaching of the original creed. There can be little doubt that Christ taught the doctrine of non-resistance when he observed, "I say unto you, that ye resist not evil, but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also." Yet Christians have always had to fight at the command of their Governments. The secular power in each country has claimed the right to interfere with religion and it has localised it to such an extent that its universality has been much obscured. The idea of universal brotherhood is in direct opposition to the waging of war on Christian brethren for the sake of some political end. Then we have Christians and Buddhists alike praying for the victory of some particular country. Is not this practice directly opposed to the notion of all nations being alike before God as well as a violation of the non-resistance command of Christ. It is quite plain that in as far as a religion becomes thoroughly nationalised in so far does it lose all its original vital elements. The course followed by Buddhists in this country furnishes an apt illustration of this fact. We have Kenshin-daishi teaching the members of the Shin Sect that prayer is to be offered for the sake of the Imperial House and for the sake of its subjects and not because of any demands on allegiance made by the Divinity. *Chôka no on-tame, Kokumin no on-tame nembutsu môsubeshi.* Both Shaka and Christ despised the present world and took no interest whatever in politics. Their teaching had to do with individuals and was not designed for States. Some of the principles they laid down were absolutely antagonistic to the development of separate States. Were the doctrine of non-resistance adopted by any State in modern times, it would be involved in ruin. My advice then to both Buddhists and Christians is, choose between two courses. Either cease to be members of States or cease to be members of sects. *Kokka no shimmin taran wo hosseba kyôto no chii wo suteyo; . . . . . moshi kyôto taran to hosseba kokka no shimmin taru chii wo dete sareyo.* In order to show what is the power of the universal religions you profess you should disconnect yourselves from all States, be excused from taking part in political strife, and exert all your influence to put an end to war. This may seem a very Utopian scheme to recommend, but it is the only course that is really consistent. I would further propose that the heads of religious sects should ask "the powers that be" to grant them territory where they may live according to the principles of their religion and whence they can despatch missionaries to the war-loving nations of the world. Some of those for whose benefit these lines are written will doubtless reply that the teaching of Shaka and Christ need not be pressed to such an extreme as to separate converts from participation in the politics of each age and each country, and that it is the duty of Christians and Buddhists alike to mix with their fellow-men and teach them what is right and what is wrong. They will add that war even is often the means of establishing what is right and hence justifiable in extreme cases. In a word, they will maintain there is no inconsistency in the course now followed by religious devotees. To them I put the following question. Supposing that Christian nations make war on Japan because they consider her in the wrong, what course are the Christians in this country to follow? As Christians it would be their duty to fight for what is right. As Japanese it would be their duty to fight for their country. It is quite plain that under certain circumstances the service of two masters is impracticable. It seems to me that it is impossible to avoid the clashing of interests when it is sought to serve the State and to serve Christ or Shaka.*

* * *

The *Taiyô* recounts at some length the sins of the Eastern Hongwanji and comes to the conclusion that the corruption practised by it is largely responsible for the low place that Buddhism now occupies in public estimation, on the principle of "like priest, like people." The chief charges brought against the ecclesiastics connected with this sect is that they have abused the highest authority and the greatest power possessed by any religious body in Japan, that they have overtaxed dependent temples, that they have made use of

* In his new work "The Map of Life" Mr. W. E. H. Lecky writes thus on the subject treated by Dr. Katô:—"The realities of life cannot be measured by rigid theological formulæ. Life is a scene in which different kinds of interest not only blend but also modify and in some degree counterbalance one another, and it can only be carried on by constant compromises in which the lines of definition are seldom very clearly marked, and in which the highest interest must not altogether absorb or over-ride the others. We have to deal with good principles that cannot be pushed to their full logical results; with varying standards which cannot be brought under flexible law." Mr Lecky observes that "considerations of this kind bring out clearly the insincerity and unreality of much of our professed belief;" which we take it is the point that Dr. Katô wishes to make.—(*Writer of Summary.*)

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bribes to further their unscrupulous ends in the Diet, that they have betrayed a sacred trust in mortgaging the property of the sect in order to obtain 800,000 *yen* from the Kitahama Bank, thereby bringing down on themselves a severe reproof from the Home Department, which has made it clear that the administrators of a fund subscribed for religious purposes or of property belonging to a sect are not legal owners of the fund or property and therefore have no right to borrow money on the strength of their trusteeship. The present position of the sect, according to the *Taiyō*, is so serious that it is questionable whether it can hold together much longer.

* * *

A reply to Dr. Katō's article in the *Taiyō*, summarized above, appears in the pages of the *Tenchijin* by a writer, whom we take to be the Rev. Nöel Péri, of the Roman Catholic Mission. The following is the purport of what M. Péri has to say to Dr. Katō:—Among all the attacks on Christianity made by Dr. Katō this is the weakest. It would seem that Dr. Katō's intellect is on the decline. In ancient times religion and government were one and the same, but by degrees, as men's minds developed, religion assumed an independent position. With Dr. Katō the State is supreme and religion has to blindly follow its dictates. But no such view is taken by scholars in the West. It is justly maintained that religion is cosmopolitan in nature and superior to any single State. Individuals exist before States and the very character of States is dependent on the mental condition of the individuals constituting them. It is with these that religion has to do, and its teaching takes precedence of all national and local regulations. Is not the general tendency of the age all in the direction of cosmopolitanism. In commerce, law, and a hundred other things the exclusive nationalism for which Dr. Katō contends is regarded by enlightened men with disfavour. And is the cosmopolitan nature of religion to be considered an objection to it? Most certainly not. Its superiority to mere nationalism gives it authority and influence and enables it to ameliorate the condition and improve the practices of mankind generally. Has it not been owing to Christianity that prisoners of war have been treated better in recent years than they used to be in ancient times? Have not foes been treated with more generosity since Christianity's voice has been heard in the councils of nations? Dr. Katō represents a man's duty to his Government to be incompatible with the discharge of his duty to God, but this is not so. There are occasions when there is a conflict of duty, and when persons have to decide which duty is most imperative. Religion, however, by no means exists primarily for the benefit of States, as Dr. Katō seems to suppose. Hence even if a man's carrying out its injunctions should bring him into conflict with the secular powers, there would be no great harm. In reference to the supposed case with which Dr. Katō concludes his article, unless there is some definition of what is meant by right and wrong, the point of the illustration is not easy to see. If a whole nation is of opinion that its cause is just and it is fighting for that cause, then the duty of a Christian is to fight with his fellow-countrymen.

* * *

The *Tenchijin* has an article on "The Reform of the Imperial Household Department." It is contended that most of the officials of the Department are quite behind the age, in that they still regard the Emperor as God incarnate. If he be a god, what kind of god do they suppose him to be? asks the *Tenchijin*. Evidently a being that strikes terror among those who worship him. Our conception of the Godhead leads us to think of him as a loving father who takes deep interest in the affairs of men. But to the officials of the Kunaishō the occasions on which the Emperor appears among his subjects and treats them in a friendly manner appear to be violations of his sacredness. The view of the character of the Sovereign which the officials of the Imperial Household Department seek to perpetuate dates from Tokugawa days. In ancient times the Emperor was regarded as the father of his people, or the relationship between them was considered to be that of master and servant. It was for political ends that the Shōguns interposed between the sovereign and his subjects. In England there is not a soul that regards the Queen as a goddess, and yet the attachment to Her Majesty is deep and real to an extent unknown elsewhere. We recommend the officials of the Department referred to to study the state of opinion in England on this subject, says the *Tenchijin*. Queen Victoria often receives in audience obscure personages and takes notice of funeral processions that she may accidentally pass in her drives. These gracious acts of her Majesty tend to increase the regard felt for her by her subjects. The Imperial Household Department would do well to bear this in mind, and henceforth, instead of doing their utmost to increase the distance between monarch and subject, they would do well to design measures for bringing them into closer contact with each other. The reform that we advocate for the Kunaishō does not consist of a change of officials, but a change in the manner of regarding the nature of the relationship of subjects to their head.

* * *

L'Abbe Francois Ligneul has contributed to the *Tenchijin* a long and thoughtful article entitled *Nihon genji no ishō* (Singular Phenomena in Japan at the present time). Few men have studied Japanese institutions and modes of thought more thoroughly than M. Ligneul, and the conclusions he has reached after residing twenty years in this country cannot but prove interesting to readers of these Summaries. Stated briefly, the following are M. Ligneul's views on the religious situation in Japan. Twenty years ago two prominent characteristics in this country attracted the attention of foreigners. One was the amount of religious sentiment that existed. Wherever one went temples and shrines in a flourishing condition met the eye. The other characteristic was the general love of nature and appreciation of beauty thoughout the country. The language and customs of those days alike displayed a wonderful amount of refinement. In my opinion, religion was the source of this high state of feeling. Now all is changed and the nation of philosophers has begun to be Europeanised. It is of course impossible that the Japanese should jog through life in their old leisurely way, but there is no reason why they should give up all their noble ideals, turn their backs on religion, or why their language, their conduct and their customs should deteriorate. Japan has exchanged her national characteristics for European dress. The Japanese desire, beyond all else to be considered a civilised people yet many leading men among them represent religion to be a hindrance rather than a help to the realization of this end. Religion is designed for dark ages and for the uncivilised, say these. To show any regard for it now is to be behind the age and an indication that a man is not fully enlightened. In the learned world as far as Japan is concerned there has long been a deadly antagonism between religion and education, whose relation to each other has been that of fire and water. A certain learned professor (Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō) by publishing a treatise on "The Conflict of Education and Religion," which had a very wide circulation, contributed much to this end. Thus it has happened that from one cause and another anti-religious or non religious sentiment has become universal. About 36 years ago there arose a party in Europe called the Educational Alliance, which owed its origin to the efforts of a prominent Free-mason. This party maintained that men are only superior to brutes in point of intelligence. In ancient times progress was defined as man's getting nearer God, but it would seem that in modern days progress consists in man's approaching the level of beasts. This view has been made known widely in Europe by means of the labours of Free-masons. Though such secret societies have made no headway in Japan, their opinions on education and religion are well-known here and are championed by prominent writers. An Ex-President of the University (Dr. Katō) some months ago published a work in which the same low view of the position of man in the Universe was taken as that espoused by the Educational Alliance. Does not this way of regarding mankind do dishonour to your ancestors, asks M. Ligneul, and render void all that they have done for your benefit? Is it possible to make good M. Ligneal and loyal subjects out of beings that are viewed as no better than high-class animals? "Without the religion that has stood the test of scholarship, religion that fills man's brain with sublime ideas, the religion that can make perfect the individual, the home and society, education can never produce men of merit. Ah! when will this truth be recognised?"

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One of the staff of the now defunct *Dokuritsu Zasshi* has started a new magazine on the lines of the *Dokuritsu Zasshi* called the *Tōkyō Hyōron*, the second number of which has just been published. From its pages we make a few extracts, in order to show the position it occupies among religious organs. Writing on cosmopolitanism, it says that in recent years the growth of the principle has been very rapid. In postal and telegraphic communications, in sanitary regulations, in works of charity and benevolence, and even in certain wars, nationality has given place to cosmopolitanism. The alliance of Powers in China with a given object in view is even more remarkable than the crusades of old. If a world-wide international police system could be established, existing armaments could be dispensed with and the distress of nations be relieved.

The *Tōkyō Hyōron* writes in very laudatory terms of the work of the Salvation Army, going as far as to say that this body is the only religious association in Japan that is making a bold fight against wickedness of all kinds. Matthew Arnold wrote that religion is morality permeated with emotion, observes the *Tōkyō Hyōron*. This is the kind of religion possessed by the leaders of the Salvation Army and despite the charges of flippancy and theatrical ostentation brought against them, we must confess we have nothing but admiration for the work they are doing.

Commenting on the growth of Imperialism in Europe and America, the *Tōkyō Hyōron* says that as far as America is concerned Protestants are Imperialists and Roman Catholics Anti-Imperialists. On this subject a book has been published in New York entitled, "The Cross defended by Krupp Guns,"* in which it is argued that the principles being followed by Christian nations are Mohammedan. In Japan at the present time, says the organ we are quoting, people are crazy about the State. It is worshipped far more than justice, religion, and noble ideals. The cry is *Kokka! Kokka!* from morning to night. But there are things that are infinitely more important than any State and upon respect for which the very existence of States depends. National progress and importance should not be allowed to absorb public interest so exclusively as they do in Japan.

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The *Tōyō Mainichi Shinshi* (No 891) under the title of "Theological Ideas and Faith" refers to an address of Dr. J. D. Davis on "Congregational Churches in Japan." Dr. Davis is represented as having lamented the fact that compared with other Protestant bodies the Congregationalists have suffered much from the inroads of rationalism and nationalism. The Congregational Churches in Jōshū were cited by Dr. Davis as a case in point. In former days these churches were in a highly prosperous state. Now they are a grief to those connected with them. Dr. Davis expressed the opinion that the Kumiai churches in recent years show no such progress as is seen among the Methodists, Baptists, Episcopalians and others. We regret, says the *Tokyō Maishū Shinshi*, that Dr. Davis did not discuss the causes of the phenomenon noticed by him and propose some remedy for it. Although the success or failure of evangelistic efforts depends almost entirely on the Japanese engaged in the work, the training of the evangelists of whose rationalism complaint is now made was the work of foreign missionaries, and there is little doubt that in many instances the latter are reaping what they have sown, continues the organ we are quoting. The theology taught in

* We translate the title from the Japanese.—(*Writer of Summary.*)

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the Congregational Divinity Schools was arbitrary and scholastic (*dokudanteki to hansateki*) rather than scientific, critical and religious. If theological students are taught that the Bible is perfect, that its statements are as exact as a text-book on geometry, that not a single sentence or word will bear alteration, there is no room for criticism. Upon this notion of the infallibility of the scriptures elaborate doctrinal and ecclesiastical structures are based, what wonder if in later years when men have begun to study the subject for themselves criticism destroys the foundations of faith. Clad in the antiquated armour supplied by the Congregational Schools of Divinity, many young men went out to battle only to find that they were no match for their foes. Some have perished and others have been sorely wounded. . . . What we are deficient of in this country is a supply of teachers who have faith and knowledge combined. Such men are to be welcomed among us from whatever country they may come or to whatever sect they may belong. We need theological teaching that is scientific, critical, historical, and yet which is permeated with faith and religious emotion.

The *Tôkyô Maishû Shinshi* comments on Mr. W. J. Bryan's allusion to mission work in his declaration of principles. Whatever may have been the immediate object of this astute candidate for the Presidency in appealing to public sentiment on the question of missions backed by gunboats, the organ we quote thinks that Mr. Bryan's argument was sound and that reliance on physical force on the part of missionaries is contrary to their creed and can only do harm to their cause in the long run.

The *Maishû Shinshi* publishes the views of Mr. Tagawa Daikichirô on the connection of the missionaries with the disturbances in China. Mr. Tagawa has nothing new to say on this subject, however. The purport of his article is that the missionaries are misunderstood by the Chinese and in addition to this, owing to their ignorance of the native character, are very frequently imposed upon. But to blame them for what has happened is very unreasonable.

* * *

Dr Inoue Tetsujirô has begun to fulfil the promise he made some months ago to give to the world a full exposition of his maturest thoughts on philosophy, ethics and religion. He has just published the first volume of a work called the *Tetsugaku Sôsho* (哲學) (Collection of Essays on Philosophy) over 300 pages in length, and which contains an introduction and two articles from Dr. Inoue's pen and two contributed by other writers. To Dr. Inoue it seems that religion, ethics and philosophy are all so closely connected that they cannot be thoroughly discussed apart from each other. The book opens with five definitions of philosophy, one from Aristotle, one from Kant, and three from Hegel. The quotation from Aristotle makes philosophy to be the study of the beginning and origin of things, that from Kant to be the science of the relations of all knowledge to the necessary ends of human reason, and those from Hegel to be a constructive science whose object is the study of the absolute, the study of men's notions concerning phenomena generally, or to be the embodiment of general notions formed respecting the development of thought.* The subject of the articles appearing in the First Number are "The Necessary Basis of Ethics," by Mr. Yoshida Kumeji, B.A. "Practical Ethics and Religion," by Mr. Kihei Seibi, B.A. "A Review of Philosophy," by Dr. Inoue. "Criticism of New Books," by Dr. Inoue. This collection of essays having only just reached us, we are unable to give it further notice at present, beyond saying that the papers published are very minute and technical, being designed evidently for highly educated readers. The quotations from foreign works are numerous. The printing and whole get up of the work is first class. The price is 65 *sen* per copy. We are not told when the next number will appear.

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We have often complained of the difficulty of obtaining a knowledge of facts bearing on the Roman Catholic Missions in Japan. In a recent issue of the *Koye* appear tables of statistics which cover all the work carried on by Roman Catholics in the Far East. From the report of the *Koye*, which is for the year 1899, we cull the following particulars. The French Roman Catholic Mission has 31 ecclesiastical districts in the Far East: namely, 4 in Japan, 2 at Mukden, 2 in Manchuria, 8 in Southern China, 3 in Tonquin, Annam, 3 in Cochin China, 5 situated between Malacca and India, and 4 in India. The total number of their converts in these districts is 1,227,161. The number of Bishops is 34 and of ordained missionaries 1,099. There are 2,531 evangelists and the number of adult baptisms for the year was 46,003, those of children baptised at the point of death were 155,000. The report for Japan is as follows: –

Districts.	No. of converts.	Adult Baptisms	Infants baptised in extremis.	Children of converts baptised
Tokyo	9,004	756	333	186
Nagasaki	36,107	478	276	1,266
Osaka	4,602	202	238	102
Hokkaido.....	4,643	435	384	74
Total.....	54,356	1,871	1,231	1,628

Statistics in our possession made out to the year 1898 enable us to give the number of foreign missionaries employed in the four above-named districts. In Tôkyô the list is headed by Archbishop Osouf, who is now 71 years of age and who first came to Japan in 1856. He has been Archbishop since 1891. Then come 2 Vicaires-généraux. MM. Francois-Toulin Vigroux and Jean-Marie Lemaréchal and 33 missionaries. Nagasaki has a Bishop, Mgr. Cousin (consecrated in 1891), one Vicaire-général and 30 missionaries. Osaka has Mgr. Jules-Auguste Chatron as its Bishop, who first came to Japan in 1873 and was made Bishop in 1876, and M. Anselme-Marie Luneau as Vicaire-général and 25 missionaries. Mgr. Alexandre Berlioz is Bishop of Hakodate and M. Jacquet of Sendai is the Vicaire-général of the northern district. Under him there are 19 missionaries. This gives us a total of 116 foreign priests for the year 1898.

* * *

In reference to the Missionary Conference now being held in Tôkyô the *Fukuin Shimpô* makes the following remarks:—There are some 700 foreign missionaries in Japan. The annual expense of their maintenance amounts to a vast sum. The demonstration that they are now making cannot but fail to attract public attention. But we are in hopes that the Conference will effect something more than making a display of the number of their workers. In reference to this the *Mainichi Shimbun* (Oct. 27th) observes that the relations of Japanese converts to foreign missionaries are by no means cordial, (*Chukagoro Nihon no shuuja to gwaikoku senkyôshi to no aida ni oriai ashiku, tagai ni shôtotsu ari*) and that it has learnt it is the intention of the Conference to discuss this subject and to recommend to the Home Committees certain action. Whether the advice of the missionaries will be followed by their Boards is by no means certain, says the *Mainichi*, but there are reasons for thinking it likely that the results of this Conference will be far reaching as regards mission work in Japan.

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In the *Rikugô Zasshi* appears a very suggestive article on "The Treatment of the Living and the Treatment of the Dead" by Mr. I. Abe, of which we furnish a brief epitome below. There is no denying the fact that in all countries great importance is attached to death. The words of the dying assume a significance that is not attached to words spoken even on solemn occasions when death is far off. Our ideas on this subject are well expressed in the words *Tori no masani shinan to suru ya, sono naku koto kanashi. Hito no masa ni shinan to suru, sono iu koto yoshi.* (Plaintive are the notes of the dying bird, precious are the words of the dying man). We may well ask, is it reasonable that we should attach so much importance to death? It is the view of many that religion teaches us that death is more important than life. But in the opinion of the present writer the Christian religion teaches no such doctrine. The idea that repentence at death can atone for a misspent life is evidently nothing but silly superstition. The injury that misdeeds cause remains in most cases after the death of their perpetrator. There is a western proverb to the effect that death is a great reconciler. The meaning seems to be that it has the power to make things different from what they actually are. It changes entirely the aspect of things. Men's conduct often appears quite different after they have passed away. A review of the customs of this country brings home to our minds the fact that with us, as with many other nations, the dead are more highly honoured than the living. To cite only a few examples in proof of this assertion, people who have limited means will spend large sums in erecting monuments, shrines or tablets in honour of the dead, while leaving their families poorly supplied with what they need. It is customary to reward a dying man with rank that he was not allowed to enjoy during life. The respect felt for dead ancestors is greatly in excess of that felt for any living person. Even among prominent men, the dead are far more highly thought of than the living. Saigô, Kido, and Okubo have passed away, and so in the minds of the public more glory is attached to their names than to that of Marquis Itô, though Marquis Itô is in no way inferior to either of them, if indeed he is not to be considered greater than either. One reason why the dead receive more praise from mankind than the living is not very flattering to human nature. It is owing to the fact that while men are fellow-competitors for distinction they are envious of each other, and few are generous enough to give other men their due in the way of praise. Christ brought out the difference which death causes in our way of treating people in a striking manner when he denounced the Jews for their insincerity. Overlooking the fact that they had no more respect for righteousness than their ancestors, the Jews built the tombs of the prophets and garnished their sepulchres. While rejecting the living embodiment of the highest virtue, they put on the appearance of honouring the virtue practised by the dead. It is high time, concludes Mr. Abe, that we seriously consider whether in the importance we attach to death we are not doing a grievous injustice to the living, whether the world would not go on better if the distiction between life and death were effaced as much as possible.

* These are very free translation from Dr. Inoue's quotations.

JAPAN SPINNERS' UNION.

The *Shogyo* gives the comparative figures for September showing the result of the working of the Japan Spinners' Union :—

	Sept. 1900.	Sept. 1899.
Number of factories	64	65
Number of spindles at work—		
Ring	957,064	963,987
Mule	64,052	61,054
Total	1,021,106	1,025,041
Number of work days per month.....	26	27.5
Working hours per day ...	16.5	22.5
Average fineness of yarns—		
Ring	18's	18's
Mule	41.5's	27's
Output of yarns known as *kuda-uto*—		
Ring	1,959,730	3,097,790
Mule	34,041	48,099
Total	1,993,771	3,145,889
Average output per day per spindle (in *monme*)—		
Ring	83	122
Mule	48	62
Amount of consumption of cotton for spinning (*kwan*)	2,298,846	3,713,229
Waste cotton (*kwan*)	255,573	467,011
Waste yarns (do)	255,573	467,011
Coal consumed (lbs.)	42,828,002	59,080,856
Value of the same per 1,000 catties (*yen*)	18.42	15
Horse power utilized—		
By fire.....	30,736	29,775
By water.....	1,335	608
Average amount of coal consumed per horse power (lbs.).....	3 335	608
Number of artisans—		
Men	11,928	14,531
Women	37,819	49,129
Wages (*sen*)—		
Men	28.92	27.14
Women	18.03	16.98

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YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

METEORS.

The Yokohama Literary Society began its present winter's session on Friday evening, November 2nd, meeting as usual in the Van Schaick Hall, Bluff. The new President, the Rev. J. L. Dearing, D.D., presided and had the pleasure of welcoming a large muster of members and friends. In accordance with the precedents of previous years, the musical programme reached a high level of excellence, and if the standard, literary and musical, set last night is maintained throughout the Society's season, a prosperous series of meetings should be confidently anticipated. The overture was in well-known hands and capitally rendered. Mr. Atkinson's two songs were warmly received. He has a pleasant, well-trained baritone,, and an excellent style. Mrs. Bathgate's solo was a brilliant contribution, and Miss Ross' recitation was, as usual, very good, and of course loudly applauded. The full programme was as follows:—

PART I.

Overture.....Overture to "Martha".....V. Flotow
Mr. Richter and Mr. A. Mason.

Lecture....."Meteors"....
Mr. John I. Plummer, M.A., F.R.A.S.

PART II.

Song....."Beloved, it is morn".....Aylward
Mr. A. H. Atkinson.

Piano Solo ...Polonaise in C sharp minor.....Chopin
Mrs. J. H. Bathgate.

Recitation..."Grandmamma's Bombazine"
Eugene Field
Miss A. L. Beatrice Ross.

Song....."May Morning".....Denza
Mr. A. H. Atkinson.

The paper of the evening was contributed by Mr. J. I. Plummer, F.R.A.S., now of Hongkong Observatory, and was read by the Vice-President of the Society. In his opening remarks Mr. Plummer said that no doubt it would have been an advantage if some other name had been found for the meteor, but none had been suggested, yet the title shooting-star was clearly inadmissible as it would seem to indicate some community of origin with that of the fixed stars, with which meteors have as little to do as a glow-worm or firefly has to do with the electric light. The lecturer then went on to describe the appearance of meteors by day as well as by night, and stated that it had been computed by competent German astronomers that upwards of 900 millions of these bodies fell to earth in the course of a year. This estimate was indeed very moderate, all things considered. Mr. Plummer next referred to the historical references made to meteors in the works of ancient writers and said that the most authentic account was one that referred to a large stone which fell at Ægos Potamus in the year B.C. 465, which is described by Diogenes of Apollonia. At the time of the French Revolution a large collection of meteoric stones reported to have fallen from the heavens existed in Paris, but in the zeal of the reformers of those days to purge France from all superstitious beliefs, this fine collection was solemnly ordered to be thrown out and dispersed. And it was done. There is some appropriateness then in the fact that only a few years later, namely on April 26, 1803, one of the most remarkable falls of stone recorded in ancient or modern times, should have taken place near L'Aigle, in Normandy, and should for ever have set at rest all disputes as to the possibility of stones falling from the heavens. On this occasion no less than 3,000 fragments of various sizes, the largest weighing 17lbs., were seen to be scattered from an exploding meteor over an elliptic area of two square leagues. The lecturer then put forward the chemical reasons for some meteoric stones being intensely hot when found, while others were equally cold, and passed by natural transition to the chemical constituents of meteors. He first noted that these bodies can be roughly divided into three classes; the first is known as meteoric iron—or siderite—consisting of a peculiar alloy of iron and nickel, with traces of cobalt and some other substances in smaller and more variable quantities the second class is known as meteoric stone, and consists of a volcanic-like rock of a greyish-white colour, often with particles of nickel-iron disseminated through it. It is also coated with a dull blackish crust which consists mainly of the same alloy, nickel-iron. Its specific gravity is much less than that of the siderite, being about 3.3, or even less. A detailed description of the minor chemical constituents of these aerolites followed; and then the third class was described. These combined the features of the two other classes, and sometimes contained traces of a variety of substances not found in the other two, for example magnetic pyrites, chrome iron and chromium monosulphide. Passing from this branch of his subject the lecturer went at length into the astronomical problems connected with meteors. He referred to the wonderful showers of meteors noted by Humboldt in 1799; the brilliant shower of 1833, and the still more famous phenomena of 1866, predicted years before by Professor Newton, which the lecturer himself observed in Glasgow as Assistant to Professor Herschel. The shower of 1866 had tremendous results in astronomical circles, leading to vast discoveries, to many of which the lecturer alluded at length, including the discovery of the affinity which exists between certain comets and certain meteor showers to which definite names have been given, and whose orbits have been measured and defined. The death or disruption of certain comets and the formation of meteor showers were then discussed, together with their probable behaviour in interstellar space. Many interesting theories regarding the formation of meteor showers, their antiquity or comparitive modernity, were advanced and elaborated, the lecturer concluding by saying:—"There is nothing in Nature so trivial that it is undeserving of the closest study, and to understand fully about the tiny spark produced by a grain of sand flying through our atmosphere, we must be prepared to search the deepest recesses of our volcanoes and to follow its motions to the remotest confines of the solar system or even to the regions of interstellar space."

The lecture was listened to with deep attention and the reader was loudly applauded at its close.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

PRESENTATION TO THE CAPTAIN.

A considerable number of the members of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club met at the Boat House on Friday, Nov. 2nd, at 12.15 to attend the presentation of a testimonial to the Captain, Mr. F. J. Hall, who is going home on a holiday.

Mr. H. C. Litchfield, President, made the presentation, and all the members of Committee—Messrs. H. A. Poole, H. E. Hayward, W. Goddard, H. Rose, L. Motta, and G. C. Allcock were present.

Mr. LITCHFIELD said it had occurred to Mr. Hall's friends, members of the Y.A.R.C, to take the opportunity of his departure to present him with a slight testimonial of their regard for him, especially as Captain of the Club, a post he had held for over four years. He was glad to say the suggestion of Mr. Hall's friends met with a hearty response from the members of the Club; a testimonial was subscribed for and he (the President) had been asked to present it. It was a pleasant duty—Mr. Hall would be glad to hear that pleasant duties sometimes fell to the lot of members of the Committee—and on behalf of the subscribers he asked Mr. Hall to accept a silver bowl, with the wish of those who gave it that he would have a pleasant voyage and a pleasant holiday and that he would return to them in renewed health and spirits (applause).

On the call of Mr. Litchfield three cheers and a tiger were given for the departing Captain.

Mr. Hall in reply said that words absolutely failed him to thank them for their most handsome testimonial. The work which he had performed for the club had been a labour of love, and he was amply repaid. He had always tried to do his duty by the club, and perhaps in doing so he might have gone against the ideas of individual members, but he had tried to consult the convenience not of individual members but of the members as a whole—(applause). He hoped anyone who thought he had been offended would take his assurance that he had acted in the interests of the club and not in accordance with individual whims and wishes. Mr. Hall hoped to find on his return that the club was in every way in a prosperous condition.

The testimonial presented to Mr. Hall is a very handsome silver bowl, decorated with chrysanthemums in carved relief, and fluted inside. It stands on an ornate piece of carved wood, which bears a silver plate with the following inscription

Presented to
F. J. HALL, Esq.,
by
the members of the Yokohama
Amateur Rowing Club,
in recognition of his services
as Captain of the Club.
Yokohama, November 2nd, 1900.

HARVEST FESTIVAL AND DANCE.

The Harvest Festival and Dance organized by the Yokohama Circle of the King's Daughters, came off at the Public Hall on Wednesday afternoon and evening and was attended by the success it deserved. To carry out the idea of the promoters, the Public Hall was transformed into the semblance of a farm-yard. At one end were live fowls, ducks, pidgeons, rabbits, etc., sheltered behind a hedge of straw and sun-flowers, while scarecrows, realistically terrible in their get-up, kept watch and ward over them. An ancient-looking windmill stood in another part of the Hall, its basement forming the candy-stall; a lucky-well and bran tubs—filled with surprises for the little ones—helped further to carry out the rural illusion; while a gipsy's cooking tripod and pot was also to be seen. On the stage was ranged a most attractive horticultural exhibit, consisting of all the vegetables of the season—a remarkably good display which reflected credit on the gardeners concerned. The lesser-hall was tastefully set-out as a tea-room in the afternoon and a supper-room at night, and was extensively patronized. During the afternoon, a series of dances was arranged in which the juveniles heartily joined, the utmost fun being got out of the proceedings. In the evening "children of a larger growth" enjoyed "a good time generally," in the same form of recreation. The principal credit for the success of the function belongs to Mrs. Theodore Morris and Mrs. Manley, though both ladies say that to the King's Daughters themselves should be awarded the praise. The funds of the Yokohama General Hospital should at any rate benefit by the result of these ladies' exertions.

SURVEY OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF MISSIONARIES.

[SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

The Third General Conference of Protestant Missionaries in Japan is now a matter of history. It was held in Tokyo at the building of the Young Men's Christian Association, beginning on Wednesday, Oct. 24th, and ending on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 31st,—eight days that were packed full of good things devotional, evangelistic, educational, social and literary. Looked at from whatever point, this Conference must be pronounced a success. The large number in attendance, the remarkable spirit of unity prevailing, the high grade of the papers and addresses presented, the serious tone of the ensuing discussions, the earnest purpose manifest in the various resolutions passed, and the tender spirit of prayer and devotion that breathed through it all, combined to make this meeting in many respects one of the most remarkable religious gatherings that has ever been held. It cannot fail to have a marked and permanent effect not only upon Christian work in Japan, but throughout the East; and reckoning upon the influence it is sure to have with the Mission Boards at home, it is legitimate to say that its influence will be world-wide.

It is matter for regret on the part of some that the scope of the Conference could not have been widened to include some bodies that were excluded by the General Committee's interpretation of the word "evangelical"; and it is of equal regret that any who were eligible should choose

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to refuse their fellowship. Such things were unfortunate, and only resulted in loss to both parties, with corresponding gains to none.

Great praise is due the General Committee of Arrangements, of which the Rev. A. Oltmans was Chairman, as well as to other various committees, for their thorough work in the delicate matter of preparing the programme, and in making provision for the entertainment of the great company that gathered. And the Conference as a body voiced the sentiments of every individual in particular, when it passed a resolution of thanks for the splendid hospitality of the friends in Tokyo, who opened their doors so widely and generously for the reception of those who came from afar.

And in the matter of hospitality, the Conference was treated to a most charming surprise on Tuesday evening, when the United States Minister H. E. Col. Buck threw open the doors of his official residence, and with Mrs. Buck received and entertained the whole company. This was a very gracious act on the part of Mr. and Mrs. Buck, and about four hundred of the members of the Conference availed themselves of the great privilege offered. But aside from this individual act, the interest which Mr. Buck has shown in the Conference itself, before which he appeared and spoke briefly, and toward the expenses of which he made a most liberal donation, together with his well-known attitude of friendliness towards mission work, have won for him golden opinions from the Conference.

Whether or not the Committee of Arrangements had a weather prophet among them has not been stated publicly; but the fact is that for the whole week of the Conference the weather was quite ideal.

And no less ideal than the weather was the place of meeting. With the assembly hall and parlours and offices and reading-rooms and committee rooms and lunch-rooms and all of the paraphernalia of that magnificent Y.M.C.A. building placed at their disposal, together with the unfailing affability and true Christian courtesy of the young gentlemen in charge, it would be difficult to imagine a place better suited for the purpose. We venture to prophesy that the next ten years will not produce in Japan a more ideal place for holding the Fourth Conference.

The First Conference was held at Yokohama in 1872, about 20 missionaries being present. The Second was at Osaka in 1883, with 200 present. This Third Conference had a membership of 450. These of course are round numbers, but fairly true. Reckoning the number of Protestant missionaries in Japan at 700, and making all allowances for the presence of a number of the missionaries from China (all of whom were invited to sit as corresponding members), it appears that not far from two-thirds of the Protestant body was present. This, in view of all the circumstances that compelled many to remain at home, is a most creditable showing.

It became evident soon after assembling that the seven days contemplated by the Committee of Arrangements was not enough, consequently one more day was added by unanimous vote, and the programme re-arranged accordingly.

The meeting was called to order at 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning by Chairman Oltmans, who conducted short devotional services, after which permanent officers were elected. Rev. Dr. J. D Davis was chosen Chairman of the Conference, with the Rev. W. Andrews, Rev. Dr. W. Imbrie, and Rev. D. S. Spencer as Vice-Chairmen. Rev. R. A Thompson and Rev. H. M. Landis were the Recording Secretaries.

As the name of Dr. Davis appeared first upon the programme, after taking the Chair and in a few words expressing his thanks for the honour done him by the Conference, he proceeded at once to deliver the opening address, upon the subject of "Our Message." This was a powerful presentation, in the speaker's usual earnest and enthusiastic form, of the missionary's prophetic duties towards the people of Japan. He mentioned, first our message to this nation:—There is now no adequate basis of morality in Japan outside the Christian circle. It is for us to help them realize that faith in the personal, almighty God is the only basis. We have a message to this nation through *Mission Schools*,—setting the example of a higher type of education than is found in the Government schools,—one that does not neglect heart-culture. *Our homes* also have a message,—exhibiting new standards of affection and devotion and purity,—those qualities which are sadly lacking in many sections of Japanese society. And as *temperance workers* we have a great and most needed message to Japan.

Secondly, our Message to the Church. The church in Japan is still an infant church, embosomed on centuries of non-christian heredity, and surrounded by a materialistic and pantheistic environment which is fatal to spiritual life. It needs our help spiritually and theologically. The divine Christ, the inspired Word, the holy Sabbath,—these and other problems are before the Church in full force, and there is now within its pale a gospel party and an anti-gospel party. They need our message to them.

Again, our Direct Gospel Message. We are to "preach the gospel to every creature," emphasizing the personality of God, the meaning and worth of man, the heinousness of personal sin, the free deliverance through the divine Christ, and that Christianity is not a history simply, but a life—eternal life that is begotten through personal contact with the divine life. Of the three Christs,—the Christ of History and of Dogma and of Experience, the last is the most essential.

And lastly, our Spritual Message,—that silent message which goes out to these people among whom we are labouring, from hearts of love and of faith and of prayer. Without this our message is in vain.

These earnest words from the lips of the venerable Chairman at the very threshold of the Conference, came like a benediction upon the whole assembly, and had, no doubt, great influence in keeping up that high, spiritual tone that characterized all the sessions.

The first paper of the day, after the opening address, was by Rev. Dr. D. C. Greene upon the conditions under which the missionary work in Japan has been carried on since 1883,—the time of the last Conference. With a wealth of facts and figures that were both interesting inspiring, and encouraging, and in the usual broad, statesman-like style and sweep which always characterize the author, the increasingly favourable conditions were traced; the gradual permeation of society with Christian sentiments indicated; and the high standard and standing of the Christian community shown. Topics political, educational and social were discussed in their relation to the help or hindrance of Christianity in the past eventful seventeen years. This paper deserves the careful perusal and study of all, of whatever belief or disbelief in missions in Japan. It is a sufficient answer to many of the carping criticisms upon missionary work in this empire, although its aim is purely historical.

Along with this should be also read the carefully prepared paper of Rev. Dr. D. Thompson which followed, upon The Progress of the Work, in which, with abundance of statistics, he built up irrefutable testimony to the fact that the work has actually progressed, and in a remarkable way.

These two papers, which, with the opening address, occupied the forenoon of the first day, will form a rich reservoir of facts and statistics from which all students of missions in Japan will draw supplies for many years to come.

After the first day, the first hour each morning session from 9-30 to 10-30, was given to devotional services, a specially prepared paper occupying about twenty minutes, and the rest of the time being devoted to prayer. Other parts of the day were full of interest, but these were the hours of profit, when hearts were revealed one to another, and all walked together in the conscious fellowship and communion of the Spirit.

I.—Considering the *Devotional Papers* as a class, they were of a remarkably high tone, and breathed a spirit of deep piety and of practical devotion that could not fail to call forth a like spirit from the lips of many and the hearts of all of the praying congregation.

On Thursday Dr. John Scott gave a rich interpretation of the Spiritual Life of the Missionary himself, which was doubly enforced by his own evident experience and his patriarchal bearing.

On Friday Dr. A. D. Hail, in an extremely bright and helpful address on Bible Study in its Relation to the Personal Life of the Missionary, showed by telling example, simile, and metaphor how such study could convert religious sentiment into active Christian service.

The following day the Rev. A. A. Bennett presented an exhaustive and heart-searching exposition of the Place of Prayer and Intercession in the Life of the Missionary. No one who listened can forget his powerful appeal to take time for this greatest means of grace.

On Monday Dr. D. B. Schneder brought a most sympathetic and helpful message, evidently wrought from deep personal experience, and on the whole one of the best papers of the devotional series, upon the Hinderances to the Spiritual Life of the Missionary,—especially of those who labour in the interior, away from the helpful influences of any large body of fellow Christians. It was a striking and scientific analysis of the experiences of such workers, and touched a chord which vibrated in many a breast as he laid bare those hinderances which many experience but few stop to analyze, and showed how these might not only be overcome, but even turned into helps.

Rev. W. B. McIlwaine took for his topic on Tuesday, Salvation, dwelling upon the thought that this meant adoption into the family of God, and that through all eternity we were to learn the full and rich meaning of what it was to be sons of God.

On Wednesday, the last day, which was appropriately referred to as "the great day of the feast," the Rev. B. Buxton spoke from a full heart upon the Fulness of the Spirit. He said in substance that when Christ left his disciples on earth he did not seem to leave them very much; but he did leave them a promise. "Ye shall be filled with power after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you." We try educational and evangelistic and other schemes to win men to Christ, but He says, wait for the spirit and for the power! What is this power that He would have us wait for?

1. It is a baptism—a cleansing—of the Holy Spirit. If we are going to preach a true salvation, we must be clean and pure.
2. A baptism of Love. The fulness of the Spirit is fulness of love. Were nothing else will conquer, subdue, convict of sin, love will do it. God does not want us to preach or to serve out of duty, but from love.
5. It is power with God,—the power of prayer. We often want power to move men; but the power to move God is higher.
4. Power to wield the word of God. This comes only by the Spirit. With this power, we preach repentance, and men will tremble at the coming judgment; we preach salvation, and man will be drawn to the Saviuor. This power comes only by prayer.

In the Devotional class should be included the Sunday afternoon address of Rev. J. C. Ballagh, on the Influence of the Spiritual Life of the Missionary upon others. The speaker enlarged earnestly and eloquently upon the Privileges and Responsibilities of the Missionary's calling, emphasizing the fact that it is a *calling* of God; that this demands deep humility on the part of the one called; a profound sense of the great trust committed to our care; deep sympathy for those among whom he is called to work; distinct views as to the specific duties assigned him by God; and an abiding sense of deep accountability to God for his service.

II.—Among the *Educational Papers*, which occupied nearly all of Friday and Saturday, the most notable were those of Rev. S. H. Wainright on Schools and Colleges for Young Women; Rev. Dr. D. W. Learned on Theological and Evangelistic Training Schools; and Miss A. L. Howe on Work for Children in the Kindergarten.

Dr. Wainright's paper under the title of "Educational Results and Prospects" has already appeared in the *Japan Mail*, November 1st, and consequently needs no summary here. But as a careful, thoughtful and elaborate exposition of the problem of Christian schools in Japan, it will

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be read and studied by many with deep interest, and many a heart will echo the applause which frequently interrupted the reading of the paper—as, *e.g.*, at the sentence, "If Christ cannot have the first place in our schools, let His sacred name be forever disconnected with them. No doubt larger privileges could be obtained, and a greater number of students, by not bringing Him into view. But what would it profit a mission school to gain the whole world and lose its own soul?"

If Dr. Wainright's paper was frequently spoken of in private conversation as a masterly presentaion of the subject of Boys' Schools, that of Miss Searle was no less often and no less loudly praised for its able presentation of the Girls' School side of the problem. It was evident that the Committee made no mistake in going to Kobe for their standard bearers on these two important issues.

Miss Searle's paper approached the subject of schools for young women with three interrogation points:—1st, How far shall we adapt our curriculum to the customs of Japanese society? 2nd, When shall we begin, and how far, how high, shall we carry our course? 3rd, What branches should be included in a full course? In regard to the first, a wise conservatism was held. The education given should show to the Japanese girl possibilities of reform and progress in the home life and public life of the nation, and teach her how to do her share toward this progress; while at the same time it should not so educate her away from her own people that she will be unhappy in the life to which she must return after leaving school. And she quoted with approval the words of a well educated Japanese lady, to the effect that the aim of education should be to make the *ideal* woman, not the *Japanese* woman. And it might be noted here that it was from this same Japanese lady's remarks that the words were taken which the *Japan Mail* erroneously attributed to Miss Searle on the occasion of its rather caustic criticism. The exact words are, "There are many gentle and beautiful women, and comparatively few real noble women."

As for the second question, the speaker is far from satisfied with present attainments. Europe and America present to women the very highest possibilities of education, and our aim should be no less high.

The answer to the third question was too minute and technical to be touched on here, but it covered comprehensively the needs of body, mind and heart.

A witty rejoinder to the charge that Girls Schools of the Mission type unfit the graduates for becoming proper wives, was the statistical fact that out of the 144 graduates who had married, there had been but 7 divorces, or less than 1 in 20 as against the 1 in 3 ratio that prevails throughout the country. Dr. Learned introduced his paper with the story of the old professor who thanked God that though he had been teaching for forty years in a Theological School, he had not lost his religion. In his discussion of Theological Schools, regular and special, he showed that he had not lost either his religion or his common sense. He would insist upon candidates being graduates of at least a common school grade, except in very especial cases; he believes the Special Course is yet essential; would have candidates of the regular course enter with a reading knowledge of English; takes no stock in the study of Greek and Hebrew here at present; would make practical field-work a part of the curriculum; believes needy students can be wisely aided without either dubbing their grant a "scholarship" when it is not, or paying them for practical field work which should be a part of their curriculum duties. The attitude of the Theological School to the theological thought of the day was also discussed.

Miss Howe's paper on Kindergartens bore on the surface the evidence of unusually careful preparation; and though she rode through it on a tremendously high gear, the looks and gestures and *tones* all proclaimed the enthusiastic kinder gartener which she is. The first part of the paper was a historical and eulogistic sketch of the life of "that old fool" Froebel,—"one of those men whom contemporaries stone and ridicule, but to whom future generations, erect monuments"; the latter part was suggestive and practical, with an abundance of hints from personal experience.

While urging the widest possible extension of the kindergarten system, she also urged delay in establishing the school until a well-trained teacher could be obtained; that the ratio of pupils to teachers should be sixteen to one (and yet she is not a democrat!); that building should be deferred until the Government regulations can be fully complied with; that the home Boards should be urged to allow missionaries to come out who could devote their whole time to this work; and that all who are in charge of the higher education of girls, should be urged to add kindergarten training as a part of their curriculum. "In Japan we had better let any form of educational work alone unless we are prepared to do it well." "The Japanese Government honours us with the privilege of taking their little ones to teach; let us honour their trust by giving them our very best."

Other Educational topics were papers on the Attitude of the Educational Classes towards Christianity, by Prof. E. W. Clement and Rev. Dr. J H. de Forest; and upon the Y.M.C.A. work among the student classes, by Mr. G. M. Fisher, and Mr. V. W. Helm, all of which were well received as they deserved, and called forth much interesting discussion. Only lack of space prevents a review of them here.

III.—The *Evangelistic Papers* were numerous and varied, embracing such topics as Methods of Work. Special Fields (Liuchiu Islands, Formosa, and the Ainus), Self-support, Sunday School, Sabbath Observance; and perhaps also the Training Schools for Bible Women would come in here more properly than elsewhere.

The address by Rev. W. Andrews on Methods, was a fervid, enthusiastic setting forth of the idea of lowly service,—such service as the Master himself performed, and commended to his followers. It was unfortunate that any should have picked upon a single illustration (which of itself was possibly a trifle infelicitous) and allowed that to spoil the fine spiritual flavour of the whole discourse; but the "brick-carrier" discussion that followed rather seemed to indicate that such was the case. Rev. A. Oltmans had, under this same topic, an excellent paper upon the best methods of winning unbelievers, instructing candidates for baptism, and the upbuilding of Christian character.

The question of self support was gone into quite exhaustively in the prepared papers by the Rev. J. B. Hail, F. W. Voegelein, E. H. Van Dyke, and H. B. Johnson, and threshed out pretty fully and keenly in the ensuing debates. The Nevius method, the Mateer reply to that method, the Korean "method," were all put in evidence, together with sundry other plans and suggestions; but no definite result came from the debate in the way of passage of any resolution. It goes without saying that all are in favour of true self-support so soon as, and so far as, practicable and possible But no method is capable of universal application,—or if there be such, it has not yet been discovered. It is, however, matter for regret that some action was not taken by this Conference which would indicate that it had unitedly taken at least a look in the right direction on this subject.

On the subject of Special Fields, a paper was read which had been prepared by Rev. J. Batchelor on Christian work among the Ainu, while Rev. R. A. Thompson spoke of work in the Liuchiu Islands.

The importance of Sunday Schools as a method of evangelistic work; proper methods of teaching, both as to manner and matter; and the necessity of trained teachers in this department of church work, were well and carefully presented by Miss A. S. Buzzell and and Miss I. R. Luther, and an interesting discussion followed which took up the topic of union lesson helps. It is matter for congratulation that so many of the larger mission bodies have been able to unite in publishing this kind of literature; and to be hoped that the day may not be far distant when all can stand together here.

There were two papers which, while differing in their aims and intents, were closely related. These were the wide, comprehensive and sympathetic papers by Miss J. E. Dudley on Woman's Evangelistic Work, Past Efforts and Results, and Present Opportunities; and Miss A. B. West on Training Schools for Bible-women. The latter discussed the woman rather than the educational institution, and Miss G. Cozad followed with brief remarks, but full of common sense, upon the selection of proper Bible-women, methods of Bible study for them, and the proper relation of the missionary to these Bible School graduates.

The vexed question of the Practical Observance of the Sabbath was dealt with in an elaborate paper by Rev. C. B. Moseley, and the result of the intense and interesting discussion that followed was the passing of a resolution looking towards the formation of a Sabbath Union between all the Protestant Mission bodies and the Protestant Churches in Japan, for bringing about the proper observance of this day, which is now so sadly neglected if not openly and flagrantly desecrated by church members.

The rather startling subject, "The Evangelization of Japan in the Present Generation: is it possible, and if so by what means," was dealt with by Rev. E. H. Jones. In dealing with the question, he perhaps disappointed some by failing to give a startling reply and proposing some great and brilliant scheme. And yet what he had to say was full of good sense and deserving of candid consideration. Missionaries and Evangelists and Christians all must first be more full of prayer and of the Holy Spirit: that is the foundation of all our hope for the evangelization of this land, whether in this generation or the next. We must, moreover, be more simple and biblical in our teaching and preaching; and we must utilize lay effort more than has yet been done. Only in this practical line is there hope.

IV.—The papers on *Social Topics* were confined to Temperance, Benevolences, Medical Work, and the "Social Evil," and were all presented at an evening session on Monday. That by Rev. Dr. J. Soper on the Temperance Movement in Japan and its Relation to Missionary Work was an interesting and most valuable tracing of the history of the movement, together with that of the various organizations that have gathered around this great and growing reform movement; and an enthusiastic appeal to all who are engaged in gospel work in this land to add to their efforts this most practical one of gospel temperance. "If Christ were here he would command his church in clarion voice, Rise up and preach the gospel of total abstinence!"

Two years ago, thanks to the efforts of Miss Clara Parrish during the preceding year, there was established the National Christian Temperance League, "which is now one of the greatest moral forces of the Empire."

The Hon. Ando Taro who was present this evening, made a speech in which he urged all missionaries to interest themselves in carrying on this gospel temperance work to which the hearts of the Japanese were everywhere now responding. "A great change is coming over the spirit of the times. You missionaries have come from thousands of miles away and sacrificed much for the good of Japan; and I congratulate you on the approaching success of your grand work."

Dr. Wallace Taylor's paper on Medical Work, its Results and Prospects, was carefully worked out, placing medical missions squarely on the basis of benevolence, and not considering them an auxiliary of mission work. While giving due credit to the Japanese for great advance in medical science, he yet urged the great need of reformation. Some statistics on medical charities were rather startling as well as instructive. For example, while in England the amount expended in such charities is $50,000,000 per annum, or about $1.40 per unit of population; and in the United States $80,000,000, or about $1.04 per unit; in Japan $75,000 would cover all that was expended in this way last year, or only $0.003 per unit of population. While spending millions of dollars for her army and navy, she only spends in these lines of the higher demands by *rin* prices. She is not yet awake to this kind of work.

Dr. W. N. Whitney also spoke upon the need of more medical missionaries in Japan for doing real evangelistic work. Christ says "Preach, teach, heal." From preaching comes the Church; from teaching comes the school; and from healing comes the medical work. Some mourn when the

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Church becomes associated with the State; others mourn when education becomes associated with the State; shall we not mourn that healing of the sick should be taken from the hands of the Christian Church by ungodly and unsympathetic doctors who are educated by the State?

An unusually fine presentation of the Works of Christian Benevolence was given by Rev. Dr. J. H. Pettee, in which he quoted most aptly Pope's lines.

"In faith and hope mankind will disagree;
But all mankind's concern is charity."

No brief notice here can at all preserve the rich flavor of this whole essay, in which some surprising things new and old were brought forth from Japanese history. We can only await with interest and eagerness the appearance of the printed volume of the proceedings of the Conference, to read over once more this and many others of these valuable productions.

Mr. Hara Taneaki and his good wife were present on the platform this evening, and were introduced to the audience. Mr. Hara spoke about his work in connection with ex-convicts, about 50 of whom are now in the Rescue Home of which he has charge. He presented statistics showing that of 450 who have been in his Home in the past four years, eight-tenths have been saved to honest lives.

Another treat of this very full Monday evening was a speech by the Hon. Shimada Saburo on the abolition of licensed prostitution in Japan. He spoke particularly of the Anti-prostitution Association which had been formed, with the object of so changing the present police regulations as to make the decision of the courts effective, and thus rescue the 50,000 unfortunate women now held in slavery, and break down the present system.

V.—Among the *Literary Papers* we can only mention, and that very briefly, the valuable production by Rev. Dr. T. T. Alexander on the Preparation and Spread of Christian Literature, which he treated under the three heads of Tracts, Books and Periodicals. The real historical value of this paper will appear fully when it is published in unabridged form, as it will be.

Another paper that is to greatly enhance the value of the printed volume, is the one on Hymnology in Japan, by Rev. G. Allchin. Upon his initiative, the Conference appointed a Committee to take in hand the securing of the best possible translation of about one hundred of the standard hymns of Christendom, which translation, with its appropriate tune, shall be used, so far as practicable, uniformly in all hymn books.

The subject of the Revision of the Japanese Version of the Scriptures was dealt with in a paper by the Right Rev. Bishop Fyson, and was in favour of such revision. Unfortunately Bishop Fyson could not be present to read his paper and to engage in the subsequent discussion. The opinion prevailed, however, that the time had not yet come to recast the present version, and the matter dropped.

VI.—Many *Miscellaneous Matters* occupied a considerable part of the time of the Conference, some of which resulted in the form of a resolution. One respectful resolution was passed to be presented to His Majesty the Emperor, expressing in behalf of this great body of missionaries, their appreciation of, and sympathy in, the enlightened and progressive attitude of Japan, and further expressing their good wishes for the future.

One significant resolution was that which expressed the conviction of this Conference that missionary help was still needed in Japan; and which urged the home Boards to at least continue to maintain their present forces here, and to give heed to calls for special needs.

But the most significant resolution of all was that which was adopted at noon on the last day, after a long and earnest debate that was at times breathlessly exciting, but which showed most beautifully the spirit of unity and peace in which all were sitting down together. It was the resolution on Christian comity. And because of its importance the full text might better be given. It is as follows: "This Conference of missionaries, assembled in the city of Tokyo, proclaims its belief that all those who are one with Christ by faith, are one body; and it calls upon all those who love the Lord Jesus and his Church in sincerity and truth, to pray and to labour for the full realization of such a corporate oneness as the Master himself prayed for on that night in which He was betrayed."

Following this statement of principle came the following preamble and resolution:

"Whereas this Conference gratefully recognizes the high degree of harmony and cordial coöperation which has marked the history of Protestant Missions in Japan, it is at the same time convinced that the work of evangelization is often retarded by an unhappy competition, especially in the smaller fields, and by the duplication of machinery which our present arrangements involve; therefore,

"Resolved, that this Conference elect, upon the nomination of the President and the Vice-Presidents, a Promoting Committee of ten, whose duty it shall be to prepare a plan for the formation of a Representative Standing Committee of the Missions; such plan to be submitted to the various Missions for their approval, and to go into operation as soon as approved by such a number of the Missions as include in their membership not less than two-thirds of the Protestant Missionaries in Japan."

Principle, preamble and resolution were all adopted unanimously amid great applause, after which the Doxology was sung with fervour. This unanimous vote marks a distinct advance along the line of Christian union; and whatever effect it may or may not have upon the ultimate problem of church union, it is bound to be the one feature that shall, in the coming years, stand out most prominently, and mark this Convention as unique.

But aside from this the Convention will long be remembered for the length of its constituency-roll, the breadth of its charity, the height of its aim, the depth of its piety, the unity of its spirit, and the glory of its final achievement.

H. B. N.

BIBLE CIRCULATION IN JAPAN.

The following paper was read by the Rev. H. Loomis on October 29th before the Conference of Protestant Missionaries, held in Tokyo:—

Archbishop Longley once said, "If I must choose between sending the man without the Book, or the Book without the man, then I say, send the Book without the man. The man has made mistakes and may make mistakes but the Book can make none."

But we rejoice to say that in Japan we are not shut up to this alternative. The voice of the living preacher has been, and is being heard all over the land, and the Book also is in the hands of the people bearing its testimony for God.

Of the early history of Bible circulation there is no record. Under the restrictions which hampered all Christian work any open and general attempt to distribute the Scriptures would not have been permitted. A copy of an elegant Bible, prepared for the various Rulers of the earth by Mr. John Toppan, of Boston, was sent to Japan about 1860, but no opportunity to give it to the Emperor was found until 1872, when it was presented through the Hon. Mr. De Long, then American Minister at Yokohama.

The first copies of the Gospels were printed on blocks, which were cut secretly and kept hidden away, and the completed books were delivered at night in small quantities in order to avoid detection. Not until the old edicts against Christianity were removed, and there was greater freedom, did the people dare to openly possess or even read copies of the Scriptures.

In his account of the beginning of Christian work in Japan, given at the Osaka Conference, in 1883, Rev. Dr. Verbeck states that previous to 1866, "Large numbers of Chinese Bibles had been imported and circulated. This was continued by the missionaries for many years. The price of the books was much less than cost."

The work of Bible circulation as a distinct department of Christian effort may be said to have begun in 1872, by the opening of a Bible Depôt on one of the principal thoroughfares of Kobe. But the sales were very small, and the distribution continued to be mostly in private.

The first Agency in Japan was established by the National Bible Society of Scotland in 1875. The American Bible Society followed in the early part of the next year, and the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1881.

The first attempt to use a colporteur seems to have been made in 1874 by the employment of a man to visit the shipping in Yokohama, and at the same time Rev. Mr. Syle is reported to have had the opportunity without restraint of introducing the Scriptures to the students of the Imperial University, in which he held the chair of Moral Philosophy.

In the Report of the British and Foreign Bible Society for 1875 it is stated that "For colportage in general there is as yet no opening. At Osaka it is judged imprudent to attempt it, while Rev. Mr. Burnside of Nagasaki writes:—'I can not but think that any step so palpably aggressive as that of a colporteur would be very injudicious, neither do I think it could be carried on at all for any length of time, but would be put a stop to by the authorities.'" The same testimony was given in regard to Hakodate.

In the spring of 1876 Rev. Dr. Gulick sent a man into the Province of Shimosa for the sale of Scriptures. About a week after he returned saying that he had sold two Portions, and it was not only useless to try and persuade the people to buy the Scriptures, but dangerous both to himself and the purchaser.

In the Report of the National Bible Society of Scotland, Mr. Robert Lilly states that there were in 1874 five depositories for the sale of Christian literature; from one of which in Tokyo there were sold 1369 European and 1933 Chinese Bibles and Testaments, besides 487 Japanese Gospels.

"With a population of whom 75 per cent. are said to be able to read there is an enormous demand for books, whether they be good, bad, or indifferent. As fast as prejudice and other hindrances are removed it is certain that there will be a large sale of Scriptures."

In a report of the British and Foreign Bible Society for 1876 is the statement that several of the converts have opened shops for the sale of Christian and general literature and the Bible and other Christian books are to be found exposed for sale in many of the bookstores in Tokyo.

In Sept. of 1877 an agreement was concluded with a leading Japanese bookseller in Tokyo to keep Bibles on sale. He was to receive a commission of 20%. But the demand was small; and there was yet no way open for colporteurs.

Dr. Gulick reports that in 1879 several of the largest booksellers of the capital who had hitherto been unwilling to keep Christian literature openly keep the Scriptures on sale and send them to their subordinate or corresponding houses in the country.

One year later Dr. Gulick writes, "The day has not only dawned but is upon us in glowing brightness when we may sell the Scriptures with unrestricted freedom. While there is still much indifference, and while a dread of the heathen priests is often met, there does not seem to be any remaining fear of governmental interference, and we have had many indications of friendship, both of local authorities and officials of the central government. The supply of native booksellers continues to be an important and increasing branch of our work."

Owing to the great difficulty of getting suitable men for colporteurs among the Japanese the agent of the American Bible Society resorted to the employment of foreigners, and the Rev. J. Goble began work in the fall of 1879. He constructed a unique Bible carriage, drawn by a horse, for the transportation of his books, and used a magic lantern with Scripture scenes to make himself and errand known to the people. He also had a hand cart made, for use in Tokyo, and from it were sold in little more than three months 10,205 Portions. On the 4th of Jan., 1880, Mr. Goble sold single-handed in the streets of Kyoto 500 Portions.

The employment of salesmen or colporteurs other than Japanese was necessarily very expensive, and was not adopted to any considerable extent. It was found also that without special grace and wisdom more harm than good might be done by those thus employed.

One of the most important results of the employment of foreign colporteurs was the instruction of some of the Japanese Christians in the art of selling Scriptures. Some men who were thus taught continued for many years in the work with far more than ordinary success.

How to best distribute the Word of God in Japan is a question that has not even yet been fully and satisfactorily solved. It was expected that as in other countries the only requisite was to find native Christians and send them out as colporteurs all over the land. This was the course adopted from the start. But in the carrying out of this plan it has been found not only difficult, but often almost impossible to get suitable men. The position of a trader was next to the lowest in the social scale, and ranked only one degree above the butchers and tanners, who were simply outcasts. On account of this public sentiment the impoverished *samurai* were ordinarily more ready to beg, or draw a jinrikisha, than take a bundle of books on their backs and go about to sell them. Only the severest poverty, and the dread of actual starvation, would ordinarily induce persons of requisite culture and ability to undertake such business.

If at last those of the higher and educated class were led to undertake the sale of Scriptures it was an

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exceptional man who would make a success of it With colporteurs of no experience in business methods, and the proper way to induce the people to purchase books, the work of circulating the Scriptures has always been in a more or less changeable and unsatisfactory condition.

Sometimes men of the lower or common class have been found with energy and tact, but in financial matters there was such a lack of common honesty that their continued employment was impossible. The experience of those who have had the charge of colportage is very much the same as that of business men in general; there is among the Japanese available for this work a want of ability and integrity that is essential in all successful trade.

Some years ago an attempt was made to use the native evangelists as a means of Scriptures circulation, but ignorance of business methods, a want of tact in securing the sale of their books, and an almost universal inability to keep accounts and meet their financial obligations resulted in failure.

Another consideration has had its influence in deterring missionaries as well as native preachers from book selling. Owing to the universal contempt in which all tradesmen were held, it was frequently found to be detrimental to a man's influence as a religious teacher to even offer books for sale. It is for this and other reasons that comparatively little has been done hitherto by the missionary body in the way of Bible distribution.

As an illustration of the difficulties connected with Bible distribution by the employment of native salesmen, I may mention the fact that during the year 1892 82 men, were employed to a greater or less extent in the sale of Bibles. Of that number only some six or eight are now at work, and a part of them are too feeble to be effective. Some have become evangelists, and in fact that is the general desire and purpose of all as soon as any Society will offer a fixed salary and the more agreeable and honourable position.

In some cases colporteurs have been employed jointly by the Bible Societies and the missionaries But this has been only exceptional, and the result has seldom been such as was desired,

At the time of union in 1896 the Bible Societies Committee resolved to choose out the most suitable men and put them all on a salary with the expectation that more satisfactory work would be done than by any other method; and the intention was to retain only those who proved to be satisfactory and successful

The result was such a disappointment that after sixteen months trial the conclusion was reached that some other plan must be resorted to. The necessity of the change was demonstrated from the fact that in the month of August 1892, under salary system the total sales were 232.71 yen an average of 3.90 yen per month for each man, and the deficit amounted to 312.71 yen.

After careful consideration it was decided to employ men on commission only, and about eight months later the total sales in one month were 233.40 yen, an average of 5.55 yen per man, and instead of a large deficit a cash surplus of 17.93 yen. An important consideration in the employment of men on commission was the fact that by such method of sales they could also dispose of other books, could work but part of the time when necessary, and then their compensation was in proportion to their ability, energy, and faithfulness.

The general dissatisfaction with the results of employing Japanese in way as colporteurs has made it seem desirable to seek other and better means of Bible distribution.

One of these means is a more general use of the ordinary bookstores throughout Japan. Owing to the demand for Scriptures having become almost general, and the prejudice against the sale having largely disappeared, it is now possible to arrange with the booksellers everywhere to keep our books as a part of their stock in trade. In this way we reduce the cost of sale to a minimum, and keep the Scriptures constantly and publicly before the people. Our sales by commission sellers during the year 1895 were 443 Bibles, 2,415 New Testaments, and 1,090 Portions, and the cash receipts were 416 yen. During 1899 the commission sellers (mostly booksellers), sold 2,283 Bibles, 10,401 New Testaments, and 14,969 Parts. The receipts were 2,585 yen, or more than six times as much as five years before.

In the employment of colporteurs we have allowed for hotel and travelling expenses so that the whole receipts were usually required to pay for the sale of the books. The returns have never equalled more than 10 per cent. of the value of the books. Judged by its results the sales at the bookstores is one of the most satisfactory methods of Bible distribution for Japan, and it is being pushed as circumstances permit. It has not been adopted as a matter of choice but from what has seemed a real necessity.

About a year and a half ago Rev. Mr. Snyder began of his own accord trying to see what he could do in selling Scriptures, and during a large part of the time since then he has been in the employ of the Bible Societies' Committee. His time has been occupied not only in selling, but in visiting the colporteurs, the missionaries, and native evangelists, or preachers, and by word and example stimulating and encouraging every one by new and earnest effort to spread the Scriptures all over Japan.

Only a part of what he has accomplished can be tabulated. But perhaps the most important result is the increase in interest and the active cooperation that has been developed among those whom he has met in his various journeys. Compared with the native salesmen his sales have been remarkable.

During the period from Sept. 1st. to Dec. 31st, 1899, his sales of Japanese Scriptures (which were largely Portions) were 22,293 vols, and the cash value 336.13 yen. To this should be added 120 English Bibles, and 293 English Testaments, sold to the soldiers on board the U. S. transports, en route to Manila.

The following comparison shows the value and importance of Mr. Snyder's work. During the 4th quarter of 1899 the Japanese colporteurs sold 2,368 volumes, and the value was 459 yen. During the same period Mr. Snyder sold 17,761 volumes, and the receipts were 215 yen. M. Snyder actually sold more volumes in three months than all the colporteurs together during two years.

Thus has been revealed the fact that the Japanese are ready, and sometimes even eager to buy the Scriptures, if some one who knows how to do it will only give them the opportunity. It is also apparent that the prejudice against persons who engage in the sale of religious books no long exists to the same extent as in former years, and taking part in it does not interfere with one's usefulness. It is the earnest desire of those who have this work in charge that the success achieved by one foreigner may stimulate others, as they may have the opportunity, to engage also in Scriptures distribution. It is done largely by missionaries in other countries: and in fact constitutes in many of them a most effectual means of disseminating a knowledge of God and His salvation.

In one respect Bible circulation in Japan differs from that in China and probably many other fields. It was decided at the start to place the price of Scriptures at about the cost of publication. This rule has been adhered to, and as far as known, has proved to be a wise and proper one. As a rule the Scriptures are sold. The giving away of books is exceptional.

After several years of experience in conducting their work separately, it was plainly evident to the agents of the Bible Societies that in a field so small as Japan there was a great waste of money, and many other disadvantages in trying to carry on the same work under three different organizations. It was impossible for either agent to keep close supervision of all his employees, and the presence of rival colporteurs in the same field was the occasion of constant strife and a temptation to dishonest practices on the part of the men in order to keep up their sales.

After considerable consultation it was decided that the work could be more cheaply and efficiently done if the Bible Societies would agree to a joint conduct of the work, with a duly appointed Committee in charge of the whole.

To accomplish this a meeting of representative missionaries was called in 1889, at the request of the three agents, and a constitution drawn up and sent to the different Societies for their consideration.

After some time for deliberation, and with only a few slight changes in the original plan, it was adopted; and on the 1st of July, 1890, the whole work of publication and circulation of the Scriptures in Japan was entrusted to a Committee of twelve persons, in which the agents of the three Societies were included, of whom three were representatives of the British & Foreign Bible Society, three represented the National Bible Society of Scotland, and six the American Bible Society. The representation was thus arranged to correspond to the proportion of funds contributed by each Society.

The advantages of this plan have no doubt been apparent to every one who has any knowledge of the work of Bible distribution. We are happy to state that during recent years there has been entire harmony in the working of this system, which secures not only increased efficiency; but at the same time foolish rivalry among employees is prevented, needless expenditure avoided, and an instance of brotherly and Christian cooperation supplied which is valuable to all engaged in similar work in any part of the world.

The remarkable change that has taken place in Japan in recent years is well illustrated in the history of Bible circulation. The possession of a copy of the New Testament by Motonori Murata (Wakasa) of Saga was kept a secret for years and its study conducted in private. As late as 1882 an attempt was made by the British & Foreign Bible Society to open a Bible Depôt in Nagasaki. It provoked such strong opposition on the part of the people that the middle man suffered hard treatment at the hands of a mob, his goods were flung into the street, and he was turned adrift. Later on there was another disturbance which had to be quelled by the aid of the police, after considerable damage had been done to the fitting of the store. At about the same time the Agent of the American Bible Society went alongside a Japanese man-of-war, lying at Uraga, but his request to be allowed to go on board was met with a refusal.

When the war occurred between Japan and China in 1894-5, permission was given by both the Army and Navy Departments to circulate the Scriptures freely; and it may be said in general that every facility that could be expected or desired to carry on this work was given. As a rule the Bible distributor received a cordial welcome; and in some cases the troops were mustered and a special service held in connection with the gift of a pocket gospels to every man.

One who had assisted in the distribution at Hiroshima, and who was well qualified to judge of its value, wrote as follows, "Not for years, if ever, have the Bible Societies been privileged to give Christianity so strong a push forward in the Orient as by their Bible distribution among the soldiers. Direct, personal helpful conversation was not neglected. Whenever possible the gift was accompanied with a message, a word with the Word. Every one who came within the range of this movement felt it to be strongly evangelical, and it created a profound impression."

In acknowledgement of the gift of gospels to the soldiers of the Imperial Guard, Col. Sameshima, the Chief of Staff, wrote as follows, "At the present time our detachment of Imperial Guards feels that for both officers and men spiritual education is highly important. We are very much pleased that you have presented to us a number of Bibles, and the Prince also is exceedingly glad."

This Prince (Komatsu) was next in command to the Emperor, and in person expressed his gratitude to the agent in charge of the work

At the suggestion of a Christian in a high official position a supply of Scriptures was forwarded by the Japanese authorities to the fleet in China; and the distribution was made by the officials.

As a permanent result of the army and navy work there has continued until the present time a more or less regular visitation to both of the naval hospitals, with the most interesting and gratifying results. Something, though not so much, has also been done among the soldiers. At the earnest request of those engaged in this work a recent grant of 4,000 gospels was made for distribution among the sick and wounded who have recently returned from China.

The one crowning event was the presentation of a Bible to His Majesty the Emperor in 1895. It was accomplished through the kind offices of His Excellency, Marquis Ito, who now again resumes the high office that he has before filled with such credit to himself, and such profit to his country.

An exact statement of the circulation of Scriptures can not be given. But a conservative estimate is that since the beginning there have been fully 2,000,000 copies of Bible, Testaments, and Portions distributed by sale or gift. Since the Committee was formed in 1890, to the last of June this year, the total circulation has been 29,159 Bibles, 166,371 Testaments, and 749,455 portions, or a total of 944,000 volumes in all.

When we consider how many copies of the precious Word have already been put into the hands of the people of Japan, and then turn to God's promise, "My Word, that goeth forth out of my mouth shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I send it"—what great reason we have for encouragement and energetic effort in the work of sowing the good seed. Converts to Christianity are not multiplying as rapidly as in former years, but the leavening power of God's precious Word is evident to all. What may be the political and religious history of this country in the future no one can tell; but this we know, the renovating and enlightening influence of the revealed will of God continues the same, as the one source of light and hope, not only for Japan but the whole world.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I thank you most sincerely for the article on ＊ ＊ ＊ in the *Japan Mail* of the 30th inst. My own conscience was first aroused to the vanity of the word by a pamphlet on the subject by the Reverend Armine F. King, M.A., Oxon of S. Andrews Mission, Shiba Tokyo, printed at the Shueisha, Tokyo, and to be found on the shelves of all respectable book-sellers. As to the use of the word ＊ ＊ ＊ in the *fuku-biki* at Christmas it has happened in my own experience in different places several times, in spite of or perhaps because of my own deep feeling on the subject.

Yours sincerely, Inaka-Chan-Chan-Bozu.

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AUTUMN MEETING OF THE N. R. C.

PATRONS.—H.I.H. Komatsu-no-Miya, H.I.H. Fushimi-no-Miya, and H.I.H Arisugawa-no-Miya.

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SECRETARY.—Mr. J. E. Beale.

FIRST DAY.—MONDAY, 5TH NOV.

The interest in the Autumn Races this year was impaired to a considerable extent by the fact that the new Australian horses bought by the members of the Club were stopped at Singapore, owing to want of passage, and consequently the races this season were short of new blood. Nevertheless there was a fair amount of speculation on the part of the public to-day and some fair sport was afforded. The course, after a day or two's rain, followed by a good breeze, was in excellent condition, and the weather was in every way favourable for sport. The times made were in some instances exceptional and we believe two or three records were made. The attendance was good and the new accommodation at the Grand Stand and elsewhere was greatly appreciated. The events were as follow:—

1.—The MONGOLIAN PLATE, for Subscription China Ponies of 1900; weight as per scale, winners in Japan at date of entry of one race 5 lbs. extra, of two races excluded; winner, *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. Three-quarter Mile.

Mr. Tatsuta's Morokoshi, 150lb. .... (Rikizo) 1
Mr. Tytherleigh's Strathcona, 150lb...(Mr. Easton) 2
Mr. Starlight's Torcross, 153lb. .....(Nakazumi) 3
Mr. Scherz's Huckebein, 154lb. .....(Mr. Gross) 0

Huckebein made the running until half way round when Morokoshi came away and increasing his lead after passing the Shakespeare, cantered in an easy winner by half a dozen lengths. Time, 1.38¾.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Torcross 75, Huckebein 36, Morokoshi 118, Strathcona 35; total, 1,320 yen=Morokoshi, 10 yen.

2.—The COSMOPOLITAN PLATE, for Country Breds and Australian Subscription Horses that have not won two races in Japan; weight for age; Maidens at date of entry 5lbs. allowance, winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. Three-quarter Mile.

Mr. Tatsuta's Oimatsu, *137lb.... .....(Tomioka) 1
Mr. Nishimura's Tobu, *148lb. ... .(Takahashi) 2
Mr. Hugo's Moonshee (late Molly), †132lb. (Sugiura) 3
Mr. Starlight's Torquay, †135lb. .....(Nakazumi) 0
Mr. Russia's Dobriak, †132lb. .....(Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Tandem's Silvertail, *137lb. .....(Kobayashi) 0

An easy win for Oimatsu. Time, 1.22.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Torquay 9, Moonshee 32, Oimatsu 108, Dobriak 29, Tobu 155, Silvertail 85; total, 1,881 yen=Oimatsu, 17.41 yen.

3.—The CRITERION STAKES, for China Ponies, weight as per scale; winner, *yen* 200; second Pony *yen* 50. Entrance *yen* 5. Three-quarter Mile.

Mr. Worthington's Standard Rose, 150lb.(Hayashi) 1
Mr May's Sunshine, 147lb.....(Kobayashi) 2
Mr. Nemo's Boxie, 141lb. .....(Ichi) 3
Mr. Tatsuta's Suzume, 144lb.....(Rikizo) 0
Mr. May's The Sofa (late Old Lease). 144lb. (Mr. Tegner) 0
Mr. Pierrot's Nightingale, 147lb.....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. King's Mikazuki, 147lb. .....(Mr. Kingdon) 0

Nightingale made the running from the start but was passed by Standard Rose and Boxie before the half mile had been passed. In the run home, Standard Rose came to the front and won easily by several lengths. Time 1.35⅕

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Standard Rose 57, Suzume 87, Sunshine 10, Boxie 225, Nightingale 2, Mikazuki 60; total, 2,220 yen=Standard Rose, 35 yen.

4.—The ALL-AGED STAKES, for Country Breds and Australian Horses; weight for age; Subscription Maidens at date of entry 7lbs. allowance, winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. Three-quarter Mile.

Mr. Worthington's The Count, *140lb....(Hayashi) 1
Mr. Avis' Peacock, 142lb. .....(Takahashi) 2
Mr. R. Field's Tomboy, 141lb. .....(Mr. Mottu) 3
Mr. Scherz's Faule Grete, *137lb. .....(Hakodate) 0
Mr. Nemo's Savoia, 140lb. .....(Ichi) 0
Mr. Yodo's Saikio, *140lb. .....(Sugiura) 0

Savoia made the running but at the Trees The Count came away and after a good race with Tomboy and Savoia down the straight, won a good race by a half length. Time, 1.21¾.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—The Count 282, Faule Grete 84, Savoia 74, Peacock 28, Saikio 85, Tomboy 36; total, 2650 yen=The Count 9.50.

5.—The PEKING CUP, for Subscription China Ponies of 1900, weight as per scale; winners in Japan at date of entry of one race 5lbs. extra, of two races excluded; winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. One and a Half Mile.

Mr. Starlight's Torcross, 153lb. .....(Nakazumi) 1
Mr. Tatsuta Morokoshi, 150lb. .....(Rikizo) 2
Mr. Russia's Prostyak, 150lb. .....(Horikoshi) 3
Mr. Tytherleigh's Strathcona, 150lb...(Mr. Easton) 0

Torcross took up the running from the start and to the surprise of all spectators kept the lead from beginning to end, finishing half-a-dozen lengths before Morokoshi, the favourite. Time, 3.29½.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Torcross 37, Morokoshi 262, Prostyak 78, Strathcona 163; total, 2,430 yen =Torcross, 65.50 yen.

6.—The SHANGHAI PLATE, for China Ponies; weight as per scale; winner *yen* 200, second Pony *yen* 50. Entrance *yen* 5. One and a Half Mile

Mr. Hugo's Sunrise, 150lb. .....(Mr. Mottu) 1
Mr. Nishimura's McMorse, 150lb. .....(Takahash) 2
Mr. News' Excelsior, 147lb.....(Mayeda) 3
Mr. Starlight's Emerald, 150lb.....(Ichi)) 0

This resulted in a fine race between Sunrise and McMorse. The former took up the running from the start and keeping a good steady pace had enough left in him at the finish, having been well handled by his rider, to win a good race by a length or so. Time, 3.24⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Emerald 2,221, Sunrise 138, McMorse 231, Excelsior 121; total, 3,204 yen—Sunrise, 23 yen.

7.—The MAIDENS' PLATE, for Country Breds and Australian Subscription Horses, Maidens at date of entry; weight for age; winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. One and an eighth Mile.

Mr. Worthington's Wallaby, *137lb.....(Hayashi) 1
Mr. May's Non Such, *140lb. .....(Kobayashi) 2
Mr. Hugo's Monshee, *137lb. ....(Sugiura) 3
Mr. Starlight's Aldebaran, *132lb.....(Ichi) 0
Mr. L. Mottet's Cousine, *137lb.....(Miyagawa) 0
Dr. Wheeler's Boomerang, *140lb. .....(Horikoshi) 0

Wallaby started a hot favourite, Dobriak not starting, Aldebaran was also well favoured. The two got away well together and ran neck and neck past the Stand. Wallaby then ran to the front and led round the course, winning by a length and half from Non Such, who rushed into second place in the distance. Time, 2.11⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Aldebaran 191, Wallaby 208, Moonshee 86, Cousine 97, Boomerang 25, Non Such 78; total, 2,992 yen—Wallaby, 14.50 yen.

8.—The BANZAI STAKES, for Country-breds and Australian Horses; weight for age; Subscription Maidens at date of entry 7lb. allowance; winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. One and a One-eighth Mile.

Mr. Russia's Mira, *140lb. ..... (Horikoshi) 1
Mr. Scherz's Ilus, *137lb... .....(Hakodate) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 145lb. ....(Rikizo) 3
Mr. Nishimura Hayakaze, *140lb.....(Takahashi) 0

Mira and Ilus took up the running from the start and keeping the lead Mira finished in front of Ilus by two lengths, after a good race. Time, 2.11⅘. (A record.)

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Ilus 107, Tatsuta 121, Mira 350, Hayakaze 39; total, 1,300 yen=Mira 7.50 yen.

* Mares and Geldings—Allowance deducted.
† Maidens—Allowance deducted

SECOND DAY.—TUESDAY, 6TH NOV.

No more pleasant weather could have been desired than that which favoured "the Ladies' day" of the Autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club. The attendance of ladies and visitors from Tokyo was fully up to the average of the second day's racing, while the number of Japanese sightseers who lined the course and its approaches was larger than usual. This was doubtless largely due to the expected attendance of the Emperor on this occasion, the fact of His Majesty's inability to be present not being generally known to the public. Owing to the comparatively small entries the sport was scarcely what might been hoped for under more favourable circumstances, but although the fields were small and two or three of the races were simply matches, the interest in the events was well sustained and the pari mutuel was well supported. Mr. Worthington's horse, The Count, made a record for the mile and most of the times were good. The prize presented by the Governor of Kanagawa for the fifth race was carried off by Mr. Field's Tomboy, ridden by Mr. Mottu, and was a most popular win. The prize, a pair of beautiful vases, was presented to the owner by Governor Sufu personally, and was suitably acknowledged in a graceful little speech by the recipient. The Emperor's prize, a handsome silver bowl, was presented to the winner, Mr. May, by Baron Sannomiya, after the seventh race. During the afternoon a selection of music was furnished by a band on the new stand, and all the arrangements were carried out by the officers of the Club to the satisfaction of owners and visitors alike. The events were as follows:—

1.—The NANKIN STAKES, for China Ponies; weight as per scale; winner of race 3, first day, 7lb. extra, of two races excluded; winner *yen* 200; second Pony *yen* 50. Entrance *yen* 5. One Mile.

Mr. Hugo's Sunrise, 150lb. ..... .(Mr. Mottu) 1
Mr. Worthington's Aberdeen, 150lb....(Kobayashi) 2
Mr. Nishimura's McMorse, 150lb. .....(Takahashi) 3
Mr. Starlight's Emerald, 150lb. ....(Ichi) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Suzume, 144lb.....(Rikizo) 0
Mr. Pierrot's Nightingale, 147lb. .....(Mr. Hudson) 0
Mr. May's The Sofa, 144lb.....(Higashi) 0

After some delay in effecting a start, Sunrise got away with a slight lead, but was overhauled by Aberdeen going up the hill, where McMorse also came up neck and neck with Sunrise, the rest strung out. In the straight, after a fine race between Aberdeen and Sunrise, the latter finished about half a length to the good, McMorse being a good third. Time, 2.12⅕.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Starlight 16, Aberdeen 191, Sunrise 89, Suzume 3, McMorse 127, Nightingale 3, The Sofa 3; total, 1,944 yen=Sunrise, 22 yen.

2.—The ADELAIDE CUP, for Country Breds and Australian Horses weight for age, Subscription Maidens at date of entry 7lb. allowance; winner of race 4 or 8, first day 5lb. extra, of two races excluded; winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. One Mile.

Mr. Worthington's The Count, *140lb....(Hayashi) 1
Mr. Nemo's Savoia, *140lb. .....(Ichi) 2

This resulted in a match between The Count and Savoia. The latter led all round till passing the Trees, when The Count came up and increasing his lead down the straight romped in an easy winner by half a dozen lengths. Time, 1.50⅘. A record.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—The Count 274, Savoia 78; total, 1,514 yen=The Count, 6 yen.

3.—The COLONIAL STAKES, for Country Breds and Australian Subscription Horses that have not won two races in Japan; weight for age; Maidens at date of entry 5lb. allowance; winners of race 2 or 7, first day, 5lb. extra, of two races excluded; winner *yen* 200, second Horse *yen* 50. Entrance *yen* 5. One and One-eighth Mile.

Mr. Nishimura's Tobu, *140lb. .....(Takahashi) 1
Mr. Tandem's Silvertail, *137lb.....(Kobayashi) 2
Mr. Hugo's Moonlight, *140lb. .....(Mr. Mottu) 3
Mr. Starlight's Torquay, †135lb.... .....(Nakazumi) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Oimatsu, *147lb.....(Tomioka) 0

This proved a very easy victory for Tobu, who took the lead at the start and maintained it to the finish, winning as he liked. The other horses were strung out in processional order. Time, 2.11¾.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Torquay 21, Moonlight 144, Oimatsu 151, Tobu 300, Silvertail 49; total, 2,922 yen=Tobu, 10 yen.

4.—The MANDARIN PLATE, for Subscription China Ponies of 1900, weight as per scale winners in Japan at date of entry of one race 5lb. extra, of two races excluded, winner of race 5, first day, 7lb. extra; winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. One and One-eighth Mile.

Mr. Tatsuta's Morokoshi, 150lb..... .....(Rikizo) 1
Mr. Starlight's Torcross, 153lb. .....(Nakazumi) 2
Mr. Russia's Prostyak, 150lb. .....(Horikoshi) 3
Mr. Tytherleigh's Strathcona, 150lb. .....(Higashi) 0

After two or three false starts Strathcona ran to the front and kept the lead till reaching the Shakespeare, where Morokoshi worked into first place and gradually increasing his lead passed the post seven or eight lengths ahead of Torcross, Strathcona having fallen to the rear. Time, 2.36⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Torcross 204, Morokoshi 414, Prostyak 50, Strathcona 110; total, 3,501 yen=Morokoshi, 8.50 yen.

5.—The NIPPON PLATE, for Country Breds; weight for age; Maidens at date of entry 5lb. allowance; winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 10. 1 Mile.

Mr. R. Field's Tomboy, 145lb. .....(Mr. Mottu) 1
Mr. Yodo's Saikio, *140lb. .....(Sugiura) 2

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Mr. Avis' Peacock, 142lb.....(Hakodate) 3
Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 145lb..... .(Rikizo) 0
Mr. Nishimura's Hayakaze, *140lb. ...(Takahashi) 0

Tatsuta and Peacock gave a good deal of trouble at the start but at last the field got away well together, Saikio leading slightly. At the half mile Tomboy came up and in the straight ran to the front and won a good race by two lengths from Saikio, who finished about the same distance in front of Peacock. Time, 1.51⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Tatsuta 210, Hayakaze 39, Peacock 117, Saikio 430, Tomboy 120; total, 4,122 yen=Tomboy, 34.50 yen.

6.—The MANCHURIAN STAKES, for China Ponies, weight as per scale, winner of race 1, 7lb. extra, of two races 14lb. extra, winner *yen* 200; Second Pony *yen* 50. Entrance *yen* 5. One and a One-eighth Mile.

Mr. Nishimura's McMorse, 150lb. .....(Takahashi) 1
Mr. Nemo's Boxie, 141lb. .....(Ichi) 2
Mr. May's Sunshine, 147lb.....(Kobayashi) 3
Mr. Starlight's Emerald, 150lb. .....(Nakazumi) 0
Mr. Worthington's Standard Rose, 150lb.(Hayashi) 0
Mr. King's Mikazuki, 147lb. .....(Mr. Kingdon) 0
Mr. News' Excelsior, 147lb. .....(Mayeda) 0

This was a capital race, and three at least of the starters found plenty of backers. All the field covered the first mile in close company. Then at the Trees McMorse, Boxie and Sunrise drew away and after a good race down the straight, the first named won by about two lengths. Time, 2.35½,

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Emerald 24, Standard Rose 199, Sunshine 71, McMorse 302, Boxie 70, Mikazuki 74, Excelsior 77; total, 3,766 yen=McMorse, 12.50 yen.

7.—The LADIES' PLATE, for Country Breds and Australian Subscription Horses, Maidens at date of entry, weight for age, winner of race 2, first day, excluded, winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. Three-quarter Mile.

Mr. May's Non Such, *140lb.....(Kobayashi) 1
Mr. Worthington's Wallaby, *137lb.....(Hayashi) 2
Mr. Russia's Dobriak, *137lb.....(Horikoshi) 3
Mr. Hugo's Moonshee, *137lb. ..... (Sugiura) 0
Mr. Iris' Akebono, *140lb. .....(Hakodate) 0
Mr. Durand's Fusilier ,*130lb. ..... .(Kubota) 0
Mr. Wheeler's Boomerang, *140lb. .....(Higaki) 0
Mr. L. Mottet's Cousine, 137lb. .....(Mr. Méder) 0

This race excited more interest than usual owing to the fact that it was run for the Emperor's prize. It appeared to be a very open event till the last quarter mile, when Non Such ran to the front and won a good race by about a length from Wallaby. About half way round Mr. Méder, the rider of Cousine, was thrown, but fortunately, we understand, was not seriously hurt. Time, 1.23⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Wallaby 442, Moonshee 57, Non Such 213, Dobriak 45, Akebono, 47, Fusilier 15, Cousine 99, Boomerang 10; total, 928 yen=Non Such, 19.50 yen.

8.—The NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES, for Country Breds and Australian Subscription Horses that have not won two races in Japan at date of entry, weight for age, Maidens at date of entry 5lb. allowance, winner of race 3, 5lb. extra, of two races 10lb. extra, winner *yen* 200; Second Horse *yen* 50. Entrance *yen* 5. One and a half Mile.

Mr. Nishimura's Tobu, *140lb. .....(Takahashi) 1
Mr. Scherz's Iltis, *137lb. .....(Hakodate) 2
Mr. Starlight's Aldebaran, †*125lb. .....(Ichi) 3

Iltis got away with a slight lead but Tobu drew up after the first mile and the two raced neck and neck, Aldebaran being left lengths behind. Opposite the stand Tobu, hard ridden, drew a length ahead of Iltis and finished in that order. Time, 2.55.

PARI MUTUEL 5 yen.—Aldbaran 182, Iltis 450, Tobu 283; total, 915 yen=Tobu 14.50.

9.—The JAPAN ST. LEGER, for Country Breds and Australian Horses, weight for age, Subscription Maidens at date of entry 7lb. allowance, winner of race 8, first day, 5lb. extra, of two races 10lb. extra, winner, *yen* 200; Second Horse *yen* 50. Entrance *yen* 5. One and a half Mile.

Mr. Russia's Mira, *140lb. .....(Horikoshi) 1
Mr. Avis' Peacock, 142lb. .....(Takahashi) 2

This event resulted in a match between Mira and Peacock, and was a pretty fair certainty for the former, though on the off chance Peacock found a good number of backers. After a level start Peacock took up the running and led to the ¾ mile post, when Mira drew up and galloped on even terms with Peacock well within herself until half way down the home stretch, when she came away and passed the post, going easy, half a dozen lengths to the good. Time 3.0 .

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Mira 450, Peacock 191, total, 2,884 yen=Mira, 6.50.

THIRD DAY.—WEDNESDAY, 7TH NOV.

The weather on Wednesday was again most favourable for good sport and the enjoyment of visitors to the race meeting at Negishi. During the early part of the day, up till about 2 p.m. the attendance of spectators was somewhat limited, but after that the Stand and Paddock filled up, a very large proportion of the visitors being Japanese of a not very select class. The returns of the *pari mutuel* proved that the speculation was as keen as on the previous day. The best field of the meeting turned out for the first race, the Prix des Haras, for which nine Australians and country-breds started, and great interest was taken in the result. The Cesarewitch Stakes, for China ponies, was also well contested and proved the judgment exercised in the handicapping to be sound and fair. Mr. Worthington's win in the mixed champions with The Count was most popular and the race excited great interest on account of the meeting of the champion and Mira. Several of the other events were very keenly contested and altogether visitors and speculators had no reason to be dissatisfied by the sport afforded. It was suggested by some of the owners that an off-day's racing should be held on Saturday or some other date, but the matter was not decided and will probably fall through. Following are the details of the racing :—

1.—The PRIX DES HARAS, Handicap for Country Breds and Australian Horses; a forced entry of *yen* 10 for all entered at the meeting; Non-starters half forfeit; winner *yen* 300; second Horse *yen* 100. One Mile.

Mr. Yodo's Saikio, 137lb.....(Sugiura) 1
Mr. Scherz's Iltis, 137lb.....(Horikoshi) 2
Mr. Avis' Peacock, 135lb. ....(Mr. Kingdon) 3
Mr. Worthington's Wallaby, 144lb. .....(Hayashi) 0
Mr. Scherz's Faule Grete, 132lb. .....(Hakodate) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 139lb. .... (Miyagawa) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Oimatsu, 141lb. .....(Tomioka) 0
Mr. May's Non Such, 147lb. .....(Kobayashi) 0
Mr. Nemo's Savoia, 140lb ....(Ichi) 0

Savoia appeared to be first favourite, while Peacock and Saikio were also favoured, Mr. Scherz declared to win with best of his pair. Oimatsu and one or two others gave a lot of trouble at the start, which eventually was anything but a good one. Oimatsu got the lead, with Iltis second, and Savoia third. Faule Grete ran up in the distance but failed to get to the front, Saikio coming up with a rush and winning by two lengths. Iltis second and Peacock third. Time 1.51⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Wallaby 39, Faule Grete 18, Iltis 46, Tatsuta 9, Oimatsu 8, Non Such 28, Savoia 197, Peacock 44, Saikio 61; total 2,025 yen =Saikio, 33 yen.

2.—The CESAREWITCH STAKES, Handicap for China Ponies; a forced entry of *yen* 10 for all entered at the meeting; non-starters half forfeit; winner *yen* 300; second Pony *yen* 100, One Mile.

Mr. King's Mikazuki, 137lb. .....(Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. Nemo's Boxie, 141lb. .....(Ichi) 2
Mr. May's Sunshine, 147lb. .....(Kobayashi) 3
Mr. Worthington's Standard Rose, 153lb.(Hayashi) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Suzume, 143lb.....(Tomioka) 0
Mr. News' Excelsior, 142lb.....(Mayeda) 0

This turned out a very close race, though it was generally believed to be a safe thing for Boxie or Sunrise. After a capital start the field of six galloped all in a bunch for the first three-quarters, after which Boxie and Sunrise showed half a length or so to the fore. In coming down the straight Mikazuki, hard ridden by Mr. Kingdon, rushed up and challenging Boxie won cleverly by a head. Sunrise a good third. Time 2.14.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Standard Rose 59, Sunrise 101, Suzume 37, Boxie 136, Mikazuki 56, Excelsior 72; total 2,305 yen=Mikazuki, 37 yen.

3.—The MIXED CHAMPIONS, a Champion race for all Country Breds and Australian Horses; a forced entry for winners at the meeting, of one race *yen* 10, of two races *yen* 20, of more than two races *yen* 40; optional to beaten horses at an entrance fee of *yen* 25; weight for age. Winner *yen* 500. One and a Quarter Mile.

Mr. Worthington's The Count, 140lb. ...(Hayashi) 1
Mr. Russia's Mira, 140lb..... .....(Horikoshi) 2
Mr. Nishimura's Tobu, 142lb..... ..(Takahashi) 3
Mr. R. Field's Tomboy, 145lb. .....(Mr. Motu) 0

The Count had all his own way from the start, leading by several lengths before the ¾ mile had been reached. He then took it easy and was never stretched again till coming down the straight, when Mira made her effort, but failed to get anywhere near the leader, The Count winning easily by several lengths, Mira finishing second, with Tomboy and Tobu three or four lengths behind. Time, 2.23⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—The Count 438, Mira 290, Tobu 75, Tomboy 70; total, 3,906 yen=The Count 9 yen.

4.—The CHINA CHAMPIONS, a Champion race for all China Ponies; a forced entry for winners at the meeting, of one race *yen* 10, of two races *yen* 20, of more than two races *yen* 40; optional to beaten ponies at an entrance fee of *yen* 25; weight as per scale. Winner *yen* 500. One Mile and a quarter.

Mr. Nishimura's McMorse, 150lb.....(Takahashi) 1
Mr. Worthington's Aberdeen, 150lb....(Kobayashi) 2
Mr. Hugo's Sunrise, 150lb. .....(Mr Motu) 3
Mr. Starlight's Torcross, 135lb. .....(Nakazumi) 0
Mr. Nemo's Boxie, 141lb. .....(Ichi) 0

After a fair start Sunrise made the running, with Boxie next in order, but after the ¼ mile had been covered the field closed up and ran in a cluster until starting down the straight, when McMorse and Aberdeen came away, and after a splendid race down the home stretch McMorse beat Aberdeen on the post by a neck or so, Sunrise finishing third. Time, 2.47¼.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Torcross 36, Sunrise 334, McMorse 202, Boxie 46, Aberdeen 210; total, 3,726 yen=McMorse, 18.50 yen.

5.—The SILK CUP, for China Ponies; winners at the meeting excluded; to be ridden by members of the Club and Visitors, whose names must be sent to the Committee before the meeting and approved by them, and who have not won more than one race in the East at date of entry; weight as per scale with 10lb. added; riders who have never won a race 5lb. allowance. Entrance *yen* 5; first prize, half entrance fees with *yen* 100 added and a cup to the Rider; second prize, half entrance fees. Once round.

Mr. News' Excelsior, 157lb.....(Mr. Elliott) 1
Mr. A Wilcken's Miyajima, 163lb.....(Mr. Gross) 2
Mr. Pierrot's Nightingale, 157lb. .....(Mr. Hudson) 3
Mr. Starlight's Mars, 163lb. .....(Mr. Summers) 0

Mars commenced by starting the race on his own account, and as he did not seem inclined to come back the other three were started without him. Nightingale led for half way round, when Mr. Elliott brought Excelsior to the front and, gradually increasing his lead, won by two lengths or so from Miyajima who had run into second place. Time, 2.19.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen.—Mars 41, Nightingale 161, Excelsior 229, Miyajima 347; total, 3,496 yen=Excelsior, 15 yen.

6.—The CHINA CONSOLATION, a Consolation race for Subscription China Ponies of 1900, that have not won two races in Japan at date of entry, and have started and not won a race at the meeting; weight as per scale; winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. One Mile.

Mr. Tytherleigh's Strathcona, 150lb...(Mr. Easton) 1
Mr. Russia's Prostyak, 150lb. .....(Horikoshi) 2

Only two ponies started out of a small field of six. Strathcona had it all his way, from the start, though Prostyak made a show for the first ¼ mile. After passing the trees Strathcona came away and won by several lengths. Time 2.22¼.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Prostyak 280, Strathcona 283, total, 2,533 yen=Strathcona, 9 yen.

7.—The MIXED CONSOLATION, a Consolation race for Country Breds and Australian Subscription Horses that have not won two races in Japan at date of entry and have started and not won a race at the meeting; Maidens at date of entry 5lb. allowance; weight for age; winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. Three-quarter Mile.

Mr. Tandem's Silvertail, *137lb. .....(Kobayashi) 1
Mr. Scherz's Iltis, *137lb.....(Hakodate) 2
Mr. Starlight's Aldebaran, †125lb.....(Ichi) 3
Mr. Hugo's Moonshee, †132lb. .....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. Russia's Dobriak, †132lb. .....(Horikoshi) 0
Mr. Iris' Akebono, †135lb.....(Tomioka) 0
Mr. Durand's Fusilier, *125lb.....(Kubota) 0
Mr. L. Mottet's Cousine, †132lb.....(Miyagawa) 0
Dr. Wheeler's Boomerang, †135lb. .....(Mayeda) 0

* Mares and Geldings—Allowance deducted.
† Maidens—Allowance deducted.

After a fair start Iltis took first place with Aldebaran next., the rest in a group. On passing the trees Silvertail joined the two leaders and coming down the straight came to the front, beating Iltis by about two lengths, Aldebaran a poor third. Time 1.20⅘.

The jockey of Moonshee came to grief about half way round and received some injury to collar bone or shoulder.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Aldebaran 42, Iltis 292, Moonshee 118, Dobriak 70, Akebono 15, Fusilier 12, Cousine 52, Boomerang 7, Silvertail 303; total 4,099 yen=Silvertail yen 13.50.

8.—The CHINA SOLACE, a Consolation race for all China Ponies that have started and not won a race at the meeting; weight as per scale; winner *yen* 200. Entrance *yen* 5. Three-quarter Mile.

Mr. Tatsuta's Suzume, 144lb.....(Rikizo) 1
Mr. Starlight's Emerald, 150lb. .....(Ichi) 2
Mr. May's Sunshine, 147lb. .....(Kobayashi) 3
Mr. Pierrot's Nightingale, 147lb. .....(Horikoshi) 0

This proved a good race between Emerald, Sun-

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shine and Suzume. The former two made the running neck and neck until passing the trees, when Suzume came up and challenging the leaders, got to the front and won a good race from Emerald by half a length. Time 1.39.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Emerald 217, Suzume 231, Sunshine 387, Nightingale 62, total, 4,036 yen=Suzume, 17.50 yen.

Now that the Autumn Races of the N.R.C. for 1900 are over, it may be interesting to note the comparative success of the various owners and riders, and we therefore tabulate below the number of wins and places respectively obtained during the three days' racing :—

OWNERS.

	Wins.	Second place.	Third place.
Mr. Worthington	5	3	—
Mr. Nishimura	4	2	2
Mr. Tatsuta	4	1	1
Mr. Russia	2	1	3
Mr. Hugo	2	—	4
Mr. May	1	2	3
Mr. Starlight	1	2	3
Mr. Tytherley	1	1	—
Mr. Yodo	1	1	—
Mr. R. Field	1	—	1
Mr. Tandem	1	1	—
Mr. News	1	—	1
Mr. King	1	—	—
Mr. Scherz	—	4	—
Mr. Avis	—	2	2
Mr. Nemo	—	3	1
Mr. Wilckens	—	1	—
Mr. Pierrot	—	—	1

RIDERS.

	Wins.	Second place.	Third place.
Hayashi	5	2	—
Takahashi	3	3	3
Rikizo	3	1	1
Mr. Mottu	3	—	3
Kobayashi	2	5	3
Horikoshi	2	3	3
Sugiura	1	1	2
Nakazumi	1	1	1
Mr. Kingdon	1	—	1
Mr. Easton	1	1	—
Mr. Elliott	1	—	—
Tomioka	1	—	—
Ichi	—	4	3
Hakodate	—	2	1
Mr. Gross	—	1	—
Mr. Hudson	—	—	1
Mayeda	—	—	1

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Fire broke out on Nov. 7th at Miyauchi-machi, Akitama-gori, Yamagata Prefecture, and over one hundred houses were destroyed. No one was hurt.

Mrs. Chamot who, it will be remembered, helped her husband to defend his hotel most pluckily during the siege, is down with typhoid fever at Peking.

The Royal Welsh Fusiliers left Tientsin on the 23rd for Hongkong. During their stay in the North they lost 73 killed, wounded, and invalided out of a total of 350.

Five sailors belonging to the German ship *Otto Gildermeister* were arrested at Miyoshicho, Yokohama, on the night of the 5th inst. charged with having deserted their ship.

A Chinaman, employee in a Shanghai bootstore, was fatally stabbed on the evening of Nov. 1st by a French sailor or soldier armed with a short sword or knife. The murderer escaped.

The bodies of members of the crew of the French transport *Caravane* which have been recovered, were cremated and the ashes sent to the French Consul at Kobe under charge of a prefectural official on the 6th inst.

The British Consul-General at Shanghai received on the evening of Oct. 28th the following telegram :—"Green, wife and child, Griffiths, wife and child, Miss Gregg, and Mr. Brown arrived at Tientsin on the 28th from Paotingfu."

We have received from Mr. T. Hasegawa, publisher and art printer, of Tokyo, a copy of Dr. Florenz' German translation of the Japanese dramas "Terakoya" and "Asagao." The book, as usual, is daintily printed on crepe paper, and is beautifully illustrated.

Admiral Yamamoto, Minister for the Navy, accompanied by Captain Kokura, Commander of the *Azuma*, and Rear-Admiral Kamimura, visited the Palace on the morning of the 7th inst.

There will be a club run of the Reliance Wheelmen to Hachioji, on Sunday, the 11th Nov. Meet at the Club Rooms, No. 32, at 8 a.m., start 8.15 sharp. Japanese tiffin only obtainable.

From Berlin it is reported that Vice-Admiral Hoffman has retired from his office as Chief of the First Naval Squadron, and that Prince Heinrich, the Emperor's brother, has been named commander of the squadron in question.

The ceremony of presenting prizes at the Exhibition of Agriculture and Marine Products at Narita-machi, Chiba Prefecture, will be held on the 11th inst. Prince Komatsu, Mr. Fujita, Director of the Agricultural Bureau, and Mr. Maki, Director of the Marine Products Bureau, will be present.

The third hearing of the disputed promissory note case between a Japanese named Nishida and H.R. Raspe, claiming surrender of a promissory note for *yen* 1,000 took place before Judges Kamada, Nozawa and Shimoyama at the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Nov. 6th. A Japanese employed as a *banto* by Messrs. Raspe & Co. having been examined, judgment was reserved.

Mr. Edmund Constantine Henry Phipps, C.B., has been appointed British Minister at the Belgian Court. Mr. Phipps, who is promoted from Rio de Janeiro, where he has spent the last six years, entered the Diplomatic Service in 1858, was appointed Third Secretary at Washington six years later, Second Secretary at Peking in the following year, and Secretary of Embassy in Vienna in 1885.

The modern Yankee (says *Sell's Commercial Intelligence*) has a precious small development of the bump of veneration, phrenologists tell us, and we are quite prepared to believe it. The latest thing we have heard of in the way of ultra enterprise is a scheme for retailing holy water on a large scale. A wide-awake American has erected a number of steam pumps on the Jordan, and is now supplying churches all over Europe with genuine Jordan water.

A Melbourne telegram states that the Fiji Islands desire to federate with New Zealand. The Fiji Islands exceed 200 in number, about eighty of which are inhabited. The largest is Viti Levu, with an area of about 4,250 square miles (about the same size as Jamaica). At the census of 1891 the population was 121,180, of whom 3,927 were Europeans. Fiji was ceded to the Queen in 1874, and a Governor is appointed by the Crown. The present Governor is Sir G. T. M. O'Brien, K.C.M.G., formerly Colonial Secretary at Hongkong.

On the morning of Oct. 27th the tender *Samson* arrived at Shanghai from Woosung with the passengers from the R. M. S. *Empress of India* among whom were the members of the Shanghai Cricket team who were so successful during the Kobe Cricket week. A large number of spectators, including many of the fair sex, assembled on the P. and O. jetty to meet the victorious team; shortly before 11 o'clock the tender arrived, carrying at the fore the C. P. R., the mail, the S. C. C., the Kobe C. C., and the Yokohama C. and A. C. flags. As the team came ashore they were greeted with three cheers and a tiger.

Silver has risen considerably in value, remarks the *Jimmin*. A report from London places the rate at over 30 3/16d. Such a figure has not been attained during the past five or six years. In Formosa, Japanese silver is quoted at 1.03 *yen*, and merchants have been induced to undertake the export of bullion to that island though only on a small scale. Under these circumstances it may reasonably be anticipated that should the value of silver continue to rise, the country will eventually witness a very serious exodus of the white metal. It is advisable, adds our contemporary, as remarked by a certain banker, that precautions should be taken by eminent financiers to prevent such a contigency.

The money market, remarks the *Kokumin*, has again fallen into an unfortunate condition, marked by the issue of notes above the legal limit. The amount issued up to October 27th is reported to have reached over 6 millions of *yen*, whereas loans in arrear have aggregated 83 millions approximately, the total issue of notes undertaken by the Bank of Japan being no less than 193 millions, against specie reserves of 69 millions. Towards the close of the month the issue above the legal limit will probably exceed 10 millions of *yen*. The prospect is still more gloomy when we consider that as the end of the year draws nigh, the demand for money will be unusually great.

A singular series of accidents occurred in the Mersey on October 12. The Norwegian steamer *Veritas* collided with the Leyland line steamer *Devonia*, from Boston, on October 3rd. Unsuccessful efforts were made to beach the *Veritas* on the Cheshire shore, after which she was towed over to the Liverpool side, where the cable parted and she collided with the steamer *Earl of Powys*, causing the latter to break from her moorings. Thereupon both steamers drifted down the river and the *Veritas* crashed into two thick iron booms stretched from the pier head at St. George's landing stage. Everything about her deck was carried away, and she is now a submerged wreck. The *Earl of Powys*, while drifting, smashed her boats, lost her propeller, and her crew leaped upon the dock wall. The south end of the landing stage was extensively injured. The aggregate damage will amount to thousands of pounds.

THE TRIAD SOCIETY.

The Hongkong police have recently arrested some members of the notorious Triad Society, and in the course of the magisterial enquiry which followed the arrests, the appended evidence was given :—

Tsoi Wuk Shang—I am a merchant. For some time past I have made a special study of Triad Society matters. The book marked "B" contains the secrets of the Triad Society. It contains in the pictorial part the five flags which are allotted to different Grand Lodges distributed amongst the various provinces. It contains the flag of initiation. It contains the standard of the Triad Society. It contains the yellow umbrella which is issued in the initiation ceremony. It contains the flag of the generalissimo, which has the pictures of the jewels in the back part of the book I have translated. The passage refers to five cups so placed that if a guest takes up a certain cup a Triad Society man will know whether the guest is a member or not of the Triad Society. The correct cup to take up is the middle cup, which is called the "Loyal Cup." The person takes up the cup, and just before he drinks the tea he repeats a verse of poetry, of which the following is a translation :—"The eight-coloured plum-flower is placed on the table. The five will swear together to protect the Ming Prince. We will each go amongst the different provinces to enlist members, and when we rise in arms we will form one force." I also translate the following extract from exhibit "B :"—"We are surrounded by outsiders who are listening to our conversation. Therefore we members of the Hung Family (or Triad Society) should be on our guard." I also translate the following extract from the exhibit "B :"—"These are verses with reference to going into an inn. The Hung door is open wide. These who have no money need not enter. You who know the meaning of three times eight equals twenty-one, you may enter even without money. If you say three times eight equals twenty-three, your clothing will be stripped off you (to pay for your board and lodging). If you say three times eight equals twenty-four, you must keep quiet if you have no money. If you say three times eight equals twenty-one, you may take your meals without money." The answer three time eight equals twenty-one is explained by dissecting the Chinese character representing the word "Hung," and shows that the person is a member of the Triad Society. The man who says three times eight is twenty-three is severely treated, because he has tried to palm himself off as a member of the Triad Society. If he gives the answer three times eight equals twenty-four, he will give the usual answer, showing that he is innocent of all fraud. There is another extract which I have translated from exhibit "B":—The tiger descends

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from the hill at the will of the guardian spirit of the land. Everybody knows this fact within the five lakes and four seas (*i.e.*, throughout the Empire.) I have a loyal heart and martial spirit. When the savage beast will seize me, I will run away in great haste." A Triad man going on his travels has to learn the above verses; should he meet a highway robber on the way, and the robber, being a Triad man, may say to the man—"Friend, be careful as you advance; there is a tiger ahead which will devour any man. The Triad highway-man says this to test his victim to ascertain whether he is a member of the Triad Society. If he is a member of the Triad Society he will reply—"I am not afraid; I have a loyal heart and a martial spirit." Then the would-be victim repeats the verses above mentioned, and is allowed to go free. Exhibit "C" is the usual form of diploma issued to members of Triad Society. On the left upper-hand corner of the octagon is a phraseogram which is supposed to represent the characters signifying "Loyal heart and martial spirit." On the right upper hand corner of the octagon is a phraseogram supposed to represent the five elements.

ENGLISH NOTES.

The following comes from an agony column:—"Unable do your request. Been dead six months." The reason seems adequate.

Now that the recent Atlantic race is still fresh in the public mind, reference may be made to the little *Phœnix*, a vessel which was built in 1819, and was one of the first to be propelled by steam. The paddle boxes were so conveniently arranged that they could be pulled up on deck in fair weather when the sails were used. She crossed the Atlantic in 29 days 11 hours, and consumed 75 tons of coal. When off the coast of Ireland the smoke from her funnels was noticed by His Majesty's ship *Kite*, which immediately went to her assistance, believing she was on fire. The *Phœnix* cost £10,000 to build. The *New York* is estimated to have cost £650,000.

The state of affairs in the cotton market is well illustrated by a good story which appeared in the *Blackpool Times*. A gentlemen was recently dispatched to Liverpool, on behalf of a well-known firm near the city, with a commission to buy 200 bales of cotton on the best terms he could on the "flags." He was quoted 6 ⅛d. per lb., which price he declined to pay, saying he would go and have his dinner. On returning he was quoted 6⅛d., and was unable to buy at less, the dinner costing the individual in question, or his firm, about £72.

During the trials of the reconstructed *Havock*, one of the earliest destroyers, which has recently been reboilered, the proceedings were upset, says the *Engineer*, by a curious accident. In the course of the reconstruction a new funnel was put up forward of the original pair, but it proved to be too close to the mast, which it set on fire during the trials.

A young Berlin waiter, named George Geilish, and his companion, Theodore Bungert, a sailor from Wattenscheid, in Westphalia, recently found themselves in Scarborough and very homesick. They were without money, so they made up their minds to take a yacht from the harbour and sail to London, whence they hoped to get a passage home. Their plans were well made, but their seamanship was faulty. After being afloat 15 hours they were compelled to run the yacht ashore at Flamborough, where the police arrested them.

There should be keen competition, remarks an exchange, for the post of the Ormond Professorship of Music at Melbourne, to which we recently made reference, for with two exceptions, the Principalships of the Royal Academy of Music and the Guildhall School of Music, the position is the most valuable open to a British musician. It is worth more than the stipend of all the University Chairs of Music combined. The income—about £1,000 a year—is the proceeds of a sum of £27,000 bequeathed by the Hon Francis Ormond, founder of the Ormond Presbyterian College of Melbourne.

Writing in the *Times* with regard to Sir H. C. Bannerman's criticism of a recent speech by him, Mr. Brodrick says it was found in July, 1895, that while, in case of mobilisation, 146,000,000 rounds of small arms ammunition were required to equip our troops on the authorized scale, the amount in store, which Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman told the House of Commons was sufficient, amounted to 92,000,000 or a deficit of 37 per cent. In other words, some 200,000 men must have stood in line without a cartridge to fire.

The sins of the fathers are sometimes expiated by their children, and an instance of this is said to have occurred during the present war. A young Carey, son of the notorious "Invincible" James Carey, went to South Africa with one of the first bodies of the Army Reserve. He fought in several engagements, but subsequently he was unfortunate enough to contract enteric fever. He was invalided home, and is now well on the road to recovery. In the Army he is known under an assumed name.

A Ballymena correspondent writes in the current issue of "M.A.P.": "It may be interesting to your readers to know that when Sir George White was being escorted to his ancestral home, near Ballymena, the following very pleasant incident occured. Sir George arrived in Lorne about 10 a.m., had lunch with Colonel McCalmont about 11 a.m. and, from that time till near six o'clock, it never occurred to anyone to give him anything to eat, all other thoughts giving way to the wildest enthusiasm. After receiving an address from the different bodies in Ballymena, the large procession started for Whitehall, and, when about a mile outside Ballymena, a very thoughtful lady had a nice tea ready to be handed into the carriage in which Sir George, Lady White, and Miss White were seated. The carriage stopped, and, during tea time, the band played and the crowd cheered wildly. When Sir George announced a "second relief" to the defender of Ladysmith, the crowd fully appreciated the joke."

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Nov. 2nd:—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	17,458,683
Amount of convertible notes issued	198,492,977
Government deposits	34,116,108
General deposits	4,837,955
Exchange liability	29,812
Total	284,735,536

CR.	
Discount notes	63,863,708
Foreign discount notes	12,707,814
Loan to Government	27,000,000
General loans	55,649,595
Exchange liability	1,373,70
Government bonds	52,477,260
Property	2,193,742
Bullion and Specie	69,471,244
Total	284,735,536

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	198,814,485
Bullion and Specie.	
Gold	65,252,024
Silver	3,000,000
Total	68,252,024
Securities.—	
Government bonds	31,227,780
Government certificates	25,800,000
Government bills	10,162,870
Commercial notes	63,371,811
Total	130,652,461

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	530,492
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	1,366,903
Government deposits	—	1,070,942
General deposits	227,155	—

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Professor J. Franklin Jameson, at the head of the department of history of Brown University, has decided to accept the tender of a like position at the University of Chicago, made by President Harper.

Shipments of mining machinery to South Africa have been resumed from Chicago. Thousands of dollars worth of machinery which could not be delivered during the Boer war is now going forward. One of the members of a local iron firm, in speaking of the present prospects in South Africa, said "Orders from that country are coming in again and the indications are that the Transvaal will soon enter upon an era of prosperity such as it has never known before. We are already crowded with orders and the plant is running to its full capacity.

The close of the National Baseball League season sees Brooklyn on top. The season has been the most disastrous to the national pastime in twenty years, and only two clubs are believed to have come out ahead, Pittsburg and Philadelphia:—

	Won.	Lost.	Percentage.
Brooklyn	82	54	.603
Pittsburg	79	58	.579
Philadelphia	75	63	.543
Boston	66	72	.478
Chicago	65	75	.464
St. Louis	64	75	.460
Cincinnati	62	76	.449
New York	60	78	.435

The report of Surgeon-General Van Reypen of the U.S. Navy, says that a large proportion of the naval force for the past year has been employed on the Asiatic station, and considering the climatic conditions, the health of this squadron has been remarkably good. Those suffering from debilitating climatic disease are sent to the naval hospital at Yokohama, where, as a rule, they soon recover. Advices from Guam report improved sanitary conitions. The Surgeon-General mentions, however, that there are fourteen cases of leprosy on the island, although the disease is not increasing.

Exclusive of its possessions acquired by the Treaty of Paris, which terminated the war with Spain, the United States contains nineteen cities with more than 200,000 inhabitants and just twice that number with more than 100,000, New York ranking first and Scranton thirty-eighth. Lowell heads the list of cities with more than 50,000 inhabitants and less than 100,000, and Portland, Me., ends it. There are just seventy-eight cities in the Union with more than 50,000 people. Returns from two of these cities, Troy, N. Y., and Lynn, Mass., have not been announced by the Census Bureau. The population of Troy is estimated at 77,000 and that of Lynn at 73,000. In 1890 there were sixteen cities with more than 200,000 inhabitants. By its absorption into Greater New York, Brooklyn has been eliminated. Cities which have entered the list during the decade are: Newark, Jersey City, Lousville and Minneapolis. Cities which have risen to the 100,000 class since the census of 1890 are: Toledo, Columbus, Worcester, Syracuse, New Heaven, Peterson, Fall River, St. Joseph, Los Angeles, Memphis and Scranton, eleven in all. In 1890 there were but twenty-eight cities with more than 100,000, in 1880 but nineteen, and in 1870 but ten. The following states and territories have no cities with a population as great as 100,000: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming, Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, New Mexico, Oklahoma. Chicago and Cleveland are the only two of the great cities of the country whose ratio of growth has exceeded 40 per cent. In spite of a general belief to the contrary, the trend of population is to the smaller rather than to the larger cities. The most rapid growth has been in towns of 160,000 or less.

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TELEGRAMS.

(Special Reuter's Telegram.)

McKINLEY RE-ELECTED.

London, Nov. 7, 4-30 p.m.

President McKinley has been re-elected President of the United States of North America.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE BOERS ACTIVE

Shanghai, Nov. 2.

The Boers continue incessantly destroying railways and telegraphs to the south of Bloemfontein.

All Boer males over fourteen years of age, living outside a radius of ten miles round Bloemfontein, are being brought into the town in order to prevent their rejoining the commandoes.

ANOTHER UNIONIST ELECTED.

Mr. Wason, a Unionist, has been elected for the Orkneys, which makes the Government majority 134.

VRYBURG THREATENED.

The British had 17 killed and 76 wounded at Frederickstad.

The Boers are threatening Vryburg. They appear to be closing round the town.

LORD LANSDOWNE FOREIGN SECRETARY.

The *Daily Telegraph* says that Lord Salisbury resigns the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, but remains Premier. This step is due to medical advice, though his health causes no anxiety. Lord Lansdowne succeeds him at the Foreign Office.

The Times says it is likely that Lord Salisbury will resign the Foreign Office.

"POMPOMS" FOR CHINA

A battery of "pompoms" is forming at Woolwich for service in China.

THE TRANSVAAL POLICE.

Owing to unexpected difficulties in recruiting the Transvaal police it will be impossible to disband some of the colonial volunteer corps.

GORDONS AND DEVONS FOR CHINA.

Shanghai, Nov. 3.

It is stated at Durban that the Gordons and Devons will sail for China in a few days.

THE POWERS AND THE ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

The American Note cordially accepts the two first clauses of the Anglo-German agreement, but the Washington Government declines to commit itself to the third which it regards as only affecting the two signatories.

The French reply was to the same effect.

PANDEMONIUM IN LONDON.

There were altogether 4,800 casualties in the streets of London on Monday (the occasion of the reception of the City of London Imperial Volunteers).

BOTHA MAKES FOR CAPE COLONY.

It is believed that Botha with a strong force is making for the Kenhardt district of Cape Colony, where the irreconcileables are gathering for a new trek.

THE NEW CABINET.

It is officially stated that Lord Salisbury will be Premier and Lord Privy Seal.

Mr. C. T. Ritchie, Home Secretary.

Lord Lansdowne, Foreign Secretary.

Hon. St. John Brodrick, Secretary for War.

Lord Selborne, First Lord of the Admiralty.

With the exception of the *Daily Telegraph*, the appointments evoke no enthusiasm. The commendations are mostly half-hearted, and there is much adverse comment upon the selection of Lord Lansdowne.

ANOTHER BATTLESHIP FOR THE CHINA SQUADRON.

The battleship *Glory* has been commissioned at Portsmouth for service in Chinese waters.

SEIZING KRUGER'S GOLD.

Gold to the value of £150,000 has been seized on the steamer *Bundesrath* from Delagoa Bay by the Hamburg authorities, at the instance of an international syndicate of mine-owners, who hold Kruger's bond for the output appropriated during the war.

BOERS LOOT A MAIL TRAIN.

The Boers captured the outposts, numbering 90 men, at Geneva, and subsequently looted and fired the mail train from Capetown.

On an armoured train arriving the Boers dispersed.

RUNDLE OCCUPIES FREE STATE TOWNS.

General Rundle has occupied the towns of Reitz and Bethlehem.

BIG HAUL OF CATTLE.

General Paget has captured 25,000 head of cattle at Renaars River. This is the biggest haul of the campaign.

SOUTH AFRICA

Shanghai, Nov. 5.

Numbers of Boer refugees from Lorenzo Marquez are returning to join the commandos.

LONDON MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

The Moderates have won the London Borough Elections by a sweeping majority.

[Note—Under the new London Municipal law, which came into force this November, the old Vestries in the Metropolitan area have been erected into Boroughs.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Lord Roberts reports that several engagements have taken place in the Rustenberg District, in the south of the Orange River Colony.

Twenty transports are awaiting at Capetown to carry away the returning troops, but it is unlikely that any considerable number will leave for some time. The departure of the Royal Horse Artillery, which was under orders to return, has been countermanded.

DISTURBED SPAIN.

Martial Law has been proclaimed throughout Spain owing to the appearance of considerable Carlist bands in Catalonia and Valencia. Vigourous measures have been adopted.

KRUGER'S JOURNEY TO EUROPE.

Shanghai, Nov. 7.

The *Gelderland* has passed Djibutil.

[Note.—This is the Dutch war-vessel which was detailed to convey ex-President Kruger to Europe. She was ordered to leave Aden on the 28th September and to proceed direct to Lorenzo Marques, to take her distinguished passenger on board—Ed. *J.M.*]

ILLNESS OF MR. KRUGER.

Mr. Kruger is seriously ill.

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

Betting 5 to 1 on McKinley.

The presidential campaign in the United States of North America has just concluded. The excitement aroused was only equalled in the days preceding the Civil War. Both sides profess confidence, but the betting remains 5 to 1 in favour of President McKinley.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Heavy rains throughout the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal are hampering operations.

Dewet is now at Frankfort. He seized 800 cattle in the vicinity.

A considerable Boer force is between Aliwal North and Rouxville.

ILLNESS OF MISS ROBERTS.

Field Marshal Lord Roberts is detained at Johannesberg owing to the illness of his daughter. She is suffering from enteric fever.

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

Later.

Mr. McKinley has been re-elected.

LOYAL DUBLIN.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin has ruled out of order a resolution to confer the freedom of the city on Mr. Kruger.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Increasing numbers of Boers have been observed in the vicinity of Basuto Land.

The Boers have occupied and looted Vicksberg. They tore the Union Jack into shreds, which they tied to their horses' tails.

PARIS AND KRUGER.

The Municipal Council of Paris will receive Mr. Kruger officially.

BOER ACTIVITY.

A commando numbering 1,400 men is close to Ladybrand.

The 21st Brigade, operating near Kroonstadt, has found it impossible to get within range of the Boers, who are well mounted and continually visible.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, Nov. 2.

The Ministers of the Powers in Peking are now engaged examining the procedure that should be followed in communicating to the Chinese Government the conditions imposed on the basis of the French Note.

The strikes at Pas-de Calais are in process of arrangement.

THE ALLIES IN CHINA.

Saigon, Nov. 4.

It is telegraphed from Peking that a French column has arrived at Siling and occupied the tomb of the Empress. The German, Italian and English columns, arriving later, occupied the other imperial tombs.

General Voyron has echelonned the troops with the view of clearing the country of Boxers between Peking and Tientsin.

The conduct of the troops has been admirable.

IN MEMORIAM.

Saigon, Nov. 5.

The President of the Republic, accompanied by the Ministers, has inaugurated at Lyons the monument erected to the memory of M. Sadi-Carnot. There was an enormous crowd

SPANISH POLITICS.

A Carlist movement has broken out in Catalonia. A state of siege has been proclaimed throughout the whole of Spain. The movement seems to have failed. Some armed bands have been dispersed.

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, Nov. 7.

At the banquet given at Lyons, in connection with the inauguration of the Carnot monument, the President of the Republic read a telegram which he had just received from the Emperor of Russia, recalling the rôle played by Carnot in the *rapprochement* between France and Russia, and renewing the expression of his sentiments of invariable amity.

The French Parliament has been opened in calm, without any incident.

It is telegraphed from Hongkong that in-

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cendiarisms are taking place daily in Canton. Twenty bandits were beheaded on Saturday.

(Received at the War Office.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

(Non-official.)

According to news sent from Peking on the 1st of November, the column that marched from Tientsin to Pao-ting will remain at the latter place, with the exception of the British contingent. The column that went from Peking left Paoting on the 28th of October, and is expected to reach Peking by the 6th instant.

CHINA.

It is expected that the railway between Shan-hai-kwan and Tong-ku will be opened for traffic about the middle of this month.

CHINA AFFAIRS.

On the 1st of November the Tientsin post-office was moved to Shan-hai-kwan, but it will not receive money on deposit or parcels for transmission.

On the 5th instant, forces to attack the Boxers were sent from Peking and Tung-chow to Shun-i-hien.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

PERU.

According to a letter received from Lima, dated the 1st of September, the former Cabinet resigned owing to a vote of want of confidence, but the Cabinet that replaced it remained only a few days in power, and although Parliament was sitting, the strange spectacle was seen of empty ministerial benches. A new Cabinet was organized finally on the 31st of August, being selected without reference to political parties.

YU HSIEN ALIVE.

Shanghai, Nov. 7.

According to a telegram from Wu-chang, the report that Yu Hsien, formerly acting-Viceroy of Shan-si, committed suicide, is untrue. But it is a fact that he has left Si-ngan and that his whereabouts can not be ascertained. His successor, Sih Lang, is adopting vigorous measures to suppress the Boxers in Shan-si

RUSSIA'S POLICY IN CHINA

The St Petersburg *Official Gazette* of Sept. 1st contains an instruction issued on August 25th by the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Russian Representatives abroad. His Excellency says that the objects contemplated by the Russian Government on the outbreak of the troubles in China were:—(1) To protect the Russian Representative in Peking and to guard Russian subjects against suffering injury at the hands of Chinese insurgents; (2) to furnish to the Peking Government such assistance as might enable it to take necessary measures for restoring tranquillity and good order. When the various Powers interested in China decided to send troops for the consummation of objects identical with the above, the Russian Government proposed that the military operations should be guided by the following principles:—(1) That the union of the Powers should be carefully maintained; (2) that the organization of the existing Chinese Government should be preserved; (3) that every attempt to dismember the Chinese empire should be prevented; (4) that a combined effort should be made to establish in Peking a central administration capable of enforcing the laws and maintaining order. Virtually the whole of the Powers agreed to the above conditions. The Russian Government has strictly adhered to this programme and desires to adhere to it still. The seizure of Newchwang by Russian troops was because the Boxers attacked the Russian force in that district, and because the Chinese on the Russian frontier several times made warlike demonstrations, as, for example, when, without any reason whatever, they assaulted Blagovestchensk. Russia was obliged to send troops into Manchuria in order to repel the attacks of the Chinese insurgents. It was a temporary measure, not dictated by any motives of self-interest. The Russian Government will not hesitate to withdraw its forces from Manchuria as soon as good order is thoroughly restored there, and as soon as all the necessary measures have been taken to secure the enjoyment of the privileges of railway construction granted by treaty to the East-China Railway Company, provided that the action of other Powers does not interfere with such withdrawal. There will be no interference whatever with the privileges of foreign Powers or foreign companies at Newchwang or in connexion with the railways that have been taken possession of and repaired by Russian troops. Events have moved with unexpected rapidity, and the capture of Peking has brought to a completion the first of the objects of the Russian Government, namely, the relief of the Foreign Representatives and of the foreign subjects and citizens beleaguered with them. But owing to the flight of the Chinese Court and of the Ministers of the *Tsung-li Yamên* from Peking, difficulty and delay have inevitably been caused in consummating the second object mentioned above, namely, the restoration of good order in China and the obtaining of full security for the rights of the various Powers. Consequently, the Russian Government, not being able to see any reason why the Foreign Representatives should remain in Peking where there does not exist any Chinese Government, has instructed M de Giers and the Staff of the Legation to withdraw to Tientsin, and has ordered that the Russian troops should accompany the Ministers to their respective destinations. The Russian Government has not in any way overstepped the limits of the programme originally laid down by it, and it considers that to keep its troops in Peking would be contrary to the policy firmly and repeatedly declared by it. So soon as the lawful Chinese Government shall have resumed the exercise of authority and shall have appointed duly accredited plenipotentiaries to negotiate for peace with the Powers, Russia will not delay to appoint a plenipotentiary for the same purpose, and will instruct him to proceed to whatever place the Chinese Government indicates for conducting the conference. You are instructed to convey the above to the Government of the country to which you are accredited, and to explain fully the intentions and desires of the Russian Government.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

THE MASSACRE AT TAIYUANFU.

Tientsin, Oct. 20.

The cook of the late Rev. E. R. Atwater of Fênchoufu, Shansi, has just arrived and confirms the report of the massacre at Taiyuan.

He passed through Chengtingfu on the 18th and met fifty French cavalry and three hundred infantry thirteen miles north of the town.

He was informed that the foreign men and women had been sent to Paoting.

Mr. Campbell, H.M. Acting Consul-General at Tientsin, has discovered incriminating documents at Wenanhsien.

IMPRISONMENT OF THE CHIHLI TREASURER.

Peking, Oct. 30.

Ting Yung (Manchu), Provincial Treasurer of Chihli, has been arrested by the Allies at Paotingfu and imprisoned. The Chihli Provincial Judge is now also acting as Provincial Treasurer. The charge against Ting Yung is said to be conspiring to retake Paoting and Peking.

EXPLOSION AT NANKING.

Nanking, October 30.

A powder magazine was exploded to-day by lightning. There were many killed and injured and much property destroyed.

THE PAOTINGFU EXPEDITION.

The column is returning from Paotingfu. The French action has entirely subverted the plans of the Allies.

The British will not stay at Paotingfu. One-third of the German force will probably occupy the city with the French.

It is reported that four Paoting officials are in foreign custody, and an international committée has been formed to consider their punishment.

The British are also represented in the occupation of Paoting.

THE RESCUED MISSIONARIES.

The Green and Griffiths parties with Miss Gregg and Mr. Brown are all here well. Mr. Green's condition is improving. They leave for England in a hospital ship as soon as possible. The sufferings they experienced were terrible.

THE FEELING IN TIENTSIN.

The greatest disgust is felt at the situation.

RETURN OF SIR WALTER HILLIER.

Sir Walter Hillier has returned from Shan-haikwan.

MAJOR THE MAHARAJA OF GWALIOR.

The Maharaja of Gwalior has been attached to the staff of Generol Gaselee.

THE PAOTINGFU EXPEDITION.

Later.

News direct from Paoting throws a more favourable light on the situation. The Allies did considerable execution in the neighbourhood among the Boxers killing over 300.

RAVAGES OF STORMS IN INDO-CHINA.

Hongkong, Oct. 31.

The steamer *Progress* reports a typhoon at Tourane in the early part of October, lasting forty eight hours, destroying villages, ricefields, and buildings, and laying the harbour bare. It is estimated that 1,500 to 1,600 persons perished, and the remaining population, 4,650 in number, were without provisions. The telegraph ship has left Singapore to repair the cable at Tourane.

At Quinhon on the 16th of October there was another typhoon doing enormous damage, which lasted three days. Tongking sent supplies immediately. The desolation extends for miles, the tea and coffee plantations being wrecked.

AN ATTEMPT ON THE ACTING VICEROY OF CANTON.

A reliable telegram from received here yesterday to the effect that the Triads have blown up the Viceregal Yamên at Canton, but that the acting Viceroy Tê Shou (Manchu) escaped, having receiving warning beforehand. Underground mines were used.

THE RETURN OF THE TROOPS.

Hongkong, Nov. 2.

The Fusiliers and Engineer detachments landed this afternoon from Taku. Headed by the bands they marched to the Queen's statue and formed up

General Gascoigne delivered a eulogistic address and three cheers were given for the Queen. The men then marched to the barracks. The men look splendid and as hard as nails.

(From the "Ostasiatische Lloyd.")

NEWS FROM GERMANY.

Berlin, Oct. 27, 7.15 p.m.

The Bundesrath has passed the budget bill for Kiautschou for 1901 showing a deficit of 11,050,000. Marks (1900: 9,993,250 Marks), whereof one million Marks (1900: 213,250 Marks) will be yielded from the income of the Kiautschou administration itself, while 10,050,000 Marks (1900: 9,780,000 Marks) must be contributed by the German Empire. The extraordinary ex-

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penses will amount to 6,575,000 Marks (1900: 5,925,000), whereof 3,385,000 Marks will be expended on the harbour (1900: 3,745,000 Marks) and 1,590,000 Marks on public buildings (1900: 1,180,000). The usual memorial will go to the Reichstag in January next. The current expenses are estimated at 4,383,399 Marks (1900 3,974,685) and reserve fund of Marks 91,601 (1900: 93,565 Marks) has been provided for.

During his last stay at Essen H. M. the Emperor conferred on Mr. Krupp the title of "Excellency."

We further learn that Prince Bernhard Heinrich of Sachsen-Weimar has died of pneumonia. There is now only one prince in Sachsen Weimar alive, Erhprinz Wilhelm Ernst, a grandson of the Grand Duke, who was born in 1876 and is not yet married.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

Tientsin, Oct. 27.

The territory between Tientsin and Peking is by no means free of Boxers; large numbers are still to be found there. Only yesterday an attack was made on the convoy transporting the baggage of Lieutenant-General von Lessel from Peking to Tangtsun. The attack was repulsed.

CHINESE NEWS.

Shanghai, Oct. 30.

Ill-health prevents Yü Chang, Yü Lu's brother, taking up the Governorship of Hupeh, and Yuan Tsu-yi, Treasurer of Chêkiang, formerly the friendly Taotai of Hankow, takes the post. Also the German troops have had several encounters with Boxers between Peking and Tientsin and in their vicinity; but recent arrivals here from Peking, who came by road unescorted from the capital to Tientsin, say that they encountered no dangers whatever on the way.

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

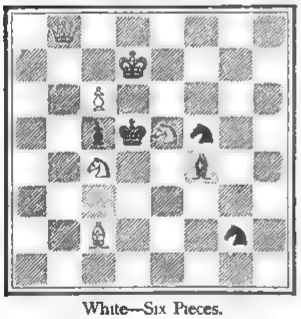
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 496.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—K to R7	1—K to K 3
2—K to Kt 7	2—K to B 4
3—R to B 7 dbl ch, and mate	

PROBLEM No. 498.

By J. F. Moon.

Black—Five Pieces.



White—Six Pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 636.

The following charming little game occurred in the late tourney for the championship of the colony. The winner, Mr. W. E. Mason, is now the champion, having won the tie match from the ex-champion, Mr. R. J. Barnes. The loser in this game is also an ex-champion of New Zealand, and is a very fine player, although he did not shine to much advantage in this tourney. The notes are by the former well-known Birmingham expert, Mr C. W. Benbow, who is Chess Editor of the *New Zealand Mail*:

RUY LOPEZ KNIGHT'S GAME

White—Mr. Mason. Black—Mr. R. A. Cleland.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	9 B Q3	B K2
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	10 P QB4	P QKt3
3 B Kt5	Kt B3	11 Kt QB3	Castles
4 P Q4	KtxKP	12 R Ksq	Kt B2 (c)
5 P Q5	Kt Q5 (a)	13 P Q6(d)	BxP (e)
6 KtxKt	QxKt	14 Q K4	P KKt3
7 QxP	Kt Q3	15 QxR and White wins.	
8 Castles (b)	P KB3		

NOTES.

(a) Kt to Q 3 would have been better, and it is the move most frequently played.

(b) Good. Black dare not capture the Bishop, because of the following continuations: 9—R to K sq. ch., B to K 2; 10—Q takes Kt P, R to B sq.: 11—B to R 6, &c.

(c) This loses the game, as White proceeds cleverly to show.

(d) He could also have won a piece by Q to K 4, threatening mate.

(e) If Kt takes P; 15—Q to Q 5 ch., and takes the Rook next move. From this time Black's game is hopeless.

GAME No. 637.

QUEEN'S PAWN'S OPENING.

White—Schlechtor Black—Halprin.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	35 P Kt4	P R4
2 Kt KB3	Kt KB3	36 P Kt5	P R5
3 P B4	P B3	37 P R3	R R4
4 Kt B3	B B4	38 PxP	R Kt4ch
5 Q Kt3	Q Kt3	39 K B	PxP
6 P B5	Q Q	40 R Ktch	K B7
7 P Q	Kt R3	41 R Kt4	R R4
8 P K3	Kt Kt5	42 R Q6	K B6
9 R B4	Kt Q6	43 R(Kt4) Kt6	P B4
10 BxKt	BxB	44 R Kt5	P B5
11 Kt K5	B B4	45 PxP	R B4
12 R Kt4	B B	46 PxP	R(B2) B2
13 B Q2	Kt Q2	47 R B5ch	K Kt5
14 KtxKt	KxKt	48 R B2	RxP
15 R R4	P K3	49 R Kt2ch	K B4
16 P QKt4	P QR3	50 R Q8	R(K4) B4
17 P Kt5	BPxP	51 R B2ch	K Kt5
18 KtxP	K B3	52 R Kt8ch	K R6
19 Kt B3	P QKt3	53 K K	R B5
20 PxP	KxP	54 R B6	R R5
21 Castles	B Q2	55 K B	B(B2) B4
22 R R2	B K2	56 R(B6)-KKt6	R(B4) B5
23 Kt K4ch	K Kt4	57 K Kt2	K R7
24 B R5	KxB	58 R(Kt8)-Kt8	R R6
25 Kt B5ch	K Kt4	59 R Kt4	R B2
26 KtxB	P B3	60 R Kt8	K R8
27 R QB	QR QB	61 K Kt	R KR2-
28 KR R	K B3	62 R(Kt8) Kt4	R R3
29 Kt B5	BxKt	63 R Kt8	Resigns.
30 PxB	KxP		
31 RxP	P K4		
32 QR R5ch	K B5		
33 P Kt3ch	KxP		
34 RxP	R B2		

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart 1	Sa Nov 10
America	P M Co.	City of Peking 2	W. Nov. 14
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Annam 3	W. Nov. 14
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Sa. Nov 17
Canada, &c.	C. P R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 19
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 4	Th Nov. 22
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. Nov. 26
Hongkong	C. P R. Co.	Em. of India	Th Nov 29
America	T. K K.	H'kong Maru	Su. Dec 2
Hongkong	T. K K.	America Maru	M Dec 3

1 Arrived at Nagasaki on the 8th inst. at 9 a.m.
2 Left San Francisco on the 26th ult.
3 Left Hongkong on the 6th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	T K K	Nippon Maru	Sa Nov 10
Shanghai	N Y. K.	Saikio Maru	W. Nov 14
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th. Nov 15
Hongkong	N. D Lloyd	Stuttgart	Sa. Nov 17
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 19
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu. Nov. 20
Hongkong	O. & O Co.	Gaelic	F. Nov. 23
America	O & O. Co.	Coptic	W. Nov 28
Canada, &c.	C. P R Co.	Em. of India	F. Nov. 30
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Dec. 3
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Annam	F Nov. 23

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 2nd Nov., —Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 1st Nov., Mails and General —O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 2nd Nov.,—Kobe, 31st Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, K. Nunome, 2nd Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, 27th Oct., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Soyeda, 2nd 2nd Nov.—Kobe, 31st Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ayr, British steamer, 1,955, W. H. Gibson, 2nd Nov., —Christmas Island, Phosphate.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Aduma Kan (35), Japanese cruiser, 9,456, Capt. ——, 2nd Nov.,—Yokosuka.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 3rd Nov.,—Kobe, 2nd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumunoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto, 3rd Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 2nd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Y. Yamanouchi, 3rd Nov.,—Kobe, 1st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,299, Thos. Gregory, 3rd Nov.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 2nd Nov., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Claverley, British steamer, 1,920, L. Wigley, 3rd Nov.,—New York via ports, and Shanghai, 29th Oct., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Telemachus, British steamer, 1,340, G. Sawyers, 4th Nov.,—Hongkong, 28th Oct., Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 4th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 17th Oct., Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,911, N. Trennt, 4th Nov.,—Kure, 2nd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 3rd Nov.,—Kobe, 3rd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Energia, British steamer, 2,604, E. A. Chaplin, 4th Nov.,—Kobe, 3rd Nov., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 5th Nov.,—Kobe, 3rd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 5th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 5th Nov., Kobe, 3rd Nov., General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 5th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 4th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 5th Nov.,—Kobe, 4th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Intaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,839, Wm. Bainbridge, 6th Nov.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 5th Nov, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 6th Nov.,—Kobe, 5th Nov, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 6th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 5th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Endymion (12), British cruiser, 7,350, Capt. G. A. Callaghan, 7th Nov.,—Taku via Nagasaki and and Kobe.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, S. Muramatsu, 8th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,925, Gedye, 8th Nov., —Kobe, 7th Nov., Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, R. Kroble, 8th Nov.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 7th Nov., General.—Cornes & Co.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 8th November,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 7th Nov., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, A. Yamashita, 1st Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Paldana, British steamer, 1,934, G. S. Hutchison, 2nd Nov.,—Madras Coast via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 2nd Nov.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,814, F. L. Sommer, 2nd Nov.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,710, T. Murai, 2nd Nov.,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 2nd Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 2nd Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakano, 2nd Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon

Maine, British Hospital steamer, 1,811, F. Stone 3rd Nov.,—Taku.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Aduma Kan (35), Japanese cruiser, 9,457, Capt. ——, 4th Nov.,—Yokosuka.

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Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto 5th Nov.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, ——, 5th Nov.,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 5th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 6th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Energia, British steamer, 2,064, E. A. Chaplin, 6th Nov.,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 6th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japauese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 6th Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 6th Nov..—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 6th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strombus, British Tank steamer, 3,928, N. Hocken, 7th Nov.,—Alexandria via ports, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,299, Thos. Gregory, 7th Nov.,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 7th November,—Yokkaichi via Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, K. Homma, 7th Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, R. Nunome, 7th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cleverley, British steamer, 1,920, L. Wigley, 8th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 8th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. E. L. Fletcher, Mrs. L. H. Abel, child and amah, Mrs. Gibbons and amah, Mrs. C. D. Harmon, Mrs. H. W. Andrews, and Miss Melhuish and amah, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. A. Middleton, and Miss Middleton, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. C. W. Penrose, U.S.N., Mr. D. Loos Williams, Miss M. Allen, Mrs. S. J. Churchill, Mrs. L. Armstrong, Mr. M. J. Beattie, Mrs. F. Haskell and child, Mrs. Vogelsang and child, Mrs. M. Norris, Mr. C. Churchill, Mr. S. R. Betts, and Mr. A. L. Webster, in cabin.

Per Japauese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Shanghai via ports.—Mr. F. L. Stocking, Mr. F. Frey, Mr. and Mrs. Blemco, and Mr. Meder, in cabin; Mr. T. Tange, Mr. Y. Tokuno, Mr. K. Hirakawa, Mr. Y. Takahashi, Mr. Mathias, Mr. Kong Ju, and Master Kong Sei, in second class; 6 Japanese, 6 Chinese, and 5 Hindoos, in steerage.

Per Japauese steamer *America Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu —Mr. H. D. Keil, Mrs. H. D. Keil, Mr H. M Mackinnon, Mr. H Heintz, Mr. W. D. Lyon, Major J. O. Hutchinson, Major G. R. Pearce, Mr. E. A. Denicke, Mrs. E. A. Denicke, Mr. H. Hamanaka, Mrs. C. E. Miller and child, Mr. Y. Murai, Mr. Jas. Robinson, Mr. W. Law Smith, Mr. P. Law Smith, Mr. H. Aoyama, Capt. Brown, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Nakamura, Mr. T. Shin, Mr. L. Wright, Mrs. S. J. Austin, Mr. D. Casalove, Mr. R. Isono, Mr. H. W. Kochen, Mrs. H. W. Kochen, Mr. N. Tsuneto, Prof. T. Yoki, Mrs. M. A. Folger, Mr. H. Reid, Mr. E. A. Carduri, in cabin. For Kobe —Mr. S. Hori, Mr. T. Hayami, Mr. Y. Inouye, Mr. M. Kono, Mr. J. Matsumoto, Mr. Y. Sugita, Mr. T. Tanagi, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mrs. E. W. Sheffield, Mrs. S. M. Forrest, and Mr. J Sanger, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. F. E. Greene, Miss Lizzie Coutter, Mrs. F. S. Dewey, Mrs Ida Rice, Mr. F. H. Hilbert, Mrs. F. H. Hilbert, Mrs. M. Stephenson, and Mr. E. Wilson, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. Meyers, Mr H. R. Bowie, Mrs. Blackburn, Mr. C. Griffin, Mrs. Wilkinson, Mr. E. Becker, Mrs. F. Mumm and child, Mrs. Horio, Mr. D. E. Brown and servant, Capt. Jensen, Mr. L. H. Abel, Mrs. A. Bagnall, Mr. C. S. Averill, Mr. H. Valberg, Mr. M. Velitckko, Mr. Horio, and Mrs. Stevens, in cabin. In Transit:—Sister Sanghimtta, Mr. C. H. Finch, Mr. A. H. Jacques, Mr. E. Schloettig, Mr. Chr. Nielsen, Mrs. C H. Finch and son, Mr. Ed. Soper, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* for Vancouver B.C.,—Mr. T. Baba, Prince Sipione Borghese, Lieut. A. Boulock, I.R.N., Mr. T. R. Brownlee, Mr. R. Christe, The Right Rev. Fredk Courtney, Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, Miss F. M. Freeth, Mr. R. Fujita, Mr. Gard'ner, Mrs. Gard'ner and child, Miss Gard'ner, Rev. Edward James, Mrs. James Edward and 2 children. The Ven. Archdeacon Kaulbach, Mr. Jas. Kenworthy, Mr. Geo. W. Middleton, Mr. H. F. Scheteig and valet, Mr. B. H. Smith, Mr. W. Sprague, Miss K. B Stayner, Miss Grace Stevenson, Comdr. P. Nelson Ward, R.N., Mr. J. M. Warner, Mrs. J. M. Warner, and Mrs. T. R. Wheelock, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakata Maru*, for London via ports.—Mr. N. Otsuki, Mr. C. Griffin, Mr. U. Kayetsu, Mrs. A. S. Bagnall, Capt. K. Kokura, Miss Shaw, Miss Petterson, Miss J. E. Dudley, Miss Cogad, Mr. J. Uchida, Miss J. Gulick, Mr. E. C. McCaffey, and Miss E. Griffin in cabin; Mr. H. Imamura, Mr G. Remandors, Mr. B. Matlareum, Mr. K. Shouping and child, Miss Fuji Suyama, Mr. T. Hagiwara, Mrs. T. Aoyama, and Mr. K. Mori, in second class.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss M. Allen, Mrs. L. Armstrong, Mr. M. J. Beattie, Mr. S. R. Betts, Mr. Nester Braibant, Mrs. S. J. Churchill, Mr. C. Churchill, Mr. F. E. Fernald, Mrs. F. E. Fernald, Mrs. F. Haskell and child, Mr. C. H. Junker, Mr. Otto Limen, Capt. J. T. Myers, U.S.M.C., Mrs. J. T. Myers, Miss Middleton, Mr A. Middleton, Mrs. M. Norris, Mr. C. W. Penrose, U.S.N., Mr. Wm. Reid, Mr. W. H. Shockley, Lieut. K. Tanaka, Mr. Kwang Siang Tseng, Dr. K. Vogelsang, Mrs. K. Vogelsang and child, Miss Esther Warner, Mrs. L. W. Washington, Mr. A. L. Webster, Mr. C. Loos Williams, Mr. D. L. Wolf, Lieut. K. Yamaji, and Mr. Arthur Young and servant, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

In imports there is absolutely nothing doing. The farmers are still busy, and dealers do not buy in the absence of demand from the country.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ..	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ..	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28, 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38, 42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2, 60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2, 100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2, 80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach, Chinese	Nominal

METALS.

Prices still show a lower tendency and there is no demand.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

There is hardly any change to report.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.75
Lamp at	No Stock

SUGAR.

Prices are firm and there is a moderate business.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.30 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.70 to 6.95
Brown Daitong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.30 to 8.70
White Refined	8.25 to 9.95

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The Raw Silk market is quiet, sellers trying to maintain prices, but in the face of bad news from consuming markets nothing is done for export and prices look weak.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	Y. 920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	960 to 970
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	None
Common—Coarse	None
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 1½	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 3	780 to 790
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 1	870 to 880
Kakedas—No. 1½	840 to 850
Kakedas—No. 2	810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 2½	780 to 790

WASTE SILK.

There has been a small business, but the demands of holders prevent any large transactions.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	145 to 150
Noshi—Filatures, Good	135 to 140
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	None
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	None
Noshi Oshiu, Medium	None
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	75 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 115
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	55 to 60
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	45 to 50

TEA.

Very little business doing and prices are a shade weaker.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	34 to 35
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	26 to 27
Good Common	24 to 25
Common	22 to 23

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per O. S. S. steamer *Agamemnon*, and P. & O. steamer from Shanghai, for France, Oct. 30:—

	Bales.
W. M. Strachan, & Co., Ltd.	62

Per C. P. steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, Nov. 2:—

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.	30
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	100
Otto Reimers & Co.	127
Vivanti Bros.	10
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	112
Doshin Kaisha	49
Total	428

Per N. D. L. steamer *Bayern*, for Europe, Nov. 3.—

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.	8
H. Dent & Co.	30
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	55
Nabholz & Co.	137
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	72
Otto Reimers, & Co.	104
Siber, Wolff & Co.	406
Sieber & Co.	149
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	10
I. Ishii	81
Total	1,052

Per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco, Nov. 3:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	10
Doshin Kaisha	25
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	55
Total	90

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	Bales.
American Trading Co.	25
Averill & Co.	460
Bavier & Co.	492
Chauvin, Chevalier & Co.	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	120
H. Dent & Co.	373
P. Dourille	109
Findlay Richardson & Co.	100
C. Guissani	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	1,790
Longin & Co.	275
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	1,225
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	1,016
Otto Reimers & Co.	1,324
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	313
Siber, Wolff & Co.	1,786
Sieber & Co.	912
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	238
Varenne & Co.	748
Vivanti Bros.	867
Kiito Gomei-Kaisha	2,654
Doshin Kaisha	606
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	884
J. Ishii	199
Total	17,046

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, November 8.

No change in silver from London, but sterling quotations from China are slightly easier. Local rates remain steady.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0 7/8@1/4
— — Bills on demand	2/0 1/4
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 5/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62 1/4
America—Bank sight	49 5/8
— Private 4 months' sight	50 3/8@51
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12 1/2
Hongkong—Bank sight	*3 1/2% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	* 1% prem.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 69
— Private 10 days' sight	* 71
India—Bank sight	151 1/4
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29 1/8

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 8.

Grand Hotels can be had at *yen* 240. Helms are wanted at *yen* 57.50. Langfeldts—a few shares can be had at *yen* 90. Engine and Iron Works are quiet at *yen* 207.50. Laundries have sellers at par. Maples Hotel preference shares are obtainable at *yen* 107.

Debentures—Y. U. Clubs are obtainable at *yen* 107. Laundries have sellers at par.

Offers for Hodogaya (Tokyo) Breweries are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	207 50 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12 50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	225 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	90 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	57 50 B.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	100
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	106 N
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, November 8.

Grand Hotels are obtainable at *yen* 240. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85. Langfeldts can be had at *yen* 90.

Y. U. Club debentures are obtainable at *yen* 107.

Maples Hotel Preference shares are obtainable at *yen* 107.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207 50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	240 Sellers.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Sales.

SAVE YOUR SKIN

How to Preserve Purify and Beautify the Skin and Complexion.

To preserve, purify, and beautify the skin, and prevent pimples, blotches, blackheads, redness, roughness, yellow, oily, mothy skin, chapping, and many other forms of skin blemishes, no other skin or complexion soap is for a moment to be compared with CUTICURA SOAP, because no other soap reaches the cause, viz., *the clogged, irritated, or inflamed* condition of the PORES

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Cleanse the scalp and hair thoroughly with a warm shampoo of CUTICURA SOAP, rinse with warm water, dry carefully, and apply a light dressing of CUTICURA, purest of emollients, gently rubbed into the scalp. This simple, refreshing, and inexpensive treatment will clear the scalp and hair of crusts, scales, and dandruff, soothe irritated, itching surfaces, stimulate the hair follicles, supply the roots with energy and nourishment, and make the hair grow upon a sweet, wholesome, and healthy scalp, when all else fails.

SAVE YOUR HANDS

How to Make the Hands Soft and White in a Single Night.

Bathe and soak the hands on retiring in a strong, hot lather of CUTICURA SOAP. Dry thoroughly and anoint freely with CUTICURA Ointment, the great skin cure and purest of emollients. Wear during the night old, loose kid gloves with the finger ends cut off. For red, rough, chapped hands, dry, fissured, itching, feverish palms, shapeless nails, with painful finger ends, this *one night treatment* is simply wonderful and a blessing to all afflicted with sore, chapped, rough, or tender hands.

Cuticura Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour,

The Set Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, CUTICURA Ointment, to instantly allay itching, inflammation, and irritation, and soothe and heal, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, and humiliating skin, scalp, and blood humours, with loss of hair, when all else fails. Sold throughout the world. Amst. Depot: R. Towns & Co., Sydney, N. S. W. &c. Africa Depot, LENNON LTD., Cape Town. "All about the Skin, Scalp, and Hair," post free. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.

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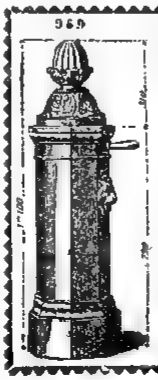

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RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.30, 8.55, 9.35, 10.15, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1.30, 2, 2.36, 3.10, 3.55, 4.33, 5.15, 5.33, 6.20, 7.21, 8, 9.13, 10, 10.50, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—5.20, 5.50, 6.50, 7.55, 8.30, 8.45, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25 a.m., 12, 1.10, 1.40, 2.20, 3, 3.25, 4, 4.35, 5.10, 5.25, 6.24, 7, 7.35, 8.25, 9.20, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.

YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Leave.		Arrive.	
Yokohama	6.50 a.m.	Kobe	10.47 a.m.
Yokohama	1.14 p.m.	Kobe	9.00 a.m.
Yokohama	6.30 p.m.	Kobe	11.19 a.m.
Yokohama	10.32 p.m.	Kobe	6.36 p.m.
Kobe	6.00 a.m.	Yokohama	10.05 a.m.
Kobe	12.05 p.m.	Yokohama	8.05 a.m.
Kobe	6.00 p.m.	Yokohama	10.50 a.m.
Kobe	10.00 p.m.	Yokohama	6.13 p.m.

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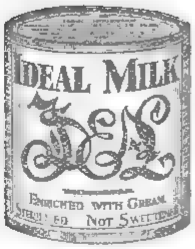

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA · SATURDAY, NOV. 17TH, 1900.

BIRTH.

At 156, Bluff, on Sunday, Nov. 11th, the wife of W. H. MASON, of a daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Mitsui Bussan Kaisha is about to open a branch at Söul.

THE night trains on the Shin Yetsu line were suspended on the 13th inst.

A LONG distance telephone line between Hakodate and Yesaik will be opened about the middle of this month.

THE missing steamer *Settsu Maru* was insured in the Nippon Sea and Land Insurance Company for *yen* 80,000.

A STUDENT named Mikame Kiuchi, belonging to the Chiba Normal School, was burnt to death on the 12th inst.

EIGHT students engaged in a quarrel at Masagocho, Hongo, Tokyo, on the night of the 11th inst. and two were injured. Three students were arrested.

Two fishermen belonging to Haneda were capsized by a heavy wind on the 11th inst. off that place. They were rescued by the crew of the steamer *Sumiyoshi Maru*.

THIEVES broke into a godown of Messrs. Cornes & Co. in the street leading at Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.'s from Main Street to Water Street, and stole *yen* 400 worth of indigo on Tuesday night.

MR. IRIYAMA TAKIJIRO, proprietor of the *Shin Hokkai*, a daily newspaper published at Sapporo, and Mr. Kamimura Yu, the editor, were arrested on the 13th inst.

THE friends of Dr. Lloyd-Thomas of the cruiser *Endymion*, (who has been in hospital for some time) will be glad to learn that he has received a step in promotion.

A SAILOR named Takeharu Ichisuke fell from the topmast of a junk (the *Kaio Maru*) at Tsukudajima on Nov. 8th and received such injuries that he died the same evening.

AMONG the prize winners at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical Schools is Mr. K. Takaki, a Japanese student, who takes the William Tite scholarship and the college prize.

SNOW fell to the depth of about a foot at Kamikawa, Hokkaido, on the 11th inst. Snow fell at Wakamatsu, Morioka, Yonezawa, Hiromaye, and Hakodate on the 12th inst.

THE telegraph informs us that a "C. B." has been conferred on Capt. Callaghan of the cruiser *Endymion*, now in port. We congratulate that gallant officer upon the distinction.

A YOUNG Japanese named Misaki Naokichi, formerly employed as collector by the Buso Ginko, Yokohama, was arrested on Sunday on a charge of obtaining money under false pretences.

A WOMAN named Hama, wife of Okamoto Ikutaro, living at Gokencho, Ushigome, Tokyo, was burnt to death, owing to the explosion of a kerosene-oil lamp, on the night of the 11th inst.

A BLUEJACKET of the British cruiser *Endymion* was arrested by the police on Monday on a charge of smashing a lamp belonging to a store-keeper in Isezaki-cho. He was ordered to pay 60 *sen* for the damage, and discharged.

THE Russian Government has engaged the German steamer *Batavia* and six other vessels of 10,000 tons as transports from Vladivostock to Odessa. The *Batavia* arrived at Moji from Taku on the 13th inst. for coal.

FIRE broke out in Chinatown on Wednesday morning, at No. 81, but Supt. Morgin's brigade men extinguished the flames in a few minutes, the damage being slight. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary

THE German steamer *Stuttgart* on arrival here on Monday morning, reported that she collided with a Japanese sailing ship off Shimonoseki, on the morning of the 10th inst. The sendoes four in all, were rescued by her crew.

A YOUNG Chinese girl employed by a Chinese firm at 189 Settlement, was arrested by the Kaga cho police on the 11th inst. on a change of incendiarism on the night of 10th inst. She has set fire to her master's house several times.

A COOLIE named Suyama, aged 18, who stole four bundles of raw silk by breaking open a bale with a knife while working on the M.M. steamer *Tonkin* on the 9th inst. was arrested by the Police on Saturday while passing in front of the Water Police Station.

IT IS interesting to note that two spirited full-page sketches in a recent number of the *Graphic* were contributed by Mr. Robert Barr, a bluejacket of the *Endymion*, who was in Admiral Seymour's expedition. The sketches were of course paid for at a handsome rate.

A MAN named Oshima Toyokichi living at Sumiyoshicho Sanchome, Yokohama, attempted to commit suicide on Nov. 8th in a house at Yeirakucho Ichome, Yokohama. He had drunk a bottle of morphine and near his bed were letters addressed to friends. He was sent to the Jikei Hospital and will probably recover.

FIRE broke out in the house of a widow named Iwata Gen, at Kanai-mura, Higashi-murayamagori, Yamagata prefecture, in the early morning of the 10th inst. One building and two storehouses were destroyed. After the fire it was found that Gen and her three children had been burnt to death.

MR. JUSTICE BUCKNILL, when sentencing recently an elderly solicitor at the Old Bailey to eighteen months' imprisonment for misappropriating money belonging to a client, said he noticed from the Inspector-General's report that during the last nine years receiving orders had been made against 359 solicitors, involving a loss of considerably over three millions sterling.

AT 8.10 p.m. on Saturday, an alarm was received of a fire in Chinatown. The Brigade men and two hose-reels with stand-pipes turned out as soon as possible. On arrival at the spot it was found that a small place attached to the two-storey house No. 189, belonging to Chinese, was on fire. It was extinguished in a few minutes by the use of buckets. The damage was very slight.

A MAN named Serizawa Kojiro, a seller of macaroni, living at Ishikawa Nakamachi, Yokohama, was arrested by the Isezakicho police, on the 11th inst. In his possession was found a tobacco-advertisement ticket printed in imitation of a 5 *yen* note. The previous night at Isezakicho, it seems, he also attempted to obtain a tub of *saké* by fraud but was caught in the act.

A TELEGRAM despatched from Osaka on the 12th inst. says that the Chiuyetsu Steamship Co.'s steamer *Chiuyetsu Maru*, 1,561 tons, struck on a sunken rock near Satano-misaki, Tosa province, at 5 a.m. on the 12th inst. She left Yokkaichi for Moji at 10 a.m. on the 9th. The vessel was insured by the Imperial Marine Insurance for 20,000 *yen* and in the Nippon Kairiku for 50,000 *yen*.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to a Shanghai paper from Wei-hai-wei:—On the morning of the 31st of October H.M.S. *Terrible* returning from firing practice outside the harbour at Wei-hai-wei lost her steam pinnace, which she was towing. A strong northerly gale sprang up during the night and there was a high sea running. The pinnace was swamped and sank in thirteen or fourteen fathoms of water. No lives were lost.

MISS AGNES WESTON, of the Royal Sailors' Rests, Portsmouth and Devonport, has received from China an eloquent testimony of Jack Tar's affection and goodwill. Admiral Sir Edward Seymour has telegraphed to Miss Weston, asking her to care for the wives and children of the sailors and marines killed and wounded during the war in China, and stating that the men are sending her £400 to be devoted to that object. A number of smaller sums were sent to Miss Weston for a similar purpose by the Naval Brigade in South Africa.

WHAT is the cost of a General Election? During the last election an American journalist who was in London asked an editor of a daily newspaper how much he estimated would be spent by candidates for Parliament. He made some calculations on his blotting-paid and then replied, "Curious, isn't it, it never struck me before? Why, I find a total here of two million pounds." The American visitor remarked that ten million dollars for less than four weeks' electioneering in an area that could be safely placed in one of the American States made him feel rather small. Of course, America spends much more than ten million dollars on its Presidential election, but the area covered by the campaign is very much larger.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

GERMANY'S VIEW.

Saturday, Nov. 10.

The German Government is said to have addressed a circular to the Powers insisting that to desist from further military operations pending the conclusion of peace negotiations with China would be very unwise. The advice sounds practical, but it is decidedly cruel, for, after all, we have no evidence that China is not ready and anxious to conclude peace without an hour's delay. The unique cause of the delay, so far as the public knows, is that the Powers can not agree about the terms which are to be imposed. China appointed peace plenipotentiaries nearly three months ago. Very shortly after the fall of Peking, Prince Ching arrived there, fully accredited to sue for peace—unless the story of Prince Twan and the great seal be true—, and Li Hung-chang had been already appointed. Li showed some deliberation in his movements. He can not be said to have hastened to the capital, and no one was surprised that he proceeded leisurely, for it was quite plain that delay at that particular stage made for Chinese interests, and that. even though he proceeded to Peking with all possible rapidity, he would not find there any one to negotiate on the foreign side. But he has now been in the capital for several weeks, and there is very little appearance of the Foreign Representatives being able to agree as to the terms to be demanded. The conference, as it is now organized, seems to be one of the most impossible bodies conceivable. No decision can be final unless it is unanimous. All these gentlemen, representing Powers with more or less conflicting interests, have to be brought to exactly the same frame of mind with regard to a proposition before it can be set down as adopted for presentation to China. We are reminded of the interminable fiasco witnessed in Tokyo when Treaty Revision was on the *tapis*—a fiasco that would still be exciting public ridicule had not Japan succeeded in breaking up the concert of Powers and negotiating with each independently. The experiment now being made in the Chinese capital is of an analogous character, and there appears to be just the same disposition on the part of the members of the Conference to advance propositions as extravagant as they are unpractical. The last idea attributed to her Majesty's Representative is a case in point. He is said to have proposed that the occasion should be utilized to effect a revision of the commercial treaties with China in the sense of securing fuller privileges for foreigners. It is plain that if such a provision were to become part of the terms dictated to China, some agreement would have to be made about the nature of the projected revisions, and also about guarantees for the conclusion of the new treaties. Japan was in a position to demand something of the kind at Shimonoseki, for she could indicate China's treaties with Western States as a basis for the desired convention, and she could employ the tenure of Wei-hai-wei as a means for compelling China to implement the promise. But if the Representatives of the Powers were required to elaborate a basis of treaty revision which would command the endorsement of all, the process would be of immense length, and if its completion were to be preliminary to the conclusion of peace negotiations and the withdrawal of the allied troops from China's territory, the outlook would be most gloomy. Apparently when Sir Ernest Satow advanced his scheme for revising the treaties, he had not considered the difficulties and delays that must result from its adoption, and that want of reflection on the part of the Representatives adds considerably to the embarrassments of the situation. Surely it would be a cruel thing that the allies should continue their military operations against China merely because they can not agree as to the penalties to be imposed on her diplomatically? Under ordinary circumstances it is a recognised policy to go on chastising an enemy until he agrees to do as he is required; but when the difficulty is, not the obstinacy of the unfortunate enemy, but the unreadiness of his vacillating victors, a new kind of situation is created. It is to be regretted that Germany should have formulated such advice, for the public will assuredly attribute it rather to her own military position in China than to any sincere desire for the restoration of peace

MOVEMENTS OF THE ALLIES.

The allied troops are said to have penetrated as far as Ta-ming, which is a town in the southern part of Chili near the borders of Shan-tung. The province of Chili narrows at the south into a tongue, sandwiched between Shan-tung and Honan. The only conceivable purpose of pushing troops into this tongue would be to get within range of Boxers who have crossed the border from Shan-tung. It is to be observed, however, that the news requires confirmation. The allies have certainly been engaged in various anti-Boxer expeditions in the north of Chili, but excursions so far southward are a novelty.

It was recently stated that a force of Italian troops had become involved in a difficult situation on the south of Pao-ting The telegram now says that these troops were rescued by a column of their countrymen under the command of Col. Gabioni (?) During the return of the united force to Peking, it encountered a body of 1,500 Chinese troops, who surrendered at once without offering any resistance.

A body of French troops is said to have reached Yeh-chow, a town outside the Great Wall, on the north-west of Pao-ting, and near the border of Shan-si. If all these statements are correct, it would seem that Field Marshal Waldesee has broken up his army into a number of columns which are operating independently.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND AT SHAN-HAI-KWAN.

It will be learned with regret that rumours are current of much ill-feeling between Russian and British troops at Shan-hai-kwan. The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a long telegram—which comes from Shanghai, be it observed—relating to incidents said to have recently occurred on Ching-wan island. The story is that the Russian and British flags had been flying there from the time of the occupation, when suddenly Field Marshal Waldersee issued orders that the Russian flag alone should be hoisted. The officer in command of the British said that without direct instructions from General Gaselee, the Union Jack could not be lowered, but the Russians sent a party of 100 men under the command of an officer and pulled down the flag, which, however, was immediately hoisted again by the British. The affair is said to have nearly caused an open rupture, and the story ends by declaring that unless peace with China be restored before the close of the year, Russsia and England will certainly fall out. It is very plain, however, that whatever happened about the flags, the above account must be greatly exaggerated. No Russian officer would think of ordering his men to lay hands on the flag of a friendly nation. Such an act would be equivalent to a declaration of war, and would inevitably lead to war unless the officer were severely punished and full reparation given. Moreover, an order to haul down the British flag could not be addressed by Field-Marshal Waldersee direct to the British officer commanding at Ching-wan: it must be communicated, in the first instance, to General Gaselee, and by him transmitted to the junior officer. It appears to us, therefore, that the tale will not bear scrutiny But it is impossible to suppose that there is no foundation for the rumour recently circulating about bad blood between the Russians and the British, and the trouble is that if such a state of feeling is established between troops of different nationalties quartered at the same place and required to remain there for several weeks, if not months, all efforts on the part of the officers may prove unavailing to prevent a fracas.

Monday, Nov. 12.

There appears to be some ground for the report that the British flag at Shan-hai-kwan was lowered by a party of Russian soldiers and immediately hoisted again by the British. The details of the affair are substantially as reported in our last issue. It would seem that the Russians were acting, or believed themselves to be acting, under the authority of an order from Field Marshal Waldersee, which order the officer in command of the British refused to recognise unless it was confirmed by General Gaselee. The incident created much excitement, and at the moment of its occurrence the Russians seemed disposed to fire on the British, but they are said to have subsequently offered suitable apologies. It will probably be found on fuller inquiry that this naked outline more or less distorts the true facts. We can scarcely conceive the possibility of a party of Russian soldiers proceeding to haul down the British flag. Such an outrage would be an act of war, and no Russian officer could labour under any misapprehension as to its significance. However anxious we may be not to misconstrue Russia's doings in North China, it is impossible to shut our eyes to the significance of her organized attempts to lay hands on the railways connecting Peking with Newchwang She seems to have deliberately mapped out that programme, and to have pursued it with remarkable single-mindedness and tenacity, to say nothing of arbitrariness. The possession of Shan-hai-kwan is of vital importance to her, if she desires to be mistress of the line of communications from Liao-tung and Newchwang to the capital of China. We can understand, therefore, that she would be glad to see the British flag lowered at Ching-wan island, but we can not understand an attempt to lower it by force. Russia does all her international work with gloved hands, but to haul down the Union Jack *vi et armis* would be a very clumsy and brutal exposure of the mailed fist.

Later.

The trouble between the Russians and the British at Shan-hai-kwan is said to have been amicably settled.

RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA.

The Russians appear to be taking measures for the civil administration of the districts over-run by their troops in Manchuria. Admiral Alexieff is said to have issued orders in that sense with regard to all the important points between Harbin and Liao-tung. This news is conveyed in language which seems intended to suggest that Russia is using the

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protection of the railway as a pretext for establishing herself permanently in Manchuria, but truly we fail to see how any such inference can be justified. All the Powers have found it necessary to establish some form of civil administration at places whence they have driven the Chinese, and yet no one thinks of construing their action as an indication of permanent occupation. The Russians, unless they are very greatly belied, take such drastic means of bringing the Chinese into subjection that every one exercising any semblance of authority probably clears out of their path, and thus an exceptionally cogent duty devolves on them in the matter of civil administration. We do not believe for a moment that circumstances will permit them to withdraw from Manchuria either now or hereafter, but neither do we believe that they have at present any deliberate intention of remaining there, still less that they are seeking pretexts for doing so.

Li's Body-Guard.

Viceroy Li is said to have ordered that his picked troops shall move northward to serve as a body-guard. These are the nucleus of the army of 37,000 men that Li caused to be trained according to Western methods and equipped with Western arms when he served as Viceroy of Chili. It was a fine force in appearance, the men being tall, well set-up fellows, proficient in all military exercises, good marksmen, and possessing, apparently, all the qualifications of efficient soldiers. It was to this army that many people looked for a stubborn resistance to the Japanese in Korea and Liaotung. But although Li certainly sent a large part of the force into the field at the very commencement of the campaign, and though many of his highly trained officers were at Wei-hai-wei, nothing was achieved to distinguish these troops from the ordinary ruck of Chinese braves. It would seem that the old Viceroy has kept about three thousand of the men in an organized condition ever since he ceased to be Viceroy of Chili, and that he took them with him to Ganton when he went to be Viceroy of the two Kwang. The troops are now marching northward to join him in Peking. They are said to be conducting themselves admirably *en route*. It is an immense march.

The Allies and the Boxers.

The detachments sent thither and hither by the Allies to search for Boxers in the province of Chili are said to be received joyfully by the peaceful Chinese citizens, though the news is apocryphal in view of the stories we have heard about looting and outrage. The Boxers have disappeared. According to statements made by villagers, these insurgents dispersed in the direction of Shangtung and Pao-ting after the fall of Peking. They are still assembled in small numbers at certain remote places, but it is not likely that Field Marshal Waldersee will find any necessity to send troops after them. There must be great difficulty in dealing with this Boxer question, for how the Boxers can be distinguished from ordinary citizens after they have laid down their arms, we can not perceive. Probably a great many innocent people have suffered as Boxers. But then a great many innocent Chinese have suffered even without the pretext of being mistaken for Boxers. It has been a terrible business; utterly disgraceful to our so-called civilization.

The Peking Conferences.

It is stated that Sir Ernest Satow and Mr. Conger are exerting all their influence to bring about a speedy agreement among the Foreign Representatives on the subject of the terms to be demanded of China. There is at present no prospect of an agreement, and consequently no hope of the negotiations being opened with the Chinese plenipotentiaries, although the latter are understood to be earnestly soliciting for the commencement of the discussion. Of course, the really practical course would have been that a commission should sit in Europe for the purpose of drafting a basis. Such a commission might have been convened in August, immediately after the relief of Peking had placed the foreign Governments in direct communication with their Representatives in the Chinese capital. It is too late now, however, to think of anything of the kind. The Ministers in Peking must be left to unravel the entanglement as best they can. We trust that the news of the efforts made by the American and British Representatives may be well founded. Sir Ernest Satow himself, acting doubtless under instructions from London, is in the unfortunate position of having advanced a proposal which, had it been endorsed by his colleagues, must have greatly delayed the restoration of peace. But his personal influence with the Ministers should not be greatly impaired by that fact, and both he and they must be getting conscious that the world is becoming astonished at the slowness of their proceedings.

The Troops in China.

Tuesday, Nov. 13.

The columns sent against Pao-ting have probably returned by this time. The Peking column reached its head-quarters some days ago, and the Tientsin column began to arrive on the 8th instant. It is expected that Field Marshal Waldersee will hold a council of war on the return of the columns, in order to determine the future movements of the troops, and that the decision will be in favour of abandoning offensive operations and adopting a defensive attitude pending the conclusion of the peace negotiations.

One of the Chinese commanding officers at Ku-ngan is said to have informed the Italians that he had received instructions from Viceroy Li in the sense that any attempt to oppose the foreign troops would be injurious to the interests of China, and that the Chinese force at Ku-ngan had surrendered for that reason. It will be remembered that the Italians, when on the march back from a position where they had encountered some difficulties, met a body of 1,500 Chinese soldiers, who surrendered without striking a blow. This is doubtless the explanation From the same source it was learned that the Boxers had retreated to Shantung, but that many of their number had dispersed *en route*, and that being entirely without provisions, they were committing depredations everywhere. The Boxer movement may be said to have died out. Whatever sympathy the people may have had with it, must be alienated quickly by such doings.

Manchuria.

It is now alleged that Russia, while denying any intention of permanently holding Manchuria, announces her purpose to keep troops there until the Trans-Asian Railway is finished, and to hand over the civil government to China as soon as peace and good order are fully restored. If that be true, Russia is assuming in Manchuria precisely the position assumed by England many years ago in Egypt, and we may be tolerably confident that when Manchuria has been in her possession as long as Egypt has been in England's the occupation will have assumed a similar character of permanence. The civil and military government of a district has an automatic faculty of creating responsibilities and thus securing constant renewals of its lease of life. Russia can can not get out of Manchuria unless she packs her portmanteau at once. She evidently has no intention of doing that. Meanwhile, if she continues to iterate her self-denying purpose, she may possibly avert the contingency contemplated in the third article of the Anglo-German agreement, for it will be difficult for either the Berlin or the London Government to allege that Russia has taken advantage of the crisis to make territorial acquisitions, so long as the St. Petersburg Government disclaim any such design. Russia, in short, stands to win all along the line. She combines resolution in action with a fine sense of the mutability of professions.

The Counter-Coalition.

Wednesday, Nov. 14.

Two correspondents have addressed us on the subject of the *Novoe Vremya's* assertion, as telegraphed by Reuter, that a counter-coalition to that of Germany and England has been formed by Russia, France, America and Japan. We had not thought it necessary to refer to the rumour, which is obviously false. Japan has frankly joined the Anglo-German Agreement, and were she to become a party to a counter-coalition, she would be scheming against herself. As for America, surely no one imagines that the Washington Government engages in international intrigues of any kind. France and Russia may have an understanding on the subject. It would be very natural that they should. But even that seems doubtful. France has acted throughout the whole of the Chinese troubles with conspicuous moderation and prudence, and we are pursuaded that whatever she does will be above-board and pacific. The only wonder is that a journal like the *Novoe Vremya*, whose opinions and statements are usually demed worthy of consideration, should have been betrayed into publishing such an egregious misconception.

"Rough But Sound."

Thursday, Nov. 15.

The leading Hongkong paper writes:—"Rumour says that the Germans have shot all the mandarins at Paotingfu. This would be rough but sound justice. They might have stayed the slaughter, and they did not; they have been made to take the consequences. If such a sentence has been carried out, it will assuredly have more effect than half a dozen victories in the field, where the slain would consist of ignorant coolies. We sincerely hope it will be followed by the execution—not imprisonment—of Prince Tuan and the banishment of the Empress Dowager" "Rough but sound" are interesting adjectives when placed before the noun "justice" They illustrate the mood of too many Europeans and Americans towards the Chinsee problem. Execute all the Mandarins on the chance that they were all guilty. Guilty of what? Not of having planned or directed the killing of foreigners, but of not having "stayed" it, although it is more than probable that many of them had no power whatever to do so. Then the Empress Dowager is to be banished. Our contemporary does not pause to consider how the thing is to be accomplished; what authority in China is to carry out the sentence; what authority is to replace that over which her Majesty presides; how China is to be governed and how disposed of after these heroic measures —the execution of the father of the heir appa-

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rent and the banishment of the Empress Dowager. Such considerations seem to be trifles light as air. The one idea is to hound on the public to vengeance. It is of no use disavowing any desire for vengeance in the context of such recommendations. A publicist who can describe as "rough but sound justice" the wholesale execution of Mandarins because they might possibly have stayed a massacre had they been so inclined, is not thinking of justice but of revenge.

Prince Twan.

Prince Twan's escape to Kang-sü is confirmed. If he is to be caught and beheaded, a very long arm will be needed. Kang-sü is the provenance of the celebrated General Tung, who, like Twan, has been the object of much foreign execration and who is supposed to be now deceased, though he will probably come to life again when convenient. Tung was originally a bandit chief, of Kang-sü, but the central Government, unable to subdue him, made a compromise, and in return for restoring tranquillity, Tung became a General in the imperial army. It is not improbable that he also has fled to his old haunts and that Prince Twan has taken refuge with him. If so, the Powers may summon these spirits from the vasty waste to come back docilely and have their heads cut off, but the spirits will be coy, and how they can be persuaded or coerced, we fail to see.

Russia in Manchuria.

Various rumours are circulatad about Russia's doings in Manchuria. One, which may be accepted as authentic, is that she has appointed a number of officers to serve in civil capacities in the occupied districts: another, which seems scarcely worthy of credence, is that she has ordered all Chinese residing in the immediate neighbourhood of the railway to remove to some other district within a period of two weeks, under threat of being peremptorily expelled by military force, and that great confusion and distress have resulted. Such a method of protecting the line of railway against destructive outrages might be partially successful; but we can not readily believe that Russia intends to facilitate government by creating desolation. Yet another rumour is that the Russians have arrested the Taotai of Shan-hai-kwan and taken him to Port Arthur, a measure against which the Chinese are said to be strongly protesting.

The Foreign Proposals.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has a long telegram from Shanghai, detailing the results of the conference held by the Foreign Representaves on the 5th instant. The various points discussed are said to have been these:—

1.—The German Minister proposed that the Emperor of China should send an ambassador to Berlin conveying his Majesty's regrets for the death of Baron von Ketteler, so that the whole German nation may be assured of the sentiments of China in this matter. Further, that the Chinese Government cause a monument to be erected to the memory of Baron von Ketteler, the inscription being in Latin and Chinese, and that it be considered a national duty to preserve this monument for all time.

This proposal was unanimously agreed to.

2.—The British Minister then brought forward his project for treaty revision. The proposals made by him were:—

a. That the China coasting trade be thrown open to foreigners.

b. That the navigation of Chinese inland waters be permitted.

c. That *likin* be abolished.

d. That the importation of foreign table-salt be permitted.

e. That certain measures be adopted with regard to Chinese shareholders in foreign companies. (This is not clear).

f. That certain measures be adopted with regard to the export and import of productions. (This, too, is indistinct).

g. The amendment of various Articles in the present treaty.

h. That the Chinese Government afford protection to foreign trade marks.

This proposal naturally led to some discussion, and its further consideration was postponed until the next meeting on the 11th instant.

3.—The German Minister proposed that with the view of compelling the Chinese Court to return to Peking, Prince Ching and Viceroy Li should be required to stop all forwarding of supplies to the present residence of the Court.

This proposal was rejected after some discussion.

4.—The Italian Minister proposed that the Foreign Powers adopt measures to control the Chinese finances, with a view to obtaining an indemnity such as the Powers may deem sufficient.

This proposal did not obtain the final approval of the meeting, but was set aside for further discussion on the 11th instant.

We can not suppose that this telegram is altogether incorrect, though some of its details may be inaccurate. It is evident that the Foreign Representatives have departed altogether from the French basis of negotions, and that they have resolved themselves into a kind of debating society, where each member is free to advance any proposal he may think desirable. If the Council of Ministers is discharging its proper function by that method of procedure, the public conception of its purpose has hitherto been very erroneous. It was generally supposed that the first duty of the Ministers was to present the French proposals as a basis of negotiation, having previously considered these proposals with a view to reducing them to working form, and that so soon as the negotiations had been thus commenced, an armistice would be concluded. But that supposition seems to have been quite mistaken. The fact is that the Ministers can not be said to have any definite basis of discussion. We are by no means sure that the plan pursued by the conference is not the best under the circumstances, for the French note, though useful as a foundation for building up the foreign case, could not be considered exhaustive, and certainly required amendment. The only trouble is that the conference, if conducted upon its present lines, threatens to be interminable. Viceroy Liu Kun-yi seems to be of the same opinion, for he is said to have addressed a telegram to Viceroy Li, urging that to wait for the return of the Court to Peking is quite useless, and that the utmost celerity should be observed in opening the negotiations, the only essential reservation on China's side being that there must be no alienation of her territory. Li and Ching are sufficiently anxious to begin, we have no doubt, but until the Foreign Representatives are agreed, the situation is hopeless.

A NEW SCANDAL.

Mr. Hiranuma Senzo's name is again before the public. It is a strange story. This well-known person is said to be largely interested in the Yokohama Joint Stock Rice Exchange, a great number of the shares being held by himself and his wife. Some time ago, owing to causes difficult to follow clearly, the Exchange incurred losses amounting to nearly thirty thousand *yen*, and found itself in a position inconsistent with the paying of any dividend. That, the story runs, did not suit Mr. Hiranuma. He therefore induced a certain Mr. Shigeta to write out an acknowledgement of debt amounting to over twenty thousand *yen*—fractions of *yen* were, of course, inserted—and this being placed before the Directors of the Exchange as a genuine asset, they declared a dividend and thus sustained the market price of the shares. Now comes the tragedy. Mr. Shigeta, instead of having his promissory note restored to him as promised, was called on to pay it. In vain he remonstrated. There was his written acknowledgement, and the Directors insisted that he must redeem it with solid coin. He has therefore instituted proceedings against Mr. Hiranuma Senzo, and also against the Directors, the latter being charged with violating the law by declaring a dividend when their assets did not justify them in doing so. Not the least strange feature of the affair is that the *Mainichi Shimbun* and the *Jiji Shimpo* both attack Mr. Hiranuma vehemently, the former saying that his sins are already too numerous to be intensified by the addition of one or two more, and the latter calling him a "mean fellow." But what about Mr. Shigeta? Supposing his account to be true, this is a palpable case of thieves falling out. Shigeta acknowledges himself a fraudulent person and invites the law to protect him against the consequences of his own fraud. Is he a credible witness? His tale is wonderful enough, as it stands, but when it comes to us through the mouth of a man who has the assurance to publicly accuse a number of merchants of perpetrating a deception which his own connivance alone rendered possible, most people will be inclined to ask for further testimony. We admire, but do not applaud, the courageous credulity of the *Mainichi* and the *Jiji*.

IMPERIAL GARDEN PARTY.

The Imperial Chrysanthemum Garden Party took place at the Akasaka Palace on the 12th instant. Unfortunately the weather was unpropitious, the heavy rain of Sunday being followed on Monday by a high, cold wind, which threatened in the forenoon to render impossible any entertainment in the open air, but subsided in the afternoon sufficiently to permit the presence of their Majesties the Emperor and Empress at this now celebrated fête. In spite of the cold, there was no marked falling off in the attendance, and as the flowers had been partially sheltered from the rain of Sunday, their beauty was not strikingly impaired. From 800 to 900 persons were present, and the usual routine of greetings, promenades and refreshments was followed.

THE EAST CHINA RAILWAY.

The Russian authorities are said to be taking vigorous measures for resuming works of construction on the East China Railway; that is say, the branch line running to Port Arthur from the main Trans-Asiatic Road. The workmen had dispersed in consequence of the recent disturbances, but engineers are now being despatched to re-assemble them. This news comes from Newchwang, and is very satisfactory, as showing that the Russian Authorities have confidence in the restoration of good order.

In connexion with this we note a telegram which says that the Russian Military Authorities have withdrawn the greater part of their forces from Tientsin to Shan-hai-kwan, leaving only two or three hundred in the former city.

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AN ALLEGED RUSSO-GERMAN PROPOSAL.

A telegram from London to the *Shogyo Shimpo* attributes to the Governments of Russia and Germany the intention of presently submitting a proposal to the effect that since, according to present indications, there is no prospect of the peace negotiations being brought to a satisfactory termination, even though the Allies desist from hostilities, nor is there any hope that the Imperial Court will return to Peking so long as that city is in occupation of foreign troops; therefore the step most conducive to an exit from the situation would be that the foreign troops should withdraw from Peking to some convenient position by way of preliminary to the return of the Court. We shall not be surprised to learn that this intelligence is well founded It has long been believed by leading Japanese statesmen, whose knowledge of China can not be questioned, that unless the Court returns to Peking, satisfactory terms of peace can not possibly be obtained. To negotiate with Li and Ching while the Sovereign they represent and the still more important Empress Dowager are not only fugitives in the interior of China but also surrounded by men whose interests do not point to the triumph of a moderate and conciliatory policy, would be like "clutching at a cloud," in the words of a pithy Japanese aphorism. The only question is, how to contrive the return of the Court in such a manner that the evacuation of Peking by the foreign forces may not be open to misconstruction. For it is perfectly plain that the Court can not return to Peking so long as the city is held by the Allies, and it is equally plain, we think, that unconditional evacuation would be regarded by the Chinese people, and represented by their rulers, as a sign of weakness An exit from this dilemma suggests itself without much difficulty. It is that the return of the Court should be made an essential preliminary to the opening of the negotiations, and that the troops should be withdrawn so soon as an Imperial Edict is duly issued, stating clearly that the Court returns to Peking in response to the wish of the allied Powers and in consideration of the interests of peace, and containing also some statement such as would obviate any misconstruction of the motives of the allied forces' withdrawal. We do not pretend to think that these arrangements could be made without some trouble. It is obvious that if Peking is to be evacuated in a manner so effective as to warrant the return of the Court, the allied troops must not only retire as far as Tientsin, but must also refrain from establishing any line of military communications such as would enable them to recover possession of the city at any moment. In short, the evacuation would have to be in fact as well as in name, and the seat of negotiations would have to be transferred to Tientsin, the re-opening of the Legations in Peking being made conditional on the conclusion of a satisfactory treaty of peace and on the resumption of amicable intercourse Can the Powers be induced to concur in taking such a step? It is very doubtful. England, it will be observed, is maintaining a very reserved attitude, and has maintained it from the first. Up to the moment of her agreement with Germany, she refrained carefully from taking any steps which might commit her irrevocably to ultimate co-operation with other Powers. Lord Salisbury's reported utterances at the Guildhall Banquet appear to afford the key to that attitude of reserve. Now that the British Premier is assured that whatever solution of the Chinese problem may be destined, an amicable combination of several of the great Powers is assured, he thinks that the best solvent is time, and that nothing can be gained by attempting to force the situation. It is tolerably certain, however, that if any working plan can be devised for getting the Court back to Peking, England will be found an assenting party.

MR. TAGUCHI ON THE TROOPS.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi continues his indictment of the Russian troops during the campaign in Chili. He does not confine himself to the Russians. The French also behaved badly according to his account, but there was this difference between them and the Russians that whereas the latter killed the women they had violated, the French spared their lives. Mr. Taguchi makes the reservation that the French soldiers who misbehaved themselves were chiefly men that had been more or less demoralized by long residence in Tonquin. We repeat merely the outlines of Mr. Taguchi's statements, the details being unfit for publication. With regard to the Indian soldiers, he alleges that their only fault was a disposition to commit petty larceny whenever opportunity presented itself. For the British officers, he has only praise: they were beyond criticism. The American troops, however, seem to have elicited his warmest approbation. He praises them from every point of view. Mr. Taguchi further says that his experiences in China have reconciled him to the conscription system in Japan. Much of the ferocity and callous cruelty displayed by the Russians is due, in his opinion, to the fact that they are professional soldiers: like the *samurai* of old, they have lost their bowels of mercy. The conscript, on the contrary, has not time to get demoralized by military service. As for the Japanese, Mr. Taguchi claims that their discipline and orderliness were excellent, but it is absurd, he says, to allege that they did not take their share of the spoils. The difference was that the individual Japanese soldier never looted on his own account. They worked in bodies, securing booty for the public account. At Tung-chow they captured the rice granaries and quickly appropriated the contents. At Peking they went straight for the treasury and carried off from 2 to 3 million taels worth of sycee, loading the silver on horses and transporting it to the Japanese Legation.

THE "SEINEN DOMEI KAI."

The hands of Prince Konoye's Association will be strengthened by a new party which has just been formed, calling itself the "Young Men's Union" (*Seinen Domei-kai*). This new association held its inaugural meeting at the Kinki-kan at Kanda, Tokyo, on the 11th instant, and committed itself to a manifesto which reads very like a resolve to preserve the integrity of China at all hazards. Mr. Taguchi Ukichi addressed the meeting. He dwelt on the reputation the Japanese troops had gained in the North China campaign, and unless he is wrongly reported, he declared that Japan had it in her power to prevent the partition of China if she pleased. All these agitations evidently point to the contingency of Russia's retaining permanent possession of Manchuria. We can not wonder that Japan feels uneasy when the shadow of the Northern Colossus is projected as far as her own shores.

ARREST OF MEMBERS OF THE TOKYO CITY COUNCIL.

Tuesday, Nov 13.

The three members of the Tokyo City Council—Messrs. Mineo, Ota and Inada—whose names have been so much before the public of late in connection with alleged misappropriation of municipal funds, have been arrested by order of the public procurator. The *Mainichi Shimbun* opened the campaign against the three Councillors, and our readers have been informed of the course adopted by the Council and the City Assembly at the instance of Mr. Hoshi Toru. Subsequently legal proceedings were instituted by a Mr. Kai, who, when forwarding his accusation to the public procurator, was said to have offered no evidence except a copy of the *Mainichi* embodying the charges. However, that may be, the procurator has apparently been convinced that a *prima facie* case exists.

Wednesday, Nov. 14

Two other former members of the Tokyo City Council have been arrested, namely, Messrs. Hasegawa and Yokoyama (T.) They were summoned to the Tokyo Local Court to give evidence, and after their testimony had been heard, they were apprehended. It would appear that the members of the Tokyo City Assembly must have had a pretty clear conception of the persons implicated in this scandal, for when they were required to elect a new Council in lieu of that which had just resigned, they re-elected 6 of the old members and rejected 5, and the 5 thus rejected are now all in custody. The *Mainichi Shimbun* is having a fine innings. It has obtained a splendid vantage-ground for attacking its *bête noir*, Mr. Hoshi Toru, who, when advising the resignation of the old Council, declared that there was no basis for the accusations preferred against the Councillors, and denounced newspaper utterances as quite unworthy of credence. The *Mainichi's* present attack upon Mr. Hoshi is characterized by the utmost vehemence and virulence, and as a specimen of solid, unrestrained abuse, makes very quaint reading. But we doubt whether any good end was over served by such intemperance.

THE SANSHI BANK.

The affairs of the Sanshi Bank seem to be in a much more unsatisfactory condition than was at first supposed. It is said that enquiries consequent upon the suspension of payments have brought to light a serious defalcation on the part of a man named Kawamura, who held the position of book-keeper and cashier in the Tokyo branch of the bank up to 1898. This man, speculating in stocks with the Bank's funds, made a loss of seventy thousand *yen*, and then absconded It is claimed that the Directors must have become aware of the incident immediately after Kawamura's flight, but they hushed up the affair, fearing the effect that publicity might have upon the credit of the Bank. The facts having now come to light, legal proceedings will be instituted. It is stated that the Bank's liabilities amount to nine hundred thousand *yen*, of which sum three hundred thousand is due to the Fifteenth Bank, the same amount to the Teiyu Bank, and two hundred thousand to the Imperial Commercial Bank. Doubtless a large part of these debts is secured. If the Bank had three hundred thousand *yen* it could re-open its doors, and there is talk of Count Matsukata's giving his assistance.

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THE TOKYO BRANCH OF THE "SEIYU-KAI."

The official inauguration of the Tokyo branch of the *Seiyu-kai* took place on Sunday in the Imperial Hotel, the Cabinet Ministers present being Barons Suyematsu and Kaneko and Mr. Hoshi. Various speeches were delivered. Mr. Ozaki spoke of the fact that the great cities of Japan had begun to interest themselves more keenly in politics than used to be the case. In Europe and America the capital cities are the centres of political influence, but the case was different in Japan until the business men abandoned their attitude of indifference and took an active share in party politics as they are doing now. Baron Suyematsu took for his theme the importance of the *Seiyu-kai's* recognising that it was a party organized not for contentious or destructive purposes, but with constructive and practical objects. Mr. Hoshi argued that whereas national progress had been the original policy of the Restoration, Constitutional Government was now included in the programme. Political parties were not the object of Constitutional Government; they were only an instrument to assist its working. It may be expected that from a premiss so dangerous to the doctrine of party cabinets, Mr. Hoshi would have passed to draw interesting deductions, but he applied his doctrine simply to proving the advisability of completing the party's organization, for which purpose they had assembled that day. Baron Kaneko said that when he carried to Europe the draft of the Japanese constitution ten years ago, and submitted it for examination by European Jurisconsults, they all agreed that, as a compilation, it seemed altogether satisfactory, but that, after all, a constitution on paper was an empty affair. The great question was whether the Japanese people were ready for such an innovation. The Baron declared that he had no hesitation now in saying that their readiness was proved, and that constitutional Government had been shown not to be a monopoly of the white races. He alluded with much satisfaction to the composition of the *Seiyu-kai*, which included in its ranks men of all classes, thus showing that the people at large had begun to take a genuine interest in parliamentary politics.

KOREA.

The *Kappin-to* (Japanese-pronunciation), an association which claims for itself the philanthopic motive of robbing the rich to succour the poor, has again taken the field in Korea, and seems to be defying the Authorities. The scene of these doings is the province of Kyŏng-sang-do. We have often heard of these gentry robbing the rich, but hitherto we have not heard of their distributing the proceeds of their thefts among the poor. That part of the programme lacks fulfillment.

Baron Shibusawa's visit to Sŏul in connexion with the official opening of the Sŏul-Fusan Railway is said to be welcomed by the Korean Authorities, who hope to utilize his presence as a means of obtaining a loan of two million *yen* from the First National Bank, of which he is President. It is not at all likely that the Bank will respond. We doubt whether any period in recent years has been marked by greater scarcity of money than prevails at present in Japan.

Baron Shibusawa had the honour of dining with the Emperor of Korea on the evening of the 11th instant. We wonder whether his Majesty took advantage of the occasion to propose a loan to the veteran financier. Baron Shibusawa was probably prepared for such a contingency.

The official opening of the Sŏul-Chemulpo Railway was to take place on the 12th inst. Invitations to some 500 guests had been issued.

Brief telegraphic accounts of the official opening of the Sŏul-Chemulpho Railway have been received in Tokyo. It appears that the Emperor did not attend, but that in all other respects the ceremony was imposing and successful.

Li, Minister of Foreign Affairs in Sŏul, is said to have been deprived of his office and banished because of the fire that recently destroyed the cenotaph palace. That is surely a quaint method of administering justice. The chain of official responsibility in Korea probably contains some links not visible to every-day eyes, but how a Minister for Foreign Affairs can be held liable for a fire in the palace is a bewildering enigma.

A NEW TORPEDO-CRAFT.

Mr. Hudson Maxim, of smokeless-powder fame, makes an extraordinary and most formidable proposition; a proposition which, coming from anyone whose practical reputation was not well established, would be received with scepticism. His idea, set forth in the pages of *The Independent*, is illustrated thus:—"Suppose," he says, "that there existed in the sea an enemy of the whale, a hundredth part of his size, and capable of travelling at three times his speed; and suppose this fish were capable of inflicting a mortal blow on the whale whenever he could get within range, it is obvious that the whale would soon become extinct." Similarly Mr. Maxim proposes to place in the sea a number of battle-ship destroyers, so swift that no armour-clad could escape them, and so little exposed to gun fire that the odds would be very heavy against their destruction by shot or shell when attempting to approach their target. That, of course, is the conception of the sub-marine torpedo-boat which the French have been labouring to complete, except that the possibility of developing any very high rate of speed with a ship moving under water has hitherto seemed delusive. Maxim, however, does not project a completely submerged boat. He would have the hull only below the surface, while a look-out tower and a long thin rib or back would project over the water, the tower for observation, the rib for flotation. The difficulty of hitting such an object would be immense, and even though both tower and rib were shot away, the craft would not be vitally injured. Her great turn of speed would be derived from a turbine driven by the energy of a new explosive compound called motorite, which the inventor claims to have tempered so that it can not explode and so that its combustion may be controlled and regulated with absolute precision. The proposed craft would be provided with steam engines and boilers for use on ordinary occasions, and only on coming within sight of an enemy would the motorite be employed to drive her. She would carry enough of this agent to propel her at the rate of a mile a minute for half an hour, and if she sighted at a distance of ten miles a battleship going 20 miles an hour, she could overtake her within 15 minutes, and during the chase the torpedo-boat would have her turret only above the water, a mere speck. The only seemingly weak point in this plan is that the calculation of the little vessel's velocity is made on the supposition of her travelling above water. There is, however, a considerable margin in favour of the torpedo-boat. Even if her speed when submerged were reduced to 40 miles an hour, she would still overtake the battle-ship, under the given conditions, in less them 23 minutes. Mr. Maxim, moreover, declares that he has already "constructed and tested apparatus which fully demonstrates the perfect feasibility and practicability of his method." The sole disadvantage of motorite is its expense. It would cost $25,000 (gold) for enough to propel a torpedo-boat at full speed for half an hour. Nevertheless if three or four of such boats destroyed a line-of-battle ship, the balance of loss on the side of the latter would be enormous. Certainly if the invention can be reduced to a working reality, the "whale" will become extinct.

INSURANCE.

There being reason to think that certain insurance companies were in a shaky condition, the Government ordered an investigation, which has resulted in the suspension of three companies; namely, the Kyoto *Bukkyo Seimei Hoken Kaisha* (Buddhist Life Insurance), capital 500,000 *yen*, paid up, 125 000 *yen*; president, Baron Hitotsuyanagi; the *Osaka Daito Seimei Hoken Kaisha* (Osaka Great Eastern, &c), capital, 100,000 *yen*; paid up 25,000; and the *Kyoto Teikoku Kasai Hoken Kaisha* (Kyoto Imperial Fire), capital 500,000 *yen*; paid up, 165,000 *yen*. It is not stated exactly what difficulties have been discovered in connexion with these companies, but the official decision is that they are not in a condition to carry on their business. Several other companies are expected to be included presently in the prohibition.

The search-light of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce has hitherto been turned on the insurance companies of Osaka and Kyoto, with results disastrous to five of them. Tokyo is now to be brought within the circle of the rays, and it is predicted that there will be a merciless slaughter of the mushroom concerns. The authorities are expected to undertake extraordinary inspections, and several directorates are said to be shaking in their shoes. These measures will inure to the advantage of great companies like the *Meiji* and the *Tokyo Kasai*, which have organized their business on thoroughly sound principles, though it is not improbable that the fate of the petty concerns may temporarily prejudice the popularity of insurance in general. The *Meiji* is so successful that it can afford to decline risks in parts of Tokyo which it considers hazardous, but it might possibly be acting wisely if it stepped into the breach now likely to be created, and took over from the discredited companies any policies whose premia the latter are in a position to re-pay. This applies to life policies as well as fire policies in the case of the *Meiji*. The *Tokyo Kausai* takes fire risks only. After the *Meiji*, the reputation of the Imperial (Teikoku) stands highest in the matter of life insurance.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Air Temp Max	Min	Lake	State of Weather.	Remarks in General.
Sunday, 4th	57°	50°	53°	Fine	—
Monday, 5th	61°	54°	53°	Fine	—
Tuesday, 6th	59°	48°	53°	Fine	—
Wednesday, 7th	56°	48°	53°	Fine	—
Thursday, 8th	56°	49°	53°	Fine	—
Friday 9th	57°	50°	53°	Fine	—
Saturday, 10th	56°	50°	52°	Fine	—

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NOTES ON CHINESE NEWS.

Monday, Nov. 12.

Taotai Shêng is officially reported to have purchased the Taku-Shanghai cable for £210,000. Considering that the cable was understood to have been laid partly for the purpose of securing the transmission of news against the vicissitudes of Chinese administration, its sale to Shêng seems regrettable.

According to news sent by the *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent, the Allied commanders have decided to put to death the ex-Governor of Honan, Yu Chang, and also the various military officials of the same province. The same authority says that the Foreign Representatives have resolved not to open the peace negotiations until the Chinese Government has executed Princes Twan and Chwang, General Kang, ex Viceroy Yü Hsien and General Tung. There is not the remotest prospect of the negotiations being commenced under such circumstances.

The Germans are said to be laying a submarine cable between Kiao-chow and the mouth of the Yangtsze, which will subsequently be continued to Shanghai, thus bringing the latter place into direct communication with Kiao-chow and Chefoo.

In contradiction of the telegram that the Foreign Representatives have resolved not to commence peace negotiations until the instigators of the Boxer troubles are executed, a later message says that they have informed the Chinese commissioners of their desire to commence at an early date, which will probably be the 13th instant. Yet another report says that the Representatives are awaiting instructions from the home Governments. It is impossible to know what should be believed.

There appears to be some disposition to entertain the Chinese Commissioners' application for a cessation of hostilities. Several of the Foreign Representatives are said to be in favour of that step, and Field-Marshal Waldersee is reported to approve of exchanging the present offensive attitude of the troops for a defensive

A telegram to the *Asahi* from Newchwang says that a deplorable state of affairs exists in Manchuria. The fugitive Chinese troops are committing all kinds of depredations, and the Russian civil administrators, though applied to for aid against these roughs, do not take any effective step. The result is said to be that the respectable part of the population are deserting their homes and flying to distant regions.

Wednesday, Nov. 14

It is stated that the Russian troops have captured a Chinese military store on the north-east of Yang-tsung, seizing a considerable quantity of treasure as well as guns and small arms. Two hundred Chinese are said to have been killed.

The Russians are about to lay a line of military telegraph from Liao-tung to Mukden *viâ* Haicheng. Another line is to be laid from Harbin to Kirin.

An officer who has just returned to Tientsin from Shan-hai-kwan, is represented as saying that the trouble between the Russian and the British troops at that place has been amicably settled, and that there are not any further signs of friction.

Rumour attributes to the allied forces the intention of intercepting supplies of money and provisions sent from the provinces for the use of the Imperial Court. That plan would probably prove a very effective method of bringing pressure to bear on the Court. But, as we have already taken occasion to observe, the situation does not grow more rational as days go by. It was the foreign Powers that commenced this war. Of that there can be no manner of doubt. Now China is suing for peace. She has been suing for peace quite a long time, and the foreign Powers have been professing, for an even longer time, that they desire with all their hearts to see peace restored as quickly as possible. Meanwhile, they continue their hostile operations because they can not agree about the terms that are to be demanded of China. What has become of Russia's declaration that with the relief of Peking the object of military operations in Chili was concluded? Russian troops seem to be at least as busy as any other troops in carrying on hostilities.

Salt smugglers are said to be engaging in one of their wonted campaigns in the Yangtsze Valley. Their method is to call at various places with salt-laden junks, and compel the people to buy. The officials are reported to be incompetent to check the abuse

Thursday, Nov. 15.

It is stated that Li Hung-chang has commissioned Sir Robert Hart to conduct the negotiations relating to an indemnity. Sir Robert is probably better qualified than any other man to speak with accuracy and confidence as to China's resources, and to devise means of finding money to meet the demands of foreign Powers. We do not remember that it has ever previously fallen to the lot of any State to be so unhappy as to have to pay two big indemnities in the sequel of foreign wars within the short space of five years. China had to pay 230 million taels to Japan, and she will probably now have to pay 400 million taels to eight foreign countries. We wonder what she thinks of it all. The intelligent Chinaman can scarcely fail to reflect that the remarkable ultimatum sent by the allied admirals to the officer commanding the Taku Forts on the evening of the 16th of June, proved a very disastrous measure for his country.

Li Hung-chang has been appointed generalissimo of the Wu-wei army, hitherto commanded by Yung Lu, who has repaired to Si-ngan. The Wu-wei force is supposed to be the best disciplined and the best equipped in China, but we do not know what has become of it. Certainly it can not be within easy reach of Peking, or available to carry out Li Hung-chang's orders. But this new incident in Li's career bears fresh testimony to the truth of the old saying that he is the stormy petrel of Chinese politics It is always when the political sky is most overcast that Li's figure towers above those of his contemporary statesmen. China's sorrows are the foundation of his fame.

Yung Lu is said to have reached Si-ngan on the 11th instant, and to have submitted to the Throne an exact statement of the conditions existing in Peking, thus exciting the grief and indignation of their Majesties. That is a pretty story, but we wonder how it came to Japan. If Tokyo can be informed within four days of incidents occurring at Si-ngan, which is some 800 miles from Peking and beyond the range of direct telegraphic communication, space has been indeed annihilated

The explosion of the Nanking powder magazine is confidently asserted to have been due to lightning. The casualties were 60 killed, but nothing is said as to the injured.

A strange rumour comes from Si-ngan. The Emperor is reported to have sent a secret telegram to Prince Ching in Peking, saying that he would gladly return thither but that his instructions were disregarded by the officials surrounding him. This step is believed to have greatly enraged the Empress Dowager. She caused the two officials to be once executed who had sent the telegram in obedience to the Emperor's orders. What a commentary on the state of affairs in the new capital!

A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* from Shanghai, dated the 13th instant, says that the conduct of the French and German soldiers quartered there is exceedingly violent. They use their side-arms freely against peaceful Chinese citizens in the streets and are altogether uncontrollable. The same telegram adds that the behaviour of the Japanese and the British is excellent, and that no kind of complaint is preferred against them. We give this story for what it may be worth.

It is stated that the German troops in Chili had only two months' provisions originally, but that quantities of all necessaries have subsequently been forwarded to Peking, where, it would consequently seem, that there is an intention of wintering.

A COMMERCIAL SUGGESTION.

The Japanese merchants of Kobe, Osaka and Kyoto having appointed a committee of investigation in connexion with the Chinese trouble, the committee has decided that the following points shall be brought to the notice of the Japanese Authorities for consideration by the plenipotentiaries appointed to negotiate peace :—

1. That an universal tariff shall be put into operation throughout China, in the event of the empire's partition.

The committee seems to apprehend that the various Powers might set up differential tariffs of their own, to the great detriment of Japan's trade with her neighbour.

2 That the coinage system of China be reformed, with the view of abolishing the confused variety of media now in circulation. Under this heading there are various minor proposals which we need not recapitulate.

3. That *likin* and transport duty be abolished.

4 That the system of weights and measures be reformed, on the basis of establishing uniformity throughout the empire.

5. That the veto on the export of rice be removed.

6. That the export duty on raw material for manufacture be abolished.

8. That protection be given to trade marks.

These, with the exceptions of the first, are very practical suggestions, and that their adoption would greatly promote tradal prosperity can not be doubted. But it is obviously out of the question to expect that the Powers will entertain any project based on the hypothesis of partition, or that, if partition takes place, the circumstances attending it will be such as to permit of an effective agreement between the Powers on the subject of tariffs. Sir Claude Macdonald is said to have informed a newspaper representative in Kyoto that, in his opinion, the preservation of China's integrity would be much more difficult than its partition. We entirely agree with that view, but we apprehend that partition will not be effected by mutual agreement among all the Powers. The signatories of the Anglo-German Agreement will act in concord, but the non signatories will be in a different camp.

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THE ESCAPE FROM SHAN-SI TO HAN-KAU.

The Times of September 29th contains a long account of the escape of a party of missionaries from Shan-si to Han-kau. It is a harrowing story, especially because among the fugitives, who were obliged to walk nearly a hundred and fifty miles, bare-footed and nearly naked, there were 5 ladies and six children. Five of the party died *en route*, two ladies and three children. One of the ladies was beaten to death; the other died from the effects of a beating. The story has already appeared in our columns, though not in such a detailed form. It occupies 2½ columns of *The Times*, closely printed in small type, and considering the circumstances it describes, as well as the fact that it is penned by a man who suffered all the pains of the journey and lost two out of his four children on the way, it is probably one of the most patiently worded, self-contained narratives ever set down upon paper. The writer, Mr. Alexander R. Saunders, of the China Inland Mission, is an honour to his cloth. The testimony his tale inadvertently bears to the character of the missionaries should be earnestly considered by those that love to mock and belittle them. Apart from the terrible interest attaching to it, there are two points in the narrative to which special attention may be called. The first point is that all the anti-foreign trouble in Shan-si, including the most cruel massacre at Ta-yuen, was subsequent to the allies' attack on the Taku Forts. On Monday, June 25th, a communication was received by the magistrate of Ping-yao from Yu Hsien, the new Governor of Shan-si, to the effect that China was at war with foreign nations, that the Imperial troops had joined the Boxers for the purpose of driving out foreigners, and that the people should be called on to aid. For 13 years the Inland Mission had lived peacefully at Ping-yao "without any manifestation of unfriendliness on the part of the people." But the news of the Taku affair changed everything. When our indignation turns fiercely against the Chinese who subjected helpless missionaries, men, women and children, to such pains, it is well to remember that, so far as human judgment can perceive, the prime responsibility rests with the allied commanders who directed the assault on the Taku Forts. The statement is neither pleasant to write nor pleasant to read, but it is true. We know that Admiral Seymour's column, also, experienced no hostility at the hands of the Chinese troops until after the Taku affair.

The second point brought out by Mr Saunders' narrative is one that will astonish many of the anti-missionary critics. It is that the unhappy fugitives owed their lives largely to the fact that they were Protestants. They found throughout their terrible journey that one of the best means of obtaining mercy from the mob was to declare themselves Protestants, for the animosity of the people seemed to be directed chiefly against Roman Catholics and railway and mining engineers. That is well worthy of most serious attention. The labours of the Roman Catholic missionary are of the noblest and most heroic character. If his cause has become unpopular in China, the fault certainly does not lie with the missionary himself. We must assume that it is because of some errors of his system; probably his interference between converts and the civil authorities.

"JAPANISCHE DRAMEN."

Professor Dr. K. Florenz, of the Imperial University, has added to his valuable and able publications connected with Japanese literature, a volume containing translations of the dramas "Tera-Koya" and "Asagao." Both of these plays are among the most celebrated of Japanese dramas. The former ("Tera-Koya") is supposed to be based on facts, but the latter is always held to be pure fiction, as it represents an incident which never occurred in the life of the renowned philosopher Kumazawa Banzan, called for theatrical purposes "Komazawa Jirozayemon." The "Asagao" is somewhat out of the line of ordinary Japanese romances, for it represents a woman who is willing to forsake the path of virtue and duty for love, and a man whose high principles restrain him from taking advantage of her infatuation—a plot not at all resembling the realities of ordinary life whether in Japan or in Europe. Of the two dramas the "Tera-Koya" is the more natural and the sadder. It reaches a shocking climax which never fails to draw tears from nearly every member of a Japanese audience. But the "Asagao" also abounds in effective and tragic situations. Dr. Florenz seems to have done his work admirably. We can not pretend to judge whether his translations are accurate and faithful, for our acquaintance with the two dramas is limited to seeing them acted But we can say that the translation is smooth and forcible, and that it appears to possess a thorough Japanese flavour. The book is printed on crepe paper and well illustrated in colours by an artist whose name, strange to say, is not given. The publisher is the well-known Mr. Hasegawa, of Hiyoshicho, Tokyo, where the volume may be procured for a price which is not marked in the copy sent to us for review

OSAKA HARBOUR.

Osaka Harbour is now likely to attract public attention in connexion with alleged defects in the work. Fissures are said to have developed in the cement blocks, and it is alleged that the origin of the trouble must be sought in corrupt practices, bad cement having been passed by the inspectors for a consideration. Some of our readers may remember that precisely the same story was circulated with regard to Yokohama harbour. There is an epidemic of scandals at present. Whether there is also an epidemic of corruption, we can not say, but it looks as though there were.

There can no longer be any doubt that flaws have developed in the cement blocks used in the construction of the Osaka harbour. A report compiled by expert examiners shows that 264 blocks are defective. The experts do not bring any charge against the quality of the cement, however. They lay the blame on defective methods of construction. It appears that the mode of manufacturing the blocks was changed three times, that out of the total number now exhibiting flaws, no less than 242 belong to the batch manufactured by the first method, whereas the blocks of the second method show only 22 defects, and that those of the third method are still intact. The City Assembly, after receiving this report, appointed a committee of seven to investigate the matter.

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD.

A representative of the *Chuo Shimbun* waited on Sir Claude MacDonald in Kyoto and was cordially received. The interviewer opined that Sir Claude is an Irishman, an inference which he deduced from a proclivity which we did not know to be peculiar to Irishmen, namely, that in speaking of the nation he represents Sir Claude as always calls them "British" not "English." The full interview has not been published yet, but from the portion before us we learn that Sir Claude was in Japan 28 years ago. He came from Hongkong where his regiment was quartered at the time and he travelled from Kobe to Tokyo by the Nakasendo. Of course he draws a vivid contrast between the Japan of that time and the Japan of to-day. He recalls, among other things, that he experienced great difficulty in obtaining accommodation at an inn during his inland journey, there being a strong prejudice against the meat-eating foreigner. That is an experience which strikes us novel. Our own journies in the interior between 1868 and 1872 were not embarrassed by any such difficulty, but it is of course impossible to deduce a general rule from individual reminiscences. Sir Claude is disposed to lament the injury done to some of the beauties of Japan by the advent of steam-engine and smoke-stack civilization. It is, as the Chinese pithily say, "every gain has its loss." Referring to the siege of the Legations, he speaks in the highest terms of Colonel Shiba, the military *attaché* of the Japanese Legation. This officer's helpfulness during the time of trouble and his military abilities seem to have made a great impression on Sir Claude. And Sir Claude evidently made a great impression on his interviewer of the *Chuo Shimbun*.

THE UNIVERSITY SPORTS.

The annual athletic sports of the Imperial University came off on Saturday (10th) afternoon in beautiful weather. The events were excellently contested and were witnessed by an immense audience which evidently took a keen interest in the contests. Perhaps the greatest excitement was caused by the tug of war in which a hundred students of the University were pitted against an equal number from the First High School. Strange to say, the University lads are always beaten by the High School, Saturday's struggle being no exception to the rule. So far as it was possible to judge, the students of the School have devoted more time than their comrades of the University to training for this kind of effort. They worked together with excellent uniformity. Great amusement was afforded by the obstacle race, in which the contestants had to jump, creep, vault, leap through a hoop, swing themselves, trapeze fashion, cross a netting, crawl through a sack, and shoulder a heavy weight. The management was excellent, the events following in rapid succession, so that the whole programme was concluded by half-past four. At four o'clock coffee and biscuits were served. The following is a list of the contests:—

1.—100 metres Race. 2.—Throwing the Hammer. 3.—Long Jump. 4.—200 metres Race. 5.—Throwing the Cricket Ball. 6.—High Jump. 7.—Putting the Shot. 8.—400 metres Race. 9.—Pole Jump. 10.—Mombusho School's Race. 11.—800 metres Race. 12.—Graduates' Race. 13.—Special Members' Race 14.—Obstacle Race.

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THE HUMANITY AGITATION.

It would appear that Messrs. Taguchi and Tsuboi have been moved to genuine indignation by the sights they witnessed in China. On the 14th instant they attended a meeting of the *Doshi Kisha* (Union of Journalists) in Tokyo, and addressed some sixty editors, correspondents, and reporters on the subject of atrocities committed by Russian and French soldiers. Mr. Tsuboi furnished the details on this occasion, Mr. Taguchi confining himself to a general commentary on the superiority of the conscript to the professional soldier from a moral point of view. The meeting unanimously passed the following resolution:—"That the outrages perpetrated by the Russian and French soldiers in China having been flagrantly opposed to the principles of humanity, it is impossible for this meeting to remain silent, and we therefore resolve to bring these matters to the attention of the world and to invite the verdict of the nations." It was further resolved to send a copy of this decision, together with a statement of the facts on which it was based, to all the newspapers in Japan, and to commence the public appeal in England and America. Of course, if the evidence collected by Messrs. Taguchi and Tsuboi is as convincing as they evidently believe it to be, we can not wonder that they deem it a duty to appeal to the bar of public opinion. But we would remind them that some atrocities are inseparable from warfare. No military system can effectually check an outbreak of elementary passions among men to whom the necessarily demoralizing task of slaughtering their fellow-creatures is assigned. To speak of civilized warfare is to use incongruous terms, yet we have little doubt that war is conducted according to far more civilized principles to-day than was the case fifty years ago, and that a still better standard will be reached fifty years hence. We are inclined to think, too, that the excesses perpetrated by foreign soldiers in China would have been almost completely avoided had the scene of the combat been in a country inhabited by white people. That, however, so far from being an excuse or even a palliative, adds to the misery of the thing, for certainly the purpose of the military expedition to China was not to show the Chinese that foreigners themselves need only an opportunity to perpetrate the very brutalities which they denounce so bitterly when committed by the Chinese.

THE "MAINICHI SHIMBUN."

The *Mainichi Shimbun* is running a veritable journalistic *amok*. It is now awaiting the decision of the Appeal Court on its appeal from a decision sentencing its editor to fine and imprisonment at the suit of Mr. Node Ichiro, Chief of the Shinagawa Police, and also at the suit of the Chief of the Asakusa Police, whom it had attacked vehemently in connexion with the question of the social evil. But it has again exposed itself to prosecution by Mr. Node, and not only by him but also by the Governor of Tochigi, Mr. Mizuobei, through the Chief of Police in that prefecture. These new charges of libel will come up for trial in a few days, but the *Mainichi* is not one whit daunted. It refers to the complainants in terms which themselves constitute libels, and in the same issue it renews its assaults upon Mr. Hoshi Toru. Two or three days ago it told its readers that Mr. Hoshi would soon be taking his airings in a carriage whose occupants are not visible to public view—namely, a prison van—and now it declares that lodgings will soon be prepared for him in the Kajibashi House of Detention, and that unless Marquis Ito decapitates him, in a political sense, he will pull down the new Party into the dust. Then the *Mainichi* goes off to Mr. Hiranuma Senzo, who is preparing, it says, to feed again on *shi-roku-meshi* (prison fare, or six parts of barley to four of rice). Mr. Hiranuma is now a candidate for election to the House of Peers as representative of the principal tax-payers of Kanagawa, and the *Mainichi* says that his opponents have distributed suits of jail garments among the electors to remind them of Mr Hiranuma's imprisonment on a confessed charge of fraud in connexion with the Soma affair. In short, our contemporary has a regular orgie of assaults, and its language is so vehement and so bedecked with superlative adjectives that we are vividly reminded of the *Yorozu Choho* in its days of dementia. The *Niroku Shimbun* also runs a tilt at Mr. Hiranuma. It has a picture of him lending five thousand *yen* to a nobleman and requiring the latter to write a bond for ten thousand. Finally the *Chuo* has taken up the subject of the Tokyo City Council, and promises to prefer detailed charges against the members by name from day to-day.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has a telegram to the effect that a court martial held by the allied troops, apparently at Paoting, tried the acting Viceroy of Chili, Ting Yung, the Tartar General Hwui Ching, and a Colonel, Wang Chang, on a charge of being implicated in the massacre of the missionaries at that place. The three men were found guilty, and sentenced to be shot, which sentence was carried out. The same tribunal deprived another high official of Chili, Ting (?), of his office. The details of this trial will be very interesting. It is to be observed that the story comes from Shanghai, and is thus tainted with doubt. But if it be true that the principal officials engaged in that inhuman massacre have been apprehended, and if sufficient evidence of their guilt has been obtained to warrant a sentence of death, it will be one of the most satisfactory incidents of the campaign.

Colonel Mason McCarty, formerly United States Military Attaché at St. Petersburg, contributes to *The Independent* an article which reads like a romance about Russia's hoard of gold. He says that, ever since the Napoleonic Wars, the Church of Russia has been collecting gold which is to be used by the State in time of emergency. For 85 years the process of hoarding has been going on without ceasing. Mining operations and contributions from pious people are the sources of supply. Russia, the Colonel avers, produces much more gold than is generally known, for instead of reporting her yield, she secretly puts it into the Church fund. Moreover "every officer, every soldier, every Government official, and every employer from the Czar to the poorest moujik contributes weekly to the church funds only one half of which she has used for the past eighty years." The other half has accumulated until it is now believed to amount to nearly four billions of dollars. It is a pity that Colonel McCarty did not add an explanation of his definitions of a billion. He can not mean a million of millions, however. We presume that he uses the word in the sense of a thousand millions, in which case the alleged hoard would be nearly eight hundred million pounds sterling; or more than the national debt of England. It seems to us to be a case of *omne ignotum pro magnifico*.

The *Asahi* has a telegram saying that Russia claims a tract of land extending along the Peiho 2 miles south of Tientsin, on the ground of having gained possession of it by force of arms, and that Belgium is advancing a similar plea with regard to another area. We imagine that this telegram is erroneous. It probably refers to demands formulated by Russia and Belgium for special concessions at Tientsin. Belgium has not taken any part in the military operations, and can not have based any claim upon her armed conquests. We do not perceive indeed what need either Power has of an independent concession or what they would do with it if they possessed it, but they know their own business better than others can pretend to know it.

A most successful ball was given by Vicomte de Guichen, Second Secretary of the Legation of France, in the Imperial Hotel on Monday evening. The approaches to the hotel were brilliantly illuminated and a pleasing scheme of decoration had been carried out in the interior by means of chrysanthemums and other potted plants. Dancing took place in the large dining salon, so that the dancers had ample space, a rare luxury in Tokyo. From three to four hundred persons were present, and dancing was sustained with much animation until a late hour, the cotillon at the close being exceptionally picturesque as to favours and figures. The following was the programme:—1 Valse. 2 Valse. 3 Lancers. 4 Valse. 5 Patineurs. 6 Valse. 7 Quadrille. 8 Valse. 9 Pas de Quatre. 10 Valse. 11 Polka. 12 Valse. 13 Patineurs. 14 Valse. 15 Cotillon.

Now that the accounts come to be carefully written up, it appears that England sent about 240,000 men to South Africa, among whom were 80,000 Reservists and 30 battalions of militia, virtually improvised forces, insufficiently trained and insufficiently organized. Much of the formidable character of the Boers' resistance has undoubtedly been due to the quality of the men we put into the field against them. The only comforting reflection is that the Boers have never defeated our troops in a pitched battle, nor ever driven them from a position held in any force. In fact they have themselves suffered an almost endless series of defeats which were only prevented from becoming disasters by the nimbleness of the Boers' flight. Their care throughout has been to avoid a stand-up fight. Such a record, in the case of any other nation, would not be deemed very honourable.

General Yamaguchi has sent to his Majesty the Emperor, as mementoes of the campaign in China, parts of the gates of Peking which were captured by the Japanese troops on the 14th of August, after fighting which cost many lives. These are most interesting relics.

The Prince Imperial's projected visit to Ehime, Kagawa and Okayama prefectures has been abandoned. His Imperial Highness being slightly indisposed, his physicians are apprehensive of the results of exposure.

Our readers are aware that three insurance companies have been suspended by the Authorities in consequence of investigations which showed that these concerns were not in a condition to conduct their operations on sound principles. Another company has

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now been added to the list, the *Teikoku Kasai Hoken Kaisha* (Imperial Fire Insurance Company) of Kyoto, which was established at the close of 1896, with a capital of 500,000 *yen*, the amount paid up being 165,000 *yen*. This Company is said to have issued policies aggregating nine million *yen*, so that its suspension will probably inconvenience many people.

General Gaselee, in his official report of the operations on the march from Tientsin to Peking, has alluded in most complimentary terms to the Japanese troops. He says that the victory at Peh-tsang was entirely due to them, and that they attacked the enemy's line of defences most gallantly.

The *Toa Dôbun-kai* (East-Asian Common Script Society) has hitherto been sending Japanese students at its own charges to study in the college established by it in Canton. It has now decided that the various Prefectural Assemblies shall be invited to legislate for the provision of funds, and that students shall be despatched from each prefecture in proportion to the money thus contributed. A deputation has been chosen to visit the various prefectures in order to promote this idea.

The *Chiuo Shimbun* has a telegram from Hongkong saying that a violent gale raged there on the night of the 9th and 10th inst., and that H.M.S. *Sandpiper* went to the bottom, many lives being lost. The *Sandpiper* is a twin-screw shallow-draught steamer for river service, her displacement being only 35 tons. She was commissioned at Hongkong on January 6th, 1899, and her commander was Lieut. Henry C. Carr.

The movement in favour of organizing an entertainment in honour of Admiral Beardslee seems to be attaining large proportions. Quite a number of distinguished personages have put down their names as supporters—for example, Marquis Saionji, Count Okuma, Mr. Hoshi, Baron Kaneko, Marquis Saigo, Prince Konoye, Marquis Hachisuka, Mr. Yamamoto, Mr. Takahashi, Mr. Soma, Mr Okura, Mr. Kato (M.) &c.

The *Katsuragi*—coast defence vessel, 1,500 tons—which struck a sunken rock near Oshima (Izu) a short time ago, and afterwards went to the bottom, has been successfully raised. She came to the surface on the 7th instant, and was towed by the *Musashi* to Yokosuka, reaching that place on the evening of the 8th.

Snow falls are reported from Wakamatsu, Hakodate, Morioka, and Awomori on the 12th instant. This is unusually early, especially in the case of Awomori, where the fall seems to be quite considerable. The changes of temperature this autumn have been exceptionally sharp. Intervals of bright, balmy weather have been suddenly succeeded by bitter snaps.

The Railway Authorities are engaged extending the Abt System on the Yokokawa-Kuruizawa railway. The lines are being doubled, and it will thus be possible to increase the daily communications from 16 to 20, and to add to the weight of the goods trains by 40 per cent. These improvements will be operative from next spring.

Kageyama Iwasaburo, who threw his clogs at the carriage of the Empress, seems to have recovered from his temporary insanity. He declares himself unable to understand the motive of his extraordinary conduct, and to be much distressed at having caused such trouble to his family. His parents and relatives have come from Aichi to take charge of him, and the authorities have handed him over to their care.

In the naval manœuvres just held in Oshima Bay, off Izu, a collision occurred between two torpedo-boats, Nos. 29 and 45. Both suffered some injury. No. 29 was towed to Yokosuka.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS.

Estimates of the funds to be collected and distributed during the current month, as prepared by the Bank of Japan, are given in the *Yomiuri*, showing the amount of receipts to be 11,462,843 *yen* in the shape of national taxes and calls on companies' shares. As to disbursements the total is stated at 1,962,843 *yen* only, covering the interest on public bonds and dividends of companies. While the market is now entering upon a period of activity, the excess accumulation of funds to the amount of over 9½ million *yen*, can scarcely fail, remarks our contemporary, to affect financial circles to a serious extent. Relief, however, is forthcoming in this gloomy condition of affairs. The sum of 25½ millions of *yen* approximately is to be distributed during the month out of the estimated annual expenditures of the Government. Below are details :—

Items.	Income. Yen.
Taxes to be collected at fixed periods ...	9,800,156
Payments from various companies.....	1,363,700
Total	11,163,856
	Disbursements. Yen
Interest on public bonds	855,631
Dividends of companies	1,107,212
Total	1,962,843
Balance, excess of receipts	9,501,013
Estimated annual expenditure to be disbursed	25,495,768

The last item covers the whole of the estimated expenditure, whereas the receipts from taxes refer only to one of the items of revenue, and therefore the two cannot be taken directly for comparison.

Particulars in regard to national taxes above alluded to are as follow :—

Taxes :	Amount in yen.
Dry and wet land rural house lots and miscellaneous land (for the 2nd period) ...	5,848,910
Hokkaido land (for the 2nd period)	8,906
Semi annual business taxes....	2,927,738
Soy brewing (2nd period).....	1,014,602
Total	9,800,156
Calls on shares.	
Jomo Kerosene Oil Company's new shares (for 2nd period).....	22,500
Kwansei Railway Company's new shares (for 2nd period).....	90,000
Nanwa Railway Company's new shares (for the 1st period)	26,000
Japan Spining Company (10th period) ...	200,000
Miyazaki Prefectural Debentures (3rd period)	31,200
Industrial Bonds	900,000
Securities for industrial bonds (for the 9th period).....	100,000
Karatsu Industrial Railway Debentures...	29,400
Total	1,663,700
Grand total receipts or collections ...	11,463,856

Against this total the following sums are to be distributed :—

Interest on Public Bonds :	Yen.
5 per cent. Pension Bonds	635'716
Naval Bonds	219,915
Total	855,631
Dividends of companies :	
Nippon Yusen Kaisha	1,100,000
Japan Railway Company.....	7,212
Total	1,107,212

The rate of dividend in the case of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is the same as that of the previous term. The aggregate amount of distribution, as indicated above is some thing like 2 million *yen*.

SILK MARKET.

Commenting upon the silk market and its prospects, the *Jiji* says arrivals from the producing districts do not cease even on Sundays. Notwithstanding the sales recently effected (to the amount of 1700 bales), the stock does not show signs of decrease. At one time the quantity held in Yokohama reached over 30,000 bales, and strange to say, it remains the same as before, in spite of sales being made from time to time. Supposing that the period of transactions in silk during November and December should last for 50 days, and the average amount of sales effected per day be 400 bales, making a total of 20,000 for the two months indicated, it may be asserted that the arrivals during this period will not be less than 25,000 bales, the daily average for November being estimated at 500 bales and for December at 300. According to these calculations a balance of 30,000 bales will have to be carried over to the new year, and this added to the arrivals of *Orikaeshi*, will constitute a total of 35,000 to 40,000 bales. The accumulation of this commodity, it must be understood, involves the necessity of paying interest on the funds already advanced on the security of the silk, and as the rate of such interest is comparatively high, any serious depression of trade in the future will have the effect, remarks the *Nippon*, of compelling merchants to dispose of their stock at "castaway" prices. That is a gloomy enough prospect. It appears, adds our contemporary, that the owners of silk are under a misapprehension so far as concerns their reluctance to sell at present quotations. The period at which they may become conscious of their error will be the time when the market is found in a state of great confusion and disorder. It every respect there is cause for anxiety for the future of the silk market as judged from existing conditions.

TRADE WITH CHINA.

The trade between Kobe and North China was seriously affected, remarks the *Nippon*, by the late disturbances. The restoration of peace and tranquillity to a certain extent in Tientsin and Newchwang, however, seems to have induced some of the leading firms in the interior to reopen transactions with the two ports mentioned. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha as well as other merchants, and the Chinese in Kobe, are reported to have taken the initiative. Statistics compiled by the Kobe Custom House for the month of October contain the following comparative figures :—

Exports.	During Oct. *yen.*	During Sept. *yen.*	Increase. *yen.*
Cotton yarns	1,492,259	816,645	675,600
Matches	530,418	373,315	157,103

Of the above two commodities, yarns were chiefly exported to Hongkong, the quantities shipped to Shanghai being extremely insignificent. The latter circumstance is ascribed to a serious decrease in the demand in consequence of the tradal panic that occurred in Shanghai. Still, bright prospects are entertained by local merchants as to the possibility of increasing the volume of exports to the two places indicated above. The difference in prices, however, between Japan and Shanghai, amounting at present to 4 or 3 *yen* per picul in the case of yarns, appears to have considerably obstructed the progress of trade

RESTRICTIONS ON LOADS.

The *Jiji* urges the necessity of imposing restrictions upon the loads carried on drays and carts, and of an improvement in the construction of these vehicles, for the protection of roads in general. It remarks that, if protection is ever to be extended to horses and cattle, the ignorant coolies, more particularly the *mago*, who whip their beasts recklessly while the latter groan under heavy loads, ought not to be left to themselves. Abuses of this kind, adds our contemporary, should be eradicated in the interests of civilization.

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THE NEW ROMANIZATION OF JAPANESE WORDS.

The following letter, which we fully endorse, has been handed to us for publication :—

[COPY.]

Miyanoshita, Sagami, 9th Nov., 1900.

To His Excellency MATSUDA MASAHISA,

Minister of State for Education.

Sir,—I trust that Your Excellency will pardon my intrusiveness if I venture to address you with regard to a Notification of the Educational Department published in the *Official Gazette* of the 5th instant, founded on the results arrived at by the Committee appointed to devise or select a system of Romanised Japanese for adoption in the Primary Schools. My long connection with the Department, and the special interest which I have always taken in this country and its language, in the education of Japanese youth, and in the facilitation of intercourse between Japanese and foreigners must be my excuse.

The reputation of some of the Members of the Committee as philologists stands high. It was therefore with surprise, as well as regret, that I read the recommendations in question, which, in my humble opinion, will not tend to raise that reputation.

Surely, in devising a plan of Romanisation, there are three chief points to be taken into consideration, which are :—

I.—Ease and general utility to the Japanese.

II.—Ease to foreigners who mix with the Japanese.

III.—Previously established usage.

Now, by a fortunate coincidence, Desideratum No. I. and Desideratum No. II. are always best satisfied in the same way. In other words, the system which will best suit the foreigner is always that which will best suit the Japanese also, and for a perfectly simple reason :—The Roman alphabet is by its very essence international ; it is, so to say, a common standing-ground, a medium of intercourse, a bridge between different languages, the fundamental idea on which it rests being that the same letter shall represent one and the same sound in every word and at every place and time. No doubt this ideal method of employing the Roman alphabet has been a good deal departed from in the lapse of ages, owing to a natural process of change and decay which has introduced many exceptions, irregularities, and inconsistencies, especially in the case of English. But we all deplore these irregularities, and if we had to begin over again, we should adhere as closely as possible to general alphabetic usage.

When a Japanese child instructed in the Roman alphabet has to learn a foreign language, he will acquire that language most easily if he finds its sounds expressed by the same letters as serve to express them in Japanese. Conversely, when a foreigner tries to learn Japanese, he will learn it most easily if he finds Japanese sounds transcribed with the same letters as those to which he is accustomed in his own language. But according to the plan recommended by the Committee, Roman letters are to be employed to represent sounds which they never express and never have expressed in any language with which the Japanese will come in contact. For instance, the Committee recommends that 茶 (*cha*) shall be written *ca*, and 町 (*chô*) *cô*. Now, as Your Excellency is well aware, no Englishman, German, Frenchman, Dutchman, Italian, Spaniard, Portuguese, no European in fact of any nation, ever reads *ca* or *co* in such a manner ; for *ca* and *co* (or *ka* and *ko*) spell Japanese カ and コ, not チャ and チョ. The same is the case with シ (*shi*) written *si* by the Committee, シャ (*sha*) written *sya* by the Committee, etc. :—no foreigner would be led to pronounce these Japanese syllables correctly by so fantastic a spelling ; and on the other hand a Japanese child who should have learnt to transliterate 茶 by *ca*, or 新橋 by *Sinbasi* (instead of *cha* and *Shimbashi*) would be thereby misled in his endeavours to learn English, because he would have been taught to attribute to the Roman letters sounds which they do not possess either in English or in any other foreign tongue. Therefore, so far from the adoption of Romanisation in the Primary Schools proving an aid to the acquiry of English, French, or German, it would, under these curiously arbitrary conditions, actually hinder such acquiry ! But surely the sole object of teaching the Roman letters in Japanese schools is to facilitate intercourse with foreigners and the learning of foreign languages ; for if the Japanese language alone is to be considered, then all experts must admit that the *kana* suits it much better, and that there is no reason for seeking to introduce the Roman alphabet at all. It would thus appear that the Committee, though composed of learned philologists, overlooked the practical aspect of the matter, and in fact failed to take into consideration the very basis and essence of the question which they were set to treat.

The Committee appear to have failed similarly with regard to the third important point,—a due consideration of previously established usage. The Japanese language has not now to be Romanised for the first time. For more than thirty years past, all foreigners studying the language and all those Japanese students who make use of Hepburn's dictionary and other numerous and valuable books of reference, have been accustomed to employ a rational and consistent system of transliteration, which represents Japanese sounds with sufficient accuracy. It is true, no doubt, that various slight deviations here and there from strict uniformity of spelling may be noticed,—the result partly of carelessness or caprice, partly of inconsistencies in Japanese itself as pronounced by different individuals, partly of slight differences between the pronunciation of the same letter in Japanese and in English. For instance, Japanese *shi* is not quite identical with English *shi*, Japanese *ra, ri, ru, re, ro* are not quite identical with the English *r* series, Japanese *fu* is not quite identical with English *fu*, etc., etc. But the similarity is very close, the differences are no greater than those subsisting between the various European languages themselves and even between dialects of the same language, and therefore for all practical purposes the same letters as are used to transcribe one language may serve sufficiently well to transcribe another. So far as Japanese in particular is concerned, speaking broadly and leaving aside insignificant exceptions, foreigners of all nationalities resident in Japan—Germans and Frenchmen as well as Englishmen and Americans—have long agreed to spell Japanese in one consistent and unchanging manner, which has been found practically convenient by all ; and exactly the same system has been generally spread among the Japanese, as exemplified in the transliteration of most surnames on visiting cards, of place-names at railway stations throughout the Empire, and in the Imperial Admiralty charts, etc., etc., and that for the reason dwelt on above, namely, that, in matters of orthography, what suits foreigners best *ipso facto* suits the Japanese best, because the requirements of both are identical. This current system of Romanisation is sometimes known as "Dr. Hepburn's system ;" but in reality Dr. Hepburn invented little or nothing ;—he merely adopted the usage established many years since in England and America, and followed by the Royal Geographical Society, the Smithsonian Institution, and the educated public generally, which consists in taking the vowels at their "continental" (that is, German or Italian) the consonants at their English, value, which long experience in many parts of the world has shown to be the simplest and best system for general international use. When, several years later, the *Romaji-kwai* came to deliberate on the subject of transliteration, all they could do—after many long sittings and much discussion—was to adopt the same system with one or two insignificant modifications.

Even the present Committee has unavoidably followed the same familiar system of Romanisation for the most part ; but, anxious apparently to display originality in some details (here in a matter where originality is a fault not a virtue), it has chosen to launch out into strange and fantastic innovations, perplexing alike to foreigners and to Japanese. In fact, it is hard to see who is to profit by these eccentricities except a few booksellers, who will doubtless provide "Readers" in the Committee's spelling to torment the innocent children in the Primary Schools, who are to be used as the *corpus vile* of this experiment. It is impossible that the public at large—that practical men, whether Japanese or foreigners—should be induced to write in so fanciful a manner, to spell the name of the city of *Chôshi* "*Côsi*," to call a photograph "*syasin*," or the current year-name *Mêji* (instead of *shashin* and *Meiji*). The consensus of public opinion will, I venture to predict, condemn the Committee's recommendations as inacceptable in practice and erroneous in theory, and their adoption as a step backwards in civilisation.

As your Excellency was not yet in office at the time when the Committee's deliberations were held, it is probable that this matter has never been brought prominently before your notice. This being the case, I venture to hope, and I feel sure that many persons both Japanese and foreign will venture to hope, that Your Excellency will take the trouble to look into it personally. If Your Excellency does so, there can, I am persuaded, be little doubt that you will come to the conclusion that the Department of Education has been sorely misled by the Committee, and that, for the sake of all the parties concerned, you would confer a lasting benefit by reversing the decision so precipitately arrived at under a former administration. My own interest in the matter is—need I say it ?—purely impersonal. Notwithstanding my special study of Japanese philology during a period of twenty-seven years, I have never found it necessary to invent any new system of transliteration, and I have no particular suggestions to offer, except the simple request that things may be left *in statu quo*, as the easy, consistent, and familiar method of transliteration employed for thirty years past by many thousands of persons of all nationalities is, in my opinion, amply sufficient for Primary School use and for all other purposes, without the need for innovations of any kind.

Again apologising for having thus taken the liberty to address Your Excellency,

I am

Your Excellency's

Obedient humble Servant,

BASIL HALL CHAMBERLAIN,

Emeritus Professor of Japanese and Philology at the Imperial University of Tôkyô.

WATER-COLOURS.

A very interesting picture exhibition is now being held in the salon above Mr. John W. Hall's auction-rooms at No. 61, Main Street. This is the third opportunity on which Mr. F. G. Basuke and his pupils have submitted their work for the approval of the public, and we note with satisfaction a steady improvement in the general quality of the exhibits and a higher level of finish. Of course in a collection of some 200 pictures, it is impossible to banish altogether the mediocre and unworthy, but fortunately in this case these examples are few and far between. Mr. Basuke's own performances in water-colour have already received adequate attention at our hands ; it will suffice on this occasion, therefore, to say that he is now showing a series of Japanese landscapes which all lovers of the beautiful in Nature will find not only attractive but also very faithful, particularly when the artist deals with riverine scenery or the ocean-shore. One of the most pleasing pictures of the exhibition is sent by Mr. Kobayashi. It is a winter scene disclosing a bit of snowclad woodland already beginning to grow indistinct in the crepuscular light of the dying day. The treatment is bold and true, and gives indications of ability of more than average order. A faint suggestion of Millet's famous "Angelus" is to be seen in a picture by Mr. Kosugi. Two peasants, bowed with the toil of years, are making their way homeward with the glorious oriflame of the descending sun behind them, and the brown autumn fields stretched out on either hand. But the conception is better than the execution unfortunately. Another pic-

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ture which catches the eye is from the brush of Mr. Kobayashi: three old gentlemen seated around the *go* board. Here the characterization is extremely good. Some *genre* studies by Mr. S. Yamaguchi deserve more than a passing glance.

The purely Japanese-style pictures are all very good and from the number of red—"sold"—tickets which have already been attached to the exhibits in this portion of the show, would lead one to, suppose that they secure more popular support than examples of the pseudo-foreign school. A word should be said of the many excellent tinted photographs, bromide enlargements, etc., sent from Mr. Tamamura's studio. These worthily maintain that artist's reputation.

THE RECENT MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF MISSIONARIES.

We have been requested to add to our account of the proceedings of the Conference a supplement containing all the more important resolutions adopted. The first ten are given only in substance; the last two are printed in full.

1. A resolution was adopted to be presented to His Majesty the Emperor, expressing the respect of the Conference for His Majesty; its high appreciation of the enlightened statesmanship that has marked his reign; and its best wishes for His Majesty and the nation.

2. Sympathy was expressed for the Missionaries in China and for the Chinese Christians.

3. The work of the Y.M.C.A. in Japan was thearily commended; and its endeavours to extend its influence and methods among young men in the schools and cities of the empire were cordially approved.

4. The purpose of the Evangelical Alliance of Japan to put forth special Evangelistic efforts during the first year of the new century, now close at hand, was warmly endorsed, and, at the request of the Committee of the Alliance, a committee of ten was appointed to co-operate in furthering the work.

5. The endowment of Mission Schools, in order that they may become independent of the annual grants of funds from the various Boards of Foreign Missions, was commended to the consideration of Christian philanthropists in America and England; and special attention was called to the need of providing collegiate courses of study in a limited number of wisely located leading institutions.

5. While the responsibility of the evangelization of Japan was fully recognized as, in a constantly increasing degree, resting upon the Japanese Christians, the need of Missionaries in Japan for some time to come was also recognized; and the Boards of Foreign Missions were urged to maintain the present force without diminution, and also to give careful consideration to all calls for reinforcements to meet special needs.

7. The Conference expressed itself earnestly regarding the desirability of one hymn book to be used by all the Churches in Japan, and it urged that as many Churches as possible unite in their efforts to secure such a book. It also appointed a committee of five to endeavour to obtain the best possible translation of one hundred of the great Christian hymns; to have them set to appropriate tunes, and incorporated in all the hymn books in use in the various Churches.

8. The President and Secretary of the Conference were appointed to correspond with the Churches and Missions, with a view to the establishment of a Japan Sabbath Union, to be composed of both Japanese and foreigners.

It also requested the Evangelical Alliance of Japan to appoint seven members, to constitute with seven members appointed by the Conference, the Board of Managers of such a Japan Sabbath Union.

9. Regret was expressed that the absence of the Rev. High Waddell had prevented him from fulfilling his appointment to conduct the closing exercises of the Conference, and hope that he might be permitted to return to Japan with renewed health.

10. The thanks of the Conference were returned to the foreign community of Tokyo for hospitality shown; to the Y.M.C.A., for the use of its building and many other favours; to the Kanda police for special courtesies; and to his Excellency, the Minister of the United States, for all his kindly and generous interest in the Conference, and in particular for the reception given by him to the Conference at his residence.

11. "This Conference of Missionaries, assembled in the City of Tokyo, proclaims its belief that all those who are one with Christ by faith are one body; and it calls upon all those who love the Lord Jesus and his Church in sincerity and truth to pray and to labour for the full realization of such a corporate oneness as the Master himself prayed for on that night in which he was betrayed."

12. "Whereas, while this Conference gratefully recognizes the high degree of harmony and cordial cooperation which has marked the history of Protestant Missions in Japan, it is at the same time convinced that the work of evangelization is often retarded by an unhappy competition, especially in the smaller fields, and by the duplication of machinery which our present arrangements involve, therefore

"Resolved that this Conference elect, upon the nomination of the President and Vice-Presidents, a Promoting Committee of ten, whose duty it shall be to prepare a place for the formation of a representative Standing Committee of the Missions; such plan to be submitted to the various Missions for their approval, and to go into operation as soon as approved by such a number of the Missions as include in their membership not less that two-thirds of the Protestant missionaries in Japan."

THE A.D.C. PERFORMANCE.

"THE SCHOOLMISTRESS."

On November 12th, 1900, a new chapter opened in the theatrical life of Yokohama. On that date a regularly constituted and organized Amateur Dramatic Club made its *debut* in our midst and signalised in an unmistakeable manner its ability to take the place formerly occupied by purely fortuitious aggregations of amateur theatrical enthusiasts. While welcoming gladly the new association, one cannot help casting thoughts back over the bygone years and recalling to memory the theatrical triumphs of Yokohama's earlier days. Our community is too small, too evanescent—we are still but mere sojourners in this fair land—to make it worth anyone's while to compile a book of theatrical reminiscences, much less a theatrical history of the place. Yet it seems a pity that it should be so, for there are few towns in the Far East where such a rich store of Thespian *ana* lies ready to the hand of the diligent and heart-engrossed gleaner. From the very beginning of the later foreign intercourse in Japan—now nearly half-a-century in length—amateur players blessed with considerable histrionic gifts have been found among the ever-changing foreign population of Yokohama. Old residents—alas, their numbers are now all too scanty, and most of them are to be found in the more comfortable environments of the home lands—can occasionally be induced to talk of the very beginnings of "drawing-room" theatricals here, when the devices of Shakespeare's days in regard to scenery and accessories had to be pursued; and also the Elizabethan expedient of filling the women's parts. But Yokohama was not singular in this respect. Even in the more wealthy and populous settlement of Shanghai, they were hard put to it to fill these characters as nature intended them to be. In the files of the *Japan Mail* may be found an account of how no less a grave and reverend signior than the late Sir Nicholas Hannen, who rose to be Chief Justice of Her Britannic Majesty's Court for China and Japan, danced on the public stage of that Chinese treaty-port as an airy, fairy *coryphée*, clad in the lustrous splendour of silken gauze and green-hued tights! Not so very many years ago we heard Mr. F. H. Balfour recalling the reminiscence to Sir Nicholas—and the two "old boys," for the moment, lived over "youth's glad triumphs" once again. But this is a digression.

At the risk of evoking the sneers of the scornful we place it on record that we would greatly like to see a volume written of, and around, the theatrical annals of Yokohama. What though it savoured of the "small beer" of Little Peddlington-in-the-Marsh! If written on the lines laid down by dear old John Hollingshead, it would be a folio calling back to memory days of long ago, gossiping pleasantly about good men and true—and good women, too—who fretted their little hour upon our stage and conferred pleasure and mayhap profit in many an hour which erst-while would have been sad and dreary in the dull welter of the heart-depressing routine of treaty-port life. The natives of *la belle France*, we believe, were the first to pay homage at the Shrine of Thespis here. They were quickly followed by the officers of the English regiment quartered on the Bluff; and then, as the community grew, bigger and ladies settled among us in larger numbers, the civil element gradually came into the inheritance and kept "the sacred lamp aglow." To the student of the "passing show," who occasionally likes to hark back and ponder on the past, much entertainment is to be found in the files of the newspapers published in those early days. There were keen critics then—keener, and more scholarly it would seem than now—and to these well-nigh forgotten men, almost as much as to the players upon the boards, must be attributed the high excellence to which the Yokohama stage attained. The traditions of the late sixties and early seventies were greatly added to when the veteran George Pauncefote arrived in Japan and grafted on to the then vigorous stem the mighty impulses and classic lore of the English provincial stock-companies. To him succeeded players whose names are still on the tongues of many of us "familiar as household words." Some have gone to the far home-lands; others have merely migrated to Shanghai or ports adjacent. But the ideals they set up for our admiration and delight still glow bright, and, we think, judging from last night's performance, should fate at any time allow them to revisit the scenes of their former triumphs, they will not be ashamed of the present wearers of the sock and buskin. The "private theatricals" of the early days with their intimate, cosy fun and frolic have passed away, the old Gaiety Theatre, with its wealth of associations, is also a thing of the long past—as age is reckoned in this transitory Yokohama life—and now latter day players have at their command conveniences, apparatus, floor-space,—not to mention treasury-receipts—undreamt of by their predecessors; all these things should but urge them to higher effort, and we feel sure that such is the spirit which animates the newly raised A.D.C. It comes into a goodly heritage and a long and prosperous career lays before it, if the standards set up in other years are still honestly striven for and worthily attained.

"The Schoolmistress," by Mr. Arthur W. Pinero, given on Monday evening, involves some sixteen characters. Some notes concerning the play may be of interest. Writing in the early nineties, Mr. Malcolm C. Salamon said—When, during the season of 1885, the exceptional success of "The Magistrate" had revived the fortunes of the Court Theatre, London, and included that house once again among the popular places of entertainment, the future policy of Messrs. John Clayton and Arthur Cecil's management was practically determined. The essentially comic play, the farce of character and manners, was henceforth to compose the programme, and Mr. Pinero, who had suggested the new policy, and so happily inaugurated it, was naturally commissioned to provide the next play. "The Schoolmistress," was accordingly forthcoming in due time, and in the composition of this piece the author further developed his ideas as to the scope and meaning of modern farce. "The Schoolmistress" has a very simple stage-history. It was produced at the old Court Theatre on March 27, 1886, and it immediately caught the laughter and applause of the town, the success being so decided that the play retained its place in the programme until January 22nd, 1887, the total number of performances in the interval having amounted to 290. The success in London led to the Court management sending a special company to represent

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the play in the provinces, where its popularity was great and enduring, so much so that Mr. Edward Terry added "The Schoolmistress" to his provincial repertoire. The same story of success must be told of the play's career in Australia and America. Messrs. Brough and Boucicault presented it to the audiences of the Antipodes, where, in the character of *Peggy Hesslerigge*, Miss Pattie Browne is said to have given as remarkable a performance, as the original exponent of the part, Miss Norreys, had done in London. In the United States, Miss Rosia Vokes was responsible for the production of Mr. Pinero's play, but the principal success was achieved by Mr. Weedon Grossmith in the character of the *Hon. Vere Queckett*, originally interpreted with so much quaint humour by Mr. Arthur Cecil.

"The Schoolmistress" was played in Yokohama some years ago by the remnants of Miss Grace Hawthorne's Comedy Company, Miss Grace Hawthorne, if we recollect rightly, playing the part of *Dinah*, and Miss Marie Brian taking the role of the inimitable *Peggy*—that truly vexing girl. Quite recently, the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society put the farcical comedy on the boards—so local playgoers should be familiar with its plot, its quips, and oddities. Last night the *caste* was as follows:—

"THE SCHOOLMISTRESS,"

AN ORIGINAL FARCE IN THREE ACTS

By A. W. Pinero.

CHARACTERS.

The Hon. Vere Queckett.....Mr. H. J. Sharp.
Rear-Admiral Archibald Rankling, C.B. (H.M. flagship *Pandora*).....Mr. G. G. Brady.
Lieut. John Mallory .....Mr. E. C. Davis.
Mr. Saunders (Mr. Mallory's nephew, of the Training-ship *Dexterous*)...Master G. Irwine.
Mr. Reginald Paulover .....Mr. E. W. Kilby.
Mr. Otto Bernstein (a Popular Composer) .....Mr. C. Aslet.
Tyler (a Servant) .....Mr. J. E. Moss.
Goff } (Firemen) .....Mr. C. J. Whitney.
Jaffray } .....Mr A. R. Owen.
Mrs. Rankling .....Mrs. Hubbard.
Miss Dyott (Principal of Volumnia College for Daughters of Gentlemen).....Mrs McWilliams.
Dinah .....Miss Andrews.
Gwendoline Hawkins .....Miss Sharp.
Ermyntrude Johnstone .....Miss G. Mendelson.
Peggy Hesslerigge (An Articled Pupil).....Mrs. E. W. Maitland.
Jane Chipman .....Mrs. C. J. Whitney.

Act I.

The Mystery.

Reception Room at Volumnia College, Volumnia House near Portland Place.

Act II.

The Party.

Class Room at Volumnia College.

Act III.

Nightmare.

Morning Room at Admiral Rankling's in Portland Place.

Place aux Dames! It is with pleasure that we welcome back Mrs. Hubbard to the stage on which she has won many notable triumphs. Her *Mrs. Rankling* was a delightful bit of comedy, instinct with an old-world charm that only such a finished player could infuse into the part. Equally glad are we to greet a lady who has endeared herself to Shanghai's Lyceum *habitués*. Mrs. E. W. Maitland as *Peggy Hesslerigge*, the articled pupil "taken over, years ago, for a bad debt," and who, according to the author, we believe, should have been "rather shrewish, with actions jerky, and having the appearance of an over-wise and neglected child," was one of the merriest, sauciest school-girls—with just that aptitude for *espièglerie* secretly loved by all folks possessing a reasonable sense of humour—that anyone ever wished to see. To say that she was the life and soul of the play whenever the action of the piece brought her on the stage, goes without question. When once the house had "tumbled to" her quaint and humourous conception of the part, it gave itself entirely into her hands. Seldom has a new-comer won such instant regard in Yokohama. Other new faces among the ladies were Miss Andrews (*Dinah*); Miss G. Mendelson (*Ermyntrude Johnson*) and Miss Sharp (*Gwendoline Hawkins*)—three young ladies who achieved notable successes by their natural behaviour and deportment; the unassumed artlessness of the unsophisticated school-girl being their greatest attraction. Mrs. C. J. Whitney, another new comer to Yokohama, made an excellent *Jane Chipman*, and the opening dialogue between her and *Tyler*, was very mirth-provoking. As *Miss Dyott*, the Principal of Volumnia College with unsuspected Terpsichorean gifts and aspirations, Mrs. C. F. McWilliams was excellent, sustaining with splendid *verve* the rather difficult situations which the double-life forced her to face. Among the other players, Mr. Sharp and Mr Brady naturally stand out well. The former, as the *Hon Vere Queckett*, infused a more distinctive individuality into his part than he has done in some of his previous characters; while Mr. G. G. Brady realised all that was in the *rôle* of the choleric, overbearing, blustering sea-dog of an *Admiral Rankling*. Both gentlemen fully earned the applause which a delighted house freely extended. *Lieut John Mallory, R.N.*, was satisfactorily played by Mr. E. C. Davis, his love-making with *Peggy* being particularly well-done. His nephew, *Mr. Saunders*, (Master Gerald Irwine,) made the nicest of diminutive midshipmites possible. Another leading part, that of *Mr. Reginald Paulover*—the good-looking, bad-tempered, ill-mannered, unlicked cub who has married *Dinah* at the Registry Office, and thus incidentally becomes the cause of all the trouble was well played. This *rôle* was assigned to Mr. E. W. Kilby, and a better selection could not have been made. He carried out the author's intentions to the letter. Mr. C. Aslet caused some fun as Mr. Otto Bernstein, the impresario of Teutonic extraction and wide ambitions; while the *Tyler* of Mr. J. E. Moss was, as we have said, most life-like, though he was much spruce in appearance and behaviour than the stage-directions indicated. The minor parts of *Goff* (Mr. C. J. Whitney) and *Jaffray* (Mr. A. R. Owen) were in good hands.

The setting of the play was under the capable direction of Mr. C. F. McWilliams and it goes without saying that the staging of the last act was very attractive. Mr. E. Beart was Stage Manager, and the results of his wide experience and theatrical abilities were seen in the smoothness with which the whole play ran.

It only remains to add that the house, which was filled to overflowing, was seated very punctually, allowing of the curtain rising at 9 p.m. as announced. By kind permission of Capt. Grosch and the Agents of the Norddeutscher Lloyd, the string band of the steamship *Stuttgart* played the following selections during the evening: 1 Overture, "Ungarische" (*Keler-Bela*); 2 Waltz, "Immer oder Nimmer" (*Gungl*); 3 Medley, "Plantation Echoes" (*Arr. by G. H. Ross*); 4 Galop, "Piraten" (*Hesse*). Many bouquets were handed across the footlights at the close.

THE SPINNING INDUSTRY.

The *Keizai Zasshi* publishes a lengthy article penned by "Riukutsu" on the subject of the spinning industry in Japan. We epitomise it as follows:—

The development of the spinning industry in Japan is most remarkable, yet, strange to say, its extraordinary progress has had the effect of involving it in serious embarrassment. This is attributed, on the one hand, to imperfection of internal organisation, and, on the other, to the insignificance of the foreign market available for the industry. The spinners were barely enabled to extricate themselves from these sources of distress when, a year or two ago, trade with China revived with every prospect of growth. Unfortunately, however, the revival was temporary, for the extravagant appreciation of raw cotton in the latter half of last year again plunged them into distress. The outbreak of the insurrection in China was, of course, the main and direct cause. Both the north and south of China were affected by it, and trade came to a complete standstill. Below are the comparative figures for the past three years:—

	No. of spindles at work.	Output in Kwan.	Exports in Yen.
1st half, 1897	925,574	15,773,787	9,451,451
2nd half 1897.....	928,407	16,263,647	10,665,135
1st half, 1898	1,026,994	18,045,745	13,035,116
2nd half 1898.....	1,086,721	19,663,633	5,486,324
1st half, 1900	1,088,339	18,627,877	2,975,019

Comparing the result for the 1st half of this year with that of the latter half of last, it will be observed that although the number of spindles at work had increased by 1,600, yet the output had decreased by 1 million *kwan* and the amount of export by 10,280,000 catties, with a corresponding diminution in value of 13,650,000(?) *yen*, whereas the average value per catty shows an appreciation to the extent of 4.4 *sen*, or 70 per cent. The latter fact is, no doubt, attributable to the augmentation in the expense of manufacture as may be judged from the following figures:—

	2nd half of 1899. value in *yen*	1st half of 1900. do.
Coal, per 10,000 catties	16.03	18.87
Cotton for spinning, per picul ...	18.45	23.21
Daily wages for men	0.27	0.28
Daily wages for women.....	0.17	0.17

And in the face of this steady increase in the expenses of production, the demand for yarns from the interior suddenly decreased, which drawback was soon followed by a substantial decline in the general export trade. Under these circumstances a serious diminution in the profits of the spinning companies throughout the empire was inevitable. The following statistics may serve to show the vicissitudes of these companies during the past nine years:—

	Number of companies. 1st half.	2nd half.	Percentage of dividend. 1st half	2nd half.
1892	28	30	11.5	14.5
1893	32	33	11.1	13.0
1894	38	43	12.4	7.1
1895	47	51	9.4	11.9
1896	59	65	9.4	9.2
1897	66	66	9.4	4.8
1898	76	71	5.9	3.6
1899	65	58	4.6	9.2
1900	59	—	4.1	—

From the above it appears that the average rate of dividend for the 1st half of the current year did not exceed 4.1 per cent., or less than half the amount in the corresponding period of last year. The discrepancy is still more striking when this year's figures are compared with those recorded for any of the previous years except 1898, in which year the rate was only 3.6 per cent. Under these circumstances the spinners were obliged to adopt a resolution for the suspension of overtime from October 25th till December 31st, this year, They have further resolved that a conference shall be held, before the expiration of this period to fix the working hours for each company, and to demand a suspension of spindles to the extent of over 40 per cent in the case of corporations from which it was found impossible to exact complete stoppage of overtime. Monthly reports have been published showing the results of an inspection of the condition of business carried on by the various companies throughout the empire. According to the latest return the number of companies which have entirely suspended night work reached 37, with spindles aggregating 528,504; those which reduced the number of spindles working totalled 10; those which reduced the number of spindles and also suspended night work numbered 4, and the number of spindles suspended for night work only amounted to 55,880 against 65,312 now held in abeyance during the daytime. As for the companies which have entirely ceased their operations, the figure stood at 3, with 11,268 spindles. Besides, the factories where midding and fine yarns were manufactured, some of the weaving companies were also obliged to stop night work for the time being.

The result of these unfavourable circumstances can easily be imagined. An increase in the expenses of manufacture to the extent of 40,000 or 50,000 *yen* became inevitable, the average outlays for the production of a bale of 20's being now estimated at over 19 *yen*. This would mean that in the case of large companies, losses have to be incurred to the amount of 10,000 *yen* per 10,000 spindles, and in the case of those which are not so favourably circumstanced in respect of means of accommodation, the amount of losses will be not less than 20,000 *yen*. It thus became absolutely indispensable for these companies to introduce certain changes into the system hitherto adopted by them, or to curtail the number of artisans in their employ, as a temporary expedient to meet the immediate contingency. The factories where coarse yarns from 17 to 27's were chiefly manufactured

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are now required to add to their business for this year the production of yarns varying in number from 20's to 30's. With regard to these particulars the following comparative figures may be of some interest :—

	Ring.	Mule.
1st half of 1897	18's	25's
1st half of 1898	18's	26's
2nd " " "	18.5	25's
1st half of 1899	19's	27's
2nd " " "	18.5	27's
1st half of 1890	20's	30's

A tendency is thus apparent towards the production of fine yarns, and this seems to have originated in a desire to prevent the import of yarns from abroad, by undertaking at home the manufacture of foreign yarns, and maintaining at the same time the value of coarser manufactures designed for export to China. The programme thus inaugurated can hardly fail to secure profits in the future. Apart from these circumstances, however, the embarrassment into which the spinners have fallen may, on one particular account, be attributed to their own blunders. According to investigations made by the Osaka branch of the Bank of Japan, the amount of commercial notes and discounted bills issued by the various banks, on security of goods, to spinners in Osaka and Kobe up to the end of September last is as follows :—

	Osaka. *yen.*	Kobe. *yen.*	Total. *yen.*
Commercial notes	4,482,043	1,200,600	5,682,644
Discounted bills	3,671,457	2,112,122	5,783,573
Total	8,153,500	3,312,722	11,466,222

At the end of September the stock and value of yarns and raw cotton stood as follows :—

Stock.	Osaka. bales.	Kobe. bales.	Total. bales.
Raw cotton	19,510	83,112	102,632
Yarns	29,468	25,601	55,069
Value.	**Yen.**	**Yen.**	**Yen**
Raw cotton	1,532,892	6,018,296	7,561,.88
Yarns	1,358,475	1,180,206	2,538,681
Total	2,891,367	7,208,502	10,099,869

(Note).—The above table shows the amount held by the warehousing companies in Osaka and Kobe, and does not include the stock in the hands of the spinning corporations.

From the figures given above it may be perceived that as the value of stocks amounts to 12,405,295 *yen*, this, together with the amount held by the various spinning companies, will not exceed 15 million *yen* approximately.

Had these companies been possessed of a substantial amount of working funds as distinguished from fixed capital, and refrained from appropriating their funds in the form of fixed investments above the amount of capital secured by them, they might easily have escaped falling into their present condition of embarrassment. The reckless procedure which they have adopted in connection with their business, is, remarks the writer, anything but justifiable.

NIPPON BICYCLE CLUB.

AUTUMN SPORTS.

The usual autumn meeting of the Nippon Bicycle Club, which took place on Saturday afternoon in the Cricket Ground, was attended by fine weather, and, thanks to the excellence of the arrangements, everything passed off most successfully. There was a large turn-out of spectators, which included not a few ladies, and of course the proceedings were watched with deep interest by crowds of Japanese from the buildings overlooking the scene and from the outside of the railings. The track was in capital condition and the racing good, Helm's time in the one mile race for non-winners on this track (2.27⅘) beating Bain's record of over 2.30 which had been untouched for years. Helm's share in the events was an interesting feature of the day's proceedings. Coming in as a new contestant in this programme, he beat Thorn so easily in the mile that doubts were immediately expressed as to Irwine's ability to give him 200 yards in the five miles handicap for the Kirin Beer Cup. This distrust was fully justified, for not merely was Irwine quite unable to get level with his opponent but the latter actually improved his lead and finished strong and fresh 50 yards better than when he began. It would of course be absurd to blame the handicappers for this; they could not in strict justice put a newcomer on even terms with a tried rider like Irwine; yet as the event proved Helm could have ridden under such conditions with a strong chance of success.

We have already expressed praise of the arrangements. Everything went admirably, and so punctually were the events brought off that it was found possible to introduce three extra races for bluejackets and marines from H.M.S. *Endymion*, of whom there were a number present. One improvement, however, suggests itself. The slips of paper bearing the numbers of the riders were attached high up between the men's shoulders where it was quite impossible for any one on the ground to see them, though doubtless they were visible to those in the stand. They should in future be placed lower down and be of material which does not flutter so much as to conceal the numbers.

Much interest was taken in the 10 mile champion race, where E. Irwine met three Japanese riders, with the result that after being alternately first and second all round he was in the last lap cleverly collared by each one in succession and left completely out of the finish, in which Nakatsukasa raced Ishizima hard for first place. The Japanese wins in this and other races were rapturously applauded by their compatriots within and without the enclosure.

The trick riding exhibited by Messrs. S. Kobayashi and K. Yamasaki was really well worth a visit to the Cricket Ground even if no other attraction were offering. Mr. Yamasaki appeared first and performed a number of feats which were frequently applauded, and finally he went on the track and rode round with his front wheel most of the time in the air. Mr. Kobayashi's repertory was more varied, though his specialty appeared to be the ability to walk, hop, or jump all over the machine with ease and without making slips whether that long-suffering wheel was driven back and forth, with intervals during which it stood up or lay flat on the ground. Finally he too gathered up his front wheel and rode round the track amid the plaudits of the spectators. These performances were very clever and even graceful at times, and persons who witnessed the feats of Mr. Sid Black when that gentleman visited this country declare that the Japanese riders have very little to learn from him.

The service races were distinctly funny, as doubtless the Committee hoped they would be when making place for them, but the riders were in them for victory and went round the track in deadly earnest. In one race Speight and Filewood competed, finishing in that order; in another five starters went for a three lap race; one man fell during the first round but Simpson romped home an easy winner from Duck, second. In a third scratch race three bluejackets started and they finished in this order. 1 Blake, 2 Duck, 3 Speight. Though there was a fair sprinkling of marines on the ground, this branch of the service, while "soldier and sailor too," does not run apparently to bicycles. One of their number who essayed the first race was not a marked success.

At the close of the sports Mrs. Tegner was conducted by Mr. Mollison to a table opposite the stand on which the prizes were displayed. The various winners were then called up and received at the lady's hands their rewards, accompanied in each case by a graceful expression. Mr. Mollison then presented to Mrs. Tegner a beautiful bonquet and called for three cheers which were heartily given. The band then played the Japanese national air and the proceedings came to a close.

The officers of the day were :—Judges: Messrs. J. P. Mollison, R. J. Ward and C. M. Duff. Time keeper: Messrs. T. M. Laffin, H. K. Onderdonk, W. H. McGowan, and S. Akiyama. Scorers: Messrs. W. R. Matteson and W. B. Mason. Clerks of the Course: Messrs. C. Helm and Geo. Hood. Starter: Mr. K. Kingdon. Handicappers (the Committee of the Nippon Race Club): Messrs. R. J. Ward, President; K. Kingdon, Captain; L. W. Eyton, 1st Lieutenant; C. Helm, 2nd Lieutenant; Geo. Hood, Hon. Sec. and Treas.

LAP RACE, 5 LAPS, 2 SPURTING LINES PER LAP.

First Prize, Presented by Mr. E. H. Tuska, Agent for the "Columbia" Bicycle.
Second Prize, Presented by Mr. C. Helm.

1 H. Y. Irwine.	T. Mori.	E. Kobayashi.
2 Y. Ishizima.	Y. Nakatsukasa.	

This was a match between Irwine and Ishizima, who were the only starters. The latter won the first lap and they were level on the second. The third and fourth were just won by Irwine and the last lap was a dead heat. Irwine won with 25 points and Ishizima with 23 was second. Time, 3.43.

1 MILE RACE, FOR NON-WINNERS ON THE YOKOHAMA TRACK.

First Prize, Presented by Mr. R. J. Ward.
Second Prize, Presented by the N. B. C.

1 J. Helm	Scratch.
2 C. H. Thorn	25 Yards.
0 A. Kingdon	60 "

Thorn won the first lap and Helm the second third and last by almost 50 yards in each case. Time, 2.27⅕. Helm's time is a record, beating Bain's of over 2.30 made some years ago.

BOYS RACE. 2 LAPS. HANDICAP.

(For Boys under 16 years of age)
First Prize, Presented by Mr. K. Kingdon.
Second Prize, Presented by Mr. B. Roberts.
Third Prize, Presented by Mr. A. L. Bouffier.

1	L. Stornebrink	2	C. Charlsworth.
3	N. Utagawa.	4	C. Correa.

The Boy's Race (handicap) was amusing; the boy given the largest allowance held his own for the first round but L. Stornebrink (scratch) came up and passed him in the second. Time 1.42⅕.

1 MILE CHAMPION.

First Prize, Presented by Mr. T. M. LAFFIN.
Second Prize, Presented by Mr. C. W. ROGERS.

1 Y. Ishizima.	4 T. Mori.
2 Y. Nakatsukasa.	5 E. H. Irwine.
3 E. Kobayashi.	

Five started in this, which proved an exciting race, here as later on one foreigner entering against four Japanese. Nakatsukasa made the running and Irwine was second the next lap and first the third. Ishijima now passed him, winning easily, with Nakatsukasa second. Time, 2.32⅕.

KIRIN BEER CUP, 5 Miles, Handicap.—Presented by the Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. First Prize, Gold Medal by the N. B. C. Second Prize, presented by Mr. W. H. McGowan.

1 J. Helm	200 yards
2 H. Y. Irwine	Scratch

In this race Irwine was altogether out of it. Helm not only won the race, but absolutely added to his handicap. Time, 13.29⅘. Even on level terms Helm, who is a very powerful rider, would in the opinion of many have won. This cup has now been won once each by Mason and Irwine and twice by Helm (once on the road) and should the last mentioned win it again it becomes his property.

10 MILES CHAMPION.

First Prize, Presented by Messrs. Andrews and George, Agents for the "Cleveland" Bicycles.
Second Prize, Presented by the N. B. C.

1 Y. Ishizima.	3 T. Mori.
2 Y. Nakatsukasa.	4 E. H. Irwine.

In this race Nakatsukasa, Ishizima and Irwine kept exchanging places during the progress of the race. There were one or two struggles, notably in the tenth lap when they raced past the stand in fine style, Irwine leading. In the 14th lap Ishijima dropped behind for half a turn but soon came up again. For the most part they jogged along first one then another in front till after passing the stand and beginning the last turn Irwine, who was leading with Ishijima close up, was suddenly displaced. First Ishijima shot past him; at the next corner Nakatsukasa left him, and going down the settlement side Mori came up and slid past him as if he were standing still. The three Japanese raced in but Mori could not catch the leaders, who finished almost level, the difference being a wheel at most. Time, 29.37⅕.

1 MILE CONSOLATION.

First Prize, Presented by Messrs. EYTON & PRATT.
Second Prize, Presented by Mr. GEO. HOOD.

1 T. Mori.	2 Y. Nakatsukasa.

The last event on the card brought out three starters all Japanese. Kobayashi led from the outset but in the third lap fell at the first corner and gave up. Mori came in first Nakatsukasa second. No time was taken.

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THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

The following telegram received at the United States Legation, has been kindly placed at our disposal :—

McKinley elected with greater majority than in 1896 and with a Republican House of Representatives

The *Japan Daily Advertiser* is enabled from private sources to give a detailed, though apparently partial, list of the vote in the U.S. Presidential election as follows:

FOR MCKINLEY.

California	9
Connecticut	6
Delaware	3
Illinois	24
Indiana	15
Iowa	13
Kansas	10
Maine	6
Maryland	8
Massachusetts	15
Michigan	14
Minnesota	9
New Hampshire	4
New Jersey	10
New York	36
Nebraska	8
North Dakota	3
Ohio	23
Oregon	4
Pennsylvania	32
Rhode Island	4
South Dakota	4
Utah	3
Vermont	4
Washington	4
West Virginia	6
Wisconsin	12
Wyoming	3
	292

FOR BRYAN

Alabama	11
Arkansas	8
Colorado	4
Florida	13
Georgia	13
Idaho	3
Kentucky	13
Louisiana	8
Mississipi	9
Missouri	17
Montana	3
Nevada	3
North Carolina	11
South Carolina	9
Tennessee	12
Texas	15
Virginia	12
	155

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Is it too much for the travelling public to expect an accurate railway time table to be published? I have a collection of about half a dozen; but on comparing them I find differences, so all cannot be correct.

As an instance of inaccuracy in one of them, I may say that there is no such train as the 12 noon from Uyeno (Tokyo) to Takasaki. I was informed of this at ¼ to 12 one day at the Booking Office, after having made elaborate arrangements to catch it. Turning to my time table to see if there could be any mistake, I found I was advised to drink a certain beer. Yes, very convenient! Make a fellow lose a train and advise him to pass the time in drinking something he doesn't like! I need hardly say I have been drinking the opposition brew since.

Another time table which I have is a lovely thing containing over 50 pages about octavo size. To be of any use one would require a coat with a special pocket for it. It is nearly all advertisements. On almost every page it is said that Mr. Singebow Hinde is a carrier and that a certain mineral water is the best.

What is wanted is a small-sized time table published in book form, free from all advertisements. It might be sold for, say, 10 *sen* and the publishers might issue "correction slips" to substitute pages in which alterations are required. If one side of the correction slip be gummed it could be inserted in the place of the cancelled page. These slips might be issued free for 3 months to those who pay, say 20 *sen*, for the time table.

As matters now stand, one cannot undertake a journey of any length without a reference to a time table at a railway station, and these are only published in English at a few stations.

YAKAMASHI.

Nov 10th, 1900.

[Note.—The *Japan Mail* has for many years issued a pocket time-table on the lines suggested by our correspondent. Corrections are made constantly, and every effort is made to keep the book-let up to date.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The figures quoted by you in this morning's paper from the *Japan Daily Advertiser* do not tally with the figures given by Reuter. You will notice however, that if 13 be added to the *Advertiser's* figures for McKinley and subtracted from those for Bryan, Reuter's figures will appear (McKinley, 305 and Bryan 142). Now there are two ways in which a change of just 13 may easily be effected. In the first place, if Kentucky went for McKinley as she did in 1896, exactly 13 votes are changed. The latest information, however, of the *Chicago Record* was to the effect that Kentucky would probably go Republican on the State ticket but Democratic on the National ticket. Or, in the second place, if Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Nevada went for McKinley, exactly 13 votes are affected. In this case, Bryan was left practically with only the "Solid South."

For convenience of comparison now and hereafter, I append from the *Chicago Record* a table giving the vote in 1896, and the *New York Herald* estimate for this year. It will be observed that McKinley's vote considerably exceeded the most sanguine Republican claims.

	Probable vote 1900			Vote 1896	
	McKinley	Bryan	Doubtful	McKinley.	Bryan
Alabama	—	11	—	—	11
Arkansas	—	8	—	—	8
California	9	—	—	8	1
Colorado		4			4
Connecticut	6	—	—	6	—
Delaware	3			3	
Florida	—	4	—	—	4
Georgia	—	13	—	—	13
Idaho	—	—	3	—	3
Illinois	24	—	—	24	—
Indiana	—	—	15	15	—
Iowa	13	—	—	13	—
Kentucky	—	13	—	12	1
Louisiana		8	—	—	8
Maine	6	—	—	6	—
Maryland	—	8	—	8	—
Massachusetts	15	—	—	15	—
Michigan	14	—	—	14	—
Minnesota	9	—	—	9	—
Mississippi	—	9	—	—	9
Missouri	—	17	—	—	17
Montana	—	—	3	—	3
Nebraska	—	8	—	—	8
Nevada	—	3	—	—	3
New Hampshire	4	—	—	4	—
New Jersey	10	—	—	10	—
New York	36	—	—	36	—
North Carolina	—	11	—	—	11
North Dakota	3	—	—	3	—
Ohio	23	—	—	23	—
Oregon	4	—	—	4	—
Pennsylvania	32	—	—	32	—
Rhode Island	4	—	—	—	—
South Carolina	—	9	—	—	9
South Dakota	4	—	—	—	4
Tennessee	—	12	—	—	12
Texas	—	15	—	—	15
Utah	—	3	—	—	3
Vermont	4	—	—	—	4
Virginia	—	12	—	—	12
Washington	4	—	—	4	—
West Virginia	6	—	—	6	—
Wisconsin	12	—	—	12	—
Wyoming	3	—	—	—	—
Total	258	168	21	271	176

Yours sincerely,

E. W. CLEMENT.

Tokyo, Nov. 12.

P.S.—By-the-way, the *Mail* prints Reuter's message as giving Bryan 150 votes, but that is clearly a misprint for 142, because the Electoral College contains 447 voters.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In my letter published in this morning's paper, I find that Kansas has accidentally dropped out of the table. It should appear with 10 votes, for Bryan in 1896 and for McKinley in 1900, according to the *New York Herald's* estimate.

Sincerely yours,

E. W. CLEMENT.

Tokyo, Nov. 14th.

IS THE ROMAN CHURCH A SECT?

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I hold to the doctrine that British subjects make better missionaries than American citizens, that among British subjects the members of the C.M.S. are some of the very best of missionaries; and that the Rev. J. Batchelor is not only one of the best among the C.M.S. but *the* missionary to the Ainu, and the authority upon the subject.

He naturally feels annoyed when any competing force is felt in what is his own sphere of influence; but I hope he will pardon the thought that, from what he has said about the native worship of the Ainu they could be more easily won by some missionary, who, other things being equal, would approach their souls from the side of Catholic teaching.* Whenever the C.M.S. come within range I am always reminded of Mrs. Ginx's Secondary Creed :—

1. I believe in the Church of England.
2. I believe in Heaven and Hell.
3. (A negative article) I hate Popery, Priests and the Devil.†

Twice now in the pages of the *Japan Mail* have I seen the Roman Church printed as a Sect. The first time was by the able and earnest writer of the Monthly Summary of the Religious Press; a gentleman who retains his Protestantism although he has parted with his Christianity. We can forgive him We all throw old shoes after our best friends when they are wedded. And we can forgive any Protestant Anglican for the display of ardour against the common foe in a sympathetic assembly. But what about the effect upon others? For every action there is an equal and contrary re-action. I must confess to a little mental protest when our brethren of the Roman obedience are called a sect. I expect to live and die in the communion of the Catholick Church, and I have not the slightest intention of changing my canonical relations, but if I do, put it down to what I have read in the *Japan Mail* about Sects.

Let us look at the matter fairly. To be sure the part is not the whole, and so far as a church is Roman it is not Catholic. The whole of Europe east of a line drawn from the Baltic to the Adriatic is more or less in communion with the Greek Church, Catholic but not Roman.

Europe north of the Rhine is Protestant. These divisions are social and linguistic, the Romance nations being Roman, the Slavonians Greek, and the Teutons Protestant in the type of their religion.

Now in the little islands off the coast of Europe we have had all sorts of Christianity in conflict and competition, with the present result of Scotland and the North of Ireland, firmly Protestant, the South of Ireland and the Highlands (?) in union with Rome; and the Church in England with all sorts and conditions of men of all shades of religious belief living and working in more or less harmony in a liberty of action under a nominal conformity that is an object lesson for the rest of the world. In America there is still greater liberty and it was the voice of the Church in America, re-echoed in England, that is now known as the Chicago-Lambeth platform for the corporate re-union of Christendom.

All four points of the Quadrilateral are common to the Romans, Greeks, and Anglicans, and but one, the Historic Episcopate, is the crux with the separated brethren.

Now while it is a good thing for the C.M.S. clergy and others who are *en rapport* with those that are without, to fraternize with them, yet we must never forget that more flies are caught with molasses than with vinegar, and that people who live in glass houses must not throw stones. The very utmost aim of the English Church is the corporate re-union of all Christians that use the English tongue and their converts in heathen lands. She has no mission to the other Christian nations. The Eastern Church seems to care more for Orthodoxy than for corporate unity. But the Roman Church stands for the corporate Christian unity of the entire earth, and although we may find fault with her doctrines yet the very arrogance of her claims makes it seem inexpedient and impolitic, or at least impolite, to speak of the Church whose centre is in the ancient capital of the world as a Sect. The Japanese are watching us. They had one religious revolution, and they do not want another. They have already taken some of the best results of Christian applied ethics, so that their soldiers set an example to those of the nominally Christian nations. We are now on trial, and it is going to be our behaviour that shall win us favour with the people and the court. We cannot succeed by calling each other names. Japan is already more than half Christian; we might say it is unconsciously Christian. Marquis Ito has been laid up with the influenza, and has forgotten to make public mention of the fact that Japan is a Christian nation, but he will get around to it some fine day. In the meantime it is not to be

* Is one Missionary enough for 10,000 Ainu in the Sapporo district?

† vide "Ginx's Baby" p 52.

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expected that a Sect that forbids the use of candles and incense to a people that has been used to such things for untold ages, is ever going to be popular. Let us give up all acidity, and acrid expressions, and at least pretend to love each other as brethren.

Yours sincerely,

HENRY SCOTT JEFFERYS,
Catholic Priest.

P.S.—We all agree with what Mr. Batchelor says about communion with God. Of course he knows well the book of Brother Lawrence, "The Practice of the Presence of God," commended by Mr. Gladstone and others.

A LITERARY QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the second article in the Summary of the Religious Press, last week, appears the sentence,—I quote from memory :—"The low place that Buddhism now occupies is to be explained on the principle of "like priest like people."

Is the sentence, "like priest like people" a quotation from any particular writer, or is it one of those current expressions that has gained from its currency some degree of authority? I have heard it credited to the Bible, but as far as I have searched the Book, it is not there. One of the speakers at the recent Tokyo Missionary Conference, quoted it as though it had Divine authority. Did the writer of the Summary intend so to quote it?

The nearest approach to it in the Scriptures, that I have been able to find, is the sentence,—"As with the people, so with the priest," (Isa XXIV). This is the exact opposite of the "principle," "like priest, like people. Both of the statements, however, are true,—the one no more than the other. It is probable that the latter, "like priest, like, people," had its start in a mis-quotation and it is a curious fact that the former is seldom heard while the latter is very common.

CONSTANT READER.

Osaka, Nov. 12th, 1900.

MISSIONS IN THE FAR EAST.

At the sitting of the Church Congress at Newcastle on Sept. 27th, Mrs. J. F. Bishop gave an account of the missions in the Far East, dealing especially with China, Japan, and Korea. She spoke of the difficulties which existed in Japan, where Agnosticism carried all before it, and she declared that the growing manhood of the country, freed from the teaching of Confucius, and not having the teaching of Christ, was indeed, a Yellow Peril, not only to this country, but to the whole Far East. Dazzling as the progress of Japan had been, she was as much in need of the Gospel and Christian teaching as Central Africa was, and possibly more. Korea, she said, was a feeble parody of China, but still there was good ground there for missionary work. The problem of China—religiously as well as politically—was now upon us. In her archaic and unreformed Orientalism the western leaven had fallen, for good or evil. Western civilisation, that strongly-mingled cup of blessing and cursing, had been offered to her, and she rejected it. The Gospel had been offered to her in foreign dress, interwoven with Treaty obligations, and had brought not peace, but a sword. Events called a halt in missionary operations—a halt not to admit defeat, but to bring up overwhelming reinforcements. The plan of campaign might have to be revised. British Generals and soldiers had learned much in a year of war in South Africa. Were the armies of the Cross to learn and unlearn nothing by forty years' warfare in China? The word "retreat" was now on the lips of many; but the Church of Christ could not, dare not, retire from the blood-drenched battlefields of the Far East.

AUTOMOBILES.

That the automobile is to be the vehicle of traction of the future is becoming plainer every day. The French and German armies have used them in their recent manœuvres, and the British War Office has also found them serviceable on Salisbury plain and at other big camps during the past summer. All things considered, it is not surprising that the magazine writers of Europe and America should be busy with the subject of the hour, so that hardly one monthly of standing is without some article or other calling attention to the merits, or defects of various and sundry patents in the field of automobile traction. From an excellently written article which appears in the *Popular Science Monthly*, of New York, we gather a few facts concerning these machines :—

As far back as the beginning of the thirteenth century the Franciscan monk Roger Bacon prophesied that the day would come when boats and carriages would be propelled by machinery. The first authentic record of a self-propelled carriage dates back to the middle of the sixteenth century. The inventor was Johann Haustach, of Nuremburg. The device is described as a chariot propelled by the force of springs, and it is said that it attained a speed of two thousand paces per hour, about one mile and a quarter. Springs have been tried by many inventors since that time, but always without success, from the simple fact that the amount of energy that can be stored in a spring is practically insignificant.

In 1763 a Frenchman by the name of Cugnot devised a vehicle that was propelled by steam, and a few years after the date of his first experiment, constructed for the French Government a gun carriage. The design was of the tricycle type, and it was intended to mount the gun between the rear wheels. The boiler, which resembled a huge kettle, hung over the front end and was apparently devoid of a smoke stack. Motion was imparted to the front wheel by means of a rachet. Although this invention was very crude, it must be regarded as meritorious if we consider that it was made before the steam engine had been developed in a successful form for stationery purposes.

The next effort to solve the problem was made by W Symington in the year 1784. In 1803, Richard Trevithick brought out a carriage which could run, but was artistically a failure. Moreover, the machinery was such as would soon give out, even if well designed, on account of its exposed position.

Between 1805 and 1830, quite a number of steam vehicles were invented and put into practical operation

A steam-omnibus was actually running from Pentonville to Finsbury-square, London, in the early twenties. But the development of railroads for a time turned the thoughts of engineers and inventors into other lines and for nearly half a century very little was done in the way of developing the automobile.

In every civilized country, where the mechanic arts are far enough advanced, automobiles are now being manufactured, but France is the country where modern development first began, and up to the present time it has maintained its leading position, although in quality of product, other nations, if not on a par with it, are certainly not very far behind.

The perfection to which the steam automobile has been developed in these latter days is due mainly to the efforts of L. Serpollet, a distinguished French engineer. Other highly successful steam carriages are now manufactured in England and in America, as well as in several European nations, but Serpollet was the first to bring forth a successful fast running attractive vehicle, and the others have profited by his work.

Although America was rather slow in taking up the automobile, inventors and manufacturers are now making up for lost time, setting a pace which only Transatlantic energy can keep up. We understand that one of the very latest designs in American steam-wagons will shortly be brought to Japan, for exhibition in Tokyo and other large cities, and Japan will thus again have an opportunity of reaping the results of Occidental ingenuity and enterprises. The wagon is thus described :—

In this vehicle the running gear is a complete truck, upon which the carriage body is supported. The boiler is of the tubular type and the double cylinder engine is secured to its side. Vertical tubular boilers are used, and the steam is generated by the use of gasoline, which is burned in the vaporized state in specially constructed burners. The engine is of the vertical cylinder type, and motion is transmitted to the hind axle by means of sprocket wheels and a chain. In regard to their operation it can be said that they have sufficient power to run up the steepest grades encountered on ordinary roads at a fair rate of speed, while on level ground their velocity is more than enough to satisfy the average rider. The Serpollet boiler is practically inexplosive, while those used in the American vehicles are so constructed that they can withstand a pressure far greater than any they can be subjected to in practice. It might be expected that the motion of the machinery would produce an unpleasant vibration, but on account of the lightness of the moving parts and careful balancing, this effect is much reduced. The use of gasoline as fuel, in connection with automatic burners, eliminates the smoke and ashes incident to the use of coal, and in addition reduces the labour of handling the vehicle, as no attention need be given to the mechanism other than to see that the water in the boiler is maintained at the proper level.

TOKYO TRAMWAY COMPANY.

The *Keizai Zasshi* states that the Tokyo Tramway Company having recently received special permission from the Government in regard to the alteration of the motive power adopted by it, eventually resolved to increase its capital to five million *yen* instead of three millions as heretofore, and to carry on its business under the new name of the Tokyo Electric Railway Company. At a special general meeting held on the 20th ultimo the following items were discussed and passed with slight modifications :—

(1) Alteration of the Company's name to Central Electric Railway Company, with head offices at Hamamatsucho, Shiba, Tokyo.

(2) Increase of capital by 1,700,000 *yen*.

(3) The period of operation, instead of expiring June of the 45th year of *Meiji*, to be prolonged to June of the 85th year of the same era.

(4) The aggregate shares of the Company, now numbering 34,000, to be increased to 100,000.

(5) Augmentation of the reserves to over 5 per cent. instead of limiting the same to 5 per cent. as at present.

(6) The interest on reserves to be retained as a special fund until the close of the period of operation.

(7) Establishment of supplementary rules as below :—

1. The additional 66,000 shares provided by the decision of the general meeting of the 20th ultimo should be distributed among the shareholders actually enrolled on the 26th February in the 34th year of *Meiji*.

2. The aforesaid distribution of new shares shall be made at the rate of 1.04 per share, with the proviso that fractions which may occur in calculation for each share shall be added together and submitted to competitive tender for the purpose of dividing the proceeds among the shareholders in proportion to the amount of stock held by them. The period as well as the procedure for such tender shall be determined by a conference of the principal officials of the company.

3. The period of application for the new shares shall be fixed on the 28th February in the 34th year of *Meiji* (1901). Shares for which no application is made within the prescribed period shall be dealt with by a conference of the principal officials.

4. The first calls on new shares shall be 12.50 *yen* each, the date of payment being determined by the principal officials.

5. The amount and date of payment for the 2nd period shall also be determined by the principal officials.

6. In order to utilize the payments after the 2nd period the officials shall be empowered to raise a temporary loan in advance.

7. Shareholders failing to respond to the calls on new shares shall be required to pay interest on the amount in arrear at the rate of 4 *sen* per day per 100 *yen*, with expenses incurred in connection with such failure.

The meeting concluded by altering the proposed name of the company to the Tokyo Electric Railway Company, and voting an additional clause in the sense of requiring a payment of 2.50 *yen* per share as security for each application for new shares, all the other items being passed *in toto*. According to reports by the municipal officials, the expense of altering the motive power is estimated at 3,425,000 *yen*, of which the details are as follows :—

Expenses.	Amount in *yen*
1. Laying of track	250,000
2. Laying of electric wire	250,000
3 Establishment of rails for electric cars...	100,000
4. Electric cars	1,300,000
5. Establishment of generating stations ...	700,000
6. " transformer stations...	150,000
7. Various buildings	50,000
8. Extension and pavement of roads	625,000
Total	3,425,000

Of the above total, 3,300,000 *yen* are to be supplied out of the increased capital, the remaining 125,000 *yen*, it is estimated, being drawn from payments still due on existing shares. As to the estimates of receipts and expenditures after the alteration, the following figures are given :—

RECEIPTS.	Yen.
From the company's main line (daily average)	4,500

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[Note.—The period of operation per day is to be 20 hours, the number of departures being fixed at 1,800, with average receipts of 2.40 *yen* for each.]

Shinagawa line (daily average)	1,000

[Note.—The number of departures is fixed at 1,200 with average receipts of 90 *sen* per day.

Total of the above items (for one year) ...	2,000,000

EXPENDITURES.

1. Coal.....	90,000
2. Generating Stations	8,000
3. Maintenance of rolling stock and machinery	80,000
4. Maintenance of lines.	30,000
5. Salaries of conductors and engine drives	200,000
6. Head Office expenses	100,000
7. Manufacture of tickets	7,000
8. Repairs and buildings	5,000
9. Taxes	30,000
Total.....	550,000
Balance, profit	1,450,000
To legal reserves.....	72,500
Payments to Governments.....	342,500
Balance, net profit	1,035,000

Thus the ratio of profit is 20.7 per cent. against the aggregate capital of 5 million *yen*. Whether the above estimates can be realized or not, is uncertain, but there can be no manner of doubt, adds our contemporary, as to the possibility of securing an enormous profit in connection with the proposed alteration of the system now in force

NEWS FROM CHINA.

The China Inland Mission has received a telegram from Hankow to say that Dr. J. W. Hewett, of Yuwu, Shansi, arrived there on 6th November.

On the 22nd ultimo the Allied forces evacuated the grounds of the Temple of Earth, the grounds of the Temple dedicated to the Dynasty, and the Imperial Ancestral Temple, and turned them over to the Chinese officials, who were further informed that as soon the actual peace negotiations began the Allies would also vacate the various yamêns and bureaux, and return them to the Chinese Government.

The new dredger for the Admiralty Dock Works, Hongkong, the Canton River, built at Paisley, was semi-officially inaugurated and tried with great success at Hongkong on the 31st ult. She raised 750 tons in 45 minutes, and steamed out from home in 61 days' steaming time. In the big storm the other day, in which the *Sandpiper* was lost, the dredger went to the bottom.

All the high officials and Censors left in Peking have drawn up a joint Memorial urging that the guilty Princes and high Ministers be forthwith executed without further delay and that the Emperor return as soon as possible to Peking. This memorial was sent per special messengers to Hsian at the rate of 660 li a day. Not long afterwards another joint memorial was sent demanding the return of the Emperor to Peking at once, and praying that the date of his Majesty's departure from Hsian be telegraphed to Peking, in order that the Palaces may be prepared for his Majesty's reception.

A Canton dispatch from an official source reports the defeat, recently, of General Ma Wei-ch'i in command of a large body of troops operating against the Triad army in Huichou prefecture, Kuangtang. The Imperialists could not stand against the hail of bullets from the Triads, who were from the first greatly outnumbered by the troops, about six to one, but when the machine guns (pompoms) were brought up on the flanks the Imperialists fled in disorder, leaving nearly 200 dead and wounded on the field. General Ma returned to his camp with only 400 men out of 3,000 who had gone into battle that morning, and had to desert it the same night for fear of being surrounded the next day.

With reference to a dispatch from Hsian published by the *N.-C. Daily News*, reporting the escape of Prince Tuan from Tungkuan Pass under the disguise of a Buddhist bonze with shaven head, for Western Mongolia to join the Assistant Dalai Lama at Kokonor or Tsinghai, another dispatch, a telegram from Lanchou, capital of Kansu province states that Prince Tuan passed through that, city lately, still in the garb of a Buddhist pilgrim bonze, and that from latest accounts he had now reached Tinghsia, the native city of General Tung Fu-hsiang. It is surmised in local mandarin circles that Prince Tuan travelled as a matter of fact under the protection of Tung Fuh-siang who, it is reported, obtained leave of absence for two months from the Empress Dowager when she reached Tungkuan, keeping with her as guarantee for Tung-Fu-hsiang's return to Hsian the great portion of his army, which when it entered Shensi numbered 10,000 infantry and 1,500 cavalry, besides some 30 quick-firing field pieces.

A Ningpo correspondent sends the *Shanghai Mercury* the following:—Yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock, a small two-masted Japanese fishing boat made its appearance at this port. Great surprise was expressed in seeing that she was in charge of only one man and fears were at once entertained as to the fate of the other hands. It appears that she left Nagasaki about 12 days ago with the intention of making her usual short fishing cruise of two or three days. This class of boat is generally manned by two men, but at the last moment one of the partners fell ill and his mate proposed taking a short run on his own account. He accordingly set sail and was scarcely out of sight of land when a gale of wind sprang up. For at least eight days he was tossed hither and thither in the teeth of the storm. Of course the poor fellow had lost all reckoning as to his whereabouts but on Thursday night last he was agreeably surprised to sight a light. The storm had beaten him down to the Chusan Archipelago and the light which he sighted was no doubt that of Square Island. Making the course he came to Chinhai, at the mouth of the Ningpo river, eventually arriving in perfect safety at Ningpo. It was a most hazardous venture and the wonder is that either man or boat are left to tell the tale, for no doubt both encountered most treacherous weather. Strange to say the man is none the worse for his trying experience and apparently is unconcerned at the dangers through which he has recently passed. The boat too looks fit and is a trim little vessel and appears to have stood the force of the gale splendidly.

"Esson Third" is a witty man. His accounts of "Things Korean" written for the delectation of readers of the *North China Daily News* are always worth reading. Here is a letter from him dated at Söul, Oct. 23rd:—

A long line of carts, like Israel's going down to Egypt, passed out of the palace yesterday, loaded with charred embers, logs, tiles, old iron, rags, and other débris. Behind the bullocks dragging them came as many ponies with bursting hampers on their backs, filled with ashes. It was the funeral procession of the late monarchs of this dynasty, whose ghosts and spirits were burned the other night. These remains are bound for a Buddhist monastery outside the East Gate, where they are to be prayed over, and fed, and sacrified to, and wept for, and paid millions of cash, in the hope of straightening out the national calamity that has befallen Korea by the burning of the tablets and pictures of the ancestors. His Majesty refuses to go anywhere near the haunted region of the fire. He has backed up into a foreign building bordering on the Customs compound, and there he is casting lots, reading horoscopes, and listening to the findings of witches, geomancers hobgoblins, spooks, and banshees. He was informed the other night by this congress of experts, that the former site of the Table Hall was rendered unpropitious, and that it could never be built on again; but that they had skilfully caught up the current of influence, and found that it ran directly across the Customs compound, and that it offered a most lucky site at a few yards from the place rear. The site happened to be the tennis court of the Commissioner, but never mind that; it was Korean soil and his Majesty was Emperor, and the tablets must have a resting place, regardless of a thousand Commissioners. So they were at it bright and early on the following day, measuring off lines from the "pig" point to the "dog;" keeping the "monkey" and "rat" in their proper places. Everything was coming out in perfect order, "weasel" and "snake" just where they ought to be, when suddenly the commissioner returned for tiffin. He saw an assemblage gathered on his tennis court and made bold to march over and inquire after the nature of their visit. The reply was something like this, "His Majesty wantchee catch one piece ground makee joss-temple. Every man say this can do number one luck." Cromwell's smash-up of the Rump Parliament in 1648, was light compared with the damage done this concourse of diviners, who had assembled to locate a joss-house on the Commissioner's lawn-tennis court in Söul, 1900.

FIRE AT THE SÖUL PALACE.

Describing the fire by which the temple of the imperial Korean ancestors was burned down on the night of Oct. 13th, a correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says:—

On Saturday night last the city of Söul was illuminated by a huge blaze of fire from within the Palace enclosure. The building, sacred to the memory of ancestors, and containing the pictures and tablets of the founders of the illustrious dynasty, took fire, no one knows how, in the early hours of the morning. His Majesty, sans cérémonie, was hustled out of his apartment into a red hot Hades, just in time to see the tablets and benign faces of his ancestors disappear in a most horrible holocaust. Without waiting to tie on garters, arrange skirts, or do up his hair, he fled from the enclosure, through the rear gateway, along the lane between the British Legation and the Customs compound, turned to the left, and made for the Library Building; a host of eunuchs, dancing girls, sorcerers, fortune-tellers, geomancers, grave vendors, exorcists, astrologers, and medicine men fleeing hard after him. A most fearful disturbance took place in the Library Building. The shades of all the twenty-five dead kings of this dynasty had it out for once

TAKING A MEAN ADVANTAGE.

On the other hand, the uproar in the palace enclosure calmed down. Nothing but the crackling of flames was to be heard. In a few minutes the Japanese were on hand with their fire engine, and tapped gently on the garden gate—peace gate, I mean. "What do you want?" said the guard. "We'll help you put out the fire and save the pieces," said the Japanese. "No, thanks," said the voice from within, "we're getting along very nicely here," or something to that effect; and the fire was left to work its will. When morning came there was an investigation, and it turned out that the Imperial storehouses had been looted by the guards and soldiers left in charge. Even the sacred sleeping chamber of His Majesty had not been inviolate. Several hundred arrests were made and a dire tussle is pending. While it goes on goods from the palace will be passed round for sale cheap, and the stealer and the buyer will rejoice together.

A DUTIFUL DESCENDANT.

The Emperor has sent out a notice: "The pictures of my ancestors have been burned. I shall refuse to hear any music for a month, schools shall shut down and affairs of State may go to thunder; the question with me is my ancestors. New pictures must be made, many sacrifices offered, and great attention given." It is a holiday for the geomancer. The matter of the Queen's grave has been already talked over, at a cost of 1,500,000 yen (these figures were given me by a worthy authority), but her picture was burned on Saturday night, so that the whole matter must be taken up from the beginning. There are rumours that the palace is now rendered unpropitious by the fire, and that another must be juggled for.

INCIPIENT DISORDER.

Guards stand three deep about the corners and gates of this unholy place, threatening with their ever fixed bayonets to perforate the innocent passer. A time of storm and stress is upon the spiritual props of the Empire, while the material elements are having a North-Western Indian pow-wow, with no fear whatever of law and order stepping in. In keeping with these conditions, a week ago we had the first highway robbery of foreigners that has taken place since the opening of the ports. A Mr. Sidebotham was in charge of a party journeying from Fusan to Taiku. Suddenly they were attacked by Korean robbers, who stationed Mr. Sidebotham on a rock, prodded him gently with their swords, and then demanded clothing, money, baggage; promising to leave him intact if he responded quickly. There was nothing to do but to yield, and the party in a most destitute condition reached the end of its journey.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The theory that a famine year is followed by an increased birth-rate has once more been confirmed in the N.W.P. in India.

Dysentery is spreading among the workers in the Hemp Factory at Nikko. Forty patients are reported.

Rear-Admiral Beardslee. of the U.S. Navy, has

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been elected an honorary member of the American Asiatic Association of Japan.

Three bluejackets from the British cruiser *Endymion* were arrested by the police on Wednesday for overstaying their leave. On Thursday they were handed over to their ship.

Mr. Kimizuka Hamakichi and ten others who recently petitioned for permission to establish an export handkerchief factory guild in Yokohama, had their request granted on the 14th inst.

The German sailing ship *Flottbek*, which went ashore on Wednesday on a shoal to the north of Saratoga Spit, is still unfloated. She may come off to-day after discharging a portion of her cargo of phosphates.

A man named J. S. Northcote has been taken in charge by the authorities at Osaka, and placed in the Lunatic Asylum at Kitano in consequence of his extraordinory behaviour. He is an Australian and has been employed on the *Hongkong Telegraph* and *N.-C. Daily News*.

Judgment in the promissory note case between Mr. Nishida and Mr. H. R. Raspe, the former claiming surrender of a promissory note for *yen* 1,000, was given in favour of the defendant at the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday. The plaintiff's claim was dismissed, and costs were given against him.

Shiba Tatsugoro, living at Chojamachi, Ichome, Yokohama, was arrested by the Kotobukicho police, on the 13th inst. He stole some money in Saitama Prefecture in July last year, and disappeared. Coming to Yokohama he opened a barber shop. In his absence he was tried in the Saitama Court, and was sentenced to five months' imprisonment with hard labour and fined 5 *yen*.

The *Nagasaki Press* is informed that Admiral Hiltebrandt, Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Naval Forces in the Far East, has obtained, on the recommendation of Mr. N. Rospopoff, late Russian Vice-Consul in Korea, the appointment of Mr. F. Steenackers, late French Consul at Nagasaki, as a Commander of the Order of St. Stanislaus, for distinguished services rendered to the Russian Government. Mr G. Hirose, interpreter of the French Consulate, has received the insignia of a Knight of the same order.

The opening of the autumn meeting of the *Jisan Kai* (Self-Praise Society) promoted by several Privy Councillors took place at Hoshigaoka, Tokyo, on the afternoon of the 14th inst. The exhibits included paintings, manuscripts, poems, etc. The following Privy Councillors were present:—Marquis Saionji, Count Higashikuze, Viscount Nakamuda, Mr. Ozaki, Count Sasaki, Viscount Kawase, Marquis Hachisuka, Baron Otori, Baron Ito, Viscount Kiyooka, Viscount Fukuoka, and Viscount Torio, Mr. Komaki, Chief Secretary, Mr. Kawamura, Mr. Shibata and others.

We read in a home paper that Captain Pitcairn Jones, R.N., who, it will be remembered, was out here on the *Grafton*, was given a hearty welcome home on his recent arrival at Petersfield. The gallant officer was in command of the naval contingent which advanced to the relief of Ladysmith. When Captain Jones arrived at Plymouth the inhabitants of Petersfield determined to do honour to their distinguished townsman in celebration of his home-coming. The Bishop of Southampton and a large crowd met him at the railway station, while a guard of honour, consisting of the 3rd Hants Volunteers and the Fire Brigade, escorted him through the streets to his residence, the carriage being drawn by working men.

Owing to the wretched weather on Sunday evening there was but a small attendance at the Public Hall when the choir of Christ Church gave Simper's beautiful Cantata "The Rolling Seasons." Special psalms were introduced into the service and thanks were given for the blessings of harvest. The principal singers in the Cantata were Mrs. E. Champneys Irwine, Miss Burdett Leach, Miss K. Page, Mrs. W. K. Wilson, Messrs. H. E. Hayward, N. G. Maitland, and W. K. Wilson. The organist, Mr. W Karl Vincent, conducted. The service will be repeated next Sunday, when the offertory will be in aid of the Choir Fund.

The Raja of Jhind has just been married to Miss Olive Monalesen, daughter of Mr. Monalesen of Bombay. The bride, who is about 15 years old, was married according to the Sikh rites and will in future be known as Her Highness Juswant Kuar.

Fire broke out in a Buddhist temple, the Honkeiji, Koyasu-mura, Tachibana-gori, Kanagawa Prefecture, on the evening of the 12th inst. and the building was half destroyed. An hour before the fire broke out a man knocked at the doors. An old attendant cried out to him. "If you want something come again to-morrow morning." The man replied, "If you don't open the door, I'll set fire to the place."

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Saturday morning, before Judge Shidara, Mr. Francois sued Mr. E. Bickart, of Oppenheimer Freres. The plaintiff was represented by Messrs. Magaki and Otani, and the defendant by Mr. Akiyama. Plaintiff claimed from defendant *yen* 3,168.79, namely, *yen* 1,164.60 as damages for breach of contract, *yen* 1,541.68 as salary, and *yen* 3,168.79 as passage home. Defendant contended that under the contract the case could only be tried in the Seine Court. The Court decided that it had no jurisdiction and dismissed the case.

H.E. the Siamese Minister to Japan gave a dinner at the Imperial Hotel, on Tuesday evening. The following were present:—Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Household Department, Mr. Kato, Minister for Foreign Affairs; Baron Kawaguchi, Vice-Minister of the Household Department; Baron Sannomiya, Grand Master of Ceremonies; Viscount Inaba, Baron Madenokoji, Messrs. Niwa, Ouchi, Ito, Tanaka, Date, Matsudaira, and Hachisuka, Master of the Ceremonies, and others.

The Hongkong *Daily Press* says that the forthcoming races in Hongkong were being looked forward to with exceptional interest in consequence of the arrangements which were being made to substitute walers for China ponies. Some 42 ponies were shipped at Brisbane to the order of Mr. Bell, Assistant Secretary at the Hongkong Club, in the *Tsinan*. All went well until Manila was reached, but on that port being left some very rough weather was encountered, the result being that 22 ponies were killed. This unfortunate occurrence may have the effect of postponing the meeting somewhat.

By special invitation of the Director of the Lighthouse, Buoy and Beacon Bureau a number of Japanese and foreign officials had an opportunity on Saturday of inspecting certain new lighting apparatus which is about to be brought into use. Under the guidance of the Director (Mr. Kusama) and the Engineer, Dr. Ishibashi, the visitors saw a third-class revolving light to be placed on Sekisaki in the province of Bungo; a fifth-class light for Shirasu; a green disappearing light for Haneda Point, and a first-class revolving light of enormous candle power for the north island of the Pescadore Group.

A gang of "beachcombers" of different nationalties, numbering eleven, stowed-away on board the s.s. *Arab* while she was in Kobe last month. They managed to hide themselves in the after-hold till the pilots had left the ship, and then came on deck. It was then impossible to put them ashore, and the only remedy left was to make them work their passage to Manila, where on arrival, they were handed over to the police. According to what their leader informed a *Manila Times* reporter they had plenty of work to do, but complained that the food given them was both insufficient in quantity and bad in quality. They were under the impression that as they had worked their passage they had paid for their trip. They were doomed to disappointment, however, adds the *Times*, and will appear before Judge Whitsett to answer a charge of stowing away, thus depriving the *Arab* of the passage money due in the ordinary manner; they seem to be of opinion that they are entitled to some consideration in view of the hard work entailed in looking after horses which were also shipped on the transport.

On the 29th of July, says *Sport and Gossip*, we had the pleasure of publishing an account of Mr. James Watts' gallant ride from Tientsin to Taku to fetch the troops. It is a still greater pleasure now to publish a communication which Mr. Watts has just received from the Marquis of Salisbury, which reads as follows:—

> SIR,—The Marquis of Salisbury has read with interest a dispatch of Mr. Carles reporting the feat performed by you in riding with dispatches through the Chinese lines from Tientsin to Taku. I am desired by his Lordship to express to you his high appreciation of this courageous and public-spirited act, and to inform you that Mr. Carles' report of it has been laid before Her Majesty the Queen.

Latest statistics published in the *Yomiuri* show that the total membership of the Red Cross Society throughout the empire has reached 693,179, of whom 28 are enrolled as honorary members, 241 as having rendered meritorious services, 2,626 as special, and 46,320 as life members, the rest being classified as permanent and auxiliary members. Taking the average membership in each of the cities and prefectures it may be observed that the ratio borne by permanent members to the entire population is 1 to 70. In this respect, however, Nagano prefecture stands foremost, the ratio being 1 to 43. Next comes Shiga, with a ratio of 1 to 46, and it is followed by Nara and Yamaguchi where the ratio is 47 and 49 respectively. Osaka is comparatively insignificant, the ratio being 1 to 53, while Kanagawa shows the proportion to be 1 to 60. As for Kyoto the ratio is 1 to 65, and Tokyo, though the capital of the empire, has a proportion of only 1 to 85. It may be added that the amount of the annual contributions to the Society does not fall short of 1,904,365 *yen*.

The *Devon and Exeter Gazette* of October 4th states that Dr. Bickersteth, the Bishop of Exeter, has decided, in consequence of ill-health to resign. The news will have by no means taken his friends, or indeed his devoted diocese, by surprise, seeing that he has untiringly devoted over fifty years to the duties of curate, vicar, and Bishop in succession. He was born in 1825, his father being the rector of Watton, and was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge (English Medallist 1844, 1845 and 1846; Sen. Opt. and third class Classical Tripos). Among many works from his pen, inspired by a spirit of religion rather than theology, a poem in twelve books entitled "Yesterday, To-day, and For Ever" published in 1866, apparently suggested by Milton's "Paradise Lost,' in its day attracted most attention. His Hymnal Companion to the Book of Common Prayer has been extensively used in churches. Dr. Bickersteth is an uncompromising Low Churchman without being a bigot. One of Dr. Bickersteth's sons was the late Edward Bickersteth, the well known and beloved missionary Bishop of South Tokyo, whose "Life and Letters" were recently written by another son, the Rev. Samuel Bickersteth, vicar of Lewisham.

In the case instituted against Mr. H. Geslien, representative of Messrs. A. Meier & Co., No. 68, by Mr. A. L. Koch, No. 56, Kobe, claiming *yen* 3,284.79 with interest, which came on in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Nov. 5th before Judges Oshuma, Nozawa and Hiyama, Mr. Masujima appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Sunagawa for defendant. Mr. Masujima applied for an order on defendant for payment of *yen* 2,684.19 and *yen* 600.60 with interest at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum from the 4th November, 1899, till the day judgment is executed. He stated as facts that (1) plaintiff owed *yen* 12,387.08 to W. F. Wenyon, representative of the Glasgow Central Agency. Defendant took over the right of the loan of the said Wenyon on the 1st November, 1899, by mutual agreement. In consequence plaintiff delivered up some alcohol and wire netting as security. (2) Plaintiff paid off all the amount owed to the defendant on the 8th and 15th February last. (3) Defendant dis-

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posed of a portion of the security as detailed in the account dated the 4th November, 1899; but did not pay *yen* 3,284.79 due to the plaintiff. (4) Defendant promised not to charge any commission on the said sales of the goods at first, but finally deducted *yen* 600 60 as commission and refused to pay that amount to plaintiff. (5) Defendant failed to pay the amount mentioned in the 3rd and he is therefore liable to pay interest on the amount at the rate of 8 per cent., as customary among foreign business men in Kobe. On this ground Counsel applied for judgment in favour of his client. The defendant's case consisted mainly of a denial of the plaintiff's contentions. After hearing arguments the Court decided on the motion of the plaintiff's counsel to all Mr. R. R. Ehlers. The case was adjourned *sine die*.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday before Judge Sato, the hearing of the case in which Mr. Arai Kildoyle claims from the representative of Messrs. H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf., No. 29, Yamashitacho, Yokohama, the sum of *yen* 20,490.454, including *yen* 2,000, the balance of the cost of the Phœnix Saw Mill, sold to the defendant, was resumed. The claimant was represented by Mr. Masujima and the defendant by Mr. Akiyama. Mr. H. C. Litchfield deponed that he was the executor of the late O. Keil, who died in January, 1899. On account of Mr. Keil's indebtedness to Ahrens & Co. he paid that firm *yen* 6,000 to *yen* 7,000. There were several documents in the possession of the deceased which showed that they belonged to Ahrens & Co. They were therefore given to Ahrens & Co. There was no relation whatever between the legacy of Mr. Keil and the saw mill at Nakamura. A man named Upton demanded payment from witness with regard to the saw mill, but, as that had no connection with the executor, the demand was rejected. Upton did not apply for payment afterwards. Witness had no talk with Ahrens & Co. with regard to the saw mill. To Counsel for the plaintiff he said he did not know who was the owner of the saw mill, though he heard that it was a Japanese. He also heard that Leopold was financing the business. To Counsel for defendants—Witness did not know Arai Kildoyle had any relation with the saw mill. After hearing Counsel the Court adjourned to Nov. 20th.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

ENGLISH POLITICS.

Shanghai, Nov. 9.

Mr. Gerald Balfour, formerly Chief Secretory for Ireland, has been appointed President of the Board of Trade, in place of Mr. Ritchie.

AMERICAN POLITICS.

The Presidential election in the United States was attended by unusual excitement, and the poll cast was the largest in the history of the country. While the returns show no reversal, the votes cast by different States show that Bryan's position was markedly improved in many of them compared with 1896. There was rioting and bloodshed in several places.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

The premier of New South Wales has cabled to President McKinley inviting the attendance of a detachment of American troops at the inauguration of the commonwealth of Australia.

BRITISH CABINET APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. Gerald Wyndham, formerly Parliamentary Secretary for the War Office, has been appointed Chief Secretary of State for Ireland, vice Mr. Gerald Balfour, now gone to the Board of Trade.

The Rt. Hon. Walter Long, formerly President of the Board of Agriculture, replaces Mr. C. T. Ritchie as President of the Local Government Board.

Lord Cranborne replaces the Hon. St. John Brodrick, as Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain, formerly Civil Lord of the Admiralty, replaces the Rt. Hon. R. W. Hanbury, as Financial Secretary of the Treasury.

Lord Stanley, formerly a Junior Lord of the Treasury, replaces Mr. J. Powell Williams as Financial Secretary for War.

Mr. Arnold Forster, one of the Unionist members for Belfast, replaces Mr. W. G. E. Macartney, as Parliamentary Secretary for the Admiralty.

THE AMERICAN ELECTIONS.

President McKinley secured 305 votes, Mr. Bryan 152. The Republican Party will control both Houses of Congress—the Senate and the House of Representatives.

FROM RUSSIAN SOURCES

The *Novoe Vreyma* says that Russia, France, America and Japan have arrived at an understanding which will act as a counterpoise to the Anglo-German agreement.

STEYN AND DE WET IN FLIGHT.

Shanghai, Nov. 11.

It is officially reported that Le Gallais has surprised and routed the Boers, and captured seven guns with waggons and ammunition.

There were killed: Le Gallais, Engelbach of the Buffs, Williams of the South Wales Borderers, and eight men; wounded: seven officers and 26 men.

Steyn and De Wet fled in haste.

NEW JAPANESE BATTLESHIP

Baroness Hayashi performed the ceremony of launching the Japanese battleship *Mikasa* at Barrow yesterday.

THE CHINA HONOURS.

Vice-Admiral Seymour receives the Grand Cross of the Bath, Rear-Admiral Bruce becomes Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George; Captains Bucke, Callaghan and Jellicoe, Companions of the Bath; Midshipman Gay receives the Victoria Cross; and Lieutenants Lowther, Crofton, Charrington, Mackenzie, and Phillimore receive the Distinguished Service Order—all for services in China.

AMERICA AND CHINA.

Shanghai, Nov. 12.

The Washington Cabinet have had a meeting at which it was unanimously decided that the policy hitherto pursued in China shall be continued unchanged.

AMERICA AND THE PHILLIPINES.

In consequence of the election of Mr. McKinley the American Government has decided to resume a vigorous policy in the Phillipines.

The *New York Post* states that America has decided to ask Great Britain to suppress the Phillipino Junta in Hongkong.

BOERS IMPLACABLE.

The Boers declare that they will not surrender even if Steyn and De Wet are captured.

BULLER AT HOME.

General Buller has had a tremendous reception at Aldershot.

LE GALLAIS' ACTION.

Le Gallais was severely engaged for five hours. The Boers were one thousand strong.

HARD FIGHTING IN THE TRANSVAAL

Shanghai, Nov. 14.

General Smith-Dorrien has had two days hard fighting between Belfast and Koomatipoort. The Boers were repulsed. Commandant Prinsloo and General Fourie were killed and General Grobelaar was wounded.

SHARP ENGAGEMENTS.

Sharp engagements have taken place at Lichtenberg, Philippolis, Middleberg, and Rustenberg. The British were successful.

BADEN-POWELL ILL.

General Baden-Powell is ill of enteric fever.

CRITICAL CONDITION OF MISS ROBERTS.

Miss Roberts lies in a critical condition.

THE DUKE OF YORK'S ESCORT.

One thousand troops have embarked at Southampton for Australia to form the Duke of York's guard of honour.

NEW MILITARY SCHEME.

The *Daily Mail* states that a scheme of army reform has been prepared, in accordance with which troops will receive ten months' field training instead of six weeks. Immense areas of land are to be acquired.

HOME POLITICS.

Shanghai, Nov. 15.

Parliament meets on December 3rd for the autumn session, the Government requiring money to carry on the war.

The Times states that Lords Raglan, Onslow, and Hardwicke have been appointed Under-Secretaries for War, the Colonies, and India respectively, and that it is almost certain the Cabinet will consist of twenty members, which will be the largest on record.

THE CZAR ILL.

The Czar is suffering from influenza.

BOER RAIDING.

The Boer raiders continue active. Prisoners admit that it is hopeless to think of regaining the country, but say the Boers are determined to cause the British as much loss as possible.

AMERICAN REVENUE RETURNS.

The American revenue returns show a total of five hundred and sixty-seven million dollars, which is the largest on record.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, Nov. 8.

The Chamber of Deputies has commenced the discussion of an interpellation on the general policy of the Cabinet.

The First Minister, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, has declared that he will ask the Cabinet, after the Budget, to vote a project of law on associations and another for the superannuation of workmen.

The re-election of President McKinley has taken place. There was some rioting and a few killed and wounded.

Saigon, Nov. 11.

The Chamber of Deputies, after a long discussion of the interpellation on the general policy of the Cabinet, has passed a vote of confidence in the Government of 316 votes to 237.

Saigon, Nov. 12.

Lord Salisbury, speaking at the Lord Mayor's Banquet, expressed the opinion that it is necessary not to conquer China but to reform her, which peace demands.

THE FRENCH FORCE IN CHINA.

Saigon, Nov. 12.

A telegram from General-in-chief Voyron announces that General Bailloud, after a serious fight, dislodged the Boxers from a village to the south of Pao-ting. The French had three killed and a certain number of wounded.

All the provisions of the French expeditionary corps have been landed.

The sanitary condition is good.

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FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, Nov. 14.

It is telegraphed from Hongkong that a typhoon has ravaged the country.

An accident has occurred to the express train at Choisy-le-Roy. There were 8 killed and 23 wounded.

(Choisy-le-Roy is a town in the environs of Paris, Department of the Seine).

Saigon, Nov. 15.

The International Exhibition is closed.

The Chamber of Deputies has terminated the general discussion of the Budget. It has decided to hold two sittings daily, one in the morning, devoted to the different chapters of the Budget, the other in the afternoon to discuss the reforms proposed by the Government.

(Received at the War Office.)

CHINA NEWS.

A detachment of troops was sent from Peking on the 8th instant to guard the extension of the railway at Hwan-tsung.

It has been decided that French, German and American officials shall be included in the civil government of Tientsin.

On the 1st of November the Russians had an engagement with the enemy at Kin-chow (near Shan-hai-kwan) and suffered many casualties. (Non-official).

On the 3rd of November, a battalion of Russian troops proceeded from Shan-hai-kwan to Kinchow. On the same day a British staff officer, at the head of 100 British and 300 French troops, proceeded to attack the insurgents at Tung-shan, a place about 120 miles (English) on the West of Shan-hai-kwan. (Non-official.)

The French sent up a balloom on the 8th of November from the coal hill in Peking. (Non-official.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Peking.

The Japanese troops sent against Shun-i-hien, all returned to their quarters on the 11th instant. They were welcomed by the people *en route*. A messenger also came from Hwai-jau reporting that all was well there.

(Non-official.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

According to news from Taku, dated the 12th of November, the repair of the railway from Shan-hai-kwan to Tongku is nearly completed, with the exception of the bridges, for the completion of which no date can be fixed. The Russian line of telegraph between the same places will be open throughout from the 13th instant.

(Received at the Naval Department.)

LAUNCH OF THE "MIKASA."

The first-class battleship *Mikasa*, built in England, was successfully launched on the 8th instant. (The *Mikasa* is 15,240 tons.)

(Received at the Foreign Office).

Shanghai, Nov. 11.

The vessel that is expected here shortly for the purpose of laying a submarine cable, is said to have received orders to lay a cable between Tsing-tao and an island at the mouth of the Yang-tsze. It is further stated that the Great Northern Telegraph Company will connect the latter island with Shanghai.

Hankow, Nov. 11.

According to information from a trustworthy source, Yu-Hsien is not dead, but has escaped to Honan. An edict ordering his capture and execution has been issued. A report has been received that Tung and his troops have reached Si-ngan.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Shanghai, Nov. 13.

An Imperial Edict was published on the 8th instant, in answer to Taotai Shêng's memorial impeaching Yü Hsien and the other officials of Shan-si, who were implicated in the anti-foreign outrages. The Edict directs that in addition to being deprived of his office, Yü Hsien shall be arrested and kept in confinement pending the determination of his degree of guilt. The former Governor of Shan-si (Yü Hsien?) is now at Wei-nang-hien in Shen-si, where he will probably be apprehended.

(From the "North China Daily News.")

A FATAL EXPLOSION.

Tientsin, November 6.

It is reported that an explosion occurred on a war junk at Tulu which was being guarded by British soldiers, resulting in the death of the British guard and about fifty Chinese. The cause is unknown.

CHINESE NEWS.

Tientsin, November 8.

Russia proclaims the territory on the opposite bank of the river to Tientsin, from the railway station two miles down, to be Russian property by right of conquest, Russia having defended the Settlement and station on the 23rd of June last.

Belgium claims the territory adjacent to the Russian claim, beyond Messrs. Meyer & Co.'s oil godowns.

Later.

The Russians have handed over the Northern Railway to the British under strong pressure in London.

(From "Der Ostasiatische Lloyd.")

NEWS FROM SHANTUNG.

Tsingtao, November 3.

Further fighting took place near Kaomi on November 1st. Large numbers of Boxers had assembled there and strongly fortified two villages, which were known as turbulent. As interference by them with the railway work was apprehended, Captain Conradi, of the German Marines, with 400 men (200 marines, 30 cavalry, 2 maxims and 4 field guns) attacked both villages. These were captured. After all the women, children and old people had been sent away, the villages were burnt to the ground. The German troops had one trumpeter and seven men wounded, whilst 200 dead Chinese were found left on the field. With a view to the maintenance of order further bodies of infantry and artillery have been sent for. Yuan Shih-kai, the Governor of Shantung, has expressed his satisfaction at the energetic measures taken by the Governor of Kiaochou for the punishment of the Boxers.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

Tientsin, November 5.

The Provincial Treasurer of the province of Chihli, Ting Yung, who during the past few months was Acting Viceroy, the Tartar General Kuei Heng, and Colone. Wang Chang of the Chinese army, who were found guilty of the death of a large number of missionaries near and in Paotingfu by a court martial of the Allies and who were sentenced a few days ago to death, have been shot to-day at Paotingfu. The Acting Provincial Judge has been cashiered. (Ting Yung was Provincial Judge of Chihli when the Boxer troubles began. After the Boxers had killed the Provincial Treasurer Ting Chi, Ting Yung was promoted to the rank of Provincial Treasurer of China; when the Viceroy Yü-Lu was killed in the battle of Yangtsu on 9th August, Ting Yung became Acting Viceroy of Chihli, pending the arrival of Li Hung-chang.)

The Manchu President of the Board of Revenue, Chung Li, has fallen near Peking into the hands of French soldiers. They brought him as prisoner to Peking. Chung Li became famous already during the month of May by his anti-foreign memorials to the throne and the furtherance of the Boxer movement.

According to reports from Chinese sources the commanders of the provincial troops of Fukien and Chêkiang, Yu Chaokuei and Cheng Wen-ping, who are at present at Hsianfu, have received orders to go with 14,000 soldiers to Changti-fu in the Province of Honan. They are to resist any advances of the Allied troops along the southern highway from Peking to Hsianfu.

Tientsin, Nov. 7.

The small detachment of Italian troops, which was cut off by the Boxers south of Paotingfu, so that a service of patrols was arranged in order to get into communication with them, has been relieved.

A large detachment of Italian troops under the command of Colonel Garioni, which was marching back from the South to Peking, met near Kunganhsien three battalions of Chinese regular infantry. They succeeded in cutting them off. When the Chinese saw that any resistance would be useless, they surrendered their arms without firing one shot.

French troops will remain in occupation of the town of Yichou on the highway from Peking to Taiyuanfu, which was taken by the Allies, as reported in our telegram of the 12th instant.

The German Minister paid yesterday (the 6th) a visit to Prince Ching in answer to the call which the latter made on Herr von Mumm on the 1st instant. Inasmuch as under existing circumstances, as your correspondent is reliably informed, no negotiations can be opened at present either with Prince Ching or with Li Hung-chang, nor indeed can even the question of the credentials be gone into, there is reason to believe that the German Minister's call upon the Prince was merely one of courtesy and had no political significance.

THE MISSION OF YÜ CH'I-YUAN.

Nanking, November 8.

Yü Ch'i-yuan arrived here to-day and was received at once by the Viceroy, to whom he conveyed a special Imperial Edict. Yü Ch'i-yuan has been sent to the Yangtze provinces in order to collect all amounts which he may find in the provincial treasuries, and to send them, together with some extra duties which he is instructed to levy, to Hsianfu.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

Tientsin, Nov. 8, Noon.

Two companies of the 6th German Infantry Regiment, one mountain battery and 40 mounted troops will proceed to-morrow from here to Shan-hai-kuan.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	P M Co	Rio de Janeiro 1	Sa Nov 17
Canada, &c	C. P. R Co	Em of Japan	Th Nov 22
America	O & O Co	Gaelic 2	Th Nov 22
Europe	N D Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa Nov 24
Hongkong	O & O Co.	Coptic	M Nov 26
Hongkong	M M Co.	— —	W. Nov 28
Hongkong	C P R Co	Em of India	Th Nov 29
America	T. K. K	H kong Maru	Su Dec 2
Hongkong	T K. K	America Maru	M Dec. 3
America	P M Co.	China	Su Dec. 9

1 Left Nagasaki on the 15th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart	Sa. Nov. 17
America	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Tu Nov. 20
Shanghai	N Y. K	Kobe Maru	W Nov 21
Hongkong	C P R. Co	Em of Japan	Th Nov 22
Europe, via S'hai.	M M Co.	Annam	F Nov 23
Hongkong	O & O. Co.	Gaelic	F Nov 23
America	O & O Co.	Coptic	W Nov 28
Canada, &c.	C. P. R Co.	Em. of India	F Nov 30
Hongkong	T K. K	H'kong Maru	M Dec 3
America	T. K K	America Maru	W. Dec 5
Hongkong	P. M Co.	China	M Dec. 10

It is now (says *Truth*) a matter of physical impossibility for the Queen to open Parliament, and Her Majesty has not been seen in the House of Lords since February, 1886. The ceremony involves much walking, and a staircase has to be ascended. It has been suggested to the Queen that the Prince of Wales should open the first session of the new Parliament as Her Majesty's representative. I hear that the proposal has been received "very graciously" by the Queen.

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BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Nov. 10th:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	17,546,416
Amount of convertible notes issued	193,529,260
Government deposits	32,766,639
General deposits	6,658,912
Exchange liability	22,677
Total	280,524,906

Cr.	
Discount notes	58,954,844
Foreign discount notes	14,773,082
Loan to Government	27,000,000
General loans	54,024,621
Exchange liability	1,449,068
Government bonds	52,477,260
Property	2,192,910
Bullion and Specie	69,653,119
Total	280,524,906

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	193,828,669

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	63,101,933
Silver	3,000,000
Total	68,101,633

Securities:—

Government bonds	25,145,204
Government certificates	27,000,000
Government bills	10,191,872
Commercial notes	63,389,662
Total	125,726,736

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	105,091
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	1,624,974
Government deposits	—	1,349,469
General deposits	2,020,957	—

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 497.

Key move 1—B to R 5

If 1 — ..... K to K 4

2—R to B 8, etc.

If 1— ..... K to Kt 6

2—Q to K R square, etc.

We have received a correct solution of No. 496 from P.A.H. It reached us too late for acknowledgement last week.

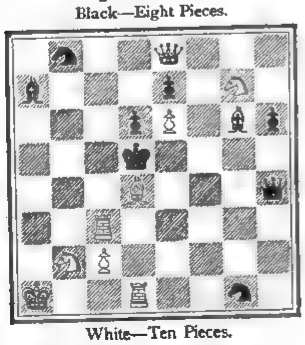
With regard to Problem 495, P.A.H. points out that the solution does not satisfy the setting. We agree with him, but can not undertake to unravel the original intention of the composer.

PROBLEM No. 499.

By MAX FEIGL.

First Prize *Tägliche Rundschau* Tourney.

Black—Eight Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 638.

BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

White—Herbert Jacobs. Black—F. J. H. Elwell.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	28 QxQ	RxQ
2 P KB4	PxP	29 KtxP	R K7
3 B B4	P Q4	30 Kt B6	K Kt2
4 BxP	Q R5ch	31 K Q7	R Qsq
5 K Bsq	P KKt4	32 P R6ch	K Rsq
6 Kt KB3	Q R4	33 K Bsq	R K3
7 P KR4	B Kt2	34 Kt B5	R Kt3
8 P Q4	P KR3	35 Kt K4	P KB4
9 Kt B3	Kt K2	36 Kt B2	K R2
10 Q Q3	Kt R3	37 R Rsq	R K3
11 B Q2	KtxB	38 R R4	RxRch
12 KtxKt	P QB3	39 KxR	Kt K3
13 Kt Kt4	Kt B2	40 Kt R3	R KB3
14 P B3	P R4	41 K B2	R B3
15 Kt B2	B K3	42 R R5	P Kt3
16 K Ktsq	Q Kt3	43 K B3	Kt Q5ch
17 P R5	Q B3	44 KxP	RxP
18 QKt Ksq	Q K2	45 RxRch	KxR
19 P B4	R Qsq	46 K K5	P B4
20 B B3	Castles	47 Kt B4	K Kt4
21 P QKt3	B Kt5	48 Kt Q5	Kt B3ch
22 Q B2	BxKt	49 K Q6	Kt Kt5
23 KtxB	P Kt5	50 KtxP	KtxP
24 Kt R4	BxPch	51 Kt R4	Kt B8
25 BxB	RxB	52 KtxP	P B5
26 Kt B5	QxP	53 Kt K6ch	K Kt5
27 KtxPch	K Rsq	54 P B5	Resigns

10.....Kt to R3 is inferior. White could have replied 11. B takes KtP, B takes B; 12. Q to Kt5 ch, B to B3; 13. Q takes Kt, P to Kt5; 14. Kt to K5, B takes Kt; 15. Q to R5, Kt to Kt3 (if 15.....P to B3, then 16. B takes P); 16. P takes B, with a superior Pawn position, afterwards Black has the best of it, and the game becomes interesting after 23.....P to Kt5. Had Black continued 33.....R to B7 instead of quitting the seventh row (with 33.....R to K3), White would have been compelled to play 34. R to Q sq, whereupon 34.....Kt to Q4; 35. P takes Kt, R takes Kt, and should win. Black played the remainder of the ending indifferently.

GAME No. 639.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—H. H. Cole. Black—J. E. Parry.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	27 Kt Kt6ch	K B2
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	28 KtxRch	RxKt
3 B Kt5	B Q3	29 P Q4	P R5
4 Castles	Kt Q5	30 PxP	BPxP
5 Kt B3	P QB3	31 K R2	B Bsq
6 B B4	P QKt4	32 Q Q3	K K2
7 B Kt3	P QR4	33 R Q2	P R6
8 P QR4	KtxB	34 P Kt3	B K3
9 PxKt	P Kt5	35 Q K3	P B4
10 Kt K2	B R3	36 Q Kt5ch	K B2
11 P Q3	Kt K2	37 R Q3	R Ktsq
12 Kt Kt3	Kt Kt3	38 R B3ch	K Ksq
13 Kt B5	B Bsq	39 Q R6	Q K2
14 B Kt5	Q B2	40 Q Q2	R Kt5
15 R Bsq	P QB3	41 Q Q3	Q Q2
16 B K3	Kt K2	42 Q R6	Q QB2
17 KKt R4	P Kt3	43 Q R8ch	B Bsq
18 Kt Kt3	Kt Ktsq	44 R Qsq	K K2
19 Q Q2	P KKt4	45 R K3	B Kt2
20 KKt B5	P R4	46 Q R8	Q QBsq
21 P R4	PxP	47 Q R7ch	K Ksq
22 KtxP	B R3	48 RxP	B R3
23 Kt(Kt3) B5	BxB	49 Q R8ch	K K2
24 QxB	P Q3	50 Q B6ch	K Ksq
25 KR Qsq	Kt K2	51 R K6ch	Resigns
26 KtxKt	KxKt		

If Black could win a game with the obsolete 3.....B to Q3 Defence, coupled with the equally inferior 4.....Kt to Q5, it would be nothing short of a miracle. White, however, is not energetic enough, for 5. Kt takes Kt, P takes Kt; 6. P to K5, B to B4; 7. P to K6 would give him a decisive advantage, for if 7.....P takes P, then 8 Q to R5 ch wins the Bishop. If 6.....B takes P, then 7. R to K sq wins the Bishop, White threatening besides Q to Kt4, attacking two Pawns. White, however, obtained a good enough, game, and won it, as he should, by the nature of the defence.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 9th Nov.,—Tacoma, Wash., 18th Nov., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Ajax, British steamer, 4,477, H. Batt, 9th Nov.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 8th Nov. General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, S. Kaneko, 9th Nov.,—Kobe, 7th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 7th Nov.,—Kobe, 7th Nov., Genera..—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 9th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 8th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 9th Nov.,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 9th Nov.,—Tacoma Wash., 17th Oct., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 9th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports. 3rd Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, Y. Oda, 10th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, Y. Tojo, 11th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 11th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 10th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,307, M. J. Curnow, 11th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 9th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, Kawamuro, 12th Nov.,—Moji, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Stuttgart, German steamer, 3,209, P. Grosch, 12th November,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 11th Nov., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Ltd.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 12th Nov.,—Kobe, 10th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese Hospital steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 13th Nov.,—Taku via Kobe, 12th Nov.,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 13th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 12th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakano, 13th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gera, German Hospital steamer, 3,166, C. van Barcel, 14th November,—Taku via Kobe, 13th Nov., (190 patients).—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Socotra, British steamer, 3,919, Thos. H. Hide, 14th Nov.,—London via ports and Kobe, 13th Nov., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 15th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 26th Oct., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, S. Muramatsu, 15th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Annam, French steamer, 2,331, Poydenot, 15th Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 14th Nov., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318 K. Shibuya, 15th Nov.,—Uraga, 15th Nov., Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 15th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 14th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,331, Vaquier, 9th Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,214, E. W. Haswell, 9th Nov.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538 Y. Yamanouchi, 9th Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 10th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Telemachus, British steamer, 1,340, G. Sawyers, 10th Nov.,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 10th Nov.,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Ayr, British steamer, 1,955, W. H. Gibson, 10th Nov.,—Moji via Uraga, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,839, Wm. Bainbridge, 10th Nov.,—Kure and Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 871, J. Arakawa, 10th Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 10ht Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, S. Muramatsu, 10th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, S. Kaneko, 11th Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 11th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 11th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

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Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer 1,917, T. Sakai, 11th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Reuce, American ship, 1,828. D. Whitmore, 12th Nov.,—Port Townsend, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, R. Kroble, 12th Nov.,—Moji, Balast.—Cornes & Co.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,925, Gedye, 12th Nov.,—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hokkai Maru Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 12th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, Y. Oda, 12th Nov.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ajax, British steamer, 4,477, H. Batt, 13th Nov.,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,307, M J. Curnow, 13th Nov.,—Seattle, Wash, via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, Y. Tojo, 13th Nov.,—Saseho, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 14th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, De La Lande, 14th Nov.,—Uraga, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 14th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 14th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Nishimura, 14th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otto Gildemeister, German ship, 2,009, W. Wilmsen, 15th Nov.,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—T. M Laffin.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S. Kawamuro, 15th Nov.,—Uraga, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakuma, 15th November,—Kobe, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash.:—Mrs. F. Stocking, Miss H. Stocking, Miss G. Stocking, Miss L. Stocking, and Mr. A. B. Snow, in cabin; Mr. Ah Sing, in second class; 125 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. J. Lowice, Capt. Eterand, Mrs. Thivilenks and 2 children, Mr. Iwafushi, Mr. Yoshitake, Mr. Masujima, and Mr. Tsukui, in cabin; Mr. T. R. Brown, Mr. Kono, and 1 Chinese, in second class; 19 Japanese, 2 Chinese, and 1 European, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Stuttgart*, from Bremen via ports:—Mr. Giese, Mr. and Mrs. Haynemann, Mr. Spiller, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. W. P. Crona, Lieut. J. F. Fales, Mr. Muttran, Mrs. Schweroff, and Mr. Wedersky, in cabin; Mr. Zuerrer, Mr. Menge, Mr. Short, Mr. Ryson, Mr. J. Bryant, and Miss H. Fallot, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. K. Yamamoto, Mr. K. Wakabayashi, Mr. W. G. Sharp, Mrs. W. G. Sharp, Mr. E. W. Brown, Mrs. E. W. Brown, and Mr. H. R. Dunniway, in cabin. For Kobe:—Miss Sally P. Peck, Mr. K. Manjo, and Mr. W. G Fuller, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Lam Yak, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Annam*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Ulrick, Mr. O. Kunoghi, Mr. Martinelli, Mr. Paul Culty, Mrs. Yangtsu Kua, Mr. Nitiam, Mr. Crawford, 2 Chinese, Mr. W. H. Horne, Mr Valet, Miss Napalkoff, Mr. L. K. Euclid, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, and Mr. Yun Chok Ping, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Tonkin*, for Marseilles via ports:—Count O. Origoni, Mrs. F. J. Bardens, Mr. H. F. Carrew, Mr. and Mrs. Kershaw, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Thompson, Mr. Perret, Mr. J. Lakser, Mr. Arthur W. Taylor, Mrs. de Giers, Miss de Giers, Master de Giers and servant, Miss Miller, Mr. Orlowsky, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Rentiers, Mr. Dubranil Schapare, Chevalier and Countess d'Oplinter, Mrs. Blackburn, Miss Gashin, Capt. and Mrs. Huss, Mr. F. Polzien, Mr. Essaabhoy Abdulhoosein, Mr. Yu Check, Mr. Terre, Mr. Leclair, Mr. Keromant, Mr. Robert, Mr. Paulin, Mr. Barrad, Mr. Cod, Mr. Blampsia, Mr. Lobors, Mr. Graud, Mr. Martin, Mr. Chevalier, Mr. S. E. T. Jenkius, Mr. Nakagawa, Mr. Merecki, Mr. O. Watanabe Mr Dumolard, Mr Ehrismann, and Mr. R. de Montjamont, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, for Melbourne via ports:—Miss Lowiss, Mr. F. S. Goodison, Mr. J. Shiranshi, Consul and Mrs. Goto, Mrs. L. Jephson, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Clark, and Mr. A. Clark, in cabin; Mr. A. Rapas, Mrs. Chiyo Makita, Miss Ine Makita, Mr. J. W. Longford, Mr. A. Evangelista, Mr. T. Nalivallad, Mrs. A. Ross, Mr. J. A. Briggs, Mr. N. Yenami, and Mr. and Mrs. O. Hiramoto, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu.—Capt. J. F. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. H W. Armable, Mr H H Berners, Mr C. Cambern, Mrs. C. Cambern, Mrs. B. H. Fay, Dr. C. H. Finch, Mrs. C. H. Finch, Master Finch, Mr. L. P. Foster, Mrs. W. W. Greene, Mr. J. Guggenheim, Mr. T. Harada, Mr. H. Hiyama, Mr. T. Hinata, Mr. Andrew Huston, Mr. A. H. Jaques, Mr. Edwin Jones, Mrs. Edwin Jones, Mr. H. Koizumi, Capt. T. Matsuo, I.J.N., and servant, Rev. R. Meredith, Mr. A. Middleton, Miss Middleton, Mr. Chr. Neilson, Mr. O. H. P. Noyes, Mrs. E. W. Peabody, Miss L. M. Rolestone, Sister Sanghamitta, Mr. K. Schloettig, Mr. M. Shibata, Miss Lela M Stilson, Mr. Ed. Soper, Capt Takenouchi, I.J.N, Mr C. H. Thomson, Mr. S. Togo, Mr. T. Watase, Com. K. Yamada, I.J.N., and Mr. M. Velitchko, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Annal and 2 children, Miss P. Little, Mr. S. Kishi, Mr. A. Starfold, Rev. and Mrs. G. King, Mr. and Mrs. A. Bonn, Mr. J. Laub, Mr. S. Sawamura, Mrs. Pope and child, Capt. Parsons, R.N., Mr. Sams, Mr. N. Soma, Miss Clerk, and Mr. Geo. Jones, in cabin; Mr. M. Akiho, Mr. T. Ogawa, Mr. C. A. Matthies, Mr. T. Frey, and 4 marines, in second class, 1 Japanese, and 5 Chinese, in steerage.

EXPECTED.

Per German steamer *Koenig Albert*, from Bremen via ports:—Miss Th. Brandelius, Mrs. H. Trotzig and child, Mr. Byron Brooks, Mrs. C. Bruhn, Miss Norton, Miss Blakeway, Miss Fugill, Miss Mackie, Mrs. Rock, Mrs. M. Smith, and child, Mrs. G. Blundell and child, Mr. Mrs. J. R. Birkeland and children, Mrs. M. N. Stewart Edwards, and child Mr. and Mrs. L. Schaeffer, and child, Rev. and Mrs. Buchanan and child, Freiherr and Freifrau von Hammerstein, Mr. T. Korte, Mr. Roland Sander, Miss Mary Winterfeldt, Mr. and Mrs. G. Grebin, Mr. Genloku Mayesono, Mr. T. Makino, Mr. Y. Saneyoshi, Mr. Akira Fujinami, Mr. Matataro Matsumoto, and Mr. R. Go, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kamakura Maru*, from London via ports.—Dr. K. Sudzuki, Mr. K. Tange, Mr. N. Kemagi, Mr. T. Jensen, Mr. T. Tomita, Mr. H. Burgess, Mr. W. Blood, Mr. T. Onda, Mr. V. K. Norman, and Mr M. Sakuma, in cabin.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *Tacoma*, Capt. A. Dixon, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., on October 17th, strong head winds, and extremely bad weather up to Nov. 6th, from then to port fair weather.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per French steamer *Tonkin*, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw silk for Europe, 798 bales; Waste silk for Europe, 310 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been a little doing in gassed yarns but hardly anything else to be reported.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	PER YARD. 0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels ...	Y.0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in. ...	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches ...	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ...	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches ...	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches ...	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	360 00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach, Chinese	Nominal

METALS.

Prices are weak and there is little or no demand.

	PER PICUL	
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y.	5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted		5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron		6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets		12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted		7.70 to 8.20
Tin Pates, per box		7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3		2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1⅛ inch)		6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

Nothing new to report.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.75
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

A fair business has been passing.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	Y.	5.30 to 6.00
Brown Manila		5.70 to 6.95
Brown Daitong		4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton		5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang		7.30 to 8.70
White Refined		8.25 to 9.95

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

In raw silk there is very little doing and prices are slipping away. Stocks are increasing and the prospect is for lower prices in future.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal	
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	Y.	890 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, Fine		920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse		850 to 860
Filatures—No 1½, Fine		890 to 900
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse		830 to 840
Filatures—No. 2, Fine		850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	None	
Common—Coarse	None	
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal	
Re-reels—No. 1	850 to 860	
Re-reels—No. 1½	820 to 830	
Re-reels—No. 2	800 to 810	
Re-reels—No. 3	780 to 790	
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal	
Kakedas—No. 1	840 to 850	
Kakedas—No. 1½	800 to 810	
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 790	
Kakedas—No. 2½	760 to 770	

Nominal

WASTE SILK.

In the waste silk market holders do their best to maintain prices, but exporters are cautious and apparently very little business can be done until prices recede.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	145 to	150
Noshi—Filatures, Good	135 to	140
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	None	
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	None	
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	None	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	95 to	100
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	85 to	90
Noshi—Bushiu, Best		
Noshi—Bushiu, Good		
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium		
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	85 to	90
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	75 to	80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	120 to	125
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to	115
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	55 to	60
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	45 to	50

TEA.

A little business has been moving. Settlements to date are 200,000 piculs as against 214,000 last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	34 to 35
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	26 to 27
Good Common	24 to 25
Common	22 to 23

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per M. M. steamer *Tonkin*, for France, Nov. 9:—

	Bales.
H. Dent & Co.	56
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	41
Nabholz & Co.	209
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	96
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	23
Siber, Wolff & Co.	212
Sieber & Co.	5
Varenne & Co.	135
Kito Gomei Kaisha	21
Total	798

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Per N. P. steamer *Energia*, for Tacoma, Nov. 6:—

	Bales.
Otto Reimers & Co.	68
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	94
Total	162

Per T. K. K. steamer *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco, Nov. 10:—

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.	10
Otto Reimers & Co.	68
Vivanti Bros.	10
Kitto Gomei Kaisha	62
Doshin Kaisha	29
Total	179

TO 12TH NOVEMBER, 1900.

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	25
Averill & Co.	460
Bavier & Co.	502
Chauvin, Chevalier & Co.	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	120
H. Dent & Co.	399
P. Dourille	109
Findlay Richardson & Co.	100
C. Guissani	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	1,831
Longin & Co.	275
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	1,434
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	1,112
Otto Reimers & Co.	1,460
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	336
Siber, Wolff & Co.	2,198
Sieber & Co.	917
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	238
Varenne & Co.	883
Vivanti Bros.	877
Kiito Gomei-Kaisha	2,831
Doshin Kaisha	635
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	884
J. Ishii	199
Total	18,185

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, November 15.

No change in silver from London and discounts advanced to 4 per cent. for 3 and 6 months paper. China sterling quotations are unaltered and local rates remain steady.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0¼
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2 62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞@51
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	*3¼% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*¾% prem.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 69
— Private 10 days' sight	* 71
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29 1/16

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 15.

Helms have buyers at *yen* 57.50. A few shares can be had at *yen* 60. Kirin Breweries have sellers at *yen* 150. Engine and Iron Works are quiet at *yen* 207.50. Grand Hotels are obtainable at *yen* 240. Buyers offer *yen* 230. Oriental Hotels—Offers for founders, old and new shares are wanted. Langfeldts—A few shares can be had at *yen* 90. Laundries have sellers at par.

Debentures—Offers for Laundries are wanted.

Offers for Hodogaya (Tokyo) Breweries are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	207.50 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	240 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	90 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	57.50 B.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	100
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	106 N
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	99 Sa
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.
Maples Hotel, preference shares ¥100.	107 S.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, November 15.

A few Langfeldts changed hands to-day at *yen* 85. National Bank of China shares have been sold to Hongkong at $26.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207.50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	240 Sellers.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Sales.

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And Every Distressing Irritation of the Skin and Scalp Instantly Relieved by a Bath with CUTICURA SOAP

And a single anointing with CUTICURA, the great skin cure and purest of emollients. This is the purest, sweetest, most speedy, permanent, and economical treatment for torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, bleeding, scaly, crusted, and pimply skin and scalp humours with loss of hair, and has received the endorsement of physicians, chemists, and nurses throughout the world.

Millions of Women

USE CUTICURA SOAP, exclusively, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, in the form of baths for annoying irritations, inflammations, and chafings, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and for many sanative antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women, and especially mothers, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. No amount of persuasion can induce those who have once used it to use any other, especially for preserving and purifying the skin, scalp, and hair of infants and children. CUTICURA SOAP combines delicate emollient properties derived from CUTICURA, the great skin cure, with the purest of cleansing ingredients and the most refreshing of flower odours. No other *medicated* soap ever compounded is to be compared with it for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, scalp, hair, and hands. No other foreign or domestic *toilet* soap, however expensive, is to be compared with it for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. Thus it combines in ONE SOAP at ONE PRICE, the BEST skin and complexion soap, the BEST toilet soap and BEST baby soap in the world.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour,

Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, CUTICURA Ointment, to instantly allay itching, inflammation, and irritation, and soothe and heal, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, and humiliating skin, scalp, and blood humours, with loss of hair, when all else fails. Sold throughout the world. Aust. Depot: R. TOWNS & Co., Sydney, N.S.W. &c. African Depot LENNON LTD., Cape Town. "All about the Skin, Scalp, and Hair," free. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U.S.A.

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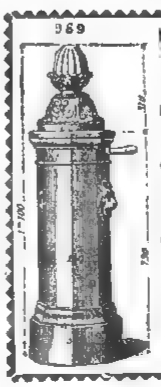

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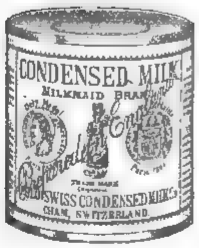

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA · SATURDAY, NOV. 24TH, 1900.

BIRTHS.

On the 19th inst., at No. 204, Settlement, Yokohama, the wife of J. STRAUSS, of a Son.

On the 20th inst., to Mr. and Mrs. FRANK S. SHAW, No. 3,369 Sagiyama, Negishi, a Son.

DEATHS.

CORRELL:—WILLIAM H. CORRELL, of Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A., oldest son of Dr. and Mrs. Irvin H. Correll, died of acute appendicitis, in Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio, on October 4th, 1900.

On November 19th, 1900, CLARA AMELIA, beloved wife of George E. Rice, born May 14th, 1846.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

HEAVY snow fell at Wakamatsu on the 18th inst. and lay over a foot thick.

TEN Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers arrived at Fukuoka on the 19th inst.

THE missing steamer *Settsu Maru* arrived at Hakodate on the 15th inst.

HEAVY snow fell at Nikko on the 16th inst., and on the 17th it lay 7in. thick.

IT is said that five beggars were frozen to death in the streets of Tokyo on Saturday night.

A NUMBER of captured guns, etc., were landed at Moji on the 19th inst. from the *Wakanoura Maru*.

THE Red Cross Hospital steamer *Kosai Maru* with 180 sick men arrived at Bakan on the 17th inst, from Taku.

THE new hospital of the French Red Cross Society has been opened at Nagasaki and 136 patients have been admitted.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA and Prince Tokugawa Keiki arrived at Hamamatsu on the 20th inst. and put up at the Ogomeya Hotel.

THE well-known story-teller Shunputei Ryushi, died at the Rakuzando Hospital, Kojimacho, Tokyo, on the 15th instant.

SHANGHAI papers contain the notice of the death on the 11th of November of Mrs. Dallas, relict of the late Mr. C. H. Dallas.

A POET famous for the composition of comic poetry, Akizono Getsuo, aged 72, died at his residence in Tokyo on the 20th inst.

THE German ship *Flottbek*, which ran on a sandbank near the Saratoga Spit, got off on Friday at high tide, and was towed into port.

FIRE broke out at Hiratsuka, in a house occupied by Fuzawa Kikojiro, on the evening of the 14th inst, and one building was destroyed.

FIRE broke out in the grain shop of Yoshino Jintaro, at Urawa-matchi, Saitama Prefecture, early on the morning of the 21st inst. and two houses were destroyed.

A MACHINE room of the Engineers Training School at Yokosuka, was damaged by the storm on the 17th inst. and it will cost to make good the loss over 7,000 *yen*.

EIGHT Japanese guests in an hotel called the Manjiya, Kitanakadori, Ichome, Yokohama, were arrested by the police at midnight on the 19th inst. on a charge of gambling.

A MAN named Tomihari Motoichi, employed on the staff of the *Keihin Shimbun*, was deported from the city the other day for being concerned with *soshi* in lawless movements.

A FARMER named Ochiai Kanekichi and his wife, Kaku, living at Hadano-mura, Nakagori, Kanagawa Prefecture, were killed by their house falling on them in the storm of Saturday

A MAN named Tanaka Fusajiro, employed at the Matsuzakaya Hotel, Motohamacho Sanchome, Yokohama, stole *yen* 2,920 from a safe and disappeared on the morning of the 16th inst.

A MAN named Uchida Shintaro, living at Naka Araimura, Toyoshima-gori, Tokyo, lost a bag containing *yen* 680 on the train between Meguro and Shimbashi on the night of the 13th inst.

THE steamer *Taijin Maru* (1,600 tons) built at the Kawasaki Dockyard, Kobe, for the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, was to run her trial trip to-day. She will ply between Hongkong and Tamsui.

A LONG upper gallery in a dancing hall (*Miyako-odori*) situated at Gion-shinchi, Kyoto, fell down on the night of the 19th inst. Two men were injured and many others slightly hurt.

A LARGE fire occurred at Shirahagi-mura, Naka Nikawa-gori, Toyama Prefecture, on the 21st inst. and 72 houses were destroyed. In this prefecture five extensive fires have taken place in the present year.

A TELEGRAM from Hakodate on the 17th inst. stated that the steamer *Hoshi Maru* (57 tons) belonging to Mr. Kudo Kashichi, of Hokkaido, sank at Volcano Bay the day before. She was insured by the Nippon Marine Insurance Co. for *yen* 4,000.

IT is announced that railway communication between Takasaki and Karuizawa and between Karuizawa and Nagano has been suspended owing to the scarcity of passengers and goods passing between those points.

THE following table shows the number of Japanese residents in Korea at the end of October:—Fusan: Males 3,930, females 2,675, total 5,705; Gensan Males 915, females 700, total 1,615; and Mokupo: Males 546, females 348, total 894.

THE sacred cantata "The Rolling Seasons," was repeated on Sunday evening at the Public Hall by the choir of Christ Church. The choruses were excellently rendered and went with a swing, especially the last. There was a crowded congregation.

A MAN named Aoki Katsuzo lost a gold watch while visiting the chrysanthemum show at Dangozaka, on the Emperor's birthday. He reported the matter to the Hongo police station, and on the evening of the 14th inst. a parcel was received through the post at the police station which contained the missing watch.

THE repeat performance of "The Schoolmistress" came off on Saturday night under distinctly depressing conditions. Owing to the tempestuous weather there was a very small attendance, yet the whole piece was gone through with most commendable fortitude, the various participants filling their parts with conscientious zeal.

A MAN entered the Fukagawa Police Station on the morning of Nov. 20th and handed over a bag which he said he had found in the grounds of the Tomioka Hachiman Shrine. He left at once without giving his name, or before the police could recover their wits sufficiently to stop him. The bag contained a gold watch and chain.

THE raising of the Russian steamer *Ussuri*, which steamer was purchased by a Japanese merchant the other day as she lies on a rock off Hirado Island, has proved a very difficult task. Owing to the rough weather which is experienced in that locality during the winter months it is said that the purchaser has decided to postpone the raising of the hull to April next.

THE sailing ship *Juntoku Maru* (102 tons), the property of Mr. Saito Torakichi, Numazu, which left that port for Tokyo on the 16th with a cargo of paper, was wrecked near Shimoda, Izu, on the night of the 17th. Nothing is said as to the fate of the crew, but it is stated that the cargo was insured with the Japan Marine Insurance Company for four thousand *yen*.

THE man Okuda Meiki, who absconded with the sum of *yen* 750 obtained from the Yantai Exchange Shop by means of a forged cheque bearing the name of Mr. E. V. Thorn, returned to Yokohama from Kakegawa on Saturday and gave himself up to the Kagacho Police early the following morning. He had only *yen* 10 left in his pocket when examined by the Police.

THE damage caused at Hadanomachi, Soshu, Kanagawa Prefecture, and in the neighbourhood by the storm on the 17th inst. has been tabulated as follows:—One woman killed, one man and one woman injured, one horse killed, 20 houses destroyed, 35 houses severely damaged, 702 houses damaged, 11 Shinto Shrines and Buddhist Temples damaged, 1,361 fences injured, 45 trees levelled; rice fields damaged: 1 *cho* 1 *tan* 4 *se* 5 *ho* and vegetable gardens damaged: 1 *cho* 1 *tan* 7 *se*.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Prince Twan and General Tung.

Saturday, Nov. 17.

A rumour from Shanghai, published by the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Chiuo Shimbun*, says that Prince Twan and General Tung, at the head of the Mohammedans of Kang-su, have revolted against the Chinese Throne. This statement requires confirmation. It is a story just such as might have been expected to be put into circulation on the heels of the news that Twan and Tung had fled to Kang-su, for, as we pointed out at the time in these columns, Tung originally obtained his rank of General and his high position at Court by contriving the pacification of the Mohammedan rebels of Kang-su, whose leader he had himself been, and it was therefore evident that if he succeeded in effecting his escape to that province, he might easily defy any efforts of the Government to reach him. It may be, therefore, that the newsmongers have jumped to a conclusion which, as yet, is only inferential, but it may also be that the news is well founded, for certainly such a step on the part of Twan and Tung is highly probable. They have been fighting, as they supposed, for the honour of their country, and they surely will not consent to be arrested and punished if any means of escaping such a fate be available; while, at the same time, if they have been inspired hitherto by really patriotic motives, there are obvious reasons for seeking to prevent the act of unconditional surrender which the Court seems to contemplate. If things be as rumour represents them, it must now be apparent even to the most unreflecting persons how hopeless of accomplishment was the demand of the Foreign Representatives that Twan, Tung, Chwang, I, and the rest should be executed. The Central Government is not in a position to execute these men. If we want their heads, we shall have to go and take them.

Russia in Manchuria.

Russia's intentions with regard to Manchuria naturally furnish material for the manufacture of many rumours. The latest is a statement published by the London *Standard* and telegraphed to the *Chiugai Shogyo*, to the effect that Russia has concluded with China a secret treaty placing Manchuria under Russian protection, and that the document now awaits the signature of the Chinese Emperor. We should be surprised at the *Standard's* frank disbelief in the sincerity of Russia's proposals did we not find a disposition even in Paris to credit her with similar designs. After all, sceptics may be pardoned, for it now turns out that General Gribsky himself issued an order announcing that all the regions in Manchuria at present occupied by the Russian troops would thenceforth be part and parcel of the Russian empire. At all events, the *Standard's* revelation is said to be generally credited in England and Germany, for another telegram from London says that the press of both those countries expresses little doubt of its truth.

An Imperial Decree.

Monday, Nov. 19.

Semi-official confirmation has been received of the issue of the Imperial Decree, referred to elsewhere in our columns, which sentences Twan and Chwan to be imprisoned in Mukden for life; banishes Yu Hsien to the limits of the empire, where he is to be in perpetual servitude; condemns Kang Yi to be executed, though the sentence can not be carried out an account of his death previously, and inflicts minor penalties upon other princes and officials. This ought to satisfy the Foreign Powers provided that the sentences be carried out, and provided that—which is still more important—efficient steps be taken to inform the whole Chinese nation of the reasons for these punishments. The Decree announcing the sentences is somewhat vague as to the reason. It says that the incriminated officials not only failed to quell the Boxers but even encouraged them, thus injuring China's relations with foreign Powers and impairing her tranquillity, and it notes that even now there are still some bands of Boxers in the neighbourhood of Peking. In the case of Yü Hsien alone the outrages against the persons of Christians are referred to: he is blamed for not preventing the massacre of Christians. Perhaps that is just, since Yü alone can be said to have been directly connected with these outrages, but we are persuaded that the Decree, as it is worded, will not fully satisfy the Foreign Representatives, whatever they may think of the sentences. It is to be observed that although this decree has been communicated to foreign officials by Chinese officials, no step is understood to have been taken as yet by Prince Ching and Viceroy Li to submit it to the Foreign Representatives, and there is consequently some hesitation about crediting its genuineness. But the forgery of such a decree is not at all likely, we imagine. General Tung's name, it will be observed, does not appear in the decree, though certainly the responsibility of failing to suppress the Boxers rests largely with him. But Tung commands the troops now guarding the Imperial Court. It would be difficult for the Emperor to order his punishment.

Viceroy Chang's Protest.

Viceroy Chang Chih-tung is said to have addressed a strong protest to the Representative of a foreign Power with reference to the executing of Ting and six other local officials by the allied troops at Pao-ting. The Viceroy says that this procedure created the greatest excitement throughout Chili, and that any repetition of such an act will certainly produce serious trouble. He comments in severe terms on the fact that Ting surrendered Paoting without a struggle and treated the allied troops with the utmost courtesy, in return for which he was seized, tried by court martial and shot, with six colleagues who had endorsed his pacific course and co-operated in carrying it out. The Viceroy demands that his protest be submitted to the conference of Representatives in Peking. Particulars of this Paoting incident are awaited by the public with anxiety. It is not easy to see how a court martial of foreign officers, sitting at a place just occupied by their troops, could thoroughly investigate and justly judge charges such on those upon which Ting and his colleagues were presumably arraigned, namely, that they failed to prevent the massacre of Christians and that they did not take efficient steps to quell the Boxers. Moreover, if Ting and his colleagues, by surrendering Pao-ting peacefully, placed themselves virtually under the protection of the allies, their subsequent execution assumes a painful complexion. These, however, are superficial reflections. Failing clear information to the contrary, we are bound to assume that the officers commanding the allied column obtained convincing evidence of the Chinese officials' guilt. We can only wish that the men had been taken after a fight. The affair is suggestive in one respect. It shows the danger of any attempt on the part of foreigners to administer justice on their own account in China. The Pao-ting execution was intended to strike terror into the hearts of anti-foreign officials. Apparently its effect has been to rouse a strong anti-foreign sentiment among the people.

The Policy of the Allies in China.

A long telegram from its Shanghai correspondent is published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, the gist of which is that a number of men-of-war of the various nationalities, German, British, Russian, French and Japanese, are proceeding to Nanking, with the object of making a demonstration against the action of Viceroy Liu Kun-yi in forwarding supplies *viâ* the Yang tsze for the use of the Court at Si ngan. There is even talk, this correspondent says, of closing all the Chinese banks which have communications with Shen-si. All this seems difficult of credence. The object of the Allies is believed to be the return of the Court to Peking, and certainly that object can not be attained by the exercise of force, unless it be contemplated to send a flying column into the interior of China and capture the imperial personages. Such proceedings as are now attributed to the allied commanders would seem calculated to terrify the Court into placing a still greater distance between itself and its enemies. Further information must be obtained before placing any reliance in this story.

Meanwhile, the Court is said to have issued fresh edicts ordering the punishment of the pro-Boxer princes and dignitaries. Prince Chwan and Twan are to be imprisoned for life at Mukden, and the rest are subjected to various minor penalties. The verdict in the case of Twan and Chwan is accompanied by a rider that the sentence shall be carried out so soon as tranquillity is restored. But there are two obvious obstacles in the way. One is that Mukden is likely to be eternally unavailable for the imprisonment of Chinese personages, unless Russians be jailers; the other, that Twan is not within reach of the imperial authority and seems unlikely to come within reach of it. The unfortunate Chinese Court is between the devil and the deep blue sea, if report speaks truly, for, on the one side, it is attacked by rebellious subjects whom it attempts to punish; on the other, it is assaulted by the foreign Powers for failing to carry out the punishments.

Viceroy Li is reported to have stated that even in the absence of any special demands on the part of Germany and Japan, China intends to despatch envoys to these countries, when she is in a position to do so, in order to make due apologies for the deaths of Baron von Ketteler and Mr. Sugiyama, as such a step is dictated by China's duty to international amity. The Viceroy added that with the exception of territorial concessions, China was ready to grant all reasonable demands made by the Allies, her great object being the restoration of peace.

Why the Japanese were Delayed at Peking.

Tuesday, Nov 20.

The first explanation we have seen of the delay experienced by Japanese troops in effecting their entry into Peking, is contained in a letter from *The Times'* special correspondent, describing the advance of the relief expedition from Tientsin. After telling how the gallant advance made by the Japanese against two of the gates was checked by heavy rifle fire from the walls, the correspondent says:—

This fire could have been easily kept under by well-directed volleys at 500 yards, or more easily still

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by a machine gun. The bombardment was useless in this respect, the shells either hitting the watch-tower and merely making bricks into dust or passing high over the wall and bursting into the city beyond. Had these Chinese sharpshooters been properly dealt with, the Japanese might have been into Peking first, as we all thought they would, and as was indeed their due, instead of which they spent over 1,000 shells and wasted the whole day. In the afternoon, finding the bombardment ineffective and the wall still manned, it was decided to wait until dark before again attempting to blow up the gate.

This is somewhat opposed to the version that reached Japan. According to the latter, General Yamaguchi, finding that the operation of blowing up the gates must cost heavily in the face of a heavy Chinese fire, issued orders in the morning—not in the afternoon, as the *Times'* correspondent says—for the postponement of the attempt until evening, directing that, in the meanwhile, the artillery should play upon the walls. He can not possibly have expected to make any impression with field pieces upon walls such as those of Peking. The object of the shell fire must have been simply to harrass the enemy and render their positions untenable. That "well directed volleys at 500 yards" would have subdued the Chinese fire, it is difficult to believe. Volleys can not be "well directed" at a range of 500 yards, and they could not have been of much use against men posted under cover as the Chinese were. We apprehend that General Yamaguchi's course was the wisest after all, and the least destructive of life.

Supplies for the Chinese Court.

Telegrams continue to be received in Tokyo indicating that the allies are taking steps to stop the supply of provisions and money to the Imperial Court in Si-ngan. A rendezvous of war-ships at Nanking for that purpose has already been reported, and it is now alleged that the German Consul-General in Shanghai has gone to Nanking with the intention of waiting upon Viceroy Liu and requiring that the Yangtsze should not be employed as a line of communications for Si-ngan. These rumours are not credible, we think. It is known that at a recent meeting of the conference of Representatives in Peking, the German Minister proposed that military measures should be adopted to starve out the Imperial Court, but that the proposal was negatived by the other members of the Conference. Nothing has occurred since that time to indicate a change of mood, and it is not conceivable that the German Consul-General would take independent action. Meanwhile the Court seems to be gradually collecting a considerable force of troops for its protection. General Ma is said to be at Chin-ting with 20 battalions (10,000) men and General Fou is at Ho-hien with 12 battalions (6,000). Another General, Yo (?), is expected to reach Honan in a few days.

The Negotiations.

Wednesday, Nov. 21.

It is not easy to reconcile the various telegrams reaching us with reference to the negotiations in China. A French telegram said, on the 18th instant, that the Ministers in Peking had agreed on the preliminary conditions of peace and had transmitted them to the Chinese plenipotentiaries, and that the negotiations had commenced. A Japanese telegram, received on the 19th instant, says that the conferences of the Representatives were to be concluded in Peking on the 19th instant; in other words, that the conditions to be submitted would be ready on that day. Yet another telegram, from a German source, alleges that Prince Ching and Viceroy Li have informed Marshal Waldersee that all Chinese troops had been withdrawn from Chili, even the places hitherto excluded from the allies' sphere of operations having been evacuated, and that, in view of this step, it was hoped that the negotiations would commence speedily. If that be true, it certainly can not be said that responsibility for the delay in concluding peace rests with the Chinese at present, whatever may be the case in the future. Our own belief is that the Representatives have not yet concluded their preliminary conferences, and that some time must still elapse before the negotiations actually commence. The *Nippon* publishes a message from Shanghai professing to give the details of the conditions to which China is to be asked to subscribe, but as it sets out by naming an indemnity of four billions of taels, to be paid in sixty years, no credit can be attached to it.

The Consuls and Viceroy Liu Kun-yi.

Telegrams from Shanghai continue to maintain that steps are being taken to prevent the supply of money and provisions to the Imperial Court. It is stated that the German Consul at Nanking has addressed the Viceroy in the sense that no taxes nor any supplies must be forwarded to the Court, and that if, in spite of this warning, Liu Kun-yi persists in forwarding money and food, he will be regarded as an enemy by the allied Powers The same telegram says that a similar course has been taken by the French Consul. We find these stories almost wholly incredible. It is quite plain that Viceroy Liu could have no choice but to reject such an injunction with indignation. His first duty is to his Sovereign, and were he invited to assist in harrassing the latter with the object of aiding Powers which are at war with his country, it would be imperative on him as a loyal subject to refuse the mandate with indignation. The summons sent to the officer in command of the Taku Forts calling on him to choose between war and surrender on his own authority was a sufficiently strange proceeding, but if such demands have been set before Viceroy Liu, they can not be sufficiently condemned. We do not believe that anything of the kind has been done. What is much more likely is that, as stated by another rumour, the communications between the German Consul and Liu Kun-yi have reference to some arrangement connected with purely consular business.

The Peace Proposals.

Thursday, Nov. 22.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has received a telegram saying that the conference of Representatives at Peking finds difficulty in coming to a decision on four points; first, the arrangements to be made with regard to Chinese finances in order that means may be found for paying a suitable indemnity; secondly, the prohibition of all imports used in the manufacture of arms or munitions of war; thirdly, the reform of the *Tsung-li Yamên*; and fourthly, the cessation of hostile operations. It is thought, however, that an agreement will be reached in a few days. We have already pointed out the extremely unpractical and undesirable character that the second of these projects seems to present, and we have also insisted from the first that unless the Foreign Representatives carried to the negotiations chamber some definite scheme for providing money to pay an indemnity, China would simply plead inability. One would suppose that the latter of these questions must have received attention at the very outset.

Concerning the punishment of the promoters of the trouble, Taotai Shêng is reported to have pointed out that General Tung was omitted from the list of culpables sentenced by the Imperial Decree of the 13th instant, because, being in command of the troops now actually guarding the Court at Si-ngan, he could not be subjected to any penalty without danger of serious disturbance. The Emperor, however, according to Shêng's statement, intends to punish Tung as soon as there is an opportunity for doing so. How very farcical! Imagine the condition of a Government which leaves in command of its military forces a man whom it intends to punish severely as soon as the thing can be conveniently contrived. If Taotai Shêng delivered himself of such a silly utterance, he must be a singularly injudicious official. The Court, however, seems to be earnestly bent upon bringing to justice the instigators of the Boxer *émeute*, for it is now said to be about to deprive the Governor of Chekiang, Liu Shu-tung, of his office, and inflict other penalties.

Russia and Li.

It is reported that a long cipher telegram has reached Li Hung-chang from the Chinese Minister in St. Petersburg, and that the Foreign Representatives in Peking are beginning to entertain doubts of the Viceroy's *bona fides*. Such incidents were to be expected. Li's pro-Russian tendencies were always a heavy handicap to his success as a negotiator. The inconvenience likely to arise from that cause, however, has been to some extent averted by the Anglo-German agreement, for it is now quite plain to Li that if he makes any arrangement differentially favourable to Russia, he will create a situation extremely perilous for his country. Just at present, any cipher telegram passing between St. Petersburg and the Viceroy will surely be construed by the public as evidence that some arrangements are under discussion with reference to the rumoured Russian protectorate of Manchuria. We venture to affirm that no scheme of that nature is now in the field of practical politics. Russia is perfectly secure in Manchuria. She is under no manner of necessity to enter into any special compact with China. She possesses a title to station troops for the protection of her lines of railway, and she can give to that title an interpretation amounting practically to military occupation of the whole vast district. Why should she raise a hornet's nest about her ears by proposing to China wholly superfluous conventions about protectorates or such things? The situation is hers. She need but sit tight, and it would certainly be a curiously clumsy display of diplomacy on her part to labour for imparting to the advantage she possesses a complexion which would at once raise the jealousy of the other Powers. Therefore we think that the talk of a protectorate is idle, and that cipher telegrams between Li and St. Petersburg need not disturb any one.

Russia in China.

We suppose there must be some truth in the rumours that Russia is seeking a great deal of elbow room in Chili. Reports in that sense come so persistently that it is impossible to doubt them altogether. The story is now repeated that in consideration of the part played by her troops in the defence of Tientsin, Russia has asked to be placed in sole possession of the railway station there, and also of the district along the eastern bank of the Peiho. We were disposed to doubt that story when it was first told, but now it confronts us again. Russia seems to have laid

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out for herself the policy of gaining possession of all the lines of railway from Peking to Manchuria. Statement after statement reaches Tokyo that she is pushing for the control of this or that section or the tenure of this or that station. Only two days ago arrived the rumour that her troops wanted to lower the British flag at the Newchwang station, and their various doings at Shan-hai-kwan and between that place and Tientsin, as well as from Tientsin to Yang-tsung, appear to have been all influenced by the same purpose. It is a very shrewd policy. The Power that holds the railway is practically master of the situation.

Another Proposal.

A telegram to Tokyo from Shanghai says that the Austro-Hungarian Minister has advanced a new proposal. It is that the Prince Imperial should be deposed; that is to say, the young Prince who was recently elevated to that position and who is the son of Prince Twan. It would certainly be very satisfactory to see this child set aside, and one would suppose that such a step would naturally follow the sentence of degradation and life imprisonment pronounced against his father. But the news of this fresh proposal, if it be trustworthy, disposes us to ask whether there is to be any end to the projects brought forward in the Peking Conference The Austro-Hungarian Minister's suggestion is said to have obtained the support of his colleagues, which is not unlikely. At the Treaty Revision Conference in Tokyo, years ago, one of the greatest difficulties was that every Minister present seemed to think it incumbent on him to assert the dignity of his country by asking for something, and the result was an impossible mass of demands. Something of the same kind seems to threaten the Peking Conference.

The Execution of Ting Yang.

The execution of Ting Yung and other local officials by the allied troops at Pao-ting is said to have produced a very evil impression in Si-ngan, and to have decided the Court definitely to abandon all idea of returning to Peking. Indeed, unless the accounts hitherto published of this affair be very erroneous, it must wear a startling aspect in Chinese eyes. Governor Ting and his colleagues surrendered Pao-ting without a struggle, and made no attempt to escape, as they might easily has done. Under the circumstances, their subsequent seizure, trial by court martial and summary execution, can not but seem to the Chinese acts closely resembling treachery. It has been urged in defence of this singular affair that the allies went to Paoting for punitive purposes and that they merely carried out their intention. We can not see the value of such an argument. If Ting and his colleagues had entertained any apprehension whatever that their own execution would be the result of surrendering the city without bloodshed, and of entrusting themselves to the good faith of the foreign commanders, they had nothing to do but to fly, leaving anarchy behind them. In forming an opinion we labour under the great disadvantage of not knowing exactly what evidence was submitted to the court martial, but, speaking generally, we have no hesitation in saying that had the mayor and municipal officials of an European or American city, surrendered the place peacefully to an American or European army, and had the latter then proceeded to apprehend the mayor and municipal officials, try them by drum-head court martial and place them before a platoon of musketry, the civilized world would have raised a cry of indignation. To these considerations must be added the facts that a drumhead court martial is of all tribunals the least fitted to render an impartial judgment, and that a court martial composed of foreign officers sitting at Pao-ting and obliged to rely upon such scraps of testimony as could be obtained from Chinese witnesses themselves in terror of their lives, must have experienced immense difficulty in obtaining trustworthy information. In short, by the light of our present knowledge, the Pao-ting tragedy assumes a very ugly appearance. At all events, we do not see the faintest probability that the Chinese people will regard it as an act of proper retributive justice. They will inevitably class it in the catalogue of dreadful outrages that already stand registered to the eternal disgrace of foreign troops in Chili.

General Tung.

One of the great difficulties of the situation in China is that the Throne is still surrounded by men who have nothing to gain and much to lose by the restoration of peace upon lines satisfactory to the foreign Powers. General Tung is one of these men. Prince Twan and General Sung are said to have altogether lost their influence since the Throne found itself in a position to punish them, but General Tung is still at the head of fifteen or sixteen thousand men, and it is said that since he knows that he was one of the first to be denounced by the Foreign Representatives, he has no desire whatever to promote the progress of the peace negotiations. On the contrary, he is making arrangements for the Court to fly from Si-ngan to some still more inaccessible place, should the necessity arise. The rumour that he had retired to Kiangsu and placed himself once more at the head of a Mohamemedan uprising, is now definitely contradicted. He is in command of the only troops available for the protection of the Court, and it is plain that the latter's attitude towards the peace negotiations must be largely influenced by his advice. Such is the view said to be taken in Shanghai.

The German Consul in Nanking.

It is now stated that the visit of the German Consul to Nanking had for one of its objects the selection of a site for establishing a German Consulate there. We are disposed to think that no other object was contemplated, and that little credence can be placed in the rumour that an attempt was made to prevent the Viceroy Liu from forwarding supplies to the Court at Si-ngan. Nanking has several important missionary bodies, and it has also a mint, a military academy, an university and a naval college, at all of which institutions foreigners are employed. But there is no foreign commercial firm, or, at least, there was none until the beginning of the present year. We presume that the city, having been opened recently to foreign trade, promises to invite new enterprise, and under the circumstances it would be natural that Germany should take steps to establish a consulate there.

The Kaiser and the Emperor of China.

A Berlin telegram to the Tokyo *Asahi* says that another communication has been addressed by the Emperor of China to the Kaiser, in which the former states that so soon as the nature of the punishments to be inflicted on the offenders is designated by the Powers, and so soon as the peace conference is opened, his Majesty will not hesitate to fix a date for his return to Peking. Kwang Sü adds that a decree shall be issued commanding that the fullest security for the life and property of Christian converts shall be guaranteed in every part of the Chinese empire. This sounds very like the kind of answer that the Emperor of China might have been expected to make to the indignant rejoinder that his last communication evoked from the Kaiser, when the latter expressed his contemptuous estimate for libationary expiations. The Emperor of China naturally wants to know what measures of vengeance will satisfy the wrath provoked by the Boxers' doings. As to his Majesty's fixing a date for his return to Peking, well, "a date" is vague enough for all purposes.

THE "BIJUTSU-IN."

It is not pleasant to make comparisons, but as a matter of justice we can not refrain from contrasting the exhibitions of pictures now taking place in Uyeno Park under the auspices of the *Bijitsu Kyôkai* and the *Bijitsu-in*. The former is the older institution and it enjoys the advantage of official patronage as well as the honour of being visited by the Empress if not by the Emperor. Yet, judging from the pictures displayed, its condition is moribund. There is no evidence whatever of vitality. The artists do not seem to rise above the idea of making jejeune copies of the "old masters," or, at any rate, of following their styles as closely as possible. It is illogical to suppose that an art can be successful which does not in any way reflect the progressive spirit of the time. Frankly speaking, we have never seen so unsatisfactory a display as the *Bijitsu Kyô-kai* makes this year. Hitherto there have always been a few pictures that redeemed the general inferiority, but on the present occasion we have not been able to discover them. The display made by the *Bijutsu-in*, on the contrary, is full of interest, for it introduces us to a number of artists evidently conscious that they have a mission to depict the sentiment of the age in which they live. We see here the struggle to adapt the pictorial art of the country to the changing mood of the nation, and we see also that even when historical and antique subjects are treated, the painter is not a mere mimic, but that he is actually inspired by his motive. It is not to be denied that many pictures are exhibited which tend to provoke ridicule rather than to excite admiration, but that is probably accounted for by the fact that the *Bijutsu-in* is an academy, and that the directors deem it wise to adopt a liberal course in granting space to the pupils. There are also several pictures in which the unsuccessful essay to reflect the spirit of transition from the old to the new is painfully obtrusive. But the broad fact is that we are here face to face with a vital, living art, which gives obvious earnest of a future, whereas in the galleries of the *Bijutsu Kyo-kai* we are conscious only of a feeble effort to simulate some of the styles of bygone artists. Mr. Okakura, the founder of the *Bijitsu-in*, is to be congratulated on the result of his movement. If the difference between the progress made by his academy and the stagnation only too apparent in the works of the *Bijutsu Kyo-kai* is to be taken as an indication of the divergence of views that led him to dissociate himself from the latter and to found a rival institution, he certainly adopted a course most beneficial to Japanese pictorial art.

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MR. HOSHI TORU AND THE "MAINICHI SHIMBUN."

Saturday, Nov. 17.

Mr. Kai Shogo, having been successful in inducing the public procurator to institute proceedings against three of the Tokyo City Councillors, has now extended his accusation so as to embrace Mr. Hoshi Toru and Mr. Toshimitsu Tsurumatsu. We have explained that three Councillors were arrested at the outset, and that, subsequently, two actually serving on the Council were summoned to give evidence, and were arrested in consequence of the testimony thus obtained. Encouraged by the success attending these proceedings, Mr. Kai—a gentleman with whose name we are wholly unacquainted—has included Mr. Hoshi and Mr. Toshimitsu in his charge, as well as Mr. Urata, an assistant official of the Municipality, and Mr. Hasegawa Jutaro, head of the Tokyo City Improvement Committee. It would appear that the four now accused—namely, Messrs. Hoshi, Toshimitsu, Urata and Hasegawa—are supposed to have been guilty of some mal-practice different from that laid to the charge of the five men previously arrested, for the latter also are included in the second arraignment preferred by Mr. Kai Shogo. It goes without saying that Mr. Hoshi's enemies are jubilant and that Opposition journals speak gleefully of his luck having turned at last. But it is one thing to accuse a man and another to make good the accusation. Mr. Hoshi has many enemies, as is the inevitable fate of a man with such exceptional qualities as he possesses, and the very readiness shown by his foes to credit every evil uttered against him should render the public cautious.

Monday, Nov. 19

Mr. Hoshi Toru has addressed to Mr Shimada Saburo, proprietor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, a strongly worded letter with reference to the extraordinary charges recently advanced in the columns of that journal. The letter sets out by saying that, as Japanese newspapers have contracted the evil habit of setting up dummy editors to whose shoulders the real writers of articles shift their legal responsibility, it is not possible for an incriminated person to know by whom he is attacked. Mr. Hoshi can not suppose, however, that a man of Mr. Shimada Saburo's reputation, whose claims to observe a high moral standard are well known, countenances such shifty and unmanly conduct. He therefore invites Mr Shimada either to publicly accept the responsibility of the accusations advanced in the columns of his newspaper, or to designate the writer. Mr Hoshi will then take steps to vindicate himself. In referring to the charges preferred by the *Mainichi* and to the language in which they are couched, Mr. Hoshi uses strong terms, not hesitating even to designate such writings as violent, irresponsible, and demented. He concludes by saying that unless Mr. Shimada comes forward boldly and accepts responsibility, either directly or vicariously, for the accusations publicly preferred in his newspaper, his title to be regarded as a moral person must henceforth be regarded as merely assumed to deceive the world, and he will have to endure the reproach of assisting to ventilate accusations which he is not in a position to prove

This letter reached the office of the *Mainichi Shimbun* in the absence of Mr. Shimada, who is said to be temporarily indisposed, owing to an attack of rheumatism. It was taken to his house, and elicited from him a very sharp reply. The latter also is published. It says that Mr. Hoshi's alleged letter employs towards the *Mainichi Shimbun* language of such a rude and violent character that the authenticity of the letter is doubtful, especially as there are many unprincipled and reckless persons in Mr Hoshi's *entourage* who are very capable of fabricating the epistle. Therefore Mr. Shimada wishes to assure himself whether Mr. Hoshi was really the writer, before taking any further notice of the letter. He concludes by saying that he registers his letter, inasmuch as Mr Hoshi Toru not having been at the head of the Department of Communications for any considerable length of time, there is still a hope that the postal affairs of the empire are in fair working order.

With regard to these two letters, we are bound to say that, in our opinion, Mr. Hoshi Toru's description of the writings of the *Mainichi Shimbun* does not seem in any way exaggerated, nor can we sympathise with Mr. Shimada's retort that the paper had been insulted by such language For example, in the very issue of the *Mainichi* containing the above letter, Mr Hoshi Toru is designated "head of the public robbers." Neither is it possible to approve of the last sentence in Mr. Shimada's reply, where he broadly hints that Mr Hoshi's presence at the Department of Communications will have the effect of throwing the empire's postal affairs into disorder. At the same time, we can not doubt that Mr Shimada Saburo is sincere in the course he is adopting, and that he will ultimately stand forward manfully and either accept responsibility for the utterances of his newspaper or disavow them. A great public good will have been effected should this affair prove the means of putting an end to the inexpressibly mean custom prevalent in Japanese journalism, the custom, which Mr. Hoshi rightly denounces, of an editor's hiding himself in the shadow of a substitute paid to endure in his own person the legal consequences of matter which he never penned and never could have penned. Such a device had something to excuse it in the old days, when an editor could be sent to prison by arbitrary judgment of a Cabinet Minister But the press is on a different footing now, and it is time that an abuse so incongruous should be eradicated.

Later

To the above letter from Mr. Shimada, Mr. Hoshi replied at once that the original letter had been written by him, that he accepted full responsibility for it, and that he desired an answer to the inquiry it contained

Mr. Shimada then wrote a lengthy reply. After recapitulating his doubts about the origin of the letter in the first instance, though it bore Mr. Hoshi's signature, he went on to say that not the *Mainichi Shimbun* alone but several hundreds of journals throughout the empire and the forty-five millions of the Japanese nation, expressed their belief in the corrupt practices of Mr. Hoshi as a member of the Municipal Council, whereas not one single person was found to defend him If Mr. Hoshi imagined that all conduct was permissible so long as a man escaped being entangled in the meshes of the law, he laboured under a great misapprehension. He had visited Europe and America and he must have learned that public morality was much higher and that social canons were much severer in the Occident than in Japan, and that although a man might never fall into the clutches of the law, public opinion might condemn him and society turn its back on him. If he had any conscience, it was his duty to clear his reputation from the stains resting upon it. Before seeking to fix the responsibility of other persons, Mr Hoshi's first business was to recognise his own responsibility towards public opinion and towards society.

It will be observed that Mr. Shimada does not reply at all to Mr. Hoshi's question. Mr. Hoshi's inquiry was very plain. He asked simply whether Mr. Shimada himself accepted responsibility for the utterances of the journal owned by him, and, if not, he desired to be informed of the name of the writer with a view to instituting proceedings. So far as that is concerned everybody must sympathise with Mr. Hoshi, for no man with any self-respect could be willing to proceed criminally against a journal which puts forward a fictitious person as its legal representative, and no honorable man could imagine that his reputation had been vindicated by the imprisonment or fining of a hireling paid to suffer such penalties in lieu of the really responsible libeller. Mr. Shimada can not fail to recognise that when there is question of morality, a plain obligation rests on him in this respect. His failure to return a manly, straightforward answer to Mr. Hoshi is unfortunate and is not what we should have expected from a publicist of his upright and widely respected character. It is scarcely conceivable, too, that he can be unfamiliar with the handwriting of Mr. Hoshi Toru, or that he can have laboured under any doubt as to the genuineness of the original letter, and certainly his communication for the purpose of verifying it should not have been made the occasion for heaping fresh insults upon Mr. Hoshi's head. That savours of vindictiveness, not of any real solicitude in the cause of public morality.

We need scarcely add that the incident is causing great excitement. In many quarters it is regarded simply as a political device to strike at the Ito Cabinet through Mr. Hoshi. Mr. Kai Shozo, who instituted proceedings against the municipal councillors now under arrest, is said to be a hanger-on of the Progressists, and it is freely alleged that this whole hubbub was secretly fomented by Mr. Inukai Ki. We can not express any opinion on these matters, but it is impossible not to regret the equivocal line taken by Mr. Shimada.

Tuesday, Nov. 20.

This miserable business goes from bad to worse It will be remembered that the person who preferred the charges of corruption, first against three of the Municipal Councillors and ultimately against Mr Hoshi Toru, was a man named Kai Shogo, whose name had never been before the public in any capacity. With regard to this person, two stories appeared on the same morning in the columns of the *Mainichi Shimbun* and the *Hochi Shimbun*, on the one hand, and the *Asahi Shimbun* and *Jiumain* on the other. The tale told by the former two journals, almost in the same language, is that emissaries of Mr. Hoshi Toru found access to Kai Shogo and offered him ten thousand *yen* if he would withdraw his complaint. The tale told by the other journals is that Kai was promised by the Progressists a considerable amount if he prosecuted the case successfully, but that, becoming apprehensive about the receipt of the money, he thought that he could make a better bargain with the enemy, and he therefore offered to disclose the whole plot, as inspired by Progressist politicians, to Mr Hoshi's friends. The latter met him for that purpose, but finding that he had nothing to advance except his own unsupported statements, declined to have anything to say to him, whereupon he became enraged, and

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bade them look out for the next issue of the *Mainichi*. The *Asahi*, it should be noted, does not give this story on its own authority. As for the *Jimmin*, it alleges that Kai has long been a hanger-on of the *Mainichi* What the public will want to know is why a nobody like Kai Shogo was employed to institute proceedings against a Minister of State. No thoughtful person can suppose that Kai Shogo has been so strongly prompted by motives of public duty as to take upon his own very narrow shoulders the whole responsibility of this large enterprise. Such methods are contemptible. From the newspapers that shelter themselves behind a dummy editor to the politicians that employ gutter-strollers to fight their battles, the whole-gang is sufficiently rotten.

Wednesday, Nov. 21

The developments of the Scandal are becoming quite childish. It appears that the police have taken steps to protect the office of the *Mainichi Shimbun* against any possible acts of violence; a very natural precaution in view of the extraordinary accusations and extremely unrestrained language appearing for some time back in the columns of that journal. The *Mainichi Shumbun*, however, declares that this action on the part of the police proves that the Minister of Justice believes that Mr. Hoshi Toru contemplates recourse to physical violence against the *Mainichi*, and on the strength of that singular line of deduction, the *Mainichi* flames out against a man who, while holding a portfolio, can think of openly violating the law. Is that, we wonder, the kind of ratiocinative faculty that the *Mainichi* has hitherto employed in estimating the evidence on which its various charges are based? Nothing could well be more vindictive or childish.

The *Jiji* publishes an interview with Mr Hoshi, in which that gentleman is represented as saying that he has no further business with Mr. Shimada Saburo. He asked Mr. Shimada a plain question, but could not obtain any answer, the obvious inference being either that Mr. Shimada declines to accept any responsibility for the statements published in his journal, or that he has no faith in the truth of those statements. Mr. Hoshi goes on to observe that Mr. Shimada talks of public morality and of social canons, but that it is difficult to see how the one or the other can be promoted or respected under a system which exposes public men to anonymous libels, and enables the persons really responsible for such attacks to shelter themselves behind a paid substitute If Mr Shimada respected the principles he preaches, he would stand forward manfully and accept responsibility for the charges preferred in a newspaper which belongs to him and is controlled by him. Since he shirks that responsibility, he is not worthy of further notice. Such is Mr Hoshi's conclusion.

But we are bound to say, as onlookers, that something more seems to be needed. The *Mainichi Shimbun* continues in issue after issue to apply to Mr. Hoshi the most opprobrious epithets. If the law does not impose any effective responsibility on the proprietor of a journal behaving in such a manner, or provide any redress for the victim of its attacks, then the law must be exceedingly imperfect, and it will be the Diet's immediate duty to amend it. We can not think that Mr. Hoshi was under any necessity to address Mr. Shimada in the first place. He might have left that task to his legal representative, and we conclude that if he took the matter into his own hands, it was because of his respect for Mr. Shimada's reputation. Now that he has been met, however, with fresh insults, and now that he has entered the lists in person, we trust that he will not allow the matter to drop. The question—though, strange to say, no Japanese newspaper seems to appreciate it—no longer concerns the editorial column of the *Mainichi Shimbun*. A much more direct issue has been brought upon the *tapis*, namely, the letter addressed by Mr. Shimada to Mr. Hoshi, and published by the former over his own signature in the columns of the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The statements contained in that letter are actionable, if ever a libel was actionable, and no plea of privilege can be advanced, inasmuch as full publicity was given to the letter by Mr Shimada himself on the very morning after its despatch to Mr. Hoshi. Responsibility for matter appearing in the *Mainichi's* editorial columns ceases to be a consideration of any importance under such circumstances. Mr. Shimada has repeated the libels over his own signature, and he can be taken into a law court at any moment. We do not see, therefore, that the matter can be suffered to rest where it is.

The *Niroku Shimbun* has taken the trouble to investigate the story of Mr. Kai Shogo and is publishing it at some length, one article having already appeared, and others being promised. But no one cares, we imagine, about Mr. Kai Shogo. He is evidently a figure-head. The use of such a man for the purpose of preferring criminal charges against high officials is only an incidental feature of this miserable business, which has now been carried into regions far above Mr. Kai Shogo's head.

Thursday, Nov. 22.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* continues its virulent attacks upon Mr. Hoshi Toru. The line it now takes is that unless the public procurator proceeds against Mr Hoshi, the Judiciary and the Department of Justice will stand convicted of being unable to discharge their legitimate functions in the presence of official interference But it is to be again observed that the *Mainichi Shimbun* does not advance one proof of any kind in support of its allegations against Mr Hoshi. It simply vituperates him in general terms, and does not even tell its readers what is the precise nature of the offence he is supposed to have committed. Considering that Mr. Kai Shogo, when instituting his suit against Mr Hoshi, is said to have submitted a copy of the *Mainchi Shimbun* as sole evidence, we are profoundly astonished that there can be be any serious idea of the procurator's accepting the plaint. All through this miserable matter our judgment has been influenced by strong confidence in the integrity of Mr. Shimada Saburo We could not believe that a man of his high principles would allow a newspaper owned and controlled by him to utter libels against any one, still less against a Minister of State, without being in a position to adduce proofs sufficiently clear to establish a strong *ex-parte* case at least. But the *Mainchi Shimbun* seems to rely solely upon objurgation That Mr Shimada's reputation should be permanently impaired would be scarcely less regrettable than the discovery that corruption existed in high places. Thus the outcome of this wretched business must be unfortunate in any case.

Friday, Nov. 23.

The *Mainichi Shumbun* continues to pour forth its torrent of invectives against Mr. Hoshi Toru, but continues also not only to withhold all proof of its charges but even to refrain from defining the nature of the charges. The thing is quite unique in the history of journalism, so far as we know. If the *Mainichi's* assaults upon Mr. Hoshi and Mr. Hiranuma Senzo be subtracted, there remains practically nothing in the columns of the paper. As a species of prodigy this kind of performance may entertain the public for a while, but it must soon become very wearisome, and that it should injure Mr. Hoshi in any practical sense is impossible. The very violence and incoherency of the *Mainichi* will have the effect of arousing public sympathy with the victim of such objurgation. Has the *Mainichi* escaped altogether from Mr. Shimada's control?

THE ELEVATED METROPOLITAN RAILWAY OF TOKYO.

The construction of the proposed metropolitan elevated railway of Tokyo from Shimbashi to Uyeno, for which the necessary appropriation was granted by the Diet in the 28th year of *Meiji*, 1895, has lately been actually taken in hand. Careful observers have probably noticed that, for some time past, the expropriation for this railroad between Shinsenza and Yeirakucho in blocks through which the line will pass, has made considerable progress. A great many houses between Yamashita-mon and the City Hall—Tokyo-fu building—and in the district of Karasumori-cho have been removed, so that now one can immediately see the direction the line will take in these sections. Between Saiwaibashi and Yamashita-mon the new four-track brick viaduct will be erected along the moat, passing close on the eastern side of the Imperial Hotel; where the execution of some earthworks is now going on, the high embankments and stone walls of the moat having been removed in order to make room for the foundation of the big viaduct piers. The nature of the ground along, and in, this moat is very bad, particularly so near Yamashita-mon—next to the Imperial Hotel,—so that this part of the foundation work will no doubt be exceedingly difficult and troublesome All these foundations will now soon be started, so that in the course of next year a considerable part of the new work will probably be visible. Besides the Central Station which is proposed in Yeirakucho north of Kajibashi and the City Hall building, a new elevated station is to be built in the Karasumori district, about opposite to Shimbashi, and one more, for local traffic only, in Yeirakucho, north of Sukiyabashi. The expenditure for the right of way on the whole section between Shinsenza and Yeirakucho, which is nearly effected now, has amounted heretofore to about 1,200,000 *yen*, whilst the rough estimate for the construction of the line is 4,750,000 *yen*.

Unfortunately nothing has yet been settled so far, nor have any appropriations been made, for the necessary extension of the line beyond the Central Station to Uyeno. If there is further delay, the cost for the right of way will doubtless increase considerably, and, besides, a correspondingly longer interval must elapse before the projected direct connection between the Tokaido and Nippon Railways can be completed and the circle of the new Metropolitan and the existing suburban circumference railway be closed.

THE GARDEN PARTY TO ADMIRAL BEARDSLEE.

The Garden Party to Admiral and Mrs. Beardslee is to take place in Uyeno Park on the 25th instant at 2 o'clock. Great preparations appear to have been made, and the Tokyo newspapers state that 2,500 invitations have been issued. Marquis Saigo will act as representative of the reception committee, and addresses will be delivered by Mr Kato Hiroyuki and by a representative of Mr. Fukuzawa. Various articles dating from the time of Commodore Perry's coming, and recalling the beginnings of Japan's modern civilization, will be exhibited.

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NOTES ON CHINESE NEWS.

Monday, Nov. 19.

There is a report that a body of Russians were surrounded by Boxers at a point between Shan-hai-kwan and Kin-chow, and that 2 of the Russian troops were killed and 60 wounded.

Rumour also says that the Tartar troops made a fierce attack on the Russians in the vicinity of Kirin, but were driven back after a severe contest, in which both sides had several casualties.

The rumour is repeated that Russia is endeavouring to gain possession of the whole of the left bank of the Peiho at Tientsin, including the land in the neighbourhood of the railway station. This is the region that was so gallantly held by the Russian troops in Tientsin's worst days of storm and stress, but we could wish that their reward did not take a territorial form.

A telegram from London to the *Shogyo Shimpo* says that France objects to the third clause of the Anglo-German agreement, her view being that, should the contingency contemplated in the clause arise, the better plan would be to leave the Powers free to act according to their individual views. That is a natural criticism from France's point of view.

The Emperor of Germany—according to a Berlin telegram published by the *Asahi*—informed the Diet in his speech at the opening, that the delay in convening it had been due to a desire to be able to submit a statement of the doings of the German expeditionary forces in China and also of the expenses incurred in connexion with the expedition.

The estimates submitted to the German Diet are said to provide for the addition of 83 officers to the German squadron in the Far East.

It appears to be, as we conjectured, namely, that the new proposals advanced by the Foreign Representatives in Peking are to be tacked on the French note, provided that the consent of the home Governments can be obtained. Three proposals are said to have been unanimously approved by the Representatives, namely, the American proposal that no provincial official who neglected his duty of protecting foreign life and property shall be again employed; the British proposal, that the commercial treaty shall be revised, and a somewhat vague Italian proposal that Chinese finance shall be managed with a view to the payment of a suitable indemnity. Upon these ideas the European Governments will now have to exchange notes.

Tuesday, Nov. 20.

The Russians have sent re-inforcements to the body of troops recently reported to have been heavily engaged with Boxers between Shan-hai-kwan and Kin-chow. They have also determined, it is said, to take steps for completely clearing out the Boxers in that region. It would appear, however, that the duty of guarding the railway from Liao-tung to Mukden demands a considerable force, for one battalion each is to be sent from Shan-hai-kwan and Port Arthur to assist the operation.

The officer commanding the Russian troops that captured Kirin reports that he was three times attacked by insurgents but the attacks were repulsed, and the strength of the insurgents is now so much broken that further attacks need not be apprehended. Some insurgents are still working in the neighbouring villages, however, and detachments have been sent to rout them out. He says that the health of the troops is good and that they are working well.

From Newchwang comes news to the *Chuo Shimbun* that the Russians have undertaken another enterprise there against the British flag. The story is that, in consideration of the part taken by English capitalists in the construction of the Newchwang-Shan-hai-kwan Railway, the Union Jack was hoisted at the railway station there. The Russians are said to have made a dimonstration in force—whatever that may mean—for the purpose of inducing the British to haul down the flag, but the essay did not succeed, and finally, after a conference between the consuls of the two Powers, it was resolved that the matter should be referred to the home Governments. These tales must be received with great reserve

It is stated that the edict ordering the life-long imprisonment of Twan and Chwan and the penal servitude of Yü Hsien was issued by the Imperial Court in consequence of direct representations made by Yung Lu, who described the communications that had taken place between the Foreign Representatives in Peking and the Chinese Peace Commissioners, and also detailed what had passed between himself and Viceroy Li and Prince Ching. Rumour further alleges that Prince Twan has been apprehended at Ninghia and Yu Hsien at Wei-nan.

From the same source we learn that Newchwang is in a most disturbed state. The Russians and the Tartars are said to be equally active in despoiling peaceful citizens. Not only the Chinese inhabitants but also the Japanese seem to suffer at the hands of the Russians. We read of a store kept by one Fukutomi, which was completely raided by Cossacks The Bazouks appear to have the *entrée* of the place in spite of the presence of the Russians. They lay the people under forced contributions for the avowed purpose of driving out the barbarians, and the consequence is that the stores are closed and business is at a standstill, the export of beans having dwindled to nothing.

Friction seems to continue between the allied troops at Shan-hai-kwan. It is reported that the work of pier construction was entrusted to a British firm and that it had been going on for two days, when suddenly it had to be abandoned, owing to instructions received from the Foreign Office in London. The same telegram says that the British are withdrawing from the island of Ching-wan; that the French have carried away the timbers of the railway, and that the Russians are preferring a demand for the possession of the island Field Marshal Waldersee's authority does not appear to be very successfully exercised. If such friction continues in the field, concord will be difficult to preserve in the cabinet. Meanwhile Viceroy Li is said to have telegraphed to a friend in Shanghai that there are appearances of dissension among the foreign Powers, and that the date of opening the peace negotiations is uncertain.

Wednesday, Nov. 21.

It is stated that the allied commanders contemplate some slight change in the previously arranged dispositions for winter quarters. The Russians appear to have set the example in this matter. The Germans, according to the telegram, are reducing their troops in Chili to the same strength as that of the Japanese and sending the remainder to Kiao-chow. Another telegram alleges that since the prosecution of hostilities is to be abandoned, the military council which has hitherto discussed operations in the field will be dissolved. It is also telegraphed that a force of gendarmes is being organized with men taken from all the columns in the field, and that its duty will be to preserve order among the troops during the winter. Unless the stories told of the troops' doings be greatly exaggerated, the gendarmes will have a busy time.

Thursday, Nov. 22.

The Chinese Plenipotentiaries are said to have applied for permission to examine the demands which the Representatives intend to present. The request could not be officially entertained, but one of the Representatives has privately submitted the proposals to Ching and Li.

Rumour still insists that a demand has been addressed by the Powers to Viceroy Liu requiring him to abstain from forwarding supplies to the Court in Si-ngan. The thing seems to us quite incredible, but we have only to report the news as it arrives. Liu is now said to be considering his reply, which will probably take the form that he is merely sending the regular taxes in coin and kind

The *Asahi* has a telegram from St. Petersburg saying that the *Novoe Vremya* advocates a friendly undertaking between Japan and Russia, and urges the former to seize Fukien. No doubt the St. Petersburg journal would think it convenient that Japan should be the Power to lead the way to "partition," and that she should provide the pretext needed to convert Russia's temporary occupation of Manchuria into permanent possession.

It is stated in the *Jiji Shimpo's* telegram that a body of French and German troops have destroped the Imperial tombs at Yeh chow, near Pao-ting.

It is stated that the idea of making the island of Chingwan a basis during the winter has been abandoned, owing to the restricted accommodation afforded by the anchorage and the dangers of navigating the waters in the vicinity Shan-hai-kwan itself has been chosen finally in preference, although it suffers from the disadvantage of being partially ice bound during the depth of winter.

KOREA.

The Korean Government has nominated a new Minister to the Court of Japan, but we are unable to give his name as the telegram leaves some uncertainty about the ideographs forming it.

A telegram from Sŏul says that the Imperial Household Department is to have ten thousand shares in the Sŏul-Fusan Railway, but whether the shares are to be presented to the Department by the Company or duly purchased with imperial funds, the message does not say The former is probably the truth

A correspondent of the *Jimmin* says that Russia is increasing her military strength in Korea, and that she is now engaged constructing a fort at Masampho, the work being pushed on with all possible rapidity.

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RELIGION IN JAPAN.

It has always seemed to us difficult to endorse the statement that the Japanese are not a religious people when we read of the pecuniary efforts they make in the cause of religion, and when, in travelling through the country, we observe the crowds of pilgrims that flock to pray at shrines and temples. The former point is recalled by statements in Japanese newspapers, that, in the course of one year, a sum of no less than 1,200,000 *yen* has been subscribed by the people of six provinces in response to an appeal from the priests of the temple Nishi Hongwan-ji in Kyoto. Twelve hundred thousand *yen* means very much more in Japan than it would mean in England or America. It means probably four or five times as much; some would say ten times as much, and we are not by any means sure that their estimate is incorrect, for the wealth of Japan, all told, appears to be just about one-tenth of the wealth of England. At all events, whatever view be taken as to the just ratio of comparison, the fact is sufficiently eloquent. We can not suppose that the people who subscribe such great sums do so merely because they regard the support of the priests and the temples as a conventional obligation, or that, like the historical Scotchman, they pay their money, not because they believe in religion, but because there is just an off chance that it may have something in it. Whether their piety be shallow or profound it is unquestionably capable of moving them to very substantial practical efforts.

FRESH CHARGES.

Mr. "Bazan," correspondent of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, writing from Peking under date of the 7th instant, renews the charges that have been so repeatedly preferred against some of the allied troops. He alleges that the outrages continue, and that the effect of this inhuman conduct has been to intensify the hatred entertained by the Chinese against foreigners. The events at Pao-ting are specially referred to. "Bazan" says that the Mandarins of the place originally tried to prevent the despatch of an expedition from Peking, by promising to give full protection to foreign life and property, and that, when these efforts failed, they finally surrendered the city without resistance. None the less the outrages committed by the expeditionary troops were even worse than might have been expected as the consequence of armed opposition. General Tung is reported to have ridiculed the action of the Mandarins and to have pointed out that craven submission did not pay. Rumour further alleges that news of these events at Pao-ting finally determined the Court not to return to Peking. "Bazan" speaks also of Lutai. There the Chinese represented to the Japanese that there was no idea of assuming the offensive in any way, and that if they were left alone, they would remain perfectly quiescent. Nevertheless the Japanese could not obtain a reprieve for them, and they had to become victims of the usual atrocities. The writer catalogues further instances, but we need not follow him.

The Japanese press in general are taking up this question with the utmost vehemence. Their pens have hitherto been restrained by official influence, but they are now beginning to speak freely. One journal contains a strong appeal to the Christian missionaries of Japan whom it accuses of standing idle and silent spectators, while their faith is made to stink in the nostrils of the Orient by the inhuman excesses of those professing it. Another says that the doings of the Monguls under Genghis have found their counterpart in the villainous acts of Christian soldiers at the close of the nineteenth century. The Mongols boasted openly that the right sleeves of their tunics were dyed in the blood of Chinese women and children. Historians have treated this as an empty boast, but there are soldiers of civilized Powers who might use the language of the Mongols with truth to-day. The *Asahi* asks what evil destiny willed that Japanese soldiers should fight shoulder to shoulder with the perpetrators of such deeds, and the *Niroku* alleges that the officers of the Japanese Army and the officials of the War Department are debating whether any duty devolves upon Japan to send her troops to fight in the van of Powers compassing the partition of China, or to avenge the deaths of men that meddled with Chinese domestic administration and sheltered malefactors, or to march in line with soldiers that treat human beings like beasts, shed the blood of the innocent and helpless like water, and impose no restraints except satiety upon their own lusts. It is indeed humiliating to our civilization that such charges should be preferred, and it is most painful to think that this Chinese campaign, from which so many amicable influences might have emanated, will only tend to deepen dangerous aversions.

THE DIVERS MEMORIAL.

The ceremony of unveiling the bust of Dr. Edward Divers in the Imperial University took place at 11 30 a.m. on the 17th instant. Terribly inclement weather greatly interfered with the proceedings, but a considerable number of persons attended nevertheless to do honour to a man of science whose reputation is world wide and to whom the cause of learning in Japan owes much. Professor Sakurai, of the Memorial Committee, spoke the opening address, and speeches highly complimentary to Dr. Divers were made by Professor Kikuchi, President of the University, and by Mr. Watanabe, ex-President. Mr E.W. Tilden, Dr. Divers' son-in-law, returned thanks in a brief but happily worded speech. Subsequently the party partook of lunch in Dr Divers' former residence

An esteemed correspondent writes.—The ceremony of unveiling the bust of Dr Edward Divers, which has been erected in front of the Science College of the Imperial University, from funds subscribed by his friends and former pupils in grateful remembrance of his long services in this country, took place on Saturday at 11.30. In spite of the heavy rain, there was a large attendance, including Messrs. A. Hamao and H. Watanabe, former Presidents, as well as Dr. Kikuchi Dairoku, the present President, of the Tokyo Imperial University. Mr. E. W. Tilden, son-in-law of Dr. Divers, came up from Kobe specially for the occasion.

The ceremony opened with an address by Prof J. Sakurai, of the Science College, representing the Committee, who dwelt at some length upon the important services rendered by Dr. Divers, both in the former Engineering College and the present Science College during the past quarter of a century, alike in the capacity of teacher and of an investigator. The bust was then unveiled and presented to the University

Dr Kikuchi, President of the University, read an address in which he referred to the recognition by the University of the important work done by Dr. Divers, and expressed his pleasure in accepting the bust.

Mr. E. W. Tilden, on behalf of Dr. Divers and his family, delivered a short speech, returning thanks for the courteous manner in which the doctors' friends and former pupils had shown their appreciation of his services.

The ceremony concluded with a speech by Mr. H. Watanabe, one of the oldest friends of Dr. Divers, who referred to his official connections with the doctor at the old Kōbu-daigakko as well as at the Imperial University, and expressed his admiration of Dr. Divers' long and unwearied work in this country.

Music was played by the Tokyo City Band at intervals, and after the ceremony refreshments were served at Dr. Divers' former residence.

MR. HIRANUMA SENZO.

In spite of all the charges so vehemently preferred against him, Mr. Hiranuma Senzo has been returned for the House of Peers as representative of the highest tax-payers of Kanagawa Prefecture. The newspapers that delight to traduce Mr. Hiranuma are now much concerned about the honour of the House of Peers, which, they say, will be fatally besmirched by the admission of such a member But there is something almost revolting in the partiality of these journals. They did not hesitate to accept and endorse an accusation preferred against Mr. Hiranuma by a man who confessed himself a party to the fraud with which he charged the Kanagawa millionaire, and they did not pause to reflect that the extreme improbability of the alleged occurrence taken in conjunction with the time chosen for making the accusation, strongly suggested a mere election dodge. Such indifference to fair play defeats its own object.

No one will be surprised to learn that the public procurator has refused to take up the suit instituted by Mr. Shigeta Morinobu against Mr Hiranuma Senzo. Mr. Shigeta pretended that he had connived with Mr. Hiranuma to manufacture a document for the express purpose of deceiving the shareholders of the Exchange, and he complained that Mr Hiranuma had not carried out his part of the nefarious bargain. How could the public procurator be expected to proceed against Mr. Hiranuma? But what will now be done with Mr. Shigeta? He stands convicted of fraud according to his own confession. Is he to escape scot free?

The shameless Mr. Shigeta Morinobu has appealed from the refusal of the Kanagawa Procurator who declined to institute proceedings at his motion against Mr. Hiranuma Senzo It seems to us to be quite an unique incident to find a man importuning the judicial authorities to protect him against the consequences of his own fraud, and, for the rest, if Mr Shigeta is confronted by the danger of being required to pay a debt which he voluntarily contracted with the avowed object of deceiving others and contriving an evasion of the law, the natural verdict will be, "serve him right"

THE LEONIDS.

We are now passing through a region of shooting stars, and any one paying attention at night, may be better rewarded than was the case last year.

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KOBE, YOKOHAMA AND OSAKA.

The Railway Council has elaborated plans for bringing the railways at Yokohama, Kobe and Osaka into direct communication with the harbours. The project contemplates a line one mile long, on reclaimed land, from the north side of the Yokohama station to the hatoba, involving an expenditure of two million *yen*. In Osaka, the connecting line would have to be 3 miles, and the cost five million *yen*; and in Kobe the line would be 2 miles and the cost 1½ millions. There are special reasons for the cheapness in Kobe's case, apart from the nature of the construction. Application is said to have been made to the Finance Department for a grant of 8 million *yen*, and the Department, while not undertaking to pledge itself to any definite amount, has promised to render all the assistance in its power.

DISCONTENT.

A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* alleges that Marshal Waldersee's proceedings are causing much dissatisfaction. The Commander-in-chief is said to take counsel with officers of his own nationality only, not consulting the views of the staff-officers of other nationalities at all. The latter are reported to be desirous of having the military council dissolved, as its existence is a mere farce for practical purposes, and as it creates an impression entirely erroneous. We give this rumour for what it may be worth, but we do not think that much importance attaches to it. Every one must have foreseen that Marshal Waldersee's doings would provoke criticism, however wise and tactful he might show himself.

THE DIPLOMATIC HUNTING PARTY.

The duck-hunting party given by his Majesty the Emperor to the members of the Corps Diplomatique at the Detached Palace in Chiba Prefecture, has now become an annual affair. The opening day was the 21st instant, and those present were the Belgian, Spanish, Chinese, Austro-Hungarian, Russian, Mexican, Portuguese and German Representatives, their ladies and the Secretaries of Legation. H.I.H Prince Kanin represented the Emperor. The weather was superb and the party is said to have been a great success. The remaining foreign Representatives were invited for the 26th. The sport began at 10 a.m., and tiffin was served at noon

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The Sanshi Ginko's troubles seem to have been happily arranged. Messrs. Wakao Ikuzo and Hiranuma Senzo have put up 200,000 *yen* each, and Count Matsukata is said to have contributed 50,000. The Bank has therefore resumed payments.

Baron Yamaguchi seems to have had a photograph of himself taken in the Empress Dowager's boudoir in Peking. The *Asahi Shimbun* publishes a reproduction of the picture. The General is in full uniform and has seated himself in the precise centre of the sofa—if such a term can be applied to a Chinese article of furniture — where her Imperial Majesty doubtless reposed her august person many a time. The gallant officer looks as if he knew that he was taking a liberty, but it must be confessed that the idea of having such a photograph produced was brilliant.

There is another scandal now upon the *tapis*. It relates to the building of the Kure Dockyard. Five arrests have already been made in connection with this matter, and a court martial has been convened to try the accused, among whom are a secretary of the Naval Department and an engineer. Tokyo newspapers allege that the investigations of the court martial will probably lead to many other arrests, but upon what ground they base that forecast it is difficult to see. The charges brought against the five men are bribery, fraud and forgery of official documents. It will be remembered that excitement was caused some time ago by rumours that arrests had been made at Yokosuka for similar reasons, but the Yokosuka incident seems to have died of inanition. At all events, nothing more has been heard about it, from which we conclude that there was no valid basis for the charge.

One result of the Chinese trouble is that Peking, for the first time in its history, is to have a foreign journal. It will be called *The China Times*, and the manager is to be Mr. J Cowen, the editor Mr. T Cowen, the latter of whom is well-known in the Far East, for not only has he been connected with many local journals the *Kobe Chronicle*, the *Hongkong Daily Press*, the *Japan Times* and the *Hongkong Telegraph*—but he also acted as special correspondent of *The Times* during the China-Japan War, and as special correspondent of the London *Daily News* and Reuter's Agency at other times. The remarkable feature about the new journal is that it will be printed in seven languages, namely, Chinese, Japanese, English, French, German, Russian and Italian. That is an immense undertaking. It indicates the employment of a large staff, requiring a correspondingly extensive circulation. Mr. Cowen, doubtless, hopes to find the latter in his Chinese and Japanese clientele, but we are disposed to think that in order to achieve that object it would have been better for him to fix the price of the paper at less than $10 yearly. Yet, after all, $10 is only a sovereign, and a penny paper costs thirty shillings per annum. The most expensive journal in Japan, the *Jiji Shimpo*, may be had for 50 *sen*, or one shilling, per month, though we admit that no rule is to be inferred from the Japanese charges, which are quite too small. Every one will wish success to this new venture and admire the courage of its projectors. We suppose that it will absorb the *Tientsin Times*, and we shall be sorry to bid adieu to the latter which has been excellently conducted during the past two years.

The reports of Viscount Katsura's resignation are renewed. His Excellency is said to have tendered his resignation twice in connexion with the recent change of Cabinet, but in deference to the Emperor's command, he remained at his post. It is now alleged that his health is too much impaired to permit of his continuing to discharge his duties, and that he has presented his resignation a third time.

The Emperor of Japan has decorated thirty-nine Russian officers of the force with which His Majesty's troops cooperated in the defence of Tientsin and subsequent operations. Lieut.-General Linevitch receives the First Class of the Rising Sun; a Major-General whose name is too much mutilated in the transliteration, to be identifiable, receives the Second Class; several Colonels receive the Third Class, and the quality of the Orders conferred on the rest is not mentioned. The French Major-General Frey also receives the Second Class of the Rising Sun.

Mr. and Mrs. Masuda gave a garden party at their Goten-yama residence on the 18th instant, to celebrate the marriage of their son and Miss Itakura. The day was fortunately fine and the spacious grounds presented a most picturesque appearance in their dress of autumnal tints. A large number of guests assembled to enjoy the many amusements provided for them, from dances in the celebrated Okio rooms and tea drinking presided over by a master of the Cha-no-yu cult in a very beautiful pavilion, to the imbibing of common bohea under the auspices of a merry company of jesters and abigails. It was altogether a most enjoyable entertainment, and the guests did not withdraw until an unusually late hour, after bestowing hearty thanks on their genial host and hostess and wishing all sorts of happiness to the young couple.

Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima gave a garden party at their residence in Nagatacho on Friday the 16th instant, to celebrate the wedding of their son and the daughter of Marquis Kuroda. Unfortunately the weather proved so inclement that it was impossible for the guests to repair to the garden, but although several hundreds were present, they found ample accommodation in the spacious mansion, the rooms on the second floor being thrown completely open for the purpose. Great amusement was afforded by the clever acting of a party of experts from Osaka, after which the guests sat down to a sumptuous collation. A spirit of exceptional gaiety prevailed, and amid lusty cheering the Marquis and the bridegroom were hoisted three times on the shoulders of their friends.

We learn that H.M.S. *Terrible* is expected to arrive in Yokohama on the 29th instant.

Another member of the Tokyo City Council, Mr. Goto Ryonosuke, has been arrested on a charge of giving false evidence. Mr. Goto is a barrister. He was summoned before the Court as a witness in the matter of the bribery charges, and his testimony led to his apprehension.

The Emperor has conferred the posthumous rank of *Sho-ichi-i* (first rank of the first grade) on Mitsukuni of Mito, better known as Giko, or Mito Komon, under whose auspices the celebrated *Dai-Nihon-Shi* was compiled. His Majesty justly recognises that the foundations of the movement which culminated in the Restoration were laid in the time of Mito Komon. The Imperial message conferring this high rank, is couched in the warmest terms.

We owe an apology to the *Jiji Shimpo* for mistakenly attributing to it language which was really used by the *Asahi Shimbun*. It was not the *Jiji* that applied to Mr. Hiranuma Senzo the term "mean fellow."

The *Izumo* (first-class cruiser) left Colombo for Singapore on the 15th instant, and is expected to reach Yokosuka on the 5th or 6th of December. It is expected that the line-of-battle ship *Hatsuse* will leave England before the end of the year, and that the first-class cruiser *Iwate* will start about the same time. The only remaining ship of the post-bellum programme is the battleship *Mikasa*,

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and she has been launched, and will probably be ready for sea by the middle of next year.

The Peace Preservation Regulations, in a somewhat severe form, have been declared operative in Formosa. They empower the Governor-General to deport any character likely to disturb the peace.

After England annexed Burmah, the British press applied the epithet "rebel" to every one opposing the occupation. We have not observed that the Boers fighting in the Orange River Colony or the Transvaal are called "rebels" though both places have been annexed. "Raiders" is the euphuism employed. What the Chinese in Manchuria are called in Russian reports we are not certain, but in the Japanese versions of those reports the term used is *bôtô*, the nearest English equivalent of which is "rioters." That is a funny choice of epithets. It seems more appropriate to call the invaders of a country "rioters" than its defenders.

A sub-lieutenant, Jimbo Tokusuke, of the 11th Regiment, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for making away with four ingots of gold entrusted to his care by a Chinese subject in Tientsin during the siege of that place. The officer was in the act of making a bargain to sell the gold for 1,770 *yen* to an exchange shop in Osaka when he was interrupted by a gendarme. He confessed the crime and the Chinaman recovered his ingots.

A fire entailing heavy loss occurred at 2 a.m. on the 18th instant at the nail factory of Mr. Yasuda in the Fukagawa district. A violent gale was blowing at the time, and there being no possibility of grappling with the flames, buildings covering 850 *tsubo* (two-thirds of an acre) were wholly or partially destroyed. The loss is estimated at five hundred thousand *yen*, and nothing is stated as to insurance. This is the only nail factory in Japan. Its operations do not seem to have been very successful hitherto, but success would probably have come in time.

The *N-C Daily News* says that the gallant act for which Mr. Basil J. D. Guy, midshipman H. B. M. flagship *Barfleur*, has been given the Victoria Cross (as mentioned in a Reuter's telegram the other day) consisted in running out under a heavy fire to rescue a wounded man. Being unable to lift the man, Mr. Guy rapidly built a barricade on the side from which the firing was coming and then lay down beside him until they were both rescued.

Mr. Miyajima's Chinese School in Koji-machi, Tokyo, has proved such a success that it is to be transferred to very much larger buildings in Nishiki-cho, Kanda. Mr Hasegawa, who is now in Canton teaching Japanese, is to return to Tokyo for the purpose of taking a place in the reorganized School.

A strike of 2,500 persons, men and women, is reported from Nagasaki. They are the folks that ship coal at that port, and the cause of their strike is the usual complaint, insufficient wages. Some have been induced by the police to resume their work, but the greater part are still recalcitrant.

Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Company deserve thanks for sending out their Christmas advertising sheet in a form that is really delightful to the eye. They have succeeded in obtaining crepe paper of a tone so delicate and attractive that it at once creates a desire to make essay of the many good things catalogued on it. Advertising is becoming a fine art, but in our opinion the attractions of an elaborately decorated card are quite inferior to the simple prettiness of well chosen type showing in clear contrast with a monochrome ground of such a charming tint as that now before us

Professor Hirayama, of the Imperial University, is said to have discovered two new planets. The discovery was made last spring and communicated to Berlin, whence intelligence has now been received that the planets were undoubtedly unknown previously. Mr. Hirayama has named them F.F. and F E. We presume that they are very small bodies.

The results of Dr. Kitazato's method of treating dysentery are now published, as taken from the returns of the fifteen contagious diseases hospitals of Tokyo from 1895 to 1899. The tables are very minute, but the upshot is that whereas the rate of mortality in cases treated by the ordinary methods varied from 22 to 55 per cent., the rate in cases treated by Dr. Kitasato's method was from 8.5 to 12.5 per cent. These are striking results. Dr. Kitasato uses serum taken from horses, or, still better, mules.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* has now turned its vitriolic pen against the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, which it accuses of bribing officials and newspapers in order to secure the continuance of its subsidies. In truth it would seem that some one connected with the *Mainichi* has fallen into a phrenzied mood The *Yorozu Chôho* had its day of similar mud-throwing, though the *Yorozu* certainly drew its inspiration from lower sources. The reputation of Japan will not be enhanced by these proceedings, but to that criticism the *Mainichi* would probably reply with justice that if the evils it denounces actually exist, their remedy is of far more importance than the scandal attending their exposure. Unfortunately, however, it is impossible to regard these accusations seriously so long as they are preferred by persons who carefully conceal their identity and shift their responsibility to the shoulders of hired dummies.

THE KAISER AND KWANG-SU.

The following is the full text, as published in Germany, of the Emperor of China's despatch to the Emperor of Germany, and the latter's reply :—

"His Majesty the Emperor of China sends greetings to his Majesty the Emperor. Your Majesty's Minister, Baron von Ketteler, fell a victim to the rebellion which suddenly broke out in China. Our officials were unable to prevent this crime, by which friendly relations have been interrupted. This we have already deeply deplored and regretted. By an Edict of to-day we command that sacrifices shall be made for the deceased Minister at an altar and we have directed the Grand Secretary Kun-kang to present a drink offering at the altar. The Superintendents of Commerce of the northern and southern harbours have likewise been commanded to make all requisite arrangements in connexion with the conveyance of the coffin to Germany. When the coffin arrives in Germany we have ordered that a second offering shall be made at the altar and have commissioned the Vice-President of the Ministry of Finance, Lu Hai-huan, to give effect to this order. The object of this is to give expression to our grief and to our remembrance of the departed. Germany has always maintained the most friendly relations with China: We therefore confidently hope that above all things your Majesty will protect the great interests which China and foreign countries have in common, and that peace may be arranged as soon as possible and general concord for all time may be rendered possible. This is our most earnest hope and our most ardent desire."

The German Emperor despatched the following telegram in reply :—

September 30, 1900.

"To the Emperor of China,—I, the German Emperor, have received the telegram of his Majesty the Emperor of China. I have learned therefrom with satisfaction that it is your Majesty's endeavour to atone in accordance with the customs and observances of your religion for the shameful murder of my Minister a crime which was in defiance of every kind of civilization. Nevertheless, as German Emperor and as a Christian, I cannot regard this deed as expiated by drink-offerings. In addition to my murdered Minister, a great number of brethren of the Christian faith, Bishops, missionaries, women, and children have passed before the Throne of God who for the sake of their faith, which is also mine, have died violent death under torture, and who stand forth as accusers of your Majesty. Do the drink-offerings your Majesty has ordered suffice for all these innocent victims? I do not make your Majesty personally responsible for the injurious treatment inflicted upon Legations, which are regarded among all peoples as inviolable, nor for the grievous wrong which has been done to so many nations and creeds and to the subjects of your Majesty who belong to my Christian faith; but the counsellors of your Majesty's Throne, the officials on whose head blood-guiltness rests for the crime which has filled all Christian nations with horror—these must suffer for their atrocious deed, and if your Majesty will bring them to condign punishment I will regard it as an atonement which satisfies the Christian nations.

"If your Majesty will lend your Imperial arm to this work and will consent to accept the support of the representatives of all the nations that have been insulted, I, for my part, declare my agreement. Moreover, I would welcome the return of your Majesty for this purpose to your capital, Peking. My Field Marshal, General Count von Waldersee, shall have orders not only to receive your Majesty honourably according to your rank and dignity, but also to afford your Majesty all military protection which you desire, and of which you may, perhaps, even stand in need against the rebels.

"I, too, long for peace; but the peace I desire is one which will atone for guilt, which will make reparation in full measure and in every regard for the wrong that has been done, and which will afford complete security for all foreigners in China in respect of their lives and property, and, above all, in the free practice of their religion."

It has been observed, with regard to the Emperor of Germany's reply, that his Majesty makes no allusion to the Japanese, and the omission has been commented on as unfortunate. It certainly is unfortunate if the reply be read in a general sense. But to us it seem that the Emperor of Germany, being addressed specially with reference to Baron von Ketteler, replied on Germany's account only, and that, when he spoke of "a great number of brethren of the Christian faith,' he had German subjects alone in arrived. It is true that his words, if read quite literally, will not bear that construction, for there were no German "Bishops" massacred, so far as we are aware. Still, there is the possibility that his Majesty spoke for Germans alone, and there is, we may almost say, the certainty that he did not intentionally exclude the Japanese. The Berlin correspondent of *The Times* takes note of the omission. He writes :—

The Japanese, who are not Christians, but to whose gallant troops the relief of the beleaguered Legations is largely due, are not even mentioned in the Imperial reply. Yet it may be safely assumed that their interests are practically the same as those of the other Powers, since the Mikado has many subjects residing and trading in China and since Japan has also suffered a gross insult and injury in the murder of a member of its Legation.

For the rest, we are bound to say that with our present knowledge of the outrages committed by the troops of the Allies in China, every allusion to the "innocent victims" of the Boxers' fury, and to the "crime which has filled all Christian nations with horror," becomes very painful. The Chinese are in a position to cast back our own reproaches in our teeth, and to ask us what now we have to say on behalf of our Christianity.

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BRITISH DEMANDS.

IT is to be regretted that the demands put forward in Great Britain's name at the Peking Conference of Ministers are not prompted by more practical considerations Already public surprise has been caused by the intelligence that Sir ERNEST SATOW proposed to make revision of the commercial treaty with China a condition of peace, for though there are doubtless many considerations pointing to the advisability of revision, the time seems most inopportune for raising such a complicated question when the main object of the Powers should be to put an end to the state of war now existing and to enable the Chinese Government to re-assert its authority in the interests of law and order But rumour now alleges that still stranger proposals have been advanced by her Majesty's Representative. The first is said to be that not merely the importation into China of arms, but also the importation of all articles used for the manufacture of arms or warlike material, should be interdicted. The almost insuperable difficulty of enforcing a veto upon the importation of arms should be sufficiently deterrent, one imagines, but when the interdict is extended so widely as to embrace many substances entering into the catalogue of ordinary commercial uses, it appears that the proposal has been formulated without any regard whatever to practical considerations Then, again, it is stated that her Majesty's Minister has asked that the Chinese Government instruct its subjects to pay up the calls on shares held by them in foreign companies. The reference is obviously to the Trust and Loan Company, which has been unable to induce its Chinese shareholders to meet their liabilities. That question is obviously one to be decided by the law courts, and it seems to us that a most regrettable departure is made from recognised principles when a proposal is made that a Government should be compelled by *force majeure* to interfere between its subjects and the duly constituted legal tribunals of the realm. In the particular case which has prompted this demand the Supreme Court of America has decided that United States citizens are not under any legal obligation to pay up the calls on the shares of the Trust and Loan Company We do not imagine that in the event of America's being confronted by an overwhelming phalanx of Powers, the idea could be entertained of requiring the Washington Government to order American citizens to meet these calls in defiance of the decision of the highest legal tribunal in the land Such interference would be denounced as unjustifiable in America's case, and we fail to see why it should be justifiable in China's. We trust that these rumours may not be confirmed, for they reflect little credit on the attitude taken by her Majesty's Representative in Peking.

COAL.

THE sudden and rapid consumption of coal caused by the South-African war and intensified by the China trouble, is producing some anxiety in England, where an idea is mooted that her monopoly of coal is coming to an end. Once again the old question is raised, how many years' supply of coal do the British mines contain? Opinions differ greatly as to that. Some authorities say 50 years some allege that Yorkshire, Cannock Chase and other places have a practically unlimited supply, but one expert predicts that the cheap workable coal of Lanarkshire will be exhausted in 17 years, and that Glasgow will then cease to be a great manufacturing town. Of course, if England has no coal to send abroad, her ships would have to sail in ballast for the purpose of fetching food stuffs from foreign countries, and that would so seriously affect prices as to materially raise both the cost of living and that of industrial production. Such an outlook is very gloomy, but a similar scare has been so often raised that the British people will probably pay no special attention to it on this occasion. One of the chief factors of disquiet is that the high prices caused by this abnormal demand were said to have enabled America to compete with England in fields where the latter had previously enjoyed a monopoly. The London *Daily Mail* announced in August that seventy thousand tons of American coal were to be shipped from the United States to the Mediterranean. The statement was not confirmed, however. Most of the coal appeared to be for bunker purposes, and it was further shown that only under very abnormal conditions could America afford to add the cost of the long sea voyage to the price of coal intended to compete with the English mineral in European markets. American ships carrying coal to Europe would also labour under one great disadvantage, namely, that they could not count on obtaining cargo for the return voyage owing to the prohibitive tariff of the United States. When the 250 vessels that have been employed for military purposes in connection with the South-African and Chinese troubles are once more engaged in ordinary carrying business, freight charges must fall considerably, and this coal question will again sink out of sight. It has scarcely been raised at all in Japan, although some experts predict that this country has not even a fifty years' supply. At present, want of organization among the coal-mining companies of Japan is depriving them of large gains which might otherwise be secured: but a difficulty lying still deeper is want of cheap capital. It is quite plain that the predictions of experts can not be trusted. There are no superficial indications which can be adopted as bases for an infallible opinion. The Takashima mine, for example, was supposed, some years ago, to be within measurable distance of exhaustion, yet it is said to have obtained a fresh lease of life owing to the discovery of new veins, and no one would now venture to fix a limit for its productive power. Kiushiu probably possesses immense coal fields awaiting development, but so long as coal-miners have to pay 15 per cent. for their working capital, with the greatest difficulty in obtaining a meagre supply even at that rate, the mineral must be left where it is. England raises from her mines 220 million tons of coal annually and sells it for 660 million *yen*. How long will it be before Japan does anything of that kind?

GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION AT KURE.

A terrible accident occurred at the Kure gunpowder store on the 17th instant. While the powder was being shifted, an explosion took place, killing 7 men, and destroying 2,993 shells, 734 kilograms of powder and 1,920 fuzes. Nothing is said as to the number of injured.

THE WEATHER.

The curiously cold rain on the 17th instant took the form of sleet during the afternoon in several districts, even Tokyo witnessing the extraordinary spectacle of snow in the middle of November. It happened most unfortunately that the two principal days of the autumn manœuvres in Ibaraki fell on the 16th and 17th, when rain poured incessantly. The Emperor nevertheless took the field, sometimes riding and sometimes walking. His Majesty is said to have been saturated with wet, and the manœuvres were finally cut short on the afternoon of the 17th, when a perfect storm of wind and rain prevailed. This tempest was prefaced by the appearance of an area of low depression in the vicinity of Riukiu, and doubtless had the season not been so advanced a violent storm would have raged. The Central Observatory reports that the thermometer at 11 a.m. read 41.9°F., and at 3 p.m. it stood at 39.2°.

STORM IN YOKOHAMA.

Yokohama was visited by a heavy northerly blow on Saturday which, considering the force of the wind and the heavy sea that got up in the harbour and bay, caused less damage than was expected. In the Settlement and on the Bluff little out of the way needs to be reported, some trees and two or three fences being levelled with the ground on the Bluff, an electric wire near the Oriental Hotel, and 17 trees blown down in the Public Garden.

On Saturday morning the yacht *Ronin*, the property of Mr. H. Goldman, dragged or broke her moorings and went ashore at the Boathouse hatoba, but the sendoes got her off promptly and remoored her, with the result that she rode out the remainder of the gale in safety.

Less fortunate was the small schooner *Dorothy*, which was anchored off the French Hatoba. During the night she broke adrift and, passing through the fleet of small yachts, brought up on the Bund opposite the Grand Hotel, the Mosquito Yacht Club 21-rater *Kodesu*, belonging to Mr. Lefroy, following her example. When assistance became available *Kodesu* lay on the seaward side of the schooner pounding herself very heavily against the larger boat. The 21-rater has a great part of one side smashed in. The 17-rater *Bonito*, the property of Mr. Kingdon, filled and sank at her moorings, but does not appear to be injured. Another 17-rater, *Eclair*, belonging to Messrs. Delf and Gibbs, also filled and sank, but in her case, as she has some damage on her quarter, it is possible that one of the drifting yachts fouled her. A large sailing boat belonging to Capt. Carst filled at her moorings.

The wind was very violent at times and heavy

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seas came up against the Bund, but no damage appears to have been done to the wall.

The *Dorothy* was got off safely about 2 p m. on Sunday and towed to an anchorage.

KOBE.

The train leaving Kobe at 10 p.m. on Nov. 16th was stopped at Oiso in consequence of damage by the gale to the iron bridge over the Banyu. Trains for Kobe were held at Ofuna for the same cause till midnight on Saturday.

The gale was experienced in Kobe on Saturday. Two Japanese houses were levelled as was also a police-box. Three junks sank, and many trees were levelled to the ground.

THE RELIEF OF PEKING.

We take the following extracts from *The Times* special correspondent's account of the relief of Peking :—

On the 8th the advance was resumed. At Yang-tsun the road crosses over to the right bank of the river, which here takes a wide bend, the road leaving it and leading direct to Tsai-tsun. The whole force from now onwards was to proceed on the right bank of the river and a definite order of march was agreed upon by the allied generals at a council held at Yang-tsun. There it was decided that the Japanese were to lead the advance, the Russians to have the second place, the Americans were to follow, and the British bring up the rear. The French remained at Yang-tsun. The order of march was said to be entirely devoid of political significance, and those who can see none may so regard it, but nevertheless, the necessity which led to the selection of the particular order of march was felt to be a great misfortune by many. The Japanese started early, they are quick marchers; their transport is light. The consequence was that a long and increasing distance separated them from the slow-marching Russians, with their heavy and lumbering transport, on this as on every succeeding day's march. Although the Russians march with indescribable slowness, slouching along as though half asleep, they were constantly halted. Their average pace thus hardly exceeded a mile an hour, and the head of the American column was frequently blocked. The Russians always halted at a village where there was shade, as often as not compelling the head of the American column to halt on the hot and sandy roads running through the long fields of maize. This, to some extent, may have accounted for the great number of casualties from the sun suffered by the American troops and for the very slow progress made, which compelled both the Americans and the British to do the best part of the march in the hottest hours of the day. In riding past all the forces in turn, it was impossible not to be struck by evidences of the superior organization of the Japanese. "A place for everything and everything in its place." Ammunition trains, ambulance carts, baggage trains, all handy, serviceable, light, and neatly packed; no overloading, no confusion, no noise, in mobility their army certainly outshone the rest of the Allies. As regards their marching powers no fair comparison could be made, except between them and the Russians. They certainly march twice as fast as the Russians, and without distress. The Japanese could start at their own time and choose their own stopping places, so it would not be fair to compare their marching with that of the Americans and British, who were hampered by what was going on in front. The Americans seemed to suffer most from the sun, but they marched fast when they got a chance in the cool, and although the men fell out a great deal during the heat of the day they soon pulled themselves together again and followed on. As regards the British marching, it made the best appearance of any. The Indian troops fell out a good deal on one or two of the hottest days, but the regiments marched with a fine swing and carried a certain proud air, even when very exhausted. In this respect there was a very marked difference from the Russians, who literally slouched along. Strong, splendid men they were, however, all stoutly built, deep-chested and broad-shouldered, in point of view of physical development the best men on the road, but slow and sluggish, just raw, good-humoured yokels plodding on patiently. The French did not show up well on the march. The particular troops who started were not fit for the fatigue, having just come from Tonking and being in very poor condition from fever and other effects of that unhealthy climate.

In a comparison of the uniforms worn by the various forces, the great superiority of that worn by the British was very evident. The Japanese white—all their troops were dressed in white—was visible, aggressively visible, for miles, when khaki could hardly be seen. It is the one glaring fault in their organization, and they should make haste to change it. The Russians also wear white, but, their uniforms not being so clean as those of the Japanese, in fact being always very dirty, the disadvantage of it was not quite so apparent. The Americans have khaki but they seldom wore the coat. Without it they appear in a blue shirt and khaki trousers, a smart-looking, serviceable rig, but not nearly so invisible as all khaki. The French wore blue, not a dark shade, and not a good colour, at any rate in this country. In this country, and, I believe, in any other, khaki is the best colour for a soldier's uniform, as the invisibility of the British troops must have demonstrated to all observers.

* * * *

On the 10th the Japanese again pressed on, their outposts getting up to within a mile of the retreating enemy. General Fukushima, the moving spirit of the pursuit, was asked, in the evening, if his troops were not very tired. "Yes," he said grimly, "but so are the enemy." To keep them "on the run" at all costs was his plan of campaign, and splendidly he carried it through. His cavalry and mounted infantry were usually pushed ahead about three miles in advance of the main body of infantry. Whenever they got into touch with the enemy they dropped back upon the infantry, which was then extended and sent forward to go thoroughly through all the villages to right and left of the line of march. While the infantry rested after this the cavalry pushed on again, and the process was repeated, to the consternation of the pursued. At Matou we saw the place where the Chinese had breakfasted in the morning, a large open space strewn with melon rinds. They had no commissariat and just lived from hand to mouth on what they could pick up by the wayside, melons mostly and Indian corn.

* * * *

Peking was now in the hands of the Allies and the object of the expedition accomplished. Singular good fortune attended it from beginning to end. Had heavy rains set in or the river fallen a little, several more days might easily have been spent upon the road. As it was, everything conspired to help the force along—the heat, to which allusion has often been made, being inevitable at this time of the year. Looking back along the road we have come by, realizing that the Japanese bore the brunt of nearly all the fighting on the way up, and that, by constantly harassing the retreat of the enemy, they saved the whole force from fighting at least two more battles, and probably, therefore, two precious days, one is bound to say that to them are due the honours of what will surely go down to history as a memorable march.

FOREIGN TRADE.

Trade returns for the latter half of October, as published in the *Shogyo*, show an excess of imports amounting to 1¾ million *yen* approximately, against an excess in the export of specie which amounted to 2¾ millions. Below are details :—

	Later half of October. Yen.	Total from January. Yen.
Exports	9,173,572	161,556,881
Imports	10,493,824	249,287,208
Excess of imports	1,320,252	87,730,327
Export of gold	2,485,363	45,866,937
Import	123,865	7,962,159
Excess of exports	2,361,398	37,604,778
Export of silver	153,041	2,269,439
Import	16,193	2,494,968
Excess of export	136,848	—
Excess of import	—	225,525

Thus imports have increased to some extent as compared with the figures for the first half of the month under review. The result is, of course, an incident in the natural course of events, but the augmentation in the export of gold and silver to such a serious extent is a fact worthy of notice. It may be observed that in Yokohama the brisk sale of *habutae* during the latter half of October tended to increase the volume of exports, whereas in Kobe the decrease in the import of cotton and the increase in the export of yarns, and the large transactions effected in Osaka for the export of cotton fabrics to Korea have brought about a corresponding diminution in the excess of imports. But the reverse was the case with Nagasaki, for in spite of an augmentation in the export of cotton and dried cuttle fish, the import of sheet iron and machinery has considerably increased, producing a corresponding decrease in the export of yarns, sea-ears, and food stuffs for the army. Hakodate and Niigata have suffered a similar fate, as they have just commenced the importation of salted fish.

MISS BACON ON THE HAMPTON INSTITUTE.

A smaller number than usual was in attendance at the meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society on Friday evening. The persistent rain prevented many from listening to the very interesting address by Miss Alice Mabel Bacon on "Common Sense in Education and Education in Common Sense." Those who have read Miss Bacon's most interesting books on "Japanese Homes" and "Japanese Women and Girls," were prepared to enjoy her very entertaining address. It consisted principally of an account of the work of the Hampton Institute in Virginia. The life of Gen. Armstrong, the founder of the Institute, was briefly sketched and the plan and growth of the school was made clear. Almost every kind of industrial work is done in the school, and the opportunities for fitting the scholars for any kind of occupation are abundant. A youth who has no money can for some time by working during the day and studying in the evening lay up funds sufficient to carry him through a higher course of study for which he may have aptitudes. A tract of some 700 acres of land is in the possession of the school and also three well-equipped buildings. There are at present in attendance some six hundred students, of whom 450 are coloured and 150 are Indians. The result of the education received is to fit these people to return to their homes to do good work in practical ways for the uplifting of their people. The effectiveness of the school was illustrated by reports of what the graduates are doing in different walks of life. Probably the most distinguished graduate of the school is the well known educationalist, Booker T. Washington, who came to the school on foot and with no money but is now at the head of a large institution in Florida which is doing an immense amount of good in the elevation of the coloured races. There is no coloured man to-day who is listened to with more respect and regard than is accorded to this man. The work done for the Indians was shown to be quite remarkable. While education and common-sense do not always go hand-in-hand it was made evident that in this school at least there had been at least an approximate attempt in this direction.

The full programme was as follows :—

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

Lecture..." Common Sense in Education and Education in Common Sense" ...
Miss Alice Mabel Bacon.

PART II.

Violin Solo ....
Mr. Fehling.
Vocal Solo ....." Feldensamkeit" .....Brahms.
Mr. Hansen.
Vocal Solo....." Meine Freuden".....Chopin.
Mr. Hansen.

SMALL BANKS AND SAVINGS.

The *Kokumin* publishes a report prepared by a committee recently appointed by the *Yurakukwai* to make investigations in connection with the control of minor banks which are now established with little heed to prudence, the encouragement of the tendency to save money, and the supervision of savings banks. Below is an epitome of the report in question :—

Four rules to be established to prevent the unnecessary institution of small banks :—

(1) Limiting the amount of capital.

(2) Forbidding the Directors to engage in any other business or occupation.

(3) Exercising wholesome control over new banks at the time they begin business.

(4) The exercising of strict control over auditors, on the part of the Finance Department.

With regard to the encouragement of the spirit of thrift the following remarks may be found useful :—

(1) In the present condition of affairs workmen do not receive the whole of their wages, a certain portion being appropriated by their headman, an idler, known as *oyabun*. Evil practices of this kind must be thoroughly eradicated.

(2) Habits of thrift must be encouraged in the class rooms of primary schools.

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(3) The rates of interest on postal deposits should be revised to correspond with those common among private individuals.

As to the control of savings banks the following suggestion is made :—

The exercising of strict control in connection with the funds of savings banks will render it necessary for these institutions to reduce the rates of interest on deposits. At present even ordinary banks are allowed to receive deposits, either on current or special accounts, and as there is no legal limit for the utilizing of the funds so obtained, the banks are at liberty to raise the scale of interest on them, thus encroaching upon the sphere of operations legitimately, if not exclusively, belonging to savings banks in general. Such being the case the restrictions now imposed upon these institutions ought also to be extended to ordinary banks as regards deposits received by them in the form of savings.

The most remarkable feature of banking institutions in Tokyo is the abnormal increase of savings banks in general during the latter half of the current year. Statistics compiled since July last give the following figures :—

1900.	Converted from ordinary into savings banks.	Capital in *yen*.
July	1	300,000
August	7	1,780,000
September	5	1,090,000
October	3	474,000
New institutions.		
July	9	850,000
August	6	1,070,000
September	13	1,350,000
October	8	2,050,000

	Banks which increased their capital.	Amount of increase in *yen*.
July	1	60,000
August	2	90,000
September	3	320,000
October	3	160,000

The actual number of banks at the end of July was 395, with an aggregate capital of 44,050,300 *yen*. By the close of October, however, the figures had swelled to 435 and 52,194,300 respectively, showing an increase of 40 in the former item and of 8,144,000 in the latter.

THE KOBE WATER-WORKS BONDS CASE.

The appeal made by Mr. J. R. Morse against the decision of the Yokohama local court in the now famous Kobe Water-works Loan Bonds case, came before the Tokyo Court of Appeal on Tuesday. The appellant was represented by Mr. Suzuki Jubi of the Tokyo Bar, and the defendant (Mr. Narutaki, Mayor of Kobe) by an array of Kobe barristers, namely, Messrs. Kusaka, Sakurai, Ota and Otsuki. Judge Koyama presided, with four Judges sitting as assessors. The case for the defence was stated at great length by Mr. Sakurai, who went over the whole history of the affair, though the only point in dispute, as our readers are aware, is whether Mr. Morse's contention is correct that the defendant promised to redeem the bonds in sterling at a fixed rate of exchange. As is now well-known, the English translation on the back of the bond mentions the rate of exchange in English currency, the Japanese text is silent on the matter. Mr. Sakurai contended that Mr. Narutaki could not possibly have made such an agreement as Mr. Morse suggested, as it would be contrary to the law of Japan.

The presiding Judge endeavoured to discover if the parties were in favour of a compromise, and the lines of a compromise suggested by Baron Shibusawa and others were then mentioned to the Bench. As this compromise proposed that the costs of the dispute should be borne by both parties, Mr. Morse's representative declined to entertain it

Applications were then made to summon Mr. Morse and also Mr. Matsuo of the Finance Department as witnesses, and as the latter request was refused, Mr. Suzuki asked for a change of *venue* on the ground that the Court was prejudiced.

The sitting was suspended soon after 5 o'clock

SALE OF RACE PONIES.

The following were the prices realised at the sale of race ponies conducted by Mr. Jno. W. Hall on Wednesday afternoon. —

	Yen.
Mazette, Grey, Country-bred	190
Moonshee, Chestnut, Australian Mare	410
Dobriak, Bay, Australian Gelding	75
Prostyak, Grey, China	40
Boomerang, Bay, Australian Gelding	170
Standard Rose, Skewbald, China	45
Wallaby, Brown, Australian Gelding	380
The Count, Bay, Australian Gelding	2,500
Tatsuta, Grey, Country-bred	400
Oimatsu, Brown, Australian Gelding (bought in)	410
Suzame, Grey, China	140
Morokoshi, Grey, China	70
Idaho, Bay, Country-bred Mare (bought in)	690
Oregon Grey, China	50
Aldebaran, Bay, Australian Mare	460
Torquay, Chestnut, Australian Mare	410
Emerald, Grey, China	190
Torcross, Chestnut, China	45
Rainbow, Grey, Country-bred	330
Saturn, Grey, China	30
Orion, Bay, China	25
Sunshine, Grey China	110
Fidelity, Australian Mare	400
Silvertail, Bay, Australian Mare	400
Strathcona, Brown, China	35
Akebono, Bay, Australian Gelding	200
Yayeyama, Grey, China	30
Cousine, Bay, Australian Mare	280
Kintoku, Brown, Australian Gelding	40
Excelsior, Black, China	150
Pollux, Chestnut, Mare	45
Huckebein	35
Kasuga	400
An Australian Subscription Horse	125
A Canadian Horse, broken to saddle or harness	190
A Grey Half-Bred, broken to harness	65
A Black Japan Carriage Pony	35
An Australian Horse	100
Bulwayo	45
Chamberlin	50

The prices realised were all remarkably good, but The Count (¥2,500) makes a record for a horse sold at auction in Japan. Mr. John W. Hall may be congratulated on this result equally with the former owners.

The sale of race ponies on Wednesday attracted a fair attendance, and in one or two instances very good prices were realized, Australian mares especially finding eager bidders. A few ponies had been disposed of privately before the sale. The highest price realized was *yen* 2,500 for The Count, Aldebaran heading the list for Australian mares with *yen* 460, whilst Emerald was knocked down for *yen* 190, which is a low figure considering the present high prices ruling in China. Two of the largest stables, Messrs. Worthington and Starlight, sold out entirely the remainder of their stock, which looks as if they are not going to be represented next spring. The thirty race ponies actually sold fetched *yen* 7,451, of which *yen* 2,925 and *yen* 1490, respectively go to the two stables mentioned. Among the mares bought in were Idaho at *yen* 690 and Moonshee at *yen* 410.

Of the ponies that have changed owners, The Count and Emerald go to Mr. Russia, Aberdeen and Standard Rose to Mr. Tytherleigh, Excelsior to Mr. Tandem, and Sunshine to a French syndicate. Several new stables are supposed to be forming and orders for American and Australian racers to meet The Count are talked of.

Going by the Skeleton Programme for the Spring Meeting, the most promising class will be that for the new Australian Subscriptions, which are due here next month by the *Shinano Maru*. The all-comers class is so far represented only by The Count. There will probably be only eight or nine China ponies racing next meeting, as it is practically impossible to obtain new supplies, and in view of the fact that those now kept over belong to the very best,—there have never before been as many first class China ponies on this course—trainers are reluctant to pay exorbitant prices in China and afterwards find out that local cracks are quite a match for them.

So far not much interest appears to have been taken in the list sent out for Subscription Country Breds. The price asked, compared with the cost of Australians, seems to stand in the way, which is to be regretted, as now there is a splendid opportunity to introduce races for Country Breds. The horses now offered are to be from three to six years old and it is only to be hoped that this class will fill.

ROSCOMMON.

MURDER IN YOKOHAMA.

On Tuesday morning, about 3.30 o'clock, residents in the neighbourhood of Kame-bridge, Ishikawa, Yokohama, were aroused by cries of "*hitogoroshi*" ("murder"), and on withdrawing their shutters saw a man jump hurriedly from one of the many junks lying there and run ashore. A constable from the adjacent police box proceeded to the boat and found the *sendo*, an old man, lying weltering in blood, having received frightful cuts in the lower part of the body. It is conjectured that the miscreant, learning that the *sendo* had disposed of his cargo of fire-wood the previous day, supposed that he would have the money on board; that on his refusing to give up this money, he attacked the defenceless man, (the only other person on board, a small boy, having fled to another part of the boat on his approach), and that the robber only fled when the lad's outcries seemed likely to arouse the neighbourhood. The injured *sendo*, who was named Miyazaki Wakagoro, belonged to Takeoka-mura, Kimitsugori, Chiba. He was conveyed on shore, but died on reaching the hospital. Search was at once made for the supposed murderer. At half-past two o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, the water police arrested a well-known bad character known as Sano Shinzo, *alias* "Fusa-kuma," a gambler by profession, who lives at Matsukagecho, Yokohama, and charged him with the crime. This man, who is aged 24, is known to have attempted, early on Monday evening, to borrow money from the dead *sendo*, and was refused.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Nov. 17th :—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	17,574,780
Amount of convertible notes issued	191,311,075
Government deposits	32,785,340
General deposits	4,984,870
Exchange liability	7,975
Total	276,644,243
CR.	
Discount notes	59,894,887
Foreign discount notes	14,773,082
Loan to Government	24,000,000
General loans	54,252,460
Exchange liability	1,745,078
Government bonds	52,477,260
Property	2,203,642
Bullion and Specie	67,297,831
Total	276,644,243

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	192,981,536

Bullion and Specie :—

Gold	64,047,418
Silver	3,000,000
Total	67,047,418

Securities :—

Government bonds	27,088,214
Government certificates	25,500,000
Government bills	10,197,853
Commercial notes	63,148,061
Total	125,934,118

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase	Decrease.
Gold	—	1,054,515
Silver	—	—
General loans	227,839	—
Government deposits	—	1,099
General deposits	—	1,673,642

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CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

A CHALLENGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I observe that Mr. Henry Scott Jefferys, in a letter addressed to you, has seen fit to assert that the writer of the Monthly Summary of the Religious Press "retains his Protestantism although he has parted with his Christianity." I should be obliged by Mr. Jefferys' substantiating this charge by quotations from the Summaries themselves.

I am, yours truly,

THE WRITER OF THE "MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS."

Nov. 15th, 1900.

"LIKE PRIEST, LIKE PEOPLE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In reply to "Constant Reader's query, I beg to state that "Like priest, like people" is a well known English proverb. It is given as such in the Rev. James Wood's Dictionary of Quotations, p. 250. The nearest approach to it in the English Bible is to be found in Hosea, iv., 9:—"And they shall be like people, like priest." It is hard to say which is the older form. The translators of the Bible may have been acquainted with the proverb and have transposed the words priest and people, or what is now recognised as a proverb may have had its origin in the Biblical text, the transposed usage having been established since the publication of the first English version of the scriptures that contained the text referred to above. That the proverbial form should be more frequently used than the scriptural is probably to be attributed to its expressing in a pithy manner a truth that writers are fond of dwelling on, namely, religious degeneration has its source in a delinquent ministry. Such as is the priest, so are the people.

I am yours, etc.,

THE WRITER OF THE "MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS."

November 17th.

THE TRUTH ABOUT JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have just read the letter from "Earnest Enquirer" and the related articles which appeared in the issue of the *Weekly Mail* for November 3, and I beg to make a brief statement of my own experience for the benefit of our American friend, who, for so long a time, has been planning to make Japan his permanent home.

Early in the spring of the present year, I contracted to come to Japan to teach in one of the Government schools of Tokyo. At that time my knowledge of Japan was limited; I therefore began immediately to read all available books and magazine articles relating to this country. Everything I found filled my mind with pleasantest anticipations of a life among the Japanese people, until I chanced upon the article by Mr. Van Bergen which has been the subject of such earnest condemnation.

Being thoroughly alarmed, I set to work to ascertain the truth, and from all sources came the same reply, "Foreigners are as safe in Japan as anywhere on earth." No one, however, whose attention I called to the article in the *Review of Reviews* seemed to know just what point Mr. Van Bergen was trying to make.

On the 22nd of July I arrived at Yokohama, and since that date I have had a little opportunity to see for myself. In the process of setting up housekeeping, I have come, almost daily in contact with people of all classes. I have passed up and down the streets of nearly all parts of Tokyo, by jinrikisha and on foot, by day and by night; I have ridden in street cars, and have traded at stores of all kinds when I did not know enough of the Japanese language to ask for a large fryingpan when the clerk brought me a small one,—and I beg to state that I have not had a single experience that would justify any of the charges made against Japan by Mr. Van Bergen in the article entitled "Japan's New Era."

Though my experience has been rich, it has been short. For purposes of testimony, I wish it had been longer, so that I might discharge a larger part of the debt which America owes to Japan because of this libelous article.

Believing that in a matter of this sort the testimony of a woman is even more valuable than that of a man, I wish to state that Mrs. Leonard joins me in saying that we find life among the Japanese not only safe, but very enjoyable.

M. C. LEONARD.

130 Hara-machi, Koishikawa, Tokyo.

THE REAL CONDITION OF JAPAN. A QUERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In reply to the letter of *Earnest Enquirer* in to-day's *Japan Mail*, I purpose making a few remarks on questions on which I feel competent to write. Having been a resident of Japan from about the same time as that from which *Earnest Enquirer* dates what must have been his pleasant experience of Japan, since he says he "became so charmed with both country and people that he was strongly tempted to become a resident, etc.," I can say that his first impressions were precisely my own, and that after a ten years' residence, I have seen no reason to alter the opinion I then formed of the country and people.

True, the Japanese are not angels, but only average human beings like the rest of us, much better than ourselves in some ways, and perhaps worse in others, but certainly as far as the lowest class found in the streets is concerned, far less course and brutal in their outward demeanor than the same class of English. It is a fact that has been remarked to me by several who have revisited their home countries, that the first thing that struck them unpleasantly after a residence in Japan was the low brutality of the common people, and although the same class in Japan have some decidedly objectionable habits, they were gentle and refined compared with the English roughs, the American hoodlums, and the Australian larrikins.

True it is also that since the China-Japan war, prices have so risen that living in Japan is no longer the cheap luxury it once was, and it is equally true that since treaty revision foreign residents have become subject to income and property taxes which made a considerable reduction in their incomes. But in these respects they are certainly no worse off than the Japanese themselves have been, nor than I presume they would be if living under the jurisdiction of any other foreign country.

It is also a fact that several old-established mercantile firms have lately been wound up, and their representatives have quitted Japan, but this can hardly have been in consequence of treaty revision, as their doing so had been in contemplation before that period. Not being a mercantile man myself, I have often referred to business men for information as to whether treaty revision had really made a very material change for the worse in the routine of their business, and have been assured that they had not suffered more than the inevitable annoyance caused by such entirely altered conditions.

If business is so completely ruined, and if the Japanese have become so intolerable to deal with since treaty revision, as the writer of the article "Japan's New Era" states, how happens it that both Kobe and Yokohama are literally becoming inundated with newly arrived Germans and Americans, all here, I presume, on some mercantile business? This fact is undeniable, and must speak for itself.

There is much that is not only positively untruthful, but distinctly malicious in the article mentioned above, and it is both wicked and cruel to publish such mis-statements. The celebrated "Kent case" is very prominently brought forward to serve the purpose of upholding the writer's assertions, but absolute silence is held respecting the equally celebrated "Miller case" where the Japanese courts strained a point of leniency even to the verge of a miscarriage of justice, in its reluctance to pronounce sentence of death upon a brutal foreign miscreant who had committed a triple murder, before "treaty revision" was two hours old, two of his victims being of their own nationality!

And as to the life and property of a foreigner being more insecure in Japan than it was previous to treaty revision the statement is both preposterous and absurd. Let those who have lived here through both phases, come forward and give truthful evidence as to whether their lives and belongings have been more imperilled since July, 1899, than they were before! Why, it is only a month since two letters appeared in a local paper from correspondents who had had the ill-luck to be robbed of valuable watches—an incident that might have happened to them in any large foreign city, for pickpockets are everywhere, and as I said before, the Japanese are not angels—but who had had their property so promptly found and restored to them by the Japanese police that they felt impelled to write a public recognition of the efficiency of that body. One of these said—"Though I am an American, I know of no American city in which the police, with such slight information as I was able to give in this case, could have been expected to trace and secure such a watch in so short a time. I take pleasure in thus giving honourable mention to the Tokyo police." * * And the other wrote as follows, after giving details of the loss of his watch in a great crowd, and of its speedy recovery by the Police: * * "Such promptness and efficiency of service deserve public recognition and the highest commendation. The publication of this fact seems to me therefore an obvious and simple duty." And he concludes with these words—"*Surely, in the presence of such efficiency of police administration, residents in Japan have reason to feel relatively secure in the existing legal protection to life and property.*" * *

Perhaps the testimony of these two gentlemen, coming as it has, so completely up to date, may have some effect in allaying the apprehensions of "*Earnest Enquirer*" which have been aroused by the perusal of the tissue of libels in the article to which he refers.

I will make one quotation from that article, because I am in a position to refute it on the authority of another as well as on my own. The writer asks "What should we then say of those who in a cowardly manner insult these strangers (the foreign residents and tourists) by jostling them or throwing stones at them?" This reference to the alleged ill-treatment of foreign residents and tourists may be best answered by quoting some remarks made by Mr. Arthur Diosy on this very subject, in an address he made to the Japan Society, London, after his visit to this country— * * "This I will tell you, that every traveller in Japan who behaves himself—mind, I lay stress upon this—who behaves himself, will be received and treated by the Japanese of all classes very far better than the average traveller would be received and treated in any other country in the world. Of course there are exceptions. In some of the former treaty ports, where I am sorry to say evil communications have corrupted good manners, the foreign traveller does not meet with a particularly hearty welcome, because the Japanese, that is to say the inexperienced Japanese, have no means of judging by his outward appearance, whether a particular individual is a traveller who is going to behave himself, or whether he is not going to behave himself. Those who do not behave themselves properly, prejudice the Japanese against the majority, the majority of Europeans and Americans one meets travelling behave like what they are, as ladies and gentlemen; but in the former treaty ports there is an accumulation of the scum of the world, and the behaviour is often in accordance. I am not speaking of the worthy residents of the treaty ports, but of the floatsam and jetsam, the rascaldom which is swept hither and thither on to the streets and wharves of all sea-ports in the world."

It is true that not long before treaty revision was established, a number of the lowest class of the wharf coolies of Kobe, and a few of the same class in Yokohama, impelled by some real or fancied grievance against the foreigners, how arising it is impossible to say, misconducted themselves on several occasions, even to the throwing of stones at in offensive passers-by, ladies amongst the number; but it speaks well for each this class, that as soon as the Emperor's Rescript (of which the writer of "Japan's new era" makes such a strong point) appeared, they ceased from these practices, and so far as I am aware have given no active annoyance to foreigners since.

And as to the treatment of foreigners by Japanese in the interior, I have travelled thousands of miles in remote parts of Japan previous to treaty revision, and hundreds of miles since, and not only was never stoned or otherwise insulted, but I can confirm Mr Diosy's assertion that I do not think I could have been treated with equal politeness and consideration in any other country. The police have invariably shown themselves most anxious to pay the foreigner any attention or to help him out of any difficulty caused by ignorance of the language or of the locality. I could if space permitted, give many instances of this, but will confine myself to one case in point. As lately as last summer, I had started from a country town in a kago with three men, and had hardly got out of the street into the fields, when I was stopped by a small Japanese policeman in spotless white uniform, spectacles and gloves of course, with a huge sword gleaming bright in the sunshine at his side—in short the representative Japanese policeman at all points, and while he was holding a short parley with my servant, I was joined by a fellow-traveller who was going in the same direction as myself, to whom I remarked jocularly—"See, I have been arrested" to which he replied "Oh! I suppose the fellow wants to show a little brief authority." But my servant explained that the policeman had merely stopped us to enquire what arrangements we had made with the kago coolies, and to tell us the proper fare, so that in the case of their over-charging us, we should be upon our guard. Now I should like to know in what other country would the policeman go to that extent in studying the foreign traveller's interest, and protecting him from a possible attempt at imposition by his own countrymen?

The writer of the article "Japan's New Era" quotes more than once from a local journal of which I have never had a number in my hand, but regarding which, from these and other quotations I have come across at times, I should certainly say that its statements regarding the Japanese people should not only be taken with a grain of salt, but that at least a ton of that saline mineral should be used in swallowing them.

There is a class of writers, happily in a minority

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just now, who, if but a Japanese fly should alight on a foreigner's nose, make it immediately the text for a grievance far which the whole Japanese nation is held responsible but, luckily for Japan, which has hitherto had far more than her fair share of misrepresentation and vilification, recent events in China have had the effect of silencing these writers to a certain extent.

Trusting that some other correspondent will come forward and deal with the subjects I have not touched upon, I beg to say that if I do not append my name to this, it is from no desire to shirk the responsibility of my statements, but simply because I do not wish to court publicity.

I am, yours, etc., OBSERVER.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The regular fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society happens to fall next week on the same night as St. Andrew's Ball. The Committee have therefore decided, in order to avoid any possibility of clashing, that the next meeting shall be held on Wednesday, November 28th, at 8.30 p.m., and as Van Schaick Hall is not available that evening, the small Salon at the Public Hall has been engaged. The principal item on the programme will be an address by Rear-Admiral L. A. Beardslee, U.S.N. (retired), upon "New Japan and Her Earlier History." If possible the lecture will be illustrated by some lantern-slides of an unique character.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

A gardener named Kano Sanzo, living at Yagisa-mura, Kita Katsushika-gori, Tokyo, has been arrested on a charge of stealing a quantity of cloth and other articles valued at over 600 *yen* from Viscount Hosokawa's godown on the 16th ultimo.

The five hundredth anniversary of the death of Chaucer was commemorated on Oct. 25th by the unveiling by the poet laureate, Mr. Alfred Austin, of a memorial window in the Church of St. Saviour, Southwark, adjoining the old Tabard Inn, whence the poet started on his pilgrimage to Canterbury.

The King of the Belgians, while riding in an autocar on Oct. 24th in the Bois de Boulogne, was pulled up by the Paris police for exceeding the regulation speed. He was going at the rate of fifty kilometers an hour. A policeman was about to take King Leopold's name in his note-book when the driver of the autocar whispered in his ear and the whisper put things right.

A thief entered the house of Goko Shuzo in Sumiyoshi-cho, Gochome, Yokohama, on Nov. 19th about 1 a.m., but on the occupant calling out, he fled pursued by Goko. In the street the latter met a man named Isogai Tetsusaburo, and thinking him the would-be thief beat him violently. Isogai reported next morning to the police the assault committed upon him.

At an examination for the rank of Lieutenant, held on Nov. 15th on board H.M.S. *Hermione*, the candidates obtained the following marks out of a possible 1,000 :—

1ST CLASS.

R. G. H. Henderson.....	(Hermione).....	957
W. Scott.....	do	955
F. M. Austin	(Bonaventure) ...	933

2ND CLASS.

J. S. Schäfer	(Bonaventure) ...	892
F. C. Hanning-Lee	(Aurora)	753

The specie reserves of the Bank of Japan which reached over 70 million *yen* in the beginning of October are now reported to have decreased to 67 millions. Foreign trade, remarks the *Nippon*, is still against Japan; an excess of imports continues to characterize the market as it did in the beginning of the year, and the exodus of specie is thus inevitable. Yet there is hardly any prospect of the restoration of commerce to its former condition of equilibrium. The trade return for the week ended October 28th shows that the excess of imports amounted to 570,000 *yen*, whereas the trade transacted in Yokohama between the 13th and 19th October is said to have experienced an excess in imports of 260,000 *yen* against 570,000 *yen* recorded for the following week, making a total of 830,000. Below are the figures :—

	Yen.
Exports	1,367,440
Imports	1,945,072
Excess of imports	578,000
Export of specie	501,393

The retirement of Mr. Norman MacColl, M.A., on January 1st from the editorship of the *Athenæum* will mark the completion of the longest editorship on record in England. For thirty-one years he has controlled that journal, beating Delane's service on the *Times*, and he has probably had more to do with the formation of the higher literary standards than any man in England. He was a close friend of Charles Dickens, Carlyle, Tennyson, Browning, Ruskin and Darwin, and in later years of Swinburne, Henley, Kipling and Patmore, and, to quote the *Outlook*, "he knows perhaps more than any man living of books and their authors."

Tenders were opened on the 20th November, at the Imperial Japanese Government Railway office, in Tokyo, for the supply of 24 six wheel coupled locomotive tank engines, English make. The tenders sent in were :—

	£
Okura & Co.	62,751/0/0
Birch & Co.	65,680/0/0
Mitsui & Co.	66,834/0/0
Isono & Co.	67,187/9/0
Takata & Co.	67,420/0/0
Illies & Co.	68,642/4/0

Messrs. Okura & Co., the successful tenderers, have already supplied 74 locomotives to the order of the Government Railways. The present order thus brings their total to 98.

According to investigations completed by the Tea Inspection Office in Yokohama, the tea trade from the beginning of the season up to the end of October last, as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of last year, stood as follows :—

	1900. Catties.	1899. Catties.
Arrivals	20,204,800	21,795,700
Sales	19,968,200	21,246,300
Value realized in *yen* ...	5,810,664	5,484,633
Average value per picul in *yen*	29	25.81

The amount of sales this year shows a decrease of 1,278,100 catties, but an increase in value of 326,031 *yen* as compared with last year, the average value per picul being increased by 3.28 *yen*.

The import of peas and beans from Newchwang has considerably decreased, asserts the *Jiji*, in consequence of the outbreak of the insurrection in China.

Below are comparative figures for September this year and last :—

Imports.	Total up to September 1900. piculs.	Corresponding period last year piculs.
Peas and beans	1,192,517	1,518,965
Oil cake	1,949,189	1,719,084

From the above it may be perceived that the amount of peas and beans imported this year has decreased by over 20 per cent., whereas an increase is noticeable in the import of oil cake. During this month last year the above two classes of commodities were imported into Japan to the amount of 320,000 and 420,000 piculs respectively, whereas this year only six Japanese ships loaded with them have arrived from Newchwang.

A large social gathering of foreigners and Japanese was held in Sendai on the 17th instant. The original intention of the Committee appointed to make arrangements was to have a garden party. But a freezing day that brought snow at about 2 p.m. confined the guests to a spacious suite of rooms provided for them, where they chatted, partook of light refreshments, and listened to such music as the local band was able to discourse. The meeting was quite informal. There was no speech-making and no programme of any kind. It is many months since foreigners and Japanese have met at a public gathering such as was held on the 17th. The last meeting was on Aug. 5th, 1899. The Teetotal Party, which among foreigners is very strong in Sendai, succeeded in depriving the guests present of the cup of saké which they so much love, and which some present were heard to say they missed on a bitterly cold day. One feature of the meeting worthy of mention was the presence of ladies, Japanese and foreign, who by superintending the refreshment tables added not a little to the comfort and enjoyment of all present.

Authors often speak of the spiral ornamentation as "Celtic," but in reality it came to the British Isles from the Egean by the valleys of the Danube, the Elbe, the old route of the amber trade, and Scandinavia, which had more to do with old British history than we know. The researches of Mr. Evans, described in *Nature*, show that this spiraliform decoration runs through the remains of prehistoric Crete. It occurs in the Mycenian palace of Gnossos, which covered about two acres, and was he thinks, the real "labyrinth" of Minos. This name probably comes from labrys, the double axe of the Cretan Zeus, which is carved on the corner stones. The legendary fame of Daedalus, the architect, is borne out by his work which was higher than that of the buildings of Mycenæ or Tyrus. The Gnossian frescoes portray the man of Mycenian civilisation. His profile was European, almost classically Grecian, with dark curling hair, but rather full lips. The head was brachycephalic or broad. This type is predominant in Crete now. It is not the Armenian hook-nosed, or the popular Jewish type, but probably represents the original Hellenic people of Greece, and survives in the highlands of Albania, and Illyria. Perhaps the most interesting remark of Mr. Evans is, however, his approval of the hypothesis which identifies the "caphtoe" from which the Philistines came, with Kefto, the Egean realm of the Kelts of Egyptian monuments. Crete, in fact, was the centre of a Mycenean civilisation that spread to Palestine and elsewhere.

Mr. T. Sidney Cooper, who has just entered upon his ninety-eighth year, is busy with a large canvas for next year's Academy exhibition—a picture of sheep. He is, despite his advanced age, in excellent health and full of energy, and is able to work daily for some hours. It certainly cannot be said that he has lost his hold upon the public or that picture buyers have ceased to take his work seriously, for he sold the four pictures, "Spring," "Summer," "Autumn," and "Winter," by which he was represented in the last Academy for £1,800.

CHINA NOTES.

News has been received of the death at Shouch'un, Anhui province, on Oct. 31st of the well-known ex-Taiping rebel chief Kuo Pao-ch'ang, who joined Li Hung-chang after the fall of Soochow, which was taken by the late General Gordon and his Ever Victorious Army. After joining Li Hung-chang, Kuo Pao-ch'ang filled a number of military appointments, and at the time of his death was Brigadier-General of the Shouch'un Military Circuit of Anhui province. The death of the late General ends the list of some forty Taiping rebel chiefs who joined the Imperialist armies towards the end of that rebellion.

A Chinese newspaper reported a few days ago, said the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* on Nov. 14th, that the Emperor Kuang Hsü tried to dispatch two trusty persons to Peking to communicate to the Allies that he wished to return to Peking in order to commence peace negotiations, but could not do so, as his retinue refused to obey him. From official sources we learn that this statement is not correct, also that it is not true that the two men alluded to have been caught and at once beheaded. Commenting on this, the *N.-C. Daily News* remarked :—We do not know what our German contemporary's "official sources" are, but we know that the telegram from Hsianfu, of which we published a translation yesterday, in reference to the Emperor's attempt to send a message to the Foreign Ministers, was sent by an official whose position and character preclude the possibility of the story told not being authentic, and it may be unhesitatingly accepted as true.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The *Tenchijin* writes on "School Text-books." It expresses the opinion that as a whole the country is poorly supplied with suitable class-books, a view that will certainly be endorsed by all persons who have long been engaged in school work. Since the abolition of the Mombushô Compilation Bureau, the preparation of text-books has been in the hands of booksellers for the most part, and, according to the *Tenchijin*, the methods adopted by these traders to push their wares will not bear scrutiny. A few well informed writers have prepared suitable works, but the majority of the books used in schools have been hastily compiled to order by a class of men that the *Tenchijin* designates the *rônin* of the world of education. Among defective text-books school readers specially call for mention. Both as to matter and style a very large number of those in use are quite unsuited to the needs of Japanese students. It is reported, continues the *Tenchijin*, that Dr. Tsubouchi is engaged in compiling school text-books. If this be true, the public will soon be in possession of a new class of manuals.

The *Tenchijin* has a great deal to say against the piecemeal way in which the Mombushô carries on the small amount of orthographical reform it undertakes. To give one example only, to settle that the spelling of *kyô* in *kana* should in every case be きよ instead of *kefu*, *keu*, *kyau* or *kiyou*, as heretofore, but to say nothing about the spelling of various other words in which the *kana* used does not represent the sounds given to these words in everyday speech is very unsatisfactory. Nobody says *okonahi* for *okonai* nor *ifu* for *iu*, nor *ihute*, for *iite*; and yet this spelling is still retained. The work of the Mombushô, says the *Tenchijin*, resembles the experiments of novices rather than the handicraft of experts.

The appropriation of a large sum of money that had been put aside for educational purposes by the War Department forms the subject of comment in the pages of the *Tenchijin*. This step, says the organ we are quoting, will prove most embarrassing, since the fund that is now no longer available was intended to make up to a certain extent for the loss suffered by the abolition of elementary school fees. The Government no doubt anticipates receiving an indemnity from China and of thus being in a position to return what it has withdrawn from the Mombusho, but it is very uncertain when this indemnity will be paid. In the meantime the schools thonghout the country will suffer

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The *Taiyô* in an article entitled *Seikai no Bungakusha* (Literary Men in the Political World) points out at some length that in Japan at the present time literature and politics are wholly divorced from each other. In England for a very long time past leading statesmen have possessed an extensive knowledge of literature and have utilised that knowledge when making political speeches. But in Japan at the present time many of the most prominent politicians, according to the *Taiyô*, hold the literary man in contempt. And the few literary men found among the foremost ranks of politicians are said to be disappointed to find themselves in an atmosphere so uncongenial to their higher tastes.

In political circles the class of men that receive the highest honour are the *sakushi* (策士) or schemers. Next to them come a class of provincial stalwart agitators who resemble *nobushi* (highwaymen). The popularity of these classes of politicians would not be so great were the persons who dabble in politics in the provinces able to appreciate literary gifts in those who address them. As things now are, the five or six politicians known to the literary world. Messrs. Yano Fumio, Shimada Saburo, Taguchi Ukichi, Suyematsu Kenchô and Takata Sanae cannot be said to have been duly appreciated by their follow-legislators* in the past. These men have all made a name for themselves in the world of letters. Mr. Yano Fumio's *Keikoku Bidan* was the first really famous novel that appeared in the Meiji era. It showed that its author had so made Greek thought his own as to be able to transmit it in Japanese dress to his fellow-countrymen without the loss of any of its original charm—an accomplishment of a very high order. Mr. Shimada Saburô as an historian and a critical writer has few equals. Though his *Kaikoku Shimatsu* (開國始末) is not without its defects as a record of events, it undoubtedly ranks among the remarkable books of the era. Mr. Shimada has not cultivated the imagination in the way that Mr. Yano has done, but on the other hand, his logical faculty is keener than that of most other men of his time. Mr. Taguchi Ukichi is chiefly known as an economist, but he possesses highly developed literary taste. The verses he has published from time to time, though lacking in that gracefulness of form which characterises the products of other pens, reveal great richness of political thought in their author. Mr. Taguchi's *Nihon Kaikwa Shôshi* (Short History of Japanese Civilisation), though considered by some to be a very elementary work, shows considerable talent in its compiler. Among literary men who are also politicians, in many respects Baron Suyematsu has no equal. He is a man with many sides to his character. He is a good debater, a good administrator, and an authority on the stage, on poetry, fiction, and philosophy. If Mr. Hoshi Tôru be the Sir William Harcourt of Japan, Dr. Suyematsu is certainly the Lord Rosebery. Mr. Takata Sanae is not so well-known as the above-named men, being younger than any of them. His place in politics is not yet decided, but there is no doubt that he is endowed with great political genius and promises to become a recognised leader in the not distant future. As a lecturer and translator, in connection with the Semmon Gakkô, he has done excellent work. His high literary taste is known to everybody. Some would argue that to the above list the names of Messrs. Tokutomi and Ozaki should be added, but of neither of them can it be said that they are great in politics and great in literature. Mr. Tokutomi prefers not to be regarded as a literary man, but as a politician As for Mr. Ozaki, in our opinion, says the *Taiyô*, what he has composed is by no means first-class. His *Shin-Nihon* is a political novel written in imitation of Disraeli's "Vivian Grey," but the plot is very poor and the book has no literary merits. As a newspaper writer Mr. Ozaki has made a name and his promotion to high rank some months ago was largely owing to this fact. . . . The chief reason of the low place that literature occupies in the political arena is the fact that the masses of the provincial constituents are very poorly educated and have no knowledge of literature. They see no objections to the choice of a candidate to represent them whose knowledge of literature is only a little better than that of their own. The situation all over Japan is such that literature does not tell in the political world.

Under the title of *Gakumon Sekai no Tôha* (Parties in the Learned World) the *Taiyô* complains of the strong clan feeling that prevails among scholars in this country. Graduates of the University predominate too much in learned societies to the exclusion of well informed men who have graduated elsewhere. Such societies as the *Shigakkai* (Historical Society) carefully shut out from their councils all but University men, says the *Taiyô*. The society and its magazine have become organs of the University.

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A newspaper called the *Hôritsu Shimbun* has come into existence, Mr. Takagi Masutaro is the chief editor. The objects of this new organ are thus stated in the first number. The age of law compilation has passed in Japan and public attention should now be concentrated on the application of existing laws. The Law magazines in circulation are too exclusively devoted to the discussion of abstruse technical questions. Existing abuses in the administration of law need to be shown up. The verdicts published monthly by certain magazines are those delivered in the Supreme Court. The judgments of the Courts of Appeal are not given to the public by any Law magazine. From the findings published it is impossible to draw any correct inferences as to the state of the lower courts. The verdicts passed in the latter are often open to criticism. The judges in these Courts are sadly deficient in the legal common sense required for applying law to the practical affairs of everyday life. They are guided too much by minute legal technicalities and too little by ordinary maxims of justice. This fact was recognised by Mr. Kiyoura when he was Minister of Justice, and attention has been drawn to it by an official of the Department of Justice who has lately returned from abroad. The latter is of opinion that the raising of judges' salaries would enable the Department of Justice to secure the services of better trained men. This may be so. But it must not be overlooked that academical discussions on all questions to the exclusion of practical considerations are too much indulged in by officials of all classes. It is questionable whether this tendency can be overcome in a short time. The object of this newspaper is to make law intelligible to ordinary people and to discuss subjects of wide public interest.

The ex-Minister of Justice, Mr. Kiyoura, sends a congratulatory letter to the new journal, in which he expresses the following opinions:—Though Japan has had a system of law for a very long time, until very recently in the minds of most people law has been identified with morality. It has been regarded as a teacher of duty and obligation rather than as a standard of individual right. The teaching of Confucius and Mencius undoubtedly rendered the administration of law among us an easy matter. It rendered civil law of little use amongst us. In old times Law meant Criminal Law. The old idea prevailing among us was that Law is for the lower orders and that no steps should be taken to make them acquainted with it. The saying of Confucius was *Jimmin wo osamuru wa sono hôritsu wo shirashimubekarazu, yorashimubeshi* (In governing people do not make them acquainted with the laws, but make them follow them.) There is no cause for regret that this state of things has now entirely passed away and the laws administered in the Courts are printed and in the hands of the public. But the task of applying a number of new laws among people who occupy various stages of progress is by no means easy. It requires great discretion to know how far to extend the meaning of certain portions of the existing codes.

Mr. Miyoshi Taizô, formerly President of the Supreme Court, now Chairman of the Tôkyô Barristers' Association, in a congratulatory letter to the *Hôritsu Shimbun*, briefly reviews the rapid progress Japan has made during the past twenty years in the study of law and refers to the high value now placed on individual rights and privileges. He thinks there is room in this country for a newspaper that shall deal in a detailed manner with the practical administration of justice and with the numerous practical questions connected with the working of the new laws which come before the public.

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Count Itagaki and Messrs. Wakamiya Seion and Oda Junichirô have turned their backs on politics and are purposing henceforth to devote their whole attention to social reform. In order to better promote the ends they have in view they have started a newspaper called the *Shakai Shimpô* In stating the objects of the new publication Count Itagaki says that with the rapid growth of population, the difficulty of living and the increasing power of capitalists, Japan will find herself face to face with some serious social problems before many years are past. Already a strong feeling of antagonism between capitalists and labourers exists. The unequal distribution of wealth is a hardship that can only be diminished by inducing the strong to consider the weak. This, in a word, is the object the promoters of the cause to be advocated in the columns of the *Shakai Shimpô* are bent on furthering. The new organ will regard itself as the champion of the suffering and the oppressed, as a journal which will always be ready to give expression to the complaints of the poor.

Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki has started a magazine called the 警世 *Keisei*. It aims at being an

* The article in the *Taiyô* we are summarising was written before the appointment of Baron Suyematsu to be a Minister of State.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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entirely independent political organ. It starts with the usual strictures on the state of society and the corruption existing in political parties. Mr. Matsumura informs us that in his organ events will be represented in their true light and that there will be no whitewashing of proceedings that will not bear scrutiny. After many vague generalities of this kind Mr. Matsumura proceeds to express his opinion on currents events. He begins with the Transvaal war, which he informs us is a proof of the decline of English power as well as an instance of the oppression of the weak by the strong. Accuracy can perhaps hardly be expected from this "World Reprover," for this is the signification of *Keisei*. We are told that England crushed Napoleon with 150,000 men and that she has employed 300,000 men in South Africa for a whole year without subjugating the Boers. Germany is next represented as dependent only on the support she gets from Russia and England. Then follows a great deal about Russia which we need not repeat in these columns. Mr. Matsumura is of opinion that the tendency of events is in favour of allowing Russia to retain Manchuria and Japan to take Korea as an offset. Mr. Matsumura when writing on his own country's affairs is a pronounced pessimist. Having said this it is unnecessary to state his views in a detailed manner. Mr. Yokoi Tokio contributes to the *Keisei* an article on the Crisis in China in which he maintains that it is difficult to approve of the action of Prince Konoe and his followers. He asks respecting the China question what is meant by the preservation of the integrity of China, the preservation of Chinese territory, the preservation of her nationality, or the preservation of the present Government? And he goes on to show that Japan will do well to allow things to take their course, as her interference would do no good. He predicts that China will eventually come under the protection of Western Powers.

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In the *Gaikô Jihô* (No. 33) Dr. Ariga discusses at great length Japan's negotiations with England with reference to the despatch of troops during the early stages of the China war. The charge brought against the Japanese Government by Dr. Ariga is that it failed to act with the decision that England expected when she first urged the advisability of Japan's taking prompt action, and that Japan's irresolution impaired the confidence which England placed in her. We can do no more than make a few extracts from Dr. Ariga's long article bearing on a few interesting points. On June 25th (Blue Book No. 190.) Mr. Matsui, the first secretary of the Legation in London, acting under instructions from Tôkyô, stated to Lord Salisbury Japan's views of the situation and outlined the action she was prepared to take. Japan then made it plain that she was opposed to the partition of China by Western Powers, and that she was not disposed to take any separate action with the object of restoring peace and order in in that country, but that she would be willing to send troops to China for the purpose of maintaining order prior to the arrival of an adequate force from Europe, with the understanding that after the arrival of that force she was to act in concert with them. But what was not made plain was the object that Japan should seek to obtain without waiting for the cooperation of forces on their way to China from Europe. Was she only to occupy Taku and Tientsin, or was she also to proceed to Pekung? The leaving of this latter point unsettled was the cause of much subsequent misunderstanding, embarrassment and delay. Japan began her negotiations with England as though she were willing to act on the sole advice of that Power, but later on she showed that this was not the course she proposed to follow. Other Powers were consulted and until answers were received from them the despatch of troops was delayed. This it was that made the English Government feel that Japan did not quite know her own mind, and that she had failed to act up to the expectations created by her declarations of an earlier date. It was the vacillation that Japan showed on this occasion that called forth Lord Salisbury's sharp reproof published in the Despatch of July 6th (Book 265). "Upon them," (the Japanese Government), wrote Lord Salisbury, "rests the heavy responsibility of the delay, should the operations prove too late."* Having consulted England and expressed her willingness to act on her advice, Japan should have stuck to the one Power, instead of waiting to obtain the approval of Russia and Germany. By thus acting she would have made a lasting friend of England. Had Germany objected to her course later on, England would have supported her. As the negotiations were conducted by Viscount Aoki, there is no denying that the diplomatic relations of the two countries (England and Japan) were somewhat injuriously affected, and that the result is a certain amount of coldness of feeling towards us by the English. But we do not assert that Viscount Aoki's policy as a whole failed. We give Dr. Ariga's exact words on this subject. *Yô suru ni, Aôki no Shina jiken ni kansuru Nichi-Ei gaikô no kôshô (sôdan) wa daitai no isaoshi ni oite wa, shippai shitari to wa iwasu; Keredomo gaikô jô no hataraki kara mireba, kiwamete heta nite, Eikoku no ware ni tai suru kanjô wo tsumetaku sasetaru no uresi ari.* It was Japan's vacillation between June 27th and July 4th that produced a change in the feelings of the English towards us. . . . As regards the expense of the expedition there is no proof that the proposal that England should guarantee payment came from our Government. What Mr. Whitehead telegraphed to his Government on this point seems to have been gathered from his knowledge of the feelings of the Foreign Minister and the members of the Japanese Cabinet on the subject rather than from any definite language employed by any responsible statesman. The notion that Japan refused to act till payment was guaranteed, which seems to prevail in certain quarters, is, we feel sure, repulsive to the bulk of the nation. The relief of Peking was a moral duty that we owed to our own Minister imprisoned there, and when lives were in danger and delay most dangerous, Japan was not the country to waste time in bargaining for remuneration. If any member of the Yamagata Government represented this country as unwilling to act without guaranteed payment, he certainly acted contrary to public feeling on this subject.

The number of the *Gwaikô Jihô* from which we have quoted above contains a great deal about China and the political situation there which we have no space for here. Dr. Ariga seems to think that Russia has some secret understanding with China and that at heart she does not approve of the attitude of the other Powers or of the measures they propose for the settlement of existing difficulties. But this understanding can only be revealed by Russia's commencing to negotiate separately, which as things are now situated she cannot well do.

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A publication that was noticed by us several months ago, the *Myôjô* (Bright Star) which was then a small new paper, has now become a flourishing literary magazine. The editor is Mr. Yosano Tekkan, a gentleman who has made a name by penning new style verses. Poetry is to occupy a prominent place in the *Myôjo*. There are, we are told, to be *shintaishi, uta, shi, haikai* and *bibun*.† But prose also receives a fair share of attention, and among the articles that appear in the first number of the new series there are several that are very brilliantly written. As to whether this magazine, however, will prove itself worthy to rank with the *Teikoku Bungaku* or the *Taiyô* seems doubtful. But it aims at being entertaining and relates a good many spicy stories about living persons and devotes itself to a minute criticism of current literature.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* discusses the Romaji transliteration recommended by the Committee of Inquiry appointed by the Mombushô. The substitution of *si* for *shi, ci* for *chi, sya* for *tsha, syu* for *shu, syo* for *sho, ca* for *cha, cu* for *chu* and *cô* for *chô* it ridicules as a proposed change that nobody who has studied the subject of transliteration is likely to endorse. If, says the *Kokumin*, the Mombushô commences its reform by ignoring the use to which Roman letters have already been put in writing Japanese, it is not likely to succeed. There are doubtless some few particulars in which what may be designated as Dr. Hepburn's method of spelling is capable of improvement, but such radical departures from the rules hitherto observed as those proposed now by the Mombushô Committee can only result in introducing confusion. Foreigners will certainly never adopt such a method of spelling, nor will those Japanese who are unconnected with Government schools follow it. The *Kokumin* requests the projectors of this extremely eccentric system to publish their reasons for the course they have followed.

A new pocket Japanese-English Dictionary has been published by the Hakubunkan. The work was compiled by Messrs. Y. and A. O. Shibata and revised by the Rev. Arthur Lloyd. Mr. Y. Shimada died before the Dictionary appeared. Mr. Lloyd informs us that the student will here find, in a portable form, all the informat on that he ordinarily wants to enable him to read English books and papers with understanding: and adds that "when a Dictionary can do that it is fulfilling its vocation." It is somewhat of a surprise to us to be told that the object of a Japanese-English Dictionary is to enable the student to understand English books and papers. We have always considered that an English-Japanese Dictionary best fulfils this function. Surely the object of the dictionary must be to enable those who use it to understand Japanese. But whatever be its object, it seems to us to be an extremely useful little work, very clearly printed, with ideographs a s ze larger than those found in Brinkley's Dictionary, a great consideration to all who use a lexicon at night, and tolerably comprehensive considering its size. There are, however, some very common colloquial words that it does not contain, to say nothing of technical terms in everyday use. But on the whole the selection of words seems to have been judiciously done and most of the explanations are concise and to the point.

In imitation of the *Chûgai Eji Shimbun*, which seems to merit and to enjoy a very wide circulation, a tri-monthly magazine called the *Honyaku Jihô* has made its appearance. If the first number is any indication of what is to follow, the "International Translator," as it calls itself, is not likely to have a long life. The sheet is full of bad grammar, misprints and incorrect translations. The motives of the proprietors are no doubt good, but they have much to learn as to the methods to be followed in attaining the end they have in view. The *Taiyô*, we observe, criticises the new periodical unfavourably, complaining of the poverty and clumsiness of the Japanese used by the translators. As for the English of the editor, the less said about it the better. Here is one of his sentences: "many a subtle and difficult points are passed unnoticed, many a mistaken notion has crept in while passing from one language to another, for in fact there are few words in any language which are exact equivalents in another idiom."

The following works deserve notice. The latest edition of Webster's International Dictionary, in its complete form, has been lithographed by the Seisho-do Press, Awaji-chô, Kanda, and is now for sale at only 10 *yen* per copy. It is perhaps the cheapest book ever offered for sale in Japan. The type is clear and it is well-bound.

The *Shiryô Tsûsan* is a gigantic collection of historical materials, covering no less than 15,000 pages, the subscription price of which is 15 *yen*, that is, just one *yen* per volume. The work is to be issued in instalments by the Kokushikai, 27 Minami Enoki-machi, Ushigome, Tôkyô.

The new edition of the *Meishô-zue* (Maps and Pictures of Noted Places) is designed to be a very thorough and exhaustive work in its own line. It is intended to be a reliable guide to the sight-seer all over Japan. It not only gives plans of cities, but pictures of all objects of interest, with the history of each object. It is a lithographed reproduction

* The words referred to the relief of Peking. We have translated them from Dr. Ariga's quotation.

† This term is a translation of *belles-lettres*. It is very incorrectly used by many Japanese writers, who do not seem to know what classes of literature the term includes. The above quotation furnishes an instance of this.—(Writer of Summary).

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of an old work, originally published in 53 volumes. The new edition will cover 5,750 pages, in 18 vols., and contain 1,470 illustrations. The original work was compiled between 1772 and 1804 by Akisato Rito, who employed well known artists to go all over the county and take sketches of objects of vertu. The whole work is now offered for sale at 10 *yen* per copy, subscription price, by the Meishozue Shuppanjo, 13 Akebonochô, Komagome, Hongô

Another very big work in process of publication is the 皇朝編年史 *Kôchô Hennenshi*, "A yearly record of historical events connected with the Japanese Empire." This history covers 3,680 pages and is to be published in 6 volumes. The whole work is offered for sale at 7 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy, subscription price, by the Keigyôsha, Kanda, Tôkyô.

Dr. Ariga has published a work covering 1,000 pages called *Kokuhôgaku* (National Law) in which the author has made an attempt to lay the foundation of a strictly national system of law, that is to show what proportion of the laws now in force are derived from purely native sources. Dr. Ariga admits that to most students modern laws seem to be exclusively western in origin, but he is of opinion that they contain elements that differentiate them from all alien systems of law whatever. The work sells at 2 *yen* 50 *sen* a copy. It has been published by the Waseda Semmon Gakkô press, which for some time past has been sending forth a steady stream of useful literature.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

The financial position of Canada, as revealed by recent Treasury statistics, seems to leave little to be desired. After paying the expenses of the year besides $7,464,591 on permanent public works, $725,720 for railway subsidies and $1,500,000 for the South African contingents, Canada has a surplus of $679,770.

The total cost of the Pan-American Exposition, to be held in Buffalo next year, is estimated at $10,000,000, and Mr. John N. Scatcherd, who is chairman of the executive committee, says that the resources now in sight amount to about $6,000,000. Progress on the work of construction is proceeding rapidly, nearly 5,000 workmen now being employed. The exposition will open May 1, 1901.

After nearly thirty years of constant effort and the expenditure of nearly half a million dollars, American scientists have succeeded in accurately measuring the earth. They have learned that its diameter through the equator is 7,926 miles; its height from pole to pole 7,899 miles. The earth, therefore, is flattened at the poles, and while this fact has long been asserted, the actual measurement has removed the question from the domain of doubt.

Reports for the fiscal year recently ended of the national banks of New York city display prosperity. Of forty-four banks five failed to pay dividends and four failed to increase the surplus capital. One bank paid 150 per cent. dividend, another 100 per cent., and a third paid 45 per cent. One bank paid 40 per cent. and another 20 per cent. Eight paid 6 per cent., five 7 per cent. six 8 per cent., five 10 per cent., three 12 per cent., two 16 per cent. and one 18 per cent. Besides paying these dividends, they added to their surplus capital an average of over 16 per cent., the total increase in surplus amounting to $10,150,600. The First National's increase was 270 per cent.

The use of automobiles during street-railway strikes was proposed at a meeting of the executive board of the International Street Railway Men's Association, held in Detroit recently, says *The Western Electrician*. President W. D. Mahon recommended that the board start in at once raising funds by assessment to buy automobiles for the purpose of putting them to work in cities where the companies treat the men unfairly or where transportation facilities are meagre. President Mahon's idea is to put a complete automobile service in operation in a city as soon as a strike is declared, and to have the automobiles operated by the men who formerly operated the street-cars. The board approved of the idea, and authorized the president to draft a plan of assessment to be submitted to the local organizations of the association, and to get legal authority to equip and run the machines.

In four years an increase of 6,331 has taken place in the number of post offices in the United States. In the period beginning July 1st, 1896, and ending July 1st, 1900, the number of money-order offices increased from 19,825 to 30,024. The number of domestic money orders increased from 23,962,053 to 33,163,050, while the volume of business increased from $363,008,921 to $504,790,313. The revenues of the postal service amounted to $102,354,579, an increase of $19,855,370 over last year, and the expenditures have grown to $107,248,223, an increase of $16,623,001. The total money transactions of the department, including money orders, increased from $536,134,426 in 1896 to $714,394,191 in 1900, an increase of 33⅓ per cent.

The funeral services over the remains of the late Senator John Sherman, were held in Washington on October 24. The services were simple. They began at 1 p.m. and were conducted by Rev Alexander Mackay-Smith, pastor of St. John's Episcopal Church, assisted by Rev. E. M. Paddock, assistant rector. The honorary pall bearers, who stood grouped about the coffin during the ceremony, were Secretary Hay, Secretary Gage, Justice Harlan of the Supreme Court, Admiral Dewey, General Nelson A Miles, ex-Secretary Cameron of Pennsylvania, Justice Hagner of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, Judge Bancroft Davis, Hon. J. A Cason of the State Department, and Colonel M. M. Parker. The funeral party afterwards left for Mansfield, Ohio, where the interment took place.

According to the New York *Tribune*, rare minerals which are being mined at Long Hill, eight miles north of Bridgeport, Ct., are being used by the United States Government in a series of experiments to find a projectile that will pierce the heaviest and hardest armour plate. The products of this mine are wolfram and scheelite, the two being found in combination, so far, nowhere else in the world. They are, however, found separately, scheelite being found in the gold mines of New Zealand, but it does not equal either in quantity, or quality, that which is being mined at Long Hill from the Shaganowaump mountain. Wolfram is found in small quantities in Utah, Arizona, and in the tin mines of Cornwall, England. This combination makes the value of the mine extremely great Wolfram and scheelite are the ores of tungsten. At the present time the products of the mine sell from $450 to $650 a ton, and the owners of this mine control the world's market for tungsten.

A suggestive monograph recently published under the auspices of the University of the State of New York deals with the trend of legislation in the United States. It is, in effect, a study in comparative legislation, and it is instructive to notice the extent to which, as reflected in its pages, the attention of the lawgiver is devoted to what may be regarded as regulations of industry and commerce. There is a heading of this kind under which are ranged references to legislation dealing with such subjects as labour, corporations, industrial combinations, banking, insurance, transportation, agriculture and pisciculture. Much of the legislation affecting commerce or industry at some point may, however, be found under the head of police regulations, which deal with such matters as the control of the liquor traffic, public health and safety, pure-food laws and the practice of professions and trades. A glance at the instances of legislation referred to here is necessary to enable the reader to appreciate the extent to which industry falls under the legislative ken. At the same time, the author of the monograph, Mr. Robert H. Whitten, points out that the enormous practical value of intelligence as a social regulator is beginning to be realized, that vexatious commands and prohibitions regulating individual action make up a decreasing portion of statute law, and that publicity is being relied on more and more for controlling industry and commerce.

ECHOES FROM EUROPE.

They are Machiavellis of statecraft in San Marino. The toy State wanted a hospital, and as the national exchequer couldn't stand the strain, they hit upon the brilliant idea, says *Le Petit Bleu*, of creating a peerage to raise the wind. Four patents of nobility—three for counts and one for a duke were put into competition, and realised £40,000. For San Marino, the hierarchical equation may now be stated something like this:—Three counts and one duke equal one hospital.

A question of the hour in Great Britain is the style of horse most suitable for military purposes, and some very valuable information on the subject will be found in a book just published by Sir Walter Gilbey. The mobility of the Boers has given an important lesson in the military value of horses of that useful type which is suitable for light cavalry and mounted infantry. Since the war broke out England has seen that she possesses numbers of men able to ride and shoot, who only need a little training to develop into valuable soldiers, but the difficulty has been to provide horses of the stamp required for the work they have to perform. Small native horses are in most respects superior for the purpose. Take the Syrian Arab such as the 19th Hussars used in Egypt in 1885, the South African pony ridden by Colonial scouts and mounted infantry, the Turkestan horse such as Captain Burnaby used in his ride to Khiva, the Siberian post horse, the Indian pony, the Northern African barb, the Morocco pony, the pony bred in Northern China, the Australia and the Cyprus ponies. Except for artillery and transport and heavy cavalry ponies such as those described, and those of Exmoor, Wales, the New Forest, the Fell Districts, and the West of Ireland, would be invaluable for army work. The animal required should be between 14 and 14·3 hands; he should be stout, and able to carry weight, capable of covering long distances at fair speed, able to subsist on coarse or poor food for weeks together without losing condition, strong of constitution to withstand the exposure of a campaign, and the more tractable the better. Sir Walter Gilbey, no bad judge, it will be admitted, thinks such an animal can be produced in England if the Arab sire is used with mares of forest and moorland breeds.

The Bishop of Ripon's paper at the recent Church Congress at Newcastle, on the progress of the Church of England was eloquent and impressive, and some of the facts to which he called attention are worth reproducing. During the last century, Dr. Carpenter remarked, only two new sees were established; in the present there have been 92, and the rate of increase has trebled during the second half of the century. The American Church has added 73 bishoprics during the century, of which 52 belong to the last 52 years. Looking beyond the Anglican pale, the Bishop pointed out that at the beginning of the century Christianity had about 200 million adherents, now it has upwards of 500 millions. But that is not all. The Christian nations now wield sovereign influence over 800 millions out of the 1,400 millions of the world's population, while some four-fifths of the earth's soil is under their government.

From America comes news of the death of John Contée Fairfax, eleventh Baron Fairfax of Cameron, descendant of the Commander-in-Chief of the Parliamentary forces at the battle of Marston Moor. The family inherited a huge tract of land in Virginia in the 17th century, and the sixth Baron, on paying a visit to America was so struck by the beauty of his estate that he settled there. The *Telegraph* recalls the fact that it was from this family settlement that Thackeray gained his idea for "The Virginians." The late Peer inherited the title in 1869, but took no measures to have it confirmed. The new Lord Fairfax is a clerk in a New York banking house.

The Baltic, which Lamb described as the

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"melancholy looking, handsome brick and stone edifice" in Threadneedle-street, is now closed to those who deal in the grain of the world, and is to be converted into bank premises, the sale having been effected for the large sum of £350,000. The building is, perhaps, better known as the South Sea House. It derived its present name from the fact that a number of Russian merchants engaged in the Baltic trade, who years ago conducted their business in a neighbouring coffee-house known as "the Baltic," out grew their surroundings, and the unoccupied premises associated with the great "bubble" were secured and opened as an Exchange in 1857. They carried their name with them.

Mark Twain, in his final speech before leaving England, made some innocuous jests on the subject of the human proclivity for telling lies. This has extracted from the *Academy* a protest that the subject has been entirely used up as material for jests—couldn't it be given a rest?

Amid the excitement of the elections, remarked an English paper early in October, a matter of great interest to every consumer of gas in the United Kingdom has attracted but little attention. A steamer—the shell liner *Couvie*—has arrived in the Thames with the first cargo of petroleum products from Borneo, and she is discharging several thousand tons at Beckton for the use of two London gas companies. This is a practical fulfilment of the prediction made recently, that ere long the oil fields of Borneo would contribute to the relief of the hard-pressed consumer of gas. The effect of the large supplies which these fields will undoubtedly yield must be to cheapen the price to consumers.

According to the *Gaulois*, Rome and Florence are preparing to celebrate the fourth centenary of the birth of Benvenuto Cellini, whom Francis I., in admiration of the genius of the famous artist heaped with favours, and made Lord of Petit-Nesle. The Jewellers' Society of Rome has decided to place upon the facade of the Palace of the Banco Santo-Spirito a bronze medallion portrait of Cellini. The Society will also hold a solemn commemoration at the Capitol, and will place a crown upon the artist's tomb at Florence. At the head of the committee of arrangements are M. Gallo, Minister of Public Instruction; Prince Colonna, Prince Felice Borghese, and Gen. Ponza di San Martino.

The election of the sheriffs of London for the ensuing year is a reminder (observes the *Daily Chronicle*) of a curious annual tribute to which they are subject. Every year they have to pay into the national Exchequer six horseshoes, with the proper number of nails, as rent of a piece of ground in the parish of St. Clements. In 1234 this lot was rented from the Crown by a blacksmith to build a shop on, and afterwards the property came into the hands of the City Corporation at the same rental. The horseshoes and nails have been regularly paid ever since the date mentioned.

Cambridge University has to deplore the loss of an able and earnest man in the death of the Master of Peterhouse, who, as a member of the Council of the Senate for many years and as head of the college since 1876, rendered invaluable service. Dr. Porter entered at Peterhouse in 1847, and graduated in the Mathematical Tripos in 1851, a year in which the Senior Wrangler was Dr. Feerers, the present Master of Gonvillle and Caius, and when those who graduated as the *Times* recalls, included the present Master of Pembroke, the late Bishop Lightfoot, and Sir W. Harcourt. A notable event during the Mastership of Dr. Porter was the celebration of the sexcentenary of the foundation of the College, the oldest in the University.

There has recently arrived in London a large collection of mammals and birds obtained in Uganda by the naturalist whom Sir Harry Johnston took took out with him. Among the birds (a *Scotsman* contributor says) is a specimen of that very rare bird, the whale-headed stork, an idea of the extreme rarity of which species may be formed when it is mentioned that an example has not been received at the Museum, or in Europe, for upwards of forty years—since, in fact, the original type specimen was brought home from the White Nile by Consul Petherick about 1858. Curiously enough, on the very day which brought Sir Harry Johnston's bird there arrived a second specimen of the same rare species. This one came from the Nile, near Omdurman.

EXEMPTION OF IMPORT DUTIES.

We are asked by the Revenue Bureau of the Finance Department to publish the following translation of the Ordinance providing for the non-imposition of import duty in the case of articles imported for the purpose of undergoing additional processes or kinds of handiwork:

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

Art. I.—The following articles may be treated in accordance with Law No. 85 of the 33rd year of Meiji:

1. Articles imported for the purposes of being carved, engraved, enamelled (*cloisonné*) or inlaid with gold or silver (*zogan*).
2. Porcelain and earthenware imported for the purpose of being painted and baked.
3. Tissues or woven fabrics imported for the purpose of being dyed, printed or coloured in *yuzen* style.
4. Tissues or woven fabrics imported for the purpose of being embroidered or hemmed.
5. Furs imported for the purpose of being tanned.

Art. 2.—Any person who desires to import any article mentioned in Article I. shall describe in the import declaration to be presented to the Customs the purpose of importation, the sort of additional handiwork or process to be applied thereto, the name of the artist or artisan who undertakes the work and the time of its re-exportation.

Art. 3.—The article submitted to such additional handiwork or process must be exported from the port where it was imported

Art. 4. At the time of exportation of the article submitted to such additional handiwork or process, the import permit and a certificate showing the performance of the handiwork or process, drawn up by the artist or artisan who undertook it must be attached to the export declaration.

In the certificate as to the performance of additional handiwork or process, there shall be mentioned the name of the article, its material and quantity and the sort of additional handiwork or process applied thereto and it must be duly dated, and signed, or the name and seal shall be put thereon, by the artist or artisan who undertook the work.

ADDITIONAL CLAUSE.

The present Ordinance shall be put in force on the 1st day of December of the 33rd year of *Meiji*.

The Law refered to in the above Ordinance is as follows:—

(Law No. 85, promulgated on the 21st August 1900.)

Articles imported for the purpose of undergoing an additional process or handiwork and determined as such by Imperial Ordinance shall be exempted from import duty, when they are to be re-exported within one full year counting from the date of importation, but at the time of importation, money or negotiable bonds equal to the amount of the duty must be deposited as security.

RAILWAYS IN JAPAN.

An interesting article in the *Keizai Zasshi* deals with the development of railway enterprise in this country. We translate the more salient passages as follows:—Nothing, says the writer, can be more surprising than the development of railways in Japan. The total length, which did not exceed a few tens of miles in the early part of the *Meiji* era, has now reached 3,700 miles. It may be interesting to observe that when the Shimbashi-Yokohama line was proposed a violent clamour arose from all parts of the empire as a result of the anti-foreign spirit which then prevailed; but the Government, firm in its resolution, took the work in hand, and completed it in the 5th year of *Meiji* (1872). At that time there was little or no prospect of railway extension, but fortunately the internal administration of the country having been placed on a settled basis about the 12th or 13th year of *Meiji*, the necessity of extending the railway came to be recognized. Enterprises were now undertaken in all the principal parts of the country, under the auspices of the Government, with the result that by the 16th year of *Meiji* (1881) the nation found it had laid railways to the extent of 100 miles.

The changes which time produce upon the minds of men are really extraordinary. People who had formerly condemned railways as sources of national ruin proved, a few years later, to be zealous advocates of the movement which had developed itself for improving means of communication throughout the empire. In this condition of affairs the liberal policy adopted by the Government furnished ample opportunities for organising various companies. The mania for forming railway undertakings reached its climax in the 24th year of *Meiji* (1891). Yet the tendency to speculate, which is inseparable from enterprises like railways eventually led to serious draw-backs in connection with their development. The war with China to a certain extent saved the country from a decline in railway extension, the Government being enabled to continue such works under the provisions of the post bellum programme. The industrial world of Japan therefore so far presented an aspect of unprecedented prosperity. This, however, was merely temporary, for in consequence of the financial embarrassment that ensued as a result of the war in a year or two, it was impossible to find any desire to promote new enterprises.

Such is the history of railways in Japan during the past 30 years. A few remarks may be necessary upon the process by which the Government has at once encouraged and controlled railway enterprises. It may be said that the railway rules embodied in Notification No 146 of the Daijokwan virtually constituted the basis of railway work in Japan. It was by virtue of these rules that the public began to appreciate the importance of, as well as the facilities offered by railways as indispensable means for communication in a civilized country, and were at the same time convinced of the inexpediency of depending solely upon Government for their construction. In view of these circumstances Private Railway Regulations were issued in May of the 25th year of *Meiji* by Imperial Ordinance No 12. These were quickly followed by other regulations for the construction of railways, thus enabling enterprising capitalists to form definite ideas in connection with railway extension. The regulations thus far issued with reference to railways were somewhat limited in scope but in this year some of the defects were remedied by the promulgation of the Private Railway Law (Law No. 64), the Railway Business Law (No 65), the Railway and Shipping Postal Law (No 56), and the Law for the Compulsory Acquisition of Land (No 29), all to be enforced from the 1st October last. Subsequently, on the basis of these laws, Regulations for the enforcement of the Private Railway Law and various other rules indicating the procedure to be followed in connection with railways were established by the Department of Communications. These regulations, however, were caused to go into operation at different dates according to the actual condition of affairs. Thus, on October 1st the Regulations for the enforcement of the Private Railway Law, and seven other regulations, viz.:—Regulations relating to the exclusive use of railways; to reports on casualties; to railway ledgers to the accounts of private joint stock railway companies; the Railway Traffic Regulations; regulations for the official organisation of railways; and regulations for the accommodation of persons suffering from infectious diseases were to come in force. Three other regulations, however, it was decided should be enforced from October 1st next year. These are the regulations for the operation of railways, regulations for the safe working of trains, and relating to railway signals. The regulations as to railway statistics had the date of their operation fixed in the 34th fiscal year

As for the regulations relating to the construction of railways which are likely to affect to no small extent the interests of the various companies, October 1st this year was fixed as the date of operation, in respect of provisions involving no great difficulty of enforcement, but with regard to those of a serious character a period of 3 to 5, 10, or 15 years was allowed for operation. Railways in Japan may be regarded as having developed through three different periods. The period from the 5th to the 15th years of *Meiji* belongs to the experimental epoch; that from the 16th to the 26th year was characterized by progress and extension, while the third period is one of solidification and settlement.

Having thus far given details of the development of railways in Japan, it may not be altogether unnecessary to refer to the condition in which they now exist. According to the latest investigations the number of companies holding provisional charters granted this year totalled 16, of which 5 are of the former and 11 of the new organisation. The applications for charters of 12 were rejected; to 56 provisional charters are to be granted before the end of the year (11 being old and 46 new companies). The total mileage secured by these companies reached 1,523 miles, and their aggregate capital 80,940,000 *yen*. Five obtained permanent charters (besides 5 other companies which have acquired charters for the extension of their lines). But as an equal number of companies were dissolved during the same period, the total for this year remained the same as that recorded for last

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year, namely, 58, the aggregate mileage being 3,766 miles, and the gross capital 247,053,150 *yen*, (in joint stock). If these are added to the Government railways (over 2,063 miles with an aggregate capital of 184,559,413 *yen*,) the totals will be 5,830 miles and a little over 431,612,560 *yen*. Of the above mileage 3,638 miles 72 chains are in operation, the remaining 2,191 miles 47 chains being unopened. Of the working mileage 227 miles 30 chains were opened for traffic within this year. It is said that the expense of construction for all lines amounted to 243,423,380 *yen*.

As to passenger traffic it may be noticed that the number of passengers during this year reached 103,115,942, the fares realized being 23,417,376 *yen*, and that in the case of goods the gross tonnage did not fall short of 18,820,034 tons, freight being paid to the amount of 12,726,845 *yen*. Compared with last year these figures show an increase of 3.1 per cent for passengers, 19.2 per cent on their fares, 19.2 per cent on goods, and 24.4 per cent on freight, the total traffic receipts stood at 38,219,272 *yen* against expenditures of 18,833,217 *yen*, leaving a balance as net profit of 19,386,055 *yen*. The increase in the three items in comparison with last year was 26,6, and 39.1 per cent respectively.

The second portion of the article entitled "Railways in Japan" appears in the latest issue of the *Keizai Zasshi*, and we give its gist as follows:—

1.—Railway Routes.

The total mileage of both Government and private railways in existence at the end of the 32nd year of *Meiji* (1899) reached 3,638 miles 72 chains. Following are the comparative figures for the past six years:—

At end of	Govern't railways. Miles	Chains	Private railways. Miles.	Chains	Total Miles	Chains
1899	832	72	2,806	—	3,638	72
1898	768	37	2,652	13	3,420	50
1897	661	65	2,287	5	2,948	70
1896	631	62	1,875	29	2,507	11
1895	593	22	1,697	21	2,290	43
1894	580	69	1,537	35	2,118	24

As already remarked, railways were introduced in Japan in the 5th year of *Meiji*, but the progress of the enterprise was exceedingly slow up to the 14th or 15th year of the same epoch. By the 16th year, however, the establishment of the Private Railway Law had given a fresh impulse to it, and the mileage, which did not exceed 600 at the end of the 20th year (1887) had increased at the close of 1889 to over 1,000. In 1894 the figures had just doubled, and finally by 1899 they had reached over 3,500. Extensions contemplated in 1899 did not exceed 218 miles 22 chains showing a considerable decrease in comparison with the extent of the works executed during the two previous years. This, however, is easily attributable to the post bellum programme, the consequences of which became apparent in 1897 and 1898. Of lines opened to traffic since the 21st year of *Meiji* (1888), the mileage was as follows:—

	Government Railways Miles.	Private Railways Miles.	Total Miles.
1899	64	154	218
1898	106	365	471
1897	30	411	441
1896	38	178	216
1895	12	159	172
1894	23	156	179
1893	7	60	67
1892	—	154	154
1891	—	316	316
1890	—	262	262
1889	44	179	224
1888	205	113	318

The following were the principal lines opened for traffic during 1899:—

	Sections	Mileage miles.	chains.
Government railways	...Fukushima-Yonezawa	25	23
Government railways	...Ikarigaseki-Odate	15	6
Government railways	...Asahigawa-Kami Furano	24	60
Government railways	...Ruru-Wasamu	8	31
Total		73	40
Private railways			
Hankwaku	...Shinoyama-Fukuchiyama	29	22
Karatsu Industrial	...Yamamoto-Maebara	11	4
Bisei	...Morikami-Ichinomiya	5	40
Ganyetsu	...Yamagata-Wakamatsu	22	13
Kioto	...Saga-Sonobe	15	69
Tokushima	...Kamoshima-Yamazaki	6	23
Tobu	...North Senju-Kuki	24	63
Boso	...Ichinomiya-Ohara	8	68
Kiushu	...Udo-Misumi	15	26
Others		14	72
Total		153	70

In the present stage of the enterprise of course nothing like a high state of development can be expected. On both Government and private roads the length of double lines is very limited. The following tables may be of interest:—

	Single track miles	chains	Double track miles	chains	Percentage of two distinct tracks Single	Double.
Government lines	674	57	158	15	81.	1.9
Private lines	2,713	41	92	39	96.6	3.4
Total	3,388	18	250	54	93.1	6.9

Lines for which permanent charters were obtained during the 33rd fiscal year, but which are still unopened for traffic, and lines for which provisional charters were secured are as follows:—

	Permanent charters. miles.	chains.	Provisional charters miles	chains
Government lines	1,230	48	—	—
Private lines	960	79	1,523	30
Total	2,191	47	1,523	30

A railway system of 7,000 miles would not be sufficient for the needs of Japan, and the time will come sooner or later, for its consummation, although enterprises of this kind are liable to be influenced by the vicissitudes of the financial community in general.

2.—Capital and Expenses of Construction.

It may be difficult to ascertain the exact amount of funds invested in Government and private railways at present, but the total obtained by adding the construction expenses set apart or disbursed by Government, to the paid capital of the various private railways, may serve to show generally the state of the account connected with the subject under consideration. Below are the figures:—

Year.	Government railway construction expenses. Yen.	Paid up capital of private railways. Yen.
1899	88,153,497	173,667,846
1898	75,923,111	158,181,389
Increase	12,230,386	15,486,457

The total thus stands at 261 million *yen* approximately and shows the position that railways now occupy in respect of the productive industries of Japan. In addition to these funds there are, in the case of the Government railways, fixed working capital as well as railway stores funds, while private companies have reserves, debentures, and special loans which must be taken into account. As to the accounts of the companies owning railways now in operation the details are as follows:—

	At end of 1899. Yen.	At end of 1898. Yen.
Reserves	3,374,353	2,681,711
Decentures	10,640,400	10,174,365
Loans	2,190,396	4,879,539
Total	16,205,149	17,735,615

From the above it will be seen that the aggregate capital of the railways of Japan is something like 300 million *yen* approximately. The cost of construction of Government and private railways up to the end of 1899 seems to have reached 266 million *yen*, as may be perceived from the following figures:—

	For working lines. Yen.	For lines not yet opened. Yen.
Government railways	69,679,049	18,174,448
Private railways	173,444,331	5,000,717
Total	243,423,280	23,175,165

Compared with the previous year the above figures show an increase of 12,230,386 *yen* in the case of Government lines, and of 18,486,146 *yen* for private railways, making a total of 37,116,532 *yen*. For the principal railways in operation the average cost of construction per mile is given as follows:—

Railways.	Yen.
Tokaido	101,895
Hokuriku	72,718
Shinyetsu	58,378
Ou (South)	187,439
Hokkaido	25,627
Nippon	52,583
Kiushu	85,834
Sanyo	66,669
Tanko	36,185
Kwansai	89,442
Hokuyetsu	70,288
Sobu	41,519
Hankwaku	85,726
Hoshu	93,323
Osaka	73,297
Ganyetsu	52,718
Nankai	93,434
Nara	58,756
Boso	48,170
Chugoku	84,943
Nishinari	450,275
Kioto	148,592
Kawagoye	14,474

3.—Railway Companies.

The Government railways are under the direct supervision of the Railway Works Bureau and the Hokkaido Railway Office, whereas the private railways are controlled by the various companies, over 100 in all. These companies can be classified in three divisions, the respective numbers of which as to capital stand as follows:—

		Gross capital. Yen	Paid up capital Yen.
Companies which have opened traffic	43	227,919,300	169,999,444
Companies which have not entered upon practical operations	15	19,133,850	3,668,402
Companies which have obtained provisional charters only	45	73,645,000	—
Total	103	320,698,150	173,667,846

Besides, there are 11 companies with a capital of 7,295,000 *yen* which have secured provisional charters for the extension of their lines. The above figures, compared with those for the previous year, show an increase of one in the 1st item, and a decrease of one in the 2nd, and 3 in the 3rd, the diminution in the number of companies being 3. As to capital, an increase of 3,750,000 *yen* is noticeable in the gross amount, and of 15,480,000 *yen* in the total paid up. The cause of the reduction in organizations is chiefly to be found in the dissolution of some, and the return of provisional charters.

When people were infected with the mania for company-promoting after the war with China, they directed their chief attention to railway works. But they found their efforts frustrated by the adverse condition of the money market. Under these circumstances the number of promoters of new railways have rapidly decreased since 1898. The total mileage for which charters, both permanent and provisional, were granted during 1899, as compared with figures for the previous year, will be found below:—

	Permanent charters granted		Provisional charters granted	
	Number of companies.	Mileage Miles	Chains	Number of companies.	Mileage Miles	Chains
1899	10	176	61	16	261	51
1898	16	431	53	35	919	27
Decrease	6	254	72	19	657	56

During 1899 five companies were dissolved viz., the Kayo, Tsugaru, Mobu, Tango, and Tsuga. These involved a mileage of 131 miles 78 chains with an aggregate capital of 5,300,000 *yen*. In the case of nine companies provisional charters were declared invalid, their capital being 18,050,000 *yen* and their mileage 365 miles 40 chains; and permanent charters were invalidated or withdrawn in the case of 3. The fate experienced by these unfortunate projects is chiefly attributed to the depression of the money market.

THE ORIENTAL HOTEL, LIMITED.

Report for presentation to the shareholders at the ninth annual ordinary general meeting, to be held at the Oriental Hotel, Kobe, on Thursday, 29th Nov., 1900, at 4 o'clock.

The Directors have now the pleasure to lay before the Shareholders a statement of the Company's Accounts for the year ending 31st August, 1900.

The total earnings in Working Account during the year amount to *yen* 148,060.67, showing a gross profit of *yen* 45,204.00.

It will be observed, on reference to the Accounts, that there remains a nett profit for the year amounting to *yen* 14,910.11.

An interim dividend of 5 per cent. on Ordinary Shares was distributed to Shareholders on 20th March, 1900, absorbing *yen* 3,700, thus leaving a balance of profit available on the year's working, of *yen* 11,210.11.

From this amount the Directors recommend a further payment of 7 per cent. on Ordinary Shares, making 12 per cent., for the year, and a payment of *yen* 37 per share on Founders Shares, absorbing together *yen* 8,140.00, and that the balance of *yen* 3,070.11 be carried to the credit of Reserve Account, bringing this up to *yen* 21,760.94.

The property of the Company has been maintained in an efficient way and the buildings are in first class order and condition.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders was held on 19th March last when Special Resolutions were adopted under which the Capital of the Company was increased to *yen* 225,000.00 by the creation of 750 new Ordinary and 750 Preference Shares of *yen* 100 each.

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As was explained at that time, the object for which this increase of Capital was made was the establishment of a branch Hotel at Kioto. A suitable site having been acquired, on terms which your Directors considered favourable, and plans for the proposed building adopted, contracts for the work were made and building operations were begun. Subsequently, a question arose as to the right of way in respect of the main road giving access to the site. Pending the final and satisfactory settlement of this question work on the building has necessarily been suspended; but the Directors anticipate that such settlement will shortly be reached, when work can be resumed.

DIRECTORS.—Several changes have taken place in the Directorate of the Company in the course of the year. The absence, last year, of Mr. G. J. Melhuish from Kobe having been extended longer than was anticipated, that gentleman's seat on the Board was offered to and accepted by Mr. Th. de Berigny. In March of the present year, on his departure for Europe, Mr. T. W. Hellyer resigned his position as Director, which was taken by Mr A. Simon. In consequence of the increased field of the Company's work Mr. C. N. Crosse was, in the following month, invited to join the Board

In accordance with Article 90 of the Articles of Association, Messrs. A. H. Groom and Reynell retire from office and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.—Owing to the resignation of the Accountant for the time being of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, Mr W. D. S. Edwards was appointed to act as Auditor in conjunction with Mr. J. B. Maxwell. In accordance with Art. 129 of the Articles of Association these gentlemen now retire from office, but offer themselves for re-election

By Order of the Board.

GEORGE A ADAM,
Secretary.

A. H. GROOM
H. E. REYNELL
TH. DE BERIGNY
A. SIMON
C. N. CROSSE.
} Directors.

Kobe, Japan, 19th November, 1900.

THE ORIENTAL HOTEL, LIMITED.

RESERVE ACCOUNT.

	Yen.
Amount Transferred—	
Directors' Remuneration	1,500.00
Balance carried forward	21,760.94
	23,260.94
Balance brought down	20,190.83
Balance from Profit and Loss	3,070.11
	23,260.94

WORKING EXPENSES, 31ST AUGUST, 1900.

	Yen.
Mess Account	38,708.90
Wines and Stores	27,460.25
General Charges	7,269.58
Wages	21,704.23
Fuel and Lighting	5,302.45
Laundry	2,224.46
Electric Light Maintenance	186.80
Balance carried down	45,204.00
	148,060.67
General Receipts	148,060.67
	148,660.67

PROFIT AND LOSS, 31ST AUGUST, 1900.

	Yen.	Yen.
To Amounts Transferred—		
Ground Rents and Taxes	618.07	
Fire Insurance	3,138.00	
Bad Debts Account	857.16	
Auditors' Fees	200.00	
Interest Account	508.30	
Interest on Debentures	8,750.00	
Bonus to Staff	1,609.50	
		15,681.03
To Amounts Written off—		
Property Account	5,078.75	
Steam Launch Account	1,234.07	
Furniture Account	6,942.04	
Electric Light Plant	1,400.00	
		14,654.86
Balance of Profit carried down		14,910.11
		45,246.00
To Dividend Account—		
Interim 5 per cent. Dividend to 28th February	3,700.00	
Final 7 per cent. Dividend to 31st August	5,180.00	
Dividend on Founders' Shares	2,960.00	
		11,840.00
To Reserve Account		
Balance carried to credit of this Account		3,070.11
		14,910.11
By Balance from Working Account	45,204.00	
By Transfer fees	42.00	
	45,246.00	
By Balance of Profit brought down	14,910.11	
	14,910.11	

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31ST AUGUST, 1900.

ASSETS.	Yen.
Property Account	133,137.43
Furniture Account	62,478.40
Electric Light Plant	12,600.00
Steam Launch Account	11,106.68
Wines and Stores	8,007.48
Chartered Bank	515.92
Kioto Account	41,824.74
Mitsui Bishi Bank	20,000.00
Yokohama Specie Bank	19,000.00
Outstanding Accounts	5,223.11
	313,892.76
LIABILITIES.	Yen.
Capital Account	75,000.00
1st Issue Debentures	75,000.00
2nd " "	50,000.00
Second Issue of Shares	66,673.37
Property Fluctuation Account	12,344.77
Cash Account	2,166.68
Auditors' Fees	200.00
Reserve Account	21,760.94
Interest Reserved on New Shares	997.50
Final Dividend 7 per cent. on Ordinary Shares	5,180.00
Dividend on Founders' Shares	2,960.00
Bonus to Staff	1,609.50
	313,892.76

We certify that we have compared the above Statements with the Vouchers and Books of the Company and find the same to be correct.

J. B. MAXWELL
W. D. S. EDWARDS
} Auditors.

Kobe, Japan, 19th November, 1900.

THE TYPHOON AT HONGKONG.

From Hongkong papers just to hand we have details of the destruction wrought by the typhoon which visited that colony on Nov. 10th:

It seems that the first intimation of rough weather was given at a quarter to twelve on the morning of Thursday, the 8th inst., when the red cone was hoisted, pointing downwards, indicating a typhoon to the south of the colony. At 11.40 a.m. on Friday the red cone was taken down and the black one hoisted, pointing downwards, a sign that the typhoon was within 300 miles. At a quarter past six the same evening orders were received from the Observatory that the community should be warned of what was coming by the firing of a gun. The gun, however, refused to go off, and an intimation was sent round to all the Police Stations, with the result that all were on the alert. Another warning signal was hoisted at half past seven, viz, two white lights in a vertical line. This indicated bad weather and that the wind was expected to veer. At ten past seven on Saturday morning the typhoon was signalled to be east of the colony, and a signal hoisted at 8.40 a.m. showed that it was to the north of the colony. Shortly afterwards things began to quieten down, and at half-past four the black cone was taken down.

As daylight on Saturday approached, says the *Daily Press*, those in the neighbourhood of the Dock Extension Works heard cries proceeding from the harbour, and it soon became apparent that something had befallen the powerful dredger *Canton River*, which recently arrived here from Paisley, where she was built by Messrs. Fleming and Ferguson of that city. During one of the fitful gusts of wind the ponderous craft with her massive derrick encumbrances and overhead gear had failed to maintain her equilibrium and had, almost without any warning, listed to port and capsized. As to the precise number of crew, workmen, and others who were on board at the time it is impossible at the moment of going to press to give any accurate figure. Those in authority at the Dockyard Extension office say that fifty would be about the number, but that seems to be conjecture. It was known that Captain Scott, who was in command of her, was aboard; as also were the chief engineer, Mr. White; the second engineer, Mr. Thomson; the carpenter Mr. Mellroy, and the majority of the crew. From the statements of some of them it would appear that all on board were apprehensive of danger as the elements heightened in their fury towards the morning. It must have been very shortly after the dredger had fallen a prey to the elements, and turned turtle, that the look out man on the *Tamar* observed some of the *Canton River's* crew clinging to the bottom of the vessel, which then resembled a cigar-shaped craft. H.M.S. *Astræa's* lookout also reported the sight of the struggling seamen, and boats from both vessels with volunteer crews put off to the rescue. It was at the greatest risk, that the *Tamar's* whaler, with her crew of five, under Queen's Harbour Master Butler, seeming at every moment to meet with a similar fate as those they were about to save, forged their way through the breakers. However, both boats reached the upturned vessel in time, and together saved twelve, while a number of others were lustily swimming for the shore, carried forward with the swiftly flowing current eastwards towards Murray Pier. Second-engineer Thomson was one among the first to reach the foreshore, and two others touched ground at Pedder's Wharf. It was well on towards noon before it was known that the carpenter was missing. The carpenter's body was washed ashore at Kowloon about ten o'clock the same morning.

Among the vessels which came to grief in the harbour was H.M.S. *Sandpiper*, which was lying out in the man-of-war anchorage on the Kowloon side. She made signals of distress at about eight o'clock in the morning, and the torpedo-boat destroyer *Otter* went to her assistance. She was, however, unable to prevent her from foundering, but by masterly seamanship succeeded in taking off the crew, damaging her bows with the floating wreckage in so doing. Lieut. Wilkin, who commanded the *Otter*, is to be complimented on the manner in which he handled the vessel. All hands were saved with the exception of a man of the name of Bedford, one of the armourer's crew.

In the Peak district as well as in the lower levels of the colony great damage was done; many native craft were sunk in the harbour and not a few lives lost.

The American ship *Benjamin Sewall* dragged her anchors and ran ashore opposite Arsenal Yard in the height of the storm but got off (though leaking) when the wind changed.

Several buildings collapsed, the most serious case being that of the some structures in Queen's Road Central, the fall of which involved the death of eight and the injury of six Chinese.

Westward at Kennedytown also great damage was caused and at Kowloon numberless sampans were wrecked. Here P. C. Duncan, of the Naval Yard Police, lost his life in a gallant attempt to rescue two sampan women whose boat was dashed to pieces against the embankment at the Naval Depot. They were struggling in the water when he went to their assistance. Sergeant Laurence threw him a rope, which he seized. A wave carried Duncan and the women out. The women never returned, but Duncan managed to get back twice and was just on the point of getting on to the embankment when a wave came and forced him back, and he was never seen again. Duncan was an old 91st (Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders) man. He had been away from home since 1886, and was looking forward to returning to his home in Edinburgh in about two years. He was in the Naval Yard Police at Hongkong for several years up to 1896, when he went to Singapore, returning to Hongkong a few months ago.

Off Kowloon also three, and later seven, Chinese sampan people in peril of their lives were gallantly rescued by boats' crews from the Portuguese *Adamator*.

Late on Saturday afternoon (the 10th) the *P. and O.* steamer *Sobraon* which had experienced very little of the typhoon entered Hongkong harbour, being the first vessel to come direct to Hongkong with the mails—not calling at Bombay.

SALVATION ARMY.

In view of the increased interest in the Salvation Army in connection with the recent Social agitation, Colonel Bullard, Major Duce and Adjutant Yamamuro have arranged to visit all the stations occupied by the Army. A series of large public gatherings in theatres, churches and other large buildings were announced for the purpose of giving information as to the principles, methods and extent of Salvation Army work throughout the world, and also some explanation of the part taken by the Salvation Army in the movement for the rescue of unfortunate women.

The meetings recently held in Okayama and Osaka appear to have been of special interest. In both places it was known that there was a strong feeling on the part of those interested in the business of prostitution against the Army because of the results of the steps taken by the latter to help the girls to obtain their freedom. It was therefore generally anticipated that there would be a good deal of disturbance in connection with the Army meetings.

In Okayama the largest theatre in the city was hired, and filled by a crowd of over 1,000 persons, including a strong contingent from the brothel quarters. In spite of this however a most orderly meeting was held and the audience showed their interest and appreciation by vigorous bursts of handclapping and also by giving the Salvationists a collection of nearly 6 *yen* towards the expenses of the gathering.

At Osaka there was even greater interest, as the

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meeting announced was the first Salvation Army meeting in that city. The gathering was held in the Y.M.C.A. Hall, into which over 1,200 people squeezed themselves. The hall was full half an hour before the advertized time of meeting and hundreds were turned away unable to gain admittance. Most elaborate precautions had been taken by the police to deal with any disturbance, but throughout the meeting there was not the least sign of active opposition. Colonel Bullard, Major Duce and Adjutant Yamamuro gave addresses on the special subjects announced, and the Rev. T. Miyagawa also gave a most interesting account of his visit to the Army Social Institutions in England. For two hours and a half hardly a person left the hall and the audience gave enthusiastic evidences of their interest in the proceedings, not the least being a collection of 18 *yen*. —*Contributed.*

MISSIONARY METHODS.

[Synopsis of a paper read at the General Missionary Conference, Tokyo, Oct. 25, 1900.]

BEST METHODS FOR (1) WINNING UNBELIEVERS, (2) INSTRUCTING CANDIDATES FOR BAPTISM, (3) THE UPBUILDING OF CHRISTIAN CHARACTER.

By Rev. Albert Oltmans.

(*American Reformed Church Mission, Saga.*)

(1) *For winning unbelievers.*—(*a.*) The underlying method of principle is, *a knowledge of the natural condition in which the unbelievers are found.* The work of winning souls is *a divine art.* Study your patients, not only *en masse*, but as individual cases

(*b.*) *Suit your medicine to the nature of the case.* The gospel has manifold applications of peculiar fitness to various conditions of the human mind and heart. Mental and moral diversities call for diverse treatment. Christ exemplified this in his different ways of treating men.

(*c.*) *Individual work* is the field in which to win unbelievers for Christ. Even in times of religious revivals, the real work of winning souls is by personal contact.

(*d.*) *Direct methods* are almost always better than indirect. The soul to be won must be brought face to face with his sin, and with his Saviour. *Indirect* methods may be useful in preparing the way, but they are not sufficient. Some examples of the way in which Christ worked are specially instructive on this point. We dare not simply give some indefinite ideas about the superiority of Christianity and leave the rest to be inferred. It is a deplorable fact that many have been admitted into Church membership upon this insufficient basis.

(*e*) *Sympathy with those whom we try to win.* Christianity is at bottom the sympathy of God for his fallen creatures. This sympathy, brought down to the understanding of sinful men by our sympathy with them in their spiritual needs, is the mystic key that unlocks the human heart. Jesus possessed and manifested this sympathy. With us it will manifest itself in kindness, patience, gentleness and self-denial. In these things also Christ is our perfect example.

(*f*) *Personal example.* Without the personal example no method will avail. Christianity is judged by the lives of its followers. To those with whom we come in direct personal contact while trying to win them for Christ, our every word and our every act become a practical comment upon the power and value of the religion we confess. As Christ taught by precept and example that were in perfect accord with each other, so we shall be able to win unbelievers to the extent that this is true of us.

(*g.*) *Prayer.* This is of supreme importance. In many instances we are shut up to prayer as the only possible method for winning unbelievers. All our efforts must be steeped in earnest, believing prayer. Luther's "ora et labora" is specially applicable in the work of winning souls.

(2) *For Instructing Candidates for Baptism* (*a*) *Definiteness.* The neglect of this accounts largely for the fact that so many members of the Church have no clear, definite ideas about the fundamental truth of Christianity. Most of those who prepare the candidates for baptism have themselves received but a very limited amount of the kind of instruction they are called upon to give. *The salient truths of the Bible* need to be taught. These lie scattered through a great part of the Bible books, and must be collated and put into some convenient shape for a course of instruction

(*b.*) *Hand-books.* Several Catechisms and Handbooks are in use by the various Protestant churches in Japan. Some use only the Bible, while others use both methods. A small book prepared by the Rev. A. B. Hutchinson, of Fukuoka, entitled "An Easy Instruction suited to all Candidates for Baptism," is specially recommended. "A brief, broad-principled, up-to-date catechism, with copious Biblical references not a theological treatise, but a brief, practical compendium of commonly accepted truths, expressed in every-day terms," ought to be far more suitable for the ordinary candidate here in Japan, than are our home Catechisms.

(*c.*) *Requirements.* Along the line of *spiritual* requirements, there will be a difference of opinion largely based upon the different ideas held in regard to the nature and main purpose of the Church. As to requirements in *knowledge*, there is likely to be less difference of opinion. The *spiritual* conditions of admission are paramount. To make the committing to memory of a set of questions the invariable standard of admission is radically wrong. This may mean a Herculean task to some and mere child's play to others. The requirements along the line of knowledge should be very flexible, lest we admit unworthy ones, while excluding some that are really fit to enter the Church. One safe guide is: "*By their fruits ye shall know them.*"

(*d.*) Impress upon the candidates the fact that *they receive baptism because they* are believers, and they are not *true* believers simply because they are baptized There is among candidates much confusion on this point. The true principle is stated in Rom. 10 10.

(*e.*) While *an undue desire* to see candidates baptized is to be deprecated; at the same time the candidates should be made to understand that *public confession by baptism is their duty* whenever they "believe with the heart unto righteousness."

In the matter of postponement of baptism by reason of opposition on the part of relatives, each case must be decided upon its own merits, but in any case the main responsibility should be made to rest upon the candidate. No relatives other than parents or guardians should ever be considered.

Should a candidate receive baptism while he is known to live in public or private relations that compel him to break one or more of the plain commands of Christian morality, viz., by work on the Lord's day? There are a few lines of employment in which Sunday work would seem unavoidable, but they are very few indeed. In questions belonging to the category of "doubtful morality," the Scriptural rule is always the safest and best as a test for membership.

(3) *For the upbuilding of Christian character.*

This part is beset with special difficulty for the foreign missionary because nearly all the pastoral care of the churches is in the hands of Japanese pastors and evangelists. The upbuilding of Christian character must be done largely through daily contact with Christians, and by an intimate knowledge of the special needs and peculiar obstacles in the way of spiritual progress. Through the training of pastors and evangelists, the foreign missionaries can exert an indirect influence upon this department of the work. But those who have this special training in charge at the seminaries should themselves be in some personal contact with the pastoral work, however difficult this may be in practice. As soon as possible this part of the theological training should be relegated to experienced Japanese pastors who are at the same time "apt to teach."

Travelling missionary evangelists can be helpful in the upbuilding of Christian character by frequently talking over the needs and methods of this part of the work, and by frequently pointing out the fact that the degree of influence of the Christian Church depends largely upon the inward spiritual growth of the church itself. As *direct* methods for building up Christian character, the most important are, (1) Growth in knowledge of the word of God, (2) Prayer-life, (3) regular attendance upon the church services, (4) faithfulness in daily duties.

The upbuilding of Christian character is a *growth*, depending upon the use of means provided for it by God. The importance of all the four means above mentioned might be abundantly illustrated and enforced by references to the examples and teachings of Holy Writ. The upbuilding of Christian character is the great and final purpose of God in his redemptive plan

We are constantly to remember that our *methods* are nothing if disassociated from the grace and power of God; but that they are of unspeakable importance, if vitalized by the Spirit of God, and consecrated entirely to the Master's use.

THE NEW FRENCH GUN.

In view of the intelligence published on Wednesday to the effect that an officer has reproduced from memory details of the construction of the new French quick firing gun, the following from the special correspondent of the London *Times* (who attended the French military manœuvres, and had an opportunity of seeing the much-vaunted 75-mm. quick-firing gun, at work, may be interesting. He says: "Each gun, besides its limber, has an ammunition wagon. When in column of route the ammunition wagon and the gun move abreast, if possible; if that is not practicable, the wagon precedes the gun. The draught for a wagon is a team of four, for a gun a team of six. Each battery is accompanied by a reserve ammunition column of three wagons. When the battery comes into action the gun and wagon unlimber abreast of each other, and the limbers both gallop clear to cover. If the gun unlimbers "action front" the wagon unlimbers as if for "action rear," and vice versa. Nos 5, 6 and 7 immediately tilt the wagon up, disjoint the pole so that it double down to the ground, and opens the top shutters, which fall back from a centre fastening and make a shield behind which the three gunners kneel. The fixed ammunition is in a rack before them, each wagon holding eighty rounds. As the gun and wagon are now wheel and wheel abreast, No. 5 has simply to hand each round to No. 2, who is kneeling by the rail prepared to load.

"And now as to the gun itself. As far as I could judge, while standing in the battery, the pneumatic buffer which takes the recoil, is part of the gun. Certainly when fired with blank the only movement apparent is the running back of the gun itself on its sliding seat underneath the trunnions. The whole of the breech end of the gun seems seated in this heavy socket. A brake, which is lowered on coming into action, takes part of the recoil, as well as a spade affixed to the end of the trail. Before the gun is laid the trail is raised to an angle of forty-five degrees and brought sharply to the ground. This might be to ensure the setting of the spade, but from the sound it makes and the fact that after the gun team has been standing fast for some time, the operation is repeated before again coming into action, I am inclined to believe that it is a mechanical means by which some pneumatic buffer is loaded. This much is certain that once the trail has been raised, the brake adjusted and the spade imbedded, the gun carriage never moves again, though twenty rounds are fired in rapid succession. The gun only runs back. In this the mechanism is far in advance of the spade action of the Vickers-Maxim carriage, in which both gun and carriage run back on the spade for several inches.

"The breech action of the French gun is a marvel of simplicity. The breech opens with a single action the whole of the block revolving from left to right. The reverse action loads the piece, the motion of opening extracts the case and throws it clear. No. 1 opens and closes the breech in two motions, while No. 2 loads. No. 1 attends to the laying of the gun—once laid, any alteration in range is made by turning a hand screw, to which is fitted an indicator and dial. It would be possible to fire thirty rounds a minute with the utmost care. But hitherto during the manœuvres no rapid fire has been attempted. The gun is provided with a light, bullet-proof shield, so that when in action the four men working the gun are under cover while, as was stated before, the Nos. 5, 6 and 7 kneel behind their ammunition wagons and are also completely screened."

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

POST-BELLUM FINANCE.

Shanghai, Nov. 16.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, speaking at Bristol, said he wished he could say there would not be an increase in taxation, but the expenditure had been enormous, especially in connection with China and South Africa—being also in the former case quite unexpected.

The wealth of the Transvaal might bear a considerable portion of the cost of the South African War.

The announcement of the early meeting of Parliament has surprised the City, where it is considered that the borrowing power of the Government will prove to be almost exhausted, the Bank of England having lent as much as it prudently could.

WAR MEDALS.

The Government has ordered 150,000 silver war medals from Birmingham.

THE CZAR'S ILLNESS.

Shanghai, Nov. 17.

The Czar's illness has developed into typhoid; up to the present its course has been normal.

THE KAISER ON THE CONCERT.

The Kaiser, in a speech at the opening of the Reichstag, said the Governments were united in the desire to restore order in China and avert a repetition of the troubles, and the punishment of the chief culprits.

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THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

Mr. R. W. Hanbury, late Financial Secretary to the Treasury, has accepted the Presidency of the Board of Agriculture.

THE "GLORY" TO SAIL.

Shanghai, Nov. 18.

The *Daily Telegraph* states that the battleship *Glory* is to sail (for the China station) on Nov. 21st

THE CHINA COMMAND.

Vice-Admiral Seymour's term in command of the China squadrons will be extended until the difficulties in China are arranged.

TRANSVAAL LOAN.

It is rumoured in the City that the Government will issue a Guaranteed Transvaal loan of fifty millions sterling.

PLAIN LANGUAGE BY A CHINESE DIPLOMAT.

The Chinese Minister in Paris, in an interview, says that the present negotiations are mere show. The Chinese plenipotentiaries, fearing the vengeance of the Empress-Dowager, can only scheme lie and temporize. The Powers should release the Emperor from the disastrous tutelage of the Empress-Dowager.

THE CZAR.

Shanghai, Nov. 20.

The Czar has been sleeping fairly well. His general condition is good but his temperature yesterday was 100 5.

THE NEW FRENCH GUN.

Americans have secured plans of the new French gun. It is stated that an officer inspected the gun in a legitimate manner, and was able to reproduce the details from memory.

RENEWED TROUBLE WITH THE BOERS

The active hostility of the Boers continues unabated.

They have cut the railway in twenty places south of Kimberley.

Commandoes are trekking south from the Vetshveldt. The residents of the Standerton district are rejoining the commandoes.

WALDERSEE'S ACTION.

There are growing complaints from Washington that Marshal von Waldersee's military action in the neighbourhood of Peking is excessive, and calculated to exasperate the Chinese.

THE CZAR

Shanghai Nov. 20.

The Czar is improving

THE BOER RESISTANCE.

The Boers have organized several centres of resistance, which are well supplied with cash. Frequent batches of Boer women and children are being sent to Natal.

REGENT OF RUSSIA.

It is stated that Archduke Vladimir, Uncle of the Czar, may possibly be appointed Regent of Russia till the Czar has recovered

GERMANY'S INTENTIONS.

Shanghai, Nov. 22.

Count von Bulow, speaking in the Reichstag, in a lengthy speech justified the German policy in China. He repeated that Germany did not seek territorial acquisitions, but had sent her troops merely to exact reparation and obtain guarantees for the future. He dwelt with satisfaction upon the Anglo-German agreement and commented also on the friendliness of Russia, as evinced by the Czar's approval of Count von Waldersee's appointment.

RUSSIAN OPINION.

Russian newspapers, faithfully reflecting official views, strongly condemn the conditions formulated at Peking as impracticable and likely to lead to the endless prolongation of a dangerous crisis.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

M. PICHON.

Saigon, Nov. 17.

It is announced that M. Pichon, Minister of France in China, will be named Resident-General in Tunis when the negotiations in Peking are terminated.

THE PEACE PROPOSALS.

Saigon, Nov. 18.

The Ministers in Peking have agreed on the preliminary conditions of peace and have transmitted them to the Chinese plenipotentiaries

The negotiations have commenced.

THE CZAR'S ILLNESS

It is telegraphed from Livadia that the Emperor of Russia is attacked with abdominal typhus. The malady is following a normal course.

Saigon, Nov. 18.

The bulletin of the state of the Emperor of Russia is good.

RAILWAY DISASTER IN FRANCE.

The Southern Express was derailed near the Spanish frontier; 15 were killed and 20 injured.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Saigon, Nov. 19

The Chamber of Deputies, in the sequel of an interpellation on the re-opening of the Jesuit chapels, voted an Order of the Day, by 316 to 192, expressing confidence that the Government would cause the project of law on the associations to be voted.

THE KAISER AND THE LUNATIC.

A telegram from Breslau says that a mad woman threw a hatchet into the carriage of the Emperor of Germany, without striking his Majesty.

CHINA.

General Voyron telegraphs that the sanitary condition of the expeditionary corps is excellent.

FIRE AT CANTON.

Saigon, Nov. 20.

It is announced from Canton that more than 300 houses have been destroyed by fire in that city.

CHINA.

Saigon, Nov. 20.

It is telegraphed from Peking that a French column has entered Touling (?) after a combat with the Boxers, who had 300 killed.

A French detachment occupies the Imperial Tombs.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

Saigon, Nov 21.

The Chamber of Deputies has discussed the section of the Budget relating to Foreign Affairs. M. Delcassé explained the policy of the Government in China. He rendered homage to the conduct of the agents and the soldiers of France, and said that the Government was resolved to maintain the integrity of the Chinese empire and desired to put a stop to the sacrifices which the country is making but not before she had exacted retribution.

These declarations were warmly applauded.

PRESIDENT KRUGER IN EUROPE.

Saigon, Nov. 22.

President Kruger arrived this morning at Marseilles, where a great reception was prepared for him. A tempest prevented his landing.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE).

SALISBURY ON THE CHINA QUESTION.

London, Nov. 11.

Lord Salisbury, speaking at the Guildhall Banquet, said that the objects of the Anglo-German agreement were to secure the integrity of China and the open-door policy, and that if these aims were attained, England would have nothing to regret on account of the China affair. Great Britain desired to see China in a position to re-establish law and order within her dominions and would assist her to that end. If any Powers in alliance sought to seize this opportunity for impairing China's integrity, or for replacing her in the government of her own territories, undertaking such a great and perilous task with small forces, it would be necessary to strenuously oppose that design.

MARTIAL LAW IN SPAIN.

Paris, Nov. 3.

In consequence of a Carlist insurrection in Spain, the Government proclaimed martial law throughout the Kingdom on the 2nd instant.

THE ASSAULT ON THE KAISER.

Berlin, Nov. 16.

As the Emperor of Germany was driving through the streets of Breslau, a woman threw a small axe at the carriage. It fell beside the carriage and no one was injured. The woman was insane. She appears to be an Italian. She was arrested at once.

THE KAISER ON CHINA.

A telegram from Berlin, dated the 14th of November, says that in his speech at the opening of the Diet, the Emperor of Germany, made use of these words:—"The mad spirit of assassination and superstition excited by the rude Ministers of the Peking Government, and the violent passions of the ignorant Chinese people thus provoked, culminated in the perpetration of acts of opposition to the civilization of the West and of injury to the peace of the Christian converts, and caused the death of my Minister at the wicked hands of an assassin. The united Powers, in the face of extreme peril, cooperated to resist this unprecedented attack, and their flags are now raised side by side in Chinese territory, while, at the same time, the Governments of the allied States, animated by the common purpose of restoring peace as speedily as possible, and, after having provided for the due punishment of the offenders, of taking such measures as shall prevent any further similar disturbance of the world's tranquillity, are working in concert.

[The language of this message is so involved that we can not possibly conjecture what were the actual words employed by His Majesty. Doubtless the passage was marked by the eloquence and pregnancy that usually distinguish his speeches, but we can not discover any traces of such qualities in the Japanese translation.—ED. *J.M.*]

CHINESE OFFICIAL CHANGES.

Shanghai. Nov 19.

Yu Chang, Governor of Hupeh, has been removed from office and ordered to wait for another appointment. King Sing, Governor of Kiangsi, has been transferred to Hupeh, and Li Hing-ying has been appointed to Kiangsi. The former Shanghai Customs Taotai, Yu Lien-yuen, who was appointed

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Governor of Kiangsi, has now been elevated to a high post in Hunan.

THE CZAR

St Petersburg, Nov. 15.

The Emperor of Russia has been suffering for some days from typhoid, but the disease is of a mild type.

RUSSIAN TARIFF PROPOSALS.

A report from the Japanese Commercial Agent at Vladivostock says that the intention of the Russian Government to increase the import duties in order to make provision for the expenses of the war, has been known for some time, but steps to put the new rates into operation have only recently been taken. The articles affected are spiritous liquors, cakes and tobacco, on which an extra tax of 50 per cent. is imposed. The Consul says that with the exception of small dealings in Japanese *sake*, the Japanese merchants are very little concerned in these increases. But if the new tariff contemplated for goods entering the Amur district be put into operation from the beginning of 1901, 80 or 90 per cent. of the Japanese manufactured goods imported into that district will be affected. Especially if the revised tariff now in operation in European Russia be increased by from 10 to 50 per cent. and applied to the Amur region, Japanese trade with Russia will feel the change greatly. There is some talk, however, of the new tariff's not being enforced at that port (Vladivostock) until next August, which, according to general opinion, would be a wise postponement, but the truth as to this is impossible to ascertain.

CHINA.

Shanghai, Nov. 21.

Ting, who was appointed to be Taotai of Shanghai, having been strongly opposed by both foreigners and natives on the ground of his conservatism, has been transferred to be Salt Commissioner of the two Wei Rivers, by imperial decree issued on the 18th instant, prior to his arrival in Shanghai. It is not known who will succeed him.

(RECEIVED AT THE WAR DEPARTMENT.)

(NON OFFICIAL.)

THE APPROACH OF WINTER.

Taku, Nov. 17.

The Peiho above Peh-tsang is frozen but at Taku thin ice is seen in the evening only, and there is no ice in the river. The thermometer, from the 10th to the 17th, averaged 41° F in the morning. The maximum reading was 48° and the minimum 33°. The Chinese think that the river will not be frozen, at this rate, until the middle of December.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.)

THE 'IZUMO"

The *Izumo* arrived at Singapore on the 21st instant

[The *Izumo* is a first-class cruiser, of 9,900 tons displacement.]

(FROM THE "OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD.")

PEKING NEWS.

Tientsin, Nov. 8

There is a rumour amongst Chinese officials that in accordance with the representations of the peace commissioners the Emperor will return to Peking and place himself under the protection of the Allies. This rumour has so far not been confirmed by the representatives of the Foreign Powers, who have not yet received any official notification in this respect.

Great activity is shown in rebuilding seven railway bridges between Peking and Tientsin, which were destroyed during last summer. The work is proceeding rapidly, so that the reopening of the railway services is expected within a very short time.

GERMAN COLONIAL BUDGET.

Berlin, Nov. 9.

The colonial-council (Kolonialrath) has examined the budget of the German colonies. The figures for Kiachou wired the other day have been altered; the Empire will contribute 750,000 marks more to the expenses than provided for before, in all 1,075 million marks. The expenses of Samoa are calculated at 266,000 marks; thereof the German Empire will have to pay a little more than one half, viz: 146,000 marks. For the Carolines 311,000 marks are needed, whereof the Empire's share will be 286,000 marks. A notice has been communicated to the Kolonialrath according to which an American steamship line will call regularly at Apia.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Near Offenbach two railway-trains collided, whereby eight people were killed.

COST OF THE GERMAN CHINA EXPEDITION.

Berlin, Nov. 10.

The German Reichstag, which will be convened next Wednesday, will be asked to appropriate the amount of 152,670,000 marks for the expenses of the China expedition during the year 1900. An official memorial will explain the necessity of these expenses from a political point of view.

GERMAN POLITICS.

In Wurtemberg the President of the Cabinet, Baron Mittnacht, who was also Minister of Foreign Affairs, has resigned owing to his bad state of health. The King has accepted this resignation and appointed as his successor General Schott von Schottenstein, who was until now Minister of War in Wurtemberg.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

Tientsin, November 12.

About 22 miles beyond Paotingfu the French troops stormed a fortified village, which was occupied by Boxers. The French had in the engagement 18 men slightly wounded, while 320 Chinese were killed.

Tientsin, November 13.

A detachment consisting of German, Italian, and Austrian troops under the command of Colonel Count York von Wartenburg has left Peking for Kalgan, north-east of Peking on the Great Wall, in order to protect the French mission which Bishop Favier reported to the Commander-in-Chief to be in great danger.

Tientsin, November 14.

The Russians attacked the Arsenal northeast of Yangtsun and captured it after a short fight. The Russian losses are light, but 200 Chinese were killed during the engagement. The Russians found a very large prize, which consisted of a large amount of money and a considerable number of guns and rifles.

Li Hung-chang expects within a short time his own body-guard. He thinks that he cannot dispense with a special body-guard until conditions become more settled. The guard will consist of 500 men of the old troops which Li Hung-chang had already in Canton. They are expected by way of the Grand Canal.

PRINCE HOHENLOHE'S RESIGNATION.

New York, October 17.

A cable to the *Sun* from Cologne says:—The *Cologne Gazette* learns that Prince Hohenlohe handed his resignation as Imperial Chancellor to Emperor William yesterday. The Emperor accepted his resignation and designated Count von Bülow his successor.

Berlin, October 17

Although rumours had been current for several days that Prince Hohenlohe intended to retire, little credence was given to any of them, since such reports had returned periodically for several years past.

The fact is that neither the Foreign Office nor any other Government department in Berlin knew until this evening of Prince Hohenlohe's retirement and Emperor William's approval of it. The reasons which induced the Prince to insist upon retiring were, in the main, his rapidly growing infirmities and his distinct disapproval of the Emperor's personal policy in China. To his intimate friends Prince Hohenlohe during the last three months has repeatedly expressed strong criticisms upon what he called the Kaiser's sentimental and impulsive interference in the troubles in China.

Since Chinese matters assumed a threatening aspect, in June, Prince Hohenlohe has virtually abandoned the duties and prerogatives with which the Constitution clothes the Chancellor, having vainly endeavoured to inculcate more sober and dispassionate views regarding the Chinese outrages. Nearly all summer Prince Hohenlohe was away on his German, Russian and Austrian estates, leaving the Emperor and Count von Bülow to conduct the policy of the empire to suit themselves. This figureheadism of course could not long endure. Moreover, in addition to increasing and prolonged fits of somnolence, the Prince has recently displayed exceeding physical weakness. The members of his family have all along been strongly urging him to retire from official life and to pass the remainder of his days in quietude.

The final parting with the Emperor was cordial. At supper last evening in Homburg the Emperor, after toasting the Prince, thanked him warmly for the services he had rendered and kissed him on both cheeks.

Berlin, October 18.

Emperor William has written to Prince Hohenlohe an autograph letter, yielding to the Chancellor's request for relief from his official duties and expressing the warmest thanks for his fidelity, distinguished services, self-sacrificing devotion and unvarying faithfulness. Count von Bülow, it is announced, has been appointed Chancellor, President of the Prussian Ministry and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The retirement of Prince Hohenlohe is the principal theme of discussion here. The Agrarian and Liberal press say the Chancellorship has practically long been vacant. The press generally adopts an expectant attitude, and there is much curiosity as to Count von Bülow's policy in respect to the Prussian Diet and the imperious demands of the Junker squirerachy. The general feeling is that a strong young statesman becomes the responsible chief in command of the state and empire.

Berlin, October 20.

Count von Bülow's accession to the Imperial Chancellorship and Prince Hohenlohe's retirement still form the all-absorbing topics here. Concerning the precise character of the scenes in Homburg leading to the retirement of Prince Hohenlohe no authoritative statement has as yet appeared, nor probably will any appear. Private accounts differ. The general impression now is that Prince Hohenlohe's leaving office was not entirely voluntary, although Emperor William did everything to "sugar the pill" to the tottering old man whom, until the last, he dubbed "Uncle Chlodwig," and addressed with the familiar "thou."

It leaks out that Count von Bülow himself wired the *Cologne Gazette* the news of his appointment from Homburg and that the final turn of affairs was only decided late on Wednesday. The above also explains why Berlin Government circles remained in ignorance of the change in Chancellors until the decision.

Count von Bülow will retain the Foreign Office portfolio and the Chancellorship, like the late Prince Bismarck.

Count von Bülow's position as Imperial Chancellor will be beset with extreme difficulties and will require, perhaps, more diplomatic skill than statesmanship. Not alone will his Majesty want to continue to be his own Chancellor and exercise the right of ceaseless interference even in the most delicate matters, but there will be also great parliamentary difficulties to overcome. The Agrarians from the outset regard Von Bülow suspiciously, owing to his record hitherto, as desirous to maintain friendly relations not only with Russia but also with the United States and Great Britain, thus opposing the tariff war, which the Agrarians desire. To carry through the Reichstag the commercial treaties now under way will tax Von Bülow's full energy and genius. At the best Von Bülow, like Bismarck, will only be able to make politics "von fall zu fall" (literally from case to case, meaning that the new Chancellor will act in each case as it comes up). In other words, he will not follow a general political programme, but will be unfettered.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Air Temp. Max	Min	Lake.	State of Weather	Remarks a General
Sunday, 11th	57°	50°	..52°	...Rain	—
Monday, 12th	56°	47°	.52°	.....Fine	—
Tuesday, 13th	..52°	45°	51°	...Fine	—
Wed'sday, 14th	53°	48°	51°	..Fine	—
Thursday, 15th	...48°	46°	.51°	...Fine	—
Friday, 16th	.....47°	46°	...51°	...Rain	—
Saturday, 17th	...48°	45°	...50°	.....Snow	—

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CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 498.

Key-move Kt to B 3.

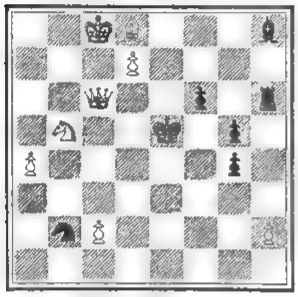
Correct solution received from A.V.C.M.

W.B.M. writes, with regard to Problem 495:—"If your chess solvers substitute a White for the Black pawn on Q.B. 4 in this problem, they will find the position perfect. It is a printer's, not the composer's, blunder."

PROBLEM No. 500.

Problem-Editor of *The B. C. M.*

Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Eight Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 640.

THE RICE GAMBIT.

Professor Isac L. Rice, the distinguished American amateur, who acted as British umpire in the Cable matches between Great Britain and America, is now in this country, and favoured us with a game which he contested in New York with Major Hanham. The game is exceptionally brilliant, and brings into relief the deep combinations and fertile resources possible in the Rice Gambit—a variation of a well-known form of the Kieseritzky Gambit—the invention of Professor Rice.

When the Rice Gambit was published, 1898, Professor Berger, of Graz, attempted to demolish it in the German *Schachzeitung*. Professor Rice demolished the demolition, eliciting a fresh counter-analysis from Professor Berger, and a reply from the inventor of the Gambit, which, we believe, has not been taken up yet by Professor Berger.

The following is the game alluded to above:—

RICE GAMBIT.

White—Professor Rice. Black—Major Hanham.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	15 Q R3	Kt B7
2 P KB4	PxP	16 RxBch	B K3
3 Kt KB3	P KKt4	17 K Bsq	Q R8 ch
4 P KR4	P Kt5	18 Kt Ktsq	Kt R6
5 Kt K5	Kt KB3	19 PxKt	P B6
6 B B4	P Q4	20 B Kt5	Q Kt7ch
7 PxP	B Q3	21 K Ksq	P B7ch
8 Castles	BxKt	22 K Q2	P B8=Ktch
9 R Ksq	Q K2	23 K Q3	K Q2
10 P B3	P Kt6	24 PxPch	K B2
11 B Q4	Kt Kt5	25 Q K7ch	K Kt3
12 KtQ2	QxP	26 Q Q8ch	RxQ
13 KtB3	Q R3	27 BxQ and mates	
14 Q R4ch	P B3		

The Rice Gambit, whether right or not, is only possible if Black plays 7.....B to Q3. Paulsen's 7.....B to Kt2 is better, and avoids unnecessary complications. 8—P to Q4 is the usual move. Leaving the Knight *en prise*, followed by 9—R to K sq, constitutes the Rice Gambit. The interesting points in the game are that White subjects himself to a most violent attack with impunity, for in the end Black could not save the game by 22—P to B 8 claiming a second Queen with a discovered check, nor by claiming a Knight with double check, as it is equally harmless to White.

Professor Berger suggests in the opening moves of the Rice Gambit 9.....K to B sq (instead of 9.....Q to K2), arguing that White cannot play 10—R x B because of the reply 10.....Kt to B3. For, if 11—P x Kt then 11.....Q to Q4, ch; 11—R to Kt5, then 11.....P to QR3, and if 11—R to K sq, then 11.....Kt x P. So far so good,

Professor Rice, however, continues, nevertheless, 10—R x B, and answers Professor Berger's 10.....Kt to B3 as follows:—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
10	Kt B3	19 P Q6ch	PxP
11 P Q4	KtxR	20 PxP	B K3
12 PxKt	Kt R4	21 QxR	KxP
13 Q Q4	QxRP	22 QxPch	K B3
14 Kt Q2	Q K8ch	23 Q B3ch	K K2
15 Kt Bsq	P Kt6	24 QxKt	BxB
16 B K3	QxR	25 Q R4ch	K Bsq
17 P K6	PxB	26 QxB, and wins	
18 QxRch	K K2		

Of this ingenious variation Professor Berger disposes in the first instance by suggesting for Black (instead of 17...PxB, as in the above variation) 17... R to K Kt sq, 18—B to Q2, P to R 4, 19—B to K2, R to Kt4, with ample defences against all eventualities. Professor Rice, however has a valid answer to these moves, which will be given on a future occasion.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert 1	Sa Nov 24
Hongkong	O. & O Co.	Coptic 2	M Nov 26
Hongkong	M M Co.	Ernest Simons 3	Th Nov 29
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 4	Th Nov 29
America	T. K. K	H'kong Maru	Su. Dec. 2
Hongkong	T. K. K	America Maru	M. Dec 3
America	P M Co.	China 5	Su. Dec. 9
Hongkong	P. M. Co	City of Peking	Th Dec 13
Canada, &c.	C. P R Co	Em of China	M Dec 17
America	O. & O Co.	Doric	M Dec 17

1 Left Nagasaki on the 22nd inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 21st inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 20th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 21st inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 20th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em of Japan	P Nov 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa Nov 24
Europe, via Shan.	M M Co.	Annam	Su Nov 24
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W Nov 28
Shanghai	N Y K	Hakusan Maru	W. Nov 28
Canada, &c.	C. P. R Co.	Em of India	F. Nov 30
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa. Dec. 1
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. Dec. 3
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	W. Dec. 5
Hongkong	P. M Co.	China	M. Dec 10
America	P. M Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Dec. 15

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 656, K. Higo, 15th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 13th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yejo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Y. Yamamoto, 16th Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Flottbek, German ship, 1,888, M. Schoemaker, 16th Nov.,—Port Tampa, Florida, 12th May, Phosphate.—Otto Reimers & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Yoshizawa, 17th Nov.,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 16th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Nishimura, 18th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 16th Nov., General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taiteyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, U. Matsumoto, 18th Nov.,—Hakodate, 15th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 18th Nov.,—Hakodate, 15th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swam, 18th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, 10th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 19th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ching Wo, British steamer, 2,517, H. C. Harris, 19th Nov.,—Glasgow via ports, and Kobe, 16th Nov., General. W. M. Strachan & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 19th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 18th Nov., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 19th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 18th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 29th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alsterdam, German ship, 3,336, Cordes, 20th Nov., —New York, 23rd May, Kerosene Oil.—Standard & Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Frakes, 20th Nov., —Tacoma, Wash. 1st Nov., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakuma, 21st Nov.,—Kobe, 19th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 21st Nov., Kobe, 20th Nov., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Glenturret, British steamer, 3,086, R. Webster, 21st Nov.,—New York via Suez Cana. and ports, Kobe, 20th Nov., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,839, Wm. Bainbridge, 21st Nov.,—Kure, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumunoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto 21stNov.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Purnea, British steamer, 2,127, J. B. Pearson, 22nd Nov.,—Madras via ports, and Manila, 12th Nov., Nov., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ambria, German steamer, 3,526, Wagner, 22nd Nov.,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 13th Nov., Mails and General.—C. Illies & Co.

Chingtu, British steamer, 1,459, J. E. Williams, 22nd Nov.,—Hongkong, 15th Nov., Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 22nd Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 21st Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 16th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 16th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Stuttgart, German steamer, 3,209, P. Grosch, 17th Nov.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Ltd.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,911, N. Trennt, 17th Nov.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

D'Entrecasteaux (26), French cruiser, 8'114, Capt. de Maroll, 17th Nov.,—Nagasaki.

Eudymion (12), British cruiser, 7,350. Capt. G. A. Callaghan, 17th Nov.,—Hongkong.

Owari Maru Japanese steamer, 656, K. Higo, 17th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 18th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe 18th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Yoshizawa, 19th Nov.,—Uraga, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taiteyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, U. Muramatsu, 19th Nov., Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yejo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Y. Yamamoto, 19th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 19th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,275, Wm. Ward, 20th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 20th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gera, German Hospital steamer, 3,166, C. van Barcel, 21st Nov.,—Nagasaki,—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swam, 21st Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 21st Nov.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 22nd Nov.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Wm. Frakes, 22nd Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Sumunoye Maru Japanese steamer, S. Yamamoto, 22nd Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. W. J. Grice, Miss A. J. Jarkhill, Mr T. H. Low, Mr. A. J. L. Dewette, Mr. Y. Yoshida, Mr. T. Jensen, Mr. G. A. Knorr, Mr. T. Kojima, and Mr. T. Kajiwara, in cabin; Mr. M. Furuta, Mrs. T. Furuta, Mr. M. Hayashida, Mr S. Ra, and 13 American sailors, in second class, 28 in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Arthur, Mr. Helm, and Mrs. Helm, in cabin. For San Francisco:—

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Mr. F. A. Nief, Mr. F. G. Benjamin, Mr. E. M. Hughes, Mr. G. H. Wheeler, Mr. G. Corcoran, Mr. Geo. Koppitz, Eng. O'Harl, Mr. F. Pate, Dr. M. J. Murray, Lieut. A. Zwingmann, Lieut. Henry H. Haugh, Mr. P. M. Clarkson, Mr. W. D. Scott, Mr. G. A. Gadd, Mr. N. Bartlett, Mr. W. Heinemann, Mr. R. H. Parker, and Mr. E. B. O'Connor, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Pomeranian*, from Madras via ports:—Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Goodrich, Dr. B. L. Wright, Lieut. Blake, Mr. C. S. Goodness, Mr. J. R. Wilson, Mr. J. R. Miller, Mr. A. Plass, Mr. A. E. Currie, Mr. C. M. Harding, Mrs. Hutton, 2 infants and 2 native servants, and 10 men U.S. Navy, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. B. Atwell, U.S.N., Mr. A. Groener, Assistant Surgeon H. H. Haas, U.S.N., Capt. Jensen, Mr. J. D. Lowman, Mrs. J. D. Lowman, Mr. K. Maiyo, Miss S. P. Peck, Mr. E. W. Rutter, Mr. M. Speelman, Mrs. Stevenson, and Mrs. Ross Thomson, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Stuttgart*, for Europe via ports:—Mrs. J. C. Wilkinson, Mr., Mrs. and Miss L. Sale, Mr. Sale, Mr. H. K. Raspe, Mr. W. Grautoff, Mr. and Mrs. Kochen, Mr. A. Suthoff, Mr. Th. Manley, Mr. H. J. Carrew, Mr. Ziegfeld, Lieut. and Mrs. von Schach, Mr. and Mrs. Curtin, Capt. and Mrs. G. W. Conner and child, Mr. Crawford and servant, Mr. H. Spiller, Mr. W. Oldenburg, Mr. and Mrs. Denby, Mr. A. Mayer, Mr. Philipp Kropp, and Hauptmann von Busse, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Awa Maru*, for London via ports:—Mrs. Mosley, Minister and Mrs. Akabane, Mr. and Mrs. Hata, and Mr. A. Saito, in cabin, Mr. T. Furusawa, and Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Goffinet, in second class; 9 Japanese, and 5 Chinese, in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. N. Bartlett, Mr. F. E. Benjamin, Capt. P. K. Clarkson, Mr. C. Corcoran, Miss C. Ferris, Mr. E. L. Fletcher, Mr. Geo. G. Gadd, Mr. F. Hauck, Mr. W. Heinemann, Lieut. H. H. Hough, U.S.N., Mr. E. M. Hughes, Lieut.-Com. W. M. Irwin, U.S.N., Mr. Geo. H. Koppitz, Miss J. Lee, Dr. M. J. Murray, Mr. F. A. Nief, Mr. E. F. O'Connor, Mr. Eugene O'Hare, Mr. R. H. Parker, Mr. Frank Pate, Mr. W. B. Scott, Mr. G. H. Wheeler, Mr. A. G. Wilson, and Lieut. A. Zwingmann, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Miss Cram, Miss Grenn, Mr. K. Yamamoto, Mr. H. Bismarck, Mr. M. Matsumoto, Miss N. E. Dow, Mrs. W. T. Price, Mrs. A. E. Blanco, and Mrs. Guilgust, in cabin; Mr. S. Shinjo, Mr. Y. Tokai, Mrs. K. Osawa, and Mrs. S. Ando, in second class; 8 Japanese, and 3 Chinese, in steerage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Stuttgart*:

	RAW.				WASTE.			
	Oplon.	Italy.	France.	Shanghai.	Oplon.	Austria.	Italy.	France.
Siber, Wolff & Co....	147	21	—	—	—	25	42	34
Otto Reimers & Co.	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Walsh, Hall & Co. .	—	—	60	—	—	—	—	—
G. Dourille	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.....	—	—	—	13	128	—	—	36
Dell'Oro & Co.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	165	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	151

Total—294 bales, Raw Silk; 608 bales, Waste Silk.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Olympia*, for Tacoma, Wash.:—

TEA.

	Canada	Chicago and West.	New York and East.	Pacific Coast	Total Packages.
Kobe.....	732	36	241	...	1,009
Yokohama ...	1,776	247	255	235	2,513
Total.....	2,508	283	496	235	3,522

SILK.

	New York.	South Manchester.	Total Bales.
Yokohama	294	33	227
Total.....	294	33	227

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Very little business is passing.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD
Flannels	Y. 0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0 35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 to 56 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloth—Presidents, 51 to 65 inches .	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ...	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24, 25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28, 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach	Nominal
Chinese	

METALS.

There is practically no demand.

	PER PICUL
Round and square ½ inch and upward . .	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5 70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron . ..	6.20 to 6 70
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

The kerosene market is weak.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.75
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

There is a quiet but steady demand for Hongkong Refined

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	Y 5 30 to 6.00
Brown Manila . . .	5 70 to 6.95
Brown Daitong .	4 30 to 5 50
Brown Canton	5 50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang . . .	7 30 to 8 70
White Refined	8.25 to 9.95

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There is not much activity in the raw silk market and prices do not show much change.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	Nominal
Filatures—Extra, Coarse...	Y. 890 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse...	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	None
Common—Coarse	None
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 1½	820 to 830
Re reels—No. 2	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 3	780 to 790
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 1	840 to 850
Kakedas—No. 1½	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2½	760 to 770

Nominal

WASTE SILK.

The market is weak and there is little business moving.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	145 to 150
Noshi—Filatures, Good...	135 to 140
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	None
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	None
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	None
Noshi Shinshiu, Best	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	75 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to 115
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	55 to 60
Kibiso—Bushiu, Fair	45 to 50

TEA.

There has been a moderate business. No change to report.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	34 to 35
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	26 to 27
Good Common	24 to 25
Common	22 to 23

COPPER.

There has been some demand from Europe resulting in the settlement of some 700 tons.

FISH OIL.

There are still shipments against previous purchases, but fresh business has been limited, dealers not caring to make further contracts.

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per N. Y. K. steamer *Idzumi Maru*, for Seattle, Nov. 13:—

	Bales.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	47
Otto Reimers, & Co.	25
Kito Gomei Kaisha	25
Total...	97

Per N. D. L. steamer *Stuttgart*, for Europe, Nov. 17:—

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.	13
P. Dourille	18
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	60
Otto Reimers & Co.	20
Sieber & Co.	168
Siber, Wolff & Co.	15
Total	294

TO 19TH NOVEMBER, 1900.

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	25
Averill & Co.	460
Bavier & Co.	515
Chauvin, Chevalier & Co.	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	120
H. Dent & Co.	309
P. Dourille	127
Findlay Richardson & Co.	100
C. Guissani .	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	1,878
Longin & Co.	275
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	1,434
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	1,172
Otto Reimers & Co.	1,505
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	336
Siber, Wolff & Co.	2,366
Sieber & Co.	932
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	238
Varenne & Co.	883
Vivanti Bros.	877
Kito Gomei-Kaisha	2,856
Doshin Kaisha	635
Mitsu Bussan Kaisha	884
J. Ishii	199
Total	18,576

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 22.

Punjom Mining shares were sold to-day at $2.50.

Kirin Breweries have sellers at *yen* 150. *Engine* and Iron Works are quiet at *yen* 207.50. Grand Hotels are obtainable at *yen* 240. Buyers offer *yen* 230. Oriental Hotels—Offers for founders, old and new shares, are wanted. Langfeldts—A few shares can be had at *yen* 90. Helms were sold to-day at *yen* 61 for forward delivery. Laundries have sellers at par.

Debentures—Offers for Laundries are wanted.

Offers for Hodogaya (Tokyo) Breweries are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	107 50 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	150 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd , ¥100	240 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100.....	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	215 N.
Brett & Co , Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd , ¥100	90 S.
Helm Bros , ¥50.....	60 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd , ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb , ¥100..	107 S.
Brett & Co , Ltd 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	100
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb , ¥100 ...	106 N.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.....	99 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N.
Maples Hotel, preference shares ¥100.....	107 S.

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A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, November 22.

Grand Hotels, sellers at *yen* 240; buyers at *yen* 230. Japan Breweries, sellers at 150, buyers at *yen* 145. Langfeldts, sellers at *yen* 90. Club Hotels have sellers at *yen* 85.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207.50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	240 Sellers.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	150 Sales.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, November 22.

Silver from London $\frac{1}{16}$ lower and sterling quotations from China ¼ lower, causing local rates on China to rule firmer, but no change otherwise.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0 3/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 5/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49 3/8
— Private 4 months' sight	50 3/8
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	*334% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*⅛% prem.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 69
— Private 10 days' sight	* 71
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London 19th)	29 1/16

* Nominal.

TOKUMIYA.

BROKER IN LOAN BONDS, DEBENTURES, SHARES, AND STOCKS.

Cash and time transactions.

No. 1, KABUTOCHO, NIHONBASHI-KU, TOKYO.

TELEPHONE NO. 921, NANIWA OFFICE.

MEAN PRICES OF SHARES AND STOCKS FOR DIRECT DELIVERY.

Tokyo, Nov. 22.

	YEN.
Redemption Loan Bonds	92 70
War Loan Bonds	92 70
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	95 70
N'ppon Ginko—paid up yen 200	408 00
Japan Industrial Bank—paid up yen 50	61 70
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	163.30
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 75	90 30
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	69.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	62.50
Fifteenth Bank—paid up yen 100	95.50
Teikoku Shogyo Bank—paid up yen 25	32.60
Japan Railway—paid up yen 50	72.50
Japan Railway, 7th issue—paid up yen 44	62.00
Japan Railway, 8th issue—paid up yen 12.50	22.90
Kobu Railway—paid up yen 45	98.00
Kobu Railway, new—paid up yen 25	68.00
Sanyo Railway—paid up yen 47	53 10
Kansai Railway—paid up yen 50	40.00
Kyushu Railway—paid up yen 50	52.00
Kyushu Railway, new—paid up yen 45	30.00
Hokkaido Colliery Railway—paid up yen 50	81.70
Hokkaido Colliery R'way 2nd issue—paid up yen 33	73 20
Sobu Railway—paid up yen 50	72 60
Narita Railway—paid up yen 50	32 70
Boso Railway—paid up yen 50	14 80
Toyokawa Railway—paid up yen 50	50.00
Nanao Railway—paid up yen 37 50	25.00
Hokuyetsu Railway—paid up yen 50	24 0
Kyoto Railway—paid up yen 38	29.60
Chugoku Railway—paid up yen 31	7 80
Tobu Railway—paid up yen 23	19 00
Tokyo Electric Car—paid up yen 50	187.00
Tokyo Electric Car, new—paid up yen 25	174.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	66.10
Osaka Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 25	24.50
Toyo Kisen Kaisha—paid up yen 24	25.60
N ppon Shosen Kaisha—paid up yen 29	23 50
Yokohama Dock—paid up yen 25	39.00
Yokohama Dock, new—paid up yen 20	32 00
Domestic Transport—paid up yen 60	38 00
Japan Weaving—paid up yen 40	16.00
Osaka Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	179 50
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	148 50
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	122.70
Tokyo Merchandise Exchange—paid up yen 25	87 00
Tokyo Electric Light—paid up yen 50	43.90
Shinagawa Electric Light—paid up yen 30 50	23 00

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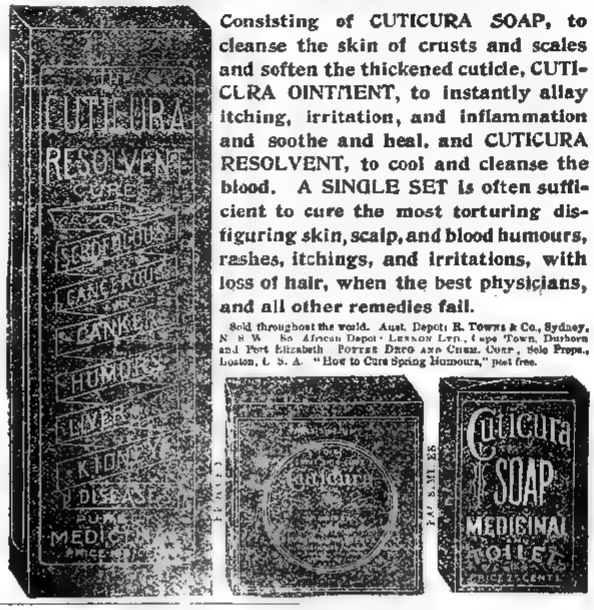

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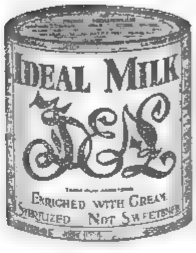

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YOKOHAMA—5.30, 6.10, 6.45, 7.19, 8.30, 8.55, 9.35, 10.15, 10.50, 11.35, a.m.; 12.20, 12.57, 1.30, 2, 2.36, 3.10, 3.55, 4.33, 5.15, 5.33, 6.20, 7.21, 8, 9.13, 10, 10.50, and 11.15 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—5.20, 5.50, 6.50, 7.55, 8.30, 8.45, 9.25, 10.10, 10.45, 11.25 a.m., 12, 1.10, 1.40, 2.20, 3, 3.25, 4, 4.35, 5.10, 5.25, 6.24, 7, 7.35, 8.25, 9.20, 10.35, and 11.20 p.m.

(毎土曜日一回發行)

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 1ST, 1900.

DEATH.

Suddenly on Saturday, the 24th ult., at 7 p.m., Mr. E. KNAFF.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Czar is steadily improving in health.

ANOTHER plot has been discovered in Pretoria to assassinate Lord Roberts.

THE death occurred on Wednesday of Mr. A. C. Sim, a well-known resident of Kobe.

THE Metropolitan Police Bureau are conducting investigations preparatory to the issue of special bicycle regulations.

A COOLIE named Nakamura Tosakichi living at Nippon-bashi, Osaka, was attacked by pest on the 18th and died on the 21st ult.

SIPIDO, who attempted the life of the Prince of Wales, has been rearrested in Paris, and extradited and conveyed to a penitentiary in Brussels.

FOUR gamblers were arrested by the Isezakicho Police on the night of the 23rd ult. in an express shop at Miyagawa Rihachi, Otamachi Ichome, Yokohama.

ONE million dollars (gold) have been appropriated by the Manila Civil Service Commission for the improvement of the Outer Harbour and Lower Pasig.

A GOODS train ran off the Tokaido line at Hodogaya on the 22nd ult. at 5.30 a.m., and the passenger train leaving Shimbashi at 6.20 was delayed half an hour in consequence.

NINE new cases of dysentery were reported in Kanagawa on the 24th ult. The total number of patients since the outbreak is 2,951, deaths 689, now under medical treatment 202.

MR. KOMURA JUTARO, the new Minister to China, left St. Petersburg at the beginning of last month. He arrived at Vancouver on the 1st inst. and is expected at Yokohama on the 15th Dec.

TWO men who, armed with pistol and sword, entered a barber's shop at Kanagawa on Oct 27th and stole *yen* 40 with some articles of clothing, were arrested on the 22nd ult. by the Isezaki-cho police.

TANAKA FUSAJIRO, who absconded after stealing *yen* 2,900 from the safe of a Motohama-cho hotel, Yokohama, on the 17th was arrested on the 21st ult. by the Fukagawa police and sent to Yokohama.

DESPITE the Tokyo municipal scandal, operations preliminary to the improvement of Tokyo Bay have been going on, and it is believed that the work of sounding, etc., will be concluded in March next.

REAR-ADMIRAL BEARDSLEE, U.S.N., spoke before the Yokohama Literary Society on Wednesday, and gave some interesting personal reminiscences of the landing of Commodore Perry near Uraga 47 years ago.

A CARPENTER named Negishi Sobei, employed by Mr. Miyagawa Kozan, at Fujiyama-shita, Ota, Yokohama, attempted to commit suicide on the morning of the 26th ult. by cutting his throat with a knife.

ASSIST.-PAYMASTER J. S. BARBER, U.S.N., of the U. S. S. *Don Juan de Austria*, a nephew of President McKinley, died at Hongkong of typhoid fever on the 15th ult., greatly regretted. He had been married less than three months.

IT is feared that about 19 fishing junks with some 90 men on board were lost in the late typhoon near Lintin island, but the loss of life in Hongkong harbour turns out to be less than was feared. The *Benjamin Sewall* has been refloated.

A *sendo* named Mumehara Tokujiro, living at Sagacho Itchome, Fukagawa, Tokyo, killed a maid servant named Shiogame Mume, near Baron Shibusawa's godown, Fukuzumi-cho, on the evening of the 26th ult. He confessed his crime to the Fukagawa police station.

THE Red Cross hospital ships *Hakuai Maru* and *Kosai Maru* have been released from hospital duty and will resume their places on the N. Y. K. lines. The latter arrived at Yokohama on Friday and landed her medical staff of fifty-four persons, who left for Tokyo the same afternoon.

RAW silk to the value of over 500 *yen* was stolen on the night of Nov. 20th from a godown of the Shinyei Kabushiki Kaisha, Honcho San-chome, Yokohama. Two nights later a quantity of silk, including *zaguri*, *kikai-ito*, etc., valued at some 530 *yen*, with a quantity of wearing apparel, was carried away from the house of Amari Tomokichi at Hambara, Aikawa-mura, Kiko-gori, Kanagawa prefecture. No arrests have been made.

A WOMAN named Shiina Toku, living at Nogemachi Nichome, Yokohama, and six men were arrested by the police on the afternoon of the 26th ult. on a charge of selling lottery tickets.

LORD CURZON, in a recent speech on the Indian Famine, stated that there had been half a million deaths, that the loss on crops was fifty million pounds sterling, and that seven millions had been spent on relief. The outlook now, however, was brighter.

MR. SHIRAKAMI TEICHI, an employe of Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co., has been arrested at the Mankamero Hotel, Maiko, on a charge of embezzlement. He had been entrusted with *yen* 875 to pay to the Ohno Cement Co., but he only paid *yen* 300 and appropriated the balance.

A COOLIE named Nagatsuka Kenekichi, living at Kamiyacho, Shiba, Tokyo, while working on the 24th ult., at Toriizaka, Azabu, Tokyo, on land occupied by Mr. Asano Buhei, was buried beneath a landslip. He was dead when recovered. The man leaves a wife and child.

A MAN named Kato Tomejiro, formerly employed at the Yokohama Railway Station, stabbed his former wife, Semba Tazu, at Hanazakicho, Gochome, Yokohama, on the afternoon of the 24th ult. He was arrested at once by the Tobe Police. Tazu is receiving medical treatment at home.

A WOMAN named Akimoto Fuji, aged 21 years, living at Kita Kiyojimacho, Asakusa, Tokyo, was arrested by the Asakusa Police on the 25th ult., and charged with stealing clothes, &c., valued at *yen* 200, the property of Mr. Jusuke, Vice-President of the Nippon Railway Company, early on the morning of the 24th ult.

A TELEGRAM from the Governor of Miyazaki Prefecture, received by the Home Department on the 25th ult., states that at 5.55 p.m. that day an American sailing ship ran ashore on a sunken ledge of rock near Shimei Misaki, Naka-gori, in that Prefecture. The Governor sent officers and police to render aid.

THE British ship *Ellisland*, Capt. Brokenshaw, from New York for Yokohama, put into St. Michaels on the 1st Oct., with loss of fore, main, and mizzen topmasts. She also lost sails, smashed bulwarks, 30 ft. of stanchions, and two boats on the deck house top and bridges, and shifted cargo.

MESSRS. IDEURA and ASADA, acting as executors for the bankrupt estate of Messrs. Middleton and Smith now under attachment by the authorities, are stated to have forwarded to the Judge Administrator, Mr. Shidara, a report showing that the total assets of the firm amount to *yen* 118,229.683 and the liabilities to *yen* 235,481.435, the shortage thus being *yen* 117,231.752.

VISCOUNT FUJINAMI, the Emperor of Japan's Master of the Horse, and several members of the Japanese Legation, visited Windsor Castle on Oct. 10th., and were conducted through the Royal residence by Mr. Leonard Collmann the Queen's Inspector of the Palace. The visitors had previously seen the Albert and St. George's Chapels. Viscount Fujinami is travelling though Europe for the purpose of purchasing horses and cattle of special breeds for his Imperial master. He has already visited France, and gone through Scotland and various parts of England, making extensive purchases. We learn from a London paper that on Oct. 12th he was to leave for Russia, whence he returns to Japan.

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THE GARDEN PARTY IN UYENO PARK.

The garden party in Uyeno Park to welcome Rear Admiral and Mrs. Beardslee was very successfully held on the 25th ultimo; a beautiful, balmy day adding much to the enjoyment of the guests, of whom about five hundred were present. Drawn up on either side of the entrance gate was a party of *samurai* dressed in the armour of feudal times, thus recalling Japan as Admiral Beardslee found her when he accompanied Commodore Perry 47 years ago. There was a very interesting collection of objects, mementoes of that memorable time, among them being a screen adorned with chromozylographs showing the events attending Perry's coming, a picture of the defences of Uraga, another of the entertainment given to Perry and his companions by the Bakufu Government, and some electrical and surveying instruments presented to the Japanese by the Commodore. Marquis Saigo spoke a few words in welcome of the Admiral, who replied very briefly. Mr. Fukuzawa, speaking through his son Mr. Fukuzawa Ichitaro, who used the English language, referred to the feelings of the Japanese nation at the time of Commodore Perry's coming. No one doubted for a moment that the purpose of the foreigners was to seize Japanese territority. When Perry sailed away without doing anything, the suspicions of the Japanese were still further aroused. They imagined that he had come to spy out the land and that he would return with a strong force. That suspicion became stronger when he arrived a year later with a considerable squadron of ships, and the relief felt was great after he departed, having been content to sign a treaty. Mr. Fukazawa spoke in very high terms of Perry, whom he characterized as a man of judgment, benevolence, and moderation. He also alluded to the fact that 7 years after they had seen a steamer for the first time, the Japanese began to study navigation, and that five years later they were able to cross the Pacific in steamers of their own. Japan was not the uncivilized country that foreigners generally supposed. Her traditional antipathy for foreign ways had rendered her exclusive, but in reality she was not semi-savage or inhospitable. If a man without Perry's high qualities had come as ambassador, there could be no doubt that a terrible conflict would have occurred. There were two millions of *samurai* in Japan, every one of whom would have gladly laid down his life for his country, and though foreign nations might have overpowered them, the struggle would have been long and bloody. It must indeed be regarded as a dispensation of providence that this difficult mission fell to the lot of a man like Perry, and Japan had much reason to be thankful that America, which chose and despatched such an envoy, was her nearest neighbour. During all the time that had elapsed since then, Japan's relations with America had been one unbroken record of friendship. Mr. Fukuzawa paid also a high tribute to the wisdom and courage of Abe Ise-no-kami, the illustrious Japanese Minister who had established friendly relations with foreign countries, and said that it was owing to the far-seeing liberality of Perry and Abe that he, Fukuzawa, had been able to live a student's life and to witness, now in his old age, the prosperity and happiness that had resulted from their wise policy. He concluded by expressing the great pleasure it must afford all Japanese to welcome Admiral Beardslee who had been one of Perry's companions on that memorable occasion, and he lamented that illness made it impossible for him to attend in person at the ceremony of welcome. Dr. Kato Hiroyuki then spoke, his speech being translated into English by Mr. Takahashi of the *Japan Times*. He said that he was 17 years of age in 1853 when Commodore Perry arrived. Japan was then persuaded of the necessity of keeping foreigners at arm's length, and when she began to study their material civilization it was with the idea of equipping herself to drive them out. But she had gradually laid aside that prejudice, and her better mood had been largely educated by the forbearance and tact of Commodore Perry, and by the profound wisdom and conscientious diplomacy of Mr. Townsend Harris. He welcomed Admiral Beardslee as one of those whose coming had conferred such benefits on Japan, and he expressed the hope that the friendship hitherto existing between Japan and America might never be weakened or disturbed. After these speeches a collation was served, and the guests having witnessed various forms of entertained, dispersed at about 4 o'clock.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha completed the fifteenth year of its existence on the 30th of September. The Directors are said to have determined that the history of the company's career during that period shall be compiled, and that memorial cups shall be presented to the shareholders and promoters. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha is now an institution of which Japan has reason to be proud, and the Directors are well advised, we think, in taking these steps.

We read in the *Chino Shimbun* that there is talk of a large development of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's business. The great company's affairs are said to be very prosperous. In addition to paying a dividend of 10 per cent., there is to be an extra dividend of 2 per cent. The ordinary reserve now amounts to 6 million *yen*, the reserve for the equalization of dividends is 1⅔ millions, to which about 1⅔ millions will now be added, making a total of 9 millions. Some of the big shareholders are said to be urging that steps should be taken to turn this large sum to better account, for which purpose the company should extend its business in Chinese waters by buying up the steamers of the China Merchants S. N. Company, which can probably be obtained on reasonable terms. The idea is that the company's capital should be increased by 10 million *yen*, bringing the total to 31 millions, the increment being obtained by taking 5 millions from the reserves and by issuing new shares, which would be allotted to the present shareholders in the proportion of two new 50 *yen* shares to each holder of one old share, the sum to be called up on the new shares being 25 *yen* each.

VICE-ADMIRAL VISCOUNT NIREI.

We learn with much regret that Vice-Admiral Viscouut Nirei died on the 22nd ultimo at his residence in Tokyo in his seventy-first year. Before his decease, the Viscount was honoured with the Grand Collar of the Rising Sun, and raised to the First Rank of the Second Grade. Admiral Nirei was one of the original organizers of Japan's modern navy, and he took an important part in mapping out the post-bellum programme of armaments expansion. Few officers were more respected and beloved. He had been ailing since last summer, but we are not acquainted with the nature of his illness.

FUTURE MISSIONARY POLICY IN CHINA.

Missionary enterprise has received a severe shock in China. Not only has there been a fierce outbreak against certain forms of Christianity, but also the machinery of propagandism has been dislocated by the destruction of stations and churches, and the wholesale murder of missionaries. Even more serions, according to the view of some people, is the effect that the Boxer uprising has exercised upon a section of public opinion in Europe and America. Many men have been led to doubt whether it is really wise in the best interests of humanity to send teachers of Christianity amoug a people so bitterly opposed to them as the Chinese are, thus inviting scenes such as those recently witnessed, and some observers have gone so far as to say that they will no longer contribute to the support of missions. Under these circumstances the Presbyterian Board in America resolved to summon a conference for discussing the situation and determining what steps should be taken. The conference met in New York on the 21st September. Thirty-two delegates assembled, representing nearly all the leading Protestant bodies of America, and the result of their deliberations is now before us in the form of a report prepared by the Rev. A. J. Brown. It need scarcely be said that the unanimous opinion of the conference was in favour of continuing the work of propagandism with unabated vigour. No other decision was to be expected for a moment. The sufferings of the Christian missionaries and the Christian converts in China have been small compared with the massacres and trials that mark the history of the religion in the past. If such incidents had power to shake the strength of propagandism, Christianity would have been moribund long ago. The task is therefore to be resumed, and greater efforts than ever will be made to enlist the assistance of the public. How to succour the unfortunate missionaries in China who have lost everything, houses, clothing and chattels, and who are living as fugitives in various parts of Japan and at the open ports in China, is a question that evidently caused the conference much thought. We hear nothing of these much-to-be-pited people. It is not the missionary's habit to complain. Yet many of them must be in serious straits. It does not appear that any definite plan for the assistance of the sufferers was devised by the conference. On the other hand, it was unanimously resolved that no claim should be made upon the Chinese Government for indemnities on account of loss of life, unless the means of support for wife and children had been destroyed. Compensation is to be sought only for the actual value of property destroyed or injured, and for extraordinary expenses incurred in consequence of the trouble. No pecuniary assessment is to be made of a missionary's life.

Incidentally the conference discussed the question of the missionary's relation to the civil power, and came to the conclusion that, for the sake of enabling the public to distinguish clearly between the practices of the Roman Catholics and the Protestants in this respect, a committee should be appointed to compile a clear record. Meanwhile, one missionary declared that during 20 years in China he had not appealed to the civil authorities more than half-a-dozen times; another, that in 8½ years he had communicated with the authorities only twice; a third, only once in 8 years; a fourth, once in 18 years; and a fifth not even once in 19 years.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

China at the Mercy of all Comers.

Tuesday, Nov. 27.

It is stated that the peace terms formulated by the Foreign Representatives having been transmitted to the Chinese officials in Si-ngan, have provoked much discussion. General Tung is represented as offering vehement opposition to the proposal for levelling the forts between Peking and the sea. He may well oppose such a measure. The meaning of it is that Peking must cease to be the capital of China. The Court would surely refuse to establish itself in a city which had purposely been rendered accessible to foreign military assault. We have several times dwelt upon the objections that present themselves to the policy of disarming and disabling China. Unless the Powers are prepared to neutralize her territory and guarantee its security, they will be taking a most short-sighted step when they deprive her of all means of self-defence. What assurance have they, what assurance can they possibly have, that they will all remain permanently in their present mood—their alleged mood—of refraining from territorial aggression? Three or four years hence, fresh complications may occur, and indeed are pretty sure to occur, between China and some Western Power, Russia for example. Suppose, then, that Russia asserts herself by invading Chinese territory, which of the European Powers will step forward to afford to China the protection which they have all combined to deprive her of capacity to furnish on her own account? Consistency is the last thing that history has taught us to anticipate in the dealings of nations with each other, unless it be consistency in the arbitrary aggressiveness of the strong against the weak. Yet it would be difficult to find in any previous page of history examples of such glaring inconsistencies as have disfigured the dealings of Europe with the Far East, since the day when the Triple Alliance tendered "friendly advice" to Japan. Without looking too far back, however, we may be permitted to recall one fact, namely, the blame that was heaped upon Japan's head for having exposed China's hopeless weakness in 1894-5. Foreign critics naïvely accused Japan at that time of having demoralized the world by showing to it the tempting opportunity for territorial thefts and international plundering that the wide domain of China presented. "It will be all your fault," they said, "if we show ourselves unable to resist the temptation of grasping at the dishonest gains that you have proved to be within easy reach." Curious as the charge was, it could not be called altogether groundless. But now what is it that the Western Powers themselves propose to do? They propose to strip China totally of all warlike panoply and lay her naked before the tender mercies of nations which avowedly can not rely on their own morality in the presence of temptation; nations which, even when China stands armed with a very considerable power of resistance, are yet haunted with apprehensions of each other's sinister designs against her. Can anything human be more certain than that the disarming of China would be the prelude to her partition? The London *Spectator*, true to its creed, opposes the project of disarmament because Japan's grasp would thereby be tightened upon her neighbour. We shall be much surprised if Japan is not the most prominent opponent of the disarmament proposal. Her people sincerely condemn the notion of partition, and that partition could be averted in the sequel of disarmament, no thoughtful person can possibly expect. It would be simply a case of stripping China preparatory to dissecting her.

The Indemnity.

It is stated by a Shanghai correspondent telegraphing to the *Asahi Shimbun* that Li Hung-chang has addressed to the Governor of each province of China an inquiry whether he can undertake to furnish a sum of 30 million taels annually for a period of 50 years, the money being required to indemnify foreign countries. There are 17 provinces in China. Hence it would seem that the Viceroy contemplates a yearly levy of 510 million taels. The story is ridiculous, unless we assume that his Excellency is "opening his mouth wide," as the Chinese say, knowing that he will obtain only a fraction of what he asks for. Under any circumstances, the reflection is suggested that when the peaceful citizens of 17 provinces are asked to pay large sums by way of atonement for the evil doings of the Boxers in Chili and Shantung, their love for the foreigner will not be increased. And with reference to that it may be mentioned that rumour represents the orderly inhabitants of Chili as being on the verge of insurrection, since they find it quite impossible to obtain protection against the depredations of the foreign troops.

Saturday, Nov. 24.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has a telegram saying that the recent punitory edicts issued by the Chinese Court were a mere blind, and that orders have been given to the Southern Viceroys and Governors to prepare for war, the arsenal at Nanking also being vigorously engaged manufacturing arms. It is probable that little importance need be attached to this news. China may be endeavouring to pull herself together. Very likely she is. But why not? The allied Powers are continually carrying on hostile operations against her, and their Representatives in Peking are gradually elaborating a catalogue of demands which she will find almost insuperable difficulty in satisfying. It is very natural under such circumstances that she should see her only hope in preparing, at any rate, to renew the struggle should an intolerable alternative be presented for her acceptance. Viceroy Li is reported to have said that the foreign demands are becoming unreasonably numerous, and that if he presents such a list to the Court, there will not be the smallest hope of inducing the latter to return to Peking. That intelligence, however, is accompanied by a comment that Li is probably "trying it on." After all, he has good reason not to remain too complacent. Meanwhile, there comes another statement, said to be founded on information obtained by German missionaries, that the administrative power remains in the hands of Prince Twan just as completely as ever, and that the Court has no competence to take any genuinely punitive measures against the instigators. All edicts such as those of the 13th instant, are therefore to be treated with suspicion. Such advice points to only one conclusion, namely, that the foreign Powers must either abandon the idea of obtaining the effective punishment of the instigators, or must insist on having them given over for the infliction of the death penalty at foreign hands. The latter alternative would inevitably involve more fighting. The Court can not and will not surrender these men, and if it comes to a military expedition for the purpose of capturing them, one of the most difficult problems ever proposed to a commanding officer will have to be solved by the person who organizes and leads the flying column. There is a report that the Foreign Representatives in Peking have already drawn up a list of the men to be punished. Assuredly these Representatives are guided by principles of high justice, but if they have obtained sufficient evidence to pass sentence of death upon a number of high Chinese officials, it seems a pity that the public is not taken into their confidence. Trials with closed doors and all secret judicial proceedings tend to invite suspicion.

A telegram from Berlin, dated the 20th of November, says that the German Chancellor, speaking in the Diet on the 19th instant with reference to the Chinese affair, explained the course of events up to the present and the policy pursued by Germany. He also devoted himself to disputing the idea that the trouble in China had its origin in the occupation of Kiao-chow by Germany, and he proceeded in the following strain:—"The taking of Kiao-chow by Germany did not give any offence to China greater than that due to the taking of other territory by another country. Germany obtained Kiao-chow by peaceful means and in accordance with agreement. She has always shown herself friendly to China. The best proof of this is the assistance rendered by her to China four years ago when the latter was beaten to her knees by another Power. The present disturbance in China is directed not against one foreign Power in particular but against foreigners in general. The civilization of Europe, to which Japan with her cleverness and with a brilliant future before her, has given her adherence, was threatened by the Boxer insurrection. Germany's policy in China is not one of violent enterprise. Her sole aim is to secure her rights and interests and to assert her prestige. Whatever Government comes forward in China to restore order, and to compensate for the injuries hitherto inflicted, will be welcomed by Germany. So long as other Powers do not undertake anything beyond that policy, Germany will continue to cooperate with them as at present. Germany has not the slightest intention, nor has she any reason, to overstep the provisions of the treaty concluded with China in 1899. Still less does she aim at any territorial aggression. Unless unavoidable circumstances compel her, she does not wish to be a party to a policy of partition. She has more than enough territory already in Shantung for prosecuting all the commercial and industrial enterprises contemplated by her. Her sentiments towards China are governed by the principle of 'live and let live.' This is the gist of the new Anglo-German agreement, which the various Powers have already endorsed, and they also will abide by the provision that no territorial advantages will be sought." His Excellency then went on to explain to the Diet the conditions embodied in the public document which had been elaborated by the Foreign Representatives in Peking by mutual agreement. He also spoke with reference to the appointment and despatch of Field Marshal Waldersee, and other matters, and concluded by declaring that Germany would not adopt any independent course, whether military or diplomatic, for the purpose of maintaining her position in the Far East.

Monday, Nov. 26.

We do not seem to get any nearer to a settlement of the China complication. Light may burst upon the situation from some

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quarter now unforeseen, but for the moment the gloom only deepens. A telegram in the *Jiji Shimpo* says that Japan and three other Powers have urged the Court to remove General Tung from Si-ngan as his presence there threatens to complicate matters and to postpone a settlement. We doubt whether any credence should be attached to this story, but it is evidently based on a conviction which all must share, namely, that Tung's personal interests do not make for the restoration of peace on terms acceptable to the allied Powers, and that, since he commands the only troops remaining available for the defence of the Court, his influence must be too great to be easily set aside. What is to be the outcome of it all? The problem may be called unique in the sense that of all the persons engaged in considering it, not one has been able to suggest a satisfactory solution. Each day seems to bring us nearer to the brute exit, partition.

The latest news of the Peking conference —apart from Reuter's ambiguous telegram— is that the Foreign Representatives are beginning to think that their project of demanding the execution of the "instigators" can not possibly be carried out unless the Powers assume the responsibility of themselves taking such military measures as shall ensure success. The British and American Governments especially are said to be opposed to the measure, being persuaded that even though recourse be had to arms, it will be quite hopeless to carry out the sentence in the case of all the persons indicated by the Powers. Thus the Representatives have come to doubt the wisdom of their demand, and are now said to earnestly debating some alternative course. We think it more than probable that the practical common sense of the British Government has asserted itself at this juncture, and that the futility of preferring such a demand has been recognised in London. But we are bound to say that the first objection on this score was raised, not by England, but by Japan. It has been fully understood in Tokyo from the very outset that to call upon China to execute Prince Twan, Prince Chwang and the other so-called instigators, would be to impose upon the Government of that country a task plainly beyond its strength, and that if the Powers were determined to have the heads of these men, an allied army must be sent to take them. There is reason to believe, too, that strong representations in that sense were made by Japan to the various Governments. Indeed, if the Powers are now awakening to the unpractical nature of their chief demand, the credit of rousing them belongs to Japan. For our own part, we never laboured under the smallest illusion on this subject. We saw from the first that if such a demand were made a *sine quâ non*, the negotiations must fail, and we can not account for the pertinacity shown by the Foreign Representatives in adhering to it except on the supposition that the sufferings they and their nationals endured during the siege in Peking have created an atmosphere of revenge through which the truth becomes difficult to discern.

The telegraph says that the detachment of foreign troops sent to succour the missionaries in Chang-kia-kow, found itself sandwiched between a thousand Chinese troops under General Ho and a body of Boxers at Sieun-fah. The enemy, however, made no attack, but dispersed during the night

It is alleged that Germany has instructed her Representative in Peking in the sense that the envoy whom China proposes to send to Germany to apologise for the murder of Baron von Ketteler must be an imperial prince. That appears to us to be a very proper requirement. Baron von Ketteler represented his Sovereign at the Chinese Court, and China's regret for the Minister's assassination should be conveyed by a personage of imperial rank.

Fugitives from Mukden state that the Russian soldiers in that place, under pretext of expelling the Bazouks, make frequent incursions to the neighbouring villages, where they commit all sorts of depredations. The Russian Authorities take no steps to prevent these disorders and will not listen to any complaints preferred by the inhabitants. Such is the story telegraphed from Newchwang

Rumours continue to be circulated about the Empress Dowager's illness. She is said to be growing worse, and the possibility of her decease seems to be contemplated. The Empress Dowager is now well on in years. She must have suffered severely during the flight from Peking The hardships of that journey killed Kang Yi, and incapacitated several other aged officials. Her Majesty's decease would greatly change the situation. It may be assumed that the Progressists would at once raise this heads.

It is stated that Prince Ching and Viceroy Li are much perturbed about the question of giving effect to any arrangement they may conclude with the Foreign Representatives, since, in effect, General Tung stands between them and the Throne.

Wednesday, Nov. 28.

No light yet presents itself. The telegraph says that the Foreign Representatives have endorsed the proposal for reorganization of the *Tsung-li Yamèn*, and for the establishment of a fixed system of etiquette to govern the reception of Foreign Ministers by the Emperor Such reforms should not be difficult to obtain, and every one must sympathise with them, for the *Tsung-li Yamèn*, as at present constituted, is a machine for obstructing business, not for expediting its discharge. But the trouble is that if the Foreign Representatives continue their incubation of the negotiation egg much longer, it is likely to emerge addled. There appears to be no end to the addition of supplements and corollaries Li Hung-chang is said to have expressed the opinion that it will be difficult to give effect to the proposals thus far formulated, and we can not but think that his forecast is just. Meanwhile it appears that there is division of opinion about the advisability of an armistice, and the *Shogyo Shimpo* has a London telegram saying that the German Diet has endorsed the principle of not desisting from warlike operations until the treaty of peace is finally concluded. We do not see, for our own part, what the allies hope to gain by sending their troops hither and thither in Chili, where they meet with no opposition from Chinese soldiers. If the object were to make territorial acquisitions, such procedure would be intelligible, but the chief sufferers by these military marchings and countermarchings are probably the peaceful inhabitants, who already have enough to complain of in all conscience. It is possible, however, that the Peking Conference may adopt a resolve against continuing operations against the Boxers, at all events in the vicinity of Peking and Tientsin. A proposal in that sense is said to have been submitted

Viceroy Liu, replying to a representation made by Admiral Seymour with regard to the Court's return to Peking, is reported to have said that General Tung, whose troops are guarding Si-ngan, opposes such a step and that the Ministers of the Crown fear to urge it, least Tung should resort to extreme measures against them. Tung has now replaced Twan as controller of the situation

It is stated that the French Government has asked for some territory adjoining the foreign settlement in Canton, in consideration of the services rendered by French marines in suppressing the Triads. That is a rumour requiring much confirmation. The Triads are not suppressed. They are very far from being suppressed, if rumour may be credited, and, for the rest, the French Government is not at all likely to have taken such a step.

Stories are now beginning to circulate with reference to the credentials of Prince Ching and Viceroy Li. The German Minister is said not to have yet examined them, and the Russians are reported to have independently recognised them. We mention this story as part of the current talk of the hour, but we attach no credit to it.

Thursday, Nov. 29.

The railway from Shan-hai-kwan to Tongku is said to be very nearly repaired, and it is expected that traffic over it will be resumed before the end of this month With regard to the line from Yang-tsung to Peking, which was much injured by the Boxers, the first section has been repaired by Japanese engineers, and they are now about to undertake the second. The present calculation is that the whole route from Shan-hai-kwan to Peking will be in working order before the Peiho is entirely frozen. Thus, for the first time, Tientsin and Peking will be easily accessible throughout the winter, for a passenger landing at Shan-hai-kwan, can take the train for the rest of his journey. The only difficulty will be to find communication between Shan-hai-kwan, for although some steamers will doubtless be running for military purposes, the transport of ordinary merchandise will cease almost entirely.

Friday, Nov. 30.

Colonel Shiba has arrived at Tientsin *en route* for Shan-hai-kwan. He is on a tour of railway inspection, and his visit to Shan-hai-kwan is for the purpose of establishing there the winter head-quarters of the commissariat It is understood that Colonel Shiba will have the direction of the transport arrangements for the Japanese force during the winter.

Rumour says that although the health of the Japanese forces remained good during the campaign, *kakke* subsequently made its appearance among them and has spread with considerable rapidity. It is on that account that several detachments have returned to Ujina, reliefs being sent in their place.

It is said that only three of the Occidental Governments have approved the scheme of negotiations drawn up by the Foreign Representatives in Peking, the others not having yet answered. There had been a hope that the negotiations would be formally opened on the first Monday in December, but that prospect has now disappeared. On the other hand, the action taken by the United States Government in recommending a more lenient policy is the most hopeful incident hitherto recorded. If the Powers would abandon the idea of insisting upon the execution of dignitaries whose guilt in an unknown quantity, and if they would

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abandon the singular policy of stripping China of all means of self-defence, and setting her up naked to every wind of aggression, there would be some chance of a satisfactory settlement.

At Admiral Seymour's interview with Viceroy Liu on the 25th instant, it is stated that the Viceroy, while not denying that the instigators of the Boxer outbreak deserved severe punishment, urged that the Chinese Government could not possibly give effect to the demands of the Powers in this respect, and that the restoration of peace and the return of the Court to Peking must be indefinitely delayed unless a less heroic course were adopted.

A London telegram, published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, says that the Powers have endorsed the proposal put forward by Sir Ernest Satow for a revision of the commercial treaty with China, and also the Italian Representative's proposal that the indemnity should be fixed at 60 million taels. It seems to us quite obvious that this telegram is incorrect, so far, at least, as the amount of the indemnity is concerned. Sixty million taels would not begin to pay the expenses incurred by the Powers. Probably sixty million pounds sterling is the real amount. Concerning the question of treaty revision, we can only repeat our conviction that the introduction of such a subject will greatly postpone a final settlement, and will entail many troublesome complications.

Rumours continue to be persistently circulated that Marshal Waldersee's methods are causing much discontent. The commander-in-chief is said to take his decisions and to issue his orders without any previous consultation with the officers commanding the force of other nations. It is in consequence of this method of procedure that the expediency of breaking up the general council has been strongly advocated, the supporters of that step claiming that the Field-Marshal's supreme command was intended to be for belligerent purposes only, and that no occasion exists any longer for subordination to him. We suspect that Count von Waldersee has a very difficult task to perform; probably the most difficult that ever fell to the lot of a commanding officer.

It was scarcely necessary for Reuter to telegraph that Japan concurred with America in advocating a more lenient policy Japan is understood to have been opposed from the first not only to the idea of demanding that the instigators should be handed over to the Powers for punishment, but also to the proposal that the Chinese Government should be required to do what it could not possibly be expected to accomplish, namely, to cut off the heads of imperial princes in obedience to the demand of foreign Powers. Japan is far better acquainted with the real state of affairs existing in China and far more conversant with the springs of Chinese political action, than any of the Powers of the Occident. That they are now coming round to her way of thinking, is only natural since they have had time to reflect.

The Emperor Francis Joseph has conferred, posthumously, the Knight's Cross of the Order of Leopold, with the war decoration, upon the late Captain Edward Thomann von Montalmar, Commander of the *Zenta*, who fell in the defence of the Peking Legations. This gives his widow a claim to the rank of Baroness.

POLITICAL PICTURES.

Hanging on the gallery of the Bijutsu-in at Uyeno there are two pictures which attract wide attention, not only on account of their exceptional dimensions but also because of the very exceptional nature of the subjects represented. The scene chosen by the artist in one case is the enclosure of a large Chinese *yamên*, evidently intended to represent the residence of a high official or a wealthy merchant. Within this compound a number of foreign soldiers are engaged looting property, massacring peaceful, unarmed Chinese, binding and beating women and slaughtering children. One man holds up a little child by the foot and a comrade thrusts a sword into its stomach, while another pierces the neck of an old man who has bowed his head upon the ground praying for mercy. Several officers are taking part in these hideous proceedings. The picture is revolting The painter has no manner of skill as an artist, but such terrible incidents need little elaboration. He is at all events sufficiently familiar with military uniforms to dress his figures in such a manner that no doubt of their nationality is possible, though in the eyes of the average Japanese they will appear merely as foreigners. The other picture, hanging beside the former, represents a body of Japanese troops, treating the Chinese with the utmost kindness and even bestowing gifts on them. We may add that small pictures of the former type have been for some time on sale in the Tokyo bazaars

THE FRENCH AND KRUGER.

We do not find it at all strange that the people of Paris should give a great reception to ex-President Kruger. After all, the old man has made a fine fight. Had he not attempted to support his cause by a campaign of persistent falsehood, his name would go down to posterity as that of a heroic leader of men. The French, as has been well said by an English philosopher, are conspicuous among nations for their tendency to sympathise with the weak against the strong, and it would be very unlike them to suffer Kruger to pass through the streets of their capital without a demonstration of welcome which is, in effect, a shout of applause for the stand he has made, mingled with not unnatural satisfaction that a nation so prosperous and often so imperious as the English should have met with a rebuff. It is true that Kruger declaiming against oppression—as the telegraph says he has done—is a spectacle which the artistic Frenchman must secretly view with amusement, for the Boers stand before the world in the light of people notorious for cruel and implacable oppression of a weaker nation. However, France is not in a logical mood at the moment, and after she has wearied her lungs with acclamations for Oom Paul, she will probably begin to laugh at herself. The only really regrettable incident of the affair is that President Loubet should have given an official reception to Kruger That seems to us to have been very injudicious, and there is ground to fear that it will be angrily viewed in England. There is not the slightest reason to anticipate that France will take up the cause of the Boers. Kruger will find himself egregiously mistaken if he interprets in that sense the plaudits he is receiving from irresponsible crowds But there has been so much soreness between England and France, that President Loubet might well have exercised greater caution. He seems to have forgotten that he is President of the French Republic.

TOKYO MUNICIPALITY.

The Tokyo City Council is said to be contemplating a further increase of taxation. It has hitherto levied 50 per cent. of the national tax, applying 40 per cent. to regular municipal outlays and the remaining 10 per cent. to ward expenses (*ku-hi*). But it now thinks of raising the rate to 60 per cent., and taking 50 for general purposes. Special permission will have to be obtained from the Department of Home Affairs before making the increase. No one will be surprised that heavier local taxes should be raised in Tokyo, since the citizens there pay less than they do in any other Japanese city. But it must be confessed that if the people of Tokyo are content with what they get for their money, they are singularly easy to satisfy. Our own experience of the manners and customs of Tokyo municipal officials shows them to be among the most obstructive and slowly moving public servants in the world, and when we observe the methods they adopt for making and repairing the streets, we are lost in astonishment. Enormous sums are squandered year after year in laying down roadways that can not possibly be approved by any competent engineer. A correspondent of this journal, Mr Gervase Holmes, who has given much attention to the subject, declares that he can do for 50 *sen* incomparably better work than that upon which the Municipality is spending 8 *yen*. We do not profess to be experts in road-making, but we can confidently say that in no part of the civilized world are such costly and incompetent devices adopted as in Tokyo.

"LOCAL TAXATION IN JAPAN."

Mr. J. Twizell Wawn, of Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Service, who seems to have made a specialty of that little-understood and somewhat deterrent subject, local government, has just issued a brochure giving an excellently clear and concise statement of the system of local taxation. This is a matter that has greatly puzzled many of our fellow-residents in Yokohama, and doubtless it has been found equally perplexing by people in Kobe. The latter, however, now that they have Mr. Wawn's book, which is written specially for Kobe, will no longer have any difficulty in knowing what they have to pay and why they are required to pay it. We do not mean to say that Mr. Wawn's work is not generally useful. On the contrary, he deals at first with the subject of local taxation as a whole, and his explanations suffice to convey an accurate idea of the system. But although the bases of taxation are uniform throughout the empire, the amounts actually levied depend on the discretion of each local assembly. Thus the local taxes on land and income may be levied up to a certain percentage of the national taxes on the same objects, but they may be less than that maximum according to the requirements of the locality, and similarly they may exceed it provided that the consent of the Minister of State for Finance be obtained It follows, therefore, that the taxes actually levied in a given locality can not be calculated from any statement of the rules generally applicable; it is necessary to know the rates applied in that locality. Mr. Wawn has made the exact calculation in Kobe's case, which will doubtless prove of great value to the foreign residents there. If any one would take the trouble and collect the information requisite to elaborate a similar statement for Yokohama, Nagasaki and Hakodate, he would be a public benefactor.

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THE LATE BARON VON KETTELER.

The public have doubtless been very curious to learn something of the evidence on the strength of which a statement has been several times made that the murder of Baron von Ketteler was part of a plan concerted by the Chinese Government for the assassination of all the Ministers; that they were all invited, as a matter of fact, to proceed to the *Tsung-li yamen*, the purpose being to slaughter them *en route*, and that they owed their salvation to their fortunate resolve not to accept the invitation, Baron von Ketteler alone going and alone meeting the fate which would otherwise have overtaken the whole body. That, we say, is the account hitherto circulated. and now for the first time, we are in a position to ascertain the grounds on which it is based. *The Times*' correspondent in Peking has furnished to that journal a remarkable account of the siege of the Legations, through which he himself passed. It is in the form of a diary, and its publication in London has justly been regarded as one of the "events" of the hour. Turning to the narrative for June 19th, we learn that, the Foreign Representatives received, at 4.30 on the afternoon of that day, an ultimatum from the Government requiring them to leave Peking within 24 hours. The Representatives resolved to obey this ultimatum, but to demand a prolongation of the time fixed, as it would be impossible for them to complete their preparations within 24 hours. They therefore addressed a joint note to the *Tsung-li Yamên*, signifying their willingness to leave the city, but asking for an interview in order to arrange the preliminaries. No answer having been received to this note, the Diplomatic Body held a meeting at the French Legation early on the morning of the 20th. At the meeting a proposition was made—by whom it is not stated—that all the Ministers should go to the Yamên, but it "found no seconder" and was therefore put aside. Shortly afterwards, however, Baron Von Ketteler set out for the *Yamên* and was murdered *en route*. The account of the affair given to *The Times*' correspondent by Mr. Cordes, the Chinese Secretary of the German Legation, who accompanied Baron Von Ketteler, is as follows :—

On the afternoon of the 19th of June I was sent to the Tsung-li-Yamên by Baron von Ketteler as on the previous day to demand once more the withdrawal of the Kan-suh troops of Tung-fuh sian stationed at a distance of a few paces from our posts in the electric light works. The Secretary, who received me, and whom I had known for many years, was extremely nervous. There had been a great change in the position, he said. The foreign admirals had taken the Taku forts, and it would be very hard to keep the Chinese troops in hand. Discussion seemed useless. I left my message for Yung Lu, the Grand Secretary, Commander in Chief, and came away. At 5 o'clock the ultimatum of the Tsung-li-Yamên was sent to the Ministers, giving them 24 hours' notice to leave Peking. Believing the note to have been inspired by an access of madness, and hoping that China might still be amenable to reason, Baron von Ketteler sent a note in the evening to the Yamên asking for an interview with the Princes and Ministers of the Yamên at 9 a.m the following morning The signed receipt of this note is now in the German Legation. On the morning of the 20th, no word having come from the Yamên that the Princes and Ministers would be unable to receive my Minister, Baron von Ketteler, after the conference with the other Ministers, and I set out for the Yamên in two chairs. An armed escort of a non-commissioned officer and four men was ready to accompany us, but the Baron decided that it was wiser to leave it behind, partly because the passage through the streets of armed foreign soldiers might arouse excitement, but mainly because the Tsung-li-Yamên knew that the Minister was coming, and would therefore ensure him the protection due to a foreign Envoy. We were both unarmed. Our chairs were accompanied by two Chinese outriders from the Legation. We left the French Legation, where the conference had been held, passed the Austrian Legation, then turned along the Ch'ang-An-street into the Hata Mên-street. Along the raised way in the centre of this street our chairs were carried, one mafoo as usual riding in front and the other behind. We passed the Arch of Honour near the Belgian Legation, and were close to the police station on the left. I was watching a cart with some lance-bearers passing before the Minister's chair, when suddenly I saw a sight that made my heart stand still. The Minister's chair was three paces in front of me. I saw a banner soldier, apparently a Manchu, in full uniform with a madarin's hat with a button and blue feather, step forward present his rifle within a yard of the chair window, level it at the Minister's head and fire. I shouted in terror, "Halt." At the same moment the shot rang out, the chairs were thrown down. I sprang to my feet. A shot struck me in the lower part of my body. Others were fired at me. I saw the Minister's chair still standing, but there was no movement. One moment's hesitation would have been fatal. I ran, wounded as I was, 50 paces to the north, and turned down the street to the east, a lively rifle fire following me. Looking back I saw the Minister's chair stil. standing. There was no sign of life. Believing myself to be in the street leading to the Tsungli-Yamen, I ran on thinking to report what had happened, and perhaps find protection. But it was not the street. Two men armed with lances pursued me but fearing I was armed left me. Then I resolved to try and reach the American Mission buildings near the Hata Mên Gate. Dripping with blood I dragged myself along, often down crowded streets filled with Chinese who witnessed my struggle without pity and without emotion, and without even replying to my question as to the direction. I overheard one man remark, "A foreigner who has got his deserts!" Then, in a quiet road, a peddlar, more humane than his countrymen, gave me the direction, and in half an hour after the murder of my Minister I reached the American Mission, and fell fainting at the entrance. My wounds were dressed, and I was carried back to the German Legation.

All the chair-bearers returned safely to the Legation and both the outriders. One had immediately after the assassination ridden on to the Tsung-li-Yamên, and seeing there a secretary whom he knew had informed him of the murder of the Minister

No Prince or Minister was at the Yamên, itself a suspicious circumstance, for it was the invariable custom when the Ministers could not be present to receive a foreign Envoy to send a messenger and request him not to come. That the messenger was not sent on this fatal morning, but the Minister drawn into an ambush, proves the complicity of the Chinese Government in the murder. The people who committed the murder were not brigands or men belonging to the irregular troops, but imperial banner troops in full uniform. The men detached for the murder took up their position near a police station under the jurisdiction of Chung Li, the military commanean ant of Peking. Incriminating documents, discovered in a "Boxer" camp, had been found proving the complicity of Chung La with the "Boxers" and his encouragement of a movement against foreigners, whom it was his province to protect. These were in the possession of the German Legation. Officials of the police station witnessed the murder. They knew well that the man to be murdered was the German Envoy—he Minister, not a private person, for if that had been the intention I would not have escaped The deed was not done by the "Boxers," for no attempt was made to harm the Chinese who accompanied us, which is quite contrary to the practice of the "Boxers," whose fury is equally excited against the foreigners as against the Chinese who eat the foreigners rice.

In conclusion, I affirm that the assassination of the German Minister was a deliberately-planned, premediated murder, done in obedience to the orders of high Government officials by an imperial bannerman

It will be observed at once from this account that the *Tsung-li Yomên* had neither invited the German Minister to attend nor made any acknowledgement of his intimation that he intended to call. That intimation was sent late on the evening of the 18th We can not say exactly at what hour, but it can scarcely have been earlier than 9 or 10 o'clock, for the Chinese ultimatum had been received at 5 p m, and a conference of the Foreign Representatives had been subsequently held, at which earnest deliberations took place and an important note was drafted for submission to the Chinese Government, all these events being antecedent to Baron von Ketteler's despatch of a letter announcing his desire to have an interview the next morning with the Princes and Ministers of the Yamên. The letter elicited no reply. A signed receipt was obtained from the clerk on duty, and there is not one jot of evidence to show that the contents of the letter became known to the Princes and Ministers during the night Nevertheless, on the following morning at 9 a.m., Baron von Ketteler, attended by his Secretary, Mr. Cordes, set out for the *Tsung-li Yamen*. "No word had come from the *Yamên* that the Princes and Ministers would be unable to receive him." Neither had there been any intimation that they expected him What happened in the streets, is told by Mr. Cordes, and his account renders it quite clear that the first, and doubtless the fatal, shot was fired, not by a Boxer, but by a "banner soldier, apparently a Manchu, in full uniform with a Mandarin's hat with a button and blue feather." These are the facts. On the strength of them Mr. Cordes affirms that "the Minister was drawn into an ambush"; that "the complicity of the Chinese Government in the murder is proved," and that "the assassination was a deliberately planned, premeditated murder, done in obedience to the orders of high Government officials." He had himself been informed on the preceeding day by the Secretary of the *Tsung-li Yamen* that "there had been a great change in the position," for "the foreign admirals had taken the Taku Forts." The Secretary, whom Mr. Cordes had "known for many years," was "very nervous," and he added that "it would be very hard to keep the Chinese troops in hand." By those troops, on the following day, the German Minister was murdered, and Mr. Cordes does not hesitate to assert that the murder was premeditated by the Government and that the troops were acting under its orders. Such a conclusion based on such evidence, appears to us singularly unwarranted. It is of a piece with another inference drawn by Mr. Cordes, namely, that the "officials of the police station knew well that the man to be murdered was the German Envoy—the Minister, not a private person.' On what evidence is that deduction founded? Why does Mr. Cordes hold that the police were implicated, and why that the Minister, not a private person, was the aim of the assassins? Concerning the police, his assumption is deduced from the one solitary fact that the soldiers who committed the murder were near a police station. Absolutely there is no other evidence of police complicity Concerning the hypothesis that the Minister, not a private person, was aimed at, the only evidence is that "if it had been the intention to kill a private person I would not have escaped." Now, almost simultaneously with the shooting of the Minister, Mr. Cordes received a shot in the lower part of his body; "others were fired at me," he says, and while he ran, wounded as he was, 50 paces to the north "a lively rifle fire followed him." Yet he alleges that there was no intention of killing him, and from the absence of such intention he infers that the Minister himself was the special object of the assassins. It is right to point out these extreme departures from anything like calm reasoning. Excitement, grief and suffering had probably rendered Mr. Cordes incapable of consecutive thought The same factors of disturbance were not without influence on *The Times* correspondent, for in his diary for the day of the assassination, he says that "the *Yamên* knew only too well whom they had murdered." Every allowance must be made for the state of mind of those that passed through the siege, but no allowance should be made

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for us if, without any cause for prejudice or excitement, we endorsed verdicts monstrously inconsistent with the testimony available. The plain fact seems to be that the assault of the Taku Forts by the allied squadron, created a sudden and unexpected situation with which the Chinese Government was quite unable to cope; that the Chinese troops took the law into their own hands, and that many things happened which the Government would not have permitted had its power been proportionate to its will.

IMPROVEMENTS IN COMMUNICATIONS.

Mr. Hoshi Toru, speaking at a council of first-class post-masters and telegraph-officials, said that the Department over which he presides will spend two million *yen* next year upon the development of means of communications. Three third-class post-offices are to be raised to second-class grade; a hundred additional third-class offices will be established, with arrangements to undertake telegraphic business also; fifty new post-boxes will be added; fifty telegraph offices will be organized at railway stations; one telegraph receipt-office will be established; and facilities for handling post-office orders will be furnished in all second-class post-offices and in fifty third-class. Mr. Hoshi also spoke strongly on the necessity of conducting post-office operations in accordance with business principles solely, and banishing every evidence of officialdom. He found that things were now managed in such a manner as to cause no little delay and inconvenience, and that the employés of the Department hesitated to discuss or advocate reforms through fear of offending the officials who would be affected thereby. These are just the sort of doctrines that the public desires to see advocated by a Minister of Communications. Mr. Hoshi may possibly find time to turn his attention to the matter of telephones also. It is really discreditable to the Department that something like two years should elapse between the time of applying for a telephone and the time of obtaining one.

ANOTHER LIBEL.

It was supposed that the *Yorozu Choho* had abandoned its wretched practice of battening upon the sale of slanders, but unfortunately the supposition proves incorrect. The "yellow journal" of Japan has atoned for its momentary adhesion to the ranks of respectability by publishing a foul libel against Marquis Ito and the officials of the Household Department. The matter would be wholly unworthy of reference had not the *Japan Gazette* translated the villainous paragraph into its columns, and thus, though justly denouncing it, imparted to it publicity and importance which it would not otherwise have enjoyed. Nothing is sacred in the eyes of the *Yorozu Choho*. Its unique aim is to create a sensation such as shall secure subscribers, and while perfectly conscious that the statements it invented against Marquis Ito were miserable lies, it published them for the mercenary sake of attracting attention to its own columns. Such phases of journalism are among the most depraved features of modern society. They illustrate the curiously crooked code that the acts of a man in his public capacity may be governed by special laws of morality, and that rascalities which, in private life, would entail ostracism from the company of all but criminals, may be perpetrated with impunity by a newspaper editor.

INCREASED TAXATION.

We have already mentioned that the Cabinet purposes to ask the Diet for an increase of certain taxes next year, the proximate object of the demand being to replace the sums defrayed from the reserves on account of the Chinese campaign. An interesting statement on this subject is made by the *Chuo Shimbun*. The reserves in question are the Naval Maintenance Reserve of 30 million *yen*; the Educational Reserve of 10 millions; and the Famine Relief Reserve of 10 millions. The Naval Maintenance Reserve is still intact, but as the whole of it will have to be temporarily disbursed in connexion with the second part of the *post-bellum* programme of expansion, it may be regarded as already pledged. From the two other reserves, a sum of 15 million *yen* has been hitherto defrayed on account of the China campaign, and it is expected that about the double of that figure will have to be paid out before the end of the year.

With regard, further, to these funds, nominally amounting to 50 million *yen*, the sum actually available for purposes of immediate outlay is only 20 million *yen*. That amount was held by the Treasury in specie at the time of the outbreak of the China complication, but the remaining 30 millions were in bonds of the 4 per cent. loan issued by Japan last year in London. Thus it may be said that the Government had only 20 millions in hand to meet the expenses of the Chinese campaign, and as fully 15 millions have been already paid out, there remains only an insignificant sum, the whole of which, together with probably 10 millions more, will be required for purposes actually in sight. Hence the necessity for recourse to increased taxation is obvious, since an indemnity from China, though possibly obtainable in the end, is not an asset that can be seriously counted on, and, at all events, will not be available for some time. The increase is to be in the taxes on *sake* and on sugar. The *sake* tax, at present 12 *yen* per *koku*, will be raised to 14 *yen*, giving an additional revenue of 20 millions, but as to the exact increment in the case of sugar, no figures are yet published. It has been alleged that the proceeds of these additions to taxation will leave a surplus which the Government intends to apply to new enterprises. Any intention of that kind is officially denied for the present. The proceeds of the taxes will be devoted wholly to restoring the three Reserves, and not until that has been fully accomplished will there be any question of new enterprises.

FORMOSA.

Mr. Goto, head of the Civil Government of Formosa, is represented as saying that during the six years which have elapsed since Japan obtained possession of Formosa, she has invested 140 million *yen* of public money in the island, and it is now yielding a revenue of 16,250,000 *yen*, or 15 per cent on the capital sunk. The main part of this revenue is obtained from the opium tax, the camphor monopoly, and the salt monopoly, which yield four millions each. Three years ago, when the present Governor-General went to Formosa, the revenue was only a little over 5 million *yen*, but there is every reason to think that it will soon amount to 20 millions. According to the financial scheme originally mapped out, the Central Government was to furnish 2 million *yen* annually for 20 years in aid of Formosa's administrative expenditures. But Mr. Goto believes that the 14th year from the inauguration of that system will see the payment reduced to 210,000 *yen*, when for the first time, Formosa will become self-supporting. The estimate of expenditures for next fiscal year is 22,000,000 *yen*, and the revenue is 16¼ millions, to which have to be added 2 millions contributed by the Central Government, leaving 3¾ millions of a deficit, which is to be covered by a loan. This sum of 22 millions includes the outlays on account of public works, which outlay is abnormally large this year, the Government having encountered opposition last year in its project for obtaining money. It will be necessary, therefore, to raise about 4 million *yen*, and it is for the purpose of obtaining parliamentary consent to that measure that Mr. Goto has come to Tokyo.

Speaking of the Bank of Formosa, Mr. Goto says that it is making excellent progress. Its deposits now amount to four million *yen*, and the manager, Mr Soyeda, says that his work is much more satisfactory than it was when he held the post of Vice-Minister of Finance.

With regard to railways, the line from Takao to Tainan, a distance of 40 miles is finished, and the opening ceremony will take place on the 28th instant. The extension from Shinchiku has also been commenced, so that work is now proceeding from three directions. Some very heavy operations in connexion with viaduct building will be commenced next fall. There are over seven thousand acres of forest land at the foot of Mount Morrison, and the idea of obtaining timber thence for railway purposes has been mooted, but it has not yet been possible to ascertain exactly whether the cost of transport from the interior might not make homegrown timber more expensive than imported material.

THE KOBE WATERWORKS AFFAIR.

The Tokyo Court of Appeal has rejected the protest of Mr Suzuki Jubi, who represents Mr. J. R. Morse in the case of the Kobe Waterworks Bonds. Mr. Suzuki contended that the Court was biassed, because, in the first place, it not only prevented him from re-stating certain facts elicited before the lower tribunal, but also allowed the counsel for the other side to interrupt him repeatedly when he endeavoured to formulate his reasons for desiring to have certain witnesses called; and, in the second place, it refused to permit the summoning of Mr. Matsuo, Chief of a Bureau in the Finance Department. With regard to the first protest, the Court denied that any such facts appeared in the record, and added that even though they did appear, even though it were shown that counsel for the appellant had been restrained in his speech and counsel for the appellant permitted to interrupt him, it would not necessarily follow that the Court was prejudiced. With regard to the second protest, the ruling was that it rested with the Court to decide whether a witness should be summoned, and its refusal to permit the summoning of a witness demanded by either side, did not constitute a proof of partiality, and even if it might be so regarded, the remedy lay in appeal to the Supreme Court. That ruling may be all very well, though we confess that it does not fully convince us. But why is not Mr. Matsuo summoned? Speaking with all reserve, we are bound to say that the difficulty of having witnesses summoned seems to be a defect of Japanese judicial procedure.

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THE SCANDAL.

Saturday, Nov. 24.

The *Jiumin* says that it will not now be necessary for Mr. Hoshi to take any proceedings against Mr. Shimada, since the latter's letter addressed to Mr. Hoshi and published over his own signature, constitutes a clear case of attempting to bring officials into contempt, and it becomes the function of the public procurator to summon the writer before a law court. If that view be correct, and we see no reason to doubt it, we venture to hope that the Court before which the case comes will adopt a more liberal policy than that generally pursued by Japanese legal tribunals in allowing the production of evidence. Meanwhile, we note that the *Mainichi Shimbun* continues its tirade against Mr. Hoshi. It is evidently determined that the question shall not be suffered to fall for want of pertinacity on the side of the libeller. We can only say that unless it can adduce proof very different from anything yet advanced by it, no law court with which we are acquainted could listen to its plea.

Wednesday, Nov. 28.

As a matter of daily news we note that the *Mainichi Shimbun* continues its diatribes against Mr. Hoshi Toru. But the *Mainichi* has lapsed into the condition of a voice crying in the wilderness. No one seems to pay any attention to its declamations, and every one is getting tired of charges which are neither specific nor supported. In connexion with this subject, we note that, judging from the remarks of a local English contemporary, there is some misunderstanding about the manœuvres resorted to by Japanese journals to avoid the legal consequences of their libels. Our contemporary seems to think that although a dummy may serve as scape-goat for an editor, the same device can not be resorted to in the case of a publisher. But it is resorted to all the time. There is no more difficulty in having a dummy publisher than a dummy editor.

THE PERRY MEMORIAL.

Rear-Admiral Beardslee, in the course of his address before the Yokohama Literary Society on Wednesday evening, referred at length to the proposed establishment of a memorial to mark the site of the landing of Commodore Perry at Kurihama Bay in 1853, which has been taken up by influential Japanese gentlemen at the Admiral's suggestion. Before closing his remarks, the speaker said that he had just received assurances from Mr. Otani Kahei, of Yokohama, that the Committee proposed that the suggested memorial should take the form of a lighthouse on the dangerous Plymouth Rocks (Ashika Shima) which lie near the entrance to Uraga harbour and just off Kurihama Bay. These two dark rocks, as most local mariners and yachtsmen are aware, are only a few feet above water at high tide, and it has always been a matter of surprise how Perry coming up the Bay in misty weather, and anchoring where he did, ever managed to keep his ships off them. A lighthouse on such a point would be a most suitable memorial of the great event from which the modern history of Japan is dated. We understand that a bronze figure of the bluff old Commodore would surmount the lighthouse. At present a red sector from the Tsurugisaki light (south-east point of Cape Sagami) is thrown on the Plymouth Rocks as a warning to mariners.

SILK.

In a pamphlet prepared by the Secretary of the Silk Association of America, Mr. Franklin Allen, there is a table showing the annual production of the principal silk-manufacturing countries of the world. The figures given are these (we convert the values into *yen*.) :—

	Millions of *yen*	Per cent. of Total Production
France	244	33.425
United States	170	23.288
Germany	100	13.700
Switzerland	76	10.411
Russia (in Europe)	12	5.753
Austria	34	4.657
Great Britain	30	4.109
Italy	26	3.561
Spain and Portugal	8	1.096
Total	730	100

Japan is not even mentioned in this table though her exports of manufactured silk goods last year amounted to 21 million *yen*, and her total production must have been at least 45 millions. There is no apparent reason why Japan should not ultimately become one of the greatest silk manufacturing countries in the world, and no reason—except prohibitive tariffs—why she should not supply a large part of the 730 million *yen* worth of silk fabrics manufactured by Europe and America.

Another table published in the same pamphlet shows the world's annual supply of raw silk and the places of its production :—

	Lbs.	Per cent. of total production.
China	14,330,000	41.5
Japan	7,100,000	20.7
Italy	6,900,000	20.0
France	1,330,000	3.8
Austria	620,000	1.8
Spain	175,000	0.5
India	600,000	1.7
Levant	3,400,000	10.0
Total	34,455,000	100.0

The figures in Japan's case are greatly under the mark. Her export in 1899 was 10,357,957 catties, or 13,813,276lbs. We have not China's figures by us at the moment, but so far as our recollection goes her export also is understated. Even in 1898, a comparatively bad year, Japan's exports of raw silk totalled over 12 million lbs. However, the main interest of the table is in the indication it furnishes that the Occident is steadily yielding to the Orient in the matter of raw-silk production. It may now be said that practically three countries, China, Japan and Italy, supply the world with raw silk. France used to occupy a very different place in the table, but she finds that the cheap labour of the Orient and of Italy has driven her out of this field of industry.

The approximate value of the raw silk produced in the world, taking the quantities entered in the above table, is 160 millions of *yen*. Hence if Japan, instead of exporting 66 million *yen* worth of raw silk, worked it into fabrics and sent it abroad in a manufactured state, it would represent a value of over 300 million *yen*, and a sum of 234 million *yen* would be added to the earnings of her industrials. These things are worth thinking of.

NEWSPAPER COMPETITION.

Hitherto Japanese newspapers, with the exception of the *Jiji Shimpo*, have limited their issues to one daily. In time of sensational events, the "extra," has, of course, been a great feature. Throughout the exciting period of the Chinese crisis, for example, the business of selling extras assumed such dimensions that at noon every day, Tokyo seemed to be suddenly roused into a state of active commotion, the streets being enlivened by newsmen running along, crying their wares with stentorian voices. The *Jiji Shimpo* was not unrepresented in this throng of vendors, but in addition to issuing extras it published a second edition at about 9 or 10 o'clock every night. We now learn that a new departure is to be made. The *Chuio Shimbun*, which has become a power in the land since it passed into the possession of Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, announces that from the 1st of December it will publish three editions daily. The first, or morning edition, will be circulated as before; the second will be issued in the afternoon—the hour is not stated—and will be despatched to all subscribers in Tokyo, and the neighbouring provinces; the third, a night edition, will be sent to Tokyo and Yokohama only. The *Chuio* says nothing about increasing its rate of subscription on this account. Its present charge is 35 *sen* a month, or a little over a farthing a copy. The *Jiji*, which is the most expensive paper in Japan, charges 50 *sen* a month, or, say, twelve shillings per annum. It is scarcely conceivable that the *Chuio* should contemplate the sale of 3 issues daily for the sum of one farthing.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

There has been a meeting of the Progressists in Sendai. Nothing of a remarkable nature occurred. The meeting passed resolutions in the sense that the country's foreign policy should be based on the principle of independent action, and that its aim should be the preservation of peace. It was further resolved that the Party should endeavour to correct the present corrupt state of society, to promote administrative economy so as to bring about a surplus of revenue; to push public works, and to contrive the establishment of an university in the north of Japan.

The Kwanto branch of the Rikken Seiyu-kai has held a meeting in Chiba. Mr. Hoshi Toru was present. He spoke of the work done by the Liberals in fostering the formation of the Seiyu-kai, and claimed that their labour had been disinterested.

A meeting of the Fukushima branch of the Seiyu-kai has also been held in Fukushima, but we have no details as yet of its doings.

THE YOSHIWARA.

The effect of recent legislation seems to have been very disastrous to the Yoshiwara. Its prosperity has disappeared, and no less than 19 houses, being unable to pay their October taxes, were closed by order of the Authorities. They have now succeeded in finding the necessary money by resorting to various devices, notably pawning their goods, and they have been allowed to resume their business, but it is said that ruin stares the whole business in the face, and that, in effect, the new regulations issued by the Government amount to the abolition of licensed prostitution. There are those, we suppose, who will rejoice at this issue, but we can not share their satisfaction. The cleansing of the outside of the sepulchre is not a result of much value. Many thoughtful Japanese are shaking their heads, and saying that it was a much more wholesome state of affairs when the virus was limited to one place, instead of being spread all over the city.

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THE "JINRIKISHA" TAX IN TOKYO.

By one device or another, the Tokyo municipality has contrived to raise the tax on *jinrikisha* to 8.50 *yen* per year. There is, first, a national tax of 3 *yen*, then there is the Miscellaneous City Tax of 1.50 *yen*, and finally there is the Special Tax of 4 *yen*. It comes to this, therefore, that the owner of a *jinrikisha* has to pay, every year, a tax representing fully 25 per cent. of the value of the vehicle. That is a very startling fact Of course the Special Tax, being for purposes of city improvement, may be regarded as a temporary impost, and, on the whole, there are arguments in favour of dipping deep into the pockets of folks that can afford to keep a *jinrikisha*, though many a family in the humbler ranks of gentility will find this new burden very onerous. But the reflection which renders this impost particularly obnoxious is that the money thus collected from a long suffering public is ruthlessly squandered by incompetent officials. We have not the least hesitation in saying that such a costly and ridiculous system of road-making as that pursued at present in Tokyo has never been put into practice in any other city. The first essay of the new process was made on the road running eastward of the Akasaka Palace, and foreign onlookers regarded it as some eccentric piece of extravagance connected directly or indirectly with Imperialism. But the same system is being pursued elsewhere now, and we can only conclude that it has been officially adopted. Not much explanation is needed to expose its absurdity. The road is dug up to a depth of some two feet, and a pavement of stone blocks is then laid down. We speak literally. It is not a question of rough stone or big gravel. Big blocks are used, generally too big to be lifted by one man, and these are fitted together in a clumsy sort of fashion as the basis for a surface dressing of gravel and earth. Weeks are expended in the construction, and the result, enormously costly, is of necessity as unsatisfactory as it well could be. It is for that kind of silly—some people say corrupt—extravagance that the citizens of Tokyo are required to furnish large sums.

LADIES BICYCLING.

It is very satisfactory to see that the Japanese ladies of Tokyo have formed a bicycle club. They have established an office at the Kaihinsha in the Kanda district of Tokyo, and appointed a committee consisting of Misses Terazawa, Tanaka, Toga, Shibata and Asahina. There used to exist, generally, and there still exists in many quarters, a strong prejudice against bicycle riding by ladies in Japan. Anyone noting the attitude of the man in the street towards a lady cyclist constantly heard such expressions as *otemba*, *mitômonai* and so on freely employed even by common coolies and labourers. In old times it was thought quite proper that a grand lady should learn the use of the halberd and the sword, that she should be ready to wear armour, on occasion, and that she should ride abroad straddling her steed like a man. But the sight of her on an innocent bicycle seems to be too much for the average Japanese gentleman or commoner of to-day. We used to observe with secret admiration and applause a solitary young lady who, every forenoon throughout last summer rode her bicycle demurely and at a sedate pace along the castle moat, through the Sakurada Gate and thence we know not whither. She never sprinted. Her rate of progress was always dignified and calm, and she held a parasol with her right hand directing the cycle with her left. Many indeed were the uncomplimentary remarks that her doings evoked and many the wondering looks of which she was the cynosure, but she went her way quietly, with all the charming absence of self consciousness which seems to be the special gift of a Japanese lady. We often felt inclined to give her a cheer as she passed, but it is probable that any display of applause might have disturbed the *sang-froid* she managed to maintain under all circumstances. She is no longer alone. Young ladies are now beginning to ride to and from school, and since the movement has reached the dimensions of a club, we may hope that it will grow steadily. The Japanese lady has a costume perfectly adapted for the purpose. The *hakama* looks far prettier and is much more convenient for bicycling than any kind of dress we have ever seen used by a lady of Europe or America. When bicycling became popular among Occidental ladies — and there too the innovation was confronted by prejudices to which people now look back with surprise,—we entertained an ardent hope that the utterly irrational costume of our ladies might be exchanged for something which would commend itself to common sense and be consistent with the indications of nature. It appeared just possible that the bicycle might furnish the plea as well as the incentive so long needed for inaugurating a thorough reform. That hope proved elusive in some degree, though it is an unquestionable gain that, during bicycling hours at all events, ladies are released from the worst features of their every-day costume. Now, in Japan's case, is it too sanguine to anticipate that the use of the bicycle will help to popularize the *hakama*? Since school-going maidens began to wear the hakama, its vogue has greatly increased. Perhaps the bicycle will constitute another impulse. Japan might set an example to the ladies of the world in this matter. At all events, we heartily congratulate the young ladies of Tokyo on their bicycle club, for we believe that not until the habit of taking physical exercise has become common among the upper classes of Japan, can the nation hope for any marked improvement in the stature and strength of its units.

KOREA.

Symptoms of unrest are reported from Korea, anti-Christian rioters are said to have shown themselves in the neighbourhood of Pyong-yang, and serious trouble is apprehended at any moment. This intelligence is said to have been received at the United States Legation and to have caused much uneasiness there, as the missionaries in Pyông-yang consist chiefly of Americans From Hwang-hai-do also comes news of disturbances brewing. Intelligence received from that district in Sôul is to the effect that preparations for a rising are in progress, and the Government has accordingly detached troops to deal with the trouble.

There is a story that a certain Englishman has arrived in Sôul seeking to sell silver to the Korean Government. He himself is represented as saying that the silver is intended for coining *yen*, but rumour alleges that he is merely seeking to place a loan. It is a quaint story.

The *Fiji Shimpo's* news from Sôul says that the coming of Baron Shibusawa to that city gave an impetus to the project of a loan from the First Bank, but that the Japanese attach much importance to the objection entered by Mr. McLeavy Brown.

Belgium is negotiating a commercial treaty with Korea.

Mr. Maki, a Japanese subject, is said to have applied through the Japanese Representative in Sôul for mining privileges at Chhang-won in Kyong-san-do. The Japanese Minister is also seeking to obtain land on lease in the neighbourhood of Yuen-san for the purposes of Mr. Kawakita's whaling enterprise.

Later news says that the United States Representatives in Sôul has made a strong appeal to the Korean Government on this subject, and that the necessary instructions for quelling any disturbance have been given.

It is now stated that the rumours recently circulated with reference to an insurrection in Korea are baseless. The origin of the affair was an attempt on the part of the political enemies of the present Cabinet to discredit two of its leading members by circulating a seditious document in their names. The document was anti-foreign in character, and it bore the forged signatures of two members of the Government, who, of course, had no knowledge whatever of the proceeding. This is said to be a common political device in Korea. It reminds one of the methods of a certain class of foreign newspapers in times of election.

Baron Shibusawa has left Chemulpho by the *Chikugogawa Maru* for Masampho, from which place he will proceed to Fusan, with the intention of spending some time there. The Baron is actively pushing the Sôul-Fusan railway scheme. It is said that he has obtained a large number of subscribers in Chemulpho and also several applications from Fusan.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

A telegram from Paris alleges that the news of the Czar's illness has caused little concern in that city, and that this apathetic mood is by some observers attributed to a growing indifference about the Russo-French *entente*.

It is stated that the total sales of Japanese exhibits in Paris amounted to 762,511 francs at the closing of the Exhibition, and that large further sales will probably be effected when the prices are reduced. The President is said to have given an order for some metal ornaments to the well-known expert (*kinzoku-shi*), Izuka Ihei of the Giyokuho-do.

The Foreign Office, replying to the appeal made through the United States Representative against a Custom House decision—confirmed by the Finance Department—in the matter of white whiskey imported by the American Trading Company, has replied that no recourse offers.

There is some talk of appointing a Governor-General of the Chishima Islands. There are 32 islands, covering an area of 6,250 square miles and having a population of only 2,000 persons. The islands are now under the jurisdiction of the Hokkaido Administration, and it is thought that their resources will remain undeveloped so long as that arrangement exists. The advocates of organising a separate administration say that, owing to the absence of any measures to protect the seals and sea-otters in Chishima waters, the animals are gradually withdrawing to the

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protected rookeries in Russian territory, and Chishima will soon be completely deserted by them. It is estimated that a sum of twenty thousand *yen* yearly would suffice to carry out the proposed scheme.

The Minister of Finance is said to have visited Oiso on the 22nd ultimo for the purpose of conferring with Marquis Ito as to the advisability of increasing certain taxes. The Marquis is reported to have given his consent, and steps will at once be taken to prepare the necessary documents for submission to the Diet. The increased rates are to be imposed, it is believed, on *sake*, sugar, stamps and registration, and the amount accruing to the Exchequer will be about 30 million *yen*, of which a large part will go to replace the inroads made upon the reserve funds by the China expedition, and the remainder will be applied for carrying out necessary enterprises.

The *Niroku Shimpo* says that the Cabinet will again raise the question of appointing Ambassadors instead of Ministers to England, America, France, Russia, Germany and Austria. It is said that Marquis Ito endorses this course and that Viscount Aoki used to be strongly in favour of it. In fact, while the Yamagata Cabinet was in power, the Diet was asked to agree to at least three ambassadorial posts, but the expense proved deterrent. Now, however, a project relating to the above six Powers will be introduced. But the question is, will those Powers reciprocate. Japan can scarcely send Ambassors to countries which reply by sending Ministers only to her Court.

Admiral Beardslee's remonstrances against leaving unmarked the site where Commodore Perry concluded the first treaty, have taken effect. A strong committee has been formed to contrive arrangements for erecting some kind of monument. It includes such names as those of Baron Kaneko, Mr. Hoshi Toru, Mr. Watanabe, Mr. Nagasaki, &c.

Mr. Valentine Chirol, of the London *Times*, arrived in Yokohama by the *Gaelic*, and proceeded to Kobe by the same vessel. After a brief sojourn in Kyoto, he will go to Tokyo, and thereafter continue his voyage to China.

Mr. Hara Kei having resigned the editorship of the Osaka *Mainichi Shimbun* in consequence of becoming a member of the committee of the Rikken Seiyu-kai, has been succeeded by Mr. Komatsubara Eitaro, formerly director of the Bureau of General Affairs in the Foreign Office.

We read in vernacular papers that the 95th Bank is for sale by tender. The Bank has a nominal capital of 200,000 *yen*, but its affairs have fallen into disorder, and it now offers all its buildings, and premises, together with outstanding credits amounting to 300,000 *yen*, for the modest sum of 150,000 *yen*. Several bankers are said to have been tempted by such terms, but when they came to look into the affairs of the Bank, they abandoned all idea of competing. A bank put up for tender as a going concern is a novelty.

It is said that the Government has determined to take over the constructed portion of the Kyoto Railway Company's line, and to proceed with the construction of the remainder so soon as the consent of the Diet has been obtained. This company was formed with a capital of 5,100,000 *yen*, of which 3,800,000 *yen* was paid up. It built the Kyoto-Sonobe portion, 22 miles 16 chains, but finds itself unable to continue the work for the next 70 miles to Miyatsu and Miyajima. The Government deems the line important for strategical purposes, and will doubtless float bonds to obtain the necessary capital.

It is a fact that the former residence of the last of the Tokugawa Shoguns in Shizuoka has been sold to a company which, after performing extensive repairs and effecting various alterations, is about to utilize the building as an inn under the title of the Hollyhock Hotel. Doubtless some writers will indulge in romantic remarks about this incident, but the simple fact is that Prince Keiki has finally abandoned his life of comparative seclusion in Shizuoka and transferred his residence to the Sugamo suburb of Tokyo, where he has a very beautiful place, and where he will find much more to amuse him in his declining years than Shizuoka could possibly have afforded.

Marquis Ito is said to be much better, but his cough is still troublesome and he has not yet fully recovered his strength. His friends are urging him to remain for some time longer at Atami, but he seems resolved to return to Oiso at all events, so as to be within easy reach of Tokyo.

The *Chiuo Shimbun* tells a remarkable story to the effect that some sixty thousand Chinese, residing in Java, have decided to become Japanese subjects, as their treatment by the Dutch is intolerable. They are said to have sent delegates to Japan to arrange the matter, and to have received assurances that no difficulties will be offered, but that, as an unanimous movement on the part of such a large number would be injudicious, they had better effect their purpose in batches of 40 or 50 at a time. It is added that Japan will send a force of police to Java for their protection. The idea of Chinese subjects, domiciled in Dutch dominions, converting themselves into Japanese, seems to us about as quaint as that of Japanese police being despatched to do duty in the Dutch East Indies.

Contradictions are of course published of the silly rumour to which we alluded in our last issue, namely, that the Chinese residents of Java had applied for and obtained permission to become Japanese subjects. The story is now said to have had its origin in the fact that the Java Chinese, seeing the great difference between the treatment accorded to them and to the Japanese residing in that country, would gladly obtain Japanese status. Between the desire and its fulfilment, however, there is a wide interval.

The second Imperial Hunting Party of the season took place on the 26th ultimo at the Niihama Detached Palace in Chiba Prefecture. H.I.H. Prince Kanin represented the Emperor, and there were present Viscount and Viscountess Tanaka, Baron and Baroness Sannomiya, Mr. and Mrs. Nagasaki, the French Representative, Mrs. and Miss Harmand and other members of the Legation, the Siamese Representative, the Dutch Representative, the British Chargé d'Affaires and the Honourable Mrs. Whitehead, the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, the Korean Chargé d'Affaires, &c., in all a party of thirty-seven. The weather was delightful, and the sport exceptionally successful.

Leading Buddhists and philosophers of Japan have decided to form an association called the "Imperial Society of Oriental Learning" (*Teikoku Tōyo Gak-kai*), which will have for its object the comparison and interpretation of the Sutras, and the establishment of close relations with the Buddhists of India. Among the promoters are mentioned Mr. Tokiwai Gyoyu, Viscount Watanabe, Mr. Watanabe Ryosei, Professor Takakusu Junjiro (a pupil of Professor Max Muller), Dr. Nanjo, Professor Tsuboi, Professor Murakami, Mr. Uyeda Mannen, Professor Inouye Enryo, Professor Miyake Yujiro, &c. It is said that the promoters of this society are much grieved that they could not complete their organization in time to communicate the fact to Professor Max Muller before his death.

A telegram to the *Fiji Shimpo* from Kiel says that the Russian squadron in the Far East is about to receive an increment in the shape of one armed cruiser, two line-of-battle ships, and two torpedo-boats. France, Russia and Germany will soon be very powerfully represented in the seas of China and Japan, whereas England does not appear to share their views as to the necessity for great naval strength in these waters. Moreover, the increment mentioned above in Russia's case is to be supplemented by another division of ships which will sail in December. We do not care to speculate about the purposes of these measures, but certainly Russia can not have any idea of demonstrating against China at sea.

Some time ago, it was reported that peculations had been discovered in connexion with works carried on at the Yokosuka Dock-yard, and that several arrests had been made, among the persons implicated being a naval commander. Subsequently, a similar rumour was circulated about the Kure Dock-yard, though in this case no combatant officers were implicated. Now finally comes a report that three clerks and four merchants have been arrested on account of a fraudulent transaction at Sasebo Dock. The precise nature of the transaction is not known, but it is believed to be a sale of scrap iron. The quantity nominally sold was 30,000 kilograms, and the selling price was 1,600 *yen*; but the quantity actually sold was 230,000 kilo., and it included 30,000 kilo. of copper and brass.

On the 28th ultimo the marriage of his Imperial Highness Prince Nashimoto and Lady Itsu, daughter of Marquis Nabeshima, took place in Tokyo. The ceremony was performed in the Imperial Palace according to *Shinto* rites, the same procedure being followed as that adopted for the first time at the marriage of the Prince Imperial. The bride's trousseau is said to have been of a most extensive and beautiful description, it being *de rigeur* that a lady who has the honour of marrying an Imperial Prince should carry to her new home not only a very complete wardrobe, but also nearly all the paraphernalia required for housekeeping.

The treaty between Belgium and Korea is said to have been concluded.

Rumour says that Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Representative in Sōul, will pay a visit to Tokyo next month.

It has already been stated in these columns that in consideration of extended fishery privileges in the waters of Korea, Japan agreed that her subjects should abandon the trade in *ginseng*. We now learn that the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha applied to the Sōul Government for a monopoly of the export of this root, and that terms have been finally arranged. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha will

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therefore open an office in Chemulpho. It appears that Mr. Go Daigoro acted as agent for the Mitsui in the matter

The official opening of the Takao-Tainan-Railway took place in the former town on the 28th ultimo, the Governor-General of Formosa attending.

The *Toyohashi* has returned to Chemulpho, after spending two months at the scene of the wreck of the *Niji*. There was never any hope, it seems, of successfully floating the *Niji*, but the greater part of her equipment, and whatever was valuable about the hull, have been recovered. The *Toyohashi* was to remain for a week in Chemulpho, in order to rest her crew after their protracted labours at the wreck.

Captain Niimura and a bank clerk, Mr. Ichioka, have been arrested on a charge of divulging military secrets. Vernacular newspapers state that Captain Niimura caused an accurate copy to be made of the map showing the whole district of the First Division, together with every detail of organization and establishment. This map he handed to the bank clerk, who, in turn, employed a man in Yokohama to sell it to a German subject for a large sum. The plan was discovered before consummation. Such is the story.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* continues its violent attacks upon Mr Hoshi Toru, but now extends them to the Chief of the Tokyo Police and his subordinates, whom it charges with contriving to conceal the proofs of guilt and with obstructing the course of justice. On the other side it is alleged that all this violence is simply the outcome of the desperate mood into which the Progressists have fallen. Mr. Hoshi Toru, it need scarcely be said, shows a bold front. He is represented as saying that the Progressists have suffered so severely at his hands that no revenge they may try to take is extraordinary, but that if they hope to overthrow him by false charges, they will find themselves much mistaken.

The Imperial Educational Society's Romaji Committee has held a meeting, and, by a majority vote, has approved the old system of Romaji transliteration, condemning the changes recently introduced by the Educational Department. This decision will be submitted for approval at the annual general meeting of the Society next month, and should it be adopted, a memorial will doubtless be addressed to the Educational Department. Professor Uyeda Mannen, in answer to questions put to him by the Committee, seems to have explained that the Educational Department's abandonment of the letter *h* in such syllables as *cha, chi, cho,* was prompted by the consideration that European scholars had ruled in that sense for the purpose of transliterating Pali sounds, and that the omission of *h* in such syllables as *shi, sha, shu, sho,* was prompted by a declaration made by Mr. Yukawa, of the Telegraph Department, that although *si, sa, so,* and *su,* do not truly represent the sounds of *shi, sha, sho,* and *shu,* the former would be more convenient for telegraphic purposes. If these are the reasons by which the Department of Education was influenced, we can only express unalloyed astonishment.

The French Police closed the Boer Cottage in the Paris Exhibition, owing to the refusal of the Transvaal Agent to allow the effacement of writings on the walls offensive to the Queen of England.

EMPEROR'S DAY IN TAINAN.

[From a Correspondent.]

Tainan, Nov. 3.

The schools have been in holiday here to-day owing to its being the anniversary of the Emperor's Birth-day, and two incidents occurred which ought to have a few words of notice.

One was the entrance into Tainan city of the first train from the Port of Takow, twenty-six miles south of this; and the other, a grand banquet in honour of the Emperor, to which the male members of the English Presbyterian Mission were most kindly invited by His Honour Prefect Imai.

The railway just completed is only part of a scheme which is intended to provide this comfortable mode of travelling along the entire western side of the Island. There was, indeed, a short line opened by the Chinese in North Formosa fully twelve years ago, but it had all to be remade and extended after the Japanese occupation, while the Takow-Tainan line forms but one of the four main sections which are rapidly being pushed forward; the other three being (1) from Tainan to the northern city of Kagi; (2) from Kagi to Chianghoa city; and (3) from Chianghoa to connect with the line whose terminus is alongside Keelung Harbour, on the extreme north-east of Formosa, and which harbour is the head-quarters of a regular service of steamers to China and Japan.

It may be added that branch railways, going east and west from this Main North-South Line, also enter into the plan now being carried out, the intention being that the inhabitants of every important centre in Formosa should be brought into easy rapid communication with each other.

Accompanied, then, by the pupils of the Higher School under my charge, our Lady Missionaries, and a number of Church people, your correspondent left the Mission compound about 4 p.m., and went along the line till we came to that part of the City wall through which an opening has been made for the passage of trains.

We had not waited long on the high wall before our eyes were gladdened with a sight of the advancing engine. We could make out that two Imperial flags were displayed from it, but attention was very soon much more arrested by the sudden outburst of a cloud of white steam, and by the loud shrill whistle emitted as the train dashed through the opening of the wall into the hoary old city itself.

I confess that my feeling got the better of me at that moment, and the silent wonder of the crowd was broken by the staid old missionary violently waving his handkerchief and shouting for very joy as the train fled past.

There is a rumour that His Excellency Governor-General Kodama may come south before long to have a more formal opening of the Takow-Tainan Railway, and things to-day did seem a little hastened out of deference to the Imperial anniversary.

Of course, one very decided result of this piece of engineering is that it brings us at Tainan within about an hour's travel of the pleasant harbour and coast-town of Takow, where Dr. Maxwell began the English Presbyterian Mission thirty-five years ago; an advantage which will very likely lead to an early resumption of Christian work there, as well as to the better preservation of health by occasional runs down south, instead of always going to the opposite mainland for rest and change.

As to the banquet, no pains were spared to make it the marked success it turned out to be. It was held in the Tainan Club, within the entrance of which Prefect Imai was waiting to give a truly cordial welcome to each of his guests.

I was struck with the number of influential natives who had been invited, between whom and the many Japanese officials around them, there seemed to be a great amount of pleasant fraternising. This was in decided contrast to the state of things under the Chinese Authorities, who never unbent to meet leading citizens in a social friendly way.

We all first met in the spacious central hall of the building, where the Prefect commenced proceedings by addressing a few gracious words to those present; and then by calling upon all for one hearty expression of loyalty to Him whose name will be fragrant amongst his people through generations yet unborn.

Although an unusually active man, Prefect Imai does not impress one as having a very robust constitution, but the vigour he displayed at this particular point was something quite astonishing. His "Ban-zai! Ban-zai! Ban-zai!!" came from his lips like shot from a pistol, and certainly those present responded with a "Long live the Emperor" in a manner which would have satisfied the heart of the most loyal son of Japan—which is saying a great deal.

I was greatly pleased at the thoughtfulness of the Prefect in having officials at hand who immediately translated his well-chosen words for the benefit of the Chinese and European guests in attendance.

We all afterwards spent a pleasant evening together, and seperated with a feeling of satisfaction, and of renewed hopefulness regarding the future of Formosa.

I am quite aware that many Europeans, though ready to confess that the Japanese can fight, point to the condition of things here as proving that they make a very poor show at colonising Those critics, however, are not aware of the difficulty and the complexity of the problem which the Japanese faced on taking over the Island, nor are they aware of the unquestionable success which has attended their efforts in working out its solution. I for one, at least, who have spent 30 of the best years of my life in Formosa, feel profoundly thankful to-day for what Japan has already done for this part of her Empire; and, as in the case of the Loochoos, my strong conviction is that she will quietly continue in this course, without being turned aside by either the praise or the blame of outsiders.

FOOTBALL.

The football season opened in Yokohama on Friday afternoon when a team from the Y. C. & A. C. easily defeated an eleven from the P. & O. steamer *Socotra*. Rain had fallen earlier in the day, but the afternoon was fine, and the ground was in excellent order. Good play is not to be expected so early in the season, so the game calls for little comment. The visitors, with the exception of the goal-keeper, did not shine either, and in the first half Yokohama scored 3 goals, and in the second two more against nothing by the *Socotra*. We welcome Mr. F. J. Lias back to the field.

An alphabetical football match was played on Saturday between teams representing respectively A to L and M to Z, fifteen players a side. H. W. Kilby and Mason secured one goal each and as there was thus a tie, play was allowed for an additional five minutes, but without result. Mr. J. H. Bathgate was referee. The commencement of the football season recalls many curious descriptions of the game given by old writers. In early days it was nothing but a favourite way for an excited mob to let off their superfluous spirits. They contented themselves by kicking a blown bladder up one street and down another. The play became so rough that, in 1365, Edward III. ultimately was forced to prohibit it, and he enacted that all its players were to be imprisoned during His Majesty's pleasure. Richard II., Henry IV., and James I. were also enemies of football, the latter expressing his utter abhorrence for "all rough and violent exercises as football," and at the end of his diatribe describing the game as "meeter for the lameing than making able the users thereof." It is interesting to note that the first leather ball was made at Chester, where one of the value of 3s. 4d. was annually presented by the shoemakers to the drapers on Shrove Tuesday up to the year 1540, when the game was once more abolished.

Telegraphic news has reached Kobe to the effect that the *Shinyei Maru* (103 tons), sank while at anchor off Sawara, Sanshu, on the 25th inst.

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OLD TIMES.

THE account given by Mr. MITFORD (in "Tales of Old Japan") of what is known as "the Bizen incident," an episode of Kobe's history prior to *Meiji* times, has been challenged by a writer in the *Kobe Herald* signing himself "Pioneer," who was an eye-witness of the affair, and who tells the story in a graphic, unaffected manner. There appears to be some disposition on the part of "Pioneer" to under-estimate the part taken by the late Sir HARRY PARKES in this business, and for that reason we are induced to say a word on the subject, especially as we have had the account from the lips of Sir HARRY PARKES himself

It will be remarked by any careful reader of the two stories—that of Mr. MITFORD and that of "Pioneer"—that there is practically only one difference between them. What Mr. MITFORD says is that a detachment of Bizen troops, advancing along the high road to Osaka, made a sudden halt, and, acting under orders, fired several shots in the direction of the foreign settlement, wounding two or three men but failing to cause serious loss owing to their defective marksmanship. The Legation Guards and a number of blue-jackets promptly attacked the Bizen *samurai*, who beat a precipitate retreat, suffering no casualties though several shots were fired at them. At the moment of the occurrence there was no apparent reason for the hostile attitude suddenly assumed by the Bizen men, but it transpired afterwards that their ranks had been rudely crossed by two Frenchmen. Such are the salients points of Mr. MITFORD's account. What "Pioneer" says, as we understand, is that the Bizen men did not originally fire at the settlement, but only discharged a few random shots at the two French marines who had broken through their ranks. It must always remain uncertain what the Bizen men really did fire at, but it is certain that their bullets flew in the direction of the foreign settlement, and were construed by the denizens of the latter as a volley directed against them. The important point is, were these first shots fired by order of the officer commanding the Bizen troops or was no order to fire given by him until his men were subsequently attacked by the Legation Guards and the blue-jackets sent in pursuit? If the latter was the case, then the officer acted in a proper manner, since his troops used their rifles in self-defence only. If the former version be correct, then the officer stands convicted of making a hostile and potentially murderous demonstration against foreigners in general in consequence of a rude act on the part of two Frenchmen. It matters very little whether Mr. MITFORD is right in his vague assertion that two or three men were wounded, or whether "Pioneer" is correct in saying that the only wound was suffered by an old woman. We believe "Pioneer" to be correct, for with the exception of Mr. MITFORD's passing allusion nothing was ever heard of these wounded foreigners, and the diplomatic custom of those days never failed to exact heavy indemnity for the shedding of blood. But even though the Bizen men's fire did not take effect at all, no one will pretend to hold an officer blameless who ordered his men to fire at the foreigners. It was explicitly for issuing such an order that the officer suffered the death penalty, and that fact alone goes far to prove that the plea of self-defence could not be established in his favour at the time. The version we have had from the lips of Sir HARRY PARKES himself is that the trouble had its origin in the rudeness of two half-tipsy marines, who broke through the line of the Bizen *samurai*, one of the marines receiving a stab from a bayonet as he struggled through. Then the officer in command, exasperated by what seemed to him an act of rude aggressiveness, issued orders to fire at the two fugitives who were running in the direction of the settlement, the result being that the inhabitants of the latter, knowing nothing about the rudeness of the two marines, believed that the settlement was under attack. What followed of a military nature does not much signify so far as concerns the point we are now discussing. "Pioneer" appears disposed, as we have said, to belittle Sir HARRY PARKES' share in the affair. But the share taken by Sir HARRY, the share that reflects so much credit on him, was not connected with the repulse of the supposed attack. No one acquainted with Sir HARRY requires to be told that whenever an occasion presented itself for the exercise of courage and daring, he was sure to take the lead What he did was to insist, in the subsequent discussion, that no just warrant existed for demanding the capital punishment of the Bizen officer. That is historical. We have it, we repeat, from the lips of Sir HARRY himself. He maintained that the two tipsy marines had flagrantly violated a principle which the Japanese held sacred, and that although the rude act did not constitute a sufficient excuse for recourse to fire-arms, according to Occidental canons, it did constitute an excuse in Japanese eyes, and to require that the officer should be executed for doing what he would have considered himself and his troops dishonoured had he neglected to do it, would be not merely an error of harshness but also a blunder of policy. Such was the line taken by Sir HARRY at the conference of the Foreign Representatives, and he deserves honour for taking it. He was outvoted—in fact he found himself in a minority of one—and he bowed to the decision of his colleagues. But posterity should do him more justice than "Pioneer" seems disposed to allow.

THE PRIVY PURSE.

WE read in a Tokyo newspaper that the sum annually included in the estimates for the expenses of the Imperial Household is found insufficient. That is scarcely to be wondered at, for the charges that have to be defrayed out of the three-million allowance are very heavy. All the Imperial Princes have to be supported out of it, and with it also are paid all grants to newly-created nobles and rewards for distinguished services, to say nothing of charitable donations. Indeed, quite a number of items which in Japan are paid out of the Privy Purse, would elsewhere be treated as special charges on the State. The public does not know exactly what the revenues of the Crown amount to There are the three millions appearing in the Budget, the interest on a sum of 20 million *yen* voted by the Diet as an addition to the Imperial estate, the dividends accruing from investments, and the income derived from Imperial forests and moors. This last might doubtless be greatly increased, but at present it is a trifling sum. Owing to the difficulty of distinguishing between the 20 millions voted by the Diet and the sums invested in various undertakings, it is not possible to make any accurate estimate, but we shall probably have a pretty close approximation if we assume the Imperial Household's income to be 5 million *yen*. That would be ample, no doubt, if the expenses to be met were governed by a rule such as that applied in England, for example, where all allowances to princes and grants for meritorious service are separately defrayed. But we can well understand that it is not enough in Japan, where all kinds of demands are made upon the Privy Purse, and where the outlays met by the Household are increasing every year. Most assuredly if three million *yen* was deemed a proper allowance thirty-three years ago, when that amount was first fixed, and when the cost of living was not more than one-half of what it is at present, to say nothing of the enormous additions that have since then been made to the burdens of the Privy Purse, such a sum can not possibly be deemed adequate now. The EMPEROR is entitled by the Constitution to determine, without reference to the Diet, the amount yearly appropriated for the service of the Household, but the possession of that right probably renders HIS MAJESTY unwilling to exercise it. A Cabinet presided over by Marquis ITO is eminently fitted to take up the question, for it is to Marquis ITO's exertions that the Imperial Household may be said to owe its estates, and to be in a financial condition very different from that of the Court in feudal days when a yearly grant of ten thousand *koku* of rice was deemed by the Tokugawa Regents a sufficient income for the Crown.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week :—

	Air Tem Max	Min.	Lake.	State of Weather,	Remarks in General
Sunday, 18th	40°	38°	48°	Snow	Two bears killed here during the week.
Monday, 19th	41°	38°	47°	Fine	
Tuesday, 20th	44°	40°	47°	Fine	
Wed'sday, 21st	56°	46°	46°	Fine	
Thursday, 22nd	50°	44°	46°	Fine	
Friday, 23rd	49°	45°	45°	Fine	
Saturday, 24th	45°	40°	44°	Fine	

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THE DOLL SHOW.

An unique exhibition was opened at the Public Hall on Friday afternoon for the benefit of the Institut du St. Enfant Jesus, more generally known as the French Convent; an institution which does much good work among the Japanese orphan children of Yokohama and Tokyo, and is deserving of all possible assistance. The show consisted mainly of dolls dressed by ladies of Yokohama who kindly display an interest in the orphans of the Institution and who have taken much trouble and gone to some expense to make the novel show a success. The two hundred or so dolls exhibited were divided into four classes, viz. (a) Best Group of Dolls, (1) Large, (2) Small. (b) Dolls dressed with most skill, taste and novelty of design (large and small). (c) Dolls in Historica. and Fancy Dress. (d) Baby Dolls, etc., etc. Eleven prizes, consisting of silver objects, fancy work, silk, and a variety of pretty articles had been presented by foreign and Japanese friends to be awarded to the most successful exhibitors—in the various classes—the awards being decided by the majority of votes of the visitors to the show, every ticket of admission entitling the holder to one vote in each class. In addition to the dolls there were a number of toys of all kinds, dolls' houses, scrap books, etc., exhibited. On Friday afternoon the show was opened to the public at 3 o'clock, but before that hour the children of the Convent were treated to a "private view" of the display of dolls, and afterwards to a high tea in the vestibule of the Hall. During the afternoon Miss Thorn gave an interesting and amusing series of exhibitions of the wonders of the latest development of the phonograph, on an instrument kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. E. V. Thorn. Vocal duets, orchestral pieces, violin solos, and patter dialogues were rendered by the phonograph with wonderful distinctness and accuracy, and the fair conductor of the machine was deservedly warmly applauded. In the evening, after nine o'oclock, when the hall was well filled with visitors, in addition to the attractions of the phonograph, the inimitable Mr. Brady contributed a song and dance and then another song, and Messrs. Chas. Aslet and Percy Delf a couple of banjo duets—the Folie Polka and another piece. In addition to the tables devoted to the exhibition of the dolls, there is a very prettily decorated flower stall, under the direction of Mrs. Maitland; a candy stall, at which a flourishing business is done by the Misses Andrews, Mendelson and Poole; a Fish Pond, conducted by Miss Fanny Waddilove, all assisted by other young ladies, and a shooting gallery run by Mr. Brady. Mrs. McWilliams made an indefatigable general manager, and was here, there, and everywhere where advice or assistance were required.

Notwithstanding the heavy rain of Saturday evening, the Doll Show at the Public Hall was freely patronised and that popular auctioneer "J.W.H."—*alias* Mr. G. G. Brady—did a roaring business. Below we append the list of winners in the various competitions:—

PRIZE LIST.

Class A.—Large Group. First Prize—(Presented by Arthur and Bond)—won by No. 115, Miss Goddard, with 150 votes: "The Ambulance."

Class A.—Small Group. Prize presented by Mrs. Bennett, won by Mrs. Doering, "Maypole Dance," with 75 votes.

Extra Prize, presented by Mrs. Skrimshire, won by Miss Poole "The Old Woman in a Shoe," 65 votes.

Class B.—Large Doll. First Prize, won by Mrs. Woolley's "Bride" No. 13, with 32 votes, (Presented by Kononike).

Extra Prize for Large Doll, won by Miss Baker with 31 votes, (Presented by Shieno).

Class B.—Small Doll. (Prize presented by Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. Limited). Won by Miss Tripler, No. 7, 22 votes.

Class C.—Doll in Fancy Dress. First Prize, presented by Mr. Yamada, won by Mrs. Cox (an old lady of 73), with "Cambria," No. 40, with 54 votes.

Class C.—Second Prize, presented by Nozawaya. Won by Mrs. Baker, No. 35, with 40 votes.

Class D.—Baby Dolls. First Prize, presented by Mrs. S. Isaacs, won by Mrs. Connor, No. 81, with 84 votes.

Second Prize, presented by K. Tamamura, won by Mrs. Grauert, No. 88, with 60 votes.

Extra Prize, won by Mrs. Box (an old lady of 81), with 42 votes.

Prize for Doll dressed by a child, won by Miss Gladys Howard, with "Columbia and Uncle Sam." Presented by Madame Launay.

RAFFLES.

"Large Sailor Doll," won by Mr. Hudson.

"Little Red Riding Hood," won by Mr. Rudolph Schmid.

"Striped Kitten 'Tora,'" won by Miss Page.

Black and White Kitten "Flossie," won by Miss Florence Bramhall.

The "Ambulance Group," won by Miss Daisy Neville.

Mrs. Skrimshire and Mrs. McWilliams are to be heartily congratulated on the success of this show.

DEATH OF MR. A. C. SIM.

We announce to-day with much regret the death of Mr. A. C. Sim, of Kobe, which took place on Wednesday after an illness of not many days duration. It is understood that Mr. Sim contracted typhoid fever at Osaka, where he proceeded recently with Mr. Bimie, who is also down with the disease at Nagasaki, and it is believed that the infection was communicated by oysters, of which both gentlemen partook on the occasion mentioned.

The veteran, for he was well over his sixtieth year, was so widely known in the Far East, but especially in the open ports of Japan where he was always a welcome figure, that it is impossible to record his passing away without referring, however briefly, to his connection with sport in these communities, and to the services which he rendered to the Settlement of Kobe in the matter of administering the affairs of the sister port. Mr. Sim, who was a native of Aberdeenshire, Scotland, came out to Hongkong many years ago. He was devotedly attached to all kinds of sport but especially to rowing, and in the sixties we find him stroking a crew in the colony. Later he came up to Kobe (where he carried on business up till two or three years ago as a chemist and druggist) and in 1870 Messrs. Sim and Henderson were mainly instrumental in establishing the Kobe Regatta and Athletic Club. At the first meeting of the new club Sim was chosen as Captain, and this office he held with a short interval up to the very last, the unanimous verdict of all who knew the subject being that the Club was never more prosperous than when under his rule. On April 18th, 1871, the Kobe Club had what was termed its first olympiad (which was attended by Sir Harry and Lady Parkes). In nearly all the events Sim was entered, and he was first in several and either second or third in most of the others, winning a prize for the highest number of points at the meeting. In these days of safety wheels and pneumatic tyres it is curious to read that one of the events of the meeting was a "velocipede" race—which Sim won. In 1871 he stroked a crew (the other members were Messrs. A. H. Blackwell, J. Waters, M. T. B. Macpherson, and D. A. J. Crombie, Cox,) which came to Yokohama but failed to gain victory, and since then he has been frequently in Yokohama in connection with interport regattas. At the coming of age regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club in autumn, 1892, he took at short notice the stroke seat in the interport double sculls, with the result that on the first day Kobe beat Yokohama (P. S. Bent and E. T. Nicholas) and on the second day in the final heat won from the Hongkong crew (G. L. Duncan and J. A. Sampson). On the same occasion also he stroked the "over 50" four against the "over 22" crew but was beaten by the youngsters. At an athletic meeting on the Rifle Range he was also a prominent figure. Indeed all classes of sport claimed Sim as their devotee—except perhaps horse racing and swimming, with neither of which have we seen his name associated. From quoits to yachts he was an acknowledged authority on all questions of rule or practice, and his *dicta* were unhesitatingly accepted. Apart from sport, however, Kobe owed him much for the state of efficiency to which he brought her fire brigade, and which the Japanese authorities (when in the absence of the Chairman of the Municipal Council they accepted from him the public property under the new treaties) marked their appreciation of by asking him to continue to afford them his assistance in an honorary capacity. Nor was it only in connection with the Fire Brigade that the veteran did generous service to the southern settlement: in many works of public utility he was always, if not himself the initiator, an enthusiastic labourer, and Kobe will miss him as well in her public life as in her private and social doings.

He interested himself in the distribution of relief to the sufferers by the great Gifu earthquake some years ago, and more lately he was deputed by the Kobe subscribers to a fund for succouring those ruined by the great ocean wave on the east coast, to visit the districts and render their charity into tools, nets, clothing, etc., for the benefit of the destitute.

It would be impossible, within the limits available, to do even bare justice to the career of Mr. Sim in Japan. It may be enough to say that he was in the purest sense of the phrase a public-spirited man, that he was a true sportsman, and that the calls of charity never found him unresponsive. A genial, kindly soul, he was loved by all who enjoyed his friendship, and his untimely death will be widely lamented.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. A. C. Sim, of Kobe, the flag of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club was flown on Thursday at half-mast and arrangements were made by Mr. H. Rose, acting-Captain, to secure that a wreath or other floral tribute should be placed on the coffin. In view of Mr. Sim's prominence in local affairs and of his Scottish nationality, the Kobe St. Andrew's Ball has been abandoned for this year.

Exigencies of space prevent us from dwelling upon the occasion when Mr. Sim first rowed in Yokohama, but so much interest appears to be taken in the subject that we append the crews, with the remarks that Yokohama won, Kobe second, and the Niphon Club last, and that we have not been able to obtain the name of the Niphon Club's cox:

YOKOHAMA ROWING CLUB.

	ST. LBS.
1 H. O. P. Wright	11.06
2 E. J. Fraser	10.10½
3 N. J. Hannen	12.00½
St. G. Hamilton	11 13
Cox. A. W. Glennie	9.11

KOBE CLUB.

	ST. LBS.
1 A. H. Blackwell	10.12
2 J. Waters	11.05
3 M. T. B. Macpherson	10.12
St. A. C. Sim	11.06
Cox. D. A. J. Crombie	10.02

NIPHON ROWING CLUB.

	ST. LBS.
1 A. Noble	10.01
2 J. Martin	10.01
3 H. Pagden	11 07
St. H. J. Snow	10.01

THE "TSUKIJIMA MARU."

The Tokyo Commercial Navigation School's steam-ship *Tsukijima Maru* with ninety-one apprentices, left Muroran, Hokkaido, on the 13th inst. for Shimizu and was expected to arrive there on the 20th. No news has been received of the vessel, however, and it is feared that she foundered in the storm of the 17th, though there is a possibility that she may have stood out into the Pacific. The *Tsukijima Maru*, if we remember rightly, was an American vessel which went ashore not far from Hakodate and was afterwards floated by her Japanese purchasers. She was propelled by auxiliary engines but relied most upon her sail power.

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THE LATE MR. KNAFF.

We regret to record the death of Mr. E. Knaff, of the silk firm of Ulysse Pila & Co., which took place on Saturday evening at 7 o'clock at his residence No. 120 Bluff. The deceased gentleman, who was a native of France, had been ailing for some time and made a trip home about a year ago for the benefit of his health. He was a notable personality at local race meetings, as well by reason of his commanding figure as of the deep interest which he took in the sport, and his loss will be mourned by a large circle to which he had endeared himself by his amiable and kindly disposition.

A large number of residents gathered at the Roman Catholic Church on Monday afternoon to attend the obsequies of Mr. Etiene Knaff, who died suddenly on Saturday evening. The Church was crowded, many being unable to find seats. The services were conducted by Père Guerin assisted by Père Pettier. The coffin was afterwards conveyed to the cemetery, where the final service was performed by Père Pettier. The chief mourners were Messrs. Coye, Berard, Bougouin, Gay and Steenackers, and the pall-bearers were Messrs. Barmont, de Cuers de Cogolin, Mottet, Pravieux, Lacroix, and Gilbert. Many wreaths and other floral tributes were sent.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Grand Hotel Co., the same afternoon the following resolution was passed :—

Resolved: That in the death of our colleague, Etienne Knaff, this Board has lost a genial and zealous associate, and although a Director for but three months, his large social and business acquaintance, and the earnestness with which he entered upon the discharge of his duties make his loss a great one to the company.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

Owing to St. Andrew's Ball falling next Friday, the Yokohama Literary Society altered the date of their usual fortnightly meeting and held it two days ahead of the regular fixture. The vestibule of the Public Hall was engaged for the occasion and the members gathered in force on Wednesday evening to listen to an address from Rear-Admiral Beardslee, late of the U.S.N., who spoke upon the Japan which he first knew when he landed at Uraga with Commodore Perry's squadron 47 years ago. The reminiscences of the Admiral were most interesting, and at the close a hearty vote of thanks were accorded the speaker on the motion of the President, the Rev. J. L. Dearing, D. D.

After a short musical programme, which was greatly enjoyed, Capt. Sakurai, I.J.N., threw on to a screen some charming photographs of places in Japan associated with Perry and the men who accompanied him. The exhibition was unique in its way and fully deserved the applause accorded The following was the programme :—

Address..." Young Japan and Her Early History." Rear-Admiral L. A. Beardslee, U.S.N. (Retired).

INTERMISSION.

Vocal Solo....." Pensée d'Automne " .....Massenet. Mrs. E. Champneys Irwine.

Violin Solo....." Andante Religioso " .....Thomé. Miss Helena Page.

Vocal Solo....." Love's Nocturne " .....Kellie. Mr. E. W. Maitland.

Stereopticon Views on Commodore's Perry's Expedition.

Captain S. Sakurai, I.J.N.

CHINA NOTES.

The Chefoo Family Hotel, situated on the East Beach at Chefoo, containing 34 bedrooms, etc., and about 20 mow of land, has been sold by auction as a going concern to Mr. Anderson for Tls. 6,000, only three bids having been made.

The *N.-C. Daily News* learns that instead of going to Kansu and raising the standard of rebellion, Tung Fu-hsiang is with the Court at Si-ngan, and is keeping a tight hand on it. Prince Tuan is in Kansu, and Yü Hsien has fled, with an edict following him up.

Tientsin is said to be crowded with mandarins, merchants, and people of all classes, who have fled from Peking and wish to return to their homes in the South. The China Merchants Company has sent four steamers to transfer them from Tientsin to Shanghai.

The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. proposes to raise its capital to $2,500,000 by taking $900,000 from reserve and $37,500 from working account. The old shares are to be cancelled and the shareholders will get four new $50 shares for each old one of $125.

It is said, by Chinese newspapers that Princes Tuan and Chuang, together with Kang Yi and Chao Shu-ch'iao, spent their time during the journey to Si-nganfu in mutual recriminations, each accusing the other of being the real root of the trouble. Only Yü Hsien took no part in these discussions and made no excuses, but boldly proclaimed himself a Boxer leader and held his ground from first to last without flinching.

The death occurred at Amoy on November 14th of Mr. Francis Cass, who had been for many years one of the most prominent figures in mercantile circles at that port, and who was well known both in Hongkong and Shanghai. The deceased, who was formerly agent in Amoy for the late firm of Messrs. Russell and Co., had been since the suspension of that house head of the firm of Lapraik, Cass and Co., and was deservedly popular amongst the Amoy community.

A letter from Tientsin, published in the *Universal Gazette* at Shanghai, tells of the brutal murder by Boxers of Lo Hsi-luh, brother of Lo Feng-luh, the Chinese Minister to Great Britain. He was going from Honan to visit his relatives in Tientsin, and carried with him two boxes of foreign books which he highly prized. On the road he was held up by Boxers, who, discovering the books in his possession, were greatly incensed. They accordingly tied him to a tree and made him a target for the knives of the rebels passing by, who regarded the affair as a huge joke. The knives were dull, and the unfortunate man's sufferings were intense and prolonged. A servant who intervened in his master's behalf, protesting that he was not a follower of the foreigners, was also killed. Only a horse-boy escaped alive to Tientsin to tell the horrible story.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Russell Sage is one of the richest men in New York, but that fact did not prevent the sale of one of his farms the other day for taxes.

A Bill has been introduced before the Civil Commission of the Philippines to impose an export tax of ten per cent. upon all Mexican money exported from the Philippines.

The U.S. Consul General in Yokohama has received a telegram from his Government instructing him to enforce quarantine inspection against steerage passengers leaving Yokohama for the United States.

At the recent meeting in New York City of the American electro-therapeutic association, the report from St. Luke's hospital as to tests of the cure of consumption by electricity was adverse in every case and in every particular.

The engagement of Miss Mary L. Wilkins, the novelist, and Dr. Charles Freeman, of Metuchen, N. J., has been announced. Dr. Freeman is thirty-five years old and a graduate of Rutgers college. He studied medicine and after receiving his diploma as a physician became a medical examiner in the pension department at Washington. At the death of his father, Dr. Freeman inherited a fortune. He stopped practising medicine and took up the lumber business.

The annual report of the United States Commissioner of Education for the fiscal year ended June 30th last, gives the figures for the fiscal year 1898 99 as the latest statistics obtainable. It shows that the grand total of pupils in all schools, elementary, secondary and higher, public and private, for the year ended July 1st, 1899, was 16,738,362, of which the number enrolled in the common schools, elementary and secondary, was 15,138,715. Twenty and one-half per cent. of the entire population was enrolled in the public elementary schools and high schools.

A few months ago some public-spirited citizens of Berkeley, California, offered to pay into the town treasury the $1,800 received annually from liquor licenses. On this condition, a prohibition ordinance was adopted, and the saloons were allowed three months in which to wind up their business. At the expiration of that time the $450 necessary for the first quarterly payment was raised, but it was wisely held in hand to await the attitude of the authorities toward the prohibited traffic. That attitude was one of indifference. As much liquor was sold as before, and the citizens' committee refused to pay the money.

Charles Dudley Warner died suddenly at Hartford, Conn., on October 20. Mr. Warner's first pronounced literary success was "My Summer in a Garden," published in 1870. It was followed by "Being a Boy," "A Little Journey in the World," "The Gold House," and several books of travel. Mr. Warner for a number of years held "The Easy Chair" in *Harper's Magazine*, contributing to that Department a series of short essays. He was zealous in the cause of education and prison reform, and delivered many addresses on educational and sociological, as well as literary, topics. He was the editor-in-chief of Warner's "Library of the World's Best Literature."

The little town of Neodesha, Kans., claims a remarkable distinction. It has a population of fifteen hundred, and it is stated that there are more thin people living there than in any place of similar size in the United States, many of its men and women weighing less than one hundred pounds, although in perfect health. Physicians explain that the Neodesha petroleum and natural gas wells are responsible for that condition, and that these elements are nature's anti-fat remedy. It is said that if the thin people of the town were dressed in the garb of the East Indian and stood up in line they would present a picture similar to that of starving India.—*New York Times.*

A horrible discovery was made on November 10th by the men on duty at Pombong, near Malolos, says the *Manila Times*. While patrolling, some soldiers came across what was undoubtedly the dead body of an American soldier. The corpse had been decapitated, and presented a horrible sight. There was a gun shot wound through the left shoulder and other evidences pointing to the fact that the man had been murdered first and his dead body afterwards mutilated. The only clothing on the body was a white cotton undershirt with short sleeves, and nankeen drawers. The body, although believed to be that of an American soldier, could not be identified. Enquiries were made among the natives in the vicinity, but of course nothing could be learned from them.

A short cable from the Adjutant-General Corbin, of the U. S. Army, to the Civil Commission at Manila, announcing the re-election of President McKinley, was transmitted in the record time of forty nine minutes. The route of the cable from New York was as follows :—Nova Scotia, coast of Ireland, Cornwall (England), Gibraltar, Malta, Alexandria, Suez, Aden, Bombay, Madras, Penang, Singapore, and Hongkong, to Manila. The line had been cleared two hours before the message was handed in at New York and was sent through without a delay. At each of the points mentioned the message had to be retransmitted, and even with these necessary stoppages the cable was got through in the short space of forty-nine minutes, which, remarks a contemporary, is a record in cabling over such a great distance.

Municipal ownership is proposed on a large scale in Wisconsin. An enactment of the legislature last winter gives any municipality the right

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to issue negotiable bonds, on the petition of a majority of the freeholders, for the establishment and maintenance of a telephone system. The Farmers' Telephone Construction Company, with a capital of $500,000, has been organized to establish a plant in any town, on a guarantee of 100 subscribers at $12 per year, taking its pay in the township bonds. These bonds are to draw 5 per cent. interest, and are to be paid in twenty years, 5 per cent. being set aside annually for a sinking fund. It is assumed that the income from the lines will provide for the operating expenses and maintenance, as also for the annual interest on the bonds and the sinking fund. With the maturity of the bonds, the plant is to become the unencumbered property of the township.

The Hall of Fame, for whose memorial panels thirty names have now been chosen, stands on the western verge of the plateau at Morris Heights, upon which have been erected the buildings of New York University. The Hall of Fame is built in a semi-circle, and has two stories. The lower story consists of a hall, along which may be ranged memorials to the illustrious dead. The second story is open, constructed with a colonnade. In the pavement at intervals will be bronze tablets, each inscribed with a great name. Between the columns will stand statues. A second Hall of Fame is to be built for those who have become Americans by adoption. The new structure is to be harmonious in architecture, and will contain one fifth of the space of the present hall. The plan has been formally ratified by the University senate. The count of ballots for the Hall of Fame was completed on October 12. The thirty names, with the vote cast for each, are:

George Washington	97
Abraham Lincoln	96
Daniel Webster	96
Benjamin Franklin	94
Ulysses S. Grant	92
John Marshall	91
Thomas Jefferson	90
Ralph Waldo Emerson	86
Henry W. Longfellow	84
Robert Fulton	84
Washington Irving	82
Jonathan Edwards	82
Samuel F. B. Morse	79
David G. Farragut	79
Henry Clay	74
George Peabody	72
Nathaniel Hawthorne	72
Robert E. Lee	69
Peter Cooper	68
Horace Mann	69
Eli Whitney	66
Henry Ward Beecher	66
James Kent	65
Joseph Story	64
John Adams	61
William Ellery Channing	58
John James Audubon	57
Elias Howe	53
Gilbert Stuart	52
Asa Gray	51

It will be observed that only ninety-seven of the one hundred judges voted. The three who have not been heard from are Governor Roosevelt, Andrew D. White, ambassador to Berlin, and George E. Post, president of the medical school at Beyreut, Syria. It will also be noticed that only one name, that of George Washington, is the unanimous choice of all of the judges. Daniel Webster and Abraham Lincoln lack but one vote of a unanimous choice. The University Senate adopted a resolution under which the present judges may serve in 1902 to fill the vacant panels, which are twenty in number, thirty having been filled.

During the season just closed thirty-four sealing schooners took 16,000 skins in Behring Sea. The spring schooners took 16,517 skins, bringing the total for the season up to 32,517. Only fifty-five branded seals were killed.

A woman, who has formerly an actress on the vaudeville stage, and who is alleged to have smuggled over $400,000 worth of diamonds into America, has been arrested at New York. Her method was to starve a pet dog for two days, and then feed it with meat in which the diamonds had been concealed.

The great coal strike in the authracite belt of Pennsylvania was terminated in the last week of October. The strike was in progress for over a month. It involved the idleness of 140,000 men, with the resulting privation and distress which labour disputes of such magnitude cannot fail to involve, not to speak of the interruption to business and the increase in the price of what is at once one of the capital adjuncts of industry and an every-day necessary for people generally. The men gain on the average 10 per cent. in wages.

It is estimated that the amount of natural gas consumed in the United States during the year 1899 was 135,000,000,000 cubic feet, valued at $20,024,864, an increase in value over the product of the previous year of $4,730,051, due partly to the increase in the price and partly to the greater amount of gas consumed. At the close of the year 1899 the number of wells producing natural gas in the United States was 9,333, as compared with 8,453 at the close of the year 1898. The average price of gas furnished consumers in 1892 was 18¼ cents per thousand cubic feet. In 1899 Pennsylvania was the first on the list of gas-producing states, turning out $8,337,210 worth of natural gas, followed by Indiana with an output valued at $6,680,370, while the product of West Virginia amounted to $2,335,864, and that of Ohio was $1,866,271.

Among the many indications of renewed life and activity in the various literary interests of Messrs. Harper & Brothers is the announcement that Mr. W. D. Howells is to resume his old connection with the house. Beginning with the Christmas number of *Harper's Magazine*, Mr. Howells will conduct "The Easy Chair," discontinued since the death of Mr. George William Curtis. Mr. Howells will also be a regular contributor to *The North American Review*, now edited and published by the same firm in Franklin Square. It is furthermore announced that Mr. Howells' services have been exclusively retained by Messrs. Harpers, who will hereafter publish everything he writes.

Statistics of the population of the cities of the United States containing over 25000 inhabitants have just been completed by the Census Office. Those cities, which number 159, have a population of 19,694,625, as compared with a population in the same cities of 14,855,489 in 1890 and of 9,933,927 in 1880. It is worthy of note that the cities in question showed a smaller absolute increase in the decade just ended than the preceding one—82,426 less, while the percentage of increase was only 32.5 per cent. for the decade ending in 1900, as compared with 49.5 per cent. in the preceding decade. Of the cities referred to, nineteen have 200,000 or more inhabitants, nineteen have between 100,000 and 200,000 population, forty have between 50,000 and 100,000 inhabitants and eighty-one cities have between 25,000 and 50,000 inhabitants. As compared with the thirty-eight cities having over 100,000 inhabitants at present, there were only twenty-eight in 1890 and twenty in 1880.

One of the most notable, if not the most notable, speeches delivered before the Manchester Statistical Society in October was that of Sir Robert Giffen, the well known statistician, upon the European population of the world. In the course of his remarks the speaker declared that the growth of the United States compelled her recognition as the most powerful state in the world, so far as population and resources were concerned. Sir Robert also pointed out that the United States really had a greater European population than any single European state, for Great Britain's strength, the speaker declared, might be considered to be diminishing rather than increasing by the possession of large territories, while the units of the Russian population were so inferior that the preëminence of the United States could not be questioned. Sir Robert concluded that there are now only four great Powers—the United States, Great Britain, Russia and Germany. According to Sir Robert, the European population of the world should number nearly two thousand million persons before the end of the century has passed. Thus, he reasons, will the yellow peril be overcome.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The war-vessels *Shikishima, Yashima, Yakamo, Tokiwa* and *Saiyen* arrived at Sasebo on the 22nd ult. from Hakata.

Col. Fukuhara, of the Imperial Japanese forces, visited the School of Military Engineering, Chatham, on Oct. 11th by special permission from the War Office. He was shown over the establishment by Major Jackson, R.E.

We understand that the premises lately occupied by the Yokohama United Club at No. 5A, the Bund, changed hands on Tuesday. The new proprietors are the Club Hotel Company, Ltd., and the price paid ranges between *yen* 90,000 and *yen* 100,000. Mr. C. D. Moss was the intermediary agent.

The fine property known as No. 37, Bluff, comprising about 1,100 *tsubo* of land and a commodious two-storyed dwelling house, was sold at auction by Mr. Jno. W. Hall yesterday afternoon for 40,500 *yen*. The purchaser was Mr. C. D. Moss, as agent for a principal whose name was not disclosed.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday, Judge Sato gave judgment for the defendant in the civil suit brought by the Futayama Shokai against Mr. W. S. Stone, claiming *yen* 150 in connection with the charter of a steamer by the latter. Plaintiff was also ordered to pay the costs of the Court.

Two coolies have been arrested on a charge of being concerned in the theft of indigo to the value of *yen* 350 from a godown at No. 60, belonging to Messrs. Cornes & Co. They confessed to having sold the goods to various dyers through the medium of Fukazawa Otokichi, living at Matsukage-cho. The men have been sent to the court for trial.

The hearing of the appeal of Mr. J. R. Morse against the decision of the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho in the Kobe Waterworks Loan Case was resumed in the Tokyo Court of Appeal on Monday. Mr. Suzuki, counsel for appellant, made a motion demurring to the Judges in charge of the case. The hearing was therefore adjourned pending a decision on the point.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Saturday before Judge Sato the claim of the Futayama Shokai against Mr. W. S. Stone for payment of *yen* 150 alleged to be due in connection with the charter of a steamer came up. Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Koide and defendant by Mr. Akiyama. A question arose as to the correctness of the translation of certain contracts produced in court by defendant and the Court adjourned till the 27th inst. pending a decision on the point.

The sanitary authorities of Yokohama have been surprising the dairymen lately. Hearing complaints of the prevalence of impure milk, the authorities stationed a sanitary officer and a veterinary surgeon at various bridges leading into the town and all milk-sellers passing along were stopped and examined. At Miyakobashi two men out of twelve were caught, and at Kamenohashi four out of thirty, who were attempting to sell impure milk. It is to be hoped that official vigilance will be maintained for some time to come.

The following is the result of tenders submitted to the Government for the supply of 10,000 tons of rails and necessary fish plates on the railways, opened on Saturday at Shimbashi:—

	Pounds sterling.
Messrs. Mitsui & Co.	£77,984
Messrs. Takata & Co.	77,106
Messrs. Illies & Co.	78,959
Messrs. Isono & Co.	75,373
Messrs. Birch & Co.	76,579
Messrs. Hayashi & Co.	71,107
Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co.	78,092

Messrs. Hayashi obtained the order for American makers.

A widow named Yamazoye Tomi (46), her daughter Kyo (14), and her son Gentaro (4)

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living at Ono-mura, Arima gori, Hyogo Prefecture, were drowned in Matsuike on the 20th ult. They were dressed in funeral garments. The three bodies were tied together and a letter was attached to one praying that when the bodies were found they should be buried together.

The well-known builder of the Shinagawa Forts, Mr. Amano Keizo, died at Katsura-mura, Minami Tsurugori, Yamanashi Prefecture, on the 27th ult., aged 87 years.

Thursday was duly celebrated by Americans as Thanksgiving Day. The Consulate-General was closed, and as usual turkey was a prominent and honoured dish in many residences.

A runaway horse driven in a buggy and belonging to Mr. A Weston caused some damage on the Bluff on Wednesday forenoon, and injured a jinrikishaman before it could be restrained.

A sailor belonging to the British ship *Rathdoon* was charged in the Chiho Saibansho on Thursday with assaulting the foreign proprietor of a saloon at No. 133 Settlement and his Japanese wife. The charge was dismissed for want of evidence.

A *sendo* named Suzuki Kojiro, of Chiba Prefecture, was arrested by the Tokyo water police on the 28th ult. on a charge of stealing three piculs of Korean rice from a junk at Wagura-machi, Fukagawa, Tokyo, on the 21st ult.

A Calcutta telegram of the 6th ult. states that the Committee of the Famine Fund has nearly eight lakhs in hand which have been retained for the Deccan districts and Bombay, where there is a risk of the distress being continued another year.

A man named Yamada Ryotaro, who absconded with *yen* 1,700 belonging to Messrs. Sale & Co. and was subsequently arrested in Formosa, was sentenced in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on the 28th ult. to two years' imprisonment, six months' police surveillance and a fine of *yen* 20.

Fire broke out in a *sake* factory occupied by Yamamoto Toyosaburo, at Shimototsuka-mura, Toyotama-gori, near Tokyo, at 11 p.m. on the 27th ult. and two houses were destroyed. An employe named Kanda Shinichi, aged nine, was burnt to death, his corpse being found among the *debris*.

A collision occurred on the evening of the 28th ult. between the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steam-launch *Orihime Maru* and a *sampan* conveying six men from the hospital steamer *Kyosai Maru*, then in Yokohama harbour. The *sampan* was upset and six of the crew and one sendo were rescued; one man being drowned.

The funeral of Vice-Admiral Viscount Nire Kagenori, took place at Aoyama Cemetery on the afternoon of the 27th ult. Representatives of the Imperial Princes, the Vice-President of the Privy Council, Privy Councillors, Marsha. Marquis Saigo, Marshal Marquis Oyama, Admiral Ito, Vice-Admiral Yamamoto, and high officers of the Army and Navy attended.

Several arrests have been made in connection with an affair in which a Japanese merchant obtained from Messrs. Singleton, Benda & Co., Ltd., Yokohama, *yen* 3 000 worth of goods on the security of a fixed deposit note for *yen* 4,000 on the Shoji Bank, of Tokyo. The foreign firm when offered the note telephoned to the bank and received an assurance that the note was in order, but later it appeared that there was no deposit in the bank as alleged by the note—which appears to have been a forgery.

The Japanese steamer *Tokunaga Maru*, 208 tons, belonging to Mr. Konishi Tomekich, Wakayama Prefecture, laden with coal, left Unoshima, Buzen, on the 10th ult. for Atsuta, Bishu. On the 24th ult when near Kumano, Kishu, a heavy wind sprang up, and the sea swept one of the crew away, the vessel was also damaged. On the following morning, as it continued rough, signals were hoisted which attracted the attention of the *Kannon Maru* passing near. The *Kannon* rescued five of the men from the steamer but failed to save the other four, owing to the heavy sea. On the 26th the Japanese war-vessel *Chinyen* went out and rescued the remainder of the men, bringing them to Yokosuka on the 27th ult.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Thursday before Judge Sato, R. P. Collaco sued J. Delbourgo for *yen* 50. Sometime ago plaintiff sublet to defendant a portion of the premises at No. 52 Bluff leased from Mr. E. B. Clarke. In September last, plaintiff sued defendant in the Court, claiming *yen* 150, that is *yen* 100 as rent due and *yen* 50 as the cost of repairs to the house. Plaintiff obtained judgment for the rent, but as to the cost of repairs judgment was reserved pending enquiries. Plaintiff now claimed *yen* 50 from defendant as the cost of repairs. The hearing was adjourned *sine die*.

Mr. W. F. K. Fearon, who has held the post of Belgian Consul at this port for several years, (says the *Kobe Herald*) has resigned the appointment, and Mr. A. Hofmann (of Messrs. H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.,) has been appointed Consul for the time being, pending receipt of confirmation from Brussels. Mr. Fearon was appointed to the post in 1887. During his long term of office he has rendered efficient and valuable service to the foreign community in many ways, having discharged the duties of Honorary Secretary of the foreign Municipal Council until its discontinuance in July, 1899, on the abolition of exterritoriality here.

Confirmatory news of the loss of the sailing ship *Tam O'Shanter* while on a voyage from Hongkong to New York comes to hand by the mail. The vessel, it is gossiped in Hongkong shipping circles, was condemned for any further service, and negotiations at one time existed for her sale and subsequent "break up." However, after a minute survey, it was determined to again put her on the run and she was chartered for America as above stated. The vessel was in command of Captain J. E. Ballard, who had his wife, daughter and infant on board: the chief and second officers were Europeans and the remainder of the crew were Japanese. The *Tam O'Shanter* left Hongkong on 9th September, and from the fact that she was never reported as passing Anjer it is presumed that she was lost between Hongkong and that port. She carried a general cargo.

The French Consul-General at Shanghai was reported on Nov. 20th to have addressed a strong telegraphic remonstrance to H.E. Liu Kun-yi, on the subject of persecutions of native converts in Kiangsi, requesting that immediate and stringent orders should be given to put a stop to the outrages; and M. le Comte de Bezaure was on the following day in receipt of a reply from the Viceroy promising that the necessary orders should be issued forthwith. It is worthy of remark that in many instances subordinate officials have been guilty of the persecution complained of, and as all the Catholic missionaries have been withdrawn from the province the natives no longer have the benefit of their assistance and protection. Without including the Protestant losses, the *Shanghai Mercury* is informed that the Catholic mission premises have since the commencement of the troubles been looted and destroyed at no less than forty different places, whilst the more recent disturbances are reported from the neighbourhood of Nanyang-fu.

By the death of General Sir A. B. Stransham, the Royal Marine Forces have lost their senior officer, as Sir Anthony received his first commission in 1823. He retired in 1875 with the rank of General after 52 years' service. His first experience of warfare was at the capture of Syra in 1827, and he was through the China campaign of 1840-41. He commanded the Royal Marines at the storming of the Whangpoo batteries, and participated in every action of importance during the campaign. In the war with Russia Sir A. Stransham served with the combined expedition in the Baltic. From 1862 to 1867 he was Inspector-General of the Corps of Royal Marines, and it was on the occasion of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee that he was made a G.C.B. Sir Anthony had attained his 94th year.

ECHOES FROM EUROPE.

According to official statistics, the attendance at the recent Birmingham Musical Festival showed an advance compared with the meeting three years ago, although on the last two days there was a slight falling off in the figures. The increase in attendance was 826 persons, and in receipts £948, and it is pleasing to learn that, despite the heavy fees of the principal singers and the expenses of extra rehearsals, more than £5,000 out of the total receipts of £14,670 will go to the General Hospital. Handel and Coleridge Taylor divided the honours in respect of attendance, for the largest audiences were on the Wednesday and Friday evenings devoted respectively to "Hiawatha" and the "Messiah."

During the recent manœuvres of the Austrian Army in Galicia, an old Jewish soldier, clad in a kaftan, and wearing several medals, took up his position among the other spectators outside the residence of the Emperor Francis Joseph at Jalso. As the Emperor was about to go to the camp, says the *Jewish World*, he espied among the crowd the old man, who had among his decorations, the large silver medal for valour, and going up to him asked him where he had been awarded that special decoration. The old soldier replied that it has been given to him for conspicuous bravery at the battle of Majenta in 1859. The Emperor then asked his name and where he lived, to which he replied that his name was Abusth Weiss and that he lived in Brzozow, near Sanok. With the remark, "It has given me pleasure to see you here," the Emperor left him. Subsequently Weiss was sent for by the military authorities, from whom he received the pension connected with the medal.

The Pope has decided to call an Œcumenical Council in 1901 to consider some important questions which were left undetermined in 1870, when the doctrine of the Pope's infallibility was promulgated.

The annual statement of the Chairman of the London County Council is worth the careful perusal of those interested in municipal government. The Council has now been in existence eleven years, and it has added to the aggregate debt which it took over from the Metropolitan Board of Works about five and a half millions. The total indebtedness now exceeds £23,000,000, and the Council stands committed to a gross capital expenditure of over £11,000,000. A large portion of the borrowed money has no doubt been well spent, and some, at least, of the contemplated new outlay is absolutely necessary. At the same time the continuous growth of a municipal debt is a matter which cannot be safely neglected.

One hears a good deal of iconoclasm in these days, and especially of the destruction of houses famous in history or in fiction, but it is rare that a place is patched up to bring it into line with a fictitious past. Such a course has just been adopted at Corneville, a village which, in spite of its dramatic reputation, has never possessed a real peal of bells. This cardinal defect has just been remedied, and the installation of the new peal was celebrated in the presence of ten thousand people. The chief feature of the ceremony was the playing of the best-known airs of the operetta on the new peal.

Giuseppe Verdi, the great Italian composer, entered upon the 88th year of his busy and fruitful life on Oct. 19th. To realise that the same mind which composed the opera "Nabuco" in 1842 has in recent years given us "Falstaff" and "Othello," is to appreciate the marvellous musical development of this most famous of living composers. From the early Italian school to the latest manner of music drama is a stride indeed. The veteran Italian is still working with all the zeal of a young and enthusiastic musician, and in wishing him a long continuance of his hale old age, one can be assured that while he can give of his best, Verdi will continue to delight the musical world with his wonderful scores.

From recent addresses delivered by Mr. Stirling, the mining representative of the Victorian

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Government, before the Institute of Mining Engineers in the West of England, it appears that out of £413,000,000 worth of gold won in Australasia since 1851, Victoria although the smallest State (very nearly as large as the United Kingdom), has produced £255,917,096—is in fact, the largest gold producer in the world except California. Two-thirds of the entire colony is auriferous. Thirty well-defined auriferous zones intersect the colony from north to south. Reefs have been proved from the summit of highest alps 6,000 feet above sea level to points 3,000 feet below sea level, as at Bendigo. The deepest mines are now 3,500 feet deep. There are also deposits of silver, lead, antimony, tin, iron, and coal which await development.

The House of Lords' judgment vesting the copyright of public speeches in the newspapers reporting them is having curious results. A London publisher has in hand a book recording the life of Mr. Chamberlain. The story is illustrated by quotations from some of his more famous speeches. Those delivered prior to 1885 were taken from the authorised edition published in that year. The writer of the life, bearing in mind the House of Lords' decision, wrote to the editor of the authorised edition asking permission to quote from them. This was readily given. But the publishers stepping upon the scene announced that if any portion of the book was used they would make a charge for it. This seemed to present an insuperable obstacle to the privilege of quoting speeches, which Mr. Chamberlain, personally appealed to, freely conceded, In the end a simple means was devised whereby the exigeant publisher was circumvented. The speeches had in the first instance been taken from the columns of the *Times* being transfered bodily with some slight supervision from Mr. Chamberlain's hands. This ascertained, the publishers of the life approached the managers of the *Times* with a request for permission to quote the desired passages from the columns of their journal. This was at once forthcoming, and nothing worse than some delay has followed. But the strange case suggests quaint possibilities underlying this famous judgment.

General André is still busy with reforms in the French Army. His latest measure is the abolition of the obligatory "dot" of £1,000 capital for officers' brides, and a fresh arrangement in the matter of permissions to be married, which will make things much easier for would-be Benedicts. As a matter of fact, this "dot" system, which, for obvious reasons, seems absurd to us now, had its *raison d'être* at the time it was originated in 1843, for then the French officer in search of a wife was at a distinct disadvantage in comparison with the civilian brother, parents being very chary of giving their dowered daughters to men likely at any moment to leave them widowed; and who, at the best, could only offer them one of those pillar-to-post existences which are particularly repugnant to the French nature. Now the same conditions do not obtain. A long peace has made people forget the war bogey; men may remain almost a lifetime in one garrison, and the profession of arms has, moreover, become so "chic" that officers are at a premium in the marriage market For all these reasons an ordinarily attractive officer has but little difficulty in getting himself a rich wife if he wishes to do so, and it is just as well that in those rare cases where the bridegroom does not seek a "dot" he should have no difficulties thrown in the way of his choice. But, of course, there will be plenty of people to cavil at the measure, as, indeed, they would do at any initiative on the part of the Minister of War. With regard to the late reorganisation of St. Cyr, for instance, the hubbub occasioned by the Ministerial decrees has not yet subsided. And yet the sum total of the whole business was the introduction of that element of equality which is one of the first principles of Republicanism.

A telegram despatched from the Governor of Wakayama Prefecture and received by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department on the 28th ult., stated that there has been an outbreak of plague at Yuasa-machi, Arai-gori.

"THE GRAPHIC" X'MAS NUMBER.

With *The Graphic* Christmas Number, which came to hand by the French mail, is given away a replica of the important picture which Mr. Stanhope Forbes, A.R.A., has just completed. This picture, which is called "A Story of the Veldt," is a commission from the Proprietors of *The Graphic* and represents a gallant soldier, safely home, narrating his adventures before a cosy fire, to an appreciative group of attentive listeners, comprising the devoted wife and aged mother. A baby in the foreground adds to the simple pathos of the picture, showing the anxieties so bravely endured at home whilst the father has been fighting for his country. The only draw-back to the verisimilitude of the scene is that the cottage interior belongs to an era in English domestic life which passed away some decades ago.

In addition to the above, the number, which is all printed in colours, contains a lurid reproduction of "The Escape of a Heretic," by the late Sir J. E. Millais, P.R.A., and stories by W. W. Jacobs, W. S. Gilbert, Grant Allen, H. B. Marriott Watson, S. Baring Gould, Eden Philpotts, etc., with illustrations by Major-General Baden-Powell, C. E. and H. M. Brock, Reginald Cleaver, Stanhope Forbes, A.R.A., Gordon Browne, R.I., Frank Craig, Tom Browne, Elmhurst Cumming, W. Ralston, W. Hatherell, R.I., and T. Walter West. From a colour-printer's point of view the *Graphic* fully sustains its reputation; the stories, and comic pages, however, lack the grip and vitality of some years ago.

POPULATION OF HOKKAIDO.

According to latest statistics, the population of Hokkaido is stated at 1,000,815, of whom 58,661 are classified as immigrants within last year. The total number of immigrants for the years since 1894 stood at 348,624, whereas the average births per 100 per year was no less than 3 to 4, a ratio double that of any city or prefecture, the average of which stands at 1 to 27.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents for the accuracy of their assertions or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

THE ROADS OF TOKYO.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—May I once more call your attention to the oft discussed subject, "The roads of Tokyo," in the almost forlorn hope of rousing public opinion through your influential columns, to the financial side of this question?

I am told the remaking of the roads in this city, on the new and improved system lately adopted, is costing from 7 to 10 yen per tsubo.

This seems a vast outlay, but it is only a small part of the total cost of construction; the cost of consolidating the roads must also be included in the cost of making them, for a road can not properly be called a road while it represents a section of a dry river bed, or a sea shore; and what is the cost of consolidating these newly constructed roads?

From inquiries I have made and as the result of careful observation, I am led to believe that each jinrikisha or other carriage passing along these newly made roads, requires three times the power to draw it, and that the pace is reduced to one-half what it would be on a good road.

Now what does this mean?

It means that the cost of consolidation is equal to the cost of all the wheeled traffic on the road multiplied by five—because three times the power and twice the time is required—and this goes on for weeks and weeks.

Compared with this, the cost of construction is a mere bagatelle.

If the public could be brought to realize that they have to pay *both bills* I don't think they would long remain passive spectators of the fearful waste of money and money's worth (labour) now being perpetrated, especially if they knew that, (given, properly broken stone) roads like billiard tables, firm and smooth, free from mud dust, and loose stones in all weather, can be made for less than 50 *sen* per tsubo, and in four days time.

This is no idle statement but a positive fact, and if the authorities in any enterprising city or town in Japan would like to know how this may be done I shall be most happy to tell them.

In conclusion, I may say that I hope the Japanese newspapers, or some of them, may take note of this letter and so call more general attention to this important subject.

Hoping you will pardon my troubling you,

I remain, yours truly

Gervas Holmes,

11, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokyo, Nov. 23.

MR. VAN BERGEN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have refrained from making any observations on the article from the pen of Mr. Van Bergen, referred to in your recent issues, believing that the matter had better be left to abler correspondents and to yourself; but I can throw some light upon the subject, for I knew Mr. Van Bergen some years ago. He introduced himself to me as one of the correspondents of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Philadelphia Public Ledger*, the *Examiner*, and some other papers. He was recommended to come to me, as one who would act as his financial agent while he followed the Japanese army during the Japan-China war. I agreed to do this, and made all arrangements, but from one or two expressions he frequently made use of I was not favourably impressed with him.

He represented that the above papers owed him sums amounting in the aggregate to between $2,000 and $3,000 in gold, and gave me the different amounts in a small ledger. All remittances were to come to me, and I was to finance him from Yokohama wherever he might be. As a matter of fact only some 23 *yen* ever came, or was placed to his credit, the accounts having all been made up, so that my commission on the above amount, as well as on any subsequent business which might pass through my hands, did not materialise. Moreover, Mr. Van Bergen drew drafts, or acceptances, on the above named papers for several hundred dollars in gold. I was desired to endorse these drafts, and as they were only for collection on the other side, I did so. They were all returned dishonoured. Mr. Van Bergen sent to me from Kobe for my statement, and from this he may remember that he still owes a considerable sum to me, according to his own statements.

Now, sir, your readers may form their own estimate of the value of Mr. Van Bergen's writings concerning Japan. He certainly is a man of no right principle, and is not addicted to speaking the truth.

But why is it that such articles appear in American journals? Where there is much smoke there must be some fire. Well, I can throw some light on that too.

Soon after we came under Japanese laws various incidents occurred which produced friction in the minds of foreigners. There were the Osaka incident, the Kent case, and possibly some others, but I will simply state my own experience. A policeman had occasion to come to my private residence on the Bluff. He had been on previous occasions, and had always gone to our servants' quarters and seen our Japanese housekeeper, but that was under the old order of things. When the new order of things came into operation a policeman whether the same I do not know, came to our front entrance (which is quite agreeable) and asked to see my wife. The boy said he would call her, but the policeman, instead of waiting, passed by the boy, opened the door of our sitting room without knocking, stood there with his hat on, and rudely broke in upon my wife's conversation with two lady friends who were making a call, and were sitting at tea, and said in English, "I wish to speak to you." He did; and so did I, when I got home and was told of it. I wrote to the police station, and although I received no reply, no such incident has occurred since.

Things like this will soon be made straight by an intelligent and courteous class of higher officials, but it is these incidents which get into the papers in America and make such articles as Van Bergen's possible.

I had occasion, late one night, to call in a policeman to some troublesome *jinrikisha* men. He came, and I invited him in. The first thing he did was to take out a cigarette and proceed to light it, while talking to me and while he was on duty. I told him I disliked smoke and he desisted.

The less intelligent officials who act in this way are responsible for much of the criticism meted out to Japan. Things will be corrected in time and the sooner the better. The Japanese have made politeness a fine art and are worthy of all honour for the advance they have made, but they haven't quite got there yet.

I am Sir, yours very truly,

FRANCIS STANILAND.

[This is not the only account we have received of Mr. Van Bergen's curious financial proceedings in Japan.—Ed. *J. W. M.*]

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A REPLY, A WITHDRAWAL, AND SUGGESTIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Please allow me to withdraw all statements with regard to the personal religious, or irreligious, sentiments of the writer, or writers, of the "Monthly Summary of the Religious Press."

I imagine that the public cares but little about what either he, she, they, or I believe; the need is to know what the leaders of Japanese thought think for or against the Faith.

To me, personally, the Summaries are the most interesting parts of the paper, and I have never met a missionary yet who held the opposite opinion.

To be sure I have been disgusted when the 聖公會 was called Protestant Episcopal, but I imagine that most Protestant and all Roman missionaries were pleased.

So that I am unable to prove by that the Protestantism of The Great Unknown writers of the Summaries.

The opinions of a former President of the Imperial University who can't see any moral wrong in prostitution are spread before us month after month, but I cannot prove that the Great Unknown writers of the Summaries sympathize in the slightest degree with his sentiments.

For these and other weighty reasons I decline to take up the challenge.

But before I subside into the merited obscurity of my cell, please let me say to you, Mr. Editor, that you would be doing a great and good work if you were to make the Summaries Weekly instead of Monthly, giving one week to Shintoism, the next to Buddhism, the third to Orthodox Christianity, the fourth to the sects, and when there is a fifth week let the world, the flesh, and the devil have their innings.

The Japanese are a wonderful people, utterly fearless in their originality, and when they have made up their minds to become a Christian nation, we are going to have some choice and interesting sects and heresies to study and classify.

What do we really know about the *Remmon Kyōkwai* and the *Ten Ri Kyokwai*?

The rise, progress, and decay of these sects and others that are to come are quite as interesting and instructive and a thousand times more practical, than the study of the heresies and sects of the first three centuries, or even those of the seething times of the 16th century.

We missionaries must know about these things and you are helping us beyond expression by opening up to us the Japanese mind.

The Japanese are Oriental enough to hide their thought and opinions. Mr. Uchimura Kanzo's work on "How I became a Christian" has an immense sale abroad, because it is absolutely unique in letting us in behind the scenes of the personal experience of a soul struggling towards the light. Mr. Lafcadio Hearn's books on Japanese religious feeling are bought and read with the greatest avidity until people find out the intense subjectivity of them: and that they represent only the cosmos of a single ego. There is a market for Japanese religious thought and opinion.

The Japanese have in China proved that they are Christians in practical applied ethics superior to the Catholic French and the Orthodox Russians, and when this cruel war is over, and the soldiers come back to Sendai and are forbidden by their officers, supported by the *gensdarmes*, to have anything to do with the foreign religion, they are going to find out what it is if they have to wade through fire and blood to get it, and we shall find their struggles to comprehend the supernatural doctrines of the Catholic faith worthy of all sympathy and attention.

We hope to learn these things in the Weekly Summary of the Religious Press.

I am sure, Mr. Editor, that you would make your Summaries Weekly at once could you for a moment realize the profundity of the ignorance about Japanese thought of the average missionary in China.

The merchants can't read the signs on their own gates so it is said, and although of course this is a vile missionary slander, yet it is certainly true that the average missionary to China should be compelled to study and stand an annual examination on the Weekly Summaries of the Religious Press in the *Japan Mail* for the reason that the Japanese are going to teach the Chinese to think and act in spite of all the mailed fists in Europe. What power on earth can keep 40,000,000 of people from teaching 400,000,000 what they know when they use the same written character?

Therefore, Mr Editor, since all that we know we have learned from you, please extend the sphere of your missionary education to the 3,000 Protestant and the un-numbered Roman missionaries on the Continent, by making the Summary Weekly.

Yours sincerely,

HENRY S. JEFFERYS.

SOME AMERICAN OBSERVATIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

Ithaca, N. Y., Oct. 22, 1900.

We are in the midst of the excitement, the amenities and the humours of a presidential campaign, and Ithaca being the educational centre of the greatest of the States of the Union, is well favoured for a study of the subject. Last week we had two of the candidates for the presidency in our University city who spoke to the voters and spectators. The platform on which one of them, Mr. Bryan, uttered his theories is to be kept intact, for another, Mr. Roosevelt, comes next week. Let me give offhand my impressions of the men.

It is a pleasant thing for an American voter in this last year of the century to recall the fact that all the candidates are men of unblemished moral character, and in private life beloved and respected of all. I have never met President McKinley, but years ago I made the acquaintance of the lady who is now Mrs. McKinley, when travelling in Europe. The impressions formed then, of the young lady from Canton, Ohio, as of a woman of many graces and fine character, have been amply confirmed. It is no secret to those who know the life of the busiest man in the United States, that his companion has been to him a continued help and inspiration. It is every year becoming more and more evident also, that the American woman takes a deep interest in politics. Clubs for the study of history and American politics are becoming more and more numerous and it is hard to see how in time the American woman can be prevented from being a voter.

Mr. Theodore S. Roosevelt, I have known personally for many years, having noticed his excellent work in literature, and, being acquainted with the family from which he sprung and especially his father, who embodied so finely the noble traditions of a noble composite stock, I, in common with thousands of my fellow countrymen, have not been disappointed in the son of his father.

Senator Chauncey M. Depew, who spoke here last Tuesday evening, I have known for many years, always appreciating him highly as one of the wittiest and the brightest after-dinner speakers at the Clubs in New York and on great occasions. His speeches, it must be confessed, read better when you peruse them as you take soda water, that is, when freshly drawn from the fountain. Nevertheless he is a man among men, widely acquainted with his country and his countrymen, and deserves his long continued popularity. Although his connection with railway corporations years ago put him out of the possibilities of the presidency, there are many thousands of Democrats, even in his own State, who are glad to see him as Senator representing the sovereign State of New York. I see that the encyclopædias have him down as "Minister to Japan for a short period," but as a matter of fact, though nominated Minister Resident in Japan, in 1865, he declined the appointment, because he thought it would interfere with his prospects and career in the United States. How strange *that* seems to us now, when Japan is one of the Powers of the world!

Mr. William Jennings Bryan, who spoke here last Thursday, astonishes every one by his tremendous physical endurance. He travels in his private car, which is fitted up with all the modern conveniences, and he speaks often ten or a dozen times a day. He is in the very prime of life, of an impressive and masterful figure and countenance, and has an easy good nature that captivates hearers. He uses no stimulant of an alcoholic nature, though very fond of coffee. He has a tremendous digestion and looks as if he could lift an ox. His arguments and method of handling his themes suggest more the theorist and orator than the practical man of affairs. Concerning his election, it is rash to prophecy, but, since votes are counted and not weighed and since New York has such a preponderant mass of electoral votes, it may be that causes, other than purely political, may help to elect Mr Bryan. Let it storm for a week before election day and then let it pour rain on November 6th, and it is more than probable that Mr. Bryan will be elected. So say many Democrats. For, in New York State, the farmers are almost wholly Republican, and, in the rural districts, unless a voter is very much in earnest, he is not likely to harness up his horse and vehicle and ride, it may be, for miles through rain and mud to get to the polls. On the contrary the Democratic voters live in the cities, and have but a few rods or yards to walk over well-paved sidewalks to put in their ballot. I remember once, on the election day which gave Mr. Cleveland the presidential chair, when everybody was driven under the awning or indoors, with what glee a Democratic voter said to me:—"This is just the weather we like." His ticket was on that day the winning one.

I have never seen Mr. Adlai Stevenson, that I know of. He is not prominent figure, known to all, like Roosevelt. He enjoys the reputation of having carried out to the fullest logical conclusion, when he was in office, the adage of Secretary Marcy "To the victors belong the spoils." In this case "the thing which hath been, is that which shall be."

The other presidential candidate who visited Ithaca was Mr. John G. Woolley, whom I used to know when in Boston. He stands for the prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and like his other rivals is a man of unblemished private life.

To the overwhelming majority of Americans, all parties and presidential candidates, except those which have in view the interpretation of the Constitution of the United States, are out of order and have no real excuse for being, only adding to the expenses and distraction of a campaign. Our fathers, they say met, over a century ago, from the various states "in order to form a more perfect union," and perpetuate the great ideas on which the United States of America were founded. Parties, therefore, they say, have no rational ground of existence except to interpret this instrument. The Democratic theory is that of a strict interpretation. Democrats believe in increasing rather than diminishing local and state freedom; Republicans lay stress upon the idea of a strong national government. Democrats jealously guard the rights of the states and of the people. With this motive, they oppose the increase of executive power, the expansion of national possessions abroad, a high tariff and trusts. They think that the coinage of silver will be the best remedy for the evils of which the farmer complains and the working man and the poor consider to be grievances. On the other hand, the Republicans believe in the strong assertiveness of the national Government both at home and abroad, in keeping the money standard of value one which the world considers such, and that the so-called trust problems cannot be settled by speeches made before election day, but are matters for patient study and a settlement by educated intelligence.

Back of all the local and temporary issues lie the great unshaken traditions of the Government of the United States which is more conservative and less changeable than any in Europe. This is owing to the fact of its written, or as Mr. Bryce calls it, its "rigid" constitution. Personally I believe that the American people will permanently hold to sound money—such as the world recognizes as sound—will call for complete reform in the public civil service, and will gradually come to such settlement of the tariff as will put trade and industry on a lasting basis of prosperity and will (in time sooner than most active partisans imagine) have a foreign policy that is neither Democratic nor Republican, but national and based on our unbroken traditions. Added to this is an increasing desire and determination to have some better system of protection against mob violence and for the security of secluded places and private property and persons. We are far behind England, France and Holland in our system of rural protection to life and property.

Turning from the political to the educational world, we note that nearly all the universities and colleges this year report large gains over 1899. Cornell has over 2,300 students already registered, and new edifices are going up to increase the number and stateliness of the group already making "the city set upon a hill." Among the students are three Japanese, a Korean and a Chinese.

It is very pleasant for those of us who, thirty years ago and less, had a hand in helping Japan, to read of the splendid abilities of the Japanese soldiers in China. We look back during this summer and see Japan as the van leader of civilization in the rescue of the legations.

While at the Paris Exposition this last summer, I was delighted to see Japan, like the United States, 'a gentleman among the nations.' If it be true that the trader (whether parson, lawyer, doctor, mechanic, or merchant shop-keeper) is one who has something to sell, while the gentleman (whether retailer, priest or politician) is one who has something to give them at the Exposition at least, Japan and the United States were as gentlemen among traders. For, in each national house there was something to see and enjoy—in the American house were comfort, convenience, invitation, welcome, but nothing to be bought or sold. In the Japanese house were art, monuments, and the proofs of refinement and taste, with the atmosphere of a venerable and admirable civilization. Both countries displayed their wares and sold their goods in appropriate places outside of the particular edifice that stood for their country and people and represented their particular phase of achievement in civilization.

Americans, though they be charged with insufferable conceit, could not see in the edifices of the Paris Exposition anything worthy of comparison with those of Chicago; they considered it a sham and a cheat that they should pay a franc (or even twenty-five centimes) to get within the gates and then be obliged to pay from seven to twelve dollars to see the special exhibits. At night they felt positively lonely, except when in the restaurants, for the main buildings were closed and the people attracted to the Exposition outside of the French rara

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visitor were not numerous. The British nation seems to have boycotted the show; but the British exhibit was very fine.

In the various countries through which I travelled; France, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, England, and Scotland, I met or saw many Japanese, in all grades of society and occupations beside that of traveller and tourist, for the Japanese are abroad in the earth. On the streets of London I ran across a party of about eighty Japanese marines, who had come over to take back one of the new battleships, and a finer and more sea-worthy lot of men it would be hard to imagine. I could not help instinctively raising the cry "Banzai, Banzai!" Stopping to talk with the officers, and help them in the maze of London streets, I was delighted to hear the cry of several sailors, as they passed on "Banzai, Banzai—England"! This was more pleasant than when travelling through Belgium, to have my son of thirteen hustled, and cuffed, and to have little things thrown at him because they thought he was "Anglais."

I cannot close without a word about the women's colleges, eight of which are now in successful operation, all but two being located amid beautiful rural surroundings apart from town life. Vassar is the oldest of all. Smith College has the largest number of students, numbering this year over a thousand, while Wells College—the dainty little college on Cayuga Lake at Aurora, and the Alma Mater of Mrs. Grover Cleveland—is the smallest and one of the youngest of the group. In many ways, too numerous here to mention, these colleges effect for the better our American life. Educationally, it may be said that it is now next to impossible for a woman teacher who has not a college diploma, or a university degree, to get a position at all commensurate with her desires, and, perhaps, even with her abilities or desserts.

In my next I may speak of the annual crop of books on Japan, which this year is a light one, public attention being, almost wholly concentrated upon China. We are all wondering what the witches' caldron of Chinese politics is yet to bring forth.

W.F.G.

THE SIEGE OF PEKING.

The *New York Tribune* has printed by permission, a letter written by Mr. Walter Ewen Townsend, one of the young student interpreters in the British Legation in Peking, who passed through all the terrors of the siege of the foreign legations in that city and was severely wounded while fighting against the Boxers. The letter was written for the perusal of Mr. Townsend's family. It gives a vivid description of the horrors of war, including the death by slow starvation of many of the Chinese converts within the besieged area and the discomforts of the wretched diet, chiefly horseflesh, upon which the pent-up foreigners had to subsist. A pathetic feature of the narrative is the fact that the writer died from typhoid fever in Yokohama soon after the siege was raised. The hardships and wounds he suffered had undermined his constitution.

H. B. M. Legation (what is left of it),
Peking, August 6, 1900.

Here's a nice little mess that we have been in during the last six weeks or so. Things look a bit brighter now, however, and I believe we are most of us going to come out of it "right end up" after all. We must not begin hurrahing yet, as we are by no means out of the wood, but I really think we will get out of it now. We have been besieged with shot, shell, fire, mines and every other deviltry the fiends could think of since June 20, and it is really nothing short of a miracle that we have "stood it" like we have. If some one had told us when the siege began that we would have to hold out against if for something like two months, and would be fairly fit at the end of that time, we simply would not have been able to believe it.

At the beginning of the siege Sir Robert Hart, after very careful calculations, told us that in his opinion the very earliest date at which relief could arrive was July 5, and we all jeered at him as a pessimistic old croaker, yet here is August 6, and here are we still hanging on, and still hoping daily for relief. I do not consider that Ladysmith or Kimberley is in it with what we are going through. We are all penned up in a small quarter which is very difficult to defend, with hundreds of our women and children, and thousands of Christian convert refugees, fighting for our lives day and night for a month, with hardly a moment's peace, being shelled by Krupp guns, in some places at a distance of about forty yards, as well as from the city wall, and, worst of all, without any question of surrender even if we were thusly inclined, we know too well what it means to fall into the hands of the festive Chinese soldiers.

UNEXPECTED RELIEF.

However, by a wonderful dispensation of a most merciful Providence, about a fortnight ago, just when things were looking particularly "blue," when our best men were being killed and wounded, and we were almost afraid that we would have to abandon a most important position, which was being most pluckily held by the Japanese principally, all the firing suddenly ceased, and we received tender messages from the Tsung-li-Yamen inquiring after our health and welfare, and stating that they hoped to check the attacks which the "lawless robbers and bandits" were making upon us, etc., and since then we have been enjoying comparative peace, with the exception of occasional night attacks, though of course the siege is as strict as ever, and both sides are working away as hard as they can on the fortifications.

You must understand that, in spite of all the protestations of the Yamen to the contrary, the people who are attacking us are Imperial Chinese troops, acting under orders from the Government, and the Boxers, who are now openly recognized and supported by the Government as a sort of militia. The Tsung-li-Yamen protests that the attackers are outlaws and bandits, knowing all the time that we know that they are regular Government troops, commanded by high princes and officials, and if this were not enough in itself, we have managed, through messengers and spies to get hold of most of the recent issues of the official *Peking Gazette*, which publishes all the Imperial edicts, and in it are many edicts encouraging and rewarding the soldiers and Boxers who are trying to get at us. But of this more later on.

We have good reason to believe that there is a large relief force now on its way up to us, and what we chiefly fear is a final determined attempt to "scupper" us when that force gets near. I sincerely hope this may not happen. I am sick and tired of war and its horrors, and as I got two bullets through me on July 1 and have been laid up ever since, I have to lie still and do nothing when there is fighting going on all around, which is simply terrible.

HOW THE WRITER WAS WOUNDED.

I was wounded in a sortie made to capture a gun which was playing "Old Harry" with us. The Italian officer who was leading us made a hopeless blunder, led us into a regular death trap, and we only got out with the loss of three killed and three wounded. I got two bullets through me, one through the fleshy part of the thigh and one through the shoulder, behind the shoulder-blade. Luckily, no bones were touched, and I am getting on first class. The shoulder healed up quickly and is now quite right. The leg, which was rather a nasty big place, would not heal for some time, but is now getting on fine, and I am able to get about outside a little, with the aid of a pair of crutches. I have not suffered much pain from the wounds at all. It is the effect which it has on you rather than the wound itself which is so trying—its fever and the great weakness.

The sensation of being shot is a very peculiar one. I felt at the time as if I had received two heavy blows with a club or stone. There was no pain at all, and as I was able to go straight on I hardly realized that I had been shot, but thought it must have been bricks or something of that sort that had struck me. I managed to walk some way back even, but as I was bleeding terribly I soon got faint and had to be carried in. However, of all this more, too, later on. I am going to bore you with a short daily account of the siege, but will give you a sort of sketch of how we stand first.

Personally, I am jolly sick of war and its horrors, and hope to goodness we can get away from it soon. I have seen my best friends hit, die, and be carried out and buried, all in the space of a few hours—poor old Oliphant, the very best chap there was, and everybody's friend, is buried in our little temporary cemetery by the First Secretary's house, beside poor Warren, of my year, with whom I went to Jehol Strouts is there, too, the senior captain of our marines, one of the nicest fellows possible, and the smartest officer we had.

LARGE LIST OF CASUALTIES.

Our total casualties up to date, in our small garrison of marines and volunteers, amount to 60 killed and 92 wounded—152 in all—a large number out of so small a garrison when every available man is wanted. However, some of the wounded are coming out now, and are able to return to duty, but the proportion of killed to those hit is something tremendous. The British have the greatest number of casualties, thirty-two killed and wounded, out of which, however, only six have been killed—Oliphant, Warren, Strouts, Dr. Huber James, and two marines—while the Germans have eleven killed and the French eleven out of a total of twenty-five and twenty-one casualties respectively.

Those who have done by far the most useful work are the Japanese, and I only wish they had brought up seventy-five instead of twenty-five. They are the pluckiest beggars we have got and take to fighting like ducks to water. Out of their twenty-five sailors, nine have been killed, and there are only six whole men left who have not been hit. The hospital arrangements, considering where we are and the suddenness of everything, have been simply wonderful. We could not possibly have two better surgeons than our Dr. Poole, and Dr. Felde, of the German Legation. Among the women missionaries there are women doctors and nurses, who do all the nursing. We fortunately had a good supply of medical dressing and stuff, though I am afraid it is getting scarce now. Sheets, curtains, etc., make excellent bandages (those that are not wanted for bandages used for sandbags for the defence). The chancery forms the hospital, and, on the whole, up till now I really do not think that the wounded could have been better cared for at a big hospital at home.

As I am now convalescent I have been moved up to the chief's house, where the "Lady Chief" is just as kind to me as she can possibly be, and where I share a sort of convalescent ward with Captain Halliday, of our marines, who has made a wonderful recovery from a very bad wound through the shoulder, touching the lung, and Dr. Morrison, our renowned *Times* correspondent, who has a slight wound in the thigh. Three officers came up with our marines—Captains Strouts, Halliday and Wray—two of them, Strouts and Halliday, being simply first class officers, and it is very bad luck that one of them should be killed and the other put hors de combat. However, we are lucky in having one or two other military men, who were up here in various capacities, such as Captain Poole, the doctor's brother, who was here to learn Chinese, and Captain Percy Smith a concession hunter. So much for our killed and wounded.

LEGATIONS A SORRY SIGHT.

Our poor legations are a sorry sight. All the Europeans are herded into the British Legation and are living just anywhere and everywhere—in passages, cupboards, carts, anywhere they can sleep. Most of the other legations are being held by their respective marines, so as to form a sort of square of the foreign quarter, of which I will draw you a plan. The fine new Austrian Legation had to be abandoned the first day of the siege, and was immediately sacked and burned. This entailed the abandonment of the Inspector-General's house and the other customs buildings, which it covered, and the Italian Legation, which were all likewise burned. The French and Austrian marines are holding the French Legation well, but have been driven out of half of it, the Chinese having got possession of the other half after undermining and blowing up one of the houses. In the explosion two French marines were buried and lost, while Von Roothorn, the Austrian Chargé d'Affairs, and Destolan, a customs student, were also buried, but managed to get out all right

The German Legation, which is hopelessly exposed to the city wall, is being very pluckily held by the German marines, who are sturdy, useful chaps, but has been most unmercifully battered about by shells from the wall. Our Legation has not actually suffered as much as these, but one big house in the middle of the stables has been shelled to a fair pulp. Our students' quarters have been knocked about a good deal by old fashioned cannon balls, which come crashing through the rooms in a most uncomfortable way, being fired from the Imperial city wall. One of these great round shots came flying through the Chief's dining room, passing just behind a huge portrait of Her Most Gracious Majesty, which hangs at one end of the room.

Of course the Legation is knocked about beyond recognition in the building of fortifications and so on. Every available brick has been pulled out and used; every available carpet, curtain, tablecloth, sheet, and pair of trousers have long since been made into sandbags, of which I should think we must now have used about fifteen thousand. Bombproof shelters have been dug all over the place. Kitchens, armories, commissariat tents are pitched in all sorts of weird places. Seventy missionaries are camped in the chapel. Families of all nations and races occupy our students' downstairs quarters. The two large entrance porches to the Chief's house are crowded, the first with French priests, Belgian engineers, Chinese Roman Catholic Sisters, etc., the second is reserved as an officers' laager. On the whole, you would simply never recognize our poor, old, peaceful, quiet Legation in its present state. We have tried to guard against mining by digging a ten-foot trench all the way round, and I hope that may be effective.

All round the legations is a scene of desolation such as is seldom seen, I should think. The inhabitants, of course, all cleared out "chop-chop" when the siege began, and now there is scarcely a house left standing near us. During the first two or three days of the siege the wretches made the most determind attempts to burn us out, creeping up to houses that stood close to our walls and firing them with paraffin. They repeated this over and over again, and we had to turn out and work like very demons with our wretched little hand-pumps to check the flames,

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while the Chinese would keep up a hot fire on us all the time from the houses round. Several times I thought they had done for us, and it seemed quite hopeless to keep the fire out of the Legation, but we always managed to get it under, and after that, if possible, a sortie would be made, the Chinese "snipers" would be cleared out; and we would set to work to demolish the other houses around which might be set fire to.

SORTIES WERE DANGEROUS.

These sorties from house to house were terribly dangerous, as you were liable to come round a corner suddenly on to several Chinese soldiers. It was in this way that Halliday was wounded. He was leading his men down a narrow passage and, turning into a small courtyard, suddenly came upon five soldiers who were sniping at us while we were trying to put out a fire. The first one blazed at him point blank, the muzzle of his rifle almost touching him, and the bullet going through his shoulder. Halliday proceeded to pot him and two others with his revolver, while the others escaped.

Demolishing houses was a novel experience to me. We would take a band of coolies and simply wreck the whole show. It is wonderful how easily a Chinese house comes down with a run. There was, of course, a good deal of valuable loot brought in, which the Chief ordained should be put into the common stock and afterward distributed but I fear that this excellent rule is not being rigidly adhered to. The soldiers who are attacking us are armed with very serviceable Mauser rifles. We have fortunately been able to get hold of a good many of these from the soldiers we have slain, with their bandoliers of cartridges, and they have proved simply invaluable to the Italians and Japanese, who have nearly run out of ammunition. I had one for some time, when I had mislaid my Martini, and a very handy weapon it was, too.

NEWS OF THE ALLIES' COMING.

August 4.

You must not mind this epistle being spread out over several days. I fear we will have some time yet before relief comes and we can begin to think of sending off letters again. A native messenger from Tien-tsin managed to get in to us on August 2 with letters saying that a strong relief force was on the point of starting, but since then we have passed a week without a vestige of news, and things are dull to a degree. Everything is fairly quiet, however, barring a good deal of sniping and an occasional night fusillade. Yesterday a Japanese got a bullet through his leg while passing a loophole, and they blazed at us a good deal last night. We are in a state of most delightful uncertainty as to how we stand. The Yamên pretend to be all anxiety to protect and guard us, but we have already had one or two examples of how far the Yamên can be relied upon, and if they have such friendly intentions why are Imperial troops building most formidable barricades all round the legations and across every little lane and alley? And why is it that we cannot show a little finger above our barricades in most places without getting a bullet through it?

On the other hand, if they really wanted to "scupper" us, why did they cease active hostilities just when we were getting it so hot, and give us about three weeks of comparative peace, unless, perhaps, through fear of an advancing relief force, or perhaps on receipt of the news of the capture of Tientsin? There is really nothing like a spice of uncertainty to give zest to life, and with us now goodness only knows the why, wherefore, or what next of anything. Dispatches have just come from the Tsung-li Yamên to say that Li Hung-chang has been appointed to settle all questions with the Foreign Offices of the various countries. We suppose that this means an unconditional surrender on the part of China, probably after a jolly good hiding by our relief force, and also a speedy relief, I hope, for us poor beggars in here.

WORRIED BY THE SUSPENSE.

I only wish we could get some idea of what is going on outside. It is annoying to think that you at home, thousands of miles away, know better as to what is going on outside the very walls of Peking than we who are cooped up inside them. A coolie messenger whom we sent out into the city has just returned with the news that all the troops in the city, except five of Jung Lu's regiments, are ordered to go out with all haste to meet the advancing foreign troops, which also looks hopeful. However, more of all this in its right place. I must go on with my description of the present condition of things where I left off last Monday.

Saturday, Aug. 11, 1900.

"Now, we shan't be long," to quote the little vulgar boy. A messenger whom we sent out last Sunday to look for the troops got back again last night with two letters, one from Lieutenant-General Gaselee, in command of the British detachment of the relief force, and one from General Fukushima, in command of the Japanese detachment, or army, rather, which appears to be very strong. General Gaselee's letter was dated from South Tsai-tsung (a place not quite half way between here and Tien-tsin), August 8, 1900, and said:

"Strong force of allies advancing. Twice defeated enemy. Keep up your spirits."

General Fukushima's bearing the same date, was much longer, and such of it as the Chief has thought fit to publish to the outer world runs as follows:—

"Japanese and American troops defeated the enemy on the 5th inst. at Pei-tsang (near Tientsin), and occupied Yang-tsun (about one-quarter of the way up) on the 6th. The allied forces, consisting of Americans, British and Russians, left Yang-tsun this morning (August 8), and while marching north I received your letter at 8 a.m. at Nan-tsai-tsung. It is very gratifying to learn from your letter that the foreign community at Peking is holding out, and, believe me, it is the unanimous and earnest desire of the Lieutenant-General and all of us to arrive at Peking as soon as possible and deliver you from your perilous position."

He then goes on to give the probable dates of arrival at various places on the route, according to which the troops should to-day be at Chang-chia-wan, about seventeen miles from here; to-morrow at Tung-chow, where they evidently anticipate a battle, since they allow a whole day for the few miles between those two places, and, finally, the probable date of arrival at Peking August 13 or 14.

JUBILATION SUCCEEDS DEPRESSION.

You can well imagine that after such a long time of monotonous suspense this good news caused great jubilation, and to-day every one is tremendously "bucked up," especially as our food supply is beginning to look rather small, and we will soon be on starvation rations, besides the fact that the night attacks are again becoming very heavy. However, I must once more try to get back to my tale of woe, where I left off before. I am sorry that I do not write this more regularly every day. It is not that I have not got time, as there is no lack of that for a wretched wounded "'ero" with nothing to do, but the reason is that I am doing sort of private secretary work for Dr. Morrison, our *Times* correspondent, who, as I told you, was slightly wounded, and is in the convalescent ward with me. He is, of course, preparing his detailed account of the siege, to be wired and sent home as soon as we are released, and my duties consist in copying out all his various documents. Consequently, after writing away for him for several hours on end I do not feel much inclined to sit down and go on writing on my own account. You must be sure to read carefully all that he has got to say in *The Times*, as his account is a very good one.

I was just going to tell you last Monday about our food supply and commissariat department. A good deal of fuss was made about it when the fellows in Ladysmith began eating their horses, but, great Scott! we have been living on nothing else since a few days after the siege began. Fortunately, we had several hundred at our disposal, but as we have been "chowing" the poor beasts at the rate of two a day, we have now very nearly come to the end of our supply, and there are only a few of the more valuable ones left. I do not think that poor old Creggan (my pony) ever graced the table. He stampeded out of the gate with a few others some time ago, and I think strayed away and was lost.

HORSEFLESH THEIR STEADY DIET.

As soon as the siege began the two foreign stores in the quarter were looted, and all the tinned edibles brought into the British Legation, but, of course, they did not go far. Besides the ponies our salvation has been a most opportune mill, with a large stock of grain, right in the middle of Legation-st. This, of course, we immediately commandeered, and can turn out an ample supply of bread each day. At the beginning of the siege we also had a small flock of sheep, but the mutton was mostly reserved for the hospital, women and children. The supply of tinned milk ran low some time ago, and what was left was all commandeered for the hospital, so most of us have not seen milk for days. In fact, we have lived solely on porridge, horseflesh, bread and rice, and though this gets monotonous day after day, we cannot say that we ourselves are pinched in any way as yet.

In our mess nowadays the daily and unvarying menu is

Breakfast—Porridge (quite alone, no milk or any such luxuries) and bread.

Tiffin—Horse (also tout simple—no vegetables) and "yellow rice."

Tea—Bread and butter (there is still a little butter left).

Dinner—Horse and "yellow rice."

Next day

Breakfast—Porridge, etc., and so on ad nauseam.

We who haven't the lady chief's table enjoy little extra luxuries, such as occasionally pudding for tiffin and a small ration of cheese for dinner, but in spite of these delicacies the monotonous pony is apt to pall a bit. However, we must not complain, as we could not have believed at the beginning of the siege that we could possibly hold out nearly so long as we have done, and as a matter of fact it is exceedingly lucky for us that the troops are so near, as in about ten days a great crash would come—every pony would be "chowed," all the grain and rice would be exhausted and we would be in a nasty fix.

FEARING A FINAL ATTACK.

Wherefore, let us hope that the troops do not meet with any sort of reverse which may delay their advance. In that case, however, I think a determined attempt would be made to "scupper" us, as they are evidently only holding off through fear of the advancing force, and we might not survive to feel hungry. We have been able sometimes to buy a good many eggs sold to us surreptitiously at our barricades by the soldiers who are besieging us, and these have been a priceless boon to the sick babies and invalids. The Yamen, even, one day sent us in a present of ice, countless watermelons (ten times more deadly than their bullets and shells), and two hundred pounds of flour—a fat lot to be distributed among four thousand hungry people! The reason of this burst of generosity was evident later. One of the cipher telegrams from home which the Yamên have been good enough to let us have asked if it were true that the Chinese Government is "protecting and feeding us!" Feeding us, forsooth, when they decline to let us buy anything over our barricades even, and then send us in a few mangy watermelons, so as to be able to say when the day of reckoning comes that they fed and cared for us all the time!

Saturday, August 12.

The glorious 12th! I wish we were chivying the festive grouse, instead of being potted at all round like rats in a hole. We had a very heavy attack last night, in which a Frenchman was killed, and an Austrian and Russian wounded, and to-day the snipers are very busy. Very fortunately for us the proportion of casualties to the number of rounds fired is most ridiculously small. The walls of most of the legations make it difficult for the Chinese to fire right down into them, except from the city walls, but they seem to have an idea that they are bound to exterminate the "foreign devils." Consequently, during the half hour or so which an ordinary attack lasts, they blaze away over our heads, without any exaggeration, quite ten thousand or fifteen thousand rounds. The result of this violent fusillade all the way round us with the bullets whistling and buzzing overhead, is, of course, a beastly noise, but, as a rule, very little else.

GETTING USED TO BEING TARGETS.

When the siege began it used to be quite alarming, but it is wonderful how accustomed one gets to such things. The sentries just lie quietly behind their loopholes through it all, very seldom going so far as to fire a shot in return. In the legations commanded more directly by the city wall, it is, of course, more lively. To return once more to the food question. I find that to-day there are about eleven ponies left, including Battery Wheeler, the wonderful griffin that won everything at the last spring meeting, and one or two mules. A vague rumour has also drifted in that our troops gave the Chinese a good thrashing yesterday at Chang-chia-wan, seventeen miles away, so that I hope we may save Battery Wheeler, after all. Our wretched Chinese convert refugees are in a very bad way, indeed they are allowed a ration of a cupful of maohang, or sorghum (cattle food) per man each day—absolutely insufficient to support life, and with this and leaves from the trees, they make a most revolting sort of cake, which is all they have to live on. Many are dying of starvation, and as many as seven or eight children are sometimes buried in one day. Some sportsmen are now strolling about our Legation with shot-guns, shooting dogs, cats, jackdaws, crows, and anything else that presents itself, all of which are sent over to the converts, and eagerly devoured by them.

Mrs. ——'s little baby has got scarlet fever, and she wanted a chicken badly for it the other day. The Russians have quite a number of them round about their temporary quarters in here, and I just then happened to meet a wounded marine with a shotgun, on the lookout for crows. So we sought out a stray hen out of sight of the Russians, and he managed to be so very unfortunate as to pot it by mistake. We wrapped it up in his red handkerchief, and bore it triumphantly past the Russian verandah to Mrs. ——.

GARRISON IN GOOD HEALTH.

Considering the circumstances, the health of the community so far has been wonderful. So many people cooped up in a small space, without any previous sanitary arrangements and with bad food, right in the middle of a Peking summer, would, one would think, be sure to suffer from all sorts of epidemics but, as a matter of fact, we have, thank goodness, had very little sickness barring five or six cases of scarlet fever, a good many cases of typhoid, and many slight cases of dysentery—very fortunately not a severe form, though a Russian marine died of it yesterday. The poor little babies have suffered most from the want of fresh air and decent food. I know of five

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that have died—none of our little Legation babies, I am glad to say—and all are very seedy and weak. I only hope that poor Mrs,——does not lose her poor little child, as she simply lives for it.

Sunday afternoon.

Once more I may remark, "Now we shan't be long." A message has just arrived from the Yamên, saying that they quite agree with the Foreign Ministers' desire for peace, always did, in fact, and might they come round to-morrow to have a talk about things in general and peace in particular? This is just about what we expected, as the troops must be somewhere very near, indeed just now; but what is rather inexplicable, in the face of this letter, is that they are blazing away at us more just now than they have done for some time past, are busy on barricades still all around us, and several guns are even reported to have been mounted opposite our barricades.

FACTS HARD TO RECONCILE.

They have not fired a shell at us since the "armistice" on July 18, so it looks as if they meant to give us a hot time to-night. This we certainly expected when the troops got near and the Chinese soldiers began to come into the city, but imagined from the tone of the Yamên's letter that they had thought better of it. Of course, the great objects of the Government will be to keep the foreign troops out of the city, and if they cannot do that by force, they will, of course, climb down and try to do it by peaceful negotiations. This is what the Yamên want to come around here and talk about, you may be sure. They asked if they might come in to-day, but the Chief said to-morrow at 11 would suit him best, hoping that our troops may storm the gates and come in in the mean time. This, of course, may account for the lively fusillade which is going on just now, but it is rather absurd that our dear friends, the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên, who are, and always have been, so anxious to help and protect us in every way, should be writing around to say that they would like to call and discuss peace, while their beastly soldiers are doing their best to exterminate us.

Our Nordenfeldt is, however, talking away merrily on our west wall, and seems to have nearly silenced the firing from that quarter. A couple of hours ago they turned it on to an aggressive barricade, and after a few rounds knocked the whole thing over, exposing about thirty soldiers. Our men had time to get several volleys into them, "annihilated the clan" so to speak, which was a fine sweep.

PLANNING THE RECEPTION.

A difficulty of the reception of the Yamên Ministers will be by what gate they are to enter. Our main gate is blocked up by a large shell-proof shelter or redoubt, which projects out across the road, and in which the American Colt gun is mounted. It forms a little room about four feet high, and their excellencies might not think it compatible with their dignity to crawl through here on their hands and knees. Another solution would be that they worm in through the underground passage which we have opened up through an old drain, and by which we can cross in safety from here to the Fu. If neither of these entries is considered suitable, there remains only the side gate, through which they will probably make their triumphant entry, provided they are not all shot down by their own men when we let them into our lines.

Goodness only knows what is to happen to our Christian refugees, when all this is over. Before the siege began, when the boxers were burning the missions all round us, rescue parties of marines went out to the larger ones and rescued all the Christians they could from the Boxers, who were massacring in the most brutal way every man, woman and child they could lay hands on. In this way about two thousand odd native converts were brought into our quarters, destitute creatures, many of them cut about and burned in a most fearful way, every one of them burned out of house and home, and most of them having lost their father, mother, children, or some part of their family. It will be impossible to leave them again to the tender mercies of their benevolent Government, which has decreed that they shall be all slaughtered unless they "recant and repent of their former ways," and as they will have no homes to go to, and no means of support, it will be a very difficult question to know how to dispose of them. If there are any charity funds got up for them at home, and if you are feeling charitably disposed, you cannot do better than to subscribe to them.

CONVERTS PROVED USEFUL.

Though we have all been doing "coolie work" regularly on the barricades, trenches and other defences, I really believe (as many people say) that if it had not been for the men converts we could not hold out as we have done. During the "Boxer" alarms practically every servant we have, except those who happened to be Christians, bolted, and when the refugees came in we immediately turned them on to coolie work on the defences. Since then they have worked simply splendidly, building barricades under the heaviest fire, digging, sandbagging, carting and doing everything without a murmur, though many of them have been shot down while at work on barricades; five of them shot at one place one day, and living most of the time on starvation rations. When the first came in a great difficulty was where they were to be put.

On the side of the Imperial Canal, just opposite our Legation, is a large "fu," or palace, with extensive grounds, belonging to a royal prince of the name of Su, a sleek, disagreeable, anti-foreign sort of a ninompoop. When the ultimatum came in we went over to call on this gentleman and told him that he had very nice grounds, that we would very much like to quarter the refugees in them, and that if he did not like it he must "lump it," whereupon Prince Su evacuated and left us in possession. Since then the "fu" has been one of the most important points in the defence of the legations, and the place where the fighting has been hottest.

Monday, August 13.

Things look rather puzzling to-day; not quite so cheerful, I am afraid. Last night they gave us a very lively time, attacking us heavily several times. This morning the snipers are very busy, and they are pounding away at the German Legation with an old fashioned cannon. The Yamên Ministers, who were coming round to see us, have just written in to say that they are really so very busy and our men were firing on their soldiers so much last night that they are afraid they cannot come around.

YAMEN FAILED TO CALL.

Those in authority seem to take this as a very bad sign. C——has just been in, and told me that he thought it meant that they intended to try to make an end of us this afternoon. C——is not often pessimistic, and it is rather depressing to hear him talk like that. I take a much brighter view of it. I think it means that our troops are very near, that the Yamên see that it is hopeless to try to save the city, and that even if they do try to get rid of us now we will be able to hold out till relief comes. According to the programme of the Japanese General, he was to be here to-day or to-morrow. I must say it would be a relief to hear our guns pounding the gates this afternoon. Let us hope and trust that the generals do not delay or hesitate one moment for negotiations or anything of that sort; an hour may make all the difference to us poor beggars in here. Things are a bit too critical just now to be comfortable, and as I hear that numbers of Chinese troops are being seen to enter the city, our prospects do not look too bright. However, we have kept them off before, and there is no reason why we should not do so again. Our troops positively must be very near now, and it seems out of the question that they should have any reverse. We have stood it for nearly two months now; if we can stand it for another two days at the very most we will be safe.

I have been trying to keep this letter more or less connected, and have forgotten to tell you that since I began to write it, a week ago, my leg has been mending splendidly. I am now able to walk about quite well with only a small stick, though still, of course, quite lame. It should be quite all right in a week now, I think, and I will not be at all lame afterward.

I have not yet told you about the Pei-tang (Northern Cathedral). In the north of the Imperial city there is a large Roman Catholic cathedral, in which a lot of converts congregated when the troubles began. When things got worse a guard of forty marines (thirty French and ten Austrians) were sent them with one officer. Then the siege began, and from that day to this we have not been able to communicate with them in any way. They have been heavily attacked, just as we have, as we have heard the guns going continually, and as they had not a large supply of food, I believe, and with such a small guard, they must be in a very bad way and must have held on like men.

ARRIVAL OF THE TROOPS.

Tuesday, August 14, evening.

Thank God! We are all right. The gates are battered down, the troops are in, first into our Legation (thank goodness!) the Sikhs, Punjabis and Bengal Lancers, and I'm too thoroughly tired to write anything about it. We have had a time during the last twenty-four hours, and I will tell you all about it to-morrow. Oh, the blessed restfulness of a peaceful, quiet evening! Good night!!!

Saturday, August 18, 1900.

Well, here we are, safe and sound again, after all, and my letter still unfinished. I cannot try to give you any sort of description of all that has been going on during the last three or four days, but the bald facts are something like this:—On the night of Monday, August 13, the Chinese simply went for us all they knew how. They began fusillading at about 7 o'clock, and kept it up all through the night. There must have been thousands of men round us, and the musketry fire was, I should think, quite the heaviest on record. Besides this, the Chinese had mounted several good Krupp guns, and bombarded away gayly, putting three shells into one redoubt by the front gate and wrecking the Chief's bedroom with another. I really thought that this was the end at last, and that we probably would not see the night through. Captain Le Bruse, of the French Marines, was shot dead through the head, as well as a German marine, while three marines were wounded.

I think most people were prepared for the last stand during the night, when—Oh! Unspeakable joy!—at about 2 o'clock, between the fusillades, we heard the dull boom of heavy cannon outside the Eastern gates. Then the deafening roar of our friends' rifles round us again drowned everything but our troops, and we were happy! Another lull, and we heard a Maxim, phut-phut plying, evidently just outside the walls, as well as several volleys of musketry. This, we afterward found out, was a small Russian scouting party, which had got quite close up under the walls, but was driven back again.

BOMBARDING IN EARNEST.

Day broke and the bombardment of the Eastern Gate was begun in real earnest. From the part of the Tartar City wall that we held you could see the shells knocking the large gatehouses to smithereens, and later we saw large bodies of Chinese troops flying across the city from east to west. We were all prepared for a final attack from the retreating soldiers, and what we dreaded chiefly was that the troops would not get in that day, and that we would be left for another night to take care of ourselves.

I think if that had been the case the troops would have found nothing but a very big wreck when they got in here next morning. The snipers were still busy all round us, and there were no signs of the troops getting in at tiffin time, the bombardment still being as lively as ever, till at about 3 o'clock somebody came rushing down from the wall to say the troops were in the Chinese City.

I staggered off to the south gate of the Legation on my game leg, and got there just in time to see the great, stalwart Sikhs and Bengal Lancers come rushing up, utterly worn out and dead beat. You can well imagine the joy of that moment, when we realized that we were safe at last, after all that we had been through, and cannot blame people for going off their heads with joy, or the women for breaking down and weeping profusely.

It brought a big lump into my own throat, to see those great, strapping Sikhs and Lancers come in, and the joy of the whole thing was increased tenfold by the fact that the British were the first in.

TALK OF JEALOUSIES.

We found out afterward that the advance had been delayed all the way along by the petty jealousies of the Russians, French and Japanese, but more than ever, just at the last, when it was a question of who should be first into the city. It was arranged that the Japanese should storm the two East gates of the Tartar City, and get in perhaps on the night of the 14th, while the British were relegated to the background, being told off to come up last, take the gate of the Southern (Chinese) City, and get in on the 15th. General Gaselee, however, who is simply a "ripper," heard our bombarding in here in the early morning of the 14th, realized that we might be in a tight place, started off immediately on a forced march of fifteen miles, got into the Chinese City without much difficulty, came through into the Tartar City by a sort of water gate, and was in our Legation by 3 o'clock of the 14th while the Japanese were still shelling the Tartar City gates.

The Japanese only got in late in the evening, with a loss of forty killed, and I don't know how many wounded, while the Russians came in somehow in our tracks. As our Indians had come in quietly through the Chinese City, our friends the snipers round here did not seem to realize that they had come in, and still went on blazing away merrily; so we quietly sent out a few small parties of our "Hei kwei-tzus" (Black Devils) and they gave them "beans," while a Maxim that we had run up on the Chien-Men simply decimated the brutes as they tried to scuttle off into the Forbidden City.

TROOPS OCCUPY TEMPLES.

In the meantime the marine battalion and some of the Welsh Fusiliers had occupied the most sacred Temple of Heaven and Temple of Agriculture (the "Agriculture 'All," as a marine explained to me) in the South City, while the Russians encamped just outside the main gate of the Forbidden City. The strength of the relief force seems to be at present about ten thousand or twelve thousand men, out of which about three thousand only are British under General Gaselee. The British force consists mainly of Indians, direct from India—fine men, who are worth all the rest put together, barring perhaps the Japanese, who do not seem to know what fear is. These Indians are mostly Sikhs, Bengal Lancers, Pathans (with some Afridis), Rajputs, and the Hongkong regiment, who are mostly Pathans. Besides these the British force is made up of the Welsh Fusiliers, from Hongkong, a small marine detachment and Naval Brigade, and a few Chinese from our native regiment at Wei-hai-wei. Of the

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others forces, the Japanese are the strongest, and they, I believe, have borne the brunt of the fighting all the way through. They fight with the pluck of bulldogs, going straight at anything and everything, losing heavily, of course, but coming straight through all the same. The few we have had up here seem to have been typical specimens of the breed.

A CHANGE OF SCENE.

As soon as the Sikhs got in here we occupied the big Imperial Carriage Park, next to our Legation, with its huge yellow roofed houses full of the most gorgeous and gaudy wagons, carts, sedan chairs and other State paraphernalia. This carriage park makes a model camping ground for our men, while one of the large houses was cleared of the golden carts and other rubbish to be turned into a field hospital. Our Legation now presents a lively and strange spectacle, and you would think you were somewhere near a military post in India instead of in North China. The compound is full of the swarthy "black devils," with their fine, soldierly appearance, and splendid horses, while streams of Indian pack mules, Indian dhoolies, with their natives, bearers, guns and carts, are pouring in all the time. By the evening of the 14th the whole of the Chinese and Tartar cities were in our possession.

So sorry a mail is just closing and I must cut this short. I was going to tell you all about the looting and sacking of the city, the shelling of the Imperial City, and so on, and I have not yet really told you anything about the siege—our attacks and sorties, our captures, the treachery of the Yamên, the hopes of rescue, so hopelessly delayed, and so on. However, all this "gas" will be enough for the present, and by the time the next convoy leaves I will have another long yarn ready, beginning with the taking of Peking.

THE "EMPRESS" IN COLLISION.

The R. M. S. *Empress of Japan*, Capt. Pybus, returned to the Royal Roads in distress at 10.30 last night (said the *Victoria Daily Colonist* of Nov. 7th). She had been in collision with the 1,767-ton American steel bark *Abbey Palmer*, formerly the unfortunate *Blairmore*, which capsized and sank three years ago in San Francisco harbour. The collision took place off the entrance to the Straits, and the *Empress* was so seriously damaged that Capt. Pybus deemed it advisable to return and go into the dry dock. The bark was also badly damaged, but not so seriously that she could not sail on up to the Sound. The bark, it seems, crashed into the *Empress* and carried away part of her bridge, bulwarks, and stove in part of her upper works, as well as bending some of her plates near the water-line on the port side. Her officers said that she was not taking in water, but they had last night given the liner quite a list.

The *Japan* left the outer wharf on Monday night for the Orient, and was putting the miles between her and the Vancouver Island coast until about that "darkest hour before dawn," when a steel bark, luckily in ballast, loomed up out of the night, and before a warning cry could be shouted, crashed into the liner just forward of amidships on the port side—near her bridge, in fact. The steel bark came into the *Empress*, side bow on, and the seaman who was doing lookout duty on the bow of the sailing vessel was thrown over on to the liner. He fell on to the cover of one of the lifeboats, and was picked up uninjured. He was brought in by the steamer. When the excitement had in a measure subsided it was seen that the bark had disengaged herself and was squaring away, taking advantage of the fair breeze prevailing to come up the Straits en route to her destination on the Sound to which she was bound from Honolulu in ballast. It was said on the *Empress* that her bowsprit had been carried away and her stem badly broken, although what other injuries she had received could not be learned.

The *Empress* was seen to be badly injured, and on examining the battered bulwarks, the splintered bridge and the bent plates, Capt. Pybus put about and returned. He was reported passing Cape Beale at noon yesterday, and at 3.20 passed Carmanah, where he signalled. "Report me to my owners; repairs necessary." Nothing further was learned until arrival in the Roads, when she cast anchor and a boat came off and landed the purser, who went to make arrangements for surveying the steamer, etc.

The purser refused to give any information whatever of the accident, refusing even to state the name of the bark which had crashed into the *Empress*. He would not give an iota of information. He was busy, though, during his short stay of two hours ashore before he returned to the steamer. He made arrangements for a visit from Capt. Devereaux, master of the dry dock, and Capt. Collister, inspector of hulls. Capt Devereaux will go on board the liner at 8 o'clock to make arrangements for docking her, if practicable, and the inspector will inspect her an hour later. To a friend the purser said that her damages were unmistakeably serious. She will, it is understood, have to discharge her cargo, but whether here or at Vancouver could not be learned.

She has a large number of passengers, including two who are accounted "hoodoos" by the more superstitious. These are the United States Consul to Foochow, W. H. Gracey and his sister, who were passengers on the Northern Pacific liner *Duke of Fife* when she sprang her leak and had to turn back. The passengers all remained on board last night, no one coming ashore from the steamer but the purser.

The arrival of the bark *Abbey Palmer* will be watched for with interest, for she having crashed head on into the liner, must be seriously damaged. Whether it was foggy or not when the accident occurred, or how it was that the steamer and sailing vessel did not see each other's lights, were matters which, among other things, no information was obtainable about last night.

On the following day the same paper said:—The R. M. S. *Empress of Japan* came in from her anchorage in the Royal Roads yesterday morning and tied up at the outer wharf. The work of taking cargo from the forward hatch of the steamer and of temporarily repairing and patching the damages received in the collision with the *Abbey Palmer*, which, in view of the facts now coming to light, was a most mysterious affair, was immediately commenced by a big gang of workmen from the Albion Iron Works. The steamer will not enter the dry dock here, but will temporarily repair her injuries in order to allow of her making the passage to Hongkong, where she will enter the Kowloon dry dock, in which, owing to the greatly reduced cost of labour on that side, repairs and overhauling are usually given the *Empresses*. She will be delayed there in repairing for about 21 days, as it has been decided to put new bilge keels on her when she is in the dock.

From all that could be learned of the accident—and the officers will not talk much about it—it seems that the collision occurred at 2.59 a.m. on Tuesday, about eight hours after the departure of the steamer from here. She was making about fifteen miles an hour and was perhaps about 120 miles out on her voyage. The night was a fine one, but a little misty. There was little breeze.

It was said by passengers that the bark was visible for over five minutes before the collision occurred, but the statement was made by officers that she was not seen until it was too late to avoid the crash. In the report furnished to the customs, the *Empress*' officers blame the accident to the fact that no side lights were to be seen on the bark. The facts in their entirety will be brought out at the investigation of the causes which led to the collision.

The confusion when the accident occured was not as great as might be expected. Of course it awoke all the passengers and officers below on the port side, but it is said that although the steamer shivered from end to end, some of those on the starboard side slept through it all. There was excitement among those on the deck, for none knew how serious were the injuries received. Orders were given to stand by the boats, and the third officer had them swung over to be in readiness until the extent of the damages was ascertained. There was no panic and, in fact, the demeanour of the passengers throughout was most commendable. Even the Chinese did not rush to where the boats were carried. The extent of the injuries was too great in the opinion of the Captain to allow of continuing the voyage, and the steamer was put about. She took a little water, but the leak was a very slight one, and the vessel was kept clear without any noticeable effort.

TANKO RAILWAY COMPANY.

At a special general meeting of the above company, held in Tokyo the other day, a question of vital importance, namely that of increasing the capital by 240,000 new shares, was discussed, with the result that such shares will be distributed among present shareholders at the rate of one for each. A final resolution on this subject, however, was reserved for February next. It is to be observed that the proposed increase is to be appropriated for the improvement of permanent way, reclamation works at Otaru and Muroran, the extension of coal mining, and generally the improvement of the system now in operation; while the expense of laying the Kumoi and other lines and of working new coal mines, is to supplied by means of special debentures and loans. Below are the estimates of expenditure for the seven years to come:—

Year.	Amount in *yen*.
1901	2,090,000
1902	2,400,000
1903	2,400,000
1904	1,680,000
1905	1,440,000
1906	1,440,000
1907	1,440,000
Total	12,890,000

As to the increased capital, it is stated that this (12 million *yen* in all), will be collected from August next till March, 1907, calls on new shares being made twice a year to the amount of from 3 to 5 *yen* at each period.

The annual outlays from this fund are classified as follows:—

	Amount in Yen.
For the improvement of rolling stock	4,250,000
Improvement of permanent way	700,000
Construction of workshops	160,000
Removal of the Head Office	280,000
Working new coal mines	1,500,000
Establishment of the Otaru-Muroran line	3,900,000
Manufacture of coke	150,000
Total	12,890,000

By the above increase of expenditures a corresponding augmentation in receipts is expected as follows:—

Year	Traffic receipts, yen	Working expenses, yen	Balance, profit yen
1901	2,222,000	1,016,891	1,205,210
1902	2,392,510	1,112,950	1,279,560
1903	2,621,860	1,216,140	1,409,720
1904	3,834,790	1,308,841	1,525,450
1905	3,049,790	1,408,310	1,641,480
1906	3,235,500	1,502,000	1,732,500
1907	3,420,010	1,592,150	1,827,820

The above estimates are based on past experience especially in regard to coal, the tonnage of which has been calculated in proportion to the output hitherto secured. Even taking the interest on the debenture for the Railway Section from the estimated profits the ratio that the latter bears to the railway funds for each year stands as follows:—

Year.	Per cent.
1901	13 9
1902	12.7
1903	12.4
1904	12
1905	11 8
1906	11.4
1907	11 2

As for the Coal Mining Section, the annual profits are estimated to be:—

Year.	Amount. Yen.
1901	1,073,000
1902	1,196,500
1903	1,275,600
1904	1,315,200
1905	1,377,800
1906	1,405,600
1907	1,429,400

These figures not only cover the entire profits on the sale of coal, but also include the shipping account as well as those connected with the transport of the mineral in small quantities. According to investigations made during the past five years, the average profit accruing from the sale of coal per ton is 2.07 *yen* for lump and 1 82 *yen* for dust. The increase of mining expenses after the next fisca year however, is likely to reduce the profits for the two kinds of coal to 2 and 1 5 *yen* respectively, and in subsequent years an annual reduction of 3 per cent is anticipated. The following are figures showing the production of coal from the four mines now in operation —

Year	Tons.
1901	657,000
1902	702,000
1903	777,000

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1904	829,000
1905	900,000
1906	950,000
1907	1,000,000

As regards coke, the annual amount of profit after the 36th fiscal year (1903) is estimated at 84,500 *yen*; in shipping account the average profit during past years was 50,000 *yen*. Below is the rat o borne by the proceeds to the mining capital :—

Year.	Per cent.
1901	24.7
1902	23.9
1903	22.6
1904	21.0
1905	20.0
1906	18.6
1907	17.6

There also exists a special item under the caption of Head Office account, and this, together with miscellaneous receipts, being balanced is given as follows :—

Year.	Amount in *yen*.
1901	106,500
1902	119,600
1903	129,200
1904	135,400
1905	141,700
1906	148,800
1907	157,300

It is stated these deficits will be supplied from the profits on the two sections already mentioned, and that the dividend for this year will be declared at 11.5 per cent., after setting aside reserves for the disbursement of new mining expenses, of a capital fund for shipping, and for legal obligations. Moreover, a certain amount is to be carried over to the next account. On the whole, therefore, the scheme for increasing the capital is considered to be quite practicable without giving rise to any reduction in the annual dividends.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Nov. 24th :—

DR.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	17,651,822
Amount of convertible notes issued	190,875,078
Government deposits	34,776,333
General deposits	3,888,761
Exchange liability	12,234
Total	277,204,229

CR.	
Discount notes	60,066,501
Foreign discount notes	14,427,162
Loan to Government	24,000,000
General loans	54,714,614
Exchange liability	2,328,886
Government bonds	52,477,260
Property	2,203,961
Bullion and Specie	66,985,842
Total	277,204,229

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	189,984,532

Bullion and Specie :—

Gold	63,042,373
Silver	2,800,000
Total	65,842,372

Securities :—

Government bonds	26,421,204
Government certificates	24,000,000
Government bills	10,248,730
Commercial notes	63,472,226
Total	124,142,160

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show :—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	1,005,046
Silver	—	200,000
General loans	462,154	—
Government deposits	2,010,793	—
General deposits	—	1,096,109

Prince Christian Victor, the Queen's grandson, was buried at Pretoria. The ceremony was most impressive, and the pallbearers were eight Generals.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE).

FRANCE AND CHINA.

Shanghai, Nov. 23.

M. Delcassé, speaking in the Chamber, said the French Government desired to maintain the territorial integrity of China and was anxious to end the expenditure now being made on account of the China question as soon as possible, but not until satisfaction had been obtained

THE CZAR.

The latest bulletin regarding the Czar is less satisfactory.

BOER RAIDERS

The Boers attacked an outpost on the east of Thabanchu and killed Lieut. Paxton and three of the Bedfordshire regiment. They have repeatedly destroyed the railway and telegraph lines in the vicinity of Edinburg. They unsuccessfully attempted to destroy some culverts near Kimberley, and ambuscaded a waggon and thirteen men near Utrecht

CHINA.

Shanghai, Nov. 22.

Yuen Shu-hiun, former Governor of Tientsin and subsequently Taotai of Ichang, has been appointed Customs Taotai of Shanghai.

According to a telegram from Kong-chow, the Governor of Chekiang left Kong-chow on the 20th instant for Lan-ki, with a force of 500 men, to settle the Kü-chow affair.

KRUGER IN EUROPE.

Shanghai, Nov. 24.

Mr. Kruger, when he landed at Marseilles, was received with the greatest enthusiasm.

ACCIDENT TO LORD ROBERTS

Field-Marshal Lord Roberts has had a fall from his horse. He was shaken but is uninjured

BOER DEFEAT.

The Boers have been defeated with heavy loss at Boberspan.

BRITISH OUTPOST SURPRISED.

An outpost of the Buffs, to the south-west of Balmoral, was surprised by the Boers Six men were killed, five wounded, and thirty-one taken prisoners.

AMERICA'S ATTITUDE IN CHINA

Count von Bulow's statement that the Powers are unanimous, has been specifically denied at Washington, where it is stated that Mr. Conger, the American Minister at Peking, will be instructed to resist all demands for the razing of the forts and the execution of the greatest men of China.

[This telegram is ambiguous. It seems capable of another construction, namely, "Count Bulow has made a statement that the Powers are unanimous, and has specifically denied what has been stated at Washington, namely, that Mr. Conger, the American Minister in Peking will be instructed" &c.—ED. *J.M.*]

KRUGER IN FRANCE

ANTI-BRITISH DEMONSTRATION AT MARSEILLES.

Shanghai, Nov. 25.

The crowd at Marseilles hooted a number of Anglo-Indians, who were awaiting the P. & O. steamer *Rome*, and who kept their hats on when Kruger passed. Simultaneously some one threw coppers into the crowd.

The hotel was besieged by an irate mob. Several arrests were made.

Later in the evening a band attempted to make a hostile demonstration against the British Consul. The police dispersed the rioters.

KRUGER IN PARIS.

Shanghai, Nov. 26.

Mr Kruger was received in Paris like a popular Sovereign. Impassioned addresses were presented demanding freedom and justice and declaiming against the injustice of the oppressors of the Transvaal. Mr. Kruger replied in a similar strain. He said he looks to the nations to secure the independence of the republics in South Africa.

He then drove through the closely thronged streets to the Elyseé. Wild enthusiasm was everywhere shown. President Loubet received Mr. Kruger ceremoniously and afterwards formally visited Kruger at his hotel.

The authorities took great precautions to prevent any anti-English outbreak. The British Embassy was guarded.

AMERICA, THE POWERS, AND CHINA.

The United States of North America have addressed a circular to the Powers suggesting that less extreme measures regarding punishments and indemnities should be put forward as the basis of negotiations at Peking

DEATH OF SIR ARTHUR SULLIVAN.

The news of the death of Sir Arthur Sullivan, the well-known composer, is confirmed.

THE CZAR.

The condition of the Czar is more satisfactory, although his temperature rose on Saturday afternoon to 103.5 degrees.

THE POWERS AND CHINA.

Shanghai, Nov. 28.

The *Standard's* Berlin correspondent says that Russia and Japan have supported America's objection to extreme measures and that there is every reason to believe that the other Powers will acquiesce.

The New York press publishes a statement of the German Ambassador dwelling on the anxiety of Germany to preserve the concert of the Powers.

A SOMALI RISING.

The Somalis in Juba-land have risen against the British East African Government. All the available troops have left Mombassa for Kismayu.

ASHANTI CAMPAIGN OVER.

Shanghai, Nov. 28.

The Ashanti Campaign is finished.

THE CZAR IMPROVING.

The Czar's health shows signs of distinct improvement.

BOER ACTIVITY.

The Boers are active in Western Transvaal and in the southern parts of the Orange River Colony. It is thought that they propose to strike at the Cape border, where they believe they will be joined by numbers of the disaffected Dutch with supplies and hidden stores of weapons.

KRUGER DECLINING IN POPULARITY.

The enthusiasm in Paris over Mr. Kruger is waning.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE)

PRESIDENT KRUGER IN FRANCE.

Saigon, Nov. 23.

President Kruger arrived in Marseilles at noon. Replying to the welcome accorded him, he declared that the Transvaal and the Orange Free State would fight to the death.

An enthusiastic crowd cheered him. There was no incident.

KRUGER'S RECEPTION IN FRANCE.

Saigon, Nov. 24.

The manifestations at Marseilles in honour

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of Kruger continued yesterday without incident. Kruger received numerous deputations, and set out in the morning for Paris. He is to sleep at Dijon. He is cheered in all the stations where the train stops.

KRUGER IN PARIS.

Saigon, Nov. 26.

Mr. Kruger has arrived in Paris. The Municipal Council were waiting for him at the station. Replying to their expressions of welcome, Mr. Kruger declared that he came to Europe to try to obtain peace with independence, that he had already desired arbitration, and that he counted upon the support of European opinion.

M. Crozier, Director of Protocols, welcomed Mr. Kruger in the name of the President of the Republic and of the Government

An immense crowd followed Mr. Kruger from the station to his hotel, near the Opera. There were no discordant cries.

Mr. Kruger and President Loubet exchanged visits in the afternoon.

MR CONGER AND HIS GOVERNMENT.

Saigon, Nov. 25.

It is announced from Washington that Mr. Conger (U.S. Minister at Peking) will soon return to the United States in consequence of disagreement with his Government, Mr. Conger advocating measures which President McKinley considers too radical.

KRUGER IN PARIS.

Saigon, Nov. 29.

The people of Paris continue to acclaim Kruger.

The Municipal Council have received him at the Hotel de Ville.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)
(Non-Official.)

OPERATIONS IN CHINA.

The force sent by Germany, Austria and Italy to Chang-kia-chow arrived there without incident on the 19th instant. There were a thousand Chinese troops at Chang-kia-chow, but they retreated without striking a blow. The detachment sent by France to Kin-chow(?) had an engagement with the Boxers and killed 300 of them without any casualties on the French side

The head quarters of the 42nd Regiment and three companies returned to Ujina on the 25th instant by the *Sakura Maru*.

(Received in Tokyo.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Hankow, Nov. 26.

Admiral Seymour and Consul-General Warren arrived here on Sunday and called on the Viceroy They are to start for Nanking to-morrow morning. It is stated that their visit is purely of a friendly nature

Shanghai, Nov 26. (Received from Kong-chow)

A powder-magazine blew up on the 23rd instant. The cause is unknown. About 40 persons are said to have been killed or wounded.

Paris Nov. 22.

The French Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking on the 20th about the Chinese complication, said (1) that the preservation of united action on the part of the Powers depended solely on their abstention from making any secret treaties; (2) that the Chinese instigators must be punished and a suitable indemnity obtained; (3) that the concurrence of all the Powers must be sought to interdict the importation of arms into China; (4) that the Foreign Representatives must receive from China more than the protection usually accorded to diplomatic officials; (5) that the integrity of China must be preserved and her trade developed.

Shanghai, Nov. 27.

According to a telegram from Kong-chow, the Governor of Chekiang has been released from office and has proceeded to Si-ngan to receive the Government's orders. One of the Chikiang officials has been appointed to succeed him.

(Received at the War Department.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

In accordance with a request from Prince Ching, the Japanese Government has decided that six thousand *koku* of millet, taken by the Fifth Division, shall be distributed *gratis* among the poor of Peking during the winter It has been the custom of the Chinese Authorities in the past to make such a distribution

The head-quarters of the 3rd battalion of the 42nd Regiment and 7 companies arrived at Ujina in the *Yamaguchi Maru* on the 25th instant.

DEATH OF MR. A. C. SIM.

[From our own Correspondent.]

Kobe, Nov. 28, 10 20 a.m.

Mr. A. C Sim died this morning

(Special Cable service of "Der Ostasiatische Lloyd.")

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

Peking, Nov. 16, 7.50 p.m.

Prince Ching and Li Hung chang paid together to-day a visit to Commander-in-chief Count Waldersee at the Imperial Palace. Last Saturday Li Hung-chang had already called on the German Minister von Mumm.

Peking, 17th November, 11.20 a.m.

With regard to the visit of Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang which I reported last Friday, I learn now that Count Waldersee granted the Chinese commissioners an interview after having received the request in writing for audience. Ching and Li Hung-chang promised to guarantee that all Chinese troops would be withdrawn at once from all parts of the province of Chihli which are not yet occupied by the Allies. On the other hand they requested that the Governments of the allied Powers would communicate to them as soon as possible their conditions of peace.

The Czar has conferred on Lieutenant General Grodekoff, the Governor-General of the Amur territory, a gold sword set in brilliants in recognition of his distinguished conduct of the operations in Manchuria.

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Berlin, 19th November.

The Chinese Minister handed in the name of Emperor Kuang Hsü a new note to the German Emperor. Therein he communicates the punishment of the guilty parties. As soon as the peace negotiations show any result, the Chinese Emperor would also be ready to fix a time when he would return to Peking. He would issue an order to all Viceroys and Governors to afford the protection promised in the treaties to the missions throughout the land. Finally Emperor Kuang Hsü expresses the hope that Emperor William will agree to these proposals.

In the port of Kiel the two large ironclads *Kaiser Friedrich III* and *Kaiser Wilhelm II* collided. The damage is not considerable.

Berlin, 16 Nov., 7.35 p.m.

When H. M. the Emperor rode this forenoon through the streets of Breslau, a woman hurried from the crowd, which was expecting the Emperor, towards his carriage and threw a sharp hatchet at His Majesty, before anybody could prevent it. Fortunately the hatchet did not hit the Emperor, but only the carriage. The woman was immediately placed under arrest and brought to the police station, where it was found that she was insane.

The condition of the Czar, who has typhoid fever, is growing worse; however it is reported that at present there is no danger to his life.

4,420,000 marks of the amount which is asked by the German Government to defray the expenses of the China expedition will be spent at Tsingtao. It is intended to erect there different workshops, for which 780,000 marks are needed, and to establish a large coal-yard, which will take 1,125,000 marks. Further 604,000 marks will be used for the fortification of Kiaochou and 1,795,000 for buildings which are needed for the troops.

The German Post and Telegraph offices, which have been established in connection with the China expedition demand an expenditure of 3,800,000 marks. Therein the cable from Tsingtao to Chefoo is included, for which the amount of 1,300,000 marks is set apart. An extra expenditure of 200,000 marks is required for Shanghai.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

Shanghai, Nov. 19.

From Hsianfu we are informed that the position there has during the past few days materially changed. The Imperial Edicts ordering the punishment of guilty officials have had great influence. Princes Twan and Chuang are actually deprived of all power; no official dares to suppot any rapprochement between these two officials or Yu Hsien and the Empress Dowager or the Emperor. There is no doubt that both the Emperor and the Empress Dowager are most anxious to leave Hsianfu as soon as possible. Their sojourn there in no way answers their expectations as regards the requirements of an Imperial Court.

The privations and strain to which the Emperor, previously accustomed to every luxury, has been subjected have been extraordinary and not without their effect. At all events the Court now finds itself entirely in the power of Tung Fu-hsiang, who so far from having, as reported, gone to Kansuh, remains in the immediate vicinity of the Court with 16,000 men under his command. He is doing his utmost to maintain his influence and may, whenever it seems to him necessary, seek to conduct the Court further to the West. Tung Fu-hsiang is fighting for his life and is fully aware of what he has at stake. He is particularly alive to the fact that his punishment is held to be an essential preliminary to the peace negotiations and consequently seeks to delay the latter with all his might.

Peking, Nov. 19.

News is just to hand that the detachment consisting of mixed troops under the command of Count York, which left Peking on the 12th inst. for the protection of the French Mission at Kalgan, has reached the district city of Huailai. The Taotai and the inhabitants waited for the troops outside the gate and delivered up the city. The regular Chinese troops had previously retreated in the direction of Kalgan. Count York then continued the advance on the prefectural city of Suanhua. At Huailai news was received from the mandarins of Suanhua that this city also would be delivered without attempting any resistance, the Chinese having retreated beyond Suanhua. But the advance guard of the Allies ascertained that this information was not correct; Suanhua is held by General Ho, who has over 10,000 regular troops and artillery. The Chinese have established strong positions which Count York does not consider himself strong enough to capture He has consequently applied for further reinforcements, which will leave Peking immediately.

Peking, Nov. 21.

Sessions of the diplomatic body are now held twice a week, at which the peace conditions to be imposed upon China are discussed. The greatest secrecy is observed regarding all decisions arrived at.

With a view to the prevention of theft of land and sham purchases, no sales from Chinese to foreigners which have taken place since the commencement of the siege of Peking are recognised

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

Canton, Nov. 19.

The Rebels have within the past few days been

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defeated nearly everywhere by the Imperial troops and have fled to the mountains. To all appearance the rebellion in the province of Kwantung will shortly be extinguished.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

GREAT FIRE AT CANTON

Canton, Nov. 16.

Early this morning, a fire broke out in a house in the vegetable market. Everything being very dry, the fire spread with great rapidity and in less than four hours some hundreds of houses and shops were reduced to nothing but brick heaps. The building of the Electric Company had a narrow escape; the Chinese houses immediately to the East and North were all destroyed.

At noon the fire was still smouldering, and it is not possible to know how many people have been involved. So far three bodies have been found —one man, two women.

CHESS.

All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 499.

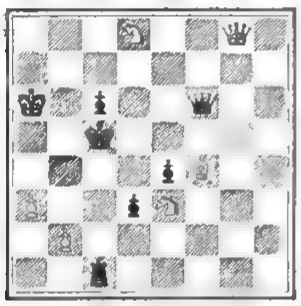
Key-move R to K R 3.

PROBLEM No. 501.

By K. TRAXLER.

Second Prize, *Leisure Hour* Tourney.

Black—Six Pieces.



White—Seven Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 641.

An instructive game, illustrating the inferiority of the 3—P to K 5 variation:—

FRENCH DEFENCE.

White—L. Paulsen. Black—J. Mason.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K3	27 B B4	R Ktsq
2 P Q4	P Q4	28 B Q2	Kt B3
3 P K5	P QB4	29 P Kt4	Kt K2
4 P QB3	Kt QB3	30 K R2	P B3
5 Kt B3	B Q2	31 P B4	PxP
6 B Q3	Q Kt3	32 BPxP	Kt QB3
7 PxP	BxP	33 K R3	Q Kt3
8 Castles	Q B2	34 Kt B2	Kt Bsq
9 B KB4	KKt K2	35 R Bsq	Q B2
10 P QKt4	B Kt3	36 Kt R3	Q Q2
11 P QR4	P QR3	37 R Bsq	Kt QR2
12 R Ksq	Kt Kt3	38 R B5	Q KB2
13 B Kt3	QKt K2	39 K Kt3	Kt R2
14 P KR4	P R3	40 KtxP	KtxKt
15 Q Kt3	R QBsq	41 RxKt	R KBsq
16 R R2	B R3	42 Q K2	Kt Kt4
17 P KK5	Kt Bsq	43 BxKt	PxB
18 R B2	P QKt4	44 Q K4	Q B8
19 PxP	BxP	45 R Kt7	R B5
20 BxB	PxB	46 P K6	PxP
21 Kt R3	Q Kt2	47 R Kt8ch	K Kt2
22 Kt Q4	BxKt	48 R Kt7ch	K Kt3
23 PxB	Kt Q2	49 R K7	RxPch
24 RxRch	KtxR	50 KxR	Q Kt7ch
25 Q Q3	Kt R2	51 Q Kt3	P R4 mate
26 R QBsq	Castles		

There are only a few points to be noticed in this game:—

(1) Black might have played 8. ..P to B 3 instead, withdrawing 8.....Q to B 2.

(2) White should not have advanced 10—P to Q Kt 4 which left the Q B P weak, especially Black having an open Q B file.

(3) 14—P to R 4 unnecessarily compromises the King's side also.

(4) Doubling Rooks instead of 24—R takes R ch would have been more useful; but up to this point White managed skilfully to get rid of his weak Q B P and to strengthen the centre. He played afterwards to win the Kt P, not duly considering the exposed position of his King. Black, however, did so, for he gave up the Kt P for a telling final attack, concluding with a pretty mate.

GAME No. 642.

One of sixteen games played simultaneously and blindfold by Mr. Pillsbury at Augsburg after the conclusion of the tie match with Schlechter at Munich. The *séance* lasted from 4.30 till 11.30, with an hour's interval at 7.30. The single player won eleven, lost two to Herren Bilz and Kunstmann, whilst three games were drawn.

VIENNA OPENING.

White—Pillsbury. Black—Hausler.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	15 PxP	Castles
2 Kt QB3	Kt QB3	16 Kt Q4	Q Q2
3 P B4	P Q3	17 Kt K4	BxR
4 Kt B3	PxP	18 Kt B6 ch	BxKt
5 P Q4	P KKt4	19 KtPxB	Q Kt5
6 P KR4	B Kt5	20 Q R6	Kt Rsq
7 B Kt5	P QR3	21 Kt B5	KR Ksq
8 BxKtch	PxB	22 RxB	Q Kt3
9 PxP	Kt K2	23 R Q7	QxQ
10 BxP	Kt Kt3	24 KtxQch	K Bsq
11 Q Q2	B Kt2	25 RxP	QR Bsq
12 Castles QR	Q Bsq	26 R Q7	QR Qsq
13 P K5	Q B5	27 P K6	Resigns
14 B R2	PxP		

Black knows absolutely nothing at all about the opening, otherwise he seems to be an average practical player of the type of which the teams against blindfold players are generally made up.

The right move is 3.....B to B 4. 3 .... P to Q 3 is not absolutely bad, but Black should keep to the close character of the defence instead of 4.....P takes P. He might have played 4.....B to Kt 5. Further, 6.....P to Kt 5 was necessary, the move in the text costs two pawns, and Black has to sustain an attack which a better player would be unable to repel. Consequently we shall confine ourselves only to admiring the blindfold player's phenomenal skill in conducting this game not as if he had fifteen others in hand, but as if it were only against a single opponent.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer		Date	
America	T. K. K	H'kong Maru	Su	Dec	2
Hongkong	T. K. K	America Maru [1]	M	Dec.	3
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa	De	8
America	P. M. Co	China [2]	Su	Dec.	9
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Yarra	W.	Dec	12
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th	Dec	13
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M.	Dec.	17
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric [3]	M	Dec.	17
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Th	Dec	20
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th	Dec.	27

[1] Left Shanghai on the 29th ult., with the English mail of Oct 26th on board.
[2] Left San Francisco on the 30th ult.
[3] Left San Francisco on the 28th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer		Date	
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Koenig Albert	Sa	Dec	1
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M	Dec.	3
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	W.	Dec.	5
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saiko Maru	W.	Dec.	5
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	F.	Dec.	7
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	M.	Dec	10
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa.	Dec	15
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M	Dec.	17
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Tu	Dec.	18
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa	Dec.	22
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F.	Dec.	28

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kolak, Russian steamer, 299, A. Scherbinin, 22nd Nov.,—Petropaulovski, 14th Nov., Furs and Fish.—Walsh Hall & Co.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, M. Nishihara, 22nd Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 22nd Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 23rd Nov.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 23rd Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 3rd Nov., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,796, H. Peterson, 23rd Nov.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 21st Nov., 21st Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, K. Nunome, 23rd Nov., Shanghai via ports, 17th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kosai Maru, Japanese Hospital steamer, 1,419, J. Nagao, 23rd Nov.,—Taku via Ujina.—Red Cross Society.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, De La Lande, 23rd Nov.,—Uraga, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 2,830, Davis, 24th Nov.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 22nd Nov., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 24th November,—Kobe, 22nd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,039, N. Tate, 24th Nov.,—Moji, Coal.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, Hollingsworth, 25th Nov.,—New York via Suez Canal and ports, Kobe, 23rd Nov., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Koenig Albert, German steamer, 6,590, O. Cueppers, 25th Nov.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 24th Nov., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Tatevama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, U. Muramatsu, 25th Nov., Kobe, 24th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Y. Yamanouchi, 25th Nov.,—Kobe, 24th Nov. General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenartney, British steamer, 1,943, G. E. Warner, 26th Nov.,—New York via Suez Canal and ports, and Kobe, 24th Nov., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hudson, British steamer, 2,376, W. A. Tangye, 26th Nov.,—New York via Naoyetsu, General.—Standard Oil Co.

Terrible (14), British cruiser, 14,000, Capt. Percy Scott, 26th Nov.,—Wei-hai-wei.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 26th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 25th Nov., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,459, H. Fraser, 27th Nov.,—Seattle, Washington, via Kobe, 25th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 27th Nov.,—Kobe, 25th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bobrik, American schooner, 119, R. Yanousky, 27th Nov.,—Petropaulouski, Fish.—Walsh Hall & Co.

Nero, U.S. Navy Transport, 1,180, Capt. Lind, 27th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 6th Nov., Navy Stores.—U.S. Navy Department.

Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, Y. Tojo, 28th November,—Saseho, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 28th Nov.,—Kobe, 26th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aragonia, German steamer, 3,531, Forst, 28th Nov.,—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai, 24th Nov., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Durrande, 28th Nov., Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 27th Nov., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 29th Nov.,—Kobe, 28th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, R. Nunome, 29th Nov.,—Kobe, 27th Nov., General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 29th Nov., Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 28th Nov., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakuma, 23rd Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 23rd Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Purnea, British steamer, 2,127, J. B. Pearson, 23rd Nov.,—Madras via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 24th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ching Wo, British steamer, 2,517, J. A. Davies, 24th Nov.,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, J. Campbell, 24th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Annam, French steamer, 2,331, Poydenot, 24th Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 24th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, R. Nunome, 24th Nov.,—Shioyetsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Ambria, German steamer, 3,526, Wagner, 25th Nov.,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, Mails and General.—C. Illies & Co.

Chingtu, British steamer, 1,459, J. E. Williams, 26th Nov.,—Australia and New Zealand via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 26th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, U. Matsumoto, 26th Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Scotra, British steamer, 3,919, Thos. H. Hyde, 27th Nov.,—London via ports, General.—P & O. S.N Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 26th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 28th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 28th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Nishimura, 28th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, Hollingsworth, 28th Nov.,—Moji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kumakura Maru, Japanese, steamer, 3,796, H. Peterson, 28th Nov.,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenturret, British steamer 3,086, R. Webster, 29th Nov.,—Tacoma, Wash., via Muroran, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Glenartney, British steamer, 1,943, G. E. Warner, 29th Nov.,—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Yoshizawa, 29th Nov.,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, Y. Tojo, 29th November,—Yokkachi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Dr. M. Kamoshita, Mr D. Shimozo, Mr. K. Nakamura, Mr. K. Ohazaka, Mr. S. Kondo, Mr. W. F. Chevers, Mr. A. M. Corah, Rev. and Mrs. M. Baldwin and child, Mr. Little, Mr. and Mrs E. S. Little and child, Mr F. Knight, Miss E. M. Knight, Mr. C. McMillan, Miss McMillan, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Seely, Mr. Nathan, Mr. Barto, Mrs. Gracy, and Mr. Ozawa, in cabin. In Transit:—Capt. and Mrs. Noyes, Mr. N. B. Reid, Mr. E. C. Jansen, Mr. R. R. Manchan, Lieut.-Col. Brown, Mrs. Neale, Mr. W. Gracy, Mr. W. Launder, Mr. W. J. Anstey, Mrs. A. C. Clarke, and Mr. H. Skott, in cabin; 15, intermediate, 619, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. S. Bonsal, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Conrad, Miss Conrad, Mr. T. Hayashi, Mr. J. Helm, Mr. P. Imanishi, Mr. E. McCarthy, Mrs. S. McCarthy, Mr. T. Sugita, Mr. Y. Takikuchi, Mr. J. W. Thompson, Mr. W. F. Goad, Mr J. Yamamoto, Mrs. A. Martin, Mrs. M. McNutt, Miss M. McNutt, Miss R. McNutt, and Mrs. E. Morrison, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. K. Kawaguchi, Rev. D. W. Le Lacheur, Mr. E. L. Von Nierop, and Mr. T. Watanabe, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. V. Chirol, Mr. W. Lamont, Jr., Mr. H. S. Goodfellow, Major and Mrs. D. Mackenzie, Mr. V. Robinson, Mr. T. Garnier, Rev. and Mrs. A. M. Cunningham, Mr. H. Kieruff, Master Jack Mackenzie, and Mr. H. M. Collins, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. A. J. Findlay, Mr. A. J. Monocal, Mr. William Smith, Mrs. H. M. Jones and infant, and Mr. C. S. Robinson, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. G. T. Clark, in cabin; Mr., Mrs. and Miss Yamashita, in second class; 8 in steerage.

Per German steamer *Koenig Albert*, from Europe via ports:—Mr and Mrs. Schaeffer, Mr. F. Korte, Mr. Matsumoto, Mr. and Mrs Davis, Miss Lewis, Misses Cross, Mr. Geeckie, Mr. Fujihara, Mr. and Mrs. Ellinger, Mr. R. Schwind, Mrs. R. Day, Miss Rust, Mr. Ziegfeld, Miss Jones, Mr. Grauthoff, Mr. Bremer, Mrs. Gawse, Dr. Makino, Mr. and Mrs. Blundell, Mr. and Mrs. Wess, Miss Winksfeld, Mr and Mrs. Birkelund, Mr. R. Go, Mr. S. Nakagawa, Mr. M. Marquos, Mr. Chang Ah Yun, Capt. Harrison, Mr. Hollins, and Mr. O. Pollack, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Wm. J. Russell and servant, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. R. Belfield, Miss Belfield, Lieut. Biggam, Mr. F. B. Butler, Mrs. F. B. Butler, Mr. W. E. Denison, Mr. C. E. Hodde, Mrs. H. C. Jackson, Capt. Rowcroft, Mr. E. Wildman, Mrs. E. Wildman, Mr. F. A. Blake, Mr. Berthe, Mrs. Berthe and daughter, Mr Davis, Miss Dr. Glass, Mrs. Jewell, Mrs. J. L. Mateer, Miss G. Newton, Miss C. E. Righter, Mr. E. Stein, Miss Alice Ferrell, Mr. A. Wittamer, Mr. E. H. Major, Mr. Shields, Mrs. Shields, Mr. Olmstead, Mrs. Olmstead, Miss Olmstead, Master Olmstead, and Mr. Middleton, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. de Micheaux, Mr. and Mrs. Sibodon, Mr. Maurice Fitz Henri, Miss Macferron, and Capt. Bobo, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs Percy Scott, Mr Harmussen, Mr. Seel, Mr. Grodtmann, Mr. A. W. Bain, Mrs. M. A. George, Mr. J. D. Bishop, Mr. W. Klose, and Miss Ethel Westrop, in cabin. For Vancouver:—Capt. Haynes, Rev. and Mrs. Jaffray, Rev. and Mrs. Christopherson and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Ashworth, Miss La V. Minnis, Miss Relyea, Capt. J. Gasford, Dr. Lowry, Mr. F. F. Davis, Com. T. W. Kemp, R.N., Mr. Bilborough, and Mrs. Bilborough, in cabin; 18 intermediate; 266 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss McWeir, Miss E. R. Scidmore, Miss Smith, Mrs. Hill, infant and amah, Mrs. Hume, Miss Hume, Mr. Murray, Mr. A. B. Glover and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Johnson, Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Campbell, Mr G. Ramandes, Mr. A. W. Crombil, Mrs. Arnold, Miss Maclachlan, and 1 Chinese, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Pomona*, for Rangoon via ports:—Mrs. Hutton, 2 children and 2 native servants, Lieut. H. G. Leopold, Mr. Geo. A. Knox, Mrs. E. E. West, Lieut. H. M. Fales, and Mrs. Geo. Bicknell and child, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Arthur, Mr. V. Chirol, Mr. H. M. Collins, Rev. A. M. Cunningham, Mrs. A. M. Cunningham, Mr. A. J. Findlay, Mr. H. S. Goodfellow, Mr. T. Garnier, Mrs. H. M. Jones and child, Mr. K. Kawaguchi, Mr. H. Kieruff, Rev. D. W. Le Lacheur, Mr. W. Lamont, Jr., Mrs. Bertran de Lis, Major D. M. McKenzie, Mrs. D. M. Mackenzie, Master Mackenzie, Mr. A. J. Menocal, Mr. V. Robinson, Mr. C. S. Robinson, Mr. Wm. Smith, Mr. E. L. Van Nierop, and Mr. T. Watanabe, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is nothing to note, the market being quite stagnant.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y.0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb.	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE
Velvets—Black, 15 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches ...	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24, 25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24, 25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos 16/24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos 28/32, Singles	Nominal
Nos 38/42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos 42, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2, 80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2, 60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach	Nominal
Chinese	

METALS.

A little business passing in metals. No change in prices to report.

	PER PICUL
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y.5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

The kerosene market is unchanged.

American	$2.90
Russian	2.75
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

There is little change to report.

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	Y.5.30 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.70 to 6.95
Brown Daitong ...	4 30 to 5 50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.30 to 8.70
White Refined	8.25 to 9.95

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been the usual demand prior to mail day. Prices have gone up 10 to 15 *yen* a picul, but again there is reason to suppose that these purchases are only made to cover old short sales for shipment this month. Since Nov. 1st sales have been: Filatures and Re-reels 2,420 piculs, Kakedas 360 piculs: total 2,780 piculs; and stocks in Yokohama are now Filatures and Re-reels 1,780 piculs and Kakedas 740 piculs, total 19,520 piculs. Export since July 1st is to Europe 9,014 bales, to America 10,541 bales, in all 19,555 bales as compared with a total of 38,770 bales last season.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	940 to	950
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	Y. 890 to	910
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	920 to	930
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	825 to	830
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	820 to	860
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	805 to	810
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	800 to	815
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	None	
Common—Coarse	None	
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal	
Re-reels—No. 1	795 to	800
Re-reels—No. 1½	760 to	780
Re-reels—No. 2	740 to	745
Re-reels—No. 3	720 to	725
Kakedas—Extra	810 to	815
Kakedas—No. 1	800 to	820
Kakedas—No. 1½	785 to	790
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to	765
Kakedas—No. 2½	760 to	770

WASTE SILK.

The demand for waste silk has weakened but prices show little change. Sales since Nov. 1st are: Noshi 1,360 piculs, Kibiso 2,160 piculs, in all 3,520 piculs. Stocks in Yokohama are: Noshi 2,490 piculs, Kibiso 4,860 piculs, sundry 120 piculs, pierced cocoons 150 piculs—in all 7,620 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	145 to	150
Noshi—Filatures, Good	135 to	140
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	135 to	145
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	140 to	150
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium.	None	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	95 to	100
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	85 to	90
Noshi—Bushiu, Best		
Noshi—Bushiu, Good		
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium		
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	90 to	100
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	75 to	80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	120 to	125
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	100 to	115
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	55 to	60
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	45 to	50

TEA

There is a very small business passing, and no change in prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	34 to 35
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	26 to 27
Good Common	24 to 25
Common	22 to 23

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per P. M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco, Nov. 20:—

	Bales.
Bauer & Co.	34
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	50
H. Dent & Co.	15
Doshin Kaisha	15
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	66
Total	180

Per N. P. steamer *Olympia*, for Tacoma, Nov. 22.—

	Bales
Vivanti Bros.... ...	60
Kitto Gomei Kaisha... ...	267
Total	327

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Per M. M. steamer *Annam*, for France, Nov. 24 :—

	Bales.
H. Dent & Co.	10
Jardine Matheson & Co.	26
Nabholz & Co.	118
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	96
Siber, Wolff & Co.	107
Varenne & Co.	10
Vivanti Bros.	20
Kito Gomei Kaisha	2
Doshin Kaisha	19
Total	382

To 26th November, 1900.

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	25
Averill & Co.	460
Bavier & Co.	549
Chauvin & Co.	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	170
H. Dent & Co.	424
P. Dounille	127
Findlay Richardson & Co.	100
C. Guissani	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	1,904
Longin & Co.	275
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Motiet	60
Nabholz & Co.	1,552
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	1,242
Otto Reimers & Co.	1,505
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	336
Siber, Wolff & Co	2,473
Sieber & Co.	932
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	238
Varenne & Co.	893
Vivanti Bros.	957
Kito Gomei-Kaisha	3,125
Doshin Kaisha	650
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	950
J. Ishii	218
Total	19,465

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, November 29.

No change in the price of silver from London nor in the sterling quotations from China to affect local rates, which close steady for the outgoing mail per steamer *Empress of India* as under

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	*3½% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*1% prem.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 69
— Private 10 days' sight	* 71
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29⅛

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 29.

Kirin Breweries were sold to-day at *yen* 150 for forward delivery. Engine and Iron Works are quiet at *yen* 207.50. Grand Hotels—A few shares can be placed at *yen* 232. Helms have buyers at *yen* 57.50 while a few shares are obtainable at *yen* 60. Langfeldts—A few shares can be had at *yen* 90. Laundries have sellers at par. Offers for Club Hotels are wanted.

Debentures—Offers are wanted for Y. U. Clubs, Laundries and Nagasaki Hotels.

Offers for Hodogaya (Tokyo) Breweries are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	207.50 Sa
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	145 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	232 50 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 Sa
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	9.5 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	90 S.
Helm Bros, ¥50	60 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	100
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	106 N.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	99 Sa
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥25	40 N
Maples Hotel, preference shares ¥100	107 S.

BAD COMPLEXIONS

Dry Thin and Falling Hair and Red Rough Hands Prevented by

CUTICURA SOAP.

MILLIONS use CUTICURA SOAP exclusively for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, in the form of baths for annoying irritations, inflammations, and chafings, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes, for ulcerative weaknesses, and for many sanative antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women, and especially to mothers, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. No amount of persuasion can induce those who have once used it to use any other, especially for preserving and purifying the skin, scalp, and hair of infants and children. CUTICURA SOAP combines delicate emollient properties derived from CUTICURA, the great skin cure, with the purest of cleansing ingredients and the most refreshing of flower odours. No other *medicated* soap ever compounded is to be compared with it for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, scalp, hair, and hands. No other foreign or domestic *toilet* soap, however expensive, is to be compared with it for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. Thus it combines in ONE SOAP at ONE PRICE, the BEST skin and complexion soap, the BEST toilet and BEST baby soap in the world.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour, consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin and scalp of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, CUTICURA Ointment, to instantly allay itching and irritation, and soothe and heal, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool and cleanse the blood. Sold throughout the world. Australian Depot: R. TOWNS & Co., Sydney, N. S. W. South African Depot: LENNON LTD., Cape Town. "How to have Beautiful Skin, Hair, and Hands," free. POTTER CORP., Boston, U. S. A., Sole Props., CUTICURA REMEDIES.

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LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, November 29.

Grand Hotels, buyers at *yen* 230. Langfeldts, sellers at *yen* 90. Offers are wanted for Helms.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207.50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	230 Buyers.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	145 Sales.

RICE MARKET.

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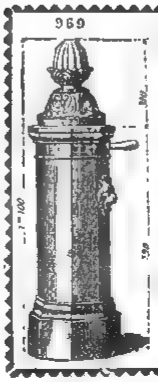
969



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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 8TH, 1900.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE German Emperor has declined to meet Mr. Kruger.

MR. GULLY has been re-elected Speaker of the House of Commons.

THE U. S. Government has accepted a tender to lay a Pacific cable.

MR. OTAGIRI, Japanese Consul at Shanghai, will return to Japan on the 11th inst.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY's message to Congress this autumn is exceptionally important.

MR. KUROIWA NAOKATA, Chief Steward of Prince Yamashina, died at Tokyo on the 2nd inst.

THE rebuff to Mr. Kruger is viewed in political circles as the beginning of a new era in Anglo-German relations.

MR. W. D. COX, of Tokyo, will address the Yokohama Literary Society at its next meeting in Van Schaick Hall.

THE Chinese question is still as unsettled as on the day when the Legations were relieved. Gen. Tung has been reprimanded by the Throne, but retained in office.

FIRE broke out at Obaramachi, Koishikawa-ku, Tokyo, early on the morning of the 3rd inst. and fourteen houses were destroyed.

THE Government Railway between Shimo-Tomichikagoye and Yoshino on the Tokachi line, Hokkaido, was opened a few days ago.

THE running of trains between Obasute and Saijo Station, Nagano, was suspended on the 29th ult. by a landslip near Obasute Station.

AN infantry sergeant named Nomaki Tokijiro committed *seppuku* at the Imperial Guards Barracks on the afternoon of the 28th Nov.

ANOTHER conflagration occurred at Tanuki Koji, Sapporo, Hokkaido, on the morning of the 2nd inst. Ten houses were reduced to ashes.

FIRE broke out in the engine room of the Kumai silk factory at Fujisawa, Kanagawa, on the 29th Nov., at 4 p.m. One building was destroyed.

IT is suggested that a public memorial of the late Mr A. C. Sim shall be instituted in Kobe, and the proposal meets with general approval.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha is reported to have bought the steamer *Rosetta* from the Toyo Kisen Kaisha. She will be delivered to the former on December 10th.

A BIG fire occurred at Kakezukamachi, Shizuoka Prefecture, at one a.m. on the 3rd inst. Seventy eight houses were destroyed, including the town office and the police station.

FIRE occurred at the district office, Sakata, Otsu, on the 1st inst. at 7 p.m. and the office and an agency of the Omi Rice Guild were destroyed. Both buildings were insured for *yen* 30,000.

THE Maharajah of Patiala, the chief Sikh Prince in India, a well-known sportsman and polo player, died suddenly on Nov 8, collapse following a few days' of fever. His son and heir, Tikka Sahib, is still a mere boy

FIRE broke out at Azumamura, Nakagori, Kanagawa Prefecture, on the 3rd inst. at 11.30 p.m. and 2 houses were destroyed before the flames could be subdued. One man was killed by falling from the roof of a house.

THE Japan Volunteer Association have elected as President Admiral Count Kabayama in place of the late Vice-Admiral Viscount Nirei. Marquis Saigo, Count Hijikata, and Viscount Hayashi have been elected members of Council.

FIRE broke out at the Sakata District Office, Shiga Prefecture, on the evening of the 29th ult. and except one godown the whole of the buildings were destroyed. All the official correspondence was removed to the Assembly Hall at Nagahamacho.

THE Japanese standing squadron left Yokosuka on Dec. 4th to engage in manœuvres and also incidentally to keep a look-out for the missing training ship *Tsukijima Maru*. The *Hashidate* also left on Dec. 4th to search for the missing vessel.

REAR-ADMIRAL BEARDSLEE, Baron Kaneko Kentaro, Messrs. Otani Kahei and Watanabe Kanjuro, and eleven other gentlemen proceeded to Kurihama by a Nippon Yusen Kaisha's launch on the 5th inst. to inspect the proposed site of the monument to Commodore Perry.

THE Government cable steamer *Okinawa-maru* has been ordered to institute a search for the missing training ship *Tsukijima-maru*, belonging to the Mercantile Navigation School. She left Yokohama on Friday at 3.20 p.m. for the neighbourhood of the Bonin Islands.

IN the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Saturday morning, before Judge Sato, an Indian residing at No. 127 sued a compatriot at No. 119 claiming *yen* 401 damages. Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Sawada and defendant by Mr. Kuwada. After the examination of some witnesses the hearing was adjourned *sine die*.

A WATCH-MAKER named Hosono Kanekichi, living at Yamadacho Ichome, Yokohama, was arrested by the Fukagawa police on the 28th Nov. He received in September several watches to repair (valued at over 100 *yen*) and sent them to a pawnshop at Horaicho Ichome. He then went off to Tokyo where he obtained employment in a watchshop at Fukagawa Daikucho.

THE Japanese sailing ship *Tsuruichi Maru*,, 37.89 tons, belonging to Nagasawa Kumakichi, Zushi, with a crew of six, and laden with stone, left Atami on the 26th ult. for Tokyo. Early on the morning of the following day she collided with a steamer near Tsurugizaki lighthouse, Minami Shimoura-mura, Soshu, and was severely damaged. She managed, however, to reach Misaki.

THE head of the Yokohama Guild of Butchers has applied to the Kencho for a reduction in the taxes now paid for slaughtered animals. According to an address presented by the butchers to the Governor, the number of animals killed in Yokohama last year were 22,647. The butchers ask that the tax be reduced as follows:—Cows, from 32 *sen* per head to 23 *sen*; calves from 16 to 10 *sen*; sheep and pigs 8 *sen* to 7 *sen*.

THE design of the medal for the South African War has now been finally approved. It bears on one side the head of the Queen in rather high relief; on the reverse is a figure of Britannia holding out a wreath towards soldiers who are pressing forward, whilst two warships are moored in the bay hard by. The work is most artistic. The ribbon is a mixture of orange (the South African colour) and red, with an outside line of deep blue.

THREE students, aged from 12 to 15 years, of the Naval Middle School, Kogyokusha, Shinsenza, Shiba, Tokyo, went on board a small sailing boat, anchored near Shibaura, on the morning of the 2nd inst. About noon a heavy northerly wind sprang up which carried the lads down the Bay. Eventually they reached Yokohama about 10 p.m. They had neither food nor money, but the harbour police discovering their plight took the lads ashore and gave them food and shelter for the night. They sailed for Tokyo next morning.

THE funeral of Lieutenant-General Viscount Miyoshi Shigeomi, took place at the Seishoji temple, Atago, Shiba, Tokyo, on the morning of the 1st Dec. Marshal Marquis Oyama, Marshal Marquis Saigo, Lieut-General Baron Kawamura, Surgeon-general Baron Ishiguro, Lieut-General Baron Hasegawa, Lieut-General Terauchi, Baron Noda, Major-Generals Ishimoto, Nakamura, Miyoshi, Sakai, Mima, Tekoda, Nakaoka and Tamura, Viscount Tanaka, Vice-Admira. Yamamoto, Vice-Admiral Arichi, Count Higashikuze, Marquis Hachisuka, Viscount Kiyooka, Viscount Yenomoto, Viscount Soga, Baron Watanabe, &c., were present.

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KRUGER IN EUROPE.

Saturday, Dec. 1.

The latest plot against the life of Lord Roberts confirms an impression which has of late begun to be widely entertained, namely, that the persons who are maintaining a state of violent resistance to England in South Africa are not the burghers themselves, but the foreign adventurers who have everything to gain and nothing to lose by continuing the fight. The *personnel* of the conspirators reminds us, further, of the conspicuous part that Italians have played in all the recent outrages against the persons of distinguished individuals. It is scarcely possible to adduce one instance of an attempt upon the life of a prominent personage in Europe during the past few years in which Italian subjects were not implicated either as principals or as seconds. No reasonable person imagines, of course, that there is any natural inclination among Italians driving them to the perpetration of such crimes. The inference to be drawn is that Italy is unfortunately troubled by factors of unrest which have disturbed the moral equilibrium of the lower classes and which incite them to seek violent redress for their wrongs, real or imaginary. It is not easy to conceive the notion of men so wholly depraved and savagely cruel that they could deliberately plot the destruction of a congregation of men, women and children in the act of divine worship by means of dynamite bombs. We may hold up hands of horror over the atrocities perpetrated against Christian converts and Christian teachers in China, for we can at least claim that two or three centuries separate us from the time when our own ancesters did much more terrible things with the rack, the boot, the thumbscrew, and the stake to those that differed from them in religion. But it appears that to-day, in our own time and among ourselves, there are men ready and willing to deliberately perpetrate horrors at least as shocking as the worst crimes laid to the charge of a Chinese mob. The cause of the Boers will not gain in popularity by these atrocities.

Instead of commenting ourselves on the reception that Mr. Kruger received in Paris, we prefer to quote the remarks, made by M. Cornély in the *Figaro*, in anticipation of the ex-President's arrival at Marseilles and his presence in the south of France :—

"Telegrams announce that President Kruger will soon land in France. They add that this ceremony will take place at Marseilles, and it would not be surprising if Mr. Kruger were to pass the winter in the south of France. It is certain that if towards the middle of this century Abd-el-Kader, who fought with so much courage for the independence of his Arab fellow-citizens, had succeeded in escaping, instead of allowing himself to be captured by the soldiers of the Duc d'Aumale, and had afterwards landed in England and been the object of public demonstrations, France would have shown her ill-humour and displeasure. It is an excellent opportunity, therefore, to do for President Kruger what the English could not do for Abd-el-Kader and to render still more strained the relations between England and France. This summer nearly the whole of English society has abstained from visiting the Exhibition. Last winter it deserted the southern winter stations and went elsewhere to spend its guineas. This is a situation against which the hotel-keepers and tradesmen who depend upon them very rightfully complain. It is quite worthy of the brawlers to prolong it. A large portion of our foreign trade, moreover, lives by the English. England daily absorbs the agricultural products of the French provinces bordering the ocean opposite her. This gives our peasants a profit envied by our northern neighbours. It would be a fine thing to deprive them of it in order to confer it upon the Belgians, the Dutch, the Swedes, the Norwegians, and to a certain extent, the Germans. These desirable results we can attain by acclaiming President Kruger, against whom the English continue to be much excited. This is a task worthy of the efforts of the leaders of national opinion, which will inspire them with the good idea of dropping the Châlons incident in order to create theirs."

The Paris correspondent of the London *Times*, when forwarding the above extract, warns Englishmen not to attach any importance to demonstrations made in honour of Kruger. He declares that the acclamations on behalf of Kruger will be "nothing but a violently aggressive assault upon the present French Government, the intention being to oblige it to prevent Mr. Kruger from landing in France, or, if that be out of the question, to force it to repress the riotous demonstrations that might take place and thus compel the Government to take a stand favourable to the very persons against whom these cheers for Mr. Kruger and the Boers are really directed." *The Times* itself has the following pregnant remarks :—

Mr. Kruger has made an eminently characteristic exit. "Slim" to the last, he has furtively stolen off to a Dutch warship, at an early hour in the morning and by an unfrequented route. He feared, and no doubt had good grounds for fearing, that if his dear burghers had an opportunity to say good-bye their feelings would hurry them into demonstrations of a very disagreeable kind. They do not seem to be affected by the medical certificate on which Mr. Kruger takes leave of absence from the country he has involved in such hideous calamity. Having been crammed with texts from Holy Writ, they possibly remember one which says that the hireling fleeth because he is an hireling. At all events, the late President has had to slink away as unobtrusively as the meanest of the Hollander gang with which he surrounded himself. It is impossible to feel much pity for this inglorious termination of a career to which a moderate equipment of honesty and modesty would have given a wholly different character. Had Mr. Kruger been able to content himself with reasonable wealth and reasonable ambition, he would at this moment have been the honoured head of a prosperous community in which Dutch farmers and English capitalists would have been living in fruitful and progressive co-operation. Instead of choosing his advisers from among the men who were making the country rich, he surrounded himself with needy and unscrupulous adventurers. Instead of being content with a position infinitely above his merits or just expectations, his gigantic vanity led him to dream of a sort of South African Empire founded upon cupidity, corruption, and fraud. This is the end of it all; and, when we think of the lives for which he is responsible and the havoc he has caused, we cannot but feel that, like many other evil-doers on the larger scale, he escapes with inadequate punishment. It seems to be thought probable that he will seek consolation in a visit to France, where certain congenial spirits are already preparing for him an ostentatious welcome. Our Paris Correspondent warns the English people not to attach undue importance to anything of that kind. There is no fear that the English people will trouble themselves. They are quite aware of the combination of motives, none of them so much as respectable, to which any demonstrations in honour of Mr. Kruger will owe their existence. They know that Transvaal gold has paid for the greater part of the abusive articles which have stirred up the effervescent passions of the thoughtless French public. They know that a general readiness to speak evil of the English has always to be reckoned with, and that glorification of Mr. Kruger is very likely to be thought an easy way to annoy them. Nor are they forgetful of the fact that anti-foreign demonstrations are frequently used for purely domestic purposes. They will only smile at French mobs going crazy about the Ex-President of the Transvaal; and will trust that the French Government, whose attitude throughout has been correct and friendly, will be as little embarrassed as themselves. There is, indeed, a good deal in what M. Cornély says about the projected demonstrations. Englishmen go to France in large numbers to enjoy themselves, and if they anticipate an attitude on the part of the French public likely to detract from their enjoyment they naturally reflect that there are other pleasant places among which to choose their temporary residence. Sentiment does not, perhaps, affect very seriously our purchases of butter and eggs, but there are other departments of French trade upon which it undoubtedly tells indirectly. All that is the affair of the French themselves. They may be well assured that, though they may deter individuals from visiting their watering places or buying their goods, this nation as a whole does not care whether they acclaim Mr. Kruger or let him alone.

We fear that, in view of the action of M. Loubet and of the Paris Municipality it will be difficult to persuade Englishmen that France can be credited with any remnant of friendly feeling towards them.

Monday, Dec. 3.

Kruger was to arrive in Berlin on the 1st of December. Englishmen will be curious to see the reception he receives there. He may be very well content, we think, with the results of his visit to France so far as expressions of popular sympathy are concerned, and it must be confessed that the official element of Paris adopted towards him an attitude which will probably cause much offence in England. Yet, when the circumstances are carefully considered, it is not impossible to conceive that the course taken by President Loubet and by the Municipality was actuated by prudence rather than by prejudice. There may have been a conviction in the mind of the President as well as in the minds of the Municipal officials, that to set themselves in marked opposition to the mood of the citizens would only aggravate the situation, and that the best way to control the clamour was to lead it for a moment. The unanimous vote of the Chamber and of the Senate, however, cannot be explained by any such hypothesis. That was an act of distinct unfriendliness towards England, and will surely be so construed. Yet, in the face of it all, the French Government has had the strength to decline any initiative action. It is willing to join, but it will not lead, a movement in favour of the Boers. Will any other nation lead, we wonder. It would certainly be strange if England now found herself confronted by an European complication. Our conviction is that that nothing of the kind need be apprehended. If the annexation of the Free State and of the Transvaal did not evoke any protest, it is not likely that Kruger's voice will prove more potent. After all, it would be a very difficult matter for any Powers or combination of Powers to intervene actively on behalf of the Boers. They could not send a transport to South Africa until they had broken England's strength at sea.

PEST.

Pest has made its appearance in Wakayama Prefecture. Three cases have occurred in Iwasa-machi of the Arita district, and one has ended fatally. It is believed that the virus came from Osaka, as there is frequent passage of vessels between that place and Wakayama. Osaka also reports two fresh cases. The rats of Osaka appear to have had a bad time in connexion with the visitation. The number killed by poison between June 19th and Nov. 5th was 40,085, and the number otherwise done to death was 136,733, so that a total of 176,818 have fallen victims.

Five cases of pest are reported from Wakayama, though only two have been definitely diagnosed. The patients are said to be persons who had been engaged selling oranges in Hiogo, Osaka and Tokushima. A case is reported from Tokushima prefecture also. This patient had been to Wakayama and was on his way back to Tokushima. It is expected that the export of oranges from Kishiu will be interdicted so long as any symptoms of the pest are visible. That would be a terrible blow to the people of Wakayama, who make an important industry of the growing of oranges. Meanwhile the Sanitary Bureau is taking steps to greatly increase the supply of serum sent to Osaka, and also to forward a quantity to Wakayama.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Russia and China.

Saturday, Dec. 1.

Rumours are again circulated of a secret treaty having been concluded between Russia and China. We have already given our reasons for believing that nothing of the kind is at all probable at present. Secret treaties are virtually impossible, so far as secrecy is concerned, and Russian diplomacy would be strangely wanting in astuteness if it took a step which, while quite needless, would inevitably add greatly to the embarrassments of the general situation. Russia does not wants any treaty to strengthen her position in Manchuria; not for the present, at all events. In this context we may refer to recent events in Manchuria, as recorded in *The Times*:—

On August 7 all the Russian military and civil authorities at Blagovestchensk crossed over the Amur in great state, and laid the foundation of a Russian military settlement on the Chinese bank of the river close to the smoking ruins of the former Chinese settlement of Sakhalin. The Russian flag was hoisted to the sound of artillery salutes and the hymn for the Tsar, the spot was blessed and consecrated by Russian priests, and General Gribsky, in presence of the Vice Governor of the Amur, thus addressed the troops:—

"About a month ago our neighbours, forgetting old friendship, made a perfidious attack on us, but thanks to your courage and bravery the land whereon we now stand belongs henceforth to our Emperor. Glory to you Christ-loving warriors and hurrah for the Tsar."

If that was not a formal act of annexation it is difficult to say what could be construed as such, and not one word of renunciation of that act, nor of the telegram of General Grodekoff proclaiming the annexation of the Amur, which was acknowledged by the Tsar without any disapproving remark, has yet appeared in any of the official contradictions issued at St. Petersburg. On the contrary in these contradictions there are the same kind of reservations as those which puzzle ordinary readers of the orders above referred to. It is distinctly said that Russia's action in regard to Manchuria will be limited to measures that will assure the free navigation of the Amur by Russian boats and the undisturbed use of the Russian railway through Manchuria. It is considered absolutely necessary by all Russian military authorities that the right bank of the river should be in the possession of Russia in order to avoid danger on the Amur in future, and the arming and fortification of the entire railway route though Manchuria will undoubtedly put the whole of that line of country completely under the authority of Russia. Whatever may be said in official disclaimers no one here doubts for a moment that Manchuria is at the present moment completely under Russian domination and will continue virtually to remain so in one form or another. The fact that General Renenkampf at Tsitsihar is able to usurp the authority of the Chinese Emperor, Russia not being officially at war, by appointing a Chinese Dzian Dzun of the province, instead of a temporary commandant or Russian Governor, is an illustration in point. The Russian military power, in whose hands are the interests of Russia in the East far more than they are in those of the Russian diplomatists, will see to it that in the future Chinese authority in Manchuria shall only play a secondary *rôle* and the Chinese in that territory have received such a severe lesson in the present campaign that they will never dare offer any more opposition to Russian wishes.

That is just the view we have always taken. Manchuria is Russia's Egypt. Even if she had all the will in the world to evacuate the conquered territory, circumstances will be too strong for her. Military conquest creates conditions which have to be dealt with by methods other than self-effacement. Russia has only to rest on her oars. To conclude treaties with China for the purpose of confirming accomplished facts which China, treaty or no treaty, is quite incompetent to disturb, would be a clumsy work of supererogation.

The Boxers do not seem to have been entirely disposed of even in Chili. It is stated that a party of them attacked, on the 25th instant, a Russian detachment guarding the railway between Tientsin and Tongku, and were driven back by the Russians.

The Empress Dowager, according to a Shanghai report, has begun to see that General Tung is an obstacle to the restoration of peace, and that he may at any moment become a menace even to the Throne itself. She is therefore endeavouring to despatch him to Kangsu, under the pretext of collecting troops.

Another statement about the Empress Dowager is that although she will not place any obstacle in the way of the Emperor's return to Peking after the restoration of peace, she is determined for her own part to spend the remaining years of her life in Singan. That course would involve complete abandonment of the administrative power to the Emperor, and would doubtless be welcomed by the foreign Powers. But it is difficult to believe that her Majesty contemplates anything of the kind.

The rumour that Prince Twan has been apprehended is now contradicted. It is stated, on the contrary, that he has retired to the Ning-ho district, and there taken refuge with the Mongolians, who have made him their leader and are determined not to give him up. A flying column sent to capture Twan would have its work cut out.

The Amoy trouble is said to have been settled in consideration of the punishment of the offenders, the payment of an indemnity and a promise of security in future.

A telegram to the *Shogyo Shimpo* says that the United States Representative in Peking has declared his opinion that if the Powers insist upon the execution of the instigators, they will have to undertake the task themselves, employing military force for the purpose, and that the result will surely be disagreement and complications. Mr. Conger is further credited with advocating that a lump sum by way of indemnity should be demanded from China, and that the Powers should then proceed to divide it in fair proportion to their respective outlays and losses.

The Attitude of the Powers.

Monday, Dec. 3.

It is reported, apparently on good authority, that England and Germany see no reason to change the decision arrived at by the conference of Ministers in Peking, but that America, France and Russia desire to modify the severity of some of its provisions. We presume that Her Majesty's Government finds itself fettered to some extent by English public opinion in this matter, for the bitterness and blind prejudice of British journals have been quite remarkable throughout the Chinese complication. It appears to have been quite impossible for Englishmen, or rather English editors, to appreciate the fact that China has wrongs, bitter wrongs, to avenge, nor is their faculty of intellectual sympathy sufficiently developed to show them that the acts of infuriated mobs, whatever country be the scene of their outrages, do not differ appreciably in degree of inhumanity. It is in the presence of such crises that the practical influence of Christianity is seen to be so paltry. Not one of the publicists that undertake to denouce the un-Christian violence of the Chinese and to clamour for vengeance on their heads, appears to be conscious that the founder of his faith inculcated the doctrine of measuring the number of stripes by the moral development of the culprit. We have not seen, either, that one of them moderates his severity in view of the shocking excesses perpetrated by the allied soldiers themselves in China. Has the world ever witnessed a more humiliating spectacle than this outcry for vengeance on the part of nations whose troops are themselves guilty of atrocities at least as shocking in character and even less excusable than those charged against the nation against which vengeance is demanded?

A Drastic Course.

A most drastic course is proposed by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* with regard to the Chinese complication. That journal's view is that all attempts to come to a satisfactory arrangement with the present Government of China must prove fruitless inasmuch as the Court is in the power of men whose interests are opposed to any settlement of a moderate or liberal character. Neither is there the slightest chance of the Court's returning to Peking. Nothing remains, therefore, except to set up in Peking a Government to which the Occident can look with confidence, and which will administer Chinese affairs in accordance with enlightened principles. One more opportunity should be given to the Court. An ultimatum should be addressed to it, requiring its return to Peking by a certain date, and, failing compliance, a new Government should be established with Prince Ching as Emperor, Li Hung-chang as Prime Minister, and a Cabinet formed of other progressive statesmen. The *Nichi Nichi* believes that under a joint guarantee from the Powers, such a Government would be successful. There is nothing to complain of about this scheme on the ground of want of heroism. But a host of obstacles seem to stand in the way. In the first place, would Prince Ching consent to assume the rôle of an usurper? Would Li Hung-chang agree to serve as Premier under a Government that had overthrown the Empress Dowager? Would the Powers agree to guarantee such a government? Supposing that they did agree to give the guarantee, could they reasonably be expected to agree in enforcing it? And finally, what steps could be taken to extend the authority of the new Government to regions of China outside the metropolitan province? The Chinese problem is big enough and intricate enough to puzzle the best statesmen of the West. They will have to wrestle with it a little longer before they can reconcile themselves to the idea of really drastic innovations.

Russian news indicates that the Boxers driven from eastern Manchuria, have assembled near Wiju to the number of 1,500 and that they have been joined by Chinese troops from Mukden. It is to be hoped that the disturbance may not spread into Korea.

We hear of petty bodies of five or six hundred Boxers planning the recapture of Tientsin, and of detachments sent by the Allies to attack them, but it is difficult to attach any importance to such rumours. Nevertheless the Chinese inhabitants of Tientsin are said to be apprehensive that when the Peiho is frozen, some new enterprises will be attempted by the Boxers and such troops as have joined them.

Viceroy Chang is said to have sent 8 quick-firers to Si-ngan, in response to an application from the Governor of Shensi.

A writer in the *Hochi Shimbun*, who has just returned from China, avers that great

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ill-feeling exists between the British and the Russian troops. He describes an event which took place some time ago in Peking and which has been hitherto kept as carefully as possible from public ken. Ten English soldiers—or officers—obtained permission to visit the Palace. On approaching it, they were met by 30 Russians trundling a cart laden with spoils. The Russians asked the Englishmen to buy, and on the latter's declining, enquired where they were going. The Englishmen explained their destination, whereupon the Russians said that the Palace had been restored to the Chinese and that no one might enter. An altercation ensued, with the result that the Englishmen were severely beaten. Complaint was preferred, it being pointed out that the Russians had no right to exercise authority in the matter, the gates not being in their charge. The reply was a total denial that that any such fracas had occurred. The writer says that the affair caused great animosity, and goes on to explain that the beginning of trouble between the troops of the two Powers was an act of interference on the part of Englishmen to prevent an outrage by Russians. He adds several unpublishable details about the savageries perpetrated by the troops of two European Powers. We give the story for what it may be worth.

There are all kinds of rumours about the movements of the allied forces and of Field Marshal Waldersee, but they are contradictory and evidently not worthy of trust.

The Foreign Governments, it is said, have only waited for the conclusion of the Peking Representatives' deliberations to nominate them peace plenipotentiaries.

Li Hung-chang is reported to have said that he concurred in the idea of suspending civil-service examination for a term of years in the districts that have shown themselves violently anti-foreign. That, indeed, seems to be one of the best suggestions yet put forward. When we remember the immense importance attached by the Chinese to those examinations and the necessity of passing them in order to obtain an appointment of any kind, it seems plain that no object lesson could appeal more strongly to the people than to find themselves cut off from all official opportunities on account of having entertained anti-foreign prejudices. Besides, it would be an emphatic gain that the ranks of officialdom should not be recruited from persons educated in such districts.

There is a rumour that Viceroys Liu and Chang have renewed their representations to the Throne urging the advisability of the Court's returning at once to Peking. The Viceroys are said to have founded this second recommendation on the ground that unless the Court returns, there is danger of the Powers setting up a new Sovereign.

It is stated that the French detachment which proceeded from Pao-ting to Chin-ting has lost touch with its base, and that its whereabouts can not be ascertained. But, on the other hand, some authorities deny altogether that the French have made any advance into Shan-si.

Yung Lu is said to have importuned Prince Kung and Viceroy Li in the sense that the Empress Dowager and the Emperor are profoundly distressed at the long continuance of the complication, and that the utmost expedition ought to be observed in effecting a settlement. The plenipotentiaries are reported to have replied that so long as the Powers insist on the capital punishment of Chinese princes, generals and high officials, and on a reorganization of the Chinese Government, it is hopeless to look for any settlement.

Two stories are circulated about the result of the negotiations between England and Russia with regard to the latter's tenure of the railway from Shan-hai-kwan to Yang-tsung. One is that Russia has declined to give up the line until she is recouped the expenses she incurred in occupying it; the other that she has agreed to hand it over to the head-quarters of the allies. We imagine that the latter version is the truth.

THE EXECUTION QUESTION.

Tuesday, Dec 4.

It is telegraphed from London that Russia has withdrawn her concurrence in the conditions of peace formulated by the conference in Peking. Probably that is an exaggerated statement of the fact that Russia and France are beginning to take a decided stand with reference to the proposal for the capital punishment of the instigators. The Governments in St. Petersburg and Paris seem to have come to the conclusion that to enforce that condition would fatally block the progress of the negotiations. Inasmuch, however, as an uncompromising measure of chastisement has been urged so strongly by Germany, and placed by the Peking Representatives in the very forefront of the conditions, the modification of that article might be not untruly described as a radical change of programme. It would appear that there has been much more discussion about the punishment question than the general public imagines. At first, there was an emphatic disposition on the part of some European Powers to advance the demand in the form of an ultimatum. In deference, however, to representations made, we believe, by Japan, who understood that to present an ultimatum of such a nature would check the progress of the negotiations altogether, it was agreed that the term "ultimatum" should be replaced by "irrevocable demand." The difference may appear more theoretical than real, but it is important in the sense that all discussion of other terms have to be suspended pending the acceptance or rejection of an ultimatum, whereas an irrevocable demand leaves room for reflection, at any rate. Evidently the change has been wholesome, for Russia, France and, so far as we can judge, America also have come to think that the execution of Chinese princes and other high dignitaries for supporting an anti-foreign insurrection under circumstances of almost unendurable provocation, would not be in accord with principles of justice. We regret that England should seem to be a supporter of the doctrine of severity in this instance, but English public opinion has been unfortunately harsh with regard to the Chinese crisis; a state of affairs largely due, we think, to the very intemperate telegrams of newspaper correspondents.

The *Asahi Shumbun* publishes a telegram announcing the enlargement of the Japanese settlement at Tientsin by fifty million *tsubo*, or some forty thousand acres. That is a tall order—evidently a gross mistake of figures about which it is fruitless to conjecture.

Contradictory reports are published about Russia's action in the matter of the Shanhai-kwan-Tientsin Railway. One rumour says that, in view of the transfer of the line to British hands so soon as its repairs are completed, the repairs have been progressing at a snail's pace. Another alleges that the repairs are being hurried along, since Russia looks forward to retaining possession of the road for a long time. All that can be made out of these tales is that the question of the railway is under discussion.

The British military authorities are said to be extending the district held by them at Peking, and also to be making arrangements for an extension of the line of railway from Ma-kia-po, the present terminus, to the neighbourhood of the Temple of Heaven, which lies in the western quarter of the Chinese City.

The repairs on the Peking-Tientsin line are said to be nearly finished, and the line will be opened to traffic throughout its entire length in a short time.

Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Rumours emanating from trustworthy quarters are circulated to the effect that the amount of the indemnities to be demanded from China will be very large. It is alleged that Russia will ask for ten millions sterling on account of her operations in Manchuria alone, that France demands fourteen millions and Germany seventeen, so that the payments to these three Powers alone aggregate over forty millions sterling. Even Italy is said to be asking for five millions, and it is obvious that if the demands of England, Japan and America are framed on anything like the same basis, the burden laid upon China will be crushing, and can only mean large territorial concessions, for she can not possibly find these huge sums.

The Tsung-li Yamên is reported to have issued instructions that all Chinese subjects within the Chili jurisdiction must at once deliver up any arms they may have in their possession, and that persons failing to comply with this order and being subsequently found with arms will be regarded as Boxers. We use the expression "within the Chili jurdisdiction," but it should be noted that the original telegram is vague with respect to the scope of the order.

It is reported that a force of five thousand Boxers recently assembled at a place on the west of Paoting, and that they were there attacked by a column of French and German troops, with the result that over a thousand of the Boxers were killed and wounded.

The officer commanding the French troops in Pao-ting is said to have reported to headquarters in Peking that the residue of the Boxers are assembled at Ching-ting in Shansi, which lies midway between Pao-ting and Tai-yuen on the road to Si-ngan, and that it is their purpose to proceed to the residence of the Court, collect all available re-inforcements and make an attempt to recover possession of Peking. Our readers may remember that rumours have been current of late about a French expedition to Tai-yuen. Possibly this intelligence from Ching-ting may explain the report of that movement, for we believe it to be only a report thus far, the distance from Pao-ting to Tai-yuen being great—about 180 miles,—and the difficulties of transport for the purposes of such an expedition being too considerable to be lightly faced.

The Chinese official—a Taotai—said to be indirectly responsible for the destruction of mission buildings at Kuchow, is reported to have been apprehended. He had fled to escape the consequences of his neglect of duty.

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Mr. Detring has been appointed—says a telegram—to his old post of Commissioner of Customs at Tientsin, through the influence of Viceroy Li. That is very probable for Mr. Detring has always been highly appreciated by the Viceroy, as he well deserves to be, and Li would unquestionably find him very useful at this juncture.

The Imperial Court has issued a decree remitting taxation in the districts adjacent to the route followed by their Majesties on the journey to Si-ngan and in the environs of Si-ngan itself. This act of consideration is not without a selfish motive, for it means that supplies coming to the Court and to the citizens of Si-ngan by that route will be freed from the payment of lekin.

Rumours are again circulated about the Court's intention of returning to Peking Wang Wen-shao is said to have made a statement to the effect that as soon as any satisfactory terms of peace are formulated, their Majesties will go back to the old capital. But that is precisely the trouble. Satisfactory terms of peace do not seem to be in sight, and it is impossible to imagine that the Court will return to Peking until the city is entirely free from the presence of foreign troops.

The body of 2,000 men sent by France from Algiers have reached Singapore *en route* for China. They seem to be rather belated, but it is not impossible that a use may yet be found for them.

The Russians are said to have withdrawn nearly the whole of their forces to Shan-hai-kwan. A telegram from Taku says that, with the exception of one company in Peking, and of a few men in Taku, there is not a Russian to be seen westward of Shan-hai-kwan.

Thursday, Dec. 6.

There are indications that the Powers are adopting a more moderate attitude with regard to the two questions of the punishment of the instigators and the indemnity. The former, indeed, has evidently presented itself to foreign public opinion in an altered light.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram to the effect that Russia has not yet replied to the question addressed to her with reference to the tenure of the Tientsin-Shanhaikwan Railway, and that Marshal Waldersee has been requested to repeat the application.

The Peiho was frozen, it is said, on the 2nd instant, that is somewhat earlier than usual.

Rumour says that all the stories about Prince Twan's flight hither and thither are unfounded. He is in Si-ngan, is protected by Tung's troops and enjoys considerable power. This statement comes from Shanghai.

The burning of villages supposed to harbour Boxers continues in Chili. We read of three hamlets in the neighbourhood of the Ming Tombs which have been thus treated. Such measures are probably necessary, but it is impossible to avoid the reflection that many innocent persons are involved in the suffering. The Chinese people have no means of driving out the Boxers if the latter insist on taking up their abode in a certain quarter, yet when the day of retribution comes for the Boxers, the innocent inhabitants are punished at the same time. What seeds of anti-foreign feeling must have been sowed in Chili by these and other doings!

Friday, Dec. 7.

A London telegram affirms the probability that the negotiations with China will soon be brought to a successful termination, and adds that the hope is beginning to be reflected in the attitude of commercial and industrial circles It is a hope that can not yet be shared, we fear, by close observers, for although the greatest impediment seems likely to be removed when the demand for the capital punishment of the instigators is abandoned, the question of the indemnity as well as that of disarmament remain as serious as ever. If there be any truth in the rumours recently circulated about the dimensions of the pecuniary demands preferred by some of the Powers, it is hard to see how there can be any settlement, especially as no plan has yet been formulated for enabling China to pay.

It is now stated that General Tung has been removed from his dictatorship and that he is to retire to Kansu, disbanding from five to six thousand of his troops. This intelligence needs much confirmation, for it has hitherto been believed that Tung was master of the situation and that the Court lacked strength to remove him, even if it had the will.

Arrangements are in progress for contriving a system of communications between Shan-hai-kwan and the outer world during the winter months. France and England are said to have combined the means at their disposal so as to provide one steamer weekly from Shan-hai-kwan to Chefoo.

It is reported that the Chinese troops and so-called insurgents, who recently attempted to cut the Russian communications between Liaotung and Mukden, having failed in the execution of that purpose, retreated in the direction of Wiju, whither they were pursued by a force of Russians with six guns. The Chinese are now said to have been dispersed, and the Russians have reached a point in the neighbourhood of Antung, on the Korean frontier. It will be fortunate if the Manchurian disturbance does not overflow into Korea.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a telegram which gives particulars of the latest development of the Tung affair. According to this account, the edict reprimanding Tung was issued on the 3rd instant. It said that the services rendered by Tung in suppressing the Mohammedan rebels were not to be forgotten, but that of late his conduct had evinced an unfortunate want of appreciation of domestic and foreign affairs, and had proved an obstacle to the Court's desire of restoring peace. For that he deserved severe punishment, but inasmuch as his services were required for duty in Kansu, he was to retire thither, at the head of a force of imperial guards, having previously disbanded 5,500 of his present command. If these particulars be correct, Tung remains at the head of some ten thousand men, for he had originally 30 battalions under him. It will be remembered that Tung gained distinction in the first place by his action in quieting the Mohammedans of Kansu. If he consents to withdraw himself to that distant province, he will cease to be an obstacle to the conclusion of peace.

Shanghai alleges that talk of the Court's immediate return to Peking is growing louder and louder. If that step be taken, it will be virtually a guarantee for the restoration of peace. But we are very sceptical.

Mr. Takenouchi, of the *Nippon Shimbun*, who recently returned from China, speaks very highly of the success achieved by the Japanese in administering Peking. They had charge of the northern quarter of the city, which, under their management, speedily became the most populous and prosperous district though it had not formerly possessed any such distinction. Unfortunately the uncompromising attitude of Colonel Shiba, the Governor, in suppressing excesses by whomsoever committed, caused him to be disliked by the troops of some of the foreign Powers, and he was ultimately replaced. The English and the Americans had wished that the whole of Peking should be placed under the civil administration of the Japanese, but opposition manifested itself in other quarters. It would seem from Mr. Takenouchi's account that England and America showed a marked disposition to join hands with Japan on every occasion, but that the good results which might have been attained were perpetually frustrated by Baron Nishi's philo-Russian proclivities. Indeed, Mr. Takenouchi is very severe in his criticism of Baron Nishi. He dresses quite a formidable list of charges against him, but it is scarcely necessary to repeat them. He says, further, that the Japanese are greatly wanting in self-assertion. They fight excellently and maintain good discipline, but after the fighting is over they are too ready to abandon advantages which they are entitled to claim. It was through their want of resolution, Mr. Takenouchi alleges, that Russia succeeded in laying hands on virtually all the railways. The other Powers had expected Japan to protest, as her position entitled her to do, but she gave in at all points. That is easily explained, though Mr. Takenouchi makes no attempt to explain it.

There is a rumour that the Triads are about to raise their banner again in Kwan-tung, but no particulars are to hand.

THE PERRY MEMORIAL.

The villagers of Kurihama have offered to give an area of land measuring 1,500 *tsubo* for the purpose of erecting the proposed Perry monument. Evidently the idea of the monument is very popular. It is curious to observe the changes that time brings. When Perry's ships were lying off Uraga the alarm and excitement in Yedo were intense. It is related that a system of signals was arranged to keep the capital informed of all the movements of the "black vessels," especially with regard to the contingency that they might proceed to Yedo. At first the citizens had an alternation of panics and reassurances, for whenever the tide turned the ships so that they rode with their bows northward, signals were at one despatched announcing an advance against Yedo, and when the tide flowed, news of salvation was hastily signalled. And now we have the Japanese putting up their money to erect a monument in honour of that perturbing and at the time highly unwelcome event.

AUSTRALIAN HORSES.

A batch of subscription Australian horses arrived here on Thursday by the N.Y.K. steamer *Shinano Maru*, but as the steamer came in too late it was impossible to land and draw them on that day. Arrangements were made, however, to have them drawn at 2 p.m. on Friday at Mr. Durand's, No. 83, Main Street. Twenty head, of which two were geldings and all the others mares, were put on board the steamer in Australia but one of the geldings died on the passage. On board ship the survivors look in wonderfully good condition; are very quiet and likely to prove a useful lot.

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THE SCANDAL.

The Scandal continues to grow rather than to diminish in proportions. The Tokyo Court of First Instance continues its investigations vigorously, summoning all sorts of people and conducting all kinds of inquiries. Meanwhile, the *Mainichi Shimbun* comes out with another accusation, now of the most specific character. It alleges that the person who contracted to fill in a river at Hibiya, on the north side, offered a *yen* per *tsubo* for earth to be taken out of the moat, but his price was rejected as insufficient by the then chief of the Engineering Bureau in the Home Department. Hearing of this, several politicians combined to bring about the above official's removal, and to give the earth gratis to the contractor, who, in consideration of this accommodation, distributed bribes amounting to 8,400 *yen* among the allies. The *Mainichi* gives the name of each and states the amount he received. It can no longer be charged with failure to give definite shape to its accusations, and as to the vehemence with which they are preferred, we can only say that it is not to be surpassed.

We explain above that new ground had been broken by the newspaper which has made itself conspicuous lately as an assailant of certain prominent members of the Liberal Party and of Mr. Hoshi Toru in particular. The new departure was a specific charge to the effect that a sum of over 8,000 *yen* has been distributed as bribes to Mr. Hoshi and other members of the City Council in consideration of their having agreed to give *gratis* to a contractor the right of taking earth from one part of the moats for the purpose of filling in another part, whereas the contractor would willingly have paid more than a *yen* per *tsubo* for the earth. The *Jimmin* publishes an emphatic denial of this statement, and in truth the *Jimmin's* version commends itself to any thinking person. What it says is that this work of dredging and filling has been undertaken by the City Improvements Committee; that it was offered to the lowest tenderer; that the tenders were opened on the 18th of last January; that Mr. Hoshino, proprietor of the Nakamura-ro, made the most reasonable offer; that his estimate for the work was 31,868 *yen*; that there was included in the total a sum of 18,838 *yen* for raising earth from one part of the moat and carrying it to another part at the rate of 1.72 *yen* per *tsubo*, and that the idea of the contractor's paying money for permission to dredge earth for such a purpose is quite ridiculous, since the dredging and carrying involved a principal part of the work he was required to perform for the purposes of City Improvement. It is, indeed, a most silly charge. The City Improvements Committee decides that it will deepen one section of the moats, carry the dredgings to a place at some distance, use them for filling in another section, and then take possession of the latter as building ground. On what conceivable plea could the contractor undertaking such work be expected to pay for the earth? His function is merely the labour of dredging it and transporting it for the convenience and profit of the City. The *Mainichi Shimbun's* first attempt to be explicit seems to have landed it in a sad fiasco, unless it has some explanation which at present we can not conceive.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo's temper seems to have betrayed him into serious trouble. The House of Representatives used to give him large latitude, but the law court at Mayebashi does not take such liberal views of the privilege of free speech. It appears that when the public procurator was addressing the court with reference to the conduct of men charged with instigating a riot in connexion with the Ashiwo Copper Mine, Mr. Tanaka interpolated his customary comment:—*Bakka-yarô; wairo wo totta kara sonna koto wo iu.* The public procurator did not like being openly called a fool and a recipient of bribes, so he instituted proceedings against Mr. Tanaka.

The National Union held a meeting at Wakamatsu, in Hizen, on the 28th instant, and passed resolutions declaring a firm resolve to defend the integrity of China and to appeal to public opinion at home and abroad against the acts that have been perpetrated in China by Europeans in contravention of the principles of humanity. The most conspicuous figures at the meeting were Messrs Kudo Kokan, Kono Hironaka, Okuma Hidemaro and Suzuki Manjuro, names with which readers of Japan's parliamentary annals are very familiar. Evidently the National Union has the strong support of the Progressists.

The Niigata branch of the Progressists (*Kensei-kontô*) met on the 25th instant, and passed a resolution to the effect that, in consideration of the platform hitherto held by the Party, unequivocal approval must now be given to the views of the National Union on the subject of China's integrity. The meeting further decided that no reason exists to increase taxation for the purpose of making good the Three Capital Funds upon which drafts have been made for the expenses of the China campaign. Another resolution adopted was that the presence of shameless persons in the Cabinet against whom legal proceedings had been instituted, was a disgrace to the country, and that the Government's plain duty was to purge itself of such associates.

It is inferred from the present attitude of the Progressists that they intend to ask the Diet to pass an address to the Throne impeaching Mr. Hoshi Toru.

A meeting of the National Union was held in Nagasaki on the 29th instant. No details are yet forthcoming as to the resolutions passed, but they were doubtless in favour of maintaining China's integrity. The *Jimmin* says, however, that Princes Konoye and Nijo have severed their connexion with the National Union at the suggestion of Viscounts Tani and Miura, who represented that the princes were allowing themselves to be made cats-paws. The two princes are expected to form a *Dôshi* Club. The *Jimmin* adds that this display of solicitude on behalf of China's integrity is merely a political device on the part of the Progressists to recover their forfeited place in popular esteem. That is probably true, in a measure, but in such a case results are important whatever many be the train of events leading up to them.

The Yokohama branch of the Seiyu-kai assembled, on the 1st instant, in the house and garden of Mr. Takashima Kayemon at Kanagawa, who acted as chairman of the meeting. Mr. Hiranuma Senzo also took a prominent part, from which we infer that, although formerly a follower of the Progressists, he has now joined the Seiyu-kai. That, of course, would account for much of the rancour of the attacks recently delivered against him. Messrs Hoshi Toru and Ooka Ikuzo were present.

Mr. Hayashida, Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives, who has greatly distinguished himself in connexion with the Law of Elections and other parliamentary business, is said to have drafted some important amendments of the present Law of the Houses. Among other things he points to the system governing petitions. Since the Diet first met, no fewer than 16,415 petitions have been presented, but only 2,608 of that number were submitted by the Houses for the Government's consideration, although much of the time of the Houses and the members was fruitlessly absorbed by petitions business. Mr. Hayashida proposes some limits, but we have not heard exactly what they are.

The two Business Men's Associations of Tokyo—the Merchants and Manufacturers' Consulting Society and the Financial Investigation Society, held a combined meeting in the Imperial Hotel on the 2nd instant. Viscount Watanabe, Minister of Finance, Mr. Hoshi, Minister of Communications, and Baron Kaneko, Minister of Justice, were present by invitation. Viscount Watanabe made an interesting speech. The gist of his remarks was that owing to the receipt of the Chinese indemnity, its profuse expenditure upon various public works, the consequent scattering of money among the labouring classes, and the starting of all kinds of speculative enterprises, accompanied by reduction of the rates of interest at the Bank of Japan, the granting of extensive accommodation and the increase of the volume of circulating currency, abnormal purchasing power had been developed, with the inevitable result that prices had largely appreciated. Carefully compiled statistics showed that the average advance in the prices of 40 principal staples of Japanese production between 1896 and 1899, had been 42 per cent., and that the volume of currency in circulation in the latter year as compared with the former had been 37 per cent. larger. It was impossible to entertain any doubt about the relation of cause and effect in this case. Neither could there be any question of international values, for statistics showed that prices in England during the same interval had tended downward rather than upward. An unavoidable result of such conditions was that the import of foreign commodities received great encouragement; the balance of trade turned against the country, and the specie reserves were depleted; conditions which were abundantly visible in Japan's case. Thus, at home, the demand for money was so keen that the Government found it impossible to float bonds for the various undertakings contemplated by it, and abroad, although capital was actually overflowing in several countries, none of it found its way to Japan in spite of the fact that her currency had been placed on a gold basis expressly for the purpose of opening a door to the surplus capital of the Occident. It was a most regrettable state of affairs. What were the remedies? Partly positive and partly negative. On the one hand, the volume of the currency must be decreased and steps must be taken to improve the system of exchanges and clearing houses, and the circulation of cheques. On the other, Government and people alike must endeavour to check precipitate enterprises to modify the savings-banks arrangements, so as to collect the funds that had been scattered among the labouring classes, and at

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the same time, to promote the development of really important enterprises.

Mr. Hoshi Toru spoke next. He set out very mildly, declaring that he had not yet been long enough in office to conduct any profound official investigations and that he preferred to address himself to political topics. He complained of the indifference displayed by Japanese business-men to politics. There were four millions of merchants and manufacturers in Japan, yet they elected only one-fifth of the members of the Lower House. That indicated their lukewarm attitude towards politics, a most unfortunate state of affairs. Mr. Hoshi then proceeded to speak of finance. He did not claim to be an expert in that branch but he nevertheless differed from Viscount Watanabe. The Minister for Finance had enunciated a policy midway between the negativeand the positive. He, the speaker, thought that one or other should be definitively adopted If the currency was redundant, cut it down by all means. But if the country was in want of capital, why not pledge its railways for a loan of one or two hundred million *yen*? There were folks who alleged that the prestige of the country would be impaired if it borrowed on security. He regarded that as a baseless objection. Borrow plentifully and do a big business was the maxim he advocated. He recommended his hearers to take up this question, and make it their political watchward

Baron Kaneko addressed himself to the subject of foreign capital. It might be said that by adopting the gold standard Japan had placed herself within reach of the flow of that capital, and that the recent campaign in China had pushed her still further within the circle of the nations. Yet, as a matter of fact, foreign capital had not come . He himself had visited America last year, and had made it one of his objects to ascertain the sentiments of American capitalists. They were not by any means opposed to bringing money to Japan. It is true that their thoughts turned chiefly to China and India, but they also regarded Japan as a basis of manufacture whence the markets of China might be supplied. That American capital was not averse to coming to Japan if good opportunities offered might be inferred from the fact that large sums had already been invested for the development of the tobacco industry and of petroleum production in this country. They might conclude that if proper steps were taken, American capital would be procurable for other industries also. As to the nature of there steps, we do not gather that Baron Kaneko made any statement.

EMIGRANTS TO FORMOSA.

Below are figures showing the number of emigrants to Formosa during the 31st year of *Meiji* (1898):—

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Taipeh	451	96	547
Taichiu	431	178	609
Tainan	858	519	1,377
Taitong	206	149	355
The Pescadores... ..	661	301	962
Total	2,607	1,243	3,850

The number of families permanently settled in the island were as follows:—

	Number of families.	Men.	Women
Taipeh	661	1,500	689
Taichiu	294	1,043	606
Tainan	1,223	3,034	2,212
Taitong	2	6	3
The Pescadores...	22	126	105

IMPORTANT SPEECHES.

At a meeting of the Bankers of Tokyo held in the Imperial Hotel on the 4th instant, speeches of interest were delivered. The Minister of Finance, Viscount Watanabe, dwelt upon the subject discussed by him at a recent meeting of the Business Men. He alluded to three dangers in the sphere of finance: the excess of imports over exports, the diminution of the specie reserve and the instability of the monetary system. The three, however, though thus capable of division, were in fact only different phases of the same phenomenon, for the outflow of specie resulted from an unfavourable balance of trade and, in turn, affected the stability of the monetary system. The Viscount then went on to explain that at the root of the present embarrassment in the money market lay the large expeditures on account of the Chinese indemnity and the foreign loan, which had diverted capital into the possession of the labouring classes, thus unduly increasing their purchasing power, and, at the same time, depriving industrial and commercial enterprise of access to funds. The Minister believed that this state of affairs showed signs of amendment, but as yet trade and manufacture did not give any indications of re-invigoration. He thought that there was great room for improvement in the methods of banking practised in Japan. Statistics went to show that bankers lent money almost entirely on the security of articles, and that individual credit counted for little in their eyes. At the close of 1899, the total paid up capital of the banks in the country, exclusive of the Bank of Japan, was 226 million *yen*, and it appeared that their loans at the same time were 101 millions on the security of lands and houses, and 102¼ millions on the security of goods, while their investments in public bonds amounted to 47 millions, making a total of 250½ millions. It thus appeared that the banks had devoted a sum larger than their total paid-up capital to loans and investments on the security of articles. That class of banking left much to be desired and was probably accountable for some of the embarrassment felt in business circles, since it meant that capital which ought to be kept in a liquid condition, was fixed. He thought that a great need of the time was the development of personal credit, and that the bankers should endeavour to promote that end. Steps to reduce the volume of the currency had already been taken, but it was most important that the efficiency of the funds handled by the banks should not be impaired by defective methods. The Viscount also dwelt upon the desirability of encouraging deposits and saving in general.

Mr. Kato, Minister of Foreign Affairs, spoke next. He said that though diplomacy and banking seemed very dissimilar subjects, they were not so very far apart, for both dealt with material interests. In former times, questions of foreign policy were determined chiefly by considerations of sympathy or sentiment, but now-a-days material interests were alone taken into account, and a diplomat, before taking any decision, had to sit down and make an accurate estimate of the results from a business point of view. That was the course pursued in dealing with the Chinese problem. Many conferences had taken place among the Foreign Representatives for the purpose of preparing a programme of peace proposals They had now virtually come to an agreement. It was true that two or three points still remained unsettled, but they did not present any serious difficulty, and would probably be disposed of soon. The next step would be to submit the proposals to the Chinese Plenipotentiaries. The latter's manner of receiving them could not be predicted, of course, but China had been reduced to a condition of such military weakness that it did not seem likely she would raise any objections, unless, indeed, she put forward the plea of simple inability. If the Chinese Government were in Peking, the outlook would be much brighter, but with the Court residing in a town far away westward, great delay might be caused at any moment by the necessity of seeking the imperial views with regard to some of the proposals, and that contigency rendered it all the more difficult to estimate a time for the conclusion of the negotiations. It was the desire of the Japanese Government, first for Japan's sake, secondly for China's sake, and thirdly for the sake of foreign Powers, that peace should be restored as speedily as possible. All the Governments seemed to be of the same mind, and as all were resolved further to maintain the principle of cōoperation, there was not any reason at present to feel apprehensive about the result. As to the details of the negotiations, however, he was necessarily precluded from giving any information.

Baron Kaneko spoke chiefly with reference to the immense development of America's resources during recent years. He claimed that the United States was now the treasury of the world, and that all nations, even England herself, went to New York to borrow money. He dwelt also upon the fact that the financial and commercial policy of America was protective, that Government and people worked together vigorously for the promotion of enterprise, and that the relations between bankers and their clients were of the most intimate character. In Japan, the world of affairs might be said to be peopled by three classes, speculators, accumulators and genuine men of business. The first dealt only in purchases and sales of securities, and the second thought solely of saving money. Things were very different in America, where the whole nation might be said to cooperate in pushing productive enterprises. The Baron claimed that American Imperialism tended steadily to eastward development, and that its influence would be a great factor in Japan's future.

Mr. Yamamoto, President of the Bank of Japan, spoke of the fate that had overtaken the money obtained by Japan from abroad in recent years. Adding together the Chinese Indemnity and the loans floated in London, it appeared that from 1896 to 1900, a period of 5 years, the monies received by Japan aggregated 493 million *yen*. Of that total, the sums actually carried hither in specie or by means of bills of exchange, had been 327 millions On the other hand, it appeared from the customs return that the excess of imports over exports during the same time had been 315 millions. In other words, no sooner did money find its way to Japan from abroad than it immediately flowed away again. Only 12 millions remained of the great sums received since 1896. Formerly, money coming from the West did not go away again until it had circulated for some time in the interior, but now the fact seemed to be that arrival and departure were almost simultaneous. With regard to the state of the Bank of Japan, the specie reserve now stood at 65 million *yen* and the note issues at 202 millions. In November, 1895, before any part of the Indemnity had been brought here, the specie

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reserve stood at 60 millions and the note issues at 210 millions. It might therefore be said that the condition of the Bank had not undergone any change. It was true that the specie reserve had once reached 150 or 160 millions, but that had been merely a transitory state of affairs due to the sudden receipt of large sums of the Indemnity. Anxiety had been felt in many quarters as to the stability of the gold standard in view of the rapid outflow of specie owing to an abnormal increase of imports. But the speaker thought that the actual figures should inspire confidence, for the state of affairs was now at least as favourable as it had been before the influence of these disturbing factors began to be felt. The great trouble, he thought, was that whereas there had been a marked development of enterprises since the war of 1894-5, there had not been any corresponding increase of available capital, and the consequence was that the demand for money far exceeding the supply, much tightness existed in the market. The most hopeful remedy seemed to lie in a more liberal attitude on the part of bankers towards private paper, which would, in practice, have the effect of increasing the stock of capital by augmenting the efficacy of that they possessed. The Bank of Japan set an example in that respect by giving better terms for bills drawn by merchants and manufacturers than for bills drawn against the security of goods. Before the war, the credit notes discounted by the Bank did not exceed 10 million *yen* annually, whereas they now stood at 30 millions. A regrettable feature of this seeming improvement, however, was that a majority of the bills were drawn merely to meet current expenditure and could not really be regarded as a means of furnishing capital for industrial and commercial enterprise. It was therefore most important for bankers to inform themselves thoroughly about the character and aims of their clients.

KOREA.

The Russian Representative in Sōul is said to be taking steps to procure an extension of the privilege, formerly granted to his country, of felling timber along the course of the Tung-men. Having failed to accomplish his purpose by discussion with the Departments, M. Pavlow is said to have addressed himself direct to the Emperor.

The *Chiuo* says that the Korean Government has failed to negotiate a loan of three million *yen* from the First Bank of Japan on the security of the Customs, and that the failure is attributed to interference on the part of the Russian Representative, and to opposition organized by an American syndicate, which had unsuccessfully attempted to secure the loan. Our contemporary adds that this failure is attributed to Japanese diplomatic incapacity, and that criticism is loud among the Japanese in Korea. Very thoughtless criticism it seems to us.

Baron Shibusawa has reached Nagasaki on his way home from Korea. He says that the Korean Court has taken 2,000 shares of the Sōul Fusan Railway, and that Japanese capitalists have subscribed for 4,500, namely 2,000 in Chemulpho and 2,500 in Fusan. The total number of shares is 100,000 and the capital 25 million *yen*, or 250 *yen* per share. The Baron regards the outlook for the line as very hopeful, and says that the work of construction will probably commence next spring.

Some time ago, the Japanese residents of Chinampho applied for a military guard, on the ground that there were signs of disturbance in the neighbourhood, and that, when the place became segregated by the freezing of the Tadong, they would be in a perilous state. The Japanese Government is prevented by convention from freely adopting military measures in Korea and it naturally suggested to the inhabitants of Chinampho that their best plan would be to organise a force of volunteers. This they agreed to do, but they desired that an officer or non-commissioned officer should be sent from the Sōul Guards to drill the volunteers. It is stated that the Authorities are unwilling to accede to even that request, and that the question will probably be brought before the Diet.

COUNT OKUMA ON FINANCE.

Speaking at the Yokohama Technical School Count Okuma is reported as having condemned the various schemes recently advocated by statesmen for enriching the country; *e.g.* the import of foreign capital, the encouragement of industries, the formation of trusts, and the encouragement of an economic spirit. From the very cursory and imperfect *resumés* that the vernacular newspapers give us of the Count's speech it is impossible to make out whether he denounced these measures as inefficient, one and all. That is not likely, we imagine. But he certainly did argue strongly against all remedies applied by officialdom. His contention was that if the Government made itself particularly active in such matters, the people were inevitably passive, a positive policy on the part of officialdom being always accompanied by, and indeed productive of, a negative policy on the part of the people. It is evidently the Count's view that an injudicious use was made of the indemnity received from China; that it was unwisely applied to the sudden development of enterprises which disturbed the national economy. It would be very interesting to hear that proposition elaborated, but unfortunately the reports that vernacular journals give us of leading politicians' speeches are often so meagre and so unskilfully epitomized that their important points can not be followed. Our own opinion of the steps taken with regard to the indemnity is that the Government, by inaugurating and rapidly carrying out large enterprises, productive and unproductive, caused a disturbance of the market for labour and a consequent appreciation of commodities. It may be argued that immense works were executed by the Japanese Authorities in former ages also; for example, the building of the Osaka castle, of the Yedo castle, of the Shiba Mausolea and of the Nikko Mausolea. But every student of the times when those enterprises were carried out, knows that the Government took drastic measures—measures quite impossible in the nineteenth century—to prevent the appreciation of labour; that laws of the most minute and stringent character were enacted against luxurious or wasteful habits, and that, as a matter of fact, prices did appreciate and the commercial and manufacturing classes gained a degree of ascendancy which greatly perturbed the Tokugawa administrators But at no time of Japan's history except in this *Meiji* era, have tens upon tens of millions been freely expended upon public works of every description, without any attempt to exercise simultaneous control over the rates of wages and over the habits of wage-earners. It may be roughly said that upon railways alone the sum expended during the past 20 years has been 250 million *yen*, of which at least 100 millions have gone into the pockets of Japanese labourers and industrials. If we add to this enormous sums spent upon riparian improvements, upon the building of fortifications and barracks, upon the development of dockyards and arsenals, and upon other public works, it will be seen at once that the *Meiji* era has been a time of absolutely unparalleled gain for the working classes, and that a sharp rise of wages and appreciation of commodities were inevitable under such circumstances. When we hear Japanese publicists gravely discussing the dislocating effects of an addition of ten or fifteen million *yen* to the currency, and when we compare such a bagatelle with the immense sums that have been scattered among the people during the past twenty years, above all, during the past four years, it does seem to us that the parable of the mote and the beam is forcibly illustrated.

THE SMOKE NUISANCE.

We reproduce elsewhere the text of an address delivered by Professor Charles H. Benjamin, on the subject of smoke prevention. An American correspondent, in sending us this address, writes:—"A lover of Japan and its beauty has but to visit the smoke-begrimed cities of the Occident to hope and pray that the cities of Japan introducing manufactories and smoke-stacks, may be spared the incongruity of a smoky 'Land of the Rising Sun?' Having been a resident at one time of that rare old city of Kyoto with its sweet melancholy temple bells, clean streets and the delicate colouring—ever changeful—of its mountain tops, I saw, and heard with pain the on-coming of the factory whistle and tall belching chimney which will soon ruin the attractiveness and picturesqueness of that loveable old city. Tokyo, too, is in like danger, and Osaka, and public health is to be thought of. Japanese are anxious to have the best things for this country, if only they know. I suppose factories must come. If at the very beginning the Japanese knew there was a remedy for the nuisance, might they not be induced to prevent the coming to their country of that horrible, indescribable nether-world condition which exists in many cities of the Occident, and painful to relate, people here become used to, until I fear smoke enters their very brain and soul."

MR. GAUNTLETT'S SYSTEM OF STENOGRAPHY.

We learn that tuition in Mr. Edward Gauntlett's system of stenography was commenced for the first time at the end of last year, and nineteen-twentieths of the pupils have already received the elementary certificate for ability to write and transcribe correctly. Seven of these obtained the certificate within six months, and four or five are ready to receive the first speed certificate—50 words per minute. It is evident that Mr. Gauntlett's books, to which we referred at length last year, are easy to master, for a case is recorded of a boy only 14 years of age who procured a set of the books last September and passed his examination for the first certificate at the close of November, having applied to Mr. Gauntlett only 4 times for explanations of the most difficult points. Mr. Gauntlett offers prizes for the best work next year.

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A CHINESE VIEW OF THE CHINESE COMPLICATION.

In our correspondence column will be found a letter from a Chinese correspondent, expressing some interesting opinions about recent events in China. He does not seem to have fully acquainted himself with our writings or he would have seen that we have more than once insisted on Chinese traditional recognition of the principle that the person of a foreign envoy is sacred; and he would also have seen that we have made the very point on which he now insists, namely, that the fighting in Peking was probably directed, so far as concerned the Chinese, not against the Foreign Representatives but against the foreign troops quartered in the city. Of course nothing can be confidently alleged on such a subject, but unquestionably the presence of the foreign soldiers is a factor to which due importance must be given. With regard to the presence of women and children in the Legations, no special case can be set up. Even the most approved code of modern warfare does not include any such rule as that the presence of women and children confers immunity on a place against military attack. We should like to ask our correspondent, however, as a representative of the educated class of Chinese, what he considers to have been the object of the Peking Authorities in directing, or at any rate permitting, assaults upon the Legations. Was it not at least to gain possession of the persons of the envoys? If so, the enterprise was undoubtedly a violation of international ethics. "Ah Sin" appears to maintain that the Chinese turned their arms against the Legation guards only, and that the Foreign Envoys had forfeited their title of immunity by summoning those guards to Peking. That is an aspect of the question which certainly admits of discussion. At any rate we thank our correspondent for giving expression to a Chinese view. The great embarrassment under which foreigners labour is that they have no access to the sentiments of the Chinese themselves. In any company of Europeans and Americans discussing the motive of the Boxer outbreak one may hear as many different opinions as there are parties to the argument, and one may sometimes hear intelligent men gravely declare that the Boxers had no definite aim whatever, but merely took the field out of pure love of excursions and alarums! And listening to such a discussion, one can not fail to observe that no one is willing to give the Chinese credit for any of the motives and impulses generally assigned to persons who have been exposed to strongly disquieting influences. It is against that most flagrantly unjust mood that we have often entered our protest.

SUBORDINATION AMONG STUDENTS.

Japan seems to have overcome a difficulty which once threatened to become very serious, the difficulty of preserving subordination among the student class. We have not lately heard of any of those combinations to defy authority that used to be so frequent in her schools. Nevertheless it may interest her educators to know how these things are dealt with in America, and we therefore reproduce the following from the *Cleveland Leader*, sent by a correspondent for that purpose:—

Culver, Ind., November 2.

One hundred and five cadets of Culver Academy were dismissed to-day for combining to show disapproval of official action.

In defiance of the regulation forbidding absence from barracks at night, they went in a body to the train on Halloween to see off two cadets who had been dismissed. One hundred and fifteen cadets declined to join the demonstration and remained in their quarters. The others left the grounds so quietly that their absence was not discovered until 7 o'clock, when the officer in charge commenced his inspection of the barracks. The commandant of cadets rode immediately to the depot, and, after some disposition to defy authority on the part of a portion of cadets had been quieted, formed the cadets in line and marched them back to barracks.

Before sending them to their quarters the commandant spoke to them of the serious aspect of their defiance of authority, commenting on the fact that it was the first time in the history of the academy that such a thing had occurred. All day yesterday these cadets were kept under military arrest, but those not concerned in the affair attended duties as usual.

The cadets are as a body fine-looking fellows, not one being under the army height of five feet four inches, and the finest battalion the academy has had was sacrified to discipline to-day.

The announcement was made to the cadets by Colonel A. F. Fleet in the chapel this morning. His remarks were to the effect that the most important lesson that young men could learn was absolute subordination to the constituted authorities and an abhorrence of lawlessness, and that the academy could not sacrifice its power to teach this lesson if half or even all its cadets had not been dismissed.

The cadets who remained and those who went acknowledge the justice of the action taken, and in leaving the academy have been most quiet and orderly.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The death is announced of Lieut-General Viscount Miyoshi, an officer who distinguished himself greatly during the Satsuma Rebellion of 1877. Viscount Miyoshi was born in 1840 at Hagi in Chôshiu. He adopted a military career, and assisted the Government materially in introducing the conscription system in 1873. He led the Sixth Division to the relief of Kumamoto where Viscount Tani was besieged by Saigo Takamori's army, and his brave deeds on that occasion inspired many Japanese painters and poets. He had the honour of being thanked five times by the Emperor during his career. He has held the office of Privy Councillor for the past six years. The Emperor raised him to the First Grade of the Second Rank just before his death.

The rumour is repeated that instructions have been issued by the Powers to their respective Consuls in China, requiring them to interdict the import of arms or materials for the manufacture of ammunition into China. We do not think that any importance whatever attaches to this rumour. The Consuls have no power whatever to enforce such an interdict, and no one would pay the slightest attention to it even though they issued it with all the pomp and circumstance imaginable.

The evening train from the south brought to Tokyo on Thursday a sum of a hundred thousand taels in a hundred boxes, being part of the *spolia opima*. This represents about 130,000 *yen*.

The *Tsukishima Maru*, a training ship of the Tokyo Maritime College, is still missing. She is a sailing ship, and she left Muroran in Ezo on the 13th November bound for Shimizu in Suruga, where she ought to have arrived by the 19th, but nothing has been heard of her. The authorities have inquired at the lighthouses and coast stations, and learned that the vessel was sighted in Kinkasan Bay (Sendai) on the 15th of November. That is the last heard of her. She had 70 cadets of the school on board. The *Okinawa Maru*, a steamer belonging to the Department of Communications, has gone in search of her. It is feared that she may have been wrecked at the Ogasawara Islands during the storm of the 17th of November. She is a strong ship, built in the spring of 1899 at Nagasaki, and the cadets on board had been in training for two years. Last summer they took the vessel to America, so that there can be no question of their ability to manage her.

A boat of the *Tsushima Maru* is said to have been picked up near the Izu Islands on the 19th ultimo, that is to say, two days after the heavy gale that visited that region. Of course the fact is not sufficient to imply the loss of the ship, but it certainly suggests that she suffered severely from the storm. The theory now held is that she was blown in the direction of the Ogasawara Islands, and search will be made in that region.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram that the German Representative in Paris has resigned.

We regret to learn that the United States cruiser *Yosemite* (6,179 tons) is said to have been wrecked at Guam island during the typhoon of November 13th. Five of the crew were drowned, but the remainder were rescued by the collier *Justin*. There has not been any official confirmation of this news. It is added that a hundred lives were lost on Guam island during the storm.

The Governor of Miyazaki Prefecture telegraphs that, on the 25th ultimo, the American steamer *Scofield*(?) struck a rock off Tsui-zaki, and was unable to continue her voyage. The Governor's report proceeds to state some singular facts. The ship, he says, did not remain aground. She seems to have floated off immediately and to have attempted to continue her voyage, using the pumps. Finding it impossible to proceed, the captain sent ashore to seek assistance, which was promptly rendered. He refused, however, to listen to any suggestion for landing the cargo or hauling the vessel into shallow water. The men's baggage was put ashore, but the master insisted that the cargo must not be touched without instructions from the consignees in Yokohama. The report does not say how the affair ended. The steamer was loaded with flour for Port Arthur.

The stoppage on the Chiuo Railway is said to have been due to damage sustained by the line during the recent heavy rains, between Obasute and Omi stations. The injury was discovered in time and no accident occurred.

A collision is reported to have occurred on the Kwansei Railway between Oji and Nara. There were no injuries to life or limb, but two carriages were smashed. The accident was due to the carelessness of an engine driver who left his engine and two wagons standing on the line, and whose attention could not be attracted by the signals of the approaching train.

From Nagano also comes a statement that a train ran off the line of the Shin-yetsu Railway on the 30th ultimo, and that traffic is suspended.

The newly opened section on the Sanyo Railway includes 7 stations, the most southerly of which is Assa, 33 miles beyond Mitajiri, to which the line has hitherto been running. Passengers desiring to proceed by this route to Shimonoseki must now take *jinrikisha* (fare said to be 12 *sen*) as far as Habu, and from Habu a small steamer carries them to Shimonoseki for 33 *sen* in 2½ hours.

The Minister of State for Education made a speech on the 2nd instant at the general meeting of the Imperial Educational Society.

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His Excellency's language seems to have been very general, if we may judge from the reports published in vernacular newspapers. He merely dwelt on the value of education as a means of promoting national progress, pointed to the cases of France and Germany as illustrations of the advantages resulting from attention to this principle, and urged that education, to be really useful, must be adapted to the needs of the country.

A telegram from London to the *Shogyo Shumpo* alleges that Russia contemplates floating a loan of 20 million pounds sterling in New York and Paris. The telegram adds, however, that the operation will not be actually attempted unless the rumour of this intention is favourably received.

The charge against Captain Niimura and others of having conspired to sell a map of the First Divisional District of Japan, has been dismissed by the Tokyo Local Court, on the ground that no evidence of wrong intent was forthcoming.

We explained in a recent issue that this company which does insurance business in Kyoto, had been pronounced by the Authorities to be in an unsound condition, and ordered to suspend operations. It is now reported that the company will wind up its affairs, and that its business will be started again by a new association

A certain Mr Mizobe recently instituted proceedings against the Minister of State for Communications, the claim being for a sum of 3.70 *yen*. Mr Mizobe's case was that he had paid his fare and received a ticket for a railway journey, but that the ticket having been taken from him by one of the railway officials, he was compelled to pay a second time. The Tokyo Court awarded him a sum of 1.5 *sen*, and he has appealed against the judgment. This is almost a parallel to the law-suit recently brought to a conclusion after four years' litigation. The sum in dispute was 4 *sen*, two gentlemen being equally persuaded that each owed the other that amount in settling accounts. They carried the matter from tribunal to tribunal, and finally reached the Court of Cassation.

It is a pretty smart effort of journalism to publish an "extra" two minutes after the conclusion of the football match it describes, especially when it is not a mere slip but a good six-paged paper with two half page illustrations. That is the record claimed for an "extra" issued by the *Harvard Crimson* containing an account of the recent game between Harvard and Pennsylvania. The managing editor of the journal — which is published by a group of Harvard students —is a son of Dr. D. C. Greene of Tokyo.

Japan has appointed as her representatives for the purposes of the Hagne Conference, in the event of its good offices being required, Mr. Motono, now her Representative in France, and Mr. H. W. Denison. It would have been difficult, we think, to make a better choice.

The death is announced of Lieut.-General Baron Kuroda, Chief Chamberlain to the Crown Prince, who expired at the Takahashi Hospital in Kobe. His disease was typhoid.

Viscount Katsura seems to have finally decided that his health does not permit him to retain the portfolio of War. He persists in his desire to resign, and it is now confidently alleged that he will be succeeded by Baron Kodama, Governor-General of Formosa. The general impression is that the Baron will continue, for the present, to act as Governor-General, though it is plain that the discharge of such duties by an official residing in Tokyo must be more or less embarrassing.

The Meiji Ginko of Tokyo has suspended payment. This bank was started in 1897 with a capital of a quarter of a million *yen*, which was increased to one million last spring. The causes of the suspension are somewhat intricate, but they amount simply to inability to meet engagements.

There is talk of a large emigration of Japanese to the Argentine Republic. An extensive tract of land is offered for the purpose, and it is thought that rice, cotton, mulberry, hemp, barley, Indian corn and other products familiar to the Japanese, could be raised there without difficulty.

News comes of serious seismic disturbance in the Gokai-mura district of Yamanashi Prefecture. Large fissures have gradually developed, and landslips are occurring near the base of a mountain, these phenomena being attended by violent rumblings. Experts sent to survey the place some time ago, reported that extensive subsidence was imminent, and that the inhabitants must migrate.

It goes without saying that the Opposition journals are making capital out of the difference of opinion exhibited by Viscount Watanabe and Mr. Hoshi Toru in speaking about finance at the recent meeting of business men. They will probably find another topic for criticism in a statement published by the *Chuo Shimbun* to the effect that Mr. Hoshi has alleged his unequivocal opposition to any increase of taxation for the purpose of replacing the money taken from the three Capital Funds.

The *Official Gazette* announces that the despatch of private telegrams for the Transvaal or the Orange Free State *viâ* the Cape of Good Hope or Natal is suspended, and that telegrams for Pretoria, Johannesburg, Sanderton, Zermiston, Middleburg, Heidelburg, &c., may be sent *viâ* Lourenzo Marques, provided that they are written in the English language, are subject to censorship in the Transvaal, and are not guaranteed against delays or errors of transmission.

LARGE KEROSENE OIL COMPANY.

In a previous issue, says the *Shogyo*, we reported that persons connected with the Standard Oil Company of America had under contemplation the organisation of a corporation (capital 10 million *yen*), with a view to bringing about on a large scale the development of the kerosene industry in Japan. Their ideas have now been carried into effect, and the regulations framed for the new company are as follows :—

Art. I.—The commercial name of the company shall be the "International Oil Company."

Art. II.—The company has for its object the inauguration of mining enterprises, and the business of manufacture, sale, or transport in connection with natural gas, petroleum, as well as products of these; and it shall also deal in other matters necessary, either directly or indirectly, for the furtherance of the enterprises referred to.

Art. III. -The capital of the company shall be 10 million *yen* in 100,000 shares of 10 *yen* each: with respect to which restrictions may be imposed making them unassignable without the sanction of the company, and moreover in the case of an increase of the capital shares may be issued by dividing them into several classes with a right of priority, or special privilege, or other conditions attached to the same.

Art. IV.—The Head Offices of the company shall be established at No. 8, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, and branches in various parts of Japan and abroad.

Art. V.—All the advertising of the company shall be done in the newspapers utilized as organs for advertising the commercial registrations of the local court having jurisdiction, and also in a journal printed in English in Yokohama.

Art. VI.—The name, address, and nationality of the projectors, as well as the amount of shares taken by each are as follows :—

97,800 shares—Julius William Copmann, an American, at No. 8, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama.

50 shares—Edwin Dun, an American at No. 156, Shitokuji, Naoetsu town, Middle Kubiki district, Niigata Prefecture.

50 shares—John Hammond Fertig, an American at No. 8, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama

50 shares—Kunamoto Eichiro, at No. 17, Shiba Park, Shiba district, Tokyo.

50 shares—John Frederick Lowder, an Englishman, at No. 75, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama.

1,500 shares—Otani Kahei, at No. 15, Moto-Hamacho Nichome, Yokohama.

500 shares—Umakoshi Kyohei, at No. 13, Sakuragawa-cho, Nishikubo, Shiba district, Tokyo.

Art. VII.—All the preliminary expenses of the Company shall be borne by the Company.

Art. VIII.—The total shares of the company are taken by the projectors, and 25 per cent. of each share is wholly paid up.

Art. IX.—The Directors may, it they deem it necessary, demand from time to time payment [by shareholders of the capital in arrear in respect of the stock held by each.

Art. X.—Registered shares shall be issued bearing the signature of two of the Directors and the seal of the Company.

Moreover, the following items shall be mentioned on the face of each share —

1. Name of shareholder.
2. Commercial name of the Company.
3. Date of registration of organisation.
4. Aggregate capital of the Company.
5. Amount of each share.
6. Date and amount of payment made on each share.
7. Registered and serial number of shares.
8. Date of issue.

The remaining articles deal chiefly with the conditions governing the holding and transfer of shares, the holding of meetings, etc.

The officials elected are as follows :—Directors—Mr. J. W. Copmann; Mr. Edwin Dun; Mr. Otani Kahei; Auditors—Mr. Umakoshi Kohei; Mr. J. F. Lowder.

THE WORLD'S OUTPUT OF PETROLEUM.

The annual production of crude petroleum throughout the world does not fall short of 5,000 million gallons, asserts the *Keizai Zasshi*. Of this amount America contributes 2,500 millions or one half of the entire output. Next comes Russia with 2,200,000,000 gallons. Below are the details :—

	Millions of gallons.
America...	2,500
Russia	2,200
Austria	87
Sumatra...	72
Java	30
Canada	29
Roumania	24
India	15
Japan	8
Germany	7
Peru	3
Italy	1

The total export of kerosene from America reaches 627,500,000 gallons, which, classified according to the countries to which it is exported, is distributed as follows :—

	Millions of gallons.
Germany	210½
England	155
Japan	53
China	48½
Brazil	20½
Australia	20½
France	13

THE LATE REV. M. L. GORDON.

We announce to-day with regret the death in the United States, of the Rev. M. L. Gordon, for many years engaged in missionary work in Japan. Mr. Gordon, who came to this country in 1872, was one of the best-informed missionaries in the country; he was one of the foremost authorities on Buddhist subjects, and during his long tenure of office as a preceptor in the Doshisha he achieved much influence among the Japanese. He had published "A Missionary in Japan" and several tracts on religious matters.

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THE LATE MR. A. C. SIM.

The funeral of the late Mr. A. C. Sim took place on Friday afternoon at Kobe, both the Japanese and foreign communities combining to make the occasion the most imposing of its kind ever witnessed in the southern port. The first part of the service was held in the Union Church, the interior of which was crowded with wreaths. The bier, which was placed in front of the chancel, bore the large wreath sent by the local St. Andrews Society, above which lay Mr. Sim's Fire Brigade helmet and his uniform. Dr. Wainwright officiated, assisted by Rev. A. Thomson. The service concluded with the fine anthem, "Days and Moments quickly flying." Mrs. Lightfoot played the organ music. Outside the Church the pall bearers followed the coffin in the following order:

Messrs. J. C. Hall, Groom, Hunter, Gordon Brown, Richardson, and Lucas. Messrs. De Ath, Abell, Hughes, Taylor, Trotzig, and Delacamp.

The funeral procession followed in order as follows:—Mr. R. Home Cooke and Dr. Miller (President and Vice-President of the St. Andrew's Society); Committee of St. Andrew's Society and members; Foreign and Japanese officials; Kobe Regatta and Athletic Club Committee; Members of the Fire Brigade; General Public. The streets were lined by crowds of Japanese as the funeral cortêge traversed them on its way to the Ono Cemetery, headed by two bands, that of Mr. Rizetti, and that of the Austro-Hungarian flagship.

On arrival at the Cemetery the coffin was borne to the grave-side. Dr. Wainwright read the burial service, and Mr. J. C. Hall, British Consul, gave the following address:—

We are gathered together to offer our last words of loving farewell over the remains of one who has taken an active share in the work of this place—of one who has endeared himself to so many of us—whatever the race or country to which we may belong—by his warm heart, his sincere nature and his generous sympathies. Alexander Cameron Sim, whose dust we now restore to the bosom of mother Earth, while he sleeps the last sleep of peace, was amongst us til, within the last fortnight or so, in the fulness of health and life. He was known to us as one of the earliest and most energetic members of that small, civic, cosmopolitan community of ours which, with becoming resignation saw, some 16 months ago, its separate being merged into a larger whole. But the spirit of Sim survived, in a manner, the decease of the civic body which for nearly a generation had been its abode. The Superintendent of the Settlement Fire brigade, necessarily an autocrat, continued, with unchanged devotion to the public weal, to serve the large native municipality in the subordinate capacity of Adviser. All honour to his memory! The unique position he held amongst us can never be exactly filled again; but we can all imitate the good example he gave us of manly resignation to inevitable changes and of cordial co-operation with the kindly and courteous people in whose midst we sojourn. For the loss of such a man we must all, whatever our nationality, be touched with unaffected sorrow. But we sorrow not as those without hope. For we know that a strenuous and good life inevitably leaves its healthy and active result upon the onward march of Society, and is incorporated with the life of Humanity itself. The just man does not perish when his body has been laid to rest. The kindly words that he spoke ring in our ears more kindly than before with a new meaning and take a more serious hold. All the good in him is transfigured in our memories, and his steadfastness and simple sincerity gain a fresh halo from the sacred solemnity they acquire as they seem to us to issue from the silent image of the dead. Of every honest and good life like that of our departed friend the spiritual fruits must continue to work in those who were in closest contact with that life. The lives and works of all just men and worthy citizens are transmitted from the dead to the living. Were it not so, human Society would have no more consistency than a jumble of isolated atoms. It is a truth revealed to us by science that the living are always, and more and more, with each succeeding generation, subject to the influence of the dead. Those whom we lay in the ground are still for a time as much with us as if they were simply gone on a journey. We see them not, except in thought. We hear them not except in memory. But in a spiritual sense they are with us still; they can strengthen our hearts and inspire our energies.

Let us then think of our dead friend and fellow resident as we knew him at his best, with his warm heart, his generous nature, and his sturdy spirit of work. Let us not suffer him altogether to die when we lay him in the earth but do our best to make it true—as, indeed, in a sense it is always true of all—that Humanity has taken him to herself for ever. Humanity loves, honours and has need of those who do their service in the great army of the workers and the citizens. Though their names may not be blazoned by fame they shall not be forgotten, nor shall their lives be lived in vain.

"May we in blest communion live
With those whose work is done,
For all true children of our race,
Living and dead, are one."

Rev. A. Thomson thereafter offered prayer, and the benediction being pronounced by Dr. Wain-wright, the ceremonial was at an end.

The coffin was of polished kyaki wood with brass and black metal mountings. The lid held a large plate upon which a brief inscription was cut:

ALEXANDER CAMERON SIM,
Aged 62,
A Native of Aberdeen,

There were many wreaths and other floral tributes.

In sending a contribution of *yen* 100 from the Hiogo Kencho towards the funeral expenses of the late Mr. A. C. Sim—an unprecedented honour, in the case of an unofficial foreigner—the gift was accompanied by a document, of which the following is a translation:—Mr. A. C. Sim, a native of Scotland in Europe, came at an early date to the former Concession at our port of Kobe, and devoted himself to public undertakings for a long period of years. In particular he organised a Fire Brigade, to render assistance at fires in the town, and his services were on all occasions considerable. Again, on the coming into force of the Revised Treaties, he became, at the request of the Governor, adviser to the Kobe Police Station on matters connected with the prevention of fires. It may well be said that Mr. Sim has performed great services in the district. Now, after an illness, he is sleeping the long sleep. I hereby express my feeling of sorrow and regret, and present one hundred *yen* towards the expenses of the funeral ceremonies. Hattori Ichuzo, Sho Shii, Kun Santo, Governor of Hyogo Prefecture.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The accumulation of imported goods consequent upon the general depression of trade in the interior, has had the effect of reducing the volume of imports to a considerable extent. This, combined with the activity of the silk market in the first half of last month, brought about for a time an equality in the balance of trade. But in the latter half of October, there came a certain reaction in the silk trade, and an excess of imports became again apparent. Fortunately, however, in the beginning of the present month, the silk trade revived, simultaneously with an increased demand from China for yarns, and a large export of coal. Under these circumstances, an excess of exports to the amount of over 1 million *yen* resulted for the 1st half of the month, the exports of merchandise reaching 9,860,000 *yen* against 8,840,000 *yen* imports. As to specie, the figures for the two sides of the account stood at 606,000 and 280,000 *yen* respectively, showing an excess in favour of exports to the extent of 880,000 *yen*. Below are the details:—

	Yen.
Exports	9,869,787
Imports	8,845,809
Excess of exports	1,023,978
Exports of specie	1,066,131
Imports	281,148
Excess of exports	884,983

With regard to the question of what tendency the foreign trade will develop in future, the *Keizai Zasshi* remarks that as there is no necessity at present for augmenting the volume of currency in the interior (from which arises the appreciation of commodities), and moreover as the accumulation of imported goods is likely to weaken the impulse for fresh importation, the time will surely come when the country may witness a turning point for trade in general.

PRICES.

Prices in September seemed to recoil from the upward tendency experienced during the two previous months, and this became apparent in October in a more striking degree. According to investigations completed by the Bank of Japan with regard to 40 staple domestic products, the average price stood at 99·05 in September, showing a fall of 0.35 as compared with that in August, which is taken at 100. Close investigation, however, shows great fluctuations in prices for some of the commodities referred to, as may be seen from the following comparative figures:

	Oct.	Sept.	Oct. 1899.
UPWARD.			
Floor matting	270	254	205
Shirtings	220	210	218
Coal	189	187	168
Yarns (spun)	181	158	133
Wheat	175	174	175
Sake	162	141	151
Hemp and flax	158	150	145
Kerosene	156	155	152
Silk floss	136	135	135
Manufactured tea	136	134	130
Bleached cotton	133	129	131
Yarns	129	126	123
Lining stuffs	116	115	111
DOWNWARD.			
Copper	294	297	321
Dried bonito	236	243	275
Iron	224	225	225
Oil	223	227	240
Rye	206	209	279
Oil cake	201	206	198
Eggs	195	241	230
Salt	187	196	234
Barley	183	186	203
Fertilizers	176	177	172
Charcoal	172	174	181
Flour	169	170	180
Rice	165	171	181
Nails, (foreign type)	161	167	143
Cotton thread	153	156	181
Soy	147	152	154
Cotton for spinning	146	149	150
Vegetable wax	99	100	99
STATIONARY			
Timber	296	296	277
Bean sauce (*miso*)	213	213	207
Window Glass	213	213	193
Leather	206	206	197
Wood	180	180	192
Sugar	162	162	155
Japanese cut tobacco	149	149	137
Bowls	148	148	167
Raw lacquer	117	117	101

In the above table, prices in January, 1888, are taken as 100.

A COAL TRUST.

The coal trust, or union, promoted by the principal mine-owners in Kiushiu, appears to be all but an accomplished fact. According to the *Keizai Zasshi*, the Hokkaido owners alone remain to be consulted. The regulations which have been adopted are published at length by our contemporary. They provide for the fixing of prices and the imposition of penalties upon members who violate the agreement and sell below the figures decided on by the trust. The following prices are given as those fixed for lump coal at the port of Moji:—

	Yen.		Yen.
Tagawa	7.20	Taniguchi Komatsu	7
Tsubame Horito	6.25	Akaike	6
Usui	6	Mototsu	6
Tadakumasei	6	Hirayama	6
Shimo Yamada	5.50	Mitsu-no-ura	5.35
Oto	5.35	Miyata	5.20
Hayapusamaru	5	Toyokuni	7
Koraehi Komatsu	7	Kiko	6.50
Kanaya	6.25	Onoura	6
Gyotoku	6	Fujidana	6
Yawano	6	Katsuno	5.50
Itobe	5.50	2nd Komatsu	5.35
Onoura	5.20	Honami	5.20
Ida	5	Mineji	6
Kaneda	7	Hoshiu	6.25
Nawajuta	6.25	Meiji	6
Nakatsubara	6	Shimin	6
Aita	6	Meo	5.50
Akaike	5.50	Yoshitabi	5.35
Inutsuki	5.20	aNmbi	5.20

Five Yokohama agents of foreign marine and five insurance companies received their permits from the Department of Agriculture and Commerce on the 3rd inst.

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CHINA NOTES.

Some of the petty officials in Peking being without salary for some months, are reduced to selling cakes and small commodities in the streets for a living.

The *Echo de Chine* says that the troops that are to winter round Peking consist of 7,500 Germans, 5,500 British, 5,000 French, 4,000 Japanese, 2,500 Italians, 1,750 Americans, 250 Austrians, in all 26,500 men.

The death rate at Shanghai for October was 17.7 per 1,000 in the Foreign Community, 13.1 per 1,000 in the Native Community. Both rates are increases on last year, when for October the figures were 15.2 and 12.2 per 100.

A missionary who has carefully compiled the details of the number of recently murdered Protestant missionaries in China, sends them in tabular form to the *China Mail*:—

	Adults.	Children.
China Inland Mission	63	16
A. B. C. G. M.	13	5
English Baptist	13	3
Shouyang Mission.....	10	2
American Presbyterian	5	3
S. P. G.	3	—
B. and F. B. Society	2	3
Unconnected.....	2	—
Alliance, Swedish	9	9
Swedish Mongolian	3	1
Scandinavian China Alliance...	6	—
Total	129	39

If to these be added the Roman Catholic martyrs, a total double the above figure would doubtless be reached.

A leading article in the *Universal Gazette* throws some interesting and somewhat amusing side-lights upon the lives of the men now engaged in making history in connection with the Imperial Court. Prince Tuan is, of course, given the first place. "Being very near to the Throne," says the writer, "he dared to aspire to imperial power, and pride violence, and love of iniquity are his natural endowments." It is said that at his birth the Emperor, Hsien Feng, conceived a strong dislike for him, which he manifested by bestowing upon him the name Tsai-yi. At the first glance there seems nothing very dreadful in this. The character Tsai, while not a surname, is nevertheless a sort of family designation borne by all the brothers alike. It has various meanings, and when used as a name means nothing in particular. The character Yi means "Ripples on water;" but one of the parts of which it is composed signifies "A fierce dog." What the Emperor really meant then was to call the unfortunate baby a puppy. We thus see that he started in life somewhat heavily handicapped. However he soon proved the truth of that new version of an old song —

"Sons of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And with Papa's push behind us
We can get there every time.

Excluding Roman Catholics, there are some fifty-seven distinct religious bodies doing missionary work in China, remarks the *N.-C. Daily News*. It is a common thing for writers on the subject to dilate on the confusion this must cause to the Chinese. But this is immensely exaggerated. Varieties of belief do not shock the Chinese at all, and every year the differences between the Protestant sects, as seen in China, grow more and more faint. "The relations of English and American missionaries in the Shantung district are of the most cordial character. With regard to German missionaries, the only fault that their American and English colleagues have to find is that there are so few of them." As showing how the different sects work together, we may take the editorial staff of the Society for the Diffusion of Christian and General Knowledge among the Chinese. Dr. Allen belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Mission, South; Mr. Cornaby to the Wesleyan Missionary Society; Dr. McGillivray to the Canadian Presbyterian Mission; Pastor Kranz to the German Mission; Mr. Walshe to the Church Missionary Society, and Mr. Timothy Richard to the English Baptist Mission. While there are differences in trivial matters, there is unity in essentials among all the Protestant sects, and this year's persecutions have brought them still more closely together, while the story of Peking has greatly raised the status of the Protestant missionaries in the minds of those who were before disposed to look down upon them, and has emphasised the sincerity of the native Christians, who have boldly faced death in its most terrible forms rather than recant. Of Chinese martyrs in the truest sense of the word there have been this year thousands.

A curious natural phenomenon is recorded by the Taichow correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News*. It occurred in connection with the steamer *Haimen* on the morning of the 6th ult. Leaving Zhplu as usual about 8 a.m., the boat ran into a low sea mist among the islets behind Albert Edward Peak and dropped anchor. A few minutes after, there appeared encircling the bows of the ship a milk white rainbow not more than 15 feet in diameter, having an arc about equal to that of a horseshoe. The cloudless sky was quite visible at the time and the sun was shining brightly. As the ship swung to her anchor it appeared to veer round, one extremity resting on the figurehead and the other near the bridge, so one might almost have touched it with the hand. Afterwards it slowly moved westwards and was lost in the mist. There was no rain whatever at the time and the native captain and crew seemed equally astonished at its appearance.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Incorporations of companies in the United States of $1,000,000 capital or over during October amounted in all to $128,950,000.

The gold output at Cripple Creek for the ten months ended October 31 amounts to $19,778,800, against $14,528,780 for the corresponding period last year.

Current rumour has it that the Carnegie Steel Company intends to invade the sheet-steel business by manufacturing this product at their Duquesne works. It is said that steel sheets will be turned out by the Carnegie Company within six months, and that the plans for the proposed work are being rushed, under the direction of President Schwab.

Discoveries of pearls in the upper Mississippi River have caused a tremendous rush to the clam beds. Houseboats are crowding the river and more than 1000 persons are encamped along the river bank. The finding of a few thousand dollars' worth of pearls started the raid. One of the pearls recently found weighed 100 grains and is said to be the largest pearl yet taken from the river. It was sold for $3,000.

Business on the New York Stock Exchange assumed fair proportions during October, particularly in stocks, daily sales averaging 500,000 shares. The total for the month, 10,900,985 shares, was in excess of October, 1899, when the volume of business amounted to 10,797,660 shares. Bonds were also active during the month, the new Chicago & Alton issue helping to swell aggregate transactions. Sales of bonds for the month amounted to $42,022,200, against $46,870,000 for October last year.

Recently the Government of New Zealand placed an order for some sixty passenger coaches with a well known American firm. These coaches when finished will cost about $500,000. It is needless to say that the placing of the order in the United States caused much adverse criticism among the labour parties of New Zealand, but apparently the Government was not much perturbed. The order calls for vehicles of a special design, constructed to suit the narrow-gauge railways in operation throughout the colony; they will be the latest and most modern up-to-date coaches known to American car-builders. It is expected that these coaches will be ready and shipped from New York city in March, 1901.

The export of American coal continues to grow. The actual exports of anthracite in September were 144,247 tons, valued at $611,090, as compared with 141,553 tons in September, 1899, valued at $610,452. The exports of bituminous coal in September were 552,953 tons, valued at $1,387,178, as compared with 339,813 tons in the same month last year, valued at $861,647. The increase in the quantity of coal exported this year is nearly 2,000,000 tons and the value of the coal is nearly $5,500,000 greater than in the same period of 1899. The quantity of coke exported was greatly increased. It is probable that the total value of coal exports this calendar year will be $22,000,000. The imports of coal for nine months of this year were 1,362,715 tons, valued at $3,603,052.

A London telegram says: Lieutenant James Weir Graydon writes to the *Star* that he is at the point of starvation and without shelter, although he is the inventor of the great wheel at Earl's Court, of the dynamite gun, and of the device for signaling upon clouds, which belongs to the United States Navy. Lieutenant Graydon was born in 1848. He was educated at the Naval Academy at Annapolis and was afterwards an instructor in the Naval Observatory. He is the inventor of the Graydon dynamite gun, the gigantic Graydon wheels at Earl's Court, Blackpool, Paris, Vienna, Madrid and other places, Graydon aerial torpedo, Graydon system of heating railway cars, the Graydon cable system of heating railway cars, the Graydon cable system of torpedoes, etc. He retired from the United States Navy a few years ago and took up his residence in London.

General Frederick Ellsworth Mather died at his home in New York on Nov. 10th, aged 92 years. He was the last surviving member of the original fourteen who formed the "Skull and Bones Society" of Yale University. He entered Yale in 1832 and the society was formed in the same year.

In response to the frequent appeals from navigators and captains of ports and a special request of General Wood, the United States Navy Department will soon commence a complete geodetic survey of the Cuban coast and of the waters for a radius of several metres. As an example of the utter unreliability of the Spanish chart, the Isle of Pines is seven miles out of the course represented by it. There are other errors equally surprising, and navigation near the coast is foolhardy without a competent pilot. It is thought that it will require three years to thoroughly resurvey the Cuban coast and waters.

Mr. O. P. Austin, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics in the U. S. Treasury Department, in an interesting article in the current *North American Review*, asks: "What of the coming century? Can its commerce show such a marvellous growth as that of the century about to end? In answer, the writer says it seems almost impossible, yet no more impossible than the growth which has actually occurred during this century would have appeared had it been predicted at its beginning. Aerial navigation may, long before the end of another century, aid in the transportation of men and mails and the lighter articles of commerce to areas not supplied with other means of transportation; a similar service may be performed between great distributing centres, by huge pneumatic tubes, a mere development of the system which now prevails for shorter distances in great cities; wireless telegraphy will communicate with all sections of the world; electricity will transfer to convenient points the power created by countless waterfalls now inaccessible for manufacturing purposes; steamships will develop their carrying powers and multiply communications between continents and great trading centres; a ship canal will connect the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific; and vessels circumnavigating the globe in the interests of commerce may take advantage of currents of air and water which move ever westward as the earth revolves ever toward the east; other

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ship canals will connect our great lakes with the ocean, and steamships from Europe and the Mediterranean countries and the Orient will land their merchandise at the docks of Chicago and Duluth, and the other great commercial cities of our inland seas; a great railway system will stretch from South America to Bering Straits, thence down the eastern coast of Siberia through China, Siam, Burmah, across India, Persia, Arabia, past the pyramids of Egypt to the westernmost point of Africa, where only 1,600 miles of ocean will intervene to prevent the complete encircling of the earth with a belt of steel, whose branches will penetrate to every habitable part of every continent, and place men of all climes and all nations and all continents in constant communication with each other and thus facilitate the interchange of commodities.

Mr. R. G. Dun, head of the mercantile agency firm of R. G. Dun & Co., and an authority trade statistics, died in New York on October 10th of cirrhosis of the liver. He had been a prominent figure in the business world for nearly half a century, and had been associated with the agency since 1851. In 1854 he became a partner and in 1859 purchased the entire interest, since which time his name has been at the head of the firm, which has a world-wide reputation. When Mr. Dun first became connected with the business it was in its infancy Its wonderful development and growth are due largely to his individual effort and untiring application to the ever-increasing details of management.

Marcus Daly of Montana died at the Hotel Netherlands, New York, on November 12. Marcus Daly was born in Ireland in 1842. He came to the United States early in life and since 1876 has been a citizen of Montana. He became general manager of the Alice silver mine and later came into control of the Anaconda copper mine. At the time of his death he was president of the Amalgamated Copper Company. In politics he was a Democrat. The differences between Mr. Daly and Mr. W. A. Clark have attracted much attention. The trouble started years ago over some water rights near Butte, which Daly wanted and which Clarke had brought, forcing the other to pay a very high figure. Daly's opportunity for revenge came in 1888, when Clark was the Democratic nominee for Delegate to Congress. With his immense influence at Anaconda, Daly was able to throw a heavy vote to Carter, Clark's Republican rival, which had previously been cast for the Democratic party. Montana became a State in 1889. At the first election Mr. Clark was the Democratic nominee for Representative in Congress and J. K. Toole for Governor. The latter was elected, but Clark was defeated, supposedly owing to Daly's influence. Clark was then put forward for the United States Senate. After a bitter contest the Legislature was organized by both parties, each claiming to be legal. The Republicans named Thomas C. Power and W. F. Sanders for their Senators, while the Democrats put up Mr. Clark and Major Martin Maginnis. The Republicans were seated. Daly's influence defeated Clark in a second contest in 1893. In that Legislature the Democrats had thirty-five votes, the Populists three, and the Republicans thirty-three. The Daly Democrats, numbering nine, voted solidly for ex-Congressman W. W. Dixon, and there was a deadlock for the entire session of sixty days. Telegrams from men like Calvin S. Brice, W. C. Whitney and others equally high in their party were sent to Daly to withdraw his opposition, but he ignored them and the fight continued. The next fight between Daly and Clark was on the location of the State capital. Helena, Missoula, Bozeman and Anaconda were in the fight. Daly advocated the last named place. Clark at first favoured Butte, but finally changed to Helena, and that city was chosen. The Senatorship again became the bone of contention between the two millionaires last January, and Clark was elected. The use of money in the election was freely acknowledged on both sides, though it was claimed that the expenditures were for legitimate expenses only. The contest resulted in the Senate voting that there had been no election by the Montana Legislature. This year Clark made a fight for the election of members of the Legislature in his interest and won, and his return to the Senate next January is assured. Daly had a passion for horses of blood and speed. He owned the $40,000 colt Hamburg; Tammany, Montana, Senator Grady, Gwendoline, Ogden and other famous winners. He tried to buy the winner of the Derby and Ascot races of 1897, Galtee More, but his offer of $125,000 was not accepted.

EUROPEAN NOTES.

In accordance with the wishes of the late Marquess of Bute his heart will at an early date be conveyed to Palestine, for burial at the Mount of Olives.

A monument has been erected on Mount St. Bernard in memory of the St. Bernard dog, Berry. During the course of ten years Berry saved the lives of no less than 40 persons who had lost themselves on the mountains.

The automobile has done well in the Austrian military manœuvres. Twelve of 32 horse-power made a rough journey of 430 miles through the Carpathians, with some heights of over 3,000 feet, and some gradients of one in six to climb, at a rate of 15 miles an hour on the average.

A new novel from the pen of M. Henri Sienkiewicz, author of "Quo Vadis," is appearing in the *Echo de Paris*. It is entitled "En Vain," and is (says the *Gaulois*) a love story, full of tender melancholy, while at the same time it depicts the life of Polish university students.

A monument is about to be erected in Bourges in memory of the young men of the district who fell in the war of 1870. The sculpture is the design of Baffier, and represents a labourer, who rests one hand upon a plough, while with the other he presses to his breast a short sword, representing the ancient weapon of the Gauls.

Prince Adalbert of Prussia, the third son of the German Emperor, was confirmed recently at Homburg. After the confirmation, the Emperor, in the presence of Prince von Hohenlohe, Count von Bülow, and others, drank a toast at luncheon to his son and said:—"You must stand firmer than others. You are to be a sailor. In the fight with winds and waves may religion be your refuge."

Lord Alverstone (Sir Richard Webster), the Master of the Rolls, has been appointed Lord Chief Justice of England, and the office of Master of the Rolls is filled by Lord Justice A. L. Smith. Both are sound appointments, and will be popular with the Bar. Lord Alverstone's great experience in the Courts should render him a worthy occupant of a judicial office which yields to none in the splendour of its traditions. To sit in the seat of Holt and Mansfield indeed is no mean honour.

The excavations on the Eastern slopes of Vesuvius are producing even more wonders than were expected. Twenty-four rooms of a huge palace have been already disclosed, and the beautiful frescoes on the walls are stated by the Director of the Museum at Berlin, who is on the spot directing the excavations, to be of earlier date than those disinterred at Pompeii. They are also more elaborate, and in a state of better preservation. Nothing appears to act as a more effective preservative than lava.

A deputation representative of the musical profession in Sydney recently interviewed the Premier of New South Wales and requested that, in connection with the inauguration of the Commonwealth, prizes should be offered for the words of an ode or cantata, and also for a composition of musical setting for the accepted piece. Sir W. J. Lyne stated that he intended to appoint a committee to take full charge of the celebrations. The sum of £500 might be set apart for the purpose suggested by the deputation, and he would direct the attention of the committee to the matter, so that it might be dealt with early.

It is not surprising to learn that of the various professions represented in the new House of Commons barristers head the list with a total of 116. After them come "gentry and landowners" 65, then manufacturers and spinners 52, and merchants 44. One hears so much of the brewing interest in Parliament, but out of a total of 669, those who can be classed under the heading of "brewers, distillers, and wine merchants" number only 23, one more than the bankers and financiers. Newspaper proprietors and journalists make up the respectable total of 33, and there are just a couple of dozen solicitors.

By the death of Mr. W. Luson Thomas pictorial journalism loses one of its most distinguished representatives. In early years he was an engraver, and was brought into close association with the great illustrated paper which in those days stood almost alone. He decided to enter into competition, and found the capital for starting the *Graphic*, to which for twenty years he gave his undivided attention. At an age—60—when most men would have been content to rest on the success achieved, Mr. Thomas embarked on his long-cherished project, the *Daily Graphic*, and until the last continued to take an active part in the management of his illustrated daily. Mr. Thomas, who had reached his 70th year, was an excellent artist, and was a member of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours.

Mr. Nikola Tesla has taken out patents for insulating electrical conductors by laying them in troughs and freezing water about them into ice, which is a non-conductor. Dr. R. A. Fessenden, however, was before him with the idea, and suggested in a paper to the American Institute of Electrical Engineers in 1898 that the conductors could be made hollow and laid in a trench containing water. Cold brine flowing through the conductors would freeze the water and insulate the conductors. The brine would serve to cool houses or make ice, &c. Tesla's American patents were only applied for on June 15 of this year, and are, according to Dr. Fessenden, invalid. If the system comes into practice Tesla will not be able to claim the principal idea, only his mode of applying it. The plan has caused some discussion in English electrical circles.

M. Adolphe Cochery, whose death is announced from Paris, was in the days of his active parliamentary life Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, and it was while holding that portfolio that he effected many excellent reforms and organised the rapid method of communication known as the "petit bleu." The *Times* recalls the fact that under the Second Empire M. Cochery was one of the most militant members of the Opposition, and at the fall of the Empire he took service under the Government of National Defence. He was a devoted admirer of M. Thiers, but it was in one of the Governments which succeeded the historic 16th of May Cabinet that he became Minister of Posts and Telegraphs.

By the death of Sir Henry Acland, Oxford University loses a man who for more than fifty years has been closely indentified with the work, and for over sixty years made Oxford his home. As an undergraduate at Christ Church he was the intimate friend of Ruskin, who in "Præterita" has made affectionate reference to the influence of Henry Acland. In 1840 deceased took his medical degree, and five years later he was chosen Lee's Reader in Anatomy at his college. It was in 1857 that Dr. Acland undertook the two appointments—that of Clinical Professor and that of Regius Professor of Medicine. The former he resigned in 1880 owing to a change in the endowment of the Chair, the latter he held at the time of his death. Sir Henry crowded an immense amount of work into his active life, and although he found little time for literary contributions, he took an active part in the proceedings of the British Association, and was president of the General Medical Council for thirteen years. Sir Henry accompanied the Prince of Wales on his visit to America, and was honorary physician to Prince Leopold during his student days at Oxford.

In "Nummits and Crummits," a book that West Country folk will place on the lower shelf of their libraries, the writer gives a very entertain-

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ing account of the superstitions which play so large a part, even now, in the lives of the Devonshire peasantry. Happy is the household that hangs upon its walls the rope that strangled a felon; let the Londoner scoff how he will, the Devonshire peasant who can boast such a rope among his "lares and penates" counts himself specially blest by providence. So superstitious are these old-world people that they will not play cards with a man who carries a badger's tooth in his waistcoat pocket, that is to say if the lucky man is fool enough to boast of his possession. Then, again, if a stranger should enter the house of a superstitious Devonian, and place his umbrella upon the table, the unhappy Devonian will straightway resign himself to the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune. The blushing bride who believes in pixies, and whose faith in the lore of her people even the Board School has been powerless to shake, knows that on her marriage day she must wear "something that's old, something that's new; something that's borrowed, and something that's blue." Superstition in Devonshire attaches itself to every function of the day.

Damages to the extent of £60, with costs, is the amount which the jury at the London Sheriff's Court has just awarded Miss Lucas, of Shepherd's Bush, against Second Officer Cooper, of the steamship *Clan Macallister*, for breach of promise. Once he wrote:—"I could have clasped you to my heart when you said you would wait, but it was not gentlemanly to do so. . . . . Once more away, and every throb of the engine is taking me further from you." The next letter broke off the engagement.

The formal union of the Free and United Presbyterian churches, decided upon on Oct. 30th at a joint meeting at Edinburgh of the Free Church Assembly and the United Presbyterian Synod was commenced the following day. The ministers marched from their respective halls to the Royal Institution, then proceeded to Waverley-market and held the first meeting of the United Free Church of Scotland. Large crowds witnessed the procession. Rev. Robt. Rainy was chosen moderator of the United Free Church. The small minority which opposed the union met in a separate hall and constituted themselves a Free Church Assembly.

The German Naval Office has been making experiments with tubular boilers for the last three or four years. The so-called Niclausse boiler proved rather a failure. The *Freya*, which was fitted with it, made only 18 knots an hour. The German authorities seem now to prefer the so-called Richard Schulz boiler, an improved Thornycroft boiler, and have ordered it for the new battleships now in course of construction. The other boilers used in the German Navy are the Dürr boilers, with which the older battle-ships, like the *Baden*, *Sachsen*, have been fitted; and Thornycroft boilers are used in several of the more recent battle-ships.

In a reply to the charges made against the British officers who were prisoners in Pretoria by Mr. Richard Harding Davis, the Rev. W. J. Batts states that the real reason for the removal of the officers from the Model School to the out prison-side the town was the escape of some of the prisoners from the school and the fact that "it was definitely known that information had been conveyed (to the officers) from at least one house near by." It is stated that the British officers were kept very fully informed of what was going on outside by a plucky English girl, a Miss Cullingworth, whose family resided in a house close to the Model School. An official high in the service of the State Telegraphs, whose sympathies were with the British, taught Miss Cullingworth the Morse alphabet, and regularly supplied her with the latest news sent over the telegraph wires. Standing inside the front door of her house, Miss Cullingworth with a small flag signalled the news brought her by the official, and the message was read by an officer stationed at one of the school windows, standing far back to escape detection. It was, of course, a very risky proceeding, and the officer who had taken the message would write it down and pass it round at meal-times. Although the Boers knew that information was reaching the prisoners, they never discovered the method employed. On being released the officers waited on the Cullingworth family to express their gratitude, and presented Miss Cullingworth with a small memento in recognition of her pluck.

A London telegram of Nov. 3rd said: Lord Roberts sends from Pretoria a striking appeal to his countrymen to refrain from turning the welcome of the home-coming of the troops into a drunken orgy. He expresses the sincere hope that the welcome will not take the form of treating to stimulants, and thus lead to excesses that will tend to degrade those whom the nation delights to honour, and not lower the soldiers of the Queen in the eyes of the world, which has watched with undisguised admiration the grand work they have performed for their sovereign and country." He says: "I am very proud to be able to record, with the most absolute truth, that the conduct of this army from first to last has been exemplary. Not a single case of serious crime has been brought to my notice, indeed, nothing deserving the name of crime. I have trusted to the men's own soldierly feelings and good sense, and they have borne themselves like heroes on the battlefield and like gentlemen on all other occasions." Lord Roberts explains that he thus appeals because of the distressing and discreditable scenes resulting from injudicious friends speeding the parting soldiers by shoving bottles of spirits into their hands and pockets.

The recent visit of Lord Wolseley to Dover, when combined naval and military manœuvres were held, has brought to light many things with reference to the existence of obsolete artillery at this important strategical position in the Channel defences. There is not a single breech-loading gun on the whole of the land defences of Dover, and until a month or two ago even the sea defences were without modern artillery. The building of three new forts for the defence of the national harbour now in course of construction caused five of the new wire-built 6 in. guns to be mounted, and some 9 in. breech-loaders will also be supplied for these forts. Beyond two 5 in. breech-loaders, which were mounted at the Castle quite recently and a battery of howitzers, which were sent from Egypt, these are the only modern guns in the fortress. The other guns are 10 in. 64-pounders and 40 pounder muzzle-loaders, all of which could be quickly overpowered by modern ordnance. There are a few old breech-loaders at Archcliffe Fort, which were thrown out of the Navy some ten or fifteen years ago, and two 80-ton guns in the pier turret are quite out of date. The expert opinion is that more 6 in. wire-guns should be mounted on the sea defences, and some 4·7's in the landward forts. Further powerful search-lights are to erected on the heights to the east and west of the Admiralty Harbour at Dover. A power-house has already been built.

The Emperor William has given 50,000 marks towards the new building which the Lette Society proposes to erect in a Berlin suburb, as a model house for 2,000 young girls, who will be instructed there in book-keeping, photography, housekeeping, &c.

Wesleyan Methodism has lost one of its most prominent preachers by the death of the Rev. Charles Garrett, whose career of usefulness had extended over half-a-century. It was in Manchester and Liverpool that the deceased carried on his work, and in order that he might devote himself exclusively to the latter city, he was specially exempted from the operation of the itinerary system, under which ministers move to a new sphere of operations every three years. In 1882 Mr. Garrett was elected President of the Wesleyan Conference. He had reached his seventy-seventh year.

In discussing the Uganda Railway, which, it will be remembered, will connect the Victoria Nyanza with the coast, the *Engineer* says:—The Lake Victoria Nyanza itself is an immense sheet of water, the surface of which comprises an area of 27,000 square miles, rather over half that of England. In it are situated numberless islands, the aggregate area of which is 1,400 square miles —this representing a little more than the area of Wiltshire. It is navigable for steamers, of which there are some already at work, and it will form a splendid means of collecting and distributing goods carried or to be carried by the railway.

It is stated on the authority of the French Benedictines that a very interesting ecclesiastical dignity will shortly be revived in England. It is that of the mitred Abbot, a pre-Reformation institution. The mitres are to be conferred upon the Abbots in the new Westminster Cathedral shortly after the opening, and the ceremonial is expected to be of a most impressive kind. Dr. Gasquet will be among the recipients. There is already one mitred Abbot in England, the Right Rev. Wilfrid Hipwood, of the Cistercian Abbey at Coalville, near Leicester. The jurisdiction of these dignitaries is purely monastic, as is indicated symbolically by the fact that the crook of the crozier, which is made of carved wood, is turned inwards. They have the right to confer the tonsure and minor order on their own monks.

Captain A. T. Mahan, of the United States Navy, the well-known writer on naval subjects, has the honour of being the recipient of the first Chesney Memorial Medal. Under the scheme for commemorating the services of the distinguished soldier, the late General Sir George T Chesney, it was decided that the Council of the Royal United Service Institution should award a gold medal to the author of "an original literary work treating of naval or military science and literature, and which has a bearing on the welfare of the British Empire." It is in consideration of the three great works of which he is the author, "The Influence of Sea Power on History," "The Influence of Sea Power upon the French Revolution," and "The Life of Nelson," that Captain Mahan has been deservedly selected for this high honour.

The trial of Prince Chigi at Rome on a charge of having sold to a London syndicate one of the most famous pictures in his collection, Botticelli's "Virgin and Child," has considerable significance as an assertion of the resolve of the Italian Government to prevent the removal of important works of art from the country. The law which is being so vigorously enforced may quite possibly seem a harsh one to the possessors of articles of such value as great paintings by the best known old masters, but it has the merit of serving as a safeguard against the reckless breaking up of collections that mark epochs in Italian history, and it aids to keep unimpaired the artistic reputation of the nation. It would certainly be a disaster if the pictures that many generations of art lovers have made pilgrimages to see were scattered in all directions.

Lord Curzon's exhaustive summary of famine relief operations in India, is deeply interesting reading. Some seventy-five millions of people had to be more or less assisted by the State, to fend off starvation, and this almost impossible feat was accomplished without monetary help from the Imperial Exchequer. Peace has her conquests no less renowned than war, and in the whole history of mankind it would be impossible to cite a parallel instance of such a complete victory of organised humanity. There was, of course, cruel and widespread suffering; that is inevitable in such cases. But whereas in the Bengal famine of 1700, when India was under native rule, 10,000,000 people out of 30,000,000 in the drought area perished, on the present occasion, only half a million out of more than twice the number have died. And it was not lack of food that killed these victims; most if not all, fell a prey to the diseases which always dog the steps of Indian famines. One comment is necessary, it is with reference to the lack of charity among wealthy natives. The great nobles did their duty, as a rule, but the subscriptions of the commercial classes to the Relief Fund were miserably short of what they ought to have been. It is not the first or second time, either, that this has occurred, the native bankers, grain dealers, zemindars, and traders generally seem to consider that the relief of destitution is wholly a matter for the State.

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CAUSERIES CHINOISES.

No. 1.

CE'ST LE BONHEUR DES HOMMES QUAND ILS PENSENT JUSTE.

I send you by this the first of a series of papers of which I propose in future to send you regular instalments provided they meet with your and your readers' approval. My only difficulty in attempting what I propose to do lies in the fact that I have no personal knowledge of my audience—never having been in Japan. The audience, I may tell you, Mr. Editor, whom with your permission I wish particularly to address, are my English speaking cousins across the water. I hope there are many of them who read your paper. I cannot but think how much good such a paper as yours,—the only paper, as it seems to me, out in the Far East here, which takes the tone of a higher culture and as a result of that, independence and manliness—how much good you have done and are capable of doing during this period of change and transition in China and Japan. I will not go nearly so far as the late Mr. Ruskin, who, I think, gave it as his deliberate opinion that the only result of the general run of modern European education is to make a man think wrong on every possible subject important to him in life. But after all I think Mr. Kato himself (who, I believe, is the rising leader of young Japan) will admit and agree with me that a great danger at present lies in the tendency in the rising generation of young Japan to drift, if not actually fall, into an unhealthy state of effervescence and crudity, becoming in extreme cases sheer blatancy and truculent hardness, in thought, temper, disposition and manners, all which often result from the acquaintance only with a certain aspect, and that too by far the most appealing aspect, of the modern European civilisation. What a work therefore there is for an honestly conducted foreign newspaper to bring into prominence before the present and rising generation of the governing class in Japan the higher and better aspects and to warn them from the lower and worse aspects of modern European civilisation!

The reason, however, which has influenced me to write for your paper is not because I feel myself able or competent to offer you any help in the work you are doing in the way I have indicated. For one to wish to make such an attempt would be—I speak in all sincerity—presumptuous in every way. I am very sure there are many men now among Japanese who have studied more carefully and know more intimately than I do, at least the practical side of modern Europe and its institutions. Nevertheless it has occurred to me that there is one way which I can perhaps be useful to you in the work you are doing for the cause of peace and civilisation in the Far East.

Now it has became very evident to me from observation of the present crisis in China that the views of the public men in Japan have been for the most part greatly and to an undesirable extent influenced by the foreign press, especially the foreign press out in the Far East here. At any rate it must be admitted, I think, that the view of persons and events in China taken by the most influential party of Young Japan in the country to-day is very liable to be taken merely from the European point of view. But that really, in my opinion, is not as it should be. Japan who is, if not really China's pupil, at least her neighbour and co-mate in history, should really know more about China than Europe. Japan from her better knowledge should be able to advise and lead Europe how to deal with any crisis of events such as the present, that arises in China. As a matter of fact, however, to-day Japan has failed to do this, Japan who has the near actual force in hand to have her voice heard and respected by Europe and who also has borne the brunt of actual work in the recent events in the North of China—Japan is now hesitatingly following the lead of the European concert for the settlement of the Chinese problem.

I am glad to see that there is a rising tide of dissatisfaction and unrest in Japan at the present moment at the failures of her responsible statesman to take an independent action in the present Chinese crisis. I believe this feeling of dissatisfaction is uppermost in the most influential party in the country, the party of young Japan. But in order to be able to act independently, young Japan must first be able to think independently. For the last forty years Japan has honestly taken off her coat—her dignified but unpractical dress—and set to work to arm herself with the weapons and appliances of modern Europe in order to arrive at the wished-for position she is in to-day. Thanks really to the thoroughness of the combination of military and moral discipline which the old Tokugawa regime impressed upon the Japan of the past four hundred years, modern Japan has been able to accomplish the work she set herself to do, with a success rapid and brilliant which has astonished the world. But in the urgency of the work which she had had to do and also in the earnest honesty of purpose to do her work well, which made her feel she must devote her whole attention to work, instead of thinking, which she left to her new teachers, the Europeans who did the work of organisation in modern Japan,—Japan thus for the time being voluntarily suspended and gave up her power and right of thinking for herself and thinking independently. Mr. Norman in his book on Japan, heads one chapter in it with the title. "A Nation at School." I think a more appropriate title for the last chapter of forty years in the history of Japan would be: "A Nation at Work." At any rate it seems to me that the Japanese nation lately went to the new European school to learn to work, rather than to learn to think. The late European school in Japan was essentially a work school, not a thinking school.

But now at this present moment, Japan has finished her education in the new European work school. As modern Japan voluntarily suspended her right of thinking for herself in order the better to learn to work with her new tools, the time is come now when she has learnt her work, to resume her right of thinking for herself. In saying this, I would be the last one to advise my Japanese cousins to kick out their European teachers who have served them well in the work school, or to refuse to have anything to do with them in the new thinking school. Indeed, I am sure, modern young Japan will find, if she went to the new thinking school with the same earnestness and honesty of purpose, as she hitherto has gone to the work school, young Japan will find out in the end that thinking is infinitely more difficult than work. Confucius says: "Knowledge of facts is easy, but knowledge of principles is difficult. Knowledge of principles is easy, but judgment is difficult. Judgment is easy, but discretion which is sometimes necessary in the use of judgement is difficult." Indeed thinking and right thinking is so difficult that I am convinced that it would conduce infinitely to the peace of the world at the present day, if it were possible to find some means of even forcibly preventing those who are really incapable of thinking rightly, to exercise their right of thinking and communicate the results of their bad and wrong thinking to the world. Professor Huxley of England once said he would be thankful if some higher Power would every morning wind him up like a clock so that without exertion on his part he would be able to think rightly and act properly.

But after all, a nation is not a clock-work. A nation that allows itself, and is content, to be a mere automaton clock-work, will in the end like all artificial handiwork get out of order and cease to become an independent nation. I say therefore that the time is now come for modern young Japan, now that she has finished her education in the European work school, to resume the exercise of her right of thinking for herself In resuming the exercise of this right, it is not necessary for young Japan to leave the company of her European teachers. In this new thinking school teachers are needed as well as in the old work school. Only in this new school the relation between the teacher and pupil is changed. In the old school the teacher's duty is to order and prescribe. In the new school the teacher's only duty is to show the way and guide. In the one, the duty of the pupil is to obey. In the new school, the pupil's only duty is to listen to what the teacher has to say. The pupil must at his peril reserve to himself the right to say—this is right and this is wrong.

In thus calling upon my Japanese cousins to assert their right of thinking themselves, I wish I could sufficiently impress upon them the terrible responsibility which is attached to this right. For if the exercise of the right of thinking for oneself both for a man and a nation is duty, the bad use of that right, or wrong thinking, becomes a crime towards others and a curse to oneself. In fact the future of the destiny of the Far East will finally depend entirely upon the way in which modern Japan now and in the future makes use of her right of thinking for herself.

The present crisis in China has brought into vivid prominence the imperious duty of Modern Japan to think for herself independently of her European teachers in the late work school. In the use of the weapons and appliances of modern European civilisation, young Japan found herself quite safe and was therefore hitherto content to follow the directions of her modern teachers. When it came to the question of the machinery of Government and political sciences, Modern Japan found the directions of her new teachers, although not quite safe and free from danger, yet still workable. But now comes this new tremendous Chinese problem like a huge iceberg drifting upon her. Here the hitherto directions of her new teachers suddenly become of no avail to her. The dilemma before Modern Japan in this Chinese crisis is this; Japan must either follow the lead of the European concert or act independently. To do the one, the instinct of the whole Japanese nation feels that the European way of dealing with China is wrong and will lead to disaster. To act independantly, Modern Japan hesitates not from want of physical force and courage in war, but from a want of a true and independent view of China and the present state of things in China. All her statesmen and public men of prominence who are still under the influence of the prestige of the old European teachers in the work school, can form no independent line of action, because they have not accustomed themselves to think quite independantly for themselves. At all offers of advice either to follow the concert of European nations or to make some kind of compromise, Modern Japan, the young chivalrous fiery Jo-i Shogun, or Mark-Graf of the Far East, who has still the *Yamato-damashii* beneath his Modern European dress, shakes his head, his eyes filled with tears and his heart with pity for his cousins across the water.

Now, I am convinced the only way for Modern Japan to get at a line of independent action, which, if it is a true one, she can even command Europe to follow by merely putting her hand on her sword, the only way is to look at China and Chinese institutions, at Chinese events and persons from a point of view different from the European point of view. In order to assist my Japanese cousins to take an independent view of things Chinese, I propose with your permission to write this series of papers, which for brevity's sake I call by a French name: "Causeries Chinoises:" plain talk on Chinese subjects.

AH SIN.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Two sailors have been arrested at Nagasaki charged with the theft of a quantity of clothing belonging to a Russian lady. One of the men presented a revolver at the constables who went to arrest him.

A cotton dealer named Kubota Harukichi, living at Todamachi, Ota, Yokohama, was arrested by the Tobe police on the 5th inst., on a charge of setting fire to his own house on the night of the 4th inst. He was insured for *yen* 350.

A game of association football was played on Thursday afternoon on the Yokohama Cricket Ground between a team from the Y. C. & A. C. and an eleven from the Royal Naval Hospital. Despite the rain, pay was brisk and the game ended in a tie, one goal all. Smith made the point for Yokohama.

On the 4th inst. a quantity of iron bars were stolen from a godown at Takashima-cho belonging

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to Messrs. Otto Reimers & Co. On the 5th inst. the Isezaki-cho Police traced the thief and arrested him. He is known as Yendo Yoshinosuke, aged 27, a coolie, and lives at Chitose-cho Nichome, Yokohama.

Shanghai papers to hand yesterday contain full accounts of the disorderly behaviour of certain French soldiers in that port. In one affray eight Europeans were wounded. The Sikh and Chinese police are continually being assaulted by these drunken soldiers, who, strangely, are allowed to carry their side-arms when on liberty-leave.

The French steamer *Massilia*, from Nagasaki, reported at Singapore having run down a whale, about dusk, two days after leaving that port for Singapore. The whale appears to have been asleep and when struck and wounded seems to have plunged down and dealt a blow to the propeller, which was somewhat damaged as the speed of the ship has been a little reduced since.

The lessee of a timber yard at Yanagiwara, Honjo, Tokyo, while repairing his godown a few days ago, found two pots which, on being opened, contained the following old coins: *Koban* 18, 2 *bu* gold 8,024, 1 *bu* silver 27 and 2 *shu* gold 1,122, total 9,122 pieces. The money was handed to the Honjo police station.

The second hearing in the case instituted against Mr. H. Geslieu, representative of Messrs. A. Mier & Co., by Mr. A. L. Koch, for the payment of *yen* 3,284.79, with interest, being the amount alleged to be due to plaintiff in respect of a loan transaction, took place before Judges Oshima, Nozawa and Hamamoto at the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on December 3rd. Judgment was reserved.

A clerk named Akiyama Fukumatsu, Mamiya mura, Takatagori, Shizuoka prefecture, employed at the Mitsu Branch Post Office, was arrested by the Kamakura police on the 4th inst. It is alleged that, knowing his brother had an account with the office he got hold of the office seal, and made fictitious entries in his brother's passbook to the amount of *yen* 249.

In the Yohohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday before Judge Sato, Mr. F. Vivanti sued Mr. Henry Fouque for rent. It was stated for the plaintiff that he let a portion of the building at No. 87, Yamashita-cho, to defendant in November, 1899, at a monthly rental of *yen* 45. Defendant failed to pay the rent from Feberuary till May 15th, amounting to *yen* 157.50, which plaintiff claimed. Judgment was given for plaintiff, the costs of the Court to be paid by defendant, who did not appear.

An interesting collection of the working drawings used in Japan for architectural work has been presented to the American Institute of Architects by Mr. S. Okamoto, of Tokyo. The drawings, says an exchange, are made entirely by the brush; but it is affirmed that the lines are as fine, true, and straight as in the best straight-line pen work. The drawings are arranged to fold on a plane line, so that when the sides, partitions, &c., are bent up to the vertical position, the drawings form a sort of paper model, showing the interior and exterior details of the house.

Silver has considerably risen in value, remarks the *Keizai Zasshi*. The following comparative table may be of some interest:—

	Maximum Pence.	Minimum. Pence.	Average Pence
January	27 5/16	27	27 3/16
February	27 3/4	27 3/16	27 1/2
March	27 1/2	27 1/16	27 5/16
April	27 1/2	27 1/16	27 1/16
May...	27 3/16	27 1/16	27 1/16
June..... ...	28 7/16	27 5/16	27 3/4
July	28 5/16	27 3/4	28 1/4
August	28 3/16	27 1/16	28 1/16
September	29 1/16	28 1/16	28 3/4

The coal question in France, according to the *Coal Marchant and Shipper*, is likely to become acute during the ensuing winter. The cost of a ton of coal is already almost three pounds, although the winter demand can scarcely be said to have begun. The small coal merchant in Paris, it seems, has generally two strings to his bow. On one side of the shop is stacked his stock of fuel, and along the other runs a narrow counter at which he sells spirituous drinks. As often as not he sublets a square half-yard of his window to a cobbler, and when he has contrived to instal a seller of hot chestnuts in an odd corner he is happy and full up.

During the Queen's last visit to Nice a paragraph appeared in the English papers stating that, just before taking her daily drive, the Queen had been pleased to accept a magnificent bouquet from two children whose parents were residing at an adjacent villa. People little suspected of what the bouquet consisted. The fact was that a little girl, daughter of a prominent resident of Shanghai, whose mother was staying in the Riviera, conspired with a still tinier playfellow to present this "bouquet," and the two mites, successfully evading their nurse, rushed up to her Majesty and solemnly handed her a bunch of—dandelions. The Queen was so pleased with this spontaneous, if humble, tribute that she sent round next day for the children's photographs.

The estimated damage done by the late typhoon in Manila is $3,000, and not a day passes, says the *Manila Times* of the 10th inst, without a fresh tale of disaster, and the "blow-out" promises to be as costly as an ancient Roman feast. To the losses affecting Manila shipping firms, which include the *Surumusu*, the *Gongo* and the *Powerful*, may now be definitely added that of the *Antonio*, owned by McLeod and Co., as well as the reported loss of the well-known brigantine *Lepanto*, which it is rumoured has gone ashore on the southern islands, in company with another sailing vessel, name unknown. A steamer came in this morning from the south, bearing fresh news of the storm, and it was said that Mr. Sanz, supercargo of the wrecked *Antonio*, had come from Sta. Cruz, bringing definite news of the loss of the vessel.

According to the *Nichi Nichi*, the number of Japanese who sailed for San Francisco from the 13th September until the 12th October last totalled 73, of whom 32 were taken by the *Nippon Maru*, 8 by the *Coptic*, and 29 by the *America Maru*. Of this number, however, 3 on the first mentioned vessel and 5 on the *America Maru* were refused a landing. During the period indicated above, 117 Japanese immigrants are reported to have arrived in San Francisco from Victoria, and Vancouver, and of these only five appear to have been refused. It may be observed that the period referred to was within the time fixed for the suspension of emigration to America, and the influx of so many Japanese to that continent can only be accounted for by the fact that they may have been labourers who had previously acquired permits for emigration.

The *Achilles*, the fine new Blue-funnel vessel, of 8,775 tons gross, which is on her first voyage out East, is expected to arrive in Yokohama on the 23th inst. It may be of interest to note that the first *Achilles* was built for the company by Messrs. Scott & Co., in 1865. She was one of three pioneer steamers built at Greenock for the Ocean Steamship Company, to trade round the Cape of Good Hope to China, and it is testimony to the care with which the original *Achilles* was navigated, as well as to the splendid work turned out by Messrs. Scott & Co., that during her thirty-five years' voyaging she never met with an accident. This vessel was only recently sold out of the Company's fleet because she was too small for the trade. The new *Achilles* is commanded by Captain R. J. Brown, who has been for over 30 years in the service of the O. S. S. Co., during 26 of which he has been in command, and is now the second senior Captain of the fleet.

The *Keizai Zasshi* comments thus on the rules for the control of coolies in Formosa:—So far as the principles of economy are concerned, the steady increase in the value of silver ought to contribute to a fall in prices as well as in wages. The Bank of Formosa has not only issued notes on the security of the *yen* pieces in its possession, but also has secured the silver *taels* acquired by the Japanese troops on the occasion of the late Chinese emergency. The additional issue of notes by the Bank on the security of gold coins and Government bonds is reported to have reached five million *yen*. This seems to be the direct cause of the appreciation in prices and in wages to it also must be attributed the tendency of imports to exceed exports. Under these circumstances the enforcement of rules for the prevention of a further rise in wages became absolutely indispensable in Taipeh prefecture. Under these rules the daily wages of labourers were fixed at 30 *sen*, or 20 *sen* for a half day. The charges for transport are also reduced. As already remarked, fluctuations in prices and in wages are governed by general principles of economy, and therefore so long as the over-issue of notes by the Bank of Formosa continues, a corresponding increase in these two particulars will be inevitable. The rise in the value of silver, can be the only factor in bringing about a fall in prices as well as in wages. Any artificial process of restriction in the shape of laws or ordinances can scarcely fail to be a source of unforseen abuses.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

TOKYO ROAD-MAKING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the article on "The Tokyo Municipality" in your to-day's issue, you credit me with powers absolutely beyond my skill. You say that "Mr. Gervas Holmes declares that he can do for 50 *sen* incomparably better work than that upon which the Municipality is spending 8 *yen*."

There is one little point in my statement which evidently seems to have escaped your notice, but it is so important that I hope you will be good enough to allow me to state that my assertion was prefaced by the condition "given, properly broken stone," subject to this correction your statement is quite correct, and I hope very much that some one in authority somewhere in Japan may be enterprising enough to leave the old road-making ruts, so far as to allow a few thousand *tsubo* of road to be reconstructed on the principle I advocate, in order that the advantages to be derived therefrom may be publicly demonstrated.

Of course a small section such as this would cost more per *tsubo* than similar work carried on on a large scale by a properly organized gang, but that is a very small matter

I remain, yours truly, GERVAS HOLMES.

11, Sakaecho, Shiba, Tokyo,
November 28th, 1900.

A NEW DANGER IMPENDING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Apropos of the paragraph in your issue of today, referring to the present and probable out-look of the Yoshiwara in Japan, allow me to make a few remarks.

No one can deny that the Salvation Army has not so far done good work in showing the unfortunate inmates of the Yoshiwara that they are free to leave if kept there hitherto against their will. But the zeal of the would-be protectors of this class of women will, if persisted in as at present, cause a new danger to arise which may be very difficult for either the Salvation Army or the Japanese Government to grapple with.

According to the latest reports in the daily papers, the inmates who have left the Yoshiwara in Tokyo-fu alone, have reached the large figures of 429 from September 5th to October 27th, and if this exodus goes on throughout Japan in the same proportion, it must follow that that city, and others according to their average, will be inundated with these released prostitutes.

Then will arise the question what is to become of these women? It cannot be assumed that they were *all* originally of entirely virtuous tendencies, forced into the life from which they have freed themselves, and intending to return to their family homes, and live as if they had never known any other life. While having sufficient confidence in woman's natural goodness to assume that a fair proportion will be absorbed into their families in accordance with the social code of the country, which does not ostracise a woman with antecedents such as these would have, what is to become of those who although once virtuous, have had their moral and womanly sensibilities so perverted that they can

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never be what they once were, or those others who must be utterly lost to morality and womanly feeling in consequence of their previous experiences? It is only a common-sense view to take of these if we assume that knowing well what were the gains of their trade, which previously went into their employers, pockets, they will continue the same life for their own benefit, for that would be only human nature, and these poor women cannot be supposed to be better than the average human being.

Assuming this, where and how will they pursue their former trade, and under what conditions? If they elect to do so privately, how can medical supervision be effectually exercised? If publicly, then Japan will be laid open to the scandal hitherto confined to Christian cities, of street-walkers plying their trade in the face of society at large. Better far that things should have remained as they were before this movement commenced, than that Japan should be thus lowered and degraded.

One of the principal works of the Salavtion Army in Christian cities is the work known as *slumming*, which means going into disreputable neighbourhoods, picking up drunken men and prostitutes from the public thoroughfares, and taking them under its protection with a view to reformation.

The Salvation Army came to Japan full of zeal and enthusiasm for its work, as is its wont. But it found here totally different existing conditions to what it was accustomed, for to the credit of Japan be it said, the number of drunken men and immoral women conspicuous in the streets is practically *nil* in proportion to the population. So the Army, in the late treaty ports at any rate, had to turn its attention to the riff-raff of its own and other nationalities, that infested the slums of Yokohama and Kobe, principally sea-faring men, and establish homes for their reception and conversion. This was a worthy work, and has been attended with success.

In Washington Irving's "Comic History of New York"—a work little read in these days—in speaking of the attitude of the first Dutch settlers towards the native American Indians, he pleasantly remarks—"The Dutch conferred many benefits upon the poor Indians; amongst others, they brought them drugs for the cure of all diseases; and in order that the poor unenlightened creatures should fully appreciate these benefits, they first introduced amongst them the diseases which the drugs were intended to cure!"

Let the Salvation Army take heed lest it follow the example of the Dutch settlers in America, and by opening the door for a condition of things which they did not find here, make the same work for themselves of which they have always been able to find more than enough in the countries from which they came.

Let the authorities be warned in good time, and look to this, for it will be the worst day that ever came to Japan when her fair daughters are seen plying the prostitute's trade in public sight, as are now their frail sisters in all the large cities of England and America, where Government supervision keeping a check upon individual immorality does not exist by law.

I am yours, PRECAUTION.
November 29th.

A CHINESE OPINION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I really feel it a duty, not as a Chinaman only but as a *man*, to thank you heartily for the only sign of manliness and rightmindedness which I have seen in the foreign press in the Far East on the present Chinese muddle. I mean particularly your recent protest against the demand of the civilised Powers for a relentless wholesale proscription in China. I hope you will not think I wish to qualify my sincere feeling of admiration and respect, if I venture to make a small but important correction of the way in which you have stated the case. In one of your last issues, you say:—"The Princes, &c., acted according to their light. * * * and if they violated the laws of humanity, *they did not violate the ethics of their nation*." The point I wish to call attention to is that the ethics of the Chinese nation with regard to the *defenceless* person of an envoy in peace or war are the same as the ethics of all nations and people who have any manhood in them. The Chinese view is thus expressed in a very old saying, 兩國相爭不斬來使. But the point I would like to raise is this: Is not the principle of the inviolability of the person of an envoy in peace and war founded upon the consideration of his *defencelessness*? Among the old Romans who had one particular virtue, manhood, or manliness (*virtus*), the institution of the law of *sanctitas legatorum* arose and was held in great respect, not from any refined or abstruse principle of modern international law, but from the simple Roman feeling that to attack a *defenceless* person who trusted you, was sacrilege against the law of *manhood*. But to come to the actual case of the recent state of the foreign Legations in Peking. The *crux* of the question may be illustrated by two simple examples, one technical and the other such as even the man in the street can understand. First suppose in actual war, a *parlementaire* was sent from one army to another. The person of the *parlementaire* under ordinary circumstances is, of course, protected from violence by the law of nations. But suppose the *parlementaire*, instead of going alone went with an armed guard and that armed guard behaved insolently and violently while in the camp of the enemy, even to the extent of insulting and threatening to shoot the soldiers of the enemy? In such a case what are the duties and rights of the enemy so insulted? Such a question may well be put before a court martial of military men. Secondly, suppose a party of gentlemen undertook to escort some ladies through an excited crowd, and supposing, instead of considering like gentlemen, the responsibility of their charge, these gentlemen were to provoke and insult the crowd—nay, actually shoot at the crowd? In such a case would these gentlemen have a right, if the crowd return their shots, to cry out and howl "Oh you cowards, you are shooting at women and children!"

In short, the object of my writing you this letter is in the first place to thank you for the manly feeling you have shown in writing as you have done, and in the second place to ask you to call the attention of the members of the Anglo-Saxon race who profess to be the inheritors of the old Roman *virtus*, and request these modern Romans (God save the mark!) to cease their howl of indignation against the Chinese for having violated the ethics of civilized nations in attacking the Legations and firing upon women and children. The simple fact of the case, you should point out, is that the Chinese in Peking did *not* attack and fire upon *defenceless* Ministers, women and children, but—*upon well armed, violent and insulting Legation guards!* The real breach of international ethics was in the action of the foreign Ministers in bringing the Legation guards to Peking, instead of leaving Peking if they lost their confidence in the goodwill and intentions of the Chinese Government. Thanking you in advance, &c.

I am, yours faithfully, AH SIN.

P.S.—The latest outrage reported from Peking of the disciplined army of civilised Europe on the cold blooded murder of the Paoting-fu officials seems to me *prima facie* to be a real case of what the ancient Romans would call a sacrilege against the laws of *manhood*. I qualify my opinion by the words *prima facie*, because I have not at this moment of writing the full facts of the case. But I hope you will call upon the public opinion of Europe and America to demand from the military authorities now in the North of China to give the full facts of the late Court Martial in Paoting-fu and to justify their action before the conscience of the civilised world.

A. S.

Hongkong, Nov. 21st, 1900.

THE ORIENTAL HOTEL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Oriental Hotel Company, Kobe, was held on Thursday evening—Mr. Groom, Chairman of the Directors, presiding.

The minutes of last annual meeting were read and adopted as also those of the extraordinary meeting in April last.

The Chairman then said. The next business is the passing of the Report and Accounts. Before asking you to discuss or to pass them I should like to make one or two remarks about the work for the year. Your directors at last year's meeting foreshadowed good prospects for the year under review and I think the accounts will show that they were not too optimistic. The quarantine regulations brought into force through the outbreak of plague worried us, but fortunately the epidemic did not last, doubtless owing to the energetic measures taken, and not much harm was done to our business. There is very little to say about the business for the year. The report and accounts will show you that the year has been a satisfactory one to all concerned, and I think perhaps the less said about it the better, although after I have completed my remarks I shall be only too happy to answer any questions that may be asked by any shareholders. At the beginning of the year Mr. Adam was appointed Secretary, following upon the resignation of Mr. Bertgny who, as you know, was invited to and accepted a seat on the Board. Our present manager, Mr. Sandford, having been offered more lucrative employment, is leaving us at the end of the year. Mr and Mrs. Sandford have furthered the interests of the company to the best of their ability and whilst the Directors regret their departure, they did not see their way to comply with the higher terms asked for. You will see that the Working Account has been much more satisfactory than usual and your directors have taken the liberty of writing off more liberally than they did the year before when the year had not been so satisfactory. Your directors consider that the Company's assets are in very excellent shape and if we continue to have as satisfactory business as we have had during the past twelve months we hope next year we may be able to give you perhaps a slightly increased dividend. With regard to the contemplated extension at Kioto, we have nothing to say beyond what we have printed in the Report, but no doubt in course of a month or two the work will be proceeded with.

No questions being asked the Chairman proposed the adoption of the Report and Accounts.

Mr. Melhuish seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

The next business was the appointment of auditors for the coming year. The Chairman said that last year the Accountant of the Chartered Bank was appointed, but this year he had declined to act as he did not feel he could satisfactorily inspect many of the vouchers, which were in Japanese, and this would take up too much of his time. Mr. Edwards, who had long been known in this port in connection with auditing, &c., was asked to fill the vacancy and he had agreed. He (Mr. Groom) might say that the Auditors during the last month had had very heavy work. It took them much longer than usual to go through the accounts, which were much more voluminous than usual, and they both wrote to the Directors that they thought their remuneration ought to be slightly increased. The directors had considered the point and recommended that in appointing the auditors their fee should be increased to 150 *yen* each.

He proposed that Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Edwards be appointed auditors for the coming year and that the fees be increased to 150 *yen* each.

Mr. Goodison seconded, and the proposal was accepted unanimously.

The Chairman said the next business was the remuneration of the Directors for the past year. This they would leave in the shareholders' hands. Of course they were aware that the Board had been increased and that a very great deal of extra work had been entailed on the Directors.

Mr. Melhuish said: In seconding the passing of the Report just now I wished to say a few words in connection with the work of the Directors. Having served on the Board for a considerable time myself I can appreciate the great difference there is in this Report from the Reports we have had to bring forward once or twice before and I think we shareholders may congratulate the Directors on the showing they have made and I have much pleasure in proposing that their remuneration be 1500 *yen* instead of 1000 *yen*.

Mr. Sandford second and the motion was passed.

The Chairman proceeded: There have been considerable changes in the Board during the past year. Some of our Directors unfortunately had to take trips home and others have thought better of it and have come back. I am glad to say that we were able to persuade Mr. Crosse to rejoin the Board. He knows a great deal about the working of the Hotel and I think we may consider ourselves fortunate in having secured his services again. In accordance with the Articles of Association Mr. Reynell and myself retire from office and in both cases we shall be very happy to continue to serve if re-elected. I believe there are no other candidates.

Mr. Melhuish proposed the re-election of Mr. Groom and Mr. Reynell and Mr. Goodison seconded.

This was passed unanimously.

The Chairman intimated that the dividend warrants would be ready on Friday morning.

Mr. Goodison proposed a vote of thanks to the Directors and Mr. Melhuish seconded.

This concluded the proceedings.—*Kobe Herald.*

SMOKE PREVENTION.

AN INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE PAPER BY PROFESSOR CHARLES H. BENJAMIN, IN WHICH HE EXPLAINS WHAT IS BEING DONE TO PURIFY THE ATMOSPHERE OF CLEVELAND.

"As most of you doubtless know, the subject of smoke abatement has been before the public for a matter of seventeen years. I have in my office an old book bearing on its back the title, 'Smoke Inspector's Record.' A perusal of these records is in a way discouraging, and we feel as if the task were well nigh hopeless. Like all reforms, this moves slowly, and it is only by comparing past and present that we see progress.

"The continual agitation of this subject has had, and is having its effect; the present administration of the department may get credit for reforms which were really inaugurated before its inception. Fifteen years ago smoke prevention was regarded as a joke, an ideal impossible to realize. To-day there are in this city 350 stokers of various kinds, besides numerous other devices having in view the abatement of smoke. Then, the owner or the builder of a new block never thought of the problem unless it was forced on his attention by the inspector. To-day no large business block is erected without improved furnaces, and they are regarded as

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A MATTER OF COURSE.

"Witness the Electric building, the Caxton, the Rose, the New England, the Williamson, and your own magnificent building. One can stand for hours, as I have done, and not see enough smoke issuing from the chimneys of such buildings to annoy the most critical. Manufacturers, too, are looking at this problem in a much more favourable light. There is no doubt in my mind but progress would be made if there were no supervising engineer, no department of smoke abatement. We only hope that progress now will be more steady and more rapid.

Until lately the control of this branch of the public service has been in the hands of the health department, where, owing to the numerous other demands upon the department, it could receive but scant attention. By virtue of a law passed by the Legislature at its last session, this is now a separate department under the control of a supervising and assistant engineers. The supervising engineer has power to make arrests and to prosecute cases against offenders, if such a course shall seem best.

"As the present incumbent of this office, I have thought my duty to lie along the paths of advice, of argument, of example, rather than along that rough road of persecution and antagonism which leads to the public court, and thence to nowhere. And first we are in search of information. It is necessary to know who has boilers and how many, who has stokers and how many; and, more than all, to know whose chimneys smoke and how much. We are now making a systematic canvass of the city by wards and precincts for our statistics. We are also making systematic observations from various points of vantage of the chimneys good, bad, and indifferent. We propose to publish this information in the newspapers from week to week, and from month to month that all may know. Personally I devote most of my time to argument and advice with those, who, so to speak, are wholesalers in this business of smoke production. The results are so far tangible and encouraging.

"Since my appointment in July there have been contracted for or actually put in over sixty stokers and improved furnaces, besides numerous smaller devices which are to some extent smoke abaters. There are others in prospect, though not in tangible form as yet. It would be absurd to claim that all these, or even a small part, are put in because of the new departure, but if they are put in let us not quarrel over the credit.

SMOKE CAN BE ABATED.

"There are two propositions which I wish to put before you to-night, and to establish by precedent and example. The first one is the simple statement that smoke can be prevented. The second that the prevention of smoke is a saving of dollars and cents to the manufacturer. It may not seem necessary here to argue the first proposition, but in my daily walks abroad I meet men who shake their heads and shrug their shoulders at the mention of the subject. They say that making smoke is making wealth, that Cleveland's prosperity is due to soft coal smoke, that they would be glad to do away with smoke, but that it has not been done and never will be done. To answer this I will but call your attention to two or three instances.

"Consider the business section of our city from Erie to Water-streets and from Lake to Huron. If all the buildings in this district burned soft coal on flat grates in the good old fashioned way the cloud of smoke which envelopes us would be as dense as that which hangs over the Ninth ward. What saves us is the fact that three-fourths of the coal burned in this section is burned in stokers, or downdraft furnaces, and that all our large business blocks do prevent smoke.

"The sceptic will say this is very well for a building where the plant is new and of ample capacity, but what about the busy factories on the lake front, where everything is crowded, where time is precious and every man and machine is worked to its utmost limit?

"If you will come with me to the smoke centre of this town, the area bounded by Lake, St. Clair, Alabama, and Marquette streets, I will show you even there numerous chimneys and stacks whence no smoke comes and they stand over furnaces just as hot and just as busy as those under their sinning neighbours, where the

SMOKE ROLLS UNCEASINGLY.

"Nay, I can show you stacks and boilers side by side in the same building, and used on precisely the same work; one is clean and the other foul. I have challenged the fireman to make all the smoke he could on one, and then hardly got a trace on the photographic plate, and the other was smoking steadily all the while.

"Now the foregoing may all be true and yet philanthropy and public spirit may not induce our leaders of industry to make the change. That many of them are doing this, and doing it rapidly as circumstances and the press of business will allow, is due to the fact that they know by experience and example the saving in coal and increase of capacity which will result.

"The amount of carbon in coal smoke is small and not of itself worth saving, but the presence of black smoke is a sure sign of poor combustion and indicates the escape of valuable products up the chimney. Smoke means a chilling of the flame or a retarding of combustion due to insufficient air supply; complete this combustion at the proper time by the introduction of enough hot air and more heat is available.

"The letters from manufacturers in the city, which were published in some of the Sunday papers some weeks ago testify to this in a very practical way. I will only call attention to a few of these letters to-night. Two or three of them are so definite and so convincing that I cannot forbear quoting.

"'This from the Mechanical Rubber Company, where there are now eleven stokers in all and where the chimneys show hardly a trace of smoke:—'Evaporative tests made before and after the original installation show an economy in fuel of 10.1 per cent, and an increase in the development of the horse power of the boilers of 25½ per cent. These results speak for themselves, and our confidence in the device is evidenced by our increased use of them.'

"'This from the Cleveland Steel Company:—'Our contract specified a saving of 10 per cent in quantity of fuel used and 20 per cent in boiler power, which economies have actually been experienced in the half year that we have been using the furnaces. We equipped four of a battery of five horizontal tubular boilers with this device, and the four boilers have easily done the work that was formerly done with the five, leaving us at all times a spare boiler.'

"'The Grasselli Chemical Company:—'We find it more economical than hand firing. The combustion is practically perfect and we believe overcomes practically the smoke nuisance."

ECONOMY IN ABATEMENT.

"'The officials of the American Steel and Wire Company, as far as they have been consulted, are unanimous in their claims of economy in smoke prevention. This letter from Mr. Dailey is but a sample of several, and the figures contained are from actual tests made at the various works, copies of which are now in my possession: 'We have several furnaces in the Newburg works, eight in the American mill, and will have seventeen in the HP mill. By tests of ten hours' duration, using two boilers, the efficiency was increased 23 per cent. The capacity was increased more. The smoke was reduced about 85 per cent. Before we put in seven furnaces we were short of steam from twenty-two boilers. After putting in the seven we never had any complaints about steam. With ordinary attention good results come from use of these furnaces.

"'The following letter is from a prominent official of a large manufacturing establishment in Cleveland, but I am not at liberty in this case to give names. If time permitted I should be glad to read the entire letter, it is so clear and convincing, and shows on the part of the writer such a thorough acquaintance with the subject he treats.

"'Up to February of this year we used slack or nut coal, or sometimes slack and nut mixed, under our boilers,' he says. 'From frequent evaporation tests we found that we could evaporate 9.59 pound of water from and at 212 degrees with one pound of fuel combustible. Our tests were frequent and very carefully made, and we were devoting close attention to proper methods of firing with a view of reducing smoke and showing good results. We believe that the above test showed as well as the results of average hand-firing. The stoker people agreed to take 9.59 pounds as a basis and guarantee to save us 15 per cent. with their appliance. In the month of February we applied one furnace to a new boiler installed at that time, and after running the boiler two weeks until our men were familiar with its operation, and it was working steadily and satisfactorily, we made a private test for our own satisfaction without the knowledge of the representatives of

THE STOKER COMPANY.

"'This test took place March 11, 1900. It happened that day that there was a sudden change from moderate to very cold weather. On account of this we were obliged to force the boiler to a point 74 per cent. above its rated capacity, and under these conditions the test showed evaporation of 11.21 pounds of water from and at 212 degrees from one pound of combustible, thus showing amounting to about 17 per cent. above our test on hand-firing. This indicated that the boiler could be forced 74 per cent. above its rating with an economy of 17 per cent. and without making smoke. This test being entirely satisfactory to us, we soon after ordered four more furnaces, which were installed last month. We have not as yet found an opportunity to make a test of the entire plant as now equipped, so that we are not prepared to speak of the economy of the complete plant, but from observation of the present operation of the plant we believe that the economy demonstrated by the March 11 test is being maintained on the entire equipment to-day.'

"These letters are but samples of many I could show you, and in nearly every case where a firm takes pains to investigate, and has means of knowing what coal is burned, and what is put in the ash pile, a decided saving can be shown from the use of improved furnaces and smoke preventers. The railroads also recognize this fact, and acknowledge that the system of smokeless firing is at the same time the system which reduces the fuel bill.

"I find the larger firms more quick to see this and to act on it than the smaller concerns. I have indicated the policy of this department at the beginning of this paper as one of education rather than force; but it is well to remember that there is a hand under the glove, and law enough to compel when persuasion fails. I have welcomed the opportunity of addressing you here to-night, for I desire that all Cleveland business men and manufacturers shall understand the animus of this movement in its present phase. It is not to persecute but to help, not to intimidate and antagonize, but to advise and co-operate. I take it for granted that every member of this chamber is in favour of abating smoke if it can be done economically.

"We hope to be in a position to demonstrate that this is practicable.

"Ten years ago the problem of how to abate smoke was unsolved, but to-day it is not an experiment. Smoke can be easily prevented, and that with profit to the manufacturer. To prevent three-fourths of the smoke in this city would be a greater gain from a business as well as from an aesthetic stand-point, than the accession of all our parks and boulevards, and would take its place with pure water and clean streets.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Dec. 1st:—

	Yen.
DR.	
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	18,459,227
Amount of convertible notes issued	200,575,302
Government deposits	34,527,566
General deposits	4,152,650
Exchange liability	4,594
Total	287,719,543
CR.	
Discount notes	66,240,222
Foreign discount notes	14,645,850
Loan to Government	28,000,000
General loans	55,703,558
Exchange liability	1,670,135
Government bonds	52,472,080
Property	2,215,455
Bullion and Specie	66,772,076
Total	287,719,343

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	197,170,100

Bullion and Specie:—

Gold	63,145,842
Silver	2,500,000
Total	65,145,842

Securities:—

Government bonds	29,045,764
Government certificates	28,000,000
Government bills	9,775,[illegible]
Commercial notes	64,702,[illegible]
Total	131,524,[illegible]

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	103,470	—
Silver	—	300,000
General loans	988,944	—
Government deposits	—	248,[illegible]
General deposits	263,889	—

COUNTESS TODA'S RECEPTIONS.

We are asked to state that Countess Toda will receive on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, commencing from Tuesday next.

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TELEGRAMS.

(SPECIAL REUTER'S SERVICE.)

FRANCE AND THE BOERS.

Shanghai, Nov. 30.

The French Government have refused to accept an interpellation suggesting that representations should be made to Great Britain in favour of arbitration.

TROUBLE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The recrudescence of sedition and the general agitation in the Cape Colony is estranging the British and the hitherto passively loyal Dutch. The situation is serious.

NEW CRUISERS.

It is stated that four new powerful cruisers will be commissioned early in 1901 for service on the China station.

RUSSIA AND SHAN-HAI-KUAN.

The Times is informed that Russia has intimated to Great Britain that she will only evacuate the Shan-hai-Kwan Railway if the expenses of occupation are paid.

THE PLOT AGAINST ROBERTS.

In reference to the rumours of a plot against his life Lord Roberts telegraphs that the Johannesburg police were aware for some time of the existence of the conspiracy.

Nine Italians and Greeks and one Frenchman were arrested on the 16th and are awaiting trial.

It was intended to explode a mine underneath St. Mary's Church at morning service on the 18th.

ACTING-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Sir Evelyn Wood acts as Commander-in-Chief until the arrival home of Lord Roberts, about the end of December.

Seventeen hundred re-inforcements sailed for the Cape yesterday.

THE TROUBLE AT THE CAPE.

Shanghai, Nov. 30.

It is stated that a general rising at the Cape is improbable. The Government is prepared, however, for any eventuality.

GERMANY, AMERICA, AND CHINA.

According to the Berlin correspondent of the *Standard*, Germany has informed the U S. of North America that she is willing to waive her demand for the execution of the leading Chinese offenders.

KRUGER SOUNDING FRANCE.

It is understood that Mr. Krüger sought, while conversing with M. Delcassé, to ascertain the attitude of France in certain eventualities. M. Delcassé maintained that he stood by his statement in the Chamber last March when he announced that France would not take the initiative but would concur in any initiative taken under conditions deserving France's approval

Mr. Krüger made no specific proposal.

A VOTE OF SYMPATHY.

The French Chamber has unanimously voted its sincere and respectful sympathy with Mr. Kruger on the occasion of his visit.

THE BOER WAR.

Gen. Dewet and Mr. Steyn occupied Dewetsdorp, and the garrison held the neighbouring heights. General Charles Knox afterwards reoccupied Dewetsdorp. Four hundred (of the enemy ?) with two guns have surrendered after fifteen of their force had been killed and forty-two wounded.

THE CZAR.

The Czar's strength is increasing.

KITCHENER SUCCEEDS ROBERTS

Shanghai, Dec. 2.

It is officially reported that Field-Marshal Lord Roberts has transferred the command of the South African Field Force to Lord Kitchener, who is promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-General with the local rank of General

KRUGER AND FRENCH SYMPATHY.

The French Senate has unanimously adopted a resolution of sympathy with Mr. Kruger, similar in terms to that voted by the Chambers.

Mr. Kruger has paid farewell visits to President Loubet and to the Presidents of the Senate and of the Chamber.

WOLSELEY'S FAREWELL.

Field Marshal Lord Wolseley, Commander-in-Chief, has formally bid farewell to the Staff and the War Office.

GERMANY AND KRÜGER.

The German press is cautious and reserved regarding the visit of Mr. Kruger. It warns Germany against a policy of sentiment and urges that Germany has no reason to forget her vital interests on account of the Boers.

A BOER DEFEAT.

General Settle has defeated 400 Boers after 5 hours' stubborn fighting near the Orange River.

THE HAGUE PROPOSALS.

Shanghai, Dec. 3.

A Decree has been published in Paris bringing into force between France and the other contracting Powers the Acts of the Hague Peace Conference.

The French press dwells upon the significance of the coincidence of the publication with Kruger's departure as equivalent to an invitation to Europe (to intervene in, or arbitrate the Transvaal affair ?)

MATTERS AT THE CAPE

Military posts throughout the Cape have been strengthened. There is a growing agitation in favour of martial law being proclaimed.

Lord Kitchener wires that General Knox was in touch with Dewet twelve miles north of Bethulie.

General Paget engaged Viljoen at Erasmus on Wednesday and Thursday and drove the Boers back to Rietfontein to the north-west of Rhenosterskop. Six officers and fifty men were wounded, including Colonel Lloyd, of the West Ridings Regiment, dangerously. Five men were killed.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

Nicaragua has granted exclusive canal concessions to the United States

SOUTH AFRICA.

Later.

There was fighting on Thursday to the east of Standerton, where the Boers are very active. Columns moving in the Heidelberg district are frequently engaged

The garrison at Dewetsdorp was three companies of the Gloucestershire Regiment and a section of a battery.

THE HAGUE PROPOSALS.

A *communiqué* issued in Paris denies that the promulgation of the Hague Convention is a prelude to action by France. The step was merely intended to enable France to entertain proposals for arbitration, circumstances permitting, if initiated elsewhere.

THE KAISER AND KRÜGER.

Shanghai, Dec. 4.

The German Minister at Luxemburg has called on Kruger at Cologne and informed him that the Emperor regretted that his arrangements prevented him from receiving Krüger now. Krüger consequently decided to go to Holland after a few days' rest. The Emperor's communication was in reply to a telegram from Krüger expressing sentiments of devotion and cordial sympathy. [This is unintelligible.]

The French papers are furious. They violently attack the Emperor.

It is considered that the Boer cause is hopeless. The *Cologne Gazette* says that it would be a crime on the part of the Government to leave Krüger a shred of hope and thus prolong the bloody and useless guerilla warfare

THE FIGHTING AT ERASMUS.

Shanghai, Dec. 5.

Later advices concerning the fighting near Erasmus (between the British and Viljoen), state that General Paget's losses were Col. Lloyd, of the West Ridings Regiment, killed; 9 officers wounded; 13 men killed, and 59 wounded.

GULLY RE-ELECTED SPEAKER.

The Rt. Hon. William Court Gully, Q.C., has been re-elected Speaker of the House of Commons.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY ON CURRENT QUESTIONS.

President McKinley, in his message to Congress, says that amicable relations between Great Britain and America continue. He emphasizes the necessity for a demarkation of the Alaskan boundary. In another part of his message he demands the full punishment of the culprits in China. He suggests that the compensation be made partly payable by increased guarantees for the security of foreign rights, and by the opening of China to the commerce of the world. He declares that the influence of Japan as a factor in promoting the general interests of peace, order, and fair commerce cannot be over-estimated.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN ENTENTE.

In political circles in Berlin, it is believed that the rebuff to Mr. Krüger fore-shadows the beginning of a new era of Anglo-German relations.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

The American Government has accepted a tender for the laying of a Pacific cable for £1,795,000, to be completed in 1902.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Saigon, Nov. 30.

The Government is going to present to the Chambers projects of law granting supplementary crosses of the Legion of Honour in connexion with events in China. and creating a medal commemorative of the Chinese expedition.

THE FRENCH AND KRÜGER.

Saigon, Dec. 1.

The Chamber of Deputies has unanimously voted a motion of sympathy with Krüger.

KRÜGER DEPARTS FOR BERLIN.

Saigon, Dec. 2.

Mr. Krüger left Paris for Cologne and Berlin amid the acclamations of crowds.

The Senate has unanimously passed a motion of sympathy with Krüger.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Saigon, December 2.

Lord Roberts has handed over the command of the troops in the Transvaal to Lord Kitchener, and is about to return to England.

FRENCH VERSION OF THE INCIDENT.

Saigon, Dec. 4.

The population of Cologne has received Kruger with acclamation. The Emperor caused him to be informed that arrange-

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ments already made by him would prevent him from receiving Kruger, who starts on Thursday for The Hague. The refusal of the Emperor has given rise to various comments.

THE U. S. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Saigon, Dec. 4.

The message of President McKinley to Congress declares the efforts of all the Powers to settle the Chinese question promptly.

THE CZAR.

Saigon, Dec. 6.

The state of the Czar is entirely satisfactory. His recovery is following the normal course.

(RECEIVED AT THE WAR DEPARTMENT.)
(Non-Official.)

The French are said to have sent a detachment to Ching-ting and another detachment to Tai-yuen.

CHINA.

On the 1st instant, a trial trip was made over the Anting-Langfang railway. The section repaired by the Japanese engineers was found in good order. Traffic over that section will be opened on the 3rd instant, and the line will then be open to Hwang-tsun. The telegraph along the railway is also working throughout the Japanese section. The British are building an extension of the railway from Ma-kia-po to the neighbourhood of the Temple of Heaven, and are breaking down the city wall throughout a distance of about 200 metres near the Yeng-ting Gate for the passage of the line. It is expected that by the 15th of this month the whole line from Yang-tsung to Ma-kia-po will be repaired, and that a trial trip will be made over it.

(NON-OFFICIAL.)

CHINA.

It is stated that the work of constructing a bridge at Ching-wan Island has made much progress; already 100 metres have been finished, and it is expected that 1,400 feet (English) will be built by the end of the year. There is a depth of 3 metres outside the piles. According to the experience of several years, the sea there does not freeze The military road from the bridge to Pang-ho will also be finished by the end of the year. The work of bridge-building at Shan-hai-kwan has not yet been commenced. The telegraph from Shan-hai-kwan to Tongku is in working order.

(RECEIVED IN TOKYO.)

TUNG REPRIMANDED.

Shanghai, Nov. 5.

An imperial decree issued on the 3rd inst. says that although General Tung showed much ability in dealing with the Mohammedan question in Kansu, his procedure in the present crisis has been wanting in sagacity, ill-adapted to international relations, and calculated to disturb the purpose of the Throne. Under the circumstances Tung ought to be severely punished, but in consideration of the need that exists for his services in Kansu and of his exceptional knowledge of that locality, he is merely reduced in rank and retained in office. He is therefore required to disband 5,500 of the troops under his command and to proceed to Kansu at the head of the remainder.

RUSSIA AND CHINA

Söul, Nov. 4.

According to a telegram from Pyöng-yang, a Russian force has taken possession of Fenhwang and 200 men have advanced to the neighbourhood of Antung. The Chinese of the district have fled.

(FROM "DER OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD.")

THE CZAR.

Berlin, Nov. 23.

The condition of the Czar is considerably improving. The fever is decreasing. If no unexpected relapse sets in, there is no further danger of his death

GERMANY'S INTENTIONS IN CHINA.

The German Reichstag referred the bill for the appropriation of funds for the China expedition, after a discussion of several days, to the budget commission, which will be convened at once. Count Bülow's speech, in which he declared that Germany does not strive for any enlarging of her territorial possessions, but will bring about peace and order in China only for the security of her trade in future, has been very favourably commented upon by the Press of all countries.

HAND-TO HAND FIGHTING.

Peking, Nov. 24.

The detachment of mixed troops under Count York occupied Hsuenhua without meeting with any further resistance. The regular Chinese troops under Generals Ma and Ho had already retired on the 16th inst. beyond the Yangho in a south-westerly direction. The allied troops started to pursue them. For this purpose a detachment of German cavalry proceeded on the 18th inst. from Hsuenhua to Huaiansien. Near this town the rearguard of the Chinese troops was overtaken and at once attacked with lance and sword. In the engagement, during which no shot was fired on the German side, thirty Chinese were killed, the Germans not having any loss.

THE PEACE CONDITIONS.

The Ministers now meet every day to discuss the peace conditions. They expect to finish their work some time next week. As far as Germany is concerned, the German Minister will then examine into the authority of the Chinese commissioners. Not before this has been done will the Ministers communicate to the Chinese Government the conditions under which a preliminary peace can be closed.

RUSSIA'S RETREAT FROM CHILI.

Berlin, Nov. 26.

Your correspondent learns from diplomatic sources that the retreat of the Russians from the province of Chili, which is completed, has surprised nobody here, and that it is anticipated that within a very short time the Japanese will follow the example of Russia. The opinion prevails that the interest both of the Russians and of the Japanese no longer requires the keeping of large forces in Chili. But your correspondent is assured that it would be utterly false to consider the retreat of the Russian troops from Chili as indicating an intention on the part of the Russian Government to leave the Concert of the European Powers; the contrary is the case.

THE AMERICAN GOLD STANDARD.

President McKinley addressed yesterday in Philadelphia a meeting in which he declared that he would now concentrate his undivided attention upon the introduction of the gold standard. The result of the last elections did not leave any doubt that the business men of the country considered this to be necessary, and the people had entrusted to him a mandate to bring the gold standard question to an end.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

Peking, Nov. 26

On the evening of the 25th, numerous mounted Boxers attacked the Russian railway guard at Chunliangcheng, about half way between Tientsin and Tangku. A mixed detachment from Tientsin repulsed them.

(FROM THE "N-C. DAILY NEWS.")

RUSSIA'S GRIP.

Tientsin, Nov. 22.

Russia is declining to give up the railway, and is instituting fares for all passengers.

THE FRENCH EXTENSION AT TIENTSIN.

The French Extension is announced to date from the 17th of June last. It includes all properties between the British and Japanese Settlements, nullifies all contracts made since June, and exercises control over all residents therein. The claim is absolutely without justification, as the present Settlement is not full, and the French community is small.

THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

I am informed that definite conditions have been laid by the Powers before the Chinese, which allow no deviation. The particulars are not made public.

NEWS OF C.I.M. MISSIONARIES STILL ALIVE IN SHANSI.

We have to thank the China Inland Mission for the following news:—

Telegraphic information has just come to hand that the C.I.M. agent at Tientsin has received a letter from Mr. Graham McKie from Ping-yangfu in South Shansi, reporting the safety of Mrs. P. A. Ogren and infant, of the Misses M. E. Chapman and M. E. Way, and himself; also that Mr. P. A. Ogren had been murdered.

Mr. McKie reports the native Christians to be starving, and beseeches help.

There is every reason to believe that the above-named are the persons referred to in a telegram from H.B.M. Consul at Tientsin to H.B.M. Consul General here stating that from trustworthy sources he had learned that five or six English and Swedish missionaries were still alive in T'ai-yuanfu and under the prefect's protection.

UNEASINESS IN THE NORTH.

Tientsin, Nov. 28.

Boxers and soldiers are creeping back secretly to Tientsin city.

A great feeling of uneasiness is general among our Chinese servants and others, all expecting trouble as soon as the port closes.

The serious reverse sustained by the Germans on the Kalgan road will encourage the Chinese to renewed efforts.

Great watchfulness in required on all sides, the Chinese being abundantly armed with rifles.

LIQUID FUEL.

A correspondent, who signs himself "Progress," writes as follows to *The Times*:—

It is difficult to account for the apparent failure of the Admiralty to apply liquid fuel to the service of the Navy. The French flagship on the China station is now being regularly supplied with British petroleum, as are the German battleship *Brandenburg* and the armoured cruiser *Fürst Bismarck* in the same waters. I believed that two other vessels of the German squadron are also fitted for this purpose. About fifteen British steamers, including several of nearly 4,000 tons, trading in the China Seas, burn liquid fuel. Others will shortly be added. At least sixteen Russian steamers are regularly running on petroleum, and the high price of coal will probably lead to great developments in this direction. Cardiff coal at the present time costs about 70s. per ton at Singapore, while the price of liquid fuel is about 30s. per ton, and the relative steam-raising power is about 25 to 30 in favour of the latter. I am informed that the arrangements of the grates permit a change from coal to oil burning in three hours, and that the fittings of bunkers can be altered from coal to oil conditions in twelve hours. There is no difficulty in putting 100 tons of liquid fuel on board a ship in one hour, and this amount could probably be doubled. Replenishment of bunkers at sea appears to be far more easy in the case of liquid than of solid fuel. The saving of stokers is of course immense, and the severe labour involved in stoking disappears when it becomes a mere questions of tending valves.

I can well understand the argument that, since the great oil fields of the world are not on British territory, we must regard coal as the staple fuel of the Navy. This, however, is no reason for excluding the occasional use of oil, provided that a reversion to coal is not thereby barred. I can conceive nothing better suited for the service of destroyers and torpedo-boats than liquid fuel, which would enable the *personnel* to be reduced and their radius of action to be materially increased. In any case, it appears peculiarly unwise to ignore any possibilities of advantage. If the Admiralty has failed where foreign navies have succeeded, it can only be that proper trials have not yet been carried out, and that the authorities have not made use of the experience and the knowledge which is at their disposal if they do not disdain outside assistance.

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WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week :—

	Air Tem. Max	Min.	Lake	State of Weather,	Remarks in General
Sunday, 18th	52°	46°	43°	Fine	One deer killed this week.
Monday, 19th	50°	42°	43°	Fine	
Tuesday, 20th	47°	39°	43°	Fine	
Wed'sday, 21st	44°	38°	41°	Rain	
Thursday, 22nd	52°	39°	41°	Rain	till noon
Friday, 23rd	47°	40°	41°	Fine	
Saturday, 24th	46°	37°	40°	Fine	

CHESS.

All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 500.

1 Kt to Q 6	2 Q to K 4 ch	3 B to K 7, mate
K to K 3	K takes Kt (must)	
.....	Q to K 4 ch	Kt to Kt 7, mate
1 ———	2 ———	3 ———
K to Q 5	K to B 4	
.....		B to R 5, mate
	2 ———	3 ———
	K to B 6	
.....	B to B 7 !	Kt to B 5, mate
1 ———	2 ———	3 ———
R to R 2	K to Q 5	
.....		Kt to Kt 5, mate
	2 ———	3 ———
	P to B 4	
.....		Q to K 4, mate
	2 ———	3 ———
	Any other	
.....	Kt to B 7 ch	B to Kt 6, mate
1 ———	2 ———	3 ———
P to B 4	K to Q 5	
.....		B takes P, mate
	2 ———	3 ———
	K to B 5	

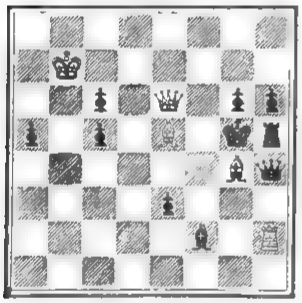
Correct solution, so far as concerns the Key move, received from A.V.C.M.

PROBLEM No. 502.

By Dr. Z. MACH.

Special Prize *Aftonbladet* Tourney.

Black—Eleven Pieces.



White—Four Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

GAME No. 643.

A game from the Paris Tournament, which M. Didier should have won.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Mr. Burn. Black—Didier.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	17 Q R3	KtxKt
2 P QB4	P K3	18 PxKt	B Q4
3 Kt QB3	K KB3	19 KR Ksq	Kt K5
4 Kt B3	B K2	20 B B2	P B4
5 B Kt5	P QKt3	21 P R4	KtxB
6 P K3	Castles	22 RxKt	B Kt4
7 B Q3	B Kt2	23 R Q3	R KB3
8 Castles	QKt Q2	24 Q R5	R R3
9 Q K2	PxP	25 Q B7ch	K Rsq
10 BxP	P B4	26 Q R7	R B2
11 QR Qsq	PxP	27 Kt B7ch	RxKt
12 PxP	Kt Q4	28 QxR	B KB5
13 B Q2	QKt B3	29 P R3	P Kt4
14 Kt K5	R Bsq	30 R (Q3) Qsq	P Kt5
15 B Kt3	P QR3	31 BxP	R B3
16 Q Q3	P QKt4	32 QxP mate	

White having omitted to play the usual P takes P before Black develops B to Kt 2, Black takes the opportunity justly with 9.....P takes P and gets a very good game, which he conducts with commendable intrepidity right up to the end; but at the supreme moment he misses the right continuation—*e.g.*, instead of 29.....P to Kt 4 he should have played 29.....R to B 3, and if 30—Q to R 5, then 30.....R to Kt 3 31—P to B 3, K to Kt sq; threatening with R to R 3 to win the Queen. If in the above variation White plays 30—Q to R 7 then 30.....R to Kt 3; 31—P to B 3, Q to Kt 4 and wins. Instead of winning he overlooks a mate in one move.

GAME No. 644.

PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

White.—Passmore. Black.—F. J. Lee.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	13 PxB	PxP(e)
2 Kt KB3	Kt KB3	14 Q B5(f)	P KKt4
3 P Q4	KtxP	15 Q Kt6	B Q3
4 B Q3	P Q4	16 Q R6	Q K2
5 KtxP	B K2(a)	17 B Q3disch	K Ktsq
6 Castles (b)	Castles	18 BxPch	R B2
7 P QB4	P QB3	19 BxP	PxB
8 Kt QB3(c)	P B3	20 KR Ksq	Q Bsq
9 Kt B3	KtxKt	21 Q Kt6ch	K Rsq
10 PxKt	B KKt5	22 BxR	Kt Q2
11 Q B2	BxKt(d)	23 R K6	b B5
12 BxPch	K Rsq	24 QR Ksq(g)	Resigns

(a) 5.....B to Q 3 is a better place for the Bishop.

(b) This and the next move may be transposed favourably by White.

(c) Obviously better than 8—P takes P, which would aid Black to develop the Q Kt.

(d) Not good. Black gets an uncomfortable game after giving up the K R P.

(e) There is no time for this capture. The only continuation, to save the game, would be 13 ..... P to K B 4; 14—B takes P, B to Q 3, threatening Q to R 5. His only safety is a counter attack.

(f) A powerful move to which Black has no valid defence.

(g) Here White had a mate in three moves, beginning with Q to R 5 ch.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer.	Date
America	P M Co.	China 1	Su Dec 9
Hongkong	M M. Co.	Oceanien 2	W. Dec. 12
Hongkong	P. M Co	City of Peking	Th Dec 13
Europe	N D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich 3	F. Dec. 14
Canada, &c.	C. P. R Co	Em of China	M. Dec. 17
America	O & O Co	Doric 4	M. Dec. 17
Hongkong	O. & O Co.	Gaelic	Th. Dec 20
America	T. K. K	Nippon Maru	Tu Dec 25
Hongkong	C. P. R Co.	Em. of Japan	Th Dec. 27
Hongkong	T K K	H'kong Maru	Sa Dec 29

1 Left San Francisco on the 20th ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 4th inst
3 Left Hongkong on the 5th inst
4 Left San Francisco on the 28th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	M. Dec. 10
Shanghai	N. Y. K	Kobe Maru	W. Dec. 12
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa. Dec. 15
America	P M Co	City of Peking	Su. Dec. 15
Hongkong	C P. R Co.	Em. of China	M Dec 17
Hongkong	O & O. Co.	Doric	Tu Dec. 18
Europe, via S'hai.	M M Co.	Oceanien	F. Dec. 21
America	O. & O Co.	Gaelic	Sa. Dec 22
Hongkong	T K. K.	Nippon Maru	W. Dec. 26
Canada, &c.	C P R Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Dec. 28
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu. Jan. 1

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Arlie, British steamer, 1,493, St. John George, 30th Nov.,—New Zealand and Australia via ports, and Kobe, 28th Nov., General.—Browne & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 30th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, 24th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894. De La Lande, 30th Nov.,—Kobe, 28th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 30th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 29th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, M. Nishihara, 20th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, 29th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Muke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S Kawamuro, 30th Nov.,—Uraga, 29th Nov. Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 2nd Dec.,—Otaru via ports, 27th Nov., General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E Filmer, 1st Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 13th Nov., Mails & General —Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, U. Matsumoto, 3rd Dec.,—Hakodate, 30th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 3rd Dec.,—Kobe, 1st Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 3rd Dec.,—Hakodate, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Teiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Y. Yamamoto, 3rd Dec.,—Uraga, 3rd Dec., Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Gomg, 3rd Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 2nd Dec., Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, Y. Tojo, 4th December, Yokkaichi, 3rd Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakuma, 4th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, I. Miyagi, 5th Dec.,—Kobe, 3rd Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Queen Adelaide, British steamer, 1,834, F. McNair, 5th Dec.,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 10th Nov., Mails & General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, R. Nunome, 5th Dec.,—Kobe via Shioyetsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, S. Muramatsu, 6th Dec.,—Kobe, 4th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,827, G. Anderson, 6th Dec.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 5th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese, steamer, 3,796, H. Peterson, 6th Dec., Moji, 4th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, G. E. P. Cook, 6th Dec.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe, 5th Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Muramatsu, 30th Nov.,—Kobe via Yokkaich, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 30th Nov.,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,459, H. Fraser, 30th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 30th Nov.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. C. P. R Co.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 2,830, Davis, 30th Nov., Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Koenig Albert, German steamer, 6,590, O Cueppers, 1st Dec.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Muke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, Kawamuro, 1st Dec.,—Hakocate, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Arlie, British steamer, 1,494, St. John George, 1st Dec.,—Australia and New Zealand via Kobe and Hongkong, General.—Browne & Co.

Koltk, Russian steamer, 299, A. Scherbinin, 2nd Dec.,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Walsh Hall & Co.

Hudson, British steamer, 2,376, W. A. Tangye, 2nd Dec.,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell &. Co., Ltd

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, M. Nishihara, 5rd Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, De La Lande, 3rd Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nero, U.S. Navy Transport, 1,180, Capt. Lind, 3rd Dec.,—Manila, P.I., Navy Stores.—U.S. Navy Department.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E Filmer, 3rd Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.- Toyo Kisen Kaisha

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,839, W. Bainbridge, 3rd Dec.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 3rd Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aragonia, German steamer, 3,531, Forst, 4th Dec.,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, U. Matsumoto, 4th Dec.,—Hakodate General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S Wada, 5th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 5th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 5th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 5th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto 5th Dec.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Y. Tamuke, 5th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakuma, 6th December,—Kobe, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Aorlu*, from Sydney via ports:—Mr. A. E. Caw, and Mrs. J. Lyons, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sakio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Miss O. Gawthrop, Minister V. Murota, Colonel S. Fukuhara, Mr. M. Fukuda, Mr. C. L. F. Duhair, Mr. J. Bennington, Mr. F. Y. Guterrez, Mr. Y. Wada, Mr. R. Kondo, and Mr. Z. Odagawa, in cabin; Mr. A. V. Francis, Mr. K. Nagato, and Mr. K. Uchida, in second class; 5 Chinese, and 10 Japanese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. R. W. Thornburgh, Mr. Thos. Thornburgh, Mr. D. F. R. Day, Mrs. Day, Rev. J. Soper, Mrs. Soper, Mr. C. Koike, Mr. S. Sakurai, Mr. W. T. Davis, Mrs. T. T. Thornburgh, Rev. E. R. Woodman, Mrs. Woodman, Mr. H. J. Woodman, Miss M. Woodman, Mr. W. A. Wilson, Mr. K. Nambu, Mr. C. Santo, and Mr. J. L. Davis, in cabin. For Kobe;—Mr. Balikoff and wife, and Mr. T. Kobayashi, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. Arthur T. Short, Mrs. Short, Mr. Carl Francks, and Rev. A. E. Bigby, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. Chas. Dowdall, and Mr. J. A. Feil, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. H. A. Burke and 2 children, Mr. C. S. Coy, Mrs. R. Raudolph, Mr. Peter Bergevin, Mr. J. L. Upham, and Mr. Tang Loy Ting, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. C. Bryer, Mr. E. H. Sharpe, Miss M. Berninger, Com. H. Knox, Gen Stahel and servant, Mrs. Wallace and servant, Mr. T. R Johnson, Mrs. Bowie, Mr. E. Hartmann, Mr. J. T. Hamilton, Miss McArthur, Mr. C. M. Fassett, and Mr. L. M. Fassett and servant, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. B. C. Randall, Mr. A. E. McConnell, Mrs. Eliza Lennox, Miss Clara Lennox, Mr J. Donnelly, Mr. A. Bartholomew, Mr. J. Reilly, Mr. H. L. Bergman, Mrs. Spencer Gracy, Miss R. W. Palmberg, Father Weig, Lieut. D. P. P. McSootoff, Lieut. Markozoff, Mr. W. F. Cutler, Mr. W. B. Gillingham, Mrs. W. B. Gillingham, and Mr. H. R. Williams, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinano Maru*, from Melbourne via ports;—Mrs. W. Bailey, Masters A. and W. Bailey, Dr., Mrs. and Miss Rawson, Lieut.-Col. K. M. O'Brien, Mr. M. A. Laurose, Mr. A. Morrell, Miss Summers, Miss M. Summers, and Mr. R. Masuuma, in cabin; Mr. C. P. Tobin, Mr. John Sticken, Mr. W. H. Cruigs, Mr. J. Wengel, and Mr. Joseph H. Uncent, in second class, 2 Japanese, 1 European, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Ashworth, Mrs. Ashworth, Mr. Bilbrough, Mrs. Bilbrough, Rev. F. A. Christopherson, Mrs. Christopherson and child, Mr. Frank F. Davis, Mr. F. W. Franks, Capt. J. Gaisford, Mrs. Frank Gillett, Miss Gillett, Capt. K. E. Haynes, Rev. R. A. Jaffray, Mrs. R. A. Jaffray, Com. Thos. W. Kemp, R.N., Dr. Lowry, Miss La Verne Minnis, and Miss Stella Relyea, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Koenig Albert*, for Europe via ports.—Mr. H. Stell, Mr. W. Klose, Mr. A. S Armand, Dr. D. von Bergen, Mr. N. A. Grebnitzky, Mr. P. A. Oschurkoff, Mr. C. E. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Bonsol, Miss Wistrupp, Mr. and Mrs. O. Ewing, Miss Sanderson, Mr. R. Koch, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. M. Leech, Capt. Armstrong, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Demcke, Mr. von Bulow, Mr. Johann Fadeeff, Consul and Mrs. Hazen, and child and amah, Corv.Capt. Lans, Mr. R. Pohl, Mr. Carl Raab, Mrs. Whittall, Mr. R. Adachi, Mr. S. Ogawa, Mr. J. Bryant, Mr. K. L. dos Ribeiro, Mr. L. C. Phipps, Mr. K. R. Mahitany, Mr. Moolchand, Mr. Aidas, Mr. H. Lentz, Mr. N. Kosigin, and Mr. Alex. Kosigin in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. M. Balikoff, Mrs. M. Balikoff, Mrs. H. A. Burke and 2 children, Mr. Peter Bergevin, Mr. A. J Cornes, Mr. Chas. Dodwall, Mr. Carl Francke, Mr. T. Kobayashi, Mr. J. A. Poll, Rev. A. H. Rigby, Mr Arthur Short, Mrs. Arthur T. Short, Mr. J. L. Upham in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Inaba Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. C. Brownsmith, Mr. H. Hood, Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. K. Kilbee Stuart, Mr. N. Miwa, Mr and Mrs. Braybrooks and baby, and Mr. Thomas Chodsick, in cabin; Mr. S. Adzuma, Mr. S. Kawashima, Mr. and Mrs. Mong Wei and children, Miss Nobu Yebisawa, Mr. L. Lanze, Mr. U. Hattori, Mr. S. Fujii, Mr. H. Burgess, Mr. Blood, and Mr. S. Seo, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. Bartholomew, Mr. E. L. Bargman, Mrs. H. B. Bowie, Mr. A. C. Bryer, Mr. W. F. Cutler, Mr. G. Donnelly, Mr. J. R. Forrest, Mr. W. B. Gillingham, Mrs. W. B. Gillingham, Mrs. Spencer Gracy, Lieut. Grekoff, Miss A. C. Keyes, Mr. M. Komatsu, Mrs. Elisa Lennox, Miss Clara Lennox, Mrs. J. H. McKenzie, Lieut. Markozoff, I.R.A., Mr A. R. McConnell, Lieut. P. D. D. McSootoff, Mr. Geo. J. Miller, Miss R. W. Palmberg, Mr. B. C. Randall, Mr. J. Rally, Mr. A. Simon, Mr. Y. Tanuma, Rev. Father Weig, and Mr. H. E. Wilhams, Jr., in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Deliveries are very dull, as usual at this season, and they will probably continue so till after the new year holidays.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting 9lb, 31¼ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ...	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...	PER YARD. 0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb.	0.68 to 0.78

	PER PIECE
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24, 25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE
Nos. 16 24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28 32 Singles	Nominal
Nos 38 42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos 42, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2 80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2 100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos 2 80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach, Chinese	Nominal

METALS.

Very little briskness can be expected in this market till January. Nothing new to report.

	PER PICUL
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

The kerosene market remains weak. The total imports of American from Nov. 15 to Nov. 29 were 145,000 cases, and from July 1 to Nov. 29 1,035,483 cases, the estimated sales from Nov. 15 to the end of the month being 80,001 cases. There were no entries of Russian during the latter half of last month; the total import from July 1 to Nov. 29 was 354,500, and the estimated sales for the latter half of November total 39,137 cases.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.68
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

The sugar market is quiet, very little is doing in Hongkong Refined.

	PER PICUL
Brown Taikoo	Y. 5.30 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.70 to 6.90
Brown Datong	4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.30 to 8.70
White Refined	8.30 to 9.95

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The Raw Silk market has continued to droop in spite of some speculative purchases which have apparently been made with the object of stopping the fall. Advices from consuming markets are dull and the limits received are poor. These facts, combined with a stock on the market here of 22,000 piculs, will prevent any rise.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	None
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	Y. 850 to 960
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	810 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	790 to 800
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	800 to 815
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	None
Common—Coarse	None
Re-reels—Extra	Nominal
Re-reels—No. 1	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 1½	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2	730 to 740
Re reels—No. 3	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	810 to 815
Kakedas—No. 1	800 to 805
Kakedas—No. 1½	775 to 780
Kakedas—No. 2	750 to 755
Kakedas—No. 2½	730 to 735

WASTE SILK.

Waste silk prices have been forced up by speculative operations but at closing the market looks rather weaker.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Noshi—Filatures, Good	145 to 150
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	150 to 155
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	140 to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	None
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	100 to 110
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	90 to 95
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	130 to 135
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	120 to 125
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	55 to 60
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	45 to 50

TEA.

No business to report for the week and prices remain unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	34 to 35
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	26 to 27
Good Common	24 to 25
Common	22 to 23

COPPER.

Some forward contracts are reported at about latest prices. The *Stuttgart* took 1680 piculs and the *Ambria* 8,306 piculs, total exports to date being 60,720 piculs.

FISH OIL.

More shipments have to be reported but no new transactions have transpired. The sardine catch in the North is said, so far, to have produced indifferent results. The *Ambria* took 7,239 piculs on the 25th, and the *Socotra* on the 27th took 2,252 piculs, export to date amounting to 63,430 piculs.

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Socotra* for France, Nov. 27:—

	Bales
Findlay Richardson & Co.	20
Varenne & Co.	30
Total	50

Per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco, Nov. 28.—

	Bales
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	40

Per C. P. steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver Nov. 30:—

	Bales
Averill & Co.	25
Bavier & Co.	35
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	40
Vivanti Bros.	125
Kitto Gomei Kaisha	167
Joshin Kaisha	81
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	3
Total	501

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Per N. D. L. steamer *Koenig Albert*, for Europe, Dec. 1:—

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.	10
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	44
Nabholz & Co.	58
Otto Reimers & Co.	10
Siber, Wolff & Co.	147
Sieber & Co.	296
I. Ishii	18
Total	583

To 3rd December, 1900.

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	25
Averill & Co.	485
Bavier & Co.	592
Chauvin & Co.	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	170
H. Dent & Co.	424
P. Dourille	127
Findlay Richardson & Co.	120
C. Guissani	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	1,988
Longin & Co.	275
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	1,610
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	1,242
Otto Reimers & Co.	1,515
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	336
Siber, Wolff & Co.	2,620
Sieber & Co.	1,228
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	238
Varenne & Co.	933
Vivanti Bros.	1,082
Kiito Gomei-Kaisha	3,292
Doshin Kaisha	731
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	1,021
J. Ishii	236
Total	20,640

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, December 6

Silver from London ¼ higher and discounts ⅛ higher, no alteration in sterling quotations from China and local rates unaltered, though slightly easier on China.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	*3½% prem
— Private 10 days' sight	*1% prem.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 69
— Private 10 days' sight	* 71
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29⅞

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, December 6

China Mutual preference shares were sold to-day at £11.15.0.

Yokohama Dock shares changed hands to-day at *yen* 39.25.

Kirin Breweries are obtainable at *yen* 145. Engine and Iron Works, *yen* 207.50 nominal. Grand Hotels—A few shares can be placed at *yen* 230. Club Hotels can be had at *yen* 80. Langfeldts—A few shares are obtainable at *yen* 90. Laundries have sellers at par. Helms are steady at *yen* 58.

Nagasaki Hotel first issue debentures can be had at par. Offers for Y. U. Clubs and Laundries are wanted. Hodogaya Breweries placed at *yen* 15.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	207.50 S
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	145 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	230 90 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12.50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	115 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., ¥100	90 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	58 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	105 S
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	100
Oriental Hote., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	106 N.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	100 S
Oriental Hote., new ordinary shares, ¥75	Nominal
Maples Hotel, prefereace shares ¥100	107 S.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST

Yokohama, December 6

Grand Hotels, buyers at *yen* 230. Langfeldts, sellers at *yen* 90. Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 85.

Hongkong Land Investment shares have been sold at $188. Hongkong wires Douglass S.S. Co. shares local Buyers $50.

	YEN
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207.50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	230 Buyers.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co	90 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	145 Sales.

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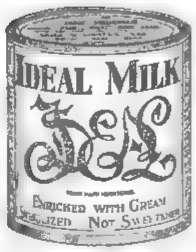

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 15TH, 1900.

BIRTH.

On the 9th inst., at 130 Hara-machi, Koishikawa, Tokyo, the wife of M. C. LEONARD, of a Son.

DEATH.

At Chingford, Essex, England, on the 9th inst. FRANK GILLETT, late of Yokohama, in his 47th year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Chinese question remains practically at the same stage as last week.

FOOT and mouth disease is spreading in Yokohama and Kanagawa Prefecture.

FOOTBALL is now in full swing in Yokohama; today a Rugby game will be played.

THE publication of the *Ibaraki Ken Koho* was suspended by the Government on the 16th inst.

THE K.R. and A.C. are going to give a subscription ball in the Gymnasium on New Year's Eve.

A LANDSLIP took place near Obasute station on the Shinoi line on the 8th inst., and one man was killed.

H.I.H. PRINCE Fushimi has received a golden vase from Baron Rosen, late Russian Minister to Tokyo.

SNOW fell heavily at Wakamatsu on the night of the 8th inst. In the morning the drifts were over 5 feet deep.

THE steamer *Chuetsu Maru*, which recently stranded off Tsuro, Tosa, will be sold by public auction on the 13th inst.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Wei-hai-wei to the *N.-C. Daily News* that piracy is very bad in that part of the Yellow Sea.

THE refusal of the Dutch Government to initiate any movement for arbitration in South Africa extinguishes Mr. Kruger's last hope.

AT last evening's meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society, Mr. W. D. Cox read an amusing paper entitled "Hedging and ditching."

FIRST snow fell at Fukushima, Tottori, Hiroshima, Saga, Tokushima, Mitajiri, Oita, Nagasaki and Kurume, on the morning of the 8th inst.

SEVERAL telegraph posts between Naoyetsu and Takata were brought to the ground on the 9th inst. owing to the pressure of the heavy snow.

MR. HASHIMOTO Zensuke, Director of the Image Bank in Ibaraki prefecture, committed suicide on the 4th inst. He was concerned over money troubles.

CAPT. LAWRENCE M. MURRAY, who commanded the famous cruiser *Nashville* before her capture by the Confederate Government, is dead at his home in Malden (N.Y.).

ONE hundred and four students of the Naval College will graduate on Dec. 13th. They will probably start in the cruisers *Hashidate* and *Itsukushima* on a cruise about Dec. 16th.

A MAN named Tanaka Yasukichi was arrested by the Asakusa police in Tokyo on Dec. 6th charged with angling for cats by means of small birds to which barbed hooks were skillfully attached.

A TELEGRAM received at Osaka states that the Japanese sailing ship *No. 3 Kokokugawa Maru* was wrecked near Ryugasaki, Tosa Province, on the 9th inst. The whereabouts of the crew is still unknown.

A REPORT received from the Governor of Shimane Prefecture states that a big fire occurred at Nonami-mura, Yasaku-gori, on the afternoon of the 2nd inst. 55 houses were destroyed including a temple. One man was burnt to death.

A TELEGRAM received by the Sea and Land Insurance Company states that the Hokkaido Iwauchi Steamship Company's steamer *Kotoku Maru* was ashore in Yesash Bay on the morning of the 7th inst. She is insured for *yen* 35,000.

ON the 9th inst. while the keeper of the temple known as Zenshoji, Okabe-mura, Katamagori, Saitama Prefecture, was digging in the cemetery attached to the shrine he found a big pot containing several thousand ancient Chinese coins.

THE late Marquis of Bute left nearly £100,000 for various ecclesiastical and scholastic purposes, and £20,000 is provided for the completion of the hospital at Cardiff, in which the Marquis was interested. Among the gifts are educational endowments for the Jews in Scotland, for which the Chief Rabbi in Glasgow is the trustee.

THE steamer *Oshima Maru*, belonging to the Osaka Harbour Works, was wrecked at Akashi on the 8th inst. Twenty-one of the crew are missing. One man on board the boat was rescued by the *Kyodo Maru* at Nishinomiya on the following morning.

A YOUNG man named Yenomoto Shintaro, living at Koshigoe, Kamakura, while out shooting birds on Sunday at Kawagoemura, accidentally shot another young man named Suzuki Benzo, who was cutting grass near a rice field. Shintaro was arrested by the Kamakura police.

IN the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Thursday, before Judge Sato, Okuda Meiki, aged 32, who defrauded a Chinese exchange-shop, Van Tai, to the amount of *yen* 700 by forging the signature of Mr. E. V. Thorn on a cheque, was sentenced to six years' rigorous imprisonment.

A HEAVY storm occurred at Hakodate on the night of the 8th inst. and 189 sampans were washed out to sea or smashed, 18 houses were levelled to the ground, as well as fences, roofs, and trees. The steamer *Koko Maru* was driven on to the sand bank at Yesashi. She is not expected to get off.

THE Kanagawa police are in receipt of a letter from Mr. John C. Seymour, chief detective of the San Francisco force, asking for the arrest and extradition of a man who is thought to have absconded to Japan in September last with the sum of $8,000, being public funds of the city of Honolulu.

THE Communications Department give notice that guns, fishings rods, bows, desks (tables), and tools carried by carpenters, masons, paper-hangers and various other workmen, will not be taken as luggage free of charge, under the New Railway regulations, which were enforced on the 1st October last.

A THEIEF named Mayeda Yeikichi, living at Hachoji, was arrested by the Shitaya police on the 9th inst. He entered a house occupied by Mr. Kitazawa Taizo, Japanese Consul to Hawaii, last month, and stole 380 *yen* and various articles. It appears that he also broke into other places and stole goods valued at 1,200 *yen*.

A JAPANESE junk belonging to the Uchida Moto of Kanagawa, laden with 100 tons of coal, which left Kanagawa for Tokyo on the morning of the 8th inst, foundered off Haneda about 11 o'clock the same evening. The sendos were rescued by a fishing boat. Another junk with 280 piculs of sugar sank near the same place; one sendo was rescued and two are missing.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Finance Department, the number of offenders against the Tobacco Monopoly Regulations from April 1st up to September 30th this year totalled 4,291, from whom fines amounting to 57,349 *yen* were exacted. It may be observed that the ratio they bear to the total number of tobacco dealers throughout the Empire is over 50 per cent.

THE Douglas Steamship Company of Hongkong has abandoned its rivalry with the Osaka Shosen Kaisha in the carrying trade between Hongkong and Formosa. It is now reported that the British steamship firm has withdrawn two of its steamers from the service and has placed them on the run between Hainan and Annam. The Douglas S.S. Co. has now only one steamer on the Hongkong and Formosa line.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Dec. 8.

A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that Prince Ching sought an audience with Count von Waldersee, and represented to the Commander-in-chief that the expeditions undertaken in various directions by columns of the allied troops were creating great alarm among the people and causing much loss and suffering to innocent persons. The Prince begged Marshal Waldersee to put an end to these operations which, without being at all necessary, were unquestionably mischievous.

THE OPERATIONS IN CHILI

Monday, Dec. 10.

It is now stated that the idea of sending an expeditionary force of Germans, French and Italians against Tai-yuen has been abandoned, but that the operation of clearing the Boxers out of Chin-ting will be carried out, and that the prospect has caused an extensive flight of Chinese citizens from Chin-ting. That town lies beyond Pao-ting on the road to Tai-yuen. It is difficult to understand what reason can exist for sending a military expedition against it. Presumably the Field Marshal has received intelligence that some Boxers are assembled there, but similar intelligence had been received with regard to Pao ting and it does not appear that so much as a solitary Boxer was found when the troops arrived. Of course that experience will be repeated at Chin-ting. The Boxers will not wait to be attacked, even supposing that there are any in the town. They will take care to get out of the way in good time, and then we shall probably witness another rehearsal of the melancholy drama that has been enacted already at so many places. Truly it is difficult to avoid the conviction that these excursions and alarms are devised simply to give employment to the troops. There is no more honour and glory to be won at all events, and in the interests of humanity we should like to see the innocent part of the Chinese population saved from the horrors of war.

Telegrams to the *Jiji Shimpo* say that the allied column sent to Chang-chia-kow, encountered a force of Chinese troops under General Ho on its way back to Peking, but the Chinese made no attempt to resist and retreated peacefully in the direction of Shensi. The foreign missionaries in Chan-chia-kow have been rescued, and that place, as well as all the other positions held by the Boxers in north Chili, have now been recovered.

The American Representative in Peking telegraphs to Washington that the basis of negotiations presented by him has been accepted by the Foreign Ministers, and that the conference with the Chinese Plenipotentiaries will probably be opened next week.

A report is said to have reached Russian head-quarters that the force sent against the Chinese in the direction of An-tung has dispersed a body of about 500 Boxers, and, having crossed the Yalu, has advanced towards Wiju. We find it difficult to credit this story, for the Yalu is the boundary of the Korean empire and if the Russians have crossed it, they have invaded Korea, which is exceedingly improbable.

Shanghai again publishes its belief that appearances indicate the return of the Emperor alone to Peking and the retirement of the Empress Dowager to some part of China still more remote than Si-ngan. We have already expressed our conviction that whatever may eventually take place, the time is not yet ripe for a step which would signify practically the abdication of all her power by the Empress Dowager, and the complete restoration of the Emperor to administrative authority. Undoubtedly the prestige of the Empress Dowager has suffered greatly and, further, she will soon find herself entirely deprived of the advice and assistance of the men that have held her in conservative grooves and helped her to defy all heroic impulses of change. But she is still a great power in the land, and considerable pressure must be exercised before she consents to such self-effacement as would be involved in voluntary banishment from the seat of Government.

It is stated that General Ma has been summoned to Si-ngan to take the place of General Tung, and that he has been appointed captain of the imperial guards.

A severe famine is said to prevail in Shensi. The people are driven to cannibalism, and it is reported that the local officials are powerless to prevent these acts.

Vague rumours are circulated with regard to steps said to be taken by certain foreign Powers for the direct purpose of increasing their spheres of influence and the indirect purpose of expediting the peace negotiations. This story comes from Shanghai, and is, perhaps, an echo of another rumour from Tientsin that Russia, Austria-Hungary and Belgium are disposing their forces so as to guard the areas which they claim as extensions of their settlements. Probably these tales have not much basis of fact. It is known that Russia, some time ago, advanced a claim to a considerable section of land on the eastern bank of the Peiho, including the railway station, her contention being that the blood of her troops had been shed for the defence of that district. It is also known that other Powers showed a disposition to prefer similar claims on their own account. But it is further known that strong opposition was evoked by these demands—opposition notably on the part of Japan, whose soldiers had shed a great deal more blood than the Russians in defending positions around Tientsin. Russia, who, though eminently watchful of her opportunities, seldom presses them clumsily, is understood to have receded from the strange position which she had thus shown a temporary disposition to assert. We can not pretend, therefore, to interpret these new rumours about extending spheres of influence and guarding positions.

Tuesday, Dec. 11.

A telegram to the *Asahi* says that an expectant Taotai, whose name we can not identify, was made prisoner by the allies at Pao-ting and executed before the *Tsung-li Yamên* in Peking, on a charge of being a leader of Boxers. We do not believe it.

Reports continue to arrive of famine in Shan-si. It is stated that a sum of 440,000 taels has been paid out of the Imperial Treasury for the relief of the distressed people.

It is reported that Marshal Waldersee has announced his intention of submitting to a council of war on the 15th instant, the question of suspending further military operations in Chili.

The Russian military telegraph from Liao-tung to Mukden was re-opened on the 4th instant after a temporary suspension, and steps are now being taken to construct a line from Mukden to Kirin. These lines, of course, will require to be guarded, and Russia will thus give fresh hostages for the permanency of her stay in Manchuria. It is said that all supplies necessary for the use of her troops in Mukden during the winter have already been forwarded from Liaotung and Newchwang.

There is a rumour that Viceroys Liu and Chang are each sending a force of 2,500 men with provisions and munitions of war to Si-ngan. There will probably be a disposition in some quarters to check this measure, but, it is, on the contrary, desirable in the interests of peace, since the presence of the Viceroys' troops at Si-ngan will strengthen the influence which has hitherto been exercised in the cause of good order and in opposition to the reactionaries.

The rumour acquires force that the Empress Dowager contemplates a retreat to Szechuan and that the Emperor will return to Peking, using for body-guards the troops sent by Viceroys Liu and Chang.

THE NEGOTIATIONS.

Wednesday, Dec. 12.

An interesting document has been published in Tokyo, showing the line adopted by Japan at the Conference of Ministers in Peking. The salient points of this story are already familiar to our readers. Japan maintained throughout the opinion that to make the capital punishment of the instigators an essential condition would be prohibitive of success, and her objection, concurring, as it did, with similar views on the part of other Powers, carried sufficient weight to bring about a modification in the sense that the severe punishment alone of these culprits would be required. That is a satisfactory result but we can not by any means express the same opinion with regard to the proposition for interdicting the import of arms. The objections that present themselves in connexion with that condition have been set forth more than once in these columns. Even apart from the extreme unwisdom of denuding China of all means of defence against foreign aggression, which would be the result of the veto could it be enforced fully, there is the patent objection that it can not possibly be made effective, and that it will merely create opportunities for the lawbreaking section of the mercantile community while depriving the law-abiding section of a legitimate source of gain. In its original form, a simple interdict against the importation of arms and munitions of war, the proposal was sufficiently uncommendable, but it assumed a still more deterrent form when a rider was proposed in the sense that all materials used for the manufacture of arms and ammunition should also be regarded as contraband. Such materials comprise iron, steel, sulphur, sulphuric acid, charcoal and camphor; articles which are used for many purposes quite independent of war, and which could not be interdicted without serious detriment to the import trade of China. It would appear, now, that in consideration of these objections the corollary has been altered so so as to read "materials used exclusively for the manufacture of arms and ammunition." That change seems to reduce the whole question to a farce. Are there any such materials? We are not acquainted with them. There is nothing that enters exclusively into the composition of a shell or a cartridge. The metal does not; the ingredients of the powder do not; the components of the fulminate do not. So, when materials exclusively for the manufacture of arms and ammunition are

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spoken of, no conceivable materials whatever are indicated. Why should the proceedings of the conference be thus reduced to a burlesque?

A point exclusively concerning Japan is mentioned in the report. She desired that the preamble of the *communique* which the Ministers were to present to China, should be altered so as to contain a separate clause relating to the assassination of Chancellor Sugiyama, and pledging China—not to make due compensation to his family, as has been erroneously stated—but to send an envoy to Japan for the purpose of apologising for his death. We infer with much surprise that no separate mention of Mr. Sugiyama's case was made in the original preamble, drafted in Europe, though drastic demands were formulated with reference to Baron Von Ketteler. That was a most unfortunate omission. Baron von Ketteler was unquestionably a far more important personage than Mr. Sugiyama, but both were members of the Corps Diplomatic and equally entitled to Chinese protection. It is very regrettable that Japan herself should have been obliged to remind Foreign Powers that sanctity of person attached to her Legation Staff in Peking just as fully as to the staff of any Occidental Legation, and the ungracious character of the sin of omission is emphasized when we remember the part taken by Japan in rescuing the Legations and the foreign community of Peking.

The latest returns indicate that the allied forces in North China number twenty thousand Germans, sixteen thousand British, six thousand five hundred Russians, eleven thousand Japanese, seven thousand French, two thousand five hundred Italians, six hundred Americans, and a small number of Austrians.

A telegram to the *Shogyo Shumpo* says that Italy and Austria have proposed that Taku, in other words, the mouth of the Peiho, should be permanently held by the Foreign Powers, and that Germany seems inclined to endorse the idea. If any such condition be imposed, Peking will of course cease to be the capital of China. A parallel case would be the permanent seizure of the mouth of the Thames by a combination of European Powers. Such proceedings can not for a moment be reconciled with the theory of preserving China's integrity. The proposition needed nothing to give it piquancy except that it should emanate from Rome and Vienna. We do not believe it.

The latest story is that Viceroy Li's private secretary has been apprehended by the Allies on a charge of holding converse with the Boxers. The *Jiji* publishes a telegram in that sense, but as it emanates from Shanghai, its veracity must remain doubtful.

Thursday, Dec. 13.

It is stated that Russia has finally agreed to hand over the railways held by her in North China to the company by which they were built. Negotiations on this subject have been going on for some time between England and Russia, but the telegraph says that Count von Waldersee's intervention finally settled the matter.

In consequence of the above decision, a similar step will be taken with regard to the Yangtsung-Peking railway which has been under repair by the Japanese. It will be handed over to the company on payment of due compensation for the repairs effected.

A number of changes of Chinese officials are announced but the names convey no special intelligence. We observe, however, that there is only one Manchu among the newly appointed men.

Rumour says that the Empress Dowager will go into retirement so soon as peace is restored. That is not improbable. A belief exists in some Japanese quarters that her Majesty has lost face materially in connexion with the recent troubles and that, being deprived of the services of all the strong men who worked in the interest of conservatism, she will presently find herself practically powerless, and will have no resource but to step aside altogether, or to attempt some *coup d'état* more striking than anything yet achieved by her. If that view be correct, the issue of these complications may be to restore the Emperor to power, and to remodel the Ministry on liberal lines

Friday, Dec 14.

The *Asahi* has a telegram to the effect that for the purpose of guarding the Lu-Han Railway, Belgium wishes to send 500 soldiers to Hankow and is consulting with France as to the expediency of doing so. We trust that this step will not be taken. The Belgian Government may be in possession of information pointing to the advisability of such a measure, but so far as the general public knows, there are no signs of disturbance in the Yangtsze Valley, and the despatch of foreign troops thither might injure a situation which has been maintained with difficulty and to the great credit of the Viceroys and other local officials.

It is alleged that the Chinese officials in Si-ngan are discussing the advisability of removing the head-quarters of the supply department from Hankow to Jang-yang. Such a change would give weight to rumours recently circulated that the Court thinks of moving from Si-ngan to Cheng-tu, the capital of Szechuan, Possibly the famine in Shensi may have rendered such a step advisable, though it will be understood by our readers that these are merely rumours and conjectures.

It is not surprising to find that various reports are circulated with reference to the document said to have emanated from the Viceroy's *Yamên* in Nanking by way of explaining a visit that his Excellency had received from the German Consul-General at Shanghai and a French official. We published an epitomised translation of the document at the time, and called attention to the fact that it was concluded in singularly haughty language and that it appeared to have been compiled expressly for the purpose of appealing to Chinese sentiment. Rumour now alleges that the document was in fact a blind; that the German Consul-General did actually demand the suspension of all despatch of supplies or warlike material to the Court in Si-ngan, declaring that unless the Viceroy acceded to his demand the allies themselves would take steps to enforce it; that the Viceroy summoned a meeting of all the principal officials in Nanking to discuss the question, and that they decided to issue a document drafted in such a manner as to re-assure public opinion, and thus avert the excitement that would certainly be caused were the German Consul's demand proclaimed. What became of the demand, however, report does not say. The incident is very interesting but, at the same time, exceedingly perplexing. It is fresh in our readers' recollection that the expediency of bringing pressure to bear on the Chinese Court by stopping its supplies was said to have been discussed by the allied Generals and the Foreign Representatives in Peking, and that the project was abandoned, temporarily at all events. Indeed, any attempt of the kind, if made through the medium of the Viceroys in the Yangtsze valley, would not have commended itself to the public in general. It would have resembled the ultimatum sent to the commander of the Taku forts, for just as the latter had no choice but to fight rather than surrender the forts entrusted to his charge, so the Yangtsze Viceroys could have had no choice had they been required to abstain from performing their plain duty of loyalty to the Throne. Are we to suppose that the German Consul-General, in spite of that decision in Peking, proceeded to Nanking and submitted a demand for the suspension of supplies? Surely that is very unlikely. On the other hand, it is quite obvious that the Consul-General's interview with Liu Kun-yi was not of the banale and ineffectual character assigned to it in the document issued from the Viceroy's *Yamên*. This is one of the chapters that will require a good deal of marginal comment before it becomes fully intelligible.

DELIVERY OF NEWSPAPERS IN TOKYO.

When a man's morning paper is not found in its usual place on his breakfast table, he naturally feels aggrieved, and if he is a strong-minded person, or if the omission has occurred more than once, he probably sits down and pens an indignant letter to the Manager. But it naturally fails to occur to him that the irregularity may possibly be due to special circumstances connected with his own establishment. It is virtually impossible that the men charged with delivering newspapers should ring up the servants of a house before cock-crow and hand in the paper. To follow such a procedure would necessitate one delivery-man per street. All that can reasonably be expected is that the paper should be deposited in the letter-box at the gate, and that is all that is required or expected in Western cities. But many people do not take the trouble to have letter-boxes in their gates, or even in their doors, and these are the people who chiefly complain of the defective delivery of their morning paper. One resident of Tokyo has servants who bolt and bar the gates of his compound every night and do not open them until an hour considerably later than that which brings the delivery-man to their neighbourhood on his morning round. It is impossible for the man to await their convenience without dislocating his whole arrangements, but the servants, when remonstrated with, reply naively, "climb over the gate," and the master, witless of these things, writes irate letters. Another resident's servants instruct the messenger to throw the paper over the gate and trust to its subsequent discovery. When it is pointed out that such a course is scarcely possible in wet weather, they answer, "Oh, just wrap it in oil paper." Yet another gentleman, resident in Tsukiji, keeps several vehement dogs, and kindly posts placards warning all persons to abstain from entering his compound. The newspaper-bearer naturally abstains, deposits his burden wherever he can without peril to his skin, and the frequent result in a complaint of non-delivery. Is it too much to ask that people should have letter boxes in accessible places, and that they should pay some regard to the possibility that the newspaper-carrier may not be invariably and solely to blame?

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THE AUTUMN CONCERT.

The Autumn Concert of the Tokyo Academy of Music, which was held at the Academy in Uyeno Park on the afternoon of the 9th instant, showed that the students have made quite remarkable progress under the instruction of Professor Junker. Several foreign ladies and gentlemen of Yokohama and Tokyo played in the orchestral pieces and contributed largely to the success of the performance, but after every allowance has been made on that account, a solid residue of credit remains to the Japanese, who, alike in the vocal and in the instrumental parts, acquitted themselves in a manner that bears high testimony to their own diligence and capacity and to the competence of Professor Junker, who may fairly be congratulated on achieving results quite beyond anything anticipated by the most sanguine critics two or three years ago. It can not be honestly said that there are any fine vocalists among the students of the Academy of Music. We must repeat what we have often previously stated, namely, that the average Japanese voice is emphatically wanting in volume and timbre. Those qualities may be developed in the course of years, but there does not appear to be much hope of any such consummation during the life-time of the present generation. Sweetness, however, is not wanting, and under Professor Junker's instructions full advantage has been taken of that fact. When we add that the technique of the singing was faultless, it will be conceivable that the choruses at the concert were really a delight to the audience —a very large audience, we may add. The orchestral pieces—of which there were three, being the same number as that of the choruses—unquestionably ranked far higher as musical displays than anything previously heard in Tokyo. It is plain that, whatever importance we attach to Professor Junker's labours, he must have found pliant and zealous material, and while heartily congratulating him on the fine results attained, we may add an expression of hearty satisfaction that the future of musical development in Japan has now been shown to depend solely upon the opportunities afforded by the authorities, all doubts as to the endowment of the people having been removed. We append the programme of the concert, noting that two pieces are not shown, namely, solos on the harmonium and the piano by Mr. Take :—

PROGRAMME.

I. Chorus :—
  a. Chorale : Commit Thy Ways to Jesus.....Bach.
  b. He that shall endure to the end...Mendelssohn.
II. Orchestra :
  Symphony, A minor (Scotch) . . Mendelssohn
  First Movement.
III. Chorus :
  a. Hymn of Praise.... ....Seruff
  b. Oh! in the Woods so Sad and Sombre...Gluck.
IV. Orchestra.
  Suite Carmen ....Bizet.
  a. Prelude. *c* Intermezzo.
  b. Aragonaise. *d.* Finale (les Toréadors.)
V. Chorus.
  a. Bohemian Folk Song.
  b. At the Gate .....
  c. The Flax .... Russian Folk
  d. Soldiers' Song ... ... Songs.
  e. On the River.....
VI. Orchestra :
  The Beautiful Blue Danube Walz... ... .Strauss.

A CURIOUS INTERPRETATION.

A not uncommon incident in former days was an ebullition of wrath on the part of a foreigner who imagined that a rudely worded letter had been sent to him by a Japanese official. It invariably turned out on investigation that the original letter, written in Japanese, was as courteous as possible, and that a clumsy translation was alone responsible for any faultiness of tone in the document received by the foreigner. We are reminded of these old-time incidents by a letter which appears in the columns of a local contemporary, and is the subject of very severe criticism. It appears that a foreigner residing in Fusan had occasion to apply to the post office there for a copy of the Post and Telegraph Guide, which he wished to purchase, and also for information as to the possibility of sending a parcel through the post. He received the following reply :—

As to your memo, I beg to answer you, you can't send any parce. to Europe from here by all means.

And you say you want one copy of our Post & Telegraph Guide for sale, but office cannot satisfy your order as the marchants (*sic*) do, though it present here. In the fact, it is not here. I am, truly yours, etc.

It is very plain that what this post office official desired to say was :—"I beg to inform you, in answer to your letter, that we have no means of forwarding parcels from this office. With regard to the book you ask for, we have no copy and the sale of such books is not undertaken by us." The unfortunate man got very near this—very near indeed. Had his benevolent attempt to express himself in English come to our hands, we should have needed a very large pair of magnifying glasses to discover any haughtiness or impertinence in such an epistle. But our Yokohama contemporary tears it to pieces. He finds in it an "offended tone" of surprise that any human being can have "so far forgotten what was due to the writer and to the post office as to ask for a copy of the P. O. & T. Guide," and he recommends that any one preferring such a request hereafter should "crawl upon his tummy from his abode to the P. O., and prostrating himself humbly in front of the wicket where the haughty official stands, should rub his nose in the dust, &c" What is it all about? Truly we can not understand, but we wonder whether it is upon such incidents as the above that some foreign observers base their charges against Japanese junior officials. The Fusan post office clerk will in future write his communications to foreigners in the Japanese language, we imagine.

YOKOHAMA AND TRADAL PRACTICES.

Once more the old outcry makes itself heard in Yokohama about dishonest practices on the part of Japanese merchants who refuse to take delivery of goods imported to their order, and once more correspondents and editors write as though the foreigner were quite helpless, appeal to the law courts being not only expensive but likely to lead to a boycott, as was the record in the notorious Kimura case. The thought suggested by these frequently iterated complaints is that the foreign merchants show themselves singularly unresourceful. Can they not devise some method of obviating an inconvenience which figures so constantly in their dealings with the Japanese? Can they not combine to insist on the payment of bargain money; or can they not agree to proclaim the names of defaulters and cease all future transactions with them? There ought to be some way out of the difficulty, and we can not but wonder at the apparent helplessness of the foreigner. So long as he tamely allows himself to be victimized, Japanese adventurers will continue to victimise him, and it is not for his own sake alone, but also for the sake of commercial morality in Japan that he ought to set his wits to work.

COUNT MATSUKATA.

Count Matsukata has been speaking at the Nara Club on the topics so earnestly discussed by him of late, namely, the necessity of preventing the multiplication and competition of small banks, and of encouraging a spirit of economy among the labouring classes. Owing to advice tendered by the Count in former years, Osaka has hitherto escaped this abuse of petty banks, and, as a result, the citizens find themselves comparatively little embarrassed by a financial crisis. But in districts westward of Osaka, such is not the case. Mushroom institutions have sprung up, threatening to add materially to the difficulty of sound business, and to impair the sense of security without which the people can not be expected to lodge their money. Passing, then, to the question of saving, the Count repeated what he had said previously on several occasions, that the average savings of the Japanese people were only 1.30 *yen* per head against 60 or 70 *yen* per head in Western countries. If the figure could be raised to 5 *yen* in Japan, the aggregate would be some 250 millions of *yen*, and if to 10 *yen*, then five hundred millions would be available for industrial and commercial purposes, and the country's material development would proceed apace. Steps should be taken, however, to guarantee complete security for funds lodged by the people. In this matter Occidental Governments did not hesitate to depart from their general rule of non-interference in business matters, for it was well understood that to guard the artizan against the loss of his hardly accumulated savings imposed itself as a paramount duty on officialdom. The Count called his hearers' attention to the fact that the savings banks' deposits in the United States aggregated six thousand million *yen*, and in England, four thousand millions.

TOKYO MUNICIPALITY.

A meeting was held on the 8th instant in Tokyo by a number of gentlemen who have formed an association called the *Kōmin-kai* (Publicists Society). So far as we can judge, this association consists chiefly of members of the Opposition, though it includes some names of independent politicians. Among those present were Viscount Tani, Dr. Hatoyama, Messrs. Hadano, Shibahara, Taguchi, &c. The feature of the meeting was a speech by Viscount Tani. He did not attempt to assert the truth of the wholesale charges of corruption circulated at present against municipal officials, but he undertook to deny that so many stories could be entirely without foundation, and he declared it a burning disgrace that such scandals should prevail in the capital of the empire. The municipal budget for next year showed an expenditure of 4,700,000 *yen*, which would be defrayed by 230,000 tax-payers. Tokyo had now a heavier burden to bear in proportion than Osaka. He did not intend to suggest that Tokyo was unable to bear the burden. There were many improvements of an imperative nature to be carried out. But they were bound to see that their money was honestly spent, and in view of all the talk now agitating the city, there was only too much reason to fear that some part of the 4¾ millions found its way into fraudulent channels. The meeting appointed a committee of investigation.

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REGISTRATION.

It has been stated, we observe, by the *Kobe Chronicle*, and the statement is reproduced by the *Japan Herald*, that unless certain rights are registered by the foreign holders before the 31st of December, they will lose their validity as against third parties. The rights referred to are those of leasehold superficies, mortgage and pledge, acquired prior to the operation of the Revised Treaties, and they are thus enumerated :—

1.—Superficies, with statement as to term (perpetual leases excepted), or a change or transfer of such right, created by a foreigner or for a juridical person in the former Foreign Settlement or extra Settlement, which are not yet registered by the Japanese authorities.

2.—Rights of mortage or pledges created by a foreigner or a foreign juridical person on a superficies, or a change or transfer of such right, which are not yet registered by the Japanese authorities.

It is quite true that the 31st of December has been fixed as a limit of time for the registration of these rights, but it is not true that unless registered by that date they "lose their validity." The simple fact is that the interval between the going into operation of the Treaties in July 1898 and the close of December, 1900, 18 months approximately, was fixed by law as the period of grace during which such rights, even though not registered, would possess validity against third parties. But after the 31st of December such validity depends on registration. The rights may be registered at any time subsequently to December 31st, and from the moment of registration they acquire validity against third parties, but during the interval of non-registration, they do not possess such validity. Thus, if the possessor of one of these rights fails to register it until March 31st, 1901, let us say, then the law would not recognise it as valid against any claim set up on behalf of a third party during the three months from December, 31st, 1900 to March 31st, 1901, though its validity would be recognised in respect of any claim advanced after March 31st. In short, the law does not undertake to protect these rights after December 31st, unless they are registered, though it does undertake to protect them from the moment of registration, whenever that may be.

THE ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL.

The provisions under which the Powers appoint delegates to the Arbitration Tribunal are as follow :—

Art. XX.—With the object of facilitating immediate recourse to arbitration in international differences which it has been found impossible to settle by diplomatic means, the subscribing Powers engage to organise a permanent court of arbitration accessible at all time, and discharging its functions, provided that no stipulation to the contrary is made by the parties concerned, in conformity with the rules of procedure inserted in the present Convention.

Art. 33.—Each subscribing Power will designate, within the three months following the ratification of the present Act, four persons, at most, of recognised competence in questions of international law, enjoying the highest moral consideration and disposed to accept the functions of arbitrator. The persons thus designated shall be inscribed, under the title of members of the Court, on a list which shall be notified by the Bureau to all the subscribing Powers. Every modification of the list of arbitrators shall be brought by the Bureau to the knowledge of the Powers. Two or more Powers may agree to appoint one arbitrator, and the same person may be designated by different Powers. The members of the Court are named for a term of 6 years, and their mandate may be renewed.

It is in accordance with this Act that Japan has appointed Mr. Motono and Mr. H W. Denison to be her representative members of the Court. The members, we may add, are entitled to the treatment of diplomats when travelling.

MR. SHIBA SHIRO'S EXPERIENCES IN CHINA.

The well-known political leader, Mr. Shiba Shiro, speaking at a meeting of the *Kenseihonto*, described some of his experiences during his recent trip to China. Leaving Tientsin shortly after Li Hung-chang's departure from that place, he overtook the Viceroy's party in 43 boats on the Peiho, and had an interview with the great man. Mr. Shiba says that he urged upon Li the advisability of trusting to the United States for mediation and protection. Li himself had experienced the benefit of American advice on the occasion of the Shimonoseki negotiations, and if he now turned to Russia, the effect upon the restoration of peace could not fail to be disastrous To that the Viceroy replied that he had no special inclination to seek Russian assistance, but that the Russians had approached him in the first instance and offered their services. It appeared to Mr. Shiba that his Excellency showed considerable embarrassment in discussing this question. Asked whether China had sought Russian military protection for the railway in Manchuria, Li replied in the negative. The application had been made by the company owning the line, and had been without the knowledge of the Chinese Government. Mr. Shiba inferred, however, that the relations between China and Russia were of an intimate character, and that the Viceroy found much difficulty in attempting any explanation of them. It appeared that England and Japan sought to make Prince Ching the pivot of the peace negotiations, whereas Russia's endeavour was to work with Li Mr. Shiba declared that it was impossible to obtain any information at the Japanese Legation, where nothing seemed to be known. The other Legations had access to secret sources of intelligence, but the Japanese Legation seemed to be quite excluded by its own incompetence. (Mr. Shiba, it should be observed, is an Opposition leader). With regard to the Paoting expedition, he makes some bitter remarks, in the sense that no real necessity existed for such a measure, and that its inception was due to German and Italian jealousy of the Japanese troops The Germans and Italians maintained that if the foreign colonial forces had not made a very good showing, the case would be very different when the drafts arrived from Europe. In order to establish the justice of that distinction, they devised pretexts for a march against Paoting; but when the operation was actually undertaken the whole of the glory fell to the French, and the only results were fresh jealousy, and the distruction of all means of communication between Paoting and Peking, so that news from the latter could not be transmitted to the Court, and the progress of the peace negotiations was materially impeded, the chances of the Court's return to Peking being also greatly diminished. It was said among foreign diplomats that Germany's despatch of a large force to China, an effort which cost her heavily, had for its prime purpose the subjugation of Shantung, but appreciating that such a measure would throw the whole of China into disorder, Germany had abandoned her purpose. Mr. Shiba denied that the withdrawal of Russia's troops from Chili had been due to the publicly alleged reasons, namely, the necessity of guarding Manchuria and the desire of courting China's favour. He believed that the true cause was the impossibility of checking the excesses committed by the soldiers. At a meeting of commanding officers held to discuss measures for restoring order in Peking, the American commanding officer boldly stated that unless some effective restraint could be imposed on the Russian troops, it was idle to talk of restoring order. Admiral Alexieff, a man of great breadth of mind, took this comment in excellent part, and immediately endeavoured to institute a more rigid system of discipline, but ultimately finding it hopeless to correct the evil habits into which his men had fallen, he decided that the best plan was to withdraw them. Mr. Shiba further alleged that some uneasiness was felt about supplies for the German and Russian troops during the winter. The Chinese, he said, did not profess to look forward to a speedy termination of the negotiations. The Paoting expedition, they declared, had completely severed their communications with the Court and greatly increased the difficulties of the situation.

BARON SHIBUSAWA ON KOREA.

In a speech delivered at the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, Baron Shibusawa, who has just returned from Korea, explained that his objects in proceeding thither had been three, namely, to conduct the official opening of the Söul-Chemulpo Railway, to make arrangements with respect to the business of the First Bank, and to take steps for floating the Söul Fusan Railway Company. After briefly alluding to the circumstances under which the Söul-Chemulpo line had come into Japanese possession, he gave some particulars about the line itself, the most important of which were that the total length is 26 miles, that excellent termini, standing in enclosures of fully ten acres each, have been erected at either end, and that there are six intervening stations, upon the construction of which comparatively little has been expended. Turning to the Söul-Fusan line, he said that some six or seven thousand shares had been successfully placed in Korea, two thousand being subscribed by the Imperial Household and some by Japanese residents The prospects were therefore good The length of the line was 80 *ri* (about 200 miles) and some difficulties of construction would have to be overcome, but as labour was cheap in Korea, there was no reason to anticipate that the whole work could not be completed for an outlay of twenty-five million *yen*. Speaking of mines, he said that American capitalists were willing to advance 5 million *yen* on the security of the mines and British capitalists 10 millions, and that both had been competing briskly, but it would appear that they were not likely to succeed. The First Bank had the privilege of managing the Customs' finances, and Mr. Brown had made some overtures to the Bank for a loan, but nothing had yet matured. The Baron, criticising Korean officials, expressed the opinion that they had no policy of their own for administrative purposes, and that they merely watched the Emperor's moods to turn them to selfish advantage. The people, he thought, were guileless and not particularly endowed with moral force. An example of their childish methods had been furnished on the day after the opening of the railway, when they rode backwards and forwards until their passes were empty and then asked for free tickets. Physically, however, they were finer men than the Japanese and capable of doing good manual work.

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AMERICA IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The guerilla warfare in the Philippines must be a terribly arduous business for the American troops. It is plain that the Filipinos have the entire sympathy of the population, and are thus enabled not only to obtain supplies, but also to find refuge and contrive concealments of the most baffling character. Nothing could be more suggestive than General MacArthur's statement in his recent report to the War Department that whereas his forces had established only 53 military stations throughout the archipelago on November 1st, 1899, they had 413 stations on Sept. 1st, 1900. The total force of the American troops in the islands is sixty-three thousand men in round numbers, of whom about fifty-eight thousand are fit for duty, so that, even if it were possible to distribute the army equally among all these stations, there would be only 140 men for each. Many of them must be held by detachments of 20 or 30 men, constantly exposed to enterprises on the part of the enemy. Indeed the casualties suffered by the Americans between November, 1899, and Sept., 1900, a space of 10 months, show that some bloody work must have been done, for 268 were killed, 750 wounded and 55 captured. The casualties on the side of the enemy in the same time were 3,227 killed, 694 wounded and 2,864 captured—figures of a very unusual character since they show that the killed were nearly five times as numerous as the wounded. It is evident that operations so costly to the Filipinos can not continue for any great length of time. But in drawing that inference, we must not leave out of sight the American losses by disease, which are very heavy. Between January 31st and July 31st, 1900, a period of 6 months, the deaths from disease were 741, against 254 deaths in battle or from the effects of wounds. There is, in truth, no reason to be surprised that many thoughtful Americans bitterly regret the duty devolving on their country as a consequence of the war with Spain, and still less reason is there to be surprised that the Spaniards failed to effect the complete subjugation of the Filipinos under Aguinaldo. Every one remembers how many cheap sneers were levelled at the heads of the Spaniards during their time of trial. The world is wiser now.

INSURANCE BUSINESS.

The official investigations which proved so disastrous for certain insurance companies in Kyoto, are now to be extended to Tokyo, and the consequence is said to be considerable perturbation among the small fry of the business. Concerning this matter, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has an article which astonishes us very much, for it shows not only great ignorance of facts but also much recklessness of deduction, and these are defects which we do not expect to find in the columns of our usually accurate and circumspect contemporary. The purpose of the writer is to advocate the advisability of conducting investigations into the affairs of foreign insurance companies as well as Japanese. He says that, in general, foreign companies stand on a firm basis, but there is reason to query the stability of all, and in support of the latter proposition he proceeds to discuss the affairs of a great New York association, which he does not mention by name, but which his indications enable any reader to identify. It is a company which promises to share its profits with the insured, and tells them—according to the *Nichi Nichi*—that when their policies mature, they will find themselves entitled to a sum double of the amount originally insured. The company does not, however, guarantee such payments. What is the use of holding them up as baits if they are not guaranteed, asks the *Nichi Nichi*. Then the Tokyo journal directly challenges the integrity of the Company by saying that it pays commissions quite inconsistent with any theory of sound business, and the final conclusion drawn is that people insuring their lives in such a company, can foresee the result without awaiting actual verification. Our contemporary adds that Baron Iwasaki is insured with the company for 350,000 *yen*, and Mr. Hiranuma Senzo for 200,000. All these statements are incorrect. When an insurance company promises to share its profits with the insured, it necessarily declines to give any pledge as to the amount of the profits Only a thoroughly dishonest company would attempt to guarantee what must always be uncertain. That is so obvious that the *Nichi Nichi* ought surely to have escaped such a blunder. Then, as to the amount of commissions granted, we venture to deny emphatically that any foreign insurance company pays to a medical examiner one half of the amount of the first premium as our contemporary alleges. The medical examiner gets a fixed fee, whether he passes or rejects the life, and it is a fee absolutely independent of the amount of the premium. The *Nichi Nichi* has unfortunately attacked one of the greatest companies in the world. We observe that our contemporary does not father these views itself, but merely publishes them as the opinions of "certain persons." The responsibility is not diminished by that process. We venture to say that every foreign insurance company doing business in Japan courts the fullest inquiry, and it is within our own personal knowledge that foreign life insurance companies exhibited the greatest reluctance and hesitation before they could persuade themselves to extend their operations to Japanese lives To find their stability challenged at this early epoch is almost amusing.

FOREIGN MARINERS IN JAPANESE EMPLOY.

The loss of the *Tsukishima Maru* with 91 navigation cadets on board, has suggested an inquiry into the question of the employment of foreigners in the Japanese Commercial Marine. Figures relating to the subject are published as follows:—

	1896		1897		1898	
	Jap.	For.	Jap.	For.	Jap.	For.
First Class.						
Masters	282	328	346	362	339	141
First officers	163	111	159	109	154	22
Second officers.	221	73	214	79	149	16
Second Class.						
Masters	448	2	480	2	305	—
First officers	455	10	560	10	473	—
Second officers.	1,164	10	1,936	11	1,450	—
Third Class.						
Masters	—	—	8	—	60	—
Officers	—	—	1,191	—	8,142	—
Chief Engineers	165	203	228	212	252	67
First class Engineers	309	146	370	149	406	25
Second class Engineers	386	4	443	4	383	—
Third-class Engineers	886	—	1,109	—	1,036	—
Totals	4,478	887	7,044	938	13,149	276

The steady displacement of foreigners by Japanese is plainly shown in this table, but it is feared that the loss of the *Tsukishima* may deter Japanese students.

GENERAL MERCIER.

It will be found, we have very little doubt, that General Mercier's proceedings in the French Senate were erroneously interpreted by the transmittors of news. What General Mercier probably did was to urge that, as a point of strategical wisdom, any programme contemplated by France in the event of war with England, should include among its offensive items an invasion of the British Islands, which operation he very probably described as feasible. Every Power that desires to be fully prepared for emergencies, has to consider what its most advanced line would be in case of war with this or that foreign State; whether, for example, the offensive should be assumed, and, if so, in what form, or whether a purely defensive attitude should be maintained. General Mercier said, we imagine, that if France had to fight with her neighbour across the Channel, she should be prepared to carry the war into British territory, and that her scheme of mobilization should be framed so as to include such a measure. It was an eminently Anglo-phobe proposal, nor do we think that the discussion of any such question falls within the proper sphere of the Legislature's functions. But it is one thing to urge the expediency of being prepared to take a potential enemy by the throat, and quite another thing to recommend taking him by the throat forthwith. We find it impossible to believe that General Mercier,—who is known to be at least a clever man—can have acted in the manner described by the telegraph, however wrathful he may be on account of the criticisms that his conduct at the Dreyfus trial evoked in England.

THE "IZUMO."

The *Izumo*, first-class cruiser, was expected to arrive at Yokosuka on the 7th instant, but owing to heavy weather she did not reach that place until the 8th, and was obliged to remain outside the harbour until 11 a.m. The *Izumo's* displacement is 9,906 tons. She was built at Lord Armstrong and Company's yard, and her cost was 8,753,585 *yen*, including her armament. From Singapore the cruiser experienced very heavy weather, but it only served to demonstrate her fine seagoing qualities.

This is the last but one of the four first-class cruisers ordered by Japan under the *post-bellum* programme The *Yakumo* and *Azuma*—built respectively in Germany and France—have already arrived, and the *Iwate* is now building in England. When the battle-ships *Hatsuse* and *Mikasa* arrive, the post-bellum naval programme will be complete.

KOREA.

The new Korean Representative at the Court of Japan, Mr. Sŏng Kiun, left Chemulpho on the 5th by the *Suma Maru*. In the same steamer travelled one of the Bourbon Princes, now an officer in the Russian Army, who is about to pay a visit to Japan.

Special permission has been given to the Maichiku-kaisha to reclaim the north-eastern shore at Fusan and construct a harbour there This company, of which the chief promoters are Messrs. Takashima, Sato Taizo and Sagara Tsuneo, has been working for the concession since the close of last year. The reclamation is expected to be of great service in connexion alike with the Sŏul-Fusan Railway and the Japanese Settlement.

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THE "TSUKISHIMA MARU."

Monday, Dec. 10.

No doubt can be any longer entertained that the training ship *Tsukishima Maru* has been wrecked, and that the greater part, if not the whole, of those on board have perished. The sad fact was definitely ascertained by the identification of the corpse of the commander of the vessel, Mr. Matsumoto. His body, having been washed ashore, was buried by the local inhabitants, and on being disinterred was recognised beyond possibility of error. Near the same spot was found also the door of the cabin where the cadets slept on board the *Tsukishima*. It is believed that the vessel was dashed on a well-known rock in the Senoumi, which lies about 25 or 26 miles from the coast of Suruga Bay. The *Tsukishima* had on board 7 officers, 79 cadets and 36 seamen, a total complement of 112. All the faculty of the Commercial Marine College have proceeded to Numazu to conduct enquiries; the Finance Department has contributed a sum of 2,000 *yen* to assist the search, and the Naval Authorities have sent men-of-war.

Since the above was in type fuller informations has been received which renders it impossible to entertain any further hope of the *Tsukishima Maru's* safety. Vernacular newspapers contain highly appreciative notices of her commanding officer, Captain Matsumoto, who is said to have been a man of high capacity. The men-of-war *Tokiwa* and *Yoshino* left Kure on the 7th instant to search for survivors of the wreck. Tokyo has been thrown with mourning by the sad news of the fate of these 79 students. The *Musashi* also has been sent to join the search.

Tuesday, Dec. 11.

The loss of the *Tsukishima*, which is now considered certain, has produced a profound sensation of sorrow in Tokyo. It is not merely that so many lives were sacrificed, but that among them were ninety-one lads on the very threshold of their career, who had just finished their educational course, and, but for this sad catastrophe, would soon have been actively engaged in the service of their country. A strange feature of the accident is that not even one life appears to have been saved. If the ship had been driven ashore by the gale, some of those on board, if only two or three, must have been saved. But not even one survivor is an appalling record. The sea has singular mysteries. To this day the total disappearance of the *Unebi*—a disappearance so thorough that not even a corpse or a fragment of the ship was found—remains to this day unexplained by any theory. The *Tsukishima* may have touched a sunken rock and afterwards sunk in deep water at a long distance from land. Or she may have been shattered by an explosion generated in her cargo of coal. The latter hypothesis would account for the finding of the door of the students' sleeping cabin. The cabin was between decks, and its door could scarcely have got adrift unless the vessel was broken up by the sea, which would have been a comparatively lengthy operation, or by an explosion, which seems more probable. A great deal of importance is attached to the fact that a heavy gale blew on the 16th instant, which is just the time when the vessel is supposed to have been lost. But it was an off-shore wind, and considering the vessel's position, she ought not to have felt the effects of such a storm disastrously. The Authorities will probably see the advisability of not sending so many lads to sea in one ship. A majority of these ill-fated youths must have been worse than useless in a crisis: probably their presence tended to impede the seamen. It is a cruel catastrophe. We offer our sincere sympathies to the many families for whom a mournful new year will dawn, and to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, into whose service a number of the young men would have been drafted.

Wednesday, Dec. 12.

With regard to the loss of the *Tsukushima Maru*, another explanation, which seems to be very probable and which is suggested by an expert, is that the ship was engulphed by breakers in the Seno-umi, where the body of the captain was subsequently found. The depth of the water at that place is 18 fathoms, but the sea-bottom falls away rapidly at either side, and it is quite within the range of possibilities that in a heavy gale the water would break even in 18 fathoms. Under such conditions, the *Tsukishima*, sailing over the shallow area, may easily have been swamped and sunk before there was any chance to launch a boat. She was well provided with steel boats, and had there been time to launch one or two of them, some, at any rate of her crew must surely have escaped. The place where wreckage and the captain's corpse were found is 13 nautical miles from the coast.

The Minister of Communications proceeded on Sunday to the Mercantile Marine College, and made a feeling speech to the students. He expressed profound sympathy with the families of the deceased lads, but pointed out that they had fallen in the execution of their duty and that their comrades must not be disheartened by their fate

Thursday, Dec. 13.

Nothing definite has yet been ascertained about the fate of the *Tsukishima Maru*. The *Musashi* has been making diligent search, but owing to the prevalence of high winds and heavy seas it has been difficult to accomplish anything. Rumour says that among some wreckage washed ashore at Numazu a bucket of the *Tsukishima* was found, and that a corpse buried at Inatori-mura in that vicinity has been disinterred and found to be that of one of the ship's servants. It is now proposed to send a fleet of fishing junks to the place where the wreck is supposed to have occurred, and to have regular operations of dragging undertaken on an extended scale We need scarcely say that no hopes are any longer entertained, though it is still thought possible that some few of the crew may have survived Experience shows that boats are of very little service in a heavy sea. The effort to keep them afloat, to right them when they upset and to scramble on board again soon exhausts the most stalwart seaman. It may be supposed, however, that as the *Tsukishima's* boats were of steel, one or two of them must have been washed ashore somewhere, whatever was the fate of their unfortunate inmates

SHIPPING DISASTERS.

The *Inushima Maru*, a steamer of 326 tons, employed in connexion with the Osaka Harbour Works, has been lost. She was on her way from Inushima during the night of the 8th instant when, owing to a violent gale, she struck a rock in Akashi Bay and went to the bottom. One man was taken off by a passing steamer, but it is feared that 22 were lost The vessel was laden with stone. She was insured for 80,000 *yen*.

Fifty vessels are said to be frozen up in the Peiho. The ice formed with unexpected rapidity. Evidently the climatic conditions there have been similar to those in Japan. It now remains to be seen how far Shanhai-kwan or Chin-wang-tao is available for landing purposes during the winter. The first Japanese transport is just about to be despatched thither. It will try both places.

Another shipping disaster is reported. It took place on the 4th instant off the coast of Rikuchiu, the wrecked ship being the barque *Kamiji Maru*, 529 tons, built in Kobe in 1880, and supposed to be a vessel of exceptional strength. She had a cargo of iron from Kamaishi and timber from Miyako, and she left the latter port on the 1st instant at 5 p.m. The following day she encountered a heavy gale. The timber seems to have got adrift, and the vessel laboured so heavily that she sprang her fore-mast. The crew could not reach it to cut it away, and ultimately the three masts went by the board. Their wire stays, however, did not part, and the ship was nearly swamped before she could be freed from this wreckage. By the morning of the 2nd, the wind had abated, but a high sea was running and the crew were so thoroughly exhausted that they could not work any longer The vessel gradually settled down, and finally the crew, 16 in number, took to the boats and were picked up after drifting for two days, during, which they subsisted on a small quantity of millet. They had given themselves up for lost when succour arrived

MARQUIS ITO.

The Emperor has sent a most gracious message to Marquis Ito, urging him to take steps for the complete restoration of his health before he thinks of resuming his duties. Marquis Saionji carried this message to the Prime Minister at Atami. It is understood that Marquis Ito had announced his intention of returning at once to Tokyo, though his throat is not yet quite well and he is suffering slightly from dyspepsia.

Marquis Ito returned to Tokyo on the afternoon of the 10th instant, in spite of the advice to the contrary graciously sent to him by the Emperor. His Excellency is said to have made rapid improvement during the past ten days, though his recovery is not yet by any means complete. It is expected that he will now resume the duties of Premier. He was accompanied from Oiso by Marquis Saionji and Viscount Watanabe

Marquis Ito attended the Cabinet for the first time on the 11th instant, and announced his intention of taking up his duties as Premier, although his health is not yet fully restored. He proceeded to the Palace on the 12th instant at 10 a m. The necessary steps have been taken to relieve Marquis Saionji of his duties as Minister President.

It had been arranged that Marquis Ito should wait upon the Emperor on the afternoon of the 12th instant, but when the Emperor learned that the Marquis was present at the Privy Council's meeting in the forenoon, his Majesty signified his desire to receive the Marquis at once. Marquis Ito therefore repaired to the Palace at 11 a.m. The Emperor is said to have welcomed him with marked satisfaction, and to have urged him to lose no opportunity of repairing his health. The Marquis lunched at the Palace.

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THE HOKKAIDO DIVISION.

The four regiments—the 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th—constituting the Seventh Division, have now been brought up to their full strength, and it is announced that the ceremony of conferring colours on the Division will be performed at the Palace on the 22nd instant. Each of the regiments will send a second lieutenant and four non-commissioned officers to receive its colour, and the ceremony will be attended by Field Marshals Prince Komatsu, and Marquises Saigo and Oyama, as well as by the Ministers of State for the Army and the Navy. The task of bringing the Seventh Division up to its full strength has proved somewhat difficult. For recruiting purposes in Japan each regiment has its own district assigned to it, and its recruits must be obtained within the limits of that district. The population of Hokkaido at present is only 650,000, approximately, and as the full strength of the army is 13 divisions and the population of the empire 44 millions, it is evident that, on an average, the recruiting district of a Division should contain a population of nearly three and a half millions, or five times the population of Hokkaido. To obtain the required number of conscripts in Hokkaido alone would have necessitated an altogether abnormal application of the conscription law, and would have correspondingly interfered with the labour market, to say nothing of the hardship of such a step and its probable effect upon emigration to Hokkaido. Indeed, the Authorities must have found it perplexing to decide whether Hokkaido ought not still to be kept on the same footing as Formosa for military purposes; that is to say, garrisoned with a Mixed Brigade taken in turn from the Divisons in Japan proper. Such a course would have added materially to the popularity of residence in Hokkaido since the colonists there would have enjoyed immunity from conscription. However, the objections to such exemption appear to have out-weighed its advantages in the opinion of the Government. But of course it has been found necessary to supplement the local conscripts by drafts from the districts of the other Divisions. We do not know what method of procedure was adopted, but the Seventh Division now becomes a competent unit of the army.

DEATH OF MR. SAKAI YUSABURO.

We regret to learn that Mr. Sakai Yusaburo died in Paris on the 9th instant. Mr Sakai was a pupil of the well known Mr. Nakaye Tokusuke, the so-called Rousseau of Japan. From the beginning of his career Mr. Sakai distinguished himself by his intimate knowledge of the French language In 1884, at the time of the Tai Won-kun's *coup d'etat* in Korea, Mr. Sakai vehemently urged the necessity of recourse to military measures. He was sent to the French Exhibition of 1889, and in 1892 he published a brochure in support of the principle of party cabinets which attracted much attention, and secured for him the patronage of Marquis Saionji and Count Okuma. The Foreign Office then entrusted to him the task of translating into Japanese the great work recently published in France on diplomatic history, which task he performed with marked success. He was sent to Paris in connexion with the Exhibition of 1900, and he died of heart disease, doubtless induced by excessive application.

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

A copy of the fourth issue for the present year of the Bulletin of the American Geographical Society, is exceptionally interesting, embracing as it does a range of subjects such as one rarely finds within the covers of a single publication.

Mr. W. E. Griffis, who will be well-known to many of our readers as a writer on Japanese subjects, and who, though for many years resident in the United States is still a welcome contributor to these columns, visited Holland not long ago, and a paper in this volume embodies his observations. What seems to have struck him forcibly is the fact that while other nations have but one state — the political structure and sovereignty—the Netherlands have two states, politics and water. Yet, he says, this duarchy is not, as in the case of old Japan and Siam, personal. There are no Mikado and Shogun, but the Sovereign State and the Water State. Of the former democratic monarchy as it is, Queen Wilhelmina is the lovely figurehead. In the latter is comprised the general staff of inspectors, engineers, watchmen and commissaries who superintend the great army of toll collectors, sluice, bridge, gate-keepers and workmen skilful with the spades, drills, pumps, piles, and the machinery driven by steam and wind. This department, which has charge of the preservation of the country from liquid danger is the chief division in the Ministry of the Water State, Trade and Commerce. As may be gathered from this, Mr. Griffis devotes most of the space at his disposal to a description of the means adopted by the Dutch to render effective their perpetual conflict with the water, and we do not wonder to be told that the story of struggle and triumph, victory and defeat, is mirrored not only in the language and proverbs, but also in the art and graphic symbols of the country and in the habitual action of the minds of the men who lived in this hollow land. The people, he says, are like their dwelling-place. History has demonstrated that it is not wise for arbitrary rulers to trifle with the people who have been for a thousand years fighting the waters and liable to be drowned day and night unless ceaselessly vigilant and prepared for danger.

Mr. H. B Hulbert, who is a prolific writer on Korean matters, has a short paper dealing with "Korea's Geographical Significance." According to his view the evidence goes to show that two thousand years ago all southern Korea was inhabited by a people distinct from those of the north, and practically unknown to them. They (the former) were a people of southern origin as is proved by a conclusive line of reasoning, both philological and general. If this be true and the early settlers of southern Korea did actually belong to the southern branch of the great Turanian family, then it seems that China was simply encircled by the Turanian race, the two branches meeting about the centre of the Korean peninsula. Coming down to modern times, Mr. Hulbert has this to say of the significance with which Korea is invested by reason of her geographical position :—

"Some two centuries before Christ, when the Chinese Emperor Chin Si proposed the building of the Great Wall of China and began to impress millions of men into this stupendous work, there took place a wholesale exodus of Chinese, who preferred voluntary exile to such a thankless task. Among these fugitives a goodly band crossed the Yellow Sea and found their way into the southeastern portion of Korea. A century and a half later, in 57 B C., this colony of Chinese had obtained a strong foothold in Korea. They had brought with them the higher civilization of China, but had wisely united their interests with those of the native Koreans, adopting their language and customs and intermarrying with them; so that after six generations of them had passed away a new combination had been formed and, as is so often the case in cross-breeding, a superior product was evolved which was destined to dominate the peninsula. It was in 57 B. C. that this new element founded the kingdom of Silla, which, growing out from a small centre, rapidly absorbed the surrounding districts until it was conterminous with the present Korean province of Kyung-sang. In this kingdom a brilliant civilization sprang up. Literature, art, science, commerce, flourished. In the ancient capital of that kingdom, the present town of Kyong ju, there hangs to-day one of the largest bells in the world. It was cast some time before 500 A D., and is larger than the enormous bel. which hangs in the present capital of Korea. At that time the inhabitants of Japan were little better than savages; but they learned of this new kingdom across the straits, and soon Silla became to Japan what Rome became to Ancient Gaul. It is probable that many subjects of Silla crossed to Japan and became teachers and even rulers. There are curious legends which tell how men from Silla, being supernaturally carried across to Japan, were immediately chosen as chiefs of Japanese tribes. It is very probable that the very noblest families of Japan to-day are descendants of these visitors. It has been a question of some interest to determine the reason of certain marked physiological differences between these noble families and the common people of Japan. All the evidence goes to show that they were of this ancient Korean stock who did not colonize in Japan, but who went individually and became the true gentry of that country. Their number to-day in all Japan will not exceed ten thousand. Colour is given to this theory by the fact that this superior element was first found in western Japan, opposite the peninsula of Korea.

The geographical position of Korea, then, has been of immense importance in that it has played such a leading part in determining the ethnological arrangement of the peoples of Eastern Asia. It has formed the link between China and it has formed the link between two widely separated branches of the great Turanian stock.

But in these days her geographical situation has acquired a new and startling significance from a strategic standpoint. After standing for many centuries between the apathetic Chinese and the insular Japanese, neither of which ever had the power to overthrow the other, though mutually hostile, she now stands between a rejuvenated, active Japan and aggressive, ambitious Russia, each of which has special and urgent reasons for desiring to enjoy a predominant position in the peninsula. Her safety seems to lie in pitting the two against each other. It may be that, as Père Hyacinthe said of little Judaea, Korea "has been placed between the great empires as a negation to universal empire—a pacific obstacle to the shocks of their power and the plots of their ambition."

Other papers of which our space will not permit more than mere mention are "Through the Silk and Tea Districts of Kiangnan and Chekiang Province" by Mr Emile S. Fischer; "Madagascar" by W. H. Hunt; the Census of Porto Rico by Henry Gannett of the U. S. Geological Survey; "British Honduras" by W. L. Avery, and some very interesting notes on geographical relief maps, by Cosmos Mindeleff.

THE TOKYO TRAM COMPANY.

This Company continues to pay enormous dividends. It held its semi-annual meeting in Tokyo on the 12th instant, when accounts were presented, showing as follows :—

Gross earnings for the half year from Tram	*yen.*
Receipts	639,573
Various Income	11,372
Total Income	650,945
Running Expenses	362,549
Net Profits	288,396
To Reserve	14,420
To Rewards, &c.	28,839
To dividend at the rate of 35 per cent. per annum, &c.	257,400

It is to be hoped that this Company will lose no time in converting its lines to the electric system.

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THE NATIONAL UNION.

Prince Konoye presided on the 10th inst. at a meeting of National Unionists representing eight prefectures, when a resolution was passed extending the operations of the Union to the whole empire. The Prince then proceeded to Kyoto, where, being interviewed by a representative of the *Osaka Asahi*, he declared his desire that the principles advocated by him should be known as widely as possible. Some prominent members of the Constitutional Association—the *Seiyu-kai*—had joined hands cordially with him at the outset, but had subsequently adopted a reserved attitude in view of the hostile resolution hastily passed by the Association. Prince Konoye declared that the movement fostered by him had nothing whatever to do with political parties, and that he did not at all aim at opposing the *Seiyu-kai* or any other party. His unique hope was to rouse the nation to a sense of the necessity of preserving China's integrity, not merely for Japan's sake, but also for the sake of the peace of the Orient and of the cause of humanity. He claimed that the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai* had changed their minds with regard to the objects of his Society, and that the Minister of Foreign Affairs had shown a full sense of responsibility in replying to some questions propounded by him. After the next meeting in Tokyo, the object of the Society will have been practically attained so far as appealing to public opinion is concerned, and the Society will then limit itself to perfecting its own organization. The Prince concluded by saying that the proposals to be submitted to the Government were not unreasonable in any sense; that they seemed to have the endorsement of the present Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and that, so long as Mr. Kato was in office, the Cabinet might be expected to give the Society a favourable hearing.

A QUESTION OF HISTORY.

Admiral Beardslee was entertained by H. E. Governor Sufu and the notables of Kanagawa Prefecture at the Chitose-ro, Yokohama, on the 7th instant. The Admiral delivered an interesting speech, the gist of which was that had not Japan been ready to take advantage of the good things offered to her by foreign civilization, she could not have achieved the results now standing to her credit. Seed sown on barren soil does not sprout. Admiral Beardslee justified his view by a historical retrospect, in the course of which he re-stated, evidently with entire credence, the familiar belief that documents establishing the existence of a plot on the part of European Powers to employ the Christian propagandists and converts as an instrument of territorial aggression in Japan, were discovered in a Portuguese ship by the Dutch and communicated to the Japanese authorities in the 17th century. Often as that statement has been advanced, its truth has never been established, so far as we know. Indeed, a belief obtains in many quarters that the alleged treasonable documents were Dutch forgeries. We are not traversing Admiral Beardslee's historical inference, with which, indeed, we agree, but this particular incident of the intercepted documents possesses the greatest interest, and we venture to point out that history is still uncertain about the facts, unless, indeed, some new evidence has been recently discovered.

THE GERMAN LEGATION IN TOKYO.

Count Leyden's friends in Tokyo will be much disappointed to learn that his return to that city can no longer be hoped for. He has been appointed to represent his country in Stockholm, and his successor in Tokyo is to be Count Arcovalley, hitherto German Minister in Rio de Janeiro. This change, being promotion for Count Leyden, is matter for congratulation, but the Count is such a charming personality that he will be much missed in Tokyo circles. It may be doubted, however, whether Japan was very congenial to him. Residence did not reconcile him to the people or remove some prejudices formed before he arrived here, and his transfer to an European post will doubtless prove welcome to him. His career will be watched with interests by many warm friends in this country.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

At a meeting of the Seiyu-kai, held in Urawa, Saitama Prefecture, on the 9th inst., Mr Matsuda, Minister of State for Education, spoke in favour of the nation's devoting itself to peaceful industrial development and avoiding all international complications. He set out by claiming that although the present Cabinet could not be called a party Cabinet in the literal sense of the term, it was, in effect, a party cabinet since Marquis Ito, the leader of the Seiyu-kai, stood at its head. Mr. Matsuda thought, therefore, that the organization of this Cabinet ought to be recorded in big letters in the front page of Japanese annals. He then devoted himself to attacking the Progressists, against whom he preferred various charges, the most recently applicable being that they had encouraged the formation of the National Union which, by its heroic policy for the preservation of China's integrity, threatened to plunge the country into fresh wars. What Japan wanted, in the speaker's opinion, was to develop her resources steadily, for that procedure was scarcely less effective in securing international respect and consideration than victory in battle.

Meanwhile the National Union has been showing much activity. Its partisans in Kyoto held a meeting on the 8th instant, and passed a resolution in the sense that the preservation of China's integrity being of prime importance to Japan's interests and to the peace of the world, all possible measures must be taken to promote that policy and to organize its supporters, in accordance with the programme of the National Union.

The Kinki Young Men's Association took part in the above meeting, declaring their concurrence with the views of the National Union. They also advanced on their own account a resolution to the effect that the conduct of the Russian and French troops in North China had been contrary to the principles of humanity, and that every means should be adopted for exposing these outrages and inviting the censure of the civilized world. This resolution was passed unanimously.

Another meeting of the National Union was held in Matsushiro, Nagano Prefecture, on the 8th instant. It is said to have been well attended and enthusiastic, but no particulars are published.

The Young Men's Union of Tokyo held a meeting in the Kinki-kan on the 9th instant, and passed three resolutions: the first, in favour of preserving the integrity of China; the second, insisting on the necessity of correcting the abuses of political parties as they now exist; and the third, that steps must be taken to place the national finances on a sound basis.

Prince Konoye is about to start on a provincial tour, for the purpose of promoting the aims of the National Union. It is thus apparent that a strong movement is growing in favour of Japan's taking a prominent part in the preservation of China's integrity.

There appears to be some discussion among the leaders of the Progressists as to the advisability of publishing a statement of the reasons that have caused the removal of Mr. Nakamura Yaroku's name from the list of members. It is even alleged that this dispute threatens to assume serious proportions, but that is very unlikely, we imagine. Meanwhile the *Niroku Shimbun* asserts that Mr. Sun, the Kwantung rebel chief, through his agent Mr. Miyazaki Torazo, has demanded the restoration of the money entrusted to Mr. Nakamura for the purchase of arms, and has threatened legal proceedings in the event of refusal. It may be remembered that the original charge against Mr. Nakamura was connected with the Filipinos and their agent Mr Pounce. We do not know which account, if either, is true. Little reliance can be placed on the stories published by some of the Tokyo journals when politicians are in question. All that we can be sure of in this case is that Mr. Nakamura is involved in some trouble which has led to the removal of his name from the list of Progressists.

In consequence of the ventilation of an opinion that the industrial exhibition of 1903 should not be held in Osaka because of the Pest, the Osaka citizens are said to have resolved upon inaugurating a drastic campaign to stamp out the disease. The project is that the city should put up a sum of 300,000 *yen* next year and the Prefecture a sum of 150,000, the whole to be applied to sanitary measures during the course of 1901.

A heavy fall of snow took place all over the south-west of Japan from Kiushiu and Chiugoku to Echizen and Echigo on the 9th inst. The fall was specially heavy in Echigo, traffic being interrupted on the Shin-Yetsu and Hoku-Yetsu Railways. The bitter cold experienced in Tokyo and Yokohama during the past two days prepared us to hear something of this kind.

Cruelty to children is rare indeed in Japan. A serious case is now reported, however. Mr. Matsui Toshitaro, an official of the Board of Audit, and his wife have been arrested on a charge of treating a child so severely as to cause its death. It was a girl of five, apparently entrusted to the care of the accused. Its body had been cremated before information reached the police, but they are said to have taken possession of some coils of rope and articles of clothing which confirm the stories told by Mr. and Mrs. Matsui's neighbours.

A telegram from Ezo says that, on the 4th instant, a fire broke out in the miners' quarters at the Yubari coal mine, and destroyed a building occupied by 800 men. There were no injuries to life or limb.

Snow continues to fall in the western regions. The Gan-Yetsu (Iwashiro and Echigo) and the Nanao (Noto) railways have both been obliged to suspend traffic.

The 10th instant was a brisk day on the Yokohama silk market. Prices opened ten

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yen higher than on the preceding day and gradually rose to thirty *yen* before evening. It is stated that from 1,500 to 1,600 bales changed hands during the day, the biggest figure being 900 *yen*.

The *Niroku Shimbun* alleges that the squadrons of the various Powers in Far Eastern waters, number :—

British	50
Russian	25
German	22
French	30
American	24
Italian	6
Austrian	4
Holland	2
Portuguese	1
Total	164

Our contemporary anticipates that many of these will winter in Japanese ports, adding materially to the gaiety of various localities.

On the 29th of November, a party of 211 Chinese prisoners attempted to escape from the Taichu prison. They wounded two of the jailers, and had 7 of their own number killed and 4 wounded. Nine effected their escape. This is the second serious affair of the kind that has recently occurred in Formosa, the first being at Tainan.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku's name has been removed from the roll of the *Kensei Hon-to*. Various reasons are assigned for this event, but truly we can not suppose that our readers would be interested in a detailed statement. The gist of the matter seems to be that Mr. Nakamura was implicated in some arrangement for supplying arms to Sun, the rebel leader in the south of China

It is stated that the Government contemplates introducing in the approaching session of the Diet a bill providing for a system of insurance to be called "postal insurance." It will be of three kinds: insurance for a fixed term; insurance for life, according to the common plan, and insurance for the purpose of providing an annuity in old age. No farther particulars are given. It may be remembered that a scheme of this kind was talked of last year, but that it did not mature, being opposed on the ground that to interfere officially in a field where private enterprise was already successful would be unwise.

A severe epidemic of mouth and foot distemper—that scourge from which England and Ireland have suffered so often—is raging among the milch cows in Tokyo Prefecture. Out of 3,500 cows about 200 have been attacked. This is a serious question for milk-consuming people. There prevails an idea that by boiling the milk it loses all dangerous qualities. Probably that is the case, but we have always understood that the milk of cattle thus affected lacks all nutritious properties. At any rate, the safest course is to use foreign condensed milk only while the epidemic lasts, for it has now spread to almost every part of Tokyo.

The Tokyo scandal has reached a phase described in diametrically contradictory terms by two newspapers, both making their announcements in big type, doubly leaded. We need scarcely say that the journals in question are the *Mainichi* and the *Jiumin*. The former declares that the Public Procurator has decided to institute proceedings against Mr. Hoshi Toru for fraud; the latter announces that the investigations conducted at the Tokyo Local Court have made unexpectedly rapid progress, and that, in a few days, all the persons accused will be either honorably acquitted, or discharged owing to insufficient evidence. We may add that the *Mainichi Shimbun* has never for one instant ceased its attacks upon Mr. Hoshi Toru, whom, in issue after issue, it denounces in the most uncompromising terms.

On the night of the 7th a fire broke out in Shimada, Shizuoka prefecture, and 140 houses were destroyed. No casualties to life or limb are reported.

Viscount Watanabe, speaking at a meeting of the Economical Society in the Seiyoken, observed that Japan has arrived at the era when numerous industries are awaiting development. The country is passing from the agricultural to the manufacturing epoch of its existence, and is in urgent need of capital, whereas countries like England and France, which have long been in the industrial epoch, are troubled by a superfluity of capital. But unless Japan had a definite programme as to the industries to be developed and the manner of developing them it would be useless to think of attracting foreign capital. His Excellency dwelt with almost inartistic persistence on the resemblance between Japan's attitude towards the foreign capitalist and the attitude of a man towards a beautiful girl whom he wants to marry but who will have nothing to say to him. This simile has suggested a theme to the cartoonist of the *Jiji Shimpo*. He depicts the Viscount offering the conventional three cups of *sake* to a foreign bride, who turns away in disgust. An exceedingly ill-favoured bride she is.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has a short paragraph saying that a party of five foreign bicyclists were obstructed and assaulted by Japanese workmen in the neighbourhood of Shinagawa on the 6th instant. A lady was riding in front and the workmen seem to have stopped her, whereupon her companions naturally interfered. The story is very vague.

Governor Sufu of Kanagawa Prefecture has proclaimed that various places are to be included hereafter within the limits of Yokohama; namely, Toda-machi, Nakamura, Honmoku, Negishi, parts of Kanagawa and Hodogaya, &c. Yokohama is destined to grow into a very big place, apparently. Of course this measure is dictated by considerations of administrative convenience, but it indicates the gradual extension that has been taking place.

The postal authorities are taking measures to expedite the delivery of the flood of letters and cards that pass through their hands at New Year. The method adopted last year is to be followed: that is to say, the public are invited to tie their New-Year mail-matter in parcels of at least twenty cards or letters, marking the parcel "for New Year delivery." Persons who do not intend to send so many as 20 pieces, are recommended to club with their neighbours. These parcels may be posted at any time between the 15th and the 31st instant, but if they are marked as above, they will not be delivered until New Year's day.

The House of Peers is divided up into no less than 8 sections, only 42 of its 322 members being independent of all such ties. A calculation has been made as to the political complexion of these members, the result being that the present Cabinet can count on a following of 171 in the whole House, whereas the Opposition commands 151 votes. The Ministry is thus secure in both Houses.

Vernacular newspapers seem to be unanimous in their approval of the action taken by the Japanese Government with regard to the Chinese complication, as indicated in the document published by the Foreign Office on the 10th instant. They say that the procedure adopted by this country's diplomatists does them credit, and that China should recognise the friendly part played by her neighbour. We are inclined to think that the statement published by the Foreign Office is somewhat self-effacing, for there can be little doubt that the first international protest against the unwisdom of insisting on the capital punishment of the instigators was made by Japan. England moved almost simultaneously in the same direction, and America took up the matter promptly, but the initiative belongs to Japan. Of course the prohibition with regard to the importation of articles for the manufacture of arms and munitions of war is a dead letter in its present form, but the veto holds with regard to arms; an unfortunate state of affairs, we venture to think.

The *Jiumin* writes in a strain of apparent alarm because the specie reserve continues to diminish. In September it stood at 72 million *yen*; in October, it fell to 70 millions; and it has now fallen to 64 millions. There is not yet any marked appearance of a change in the unfavourable balance of trade, and it is not surprising that the Japanese, like other nations engaged in the scramble for gold, should draw disquieting conclusions from this steady diminution of the Treasury's supply of that metal. When, we wonder, will the world provide for itself a really sound monetary system?

A batch of cadets, numbering 104, graduated yesterday (14th instant) at the Edajima Naval College. The graduation ceremony was attended by H.I.H. Prince Yamashina, representing the Emperor.

A PLIANT WRITER.

We had occasion to comment recently on an extraordinary article written by a Mr. Van Bergen; an article which abounded with false statements about Japan and was calculated to prejudice the country and the people most seriously in the eyes of any one perusing Mr. Van Bergen's misrepresentations. The mention of his name in our columns elicited two letters—one only for publication—the writers of which concurred in preferring against Mr. Van Bergen charges showing that his financial methods betrayed the same moral aberration as his critical recklessness. Another incident of Mr. Van Bergen's proceedings in Japan has now come to our knowledge. It appears that, while representing himself as the duly accredited and recompensed correspondent of certain American journals, he deliberately offered to colour his contributions to their columns with whatever pigments might be indicated by Japanese officialdom provided that adequate pecuniary consideration was given. We need scarcely say that the offer was rejected. Such is the person that undertakes to tell the true story about this country and to expound the morals of its people.

The *Hosai Maru*, a Japanese sailing vessel, while at anchor off Yokohama with a cargo of sugar, valued at *yen* 8,200, was blown ashore on the morning of the 11th. The cargo, which was for the Japan Sugar Refining Co., Tokyo, from the Yokohama branch of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, was lost.

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THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

IT appears to be beyond question that the various Governments have at length agreed to a programme of terms, and that the peace negotiations will now be opened at an early date. The demand which threatened to prove a fatal stumbling block, the demand for the heads of the instigators, is understood to have been modified: their severe punishment alone will be asked for. Neither will the Foreign Representatives attempt, it is said, to draw up a list of culprits. That task was one that thoughtful persons regarded from the first with profound misgiving, for it did not seem possible that the Foreign Representatives could collect evidence sufficiently cogent to warrant a death sentence. The best they could have done would have been to prepare a *primâ facie* case, and it was not pleasant to think that Europe, which lays such a high claim to judicial impartiality, should undertake to pronounce men guilty of a capital crime on the strength of *primâ facie* evidence only. The German Government seems to have shown conspicuous reluctance to abate the demand for capital punishment, which was not unnatural, seeing that it had been formulated by Germany in the first instance, and that the German Minister had been murdered. In one respect the incident is most unfortunate, for although we must all rejoice that the Powers have not adhered to a programme which would inevitably have involved a fresh campaign, the hard fact remains that in China's eyes they stand convicted of vacillation, and that, unless she is wiser than the foreign public supposes, she will draw her own deductions from this shilly-shallying. However, that, after all, is a minor consideration compared with the catastrophes that might result from prolonging the crisis, and, still more, from pushing the military operations to the issue that would surely result from their renewal on a large scale, namely the extension of the war throughout the whole of China and the fall of the dynasty. China has already been subjected to a very severe trial, and probably the world, when it sits down to reflect calmly, will see reason to wonder at the unexpected strength of the Manchu dynasty. With the Court fugitive, its troops shattered and its resources apparently exhausted, there has, nevertheless, been almost complete immunity from insurrection or even disaffection. The Triad uprising in the south can scarcely be taken into account, so abortive and short-lived did it prove. Some may attribute this state of quiescence to the ability of the Viceroys and Governors. But the Viceroys and Governors are only part of the system at the apex of which stands the Court. Nothing is easier than to ridicule the Chinese Throne's administrative incompetence and to charge it with inability to preserve order. But when we consider how remarkably circumscribed have been the effects of an invasion of the Chinese empire by the troops of all the great Powers of the World, and when we observe that tranquillity has reigned in 17 provinces while the 18th was the scene of such an unprecedented struggle, we can not choose but admit that the grasp of the Manchus upon the vast territory ruled by them is immensely more potent than has been usually supposed. No doubt, the responsibility attaching to the Throne becomes heavier in proportion as the fullness of its authority is recognised. That must be conceded. But the point we wish to make is that, whereas the dimensions of this calamity have hitherto been happily circumscribed, the result of renewing the war could scarcely fail to involve the whole of China, and thus, by overthrowing the Manchu authority without having anything to replace it, Europe and America might become responsible for one of the most terrible catastrophes the world has ever seen.

THE ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE OF JAPAN.

IN the campaign of 1894-5 as well as in the recent expedition to relieve Peking, the arrangements made for the care of the sick and the wounded by the Japanese were much eulogised by foreign experts. It would seem, indeed, that this part of the organization of the Japanese army is exceptionally excellent, all the latest improvements having been adopted in the surgical department, and a most thorough system being arranged not only for affording relief within the fighting line, but also for bandaging stations, field hospitals, standing hospitals in belligerent territory, and special hospitals at home. It is not easy to describe on paper the method pursued with regard to field hospitals, and we shall confine ourselves to saying that each Division of the army has a permanent staff of 100 surgeons—or, roughly speaking, 10 to every thousand men,—one of whose first duties is to see that every necessary provision is made for furnishing, establishing, and transporting these hospitals at a moment's notice. The efficiency of the arrangement was subjected to a severe test in the Chili campaign with thoroughly satisfactory results. Another feature of the organization that appears to have been much lauded was the transport of invalids from the field to the reserve hospital in Hiroshima. Each boat of the flotilla that travelled up the Peiho from Tientsin laden with supplies for the troops, had a stock of medical comforts so that she might carry sick and wounded on her return voyage, and as soon as these invalids reached Tientsin, the serious cases were taken into hospital there, while those deemed capable of bearing the voyage were sent to Hiroshima, either by transport or by one of the Red Cross Society's hospital ships, the *Kōsai Maru* (Saviour) and the *Hakuai Maru* (Mercy). These ships are said to be the only vessels of their kind in the world. They were specially built for the Red Cross Society, and are veritable floating hospitals where a patient can be as comfortable as in a first-class institution on shore, and where he is attended by a trained staff of nurses. The Red Cross Society further sent seven parties of lady nurses to the reserve hospital in Hiroshima. Up to the early part of November, its expenditure on account of the war had been six hundred thousand *yen*, and by the time of the soldiers' final return the total will probably reach a million *yen*, but the Society, having an income of two millions yearly, can afford to incur liberal outlay. The "Saviour" and the "Mercy" made 10 voyages between Taku and Ujina between July 18th and Oct. 11th, and carried 1676 of the 2,850 patients transported to Hiroshima in that time. It had been anticipated that the service of the Hiroshima Hospital would be required for the foreign troops as well as for the Japanese, and arrangements were made with that view. But ultimately the French alone availed themselves of the facility, the Russians sending their men to Inasa, the British theirs to Wei-hai-wei, and the Germans theirs to Kiao-chow. The total number of French officers and soldiers admitted was 114, of whom 58 were wounded and 56 were suffering from disease. From the letters written by these patients on leaving the Hospital it is easy to see how thoroughly they appreciated the care bestowed on them. One officer speaks of "feeling as through he had found a second native province in Japan," and a Sergeant-Major, after eulogising the skill of the surgeons and nurses and the generosity of the Japanese people who loaded him and his comrades with presents, declares that he will never forget the treatment he received nor ever cease to talk with his family and friends of the happy hours spent by him in Hiroshima.

"AH SIN."

REFERRING to a correspondent who recently addressed this journal twice, the *Japan Times* says:—"A writer who conceals his identity under the Chinese name of "Ah Sin!" These words seem to imply that our contemporary imagines "Ah Sin" to be an European or American. Such is not the case. He is a Chinese gentleman whose position renders it expedient that he should not address a newspaper over his own signature. We are glad to give publicity to his views, because one of the chief disabilities under which foreigners labour in attempting to form an intelligent judgment about China and her affairs, is profound ignorance of Chinese ways of thinking. The old rule that the unknown is over-estimated, does not hold where Occidental appreciations of the Orient are concerned. Not to know, in that case is to assume the existence of everything bad and contemptible. The average Chinaman is probably as highly gifted an individual as any nation can show, but he certainly is not so regarded in Europe or America, mainly because Europe and America know very

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little about his habits of thought or his interpretations of events. A writer like "AH SIN" helps to supply the deficiency, and we should be glad if there were many of his kind. Concerning his comment on Japan's apparent want of initiative, we cannot but endorse the *Japan Times*' remarks. Japan has been very peculiarly situated with regard to the Chinese complication. It has been necessary for her to efface herself as much as possible Had she shown any alacrity in sending troops for the relief of Peking, her action would surely have been construed as an evidence of sinister designs of self-aggrandisement. In spite of her hesitation, indeed, there were not wanting critics to denounce as a sin against humanity her ultimate leadership of the relief column. And had she openly expressed her dissent from the demand that China should be required to surrender the so-called instigators for execution, she would inevitably have been charged with a disposition to condone a crime the heinousness of which did not appeal to her ill-developed morality. Had she condemned the notion of disarming China and leaving her at the mercy of every marauder, the objection would have been attributed to a plan for giving reality to the yellow peril; and had she endorsed the disarmament programme, she would have been suspected of intriguing to fix her own grasp upon the throat of her helpless neighbour. In short, she has had to show extraordinary reticence, and though undoubtedly by skilful manœuvering she has succeeded in procuring the modification of the most objectionable demand—that for the surrender of the princes and high dignitaries—we can not be surprised that the motives of her doings have eluded the appreciation of distant observers like "AH SIN."

ORCHESTRAL DEVELOPMENT IN JAPAN.

IT appears from an article in the *New York Times*, a part of which is copied below, that the course of Japanese orchestral development is followed by musical observers in Western countries with an interest that contrasts singularly with the indifference in which the subject is held by this community. From the time when the efforts of Japanese musicians to qualify themselves for orchestral performances were first announced, many newspapers in Europe and America have collected and circulated all available information concerning their studies, and the possibilities of gradual progress in a worthy artistic pursuit have been discussed with earnest intelligence. Here, on the contrary, their endeavours receive less attention than is bestowed upon the most ordinary incidents of every-day occurrence. Of the two orchestras that have been formed, one—which from the nature of its nominal functions and the ample resources supposed to be at its command should stand first in importance—is scarcely known to exist by the general public; while the other, though to some extent recognized and encouraged, has never gained the serious consideration its exertions have deserved. Yet it seems possible that, in a peculiar way, an experience gained from the performances of these humble musicians, who are so little appreciated at home, may be turned to practical account by instrumental authorities far away. The explanation is thus given by the New York journal:

E. H. House is still pursuing his interesting and valuable labours with the orchestra of the Imperial Household Department, in Tokyo. The remarkable achievements of this little band of Japanese musicians in the performance of European music was the subject of some comment in this paper last winter. A letter received from Mr. House since that time contains some striking news about his experiments with alto trombones. He has had no horns in his orchestra, and to fill their place has used these trombones. Musicians are well aware that in our orchestras the bass and tenor trombones are employed, but the alto is a stranger to almost all scores but those written in France. The alto, which has a range from E below the bass to the middle C of the treble clef, is not regarded as necessary by German scorers. Mr. House thinks, however, that he will find use for some of its special effects of colour, even after he is provided with horns, which have been promised to him, together with other needed wind instruments.

Mr. House writes that musicians have not had much respect for the alto trombone, because it is used chiefly in military bands, but by accident he discovered its unsuspected qualities. He required a long, soft, holding note, which would have been given to a horn if he had possessed one, and he had to give it to the high trombone. The effect amazed him. "I was quite unprepared," he says, "for such tones as I suddenly found my men capable of producing. I can best describe them by saying that they suggest in brass a character similar to that of the oboe in wood—or the Cor Anglais—but with a tenderness and richness that my critical sense even now refuses to associate with trombones." He cannot get the same tones from his tenor trombones. He is forced to choose one of these explanations: "(1) The altos (with or without pistons) have inherent qualities which we have not fathomed, or (2) these two instruments (the same in both my orchestras) are out of the common order, or (3) the players have found a way to make them do extraordinary things." Remembering the novel demands of Berlioz on certain trombones he is inclined to accept the first as the real explanation. It seems likely that Mr. House has made a discovery which may be of use to writers for the orchestra, and may bring the alto trombone into more general use.

To the above may be added the statement of another American newspaper, that a well-known musical organization proposes to revive a famous work of the last century according to the composer's original intention, which was to employ an alto trombone for important solos that have in modern times been given to trumpets.

Those of our readers who care to look below the surface of things in musical matters, may be interested to know why experts in instrumentation consider trombones, of all grades, especially worthy of attention. They have not only the distinction of extreme, and perhaps unrivalled antiquity, but they alone, in their natural form, find no inconvenience in producing all musical sounds of which they are capable, with absolutely just intonation. This refinement of accuracy is, however, a quality which they are not often called upon to exhibit, the laws of temperament requiring that they accommodate their delivery to that of less flexible instruments. By the ordinary public,—including the public of amateurs,—they are not valued highly. Although in constant use since pre-historic times, their character is not yet fully understood even among scientific students, nor is the extent of their resources known to the most skillful players. In recent years, they have been shamefully degraded by being employed as mere noisy re-inforcements of accompaniment to the shallowest dance-music; and it is this wanton misuse that has made them an offence to delicate artistic sensibilities Few of the eminent composers, unfortunately, have taken sufficient pains to redeem this noble instrument from its base perversions Not many of them, indeed, have seemed to realize the superb effects of which it is capable;—though this lack of knowledge may be largely accounted for by the general ignorance and inefficiency of performers, the necessary consequence of which is that the powers of the trombone are only partially developed, and are at present too dimly apprehended to be thoroughly tested. We have evidence, however, that some of the great masters of earlier generations strongly desired to utilize the instrument to the utmost, but were often deterred because what they wrote could not be properly executed. MOZART, whose command of orchestral effects was limited only by the capacity of his musicians, composed trombone parts so far in advance of his time that the authenticity of some of his scores has been disputed on this account. Before his day, HANDEL tried a few courageous flights for alto trombones, and perhaps was more fortunate in securing a satisfactory interpretation; but twenty-five years after HANDEL's death, no one could be found to carry out the most ambitious of his ideas. Up to the end of the eighteenth century, however, trombones of all degrees—soprano, alto, tenor and bass—were freely employed; not in passages of difficult rapidity, but for effects of dignity and massive strength. After that date, the high trombones began gradually to disappear. BEETHOVEN used them sparingly, and, indeed, showed little disposition to avail himself of any of the family, until a comparatively advanced period of his career. It is a matter of record that he was not sure as to the range of the bass trombones when the Ninth Symphony was composed. But when they appear in his latest works, the power and originality of their treatment are characteristic of this orchestral Titan. WEBER and MENDELSSOHN showed a keen appreciation of their immense value for dramatic purposes, and BERLIOZ, the greatest exponent of instrumentation that France has produced, made strenuous, though ineffectual, efforts, to rescue them from the neglect into which they were everywhere falling in his day. During the latter half of this century, the true trombone group has almost ceased to assert itself in orchestral writing. It is rare to find the bass instrument in any part of the world. The altos have no place in scores for the orchestra, and the soprano has gone out of existence. Separate parts for three trombones often appear, but they are all written, high and low alike, for the same member of the family,—namely, the tenor. There are not trustworthy players for the others. And even the most accomplished performers have little conception of the wide capabilities of their instrument. Many of them, hold-

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ing high rank in their calling, are apparently quite ignorant of the range they can command, and will often declare that certain notes are impossible, though with proper practice these can readily be produced.

It is therefore evident that reform in the trombone department of great orchestras is much needed; and if an accidental circumstance connected with the studies of two unpretending bodies of Japanese musicians shall have the effect of turning attention in the required direction, it may hereafter be a cause of congratulation, even among those who now view with complete disregard the work that is going on within their observation.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The trade returns for the latter half of last month as compiled by the Finance Department show the excess of exports to have been 550,000 *yen*, and the exodus of specie 1,890,000 *yen*. These totals added to the figures for the first half of the month under review are as follows:—

	November 1900. Yen.	Total from January. Yen
Exports	18,810,552	181,757,434
Imports	17,232,220	266,776,940
Excess (exports)	1,578,332	(imports) 85,019,506
Export of gold	2,682,259	48,249,199
Import of gold	282,858	8,244,918
Excess of export	2,399,401	40,004,281
Export of silver	1,384,080	3,654,797
Import of silver		2,494,969
Excess of export	1,384,080	1,159,828

The above figures refer to the nine leading ports —Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, Nagasaki, Hakodate, Niigata, Moji, Shimonoseki, and Kuchinotsu. According to the *Chuo*, the causes of the excess of exports and of the exodus of specie to the amount of 550,000 and 1,890,000 *yen* respectively, shown during the latter half of last month, are to be found in the following facts:—

In Yokohama transactions in raw silk, which constitutes one of the staples of export, have continued to be dull, but have not shown anything like a tendency towards depression or drawback, whereas imports have considerably decreased in volume. As to the increased outflow of specie, this was attributable to the export of ½ million *yen* in gold to San Francisco through the Chartered Bank, and of 180,000 *yen* to Hongkong.

Kobe was less fortunate as it experienced an excess of imports to a certain extent. The export of yarns, copper, and matches, has suffered a serious decrease in consequence of the scarcity of vessels available for shipment. The augmentation in the export of specie was simply the result of the shipment of gold to Hongkong and China, in continuance from the previous term, the sums being 498,000 and 125,000 *yen* respectively, besides 100,000 *yen* in American gold. The excess of imports experienced at Nagasaki arose from the increased purchase of iron and coal from England, and of bones from China and Vladivostock. In the case of Osaka, the increase in exports was the result of a brisk demand from Korea for cotton fabrics, and of a decrease in the import of sugar. In Hakodate the predominance of the import trade arose from considerable purchases of kerosene from America.

THE DOLL SHOW.

We have been furnished with the following report of the Committee of the "Doll Show" for the benefit of the Convent:—

Gross Receipts	1046.41
Expenditures	446.12
Cheque to Balance	$600.29

Audited by
E. P. W. SKRIMSHIRE,
AND G. G. BRADY.

FOOTBALL.

Y.C. AND A.C. VERSUS R. N. HOSPITAL.

This match was played on Thursday afternoon, in spite of the rain, and those who had the courage to face the inclemency of the weather witnessed a most interesting game.

The teams were as previously printed, with the exception of Edwards whose place was filled by Thwaites.

Yokohama won the toss, and playing down wind the ball was started about 3.30 p.m. when they had but 10 men on the field, the 11th not turning up till a few minutes later. The Hospital, however, did not fail to take advantage of this opportunity, and in those few minutes succeeded in scoring a goal after a pretty piece of play by the forwards. Yokohama kept the ball well in their opponents' ground after this, and the Hospital custodian was repeatedly called upon to clear; the Yokohama shooting was, however, poor and without sting owing to the greasy state of the ball, and when the whistle blew for half time the score was one goal to nil in favour of the Hospital.

The second half opened with some pretty play amongst the forwards on both sides, and both goal-keepers were kept busy. The superior speed of the Yokohama men, however, began to tell and it was not long before Smith placed the ball neatly into the net from a pretty centre by Libeaud, and equalised the score.

The game now became much faster, both teams doing their best to score again, but without success, and it ended in a draw. Score, 1 goal each.

The R. N. Hospital men played a sound game keeping well together from first to last. Great praise is due to Capt. Hodgers for putting such a good team in the field, and we can only wish such matches were of more frequent occurrence.

KIDS VERSUS CROCKS.

The title tag of these now historic contests, which usually open and close the football season in Yokohama, is not very euphonious, but there can be no doubt of its practical utility, nor of the boyish inspiration underlying it: therefore it justifies as well as serves its purpose and needs no defence. The game on Saturday marks a new era in the brief history of the fixture, for the Crocks at last have been able to hold their own against the seemingly more agile Kids—but only barely, and another fight must take place ere the palm of supremacy is won. Of course it must be remembered that practically the whole of last year's elder Kids—their line of defence in fact—White, Stephens, Strome, and McGerrow, have been promoted to the most noble order of Crocks, and the Kids have acquired in their places only raw recruits. But this fresh material shows up very well and gives promise of eventually doing very good work upon the winter's playing field. The teams which lined up for the Homeric encounter on Saturday were:—

Kids.		Crocks.
E. Powys	Goal.	F. J. Lias
E. W. Kilby	Backs.	G. Allcock
H. Irwine		M. Stephens
C. H. Thorn	Half.	W. J. White
J. E. Moss	Backs.	W. B. Mason
A. W. S. Austen		C. McGerrow
F. J. Drummond		E. C. Libeaud
E. J. Moss (Jr.)		E. G. Fradgley
H. Kilby	Forwards.	E. B. S. Edwards
W. J. Waddilove		A. S. Anton
K. van R. Smith		O. Strome

Referee: J. H. Bathgate.

The afternoon was bright but very cold, a piercing wind tearing down the ground and chilling the spectators to the marrow. The Kids won the toss, and naturally J. E. Moss, their Captain, elected to have the wind in his men's favour. As a consequence, during the first half the ball was principally in the Crocks' half, and Lias had to maintain a vigilant look-out in goal. Within a few minutes of the start, two corners fell to the Kids, but they did not benefit, and a like result followed with the third corner, which fell to them within the space of the first five minutes. The Crocks then secured the leather and ran it down the ground, but Strome was given "off-side" and the ball soon returned to his opponents' territory. The next man to attempt a goal was Harry Kilby, but Lias fisted the leather out and the play was quickly transferred to the other end of the field, the Crocks at this emergency playing well together. Fradgley shot for goal, but failed to achieve his object. This challenge evidently spurred the Kids to faster work, for they collared the ball and began a series of attacks on the enemy's goal, van Smith in particular sending in a hot shot, followed by the other forwards in quick succession as a result of several scrimmages near the goal. Lias, however, was not to be beaten, and he cleared his lines repeatedly. For a while after this display the game seemed to flag, being mostly give and take across the ground: then Strome broke away and, being tackled, a corner fell to the Crocks. They did not convert, however, and some minutes elapsed before an opportunity was presented to them. Then Fradgley had the leather passed to him and he put it through the goal-posts: unfortunately he was "off-side" and the point was not allowed. Immediately following the kick-out, the Kids rushed the leather down the ground and by good combination managed to keep it there—though Lias fisted it out once—until van Smith secured the first goal of the match with a warm shot from the wing. Soon after, the whistle went for half-time.

The wind had gradually decreased in violence, so that when play was resumed, the Crocks had very little in their favour, but the former exertions of the Kids were beginning to tell. Nevertheless, the finish of the game was well-contested, and at times, it must be said, the combination on both sides was better than during the first half, though one or two players still persisted in wandering from their proper places, to the annoyance of the Captains and the spoiling of the game. The Crocks attacked immediately after the kick-off, and Powys found it necessary to fist out more than once. Then the play was transferred to the other end for a few moments. Soon the ball was taken right down the field by the Crocks, and, evading the opposing backs, White succeeded in equalizing the score—one goal all. From this time on both sides did their best to increase the score, the play moving quickly from one side of the field to the other. Corners were frequent, but nothing resulted, and finally the game concluded with the total still standing at one goal all.

The match attracted a good attendance—for Yokohama—many ladies being among the spectators. Mrs. E. J. Moss, assisted by the Misses Sharp and Miss Waddilove, presided at the tea-table in the Pavilion, which was cosily warmed. We venture to think that if it was more generally known how comfortable and warm the pavilion is, even on the coldest day of winter, many more ladies would put in an appearance at these engagements. The game can be easily followed from the upper verandah, and there can be no question of the additional zest which the players would throw into the game if ladies would always grace the events with their presence and approving smiles.

A SONNET.

O, Thou, who holds from time to time thy sway
O'er Earth's great nations, and o'er empires vast,
Insatiable Mars! how long will last
Thy thirst for this grim sport, this wanton play
That slays our bravest champions day by day?—
Who enter the arena at the blast
Thy heralds blow, and, faithful to the last,
Defend their country's honour and its sway.
And over all the battlefield where lie,
In sad confusion, dying, wounded, dead,
Thy chariot rolls supreme in majesty,
O'ershadowed by the war-clouds overhead.—
While outraged Peace looks on with troubled eye,
To see her calm disturbed, her robe stained red!

V. G. Bowden.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week:—

	Air Temp. Max	Min	Lake.	State of Weather	Remarks in General
Sunday, 2nd	39°	37°	40°	Fine	—
Monday, 3rd	43°	32°	40°	Fine	—
Tuesday, 4th	45°	31°	40°	Fine	—
Wed'sday, 5th	43°	31°	39°	Fine	—
Thursday, 6th	39°	36°	39°	Rain	-
Friday, 7th	54°	37°	39°	Fine	—
Saturday, 8th	42°	30°	38°	Fine	—

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AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

A correspondent writing from Cleveland (Ohio), under date of Nov. 5th says: To-morrow is election day and the papers try to make us believe that we are intensely excited: while each of the great parties at the same time pretends to be calmly assured of victory. Saturday in this city of Cleveland saw a tremendous pageant called "Prosperity Parade" by the Republicans, 50,000 men probably were in the line of march. Industrial interests and large companies sent all their working men to represent them. One such working man was seen to step out of the ranks to shake hands with a bystander who was shouting "Hurrah for Bryan," saying, "Yes, that's right—that's the man I'm going to vote for.' Evidently some Bryanites got pay for their day's work the same as if they stayed in the shop.

Each of the great parties gives warning that the country will go to ruin if the other candidate is elected, so it is to be feared that "between the devil and the deep sea" we may be either gobbled or swallowed up. If the cable ceases suddenly to bring news of this section of the continent to you, you may take it for granted that sharks and whales are sporting where once floated the "stars and stripes," while the aspiring Republic of the United States is blotted out.

In which case may some one tell the Filipinos to hurry up and fight it out among themselves before some one else annexes them. Hawaii and American missionaries and merchants in China may whistle, and Cuba may "go it alone" looking out for some green eyed cat afloat on the waves.

Automobiles have come to be a feature of American cities. To my mind nothing is more absurd than two men in an automobile with a square, chopped-off bobby-looking front to their vehicle, one of them grasping a handle, while they buzz and whirr along as fast as a hen with her head chopped off, striking terror to the heart of pedestrians and bicyclists. The sight of them is like a smart parody compared with the dash vigour and spirit of a span of horses with a driver holding taut reins behind them, and who has something more to do than to hold a handle.

It is said that the weather for October in this region has been the most perfect, the average temperature the highest that has been known here for forty-five years. We left the windows open while we sat out on verandahs, and summer clothes are hardly out of vogue; while the country has been ablaze with glorious colour.

Autumn skies in Japan were never more fine than these of Ohio this year.

Saloons in this city are all to be strictly closed on election day. Saloon keepers say they will lose $200,000. Wives, mothers and home-keepers have not yet reported how much they will gain.

HERR RICHTER AND THE KAISER.

In the course of the debate in the Reichstag on the German Government's policy in China, Herr Richter is reported in foreign telegrams to have declared on Nov. 20th that the Radicals were of the opinion since the assassination of Baron von Ketteler, that a military demonstration in China was absolutely necessary, but that the despatch of an ironclad division was superfluous. He alluded to the public declarations of Emperor William, and said they were obviously intended to influence public opinion. Herr Richter added that he thought the Emperor should first have had an understanding with the competent Ministers regarding the tenor and wording of these declarations, asserting that much that was objectionable and displeasing would thus have been obviated. Politics and religion, he continued, ought not to have been mixed up as they had been in the Emperor's speeches, because the effect was to spoil both. "The greatest mistake of our China policy," concluded Herr Richter, "was after the Chino-Japanese war, when we joined with Russia and France in opposing Japan." Herr Richter's advice to the Emperor to consult his Ministers is reported to have elicited marks of approval.

DEATH OF MR. FRANK GILLETT.

We announce in this issue with regret the death at Chingford, Essex, of Mr. Frank Gillett, who has passed away at the comparatively early age of 47. Mr. Gillett came to Japan in November, 1881, and for many years was a noted figure among the musical members of the community, being the happy possessor of a well-trained tenor voice, which was heard to advantage on the concert platform as well as in operatic music. In regard to the latter, old residents can recall him in the tenor parts of the *Pirates of Penzance*, *Patience*, *Box and Cox*, etc. For one season, too, during the absence in England of Mr. J. T. Griffin, he was conductor of the Yokohama Choral Society. In the world of sport his tastes and inclinations were chiefly for lawn-tennis and football, and he acted more than once as referee in the Interport football match between Yokohama and Kobe. There can be little doubt that his terrible experiences in the *Aden* disaster off the coast of Socotra in the year 1897 appreciably shortened his span of life, for he returned to Japan after a brief sojourn in the old country with his nervous system completely shattered. Diabetes was the immediate cause of death. He left Japan in the early summer of this year in the hope that a run home would set him up again. But the hope was futile and only a fortnight ago his wife and daughter left Yokohama to join him in England. We extend our sympathy to them in their bereavement.

FOREIGN VIEWS OF THE CHINESE SITUATION.

The following telegram in latest Victoria papers to hand is dated New York, Nov. 20th:

"There is a growing feeling of impatience in London over the delay in effecting a settlement of the Chinese questions, says the *Tribune* cablegram. The English press frankly confesses that it is hearing about punitive expeditions to one quarter or another, and that it considers it hardly worth while to keep all China in a state of turmoil, preventing thereby the restoration of normal trade relations in order to punish a few criminals who cannot be caught while the Court remains in exile. The punishment of the princes and especially Tuan, is the chief obstacle to a settlement. The latest despatches indicate that the European powers are gradually coming to a decision on the preliminaries of peace on which general negotiations may be opened.

China negotiations, according to a dispatch to the (New York) *Times* from Washington, have reached a most serious stage. The actions of the Powers are making partition almost inevitable. The United States faces a situation which means probably that it will either have to take a slice of China or go without indemnity. In that case, it is positively asserted by high authorities, that the United States may succeed in reducing the demands of other Powers, and is now making every effort to that end, but without immediate prospects of success. Every nation has disavowed any intention of dismembering China, but that merely relates to dismemberment as a punishment for the Boxer outrages. No nation has pledged itself to avoid taking a course which will sooner or later make dismemberment inevitable.

RUSSIA AND THE CHINESE RAILWAYS.

A telegram was published on Nov. 16th by the *New York Herald* from its Yalta correspondent, which ran as follows:—

"The British Government having called the attention of Count Lamsdorf to the manner in which Russian troops are holding British railroads in China, and the English papers having made attacks on Russia, which, if founded on truth, would place this country entirely in the wrong, the following statement has been made by a Russian official:

"'Russia,' said he, 'was the first to arrive on the scene after the outbreak in the neighborhood of Pekin. She found the railways destroyed and abandoned. It was a question about which there was no time to waste or to go and ask advice of the English, who showed no anxiety to come and guard their road. We proceeded forthwith, using the utmost speed, to make repairs, manned it and placed it in running order. Did the English expect that after we had expended an extraordinary amount of labor and after large expenditure, we are going to hand back the railway at their request? Would anyone expect that? We therefore held, and are holding, the sections until an estimate of the cost has been made out. As fast as this is done such sections, with estimates, will be turned over to Marshal Count von Waldersee, for him to deal with. That is the plan, and it is a very simple one."

A BANDIT REPUBLIC IN MANCHURIA.

That a community of robbers have established a republic in Manchuria is the somewhat startling news brought to us by late Canadian papers. At any rate this is the chief statement set forth in the following St. Petersburg telegram dated Nov. 17th:

"The Russian troops are encountering a robber republic lying south of Kirin, Manchuria, in the mountainous region. The president of this congress of banditti is a certain Chaidengue.

"According to general staff despatches, Lt.-Col. Duroff, with two companies of infantry and a sotnia and a half of Cossacks, while reconnoitring recently, collided with Chaidengue, and two battalions of Chinese regular troops, who were operating with him.

"Lt.-Col. Duroff captured two guns in the engagement. Gen. Foh, a few days later, with a mixed Russian force, engaged 65 of Chaidengue's followers in the same pass in which Lt.-Col. Duroff had fought the bandits. Gen. Foh also took two guns. Gen Rennenkampf, with five sotnias of Cossacks, had a sharp fight on November 11, 20 versts from Kirin, on the Quirin Mukden road with Chinese regular troops. Twenty Cossacks were killed and 20 were wounded. A reconnaisance developed the fact that Mogeaschen is enclosed with a stone wall 18 feet high and five feet thick; the inner city also is walled."

NIPPON LAND AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The above company having lately called upon its shareholders to pay up 500,000 *yen* by way of supplementing the reserves as required by the Insurance Law, a section of them raised the question of the expediency of dissolving the corporation, and consequently it has become necessary to convene a general meeting which will take place on the 20th instant. According to the *Shogyo* the amount of insurance accepted by the company up to the end of October last, in connection with which no claims have yet been made, had reached over 29,700,000 *yen*, which total is classified as follows:—

	1899. Yen.	1900. Yen.	Total. Yen.
Interior	—	9,400,000	9,400,000
London	2,500,000	15,000,000	17,500,000
San Francisco ...	600,000	1,400,000	2,000,000
Shanghai, Hongkong, Bombay and other places	—	800,000	800,000
Total	3,100,000	26,600,000	29,700,000

The Reserves, for which the present call is made, are as follows:—

	yen.
Net premiums	1,265,892
Net payments.....263,696	
Reserves for payments....106,417	539,340
Working expenses.....179,225	
Balance	726,552
Reserves for payments	106,417
Total (aggregate reserves for 1900)	832,970
Reserves for 1899.....	161,849
Total	994,819

It should be noted that the reserves for 1899 were calculated at the rate of 15 per cent upon the amount, 1,078,697 *yen*, insured by the agencies abroad during that year.

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STOCK OF RAW AND WASTE SILK.

According to investigations made by the Silk Dealers Association the stock of raw and waste silk at the end of last month in Yokohama was follows:—

	Bales.
Filatures	30,065
Orikaeshi	1,182
Mixed	147
Reeels	10,056
Hamatsuki	45
Total	41,495

As to the stock held by the leading wholesale merchants, the following figures are given:—Moki, 8,600 bales; Hara, 9,633; Shibusawa, 5,450; Shinei, 2,448; Ono, 3,520; Kimura, 2,075; Imai, 1,336; Wakao, 1,202. For waste silk, the figures stand as follows:—*Noshi* (from filatures), 177 bales; plain *noshi*, 1,423; raw fibres (from filatures), 2,375; ordinary outer fibres, 1,764; *osen*, 11; pierced cocoons, 119; mixed, 881; total 6,750.

BANK STATISTICS.

The Finance Department published recently statistics showing the amount of the capitals of the various banks throughout the empire. The following are comparative figures for the past six years:—

END OF DECEMBER, 1894.

Class of Bank.	No.	Capital in Yen Nominal.	Paid up.
Nippon Ginko	1	20,000,000	10,000,000
Yokohama Specie	1	6,000,000	4,500,000
National	133	48,816,100	48,816,100
Savings	34	1,420,000	682,000
Joint Stock	565	42,083,990	27,529,030
Ordinary partnership	17	2,977,400	2,823,300
Limited partnership	54	5,058,090	4,351,431
Individual	64	2,658,420	2,637,020
Total	869	129,064,000	101,408,881

1895.

Nippon Ginko	1	30,000,000	22,500,000
Yokohama Specie	1	6,000,000	4,500,000
National	133	49,056,100	48,881,100
Savings	91	5,290,000	2,187,849
Joint Stock	661	59,475,719	37,229,485
Ordinary partnership	20	4,045,900	3,933,900
Limited partnership	71	7,199,740	7,013,616
Individual	65	3,987,520	3,987,520
Total	1,043	165,054,979	130,233,470

1896.

Nippon Ginko	1	30,000,000	22,500,090
Yokohama Specie	1	12,000,000	6,000,000
National	121	44,766,100	44,761,770
Savings	161	12,172,500	3,963,840
Joint Stock	879	130,152,350	73,228,268
Ordinary partnership	21	4,678,900	3,719,400
Limited partnership	85	7,974,674	7,788,983
Individual	65	4,150,020	4,060,020
Total	1,338	245,824,544	166,222,281

1897.

Nippon Ginko	1	30,000,000	22,500,000
Yokohama Specie	1	12,000,000	9,000,000
Japan Industrial	1	10,000,000	2,500,000
Agricultural and Industrial	6	3,850,000	962,500
National	58	13,630,000	13,630,000
Savings	227	20,929,000	8,011,953
Joint Stock	1,096	212,600,520	134,750,212
Ordinary partnership	32	6,163,900	5,989,900
Limited partnership	106	8,839,674	8,478,779
Individual	71	4,709,020	4,659,020
Total	1,595	322,722,114	110,482,364

1898.

Nippon Ginko	1	20,000,000	30,000,000
Yokohama Specie	1	12,000,000	10,500,000
Japan Industrial	1	10,000,000	2,500,000
Agricultural and Industrial	41	25,370,000	8,948,355
National	4	39,000	390,000
Savings	273	27,549,300	11,798,493
Joint Stock	1,247	254,326,940	166,569,099
Ordinary partnership	38	9,684,900	6,634,900
Limited partnership	114	9,267,874	9,205,874
Individual	86	6,406,520	6,136,520
Total	1,806	384,995,534	252,683,241

1899.

Nippon Ginko	1	30,000,000	30,000,000
Yokohama Specie	1	24,004,000	12,000,000
Japan Industrial	1	10,000,000	25,000,000
Agricultural and Industrial	45	27,920,000	15,980,000
Bank of Formosa	1	5,000,000	1,250,000
Savings	348	36,090,300	15,518,789
Joint Stock	1,349	273,617,415	182,678,768
Ordinary partnership	90	10,606,900	10,304,900
Limited partnership	135	9,951,774	9,455,774
Individual	100	8,145,520	7,125,520
Total	2,031	435,331,909	287,614,230

Classified according to the amount of capital on hand, the figures are given as follows:—

Banks.	Number with a Capital below 10,000 yen.	Same, above 10,000 below 30,000.	Same, above 30,000 below 500,000.
Savings	—	—	137
Joint Stock	17	146	139
Ordinary partnership	1	10	8
Limited partnership	1	55	23
Individual	8	31	16
Total	27	242	323

	Above 50,000 & below 100,000.	Above 100,000 & below 300,000.	Above 300,000 & below 500,000.
Agricultural and Industrial	—	1	10
Savings	115	79	10
Joint Stock	388	464	36
Ordinary partnership	12	13	1
Limited partnership	26	15	2
Individual	24	17	—
Total	565	589	99

	Above 500,000 and below 1 million.	Above 1 million.
Nippon Ginko	—	1
Yokohama and Specie	—	1
Japan Industrial	—	1
Agricultural and Industrial	26	8
Formosa Bank	—	1
Savings	6	1
Joint Stock	62	57
Ordinary partnership	2	2
Limited partnership	4	2
Individual	—	4
Total	102	78

THE AUSTRALIAN SUBSCRIPTION HORSES.

The nineteen Australian subscription horses landed from the steamer *Shinano Maru* for the N.R.C. were drawn for by the subscribers at 2 p.m. yesterday at Mr. Durand's stables, No. 83, Main Street, with the following results:—

	Years.
Mr. Ward .....No. 1...Br., Mare	4
Mr. Hugo .....No. 2...Br., Gelding	5
Mr. Pors .....No. 3...Died on passage	—
Mr. Pors.....No. 4...Bay, Mare	5
Mr. Worthington.....No. 5...Br., Mare	6
Mr. Russia.....No. 6. Red Roan, Mare	6
Mr. Mori.....No. 7...Bay, Mare	5
Mr. Morris .....No. 8...Bay, Mare	5
Mr. Russia.....No. 9...Br., Mare	5
Mr. Suzuki.....No. 10...Bay, Mare	5
Mr. Hugo .....No. 11...Br, Mare	5
Mr. Durand .....No. 12...Ch., Mare	5
Mr. Isaacs .....No. 13...Bay, Mare	4
Mr. Kingdon .....No. 14...Bay, Mare	5
Mr. Tegner .....No. 15...Ch., Mare	5
Mr. Isaacs .....No. 16...Bay, Mare	5
Mr. Rose .....No. 17...Ch, Mare	5
Mr. Mitchell .....No. 18...Bay, Mare	4
Mr. Mottett.....No. 19...Bay, Mare	4
Mr. Parsons .....No. 20...Br., Mare	5

THE "KANAGAWA MARU" SHOOTING CASE.

The trial of the Siamese named Nai Mainit on a charge of shooting his wife on board the *Kanagawa Maru* on 31st August, in Singapore harbour, was concluded on November 23rd at Singapore Assizes. According to the evidence of Mrs. Mainit she met her husband at a garden party where he fell in love with her. She did not return his love at first, but got to like him afterwards and ran away with him and they were married in a Registry office in London. Ten days afterwards the accused sailed for Siam. It was against the rules of the Siamese Civil Service for students to marry while studying.... Her husband was very miserable at being parted from her, and wrote her affectionate letters. She wrote affectionate letters to him, fairly loving letters. They were not genuine—she wrote them because she thought he would be disappointed if he did not get such letters. Her husband sent her £150 and being anxious to come out she started for Singapore in the *Sanuki Maru*. During the voyage she learned that the position her husband could give her in Siam, was not what she had been led to believe and she determined to return to England. She booked her passage home by the *Kanagawa Maru*, and went on board that vessel. When she arrived in Singapore there was a letter saying that her mother was dying. She told accused that was the reason she wanted to go home again. When they were sitting together on deck after dinner accused produced the revolver, but showed no intention of shooting her—only of shooting himself. The defence was that the shooting was an accident. The jury found a unanimous verdict of not guilty.

PROPOSED ABOLITION OF THE CONVENTIONAL TARIFF.

The Chambers of Commerce in Kobe and Kyoto have addressed a special communication to the Osaka Chamber urging the advisability of calling a meeting of the united chambers with the view of deliberating upon the subject of the abolition of the Conventional Tariff The Osaka Chamber of Commerce, it is added, submitted the matter to its principal officials for consideration, and it was decided that a general assembly of Chambers of Commerce throughout the empire should be convened to discuss the point at issue under the heading of "national financial redress." It may therefore be anticipated, remarks the *Jimmin*, that the time will soon come when the public will witness a resolute attitude on the part of the Chambers in the direction of the abolition of the Conventional Tariff.

BANK OF JAPAN.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

On Saturday, Dec. 8th:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	18,584,900
Amount of convertible notes issued	193,551,021
Government deposits	35,671,247
General deposits	4,565,578
Exchange liability	31,274
Total	282,394,021
Cr.	
Discount notes	61,594,619
Foreign discount notes	13,349,169
Loan to Government	20,000,000
General loans	55,276,368
Exchange liability	2,426,640
Government bonds	52,471,679
Property	2,233,840
Bullion and Specie	66,041,714
Total	282,394,021

ISSUE ACCOUNT.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	195,185,647
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	62,208,894
Silver	2,500,000
Total	64,708,894
Securities:—	
Government bonds	27,465,204
Government certificates	29,000,000
Government bills	10,212,837
Commercial notes	63,798,712
Total	130,476,753

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	936,948
Silver	—	—
General loans	—	427,190
Government deposits	1,143,681	—
General deposits	413,928	—

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AMERICAN NOTES.

General Azcarraga, the Spanish Premier, recently announced at a Cabinet council that a Spanish-American convention had been signed in Washington by which the islands of Caygayen and Cibutu, in the Philippine archipelago, had been ceded for $100,000. By some mistake mention of the islands of Caygayen and Cibutu was left out of the treaty of peace with Spain. The omission was not discovered till this year, and Spain agreed to accept a cash payment in return for the islands.

The board of directors of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, at a special meeting held in New York on Nov. 13, approved the purchase, through Speyer & Co., of the majority of the capital stock of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and accepted the proposition of Messrs. Speyer & Co. to purchase $10,000,000 of twenty-five year 4½ per cent. gold bonds of the Southern Pacific Company, secured by the control of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and stocks and bonds of other companies.

The latest American papers to hand contain the following :—

Three hundred citizens of Lincoln County Colo., took Preston Porter Jr., aged 16 years, the confessed murderer of a little white girl, from the Sheriff and burned the youthful prisoner at the stake. The scene of the terrible execution was the spot where the negro committed his fiendish crime eight days previous. Richard W. Frost, father of the slain child, applied the match to the funeral pyre and 300 of his neighbors, who had taken the law into their own hands, encircled the dying lad and ignored his most piteous appeals for mercy.

In Sonoma, Sacramento, Mendocino, Alameda, Yolo, Yuba and Joaquin counties, California, hops are extensively and successfully grown. The plantations of the State combined would form one enormous area of 7,500 acres, a far-reaching expanse of valley land, nearly twelve miles square and containing more than 9,000,000 hop vines, yielding in a favourable season almost $2,000,000 worth of dried hops. The San Francisco *Chronicle*, discussing the subject, says :—"It is not generally known, but the largest hop yards in the world are in California, along the Sacramento, Russian and Feather rivers, and the very biggest hop field on earth is at Pleasanton, in Alameda county, where there are 368 acres, with more than 445,000 vines under one wire."

During a fair year the American peanut crop will average nearly 5,000,000 bushels, estimating twenty two pounds to the bushel. This is but a small proportion of the world's crop, however, which aggregated fully 550,000,000 pounds. It is calculated that the U.S. eats about $10,000,000 worth of peanuts yearly, or 2,000,000 bushels of the nuts, either in candy or the original kernels. The shucks or shells form also good food for pigs, while peanut vines are a first-class fodder for mules. Very few peanuts are eaten out of the pod in Europe, although fully 400,000,000 pounds are sent to Great Britain and the continent every year from Africa and Asia. They are converted into oil and a sort of flour at factories at Marseilles and several English cities. A bushel of the genuine peanuts shelled can be pressed into about a gallon of oil, which is substituted for olive and other table oils very frequently. It sells at from 60 cents to $1 a gallon, and the meal or flour left after pressure is used for feeding horses and baked into a kind of bread, which has a large sale in Germany and France.

Mark Twain's return to America, after several years' hard effort undergone for the purpose of paying the heavy debts incurred by the publishing firm of which he was a member, is a subject of widespread comment. The Washington *Post's* words are typical of the universal sentiment: "Now he is home once more—free, as he understands freedom, in his high, self-abnegating creed, and he stands erect, owing no man a cent, sure that he has wronged or injured none who trusted him. He has been for many years the kindliest and sweetest-natured humorist in America. He has made us laugh with him, but never to the pain or the humiliation of any human being. His wit is delightful, always without a sting, and beneath it flows a stream of noble and pathetic human nature that makes us love him. We believe that no one within the borders of this vast country will withhold the tribute of his sympathy and obligation. The knowledge that Mark Twain who for twenty years or more has touched our emotions with a master hand, is at last emancipated from even the fantastic bonds of self-respect and conscience comes to all of us in the guise of a personal delight and gratitude."

The U.S. Bureau of Statistics latest compilation d scloses many unique characteristics of the commerce of the great lakes. For instance, in the case of Conneaut, Ohio, which Andrew Carnegie has declared will one day be the greatest ore-unloading port in the world, the 353 vessels which have entered the harbour this season have brought 1,748,255 tons of iron ore, or a greater quantity than was discharged at any other port, with two exceptions. One of these exceptions is the port of Ashtabula, also on Lake Erie. Ashtabula will this season rank as the greatest ore-receiving port in America, having received up to October 1 a total of 2,933,647 tons. The lake lumber trade, in which there was such demoralization last year, appears to be making a very favourable showing this season. For the month of September the aggregate cargoes transported amounted to 436,926,000 feet, and for the season up to October 1 1,427,000,000 feet. Duluth ranks as the greatest lumber-shipping port, having sent out 277,071,000 feet during the season. Chicago heads the list of receiving ports, 378,546,000 feet having been unloaded at her wharves. Cleveland is a pretty close second, with a record of 339,704,000 feet for the season.

With a majority of one vote, and that the vote of the moderator, the New York Presbytery decided that the Westminister Confession, with its doctrine of predestination, was good enough to remain as the creed of the Presbyterian church. The number of votes cast was 142, of which 109 were recorded as votes of clergymen and thirty-three as votes of elders of the church The action taken at the meeting was found in the "overture" which had been sent out to all the Presbyterians of the States by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church for the purpose of ascertaining the opinion of the various bodies of the church on the question of revising the creed. When the vote had been counted it was found that seventy-one favored revision and seventy-one opposed it. The announcement that the vote was a tie created a stir among those present. The stated clerk, Dr. Birch, drew the attention of the assembly to the rule governing the Presbytery which provides that in case of a tie the moderator shall cast the deciding vote. Dr. Wiley had already voted in his individual capacity and his vote had been recorded as against revision. The moderator then cast his vote with the ayes, the anti-revisionists carrying the day.

Patrick J. Fitzgerald, once champion six-day walker of the world and still holder of the 100-hour go-as-you-please record, is dead at his home in Long Island City. He died from dropsy after a brief illness. Fitzgerald was born in Ireland in 1847. He came to America in 1864, settling in Montreal, where he took part in a number of international races. He came to New York in 1866 and took part in various games around the city during the next twelve years. In 1879, at the American Institute, he made a new record of eleven miles in one hour. Two years later at the same place he won a six-day walking contest, making 582 miles and taking the championship. In 1882 he lost the championship to George Hazel in Madison Square Garden, Hazel covering 577 miles. In 1894 Fitzgerald won the six-day event in the garden after a close race with Charles Rowell of England. Fitzgerald made 610 miles and Rowell was six miles behind him at the finish. Fitzgerald's record of 453 miles and 1320 yards in 100 hours has never been beaten.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A London telegram states that the Duke and Duchess of York, according to the *Daily Mail*, have definitely decided to visit Canada.

It is reported in vernacular papers that Mr. Ph. R. Goedkoop, local manager of the firm of Messrs. E. L. van Nierop & Co., has been charged in the Japanese Courts with assaulting a Japanese merchant named Morimoto who had gone to his office on business.

A man named Kobayashi Kannosuke, employed by the 130th National Bank of Osaka, was arrested at Amagasaki, Sesshu, on the 8th instant, on a charge of stealing 5,000 *yen* belonging to the bank. A few days ago he disappeared and an examination of his books disclosed the defalcation.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday, before Judge Sato, the hearing came on of the appeal by F. da Roza against the decision of the local Court, by which he was ordered to pay *yen* 108 to Messrs. Bowden Bros, The appellant failed to appear. Judgment was given for the respondent with costs.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday an application by Mr. Wilson of Messrs. Browne & Co. No. 72, Yokohama, for temporary attachment of the property of Mr. A. M. Apcar owing to the failure on the part of Mr. Apcar to pay house rent amounting to *yen* 277.74 was rejected by the Court. It was stated that Mr. Apcar was willing to pay the rent, but not at the rate specified by the claimant.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. John W. Hall sold by public auction at his Sales Rooms, at No. 61, the lot known as No. 220 A Bluff, containing 221 *tsubo* of land and a four roomed bungalow, with out-buildings. The property was knocked down for 4,450 *yen*. On the same afternoon the property known as No. 83 Settlement, now in occupation of Messrs. Durand & Co., was sold by Mr. Hall for 30,000 *yen*.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday morning before Judge Sato, the hearing of a claim instituted by Kemchan Dovjimal against Naval rai and one other was resumed. The parties were represented by Messrs. Sawada and Kuwada respectively. One witness was examined. The claimant applied for the summons of two Japanese merchants as witnesses. The request was acceded to by the Court, which adjourned *sine die*.

Home papers report the failure of the currant crops in Southern Greece and the Ionian Islands. The normal crop is usually 200,000 tons, but the maximum yield this year is only 40,000 tons. The general condition of the currant market has reached a sensational stage, and retail consumers will, it is expected, soon have to pay 1s 6d per lb. for their currants. This looks bad for the makers of mincemeat and Christmas puddings!

The police have arrested six men charged with a swindle on the firm of Singleton, Benda & Co., Yokohama, whereby cloth to the value of *yen* 2,945 was fraudulently obtained during the month of November. The principal culprit alleged that he had a deposit of *yen* 4,500 with a Japanese bank, and when a telephone message was addressed by the foreign firm to this bank, two clerks in collusion with the swindlers, answered that the statement was correct. As a matter of fact there was no such deposit. The cloth has been traced by the police and is held pending the criminal proceedings.

It has been reported that Mr. Alfred Harmsworth, the enterprising proprietor of the *Daily Mail*, is about to establish in the United States a New York edition of his journal. Mr. Harmsworth, however, in an interview on Nov. 20th said :—"The object of my present visit to the United States and Canada, like my previous one, is holiday-making, pure and simple. After visiting the Dominion, I am going to Southern California, and thence to Florida for the tarpon-fishing. I shall be accompanied by Mrs. Harmsworth, my secretary and an automobile. I do not wish

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to hear the word newspaper mentioned from the time I land from the *Teutonic* in New York to the time of my departure from there on the *Oceanic* in March. I only desire to get a vacation, which I have not had for several years."

A man named Nishida Yoshiyemon, employed by Nakajima Hanzo, a druggist, at Isecho, Nihonbashi, Tokyo, was arrested by the police on the 12th inst. He was entrusted with *yen* 750 to deposit with the Shogyo Bank, but decamped with the money, which he spent at Kyoto, Osaka, Nagoya, and other places. He returned to Tokyo on the 25th ult.

The preliminary examination of two Chinese firemen belonging to the British steamer *Glenturret*, who were arrested by the Custom officials on Nov. 16th on a charge of smuggling opium, has been concluded in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, and both men have been committed for trial. The opium, which the prisoners had brought ashore with the object of disposing of it has been confiscated by the Customs authorities.

The laying-in of winter stocks in Tokyo having been completed during last month, arrivals of goods have fallen off considerably of late, orders being limited to quantities barely sufficient to meet immediate requirements. The quantity of merchandise presented for transmission by railway is also reported to have diminished by 40 per cent. since October last. The season, however, has set in for the movement of rice, sake, soy, and fruit from various parts of the country. Below are details :—

	During November. Yen.	During October. Yen.
Goods transported to the interior	95,999. 94	135,126,159
Arrivals.....	157,004,741	165,330,112

The following report was received on the 3rd instant by the Central Tea Dealers Council from its office in Chicago :—The tea market is still in an unsettled condition, owing to the reaction of the Presidential election. The re-election of Mr. McKinley by a large majority, however, promises to make the trade prosper. Prices appear to have assumed a downward tendency on account of the steady increase in the arrivals of leaf from Japan, China, India, and Ceylon. Local wholesale merchants as well as retailers, having purchased large quantities during July and August, are reported to be in possession of considerable stocks, and it is impossible under these circumstances, to anticipate a revival of trade in the near future, although there is no cause for serious apprehension as things are going on smoothly in every respect.

The funeral of Lieut.-General Baron Kuroda, Chief Chamberlain to the Crown Prince took place at Aoyama Cemetery on the afternoon of the 10th inst. The following were present :—Representatives of the Crown Prince, Princes Komatsu, Arisugawa, Fushimi, Kwacho, Kujo, Yamashina, and Kanin; Representatives of Marquises Ito, Saionji, and Yamagata, the Foreign Ministers to Japan, Viscount Tanaka, Marquis Tokudaiji, Vice-Admiral Yamamoto, Marquis Higashikuze, members of the Privy Council, Marquis Nakayama, Viscount Takatsuji, General Nozu, Lieut.-General Terauchi, Lieut.-General Baron Hasegawa, Lieut.-General Baron Kawamura, and Major-General Nakamura, and over one thousand military, naval, and civil officers.

A lecture and concert were given on Friday evening in the Van Schaick Hall in aid of the destitute sufferers by the famine in India. The lecture, on "Things Indian," was delivered by Mrs Apcar, who has on previous occasions enlightened Yokohama people on subjects related to the people of the Indian empire, and proved thoroughly instructive and interesting. It was preceded by an overture, "Il matrimonia segreto" (Cimarosa), by Mr. W. K. Vincent and Miss Page, and followed by a most entertaining concert programme. Madame Henkler sang with much acceptance Tours' "Because of thee;" Mr S. H Somerton rendered with his usual success Cowen's fine song "The Promise of Life" and Donizetti's "Come now for Vengeance haste I"; Mr. H. J. Sharp recited with force and taste two pieces "The Elopement," and "If I should die to-night," by the deceased American writer Ben. King; Messrs. Aslet and P. Delf gave a capital banjo duet (Columbian March), and Mr. H. Poole played with great skill a gavotte of Ries, accompanied by Mr Richter on the piano.

The new pier erected at Hongkong in place of the old Pedder's Wharf was opened for traffic on Friday week last. The opening ceremony was performed by the Governor, Sir Henry Blake, in presence of a large company of Europeans and a crowd of Chinese. The pier is named the Blake Pier.

THE ESTIMATES FOR FORMOSA.

The estimates for the island of Formosa in the next fiscal year, as published by the *Keizai Zasshi*, show the ordinary revenue to be 14,401,929 *yen*, an increase of 1,400,402 *yen* over the estimates for the current year. The extraordinary revenue comprises 6,492,662 *yen*, a decrease of 2,632,243 *yen* as compared with the present year's account. The two items together indicate a reduction of over 1¼ million *yen* in the total. The ordinary expenditure stands at 14,228,116 *yen* while the extraordinary expenditure amounts to 6,666,523 *yen*, the former showing an increase of 1,717,635, the latter a decrease of 2,949,477 *yen*. Below are the details :—

REVENUE.

	yen.
Receipts from Government undertakings and property (increase)	1,656,248
Miscellaneous (increase)	21,498
Licences and fees (do)	7,654
Supplementary funds (decrease)	2,541,921
Customs	233,189
Brought over from the previous account ..	111,300

Besides, the amount of local taxes, receipts from revenue stamps, sales of government properties, tonnage dues, &c., have all decreased to a certain extent.

EXPENDITURE.

Monopoly offices (increase)	548,531
Transferred to ordinary revenue (do)	328,760
Extension of trade with North China (do)	224,469
Police (do)	161,714
Railway works (do)	114,378
Industrial expenses (do)	110,000
Reserves (do)	100,000

Apart from the above, more or less increase is apparent in the amount of expenses connected with Communications, Prefectural Offices, Governor General's Office, Prisons, Law Courts, Telephone Exchanges, Education, Medical establishments, Shrines and Temples, Weights and Measures Inspection Offices, Customs, Marine Officials, Quarantine Station, Medical College, Meteorological Observatories, prevention of the diseases of animals, &c.

EXPENDITURE.	Yen.
Special Government undertakings (decrease)	2,300,000
Ordinary undertakings (decrease)	983,861

Expenses connected with the International Exhibition, Training Institutes, District Offices, Beacons for Navigable Routes, Public Physicians, &c., have all decreased as compared with the current year.

Revenue in the form of local taxes for the next fiscal year is estimated at 1,833,237 *yen*, showing a decrease of 50,749 *yen* in comparison with the present year.

As to the distribution of local taxes the following figures are given :—

	Taipeh. Yen	Taichiu. Yen.	Tainan. Yen.	Ilan Yen.
Police 252,587	195,741	319,717	17,131
District Offices ...	40,967	127,652	73,734	—
Education	93,172	83,416	81,781	6,726
Public Physicians...	12,012	8,696	13,395	2,593
Communal Offices.	50,999	42,288	54,000	8,850
Sanitation	33,394	4,693	10,925	2,606
Industrial	6,132	9,700	24,721	1,320
Education (2nd portion)	7,980	150	1,500	862
Collection of local taxes.....	24,891	19,535	19,670	1,480
Repayments and losses.....	500	485	500	90
Natural calamities relief fund.....	28,176	22,808	27,729	1,895
Reserves	10,622	15,000	3,000	5,000
Buildings and repairs.....	31,147	46,206	45,580	26,530
Prevention of the diseases of animals.....	1,586	1,000	4,000	—
Total 594,171	487,373	676,605	75,087

FIRES.

Fire occurred at Teramachi, Hachoji, on the 12th inst. at 1 a.m. and five houses were destroyed and five damaged.

Fire broke out at Aoume-machi, Kita-tama-gori, at 4 a.m. on the 12th and four houses and two store houses were burnt.

By a fire at Yamanouchi-mura, Tsutsuki-gori, Kanagawa Prefecture, on the morning of Dec. 5th three buildings were destroyed.

A fire occured at Temmacho, Ranazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture, on the 6th inst. at 1 a.m., and over seventy houses were destroyed.

Fire broke out in a primary school at Setagaya-mura, Shimo Yebaragori, Tokyo, early on the morning of the 12th inst., and three large buildings were destroyed.

Fire broke out at Senzoku-machi, Sanchome, Asakusa, Tokyo, early on the morning of the 10th instant, and seven houses were destroyed and three damaged.

A fire occurred at Bakan on the 9th inst. shortly after 3 p.m. It broke out in Nagasakicho, and spread to Muramachi, and Takezakimachi. These streets were totally destroyed, involving 300 houses. The loss is estimated at about *yen* 150,000.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

MAGNANIMOUS CONCESSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The *Japan Times* makes the following self-sacrificing acknowledgment of editorial fallibility :—

"We were one of those papers which strongly urged upon the Government to despatch a sufficiently large force immediately upon the outbreak of the Boxer trouble. We blamed the Government for its apparent tardiness and excessive caution. But, after all, the Imperial Authorities were probably wise in pursuing the policy they pursued."

Probably the Government will now sleep peacefully every night in the week, and probably Marquis Ito will now expedite his long deferred return to the capital.

I am, Sir, yours very probably,

AN APPRECIATIVE OBSERVER.

A REPLY TO MR. JEFFERYS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In a letter from the Rev. Henry S. Jefferys entitled "A Reply, a withdrawal and suggestions," published in your columns a few days ago, there are several remarks which call for notice from me. The first is "To be sure I have been disgusted when the *Seikokai* was called Protestant Episcopal." Mr. Jeffreys does not tell us how he would wish *Seikokai* to be translated. We imagine "Holy Catholic Church" would please him. But the Anglican Episcopal Church to which he belongs has never as a church been so designated. Since the *Seikokai* is a term that is used alike by the C. M. S. and S. P. G. missionaries as well as by the American Episcopalians, and since the term Protestant Episcopal Church correctly describes these missions and distinguishes them from Roman Catholic Episcopalians on the one hand and Protestant non-Episcopalians on the other, I fail to see what reasonable objection can be taken to the term. Judging from what Mr. Jefferys has said in the letter above referred to and in a former letter on the same subject, I infer that he objects to be called a Protestant. A writer for the public is bound to take the names that are in general use and to give them the signification they are wont to bear. It would certainly never do for him to reproduce in any form the objections of individuals to current terms. The Japanese names of missions are translations or adaptations designed to represent the original titles employed. There is no authority about them. To say that there is nothing about Protestantism in *Seikokai* and therefore the American Protestant Episcopal Church is not to be so called, is a very illogical method of procedure. Neither the term Protestant nor the thing Protestantism is to be got rid of in this way. The scheme won't work.

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The second remark of Mr. Jefferys on which I wish to say a few words is the following:—"The opinions of a former President of the Imperial University who can't see any moral wrong in prostitution are spread before us month after month, but I cannot prove that the Great Unknown writers of the Summaries sympathize in the slightest degree with his sentiments." The gentleman referred to is Dr. Katô Hiroyuki. If Mr. Jefferys had desired to be accurate, he might have quoted exactly what many years ago Dr. Katô actually said about prostitution. Dr. Katô, like a great many philosophers both in the East and West, regards licensed prostitution as the lesser of two evils. Mr. Jefferys probably knows as little of the evils of unlicensed prostitution, as practised in New York and London, as other members of his profession. But why a great leader of thought in Japan should not be heard on ethics, philosophy and religion—subjects which he has studied deeply for forty years—because he happens to have given utterance to a sentiment on an extremely difficult subject that is considered offensive in certain quarters, is beyond my comprehension. If the writer of the Summaries were to confine his reviews of Japanese thought to such utterances as met with the approval of the majority of readers of the Summaries, he ventures to think his monthly *resumés* would be of little value. It is not a question of what Mr. Jefferys or any of us think, but what the Japanese think. Mr. Jefferys says in so many words:—"I imagine that the public cares but little about what either he, she, they, or I believe; the need is to know what the leaders of Japanese thought think for or against the Faith." Precisely so; but Dr. Kato is to be made an exception and all who think with him. It is not true to say that in the Monthly Summaries, which for the past five years I have compiled, Dr. Kato has been quoted month after month. There are a great many months in which Dr. Kato's name is not even mentioned and other months in which his many opponents have their say. But Dr Kato being a very prolific writer, and having been pronounced by so great an authority on Japanese thought as Dr. Inoue Tetsujiro, to be Japan's best known philosopher, his criticisms are frequently cited. No review of current thought in Japan written by Japanese would be considered complete without reference to Dr. Kato's views and influence in the country. If Mr. Jefferys objects to read the writings of any one who holds what he considers mistaken views on the subject of licensed prostitution, I am afraid he will have to turn his eyes away from a great many newspapers which he is in the habit of daily perusing.

I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

THE WRITER OF THE "MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS."

Nov. 4th, 1900.

DIPLOMATISTS CONCERNING MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

Wise men judge of testimony by both the character of the witness and his opportunities for forming a just judgment. In view of many flippant utterances of late, usually anonymous, as to what missionaries have done and have not done in the Far East, it has seemed well to ask some of the men well known and highly esteemed who have served our country as diplomatists in China, what their judgments are respecting the character and work of missionaries in that empire. Are these missionaries responsible for the convulsion which has taken place? Has their influence been of such a sort as would lead to this uprising? Ought they to withdraw and leave the Chinese to themselves? These questions, in substance, we have asked of President James B. Angell, United States Minister to China from 1880 to 1881, of Hon. John W. Foster, formerly United States Secretary of State, Minister to Mexico, Russia, and Spain, and serving later on, by the invitation of the Emperor of China, as councillor for China in making a treaty with Japan; of Hon. Charles Denby who for thirteen years, from 1885 to 1898, was United States Minister to China; and also of Hon. John Barret, late United States Minister to Siam, whose life in the East has made him familiar with the conditions in those lands. These gentlemen, who will pass throughout the world as "expert witnesses," have kindly replied to our questions, and we are glad to give their testimony here. Colonel Denby, while reaffirming that "the missionaries ought not to abandon China," refers us to a previous public utterance from which we quote. We give also an extract from a communication which we find in the Boston *Herald* of August 20, by the Hon. George F. Seward, who served for many years as Consul General, and afterwards as United States Minister to China.

FROM THE HON. JOHN W. FOSTER,

Formerly Secretary of State of the United States, subsequently Councillor of the Chinese Government.

I have been asked by the secretaries of the American Board of Foreign Missions to give a brief expression of my opinion of the present situation of missions and missionaries in the Orient. They fear that the attacks now so frequent in the public press against the missionary efforts in China may have a discouraging influence on the friends and supporters of the cause among the churches in America.

There is, in my opinion, no reason why mission work in China should be given up or relaxed on account of the recent troubles in that empire. It would take more space than I can devote to this article to show that the presence of missionaries in China had little to do with these troubles. My observation is that the mass of the people of China do not object to their presence and work. In almost all instances the opposition and riots against them have been stirred up by the *literati*, the office-holders and the office-seekers. The Chinese as a class are not fanatics in religion, and if other causes had not operated to awaken a national hostility to foreigners, the missionaries would have been left free to combat Buddhism and Taoism, and carry on their work of establishing schools and hospitals.

After two visits to China five and six years ago, I said, in public addresses before Christian audiences in various parts of the United States, that I regarded China as the most hopeful field for mission work in the world. The late disorders, the murder of missionaries, and the destruction of mission properties, have not changed my opinion. Out of all these disasters will come peace and order, a better government and more efficient protection, and a wider door for the entrance of Christian teachers.

China stands in great need of Christianity. The teaching of Confucius, among the wisest of non-Christian philosophers, has had unlimited sway for twenty-five centuries; and this highest type of pagan ethics has produced a people the most superstitious and a government the most corrupt and inefficient. Confucianism must be pronounced a failure. The hope of this people and its Government is in Christianity.

The events on the other side of the globe do not in the slightest degree release the churches of America from obeying the great command of the Master to preach the gospel to every creature. A church which is not a missionary church neglects its first and highest duty. When order shall again be restored in China, the call to the Christians of America to send the gospel into that great empire will be louder than ever.

FROM PRESIDENT JAMES B. ANGELL, LL.D.,

Minister of the United States to China, 1880-1881.

Some very exaggerated statements concerning the part which the presence of Christian missionaries have played in causing the recent disturbances in China have been made by writers who could not have been familiar with the facts or who are prejudiced against the missionaries.

The immediate provocations of the hostility of the Chinese officials seem to have been the reform movement of the Emperor in 1898, and the aggressive policy of certain European Powers. The spirit which has animated the Chinese has been predominantly anti-foreign rather than anti-Christian. A Boxer proclamation before me assails the foreign merchants, engineers, builders of telegraphs and railways as fiercely as it attacks missionaries. As there are more missionaries in the interior than foreigners of any other class, more demonstrations have been made against them than against other foreigners. But engineers and consular officers, and finally the legations, have been attacked.

By their hospitals and schools the missionaries have made many friends among Chinese who have not adopted Christianity. It is the established policy of the missionaries to pursue a conciliatory course, to imbue their disciples with loyalty to the Government, with a love of peace and order. It is also the policy of most of them, especially the Americans, to settle, so far as possible, all difficulties with the people or the magistrates without invoking consular or diplomatic aid. Sometimes very delicate questions arise, particularly about helping the native converts who may be falsely accused and subjected to persecutions. Undoubtedly in these and other matters, missionaries, being fallible, occasionally make mistakes. But my opinion is that missionary activities alone would not have involved foreign powers in any serious trouble with China. There is no evidence that the difficulties arising from this cause have recently been any graver than they have been for many years. But when it appeared to the Chinese that the European Powers wished to seize their territory, they were led to make an indiscriminate warfare on all foreigners and on all Chinese who attached themselves to them.

FROM HON. CHARLES DENBY,

United States Minister to China from 1885 to 1898.

I made a study of missionary work in China. I took a man-of-war and visited almost every open port in the empire. I went first to Hongkong, then successively to Canton, Swatow, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, Shanghai and up the Yangtze to Chingkiang, Nanking, Kiukiang, Wuhu, Wuchang, and Han-kow. Afterwards I visited Chefoo and the highest open port, Newchwang in Manchuria, Taku, and Tientsin, and the island of Formosa. I lived at Peking, and knew that city. At each one of these places I visited and inspected every missionary station. At the schools the scholars were arrayed before me and examined. I went through the missionary hospitals. I attended synods and church services. I saw the missionaries, ladies and gentlemen, in their homes. I saw them all, Catholic and Protestant, and I have the same opinion of them all. They are all doing good work; they merit all the support that philanthropy can give them. I do not stint my commendation, or halt or stammer about work that ought to be done at home instead of abroad. I make no comparisons. I unqualifiedly and in the strongest language that tongue can utter give to these men and women who are living and dying in China and in the far East my full and unadulterated commendation. . . . My doctrine is to tell, if I can, the simple truth about them, and when that is known, the caviling, the depreciation, the sneering which too often accompany comments on missionary work, will disappear; and they will stand before the world, as they ought to stand, as benefactors of the people among whom their lives are spent, and forerunners of the commerce of the world.—*From an address delivered by Colonel Denby, at his home at Evansville, Ind., on his return from China.*

FROM HON. GEORGE F. SEWARD,

Former Consul General and subsequently, from 1876 to 1880, Minister to China.

I have seen a good deal of criticism in print, statements made by various individuals, of the missionaries who are now suffering so severely in China. It has even been said that they should have stayed at home, and that their presence is largely responsible for the outbreak in China. These critics make too much of missionary work as a cause of trouble. There are missionaries who are iconoclasts, but this is not their spirit in great measure. They are men of education and judgment. They depend upon spiritual weapons and good works. For every enemy a missionary makes he makes fifty friends. The one enemy may arouse an ignorant rabble to attack him. During my twenty years' stay in China I always congratulated myself on the fact that the missionaries were there. There were good men and able men among the merchants and officials, but it was the missionary who exhibited the foreigner in benevolent work, as having other aims than those which may justly be called selfish. The good done by missionaries in the way of education, of medical relief, and of other charities, cannot be overestimated. If in China there were none other than missionary influences, the upbuilding of that great people would go forward securely.

During the twenty years that I was endeavouring to serve our Government and people in China not an American missionary suffered death from the violence of the Chinese. I have the profoundest admiration for the missionary as I have known him in China. He is a power for good and peace, not for evil.—*Boston Herald.*

FROM HON. JOHN BARRETT.

Late United States Minister to Siam.

The King of Siam, who is admittedly one of the ablest statesmen in Asia, once said to me that the American missionaries had done more to advance the welfare of his country and people than any other foreign influence. He has confirmed that statement by pursuing a most friendly course towards the missionaries and assisting them both financially and morally. Inasmuch as Siam is to-day one of the most progressive countries in Asia, with a population of ten millions, and with a rich area equal to that of the German empire, this comment on the work of the missionaries is most significant.

From careful study of the scope of missionary labours not only in Siam but in China and Japan, during a period of nearly six years, I am convinced beyond question that the missionaries are doing a great and good work for the advancement of both the moral and material interests of these Asiatic lands.

There are incompetent missionaries, as there are incompetent merchants. There are mistakes made by missionaries, as there are also mistakes made by foreign merchants, ministers, and consuls. The average, however, of quality and of results accomplished is in favour of the continuance of missionary effort. The explanation of much of the anti-missionary talk is found in the superficial gossip of the treaty ports of Asia. It is the tendency in the clubs of Yokohama, Tientsin, Shanghai, Hongkong, and Bangkok, to speak lightly of the missionaries and the fruits of their endeavours, without serious knowledge of what is really being done, and of the progress that is made along educational, medical, and evangelical lines. The average traveller hears this talk, and goes away with a prejudiced opinion. On the other hand, those who study carefully the work of the missionaries, not only in the treaty ports, but in the interior, and weigh carefully in the balance all adverse and favourable conditions, agree that the missionary field should not be limited, but rather extended. There are many changes needed in missionary policy and many faults

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in present methods to be corrected, but this also applies just as strongly to our mercantile, diplomatic, and consular procedure.

Let us, therefore, be fair in judging the missionaries. Let the complaining merchant, traveller, or clubman take the beam from his own eye before he demands that the mote shall be taken from the missionary's eye. We must remember that we are a Christian as well as a commercial nation. We are a moral as well as a material power. We cannot think of withdrawing the messengers of Christianity from Asia until we are ready to withdraw the merchants of commerce and the ministers of diplomacy. When we criticise the methods of missionary zeal, we should be no less severe in our censure of the methods of commercial exploitation. If the former leads, occasionally, to the development of ignorant anti-foreign feeling in the interior, the latter too often is the cause of intense anti-foreign agitation fostered by the unwarranted seizures of territory and ports by foreign nations.

America's supreme effort in non-Christian lands beyond her borders must be for the conservation of the allied forces of Christianity and commerce, which ard the handmaidens of civilization the wide world over.—*The Missionary Herald.*

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE CZAR CONVALESCENT.

Shanghai, Dec. 7.

The Czar is now reported to be convalescent.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

President McKinley has submitted the Report of the Canal Commission recommending the Nicaraguan route. The Canal will cost two hundred million dollars, and can be completed in a decade.

SUGGESTED FRENCH INVASION OF ENGLAND.

General Mercier, in the course of a sensational speech in the French Senate discussed the contingency of an invasion of England, which he declared is perfectly feasible. He proposed a motion that plans (with reference to an invasion) should be included in a mobilization scheme.

The President of the Senate refused to submit the motion.

ANTI-BRITISH FEELING IN COLOGNE.

The British Consulate in Cologne has been attacked, but the police dispersed the mob. Serenades and ovations planned by various societies have been prohibited.

JAPANESE IN THE U.S.

The annual report of the United States Immigration Commissioner states that Japanese immigration will produce serious trouble in the Pacific states unless it is checked.

TROUBLE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The telegraph has been cut close to Grahamstop (Grahamstown or Grahamsdorp—more probably the former, which is near Port Elizabeth) and a reign of terror prevails at Stellenbosch (in Cape Colony) where youths parade the streets displaying republican colours and with bands playing the "Volkslied."

THE BORNEO DINNER.

Shanghai, Dec. 7.

At the British North Borneo dinner, just held in London, the Hon. E. W. Birch, ex-Resident of the Negri Sembilan, who succeeds the Hon. Hugh Clifford as Governor, was ovated. Mr. W C. Cowie, the Managing Director, welcomed the incursion of Japanese into the company's territory, and Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister to the Court of St. James, in his speech, dwelt upon the mutual interests of Japan and Borneo.

THE DEWETSDORP DISASTER.

Shanghai, Dec. 8.

Nothing whatever is known regarding the fate of the 450 prisoners taken at Dewetsdorp.

HOLLAND AND THE WAR.

The Dutch premier has declared in the States-General that the Government is unable to foresee the psychological moment when Holland could propose arbitration in the South African war.

LORD ROBERTS.

Field Marshal Lord Roberts was the recipient of a tremendous reception on his arrival at Durban.

FRENCH PRESS CONDEMNS GEN. MERCIER.

The French press unanimously condemns General Mercier's Anglophobe speech in the Senate.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

Shanghai, Dec. 9.

The Queen's Speech says that a special session of Parliament has been summoned because it is necessary to make further provision for the expenses of the operations of the army in China and in South Africa.

In the debate on the Address to the Throne Lord Salisbury, referring to China, said he felt more confidence in the stability of the concert of the Powers than in their achievement of success.

The address was voted.

SOUTH AFRICA.

De Wet is close to Aliwal North, which is prepared for attack. All the Dewetsdorp prisoners have been released except the officers.

TOD SLOAN.

The Jockey Club has prohibited Tod Sloan from riding in England

GERMANY AND KRUGER.

Shanghai, Dec. 11.

In the Reichstag Minister (Count) von Posa owsky Wehner, replying to a complaint with regard to the non-reception of Kruger, said that the Chancellor of the Empire was responsible for the peace of Germany and perhaps of the world, and that he would not allow himself to be swayed by popular sentiment.

FUTURE ADMINISTRATION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking in the House of Commons, said he expected constitutional government would be possible in the Orange River Colony sooner than in the Transvaal. The institutions of both States, would, however, be respected, apart from the correction of abuses, and Afrikanders would be appointed to all posts wherever that seemed safe. Meantime the Government would do its utmost to hasten a settlement.

Mr. Asquith and Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman both cordially approved of the statement, and the English papers unanimously welcome it.

DRASTIC MEASURES.

Johannesburg is being entirely surrounded with barbed wire, only five exits being provided and these well guarded. The surrounding country is being cleared, and the population being brought in to a huge laager on the race-course.

IN PURSUIT OF DEWET.

General Knox's force is pursuing Dewet most determinedly, and the Boer commander has had to abandon his baggage and his supplies.

LORD ROBERTS.

Lord Roberts has left Cape Town, homeward bound.

SUPPLEMENTARY ARMY ESTIMATES.

The supplementary army estimates provide for sixteen millions sterling.

BRITISH INTERESTS IN CHINA.

Lord Cranbourne, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, replying in the House of Commons to Mr. J. Walton, M.P., denied that British interests were being neglected at Newchwang. He also ridiculed the idea of not demanding the punishment of Chinese officials and the exaction of a money indemnity. He added that the Powers were entitled to just reparation for their wrongs, and to prevent food from going to the enemy.

LORD HOPETOUN.

Later.

Lord Hopetoun has arrived at Adelaide.

KRUGER IN EUROPE.

The Times correspondent at The Hague telegraphs that the Czar has sent a courteous telegram to Kruger pleading illness, and thus extinguishing all hope of intervention.

Queen Wilhelmina received Kruger in private and did not return his visit.

WINTER CLOTHING FOR INDIAN TROOPS.

The India Office has ordered Canadian fur coats and mocassins for the use of the Indian troops in China.

ATTACKS ON THE CABINET.

Shanghai, Dec. 13.

The House of Commons has rejected an amendment to the Address to the Throne deprecating the inclusion of many members of one family in the Cabinet.

The House voted the Address after rejecting an amendment by Mr. D. Lloyd-George, which was supported by Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, deprecating the holding by Ministers of shares in any concern receiving Government contracts.

Mr. Chamberlain said the question was one affecting his personal honour, and was the result of a slanderous campaign He explained his connection with the Colombo Company, and formally denied that he had ever used his influence to obtain Government contracts for any company.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

A Bluebook has been issued containing despatches as to the siege of Peking, in which Sir Claude MacDonald mentions specially Captains Poole, Strouts and Halliday, and the following civilians: Messrs. Oliphant, Warren, Dering, Cockburn, Yer (?), Norris, Morrison, and others. He also mentions various foreigners, notably Colonel Shiba.

Lord Cranbourne stated that the Government was given to understand that the present disposition of the allied forces on the Peking-Shanhaikwan Railway was purely temporary. The Government was closely watching the matter.

THE SUPPLEMENTARY WAR ESTIMATES.

Mr. Brodrick, introducing the Supplementary War Estimates of sixteen millions sterling, stated that he was unable to anticipate any reduction of expenditure before March 31st. The war must be continued with the strongest possible force. He regretted that it was still impossible to recall the troops or the volunteers.

The vote was adopted.

HOLLAND'S INTIMATION TO KRUGER.

The Dutch Government has informed Kruger that Holland will be unable to do anything unless the Powers take the initiative.

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THE WAR VOTE.

The War Vote includes five millions sterling for China.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach stated that he had five and a half millions still unspent, and asked for authority to borrow eleven millions.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

Saigon, Dec. 8.

It is telegraphed from Washington that the Ministers in Peking have come to an agreement, and have telegraphed to their respective Governments that the agreement is based on the views of the United States in so far as concerns the question of punishments, and on the French proposals in other matters.

THE AMNESTY PROJECT.

The Chamber of Deputies is discussing the project of amnesty. It has rejected the project so far as the persons condemned by the High Court are concerned.

KRÜGER AT THE HAGUE.

Krüger has arrived at The Hague, and is receiving ovations.

THE ENGLISH PARLIAMENT.

The English Parliament has been opened to vote credits for the Transvaal War and for the expenses in China. Lord Salisbury has affirmed the accord of the Powers in China.

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, December 10.

From Peking—M. Pichon has written to Prince Ching and to Li Hung-chang demanding the withdrawal of the troops from the frontier of Tonkin, and the cessation of the import of arms, in order to avoid complications.

From The Hague—The Queen has received Mr. Kruger.

The French Senate has voted the project for the increase of the fleet.

Mr. Vigné d'Octon, in the French Chamber of Deputies, presented a question with reference to the Zinder tragedy, demanding a parliamentary inquiry. The demand for an inquiry was rejected by 409 votes against 116.

[The "Zinder tragedy" was the shooting of Captains Voulet and Chanoine by their black soldiers, after the murder of Lt Colonel Klob. ED. *J.M.*]

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, December 11.

A decree authorizes the opening of work on new sections of the Tonking railways.

The commission for reforming the judicial system as applied to the natives in the colonies has put forward a suggestion for the absolute suppression of all corporal punishment.

(RECEIVED AT THE WAR OFFICE.)

CHINA AFFAIRS.

The railway within the Japanese section from Antung to Hwang-tsun was opened for a trial trip on the 5th instant. A trial trip was to be made on the 6th over the part from Hwang-tsun to Feng-tai.

The funeral of Colonel York von Wildenburg took place on the 5th instant. A detachment of Japanese troops attended, as did all the Japanese officers from Lieut.-General Yamagata downward.

(NON-OFFICIAL.)

According to the most recent Imperial Edict, General Tung has been reduced in rank though not dismissed from office, and the great bulk of his troops have been placed under the command of another officer. He himself, at the head of 2,000 men, has been sent to Kansu. General Ma is said to be still in Tai-yuen.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

On the night of the 8th instant, a body of about 400 Boxers attacked Lang-fang, but were driven back by the Japanese guards without difficulty.

On the 9th inst, an international club was opened in Peking. Field Marshal Waldersee and nearly all the officers stationed in Peking attended.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.

The Peiho was frozen on the 8th instant.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

The German Consul-General at Shanghai, Dr. Knappe, proceeded to Nanking in the flag-ship of the officer commanding the second squadron and had a meeting with Viceroy Liu. A French officer had previously met the Viceroy. As various rumours were circulated subsequently to the meeting with the German Consul-General, the latter asked the Nanking officials to publish a *precis* of the interview, which was done, the following being the gist of it:—The German Consul-General and the officer commanding the French Squadron recently called on the Viceroy. After the usual compliments had been exchanged, the Viceroy inquired the purpose of the visit, and received for answer that there had long been a desire to see the Viceroy and thank him respectfully for the protection extended by him to foreign merchants and missionaries. (The language attributed to the officer conveying this message, whether German or French we can not tell, is in the markedly humble style attributed by Chinese high officials to their inferiors, but we do not attempt to reproduce it.—Ed. *J.M.*) Another of the visitors asked whether the supplies of provisions and money sent to Si-ngan were for the use of General Tung and his troops, to which the Viceroy replied that their Majesties as well as a large number of officials were at Si-ngan, and that it was his duty to forward supplies. Another question addressed to the Viceroy was whether any intention existed of changing the Viceroy of Liangkiang or of Hukuang, since it was rumoured that intrigues to accomplish a change were on foot. The Viceroy answered that the Emperor understood the nature of the services rendered by the two officials in question and that no change was contemplated. Moreover, such matters rested entirely with the Sovereign, and were quite independent of pressure from without. Finally, it was asked what course ought to be followed to restore peace and good order in the north The Viceroy answered at first that there were duly accredited plenipotentiaries in Peking and that it was not for him to say anything which might trespass upon their functions. But the question being repeated, and also supplemented by an inquiry as to the time of the Emperor's return to Peking, the Viceroy replied that there was no reason to anticipate his Majesty's return under existing circumstances. Driven suddenly from his luxurious palace, the Emperor had been obliged to endure fatigues and dangers such as stirred the sympathy of the humblest of his subjects, and it was impossible to ask that his Majesty should undertake the return journey immediately on the restoration of peace. On hearing these words the two foreign officials showed by their demeanour that they appreciated the painful situation. The Viceroy added that if negotiations were opened quickly and the foreign troops completely withdrawn from the capital, Peking might then be purified, the Sovereign might be invited to return, and everything being settled, punishment might then be inflicted on those deserving it, such punishment being limited to perpetual confinement. The French and German officials expressed their concurrence and promised to convey these facts to their Ministers, after which they took their leave. They left Nankin on the following day, and with the exception of the above the Viceroy had no conversation with them. There is no intention of sending foreign troops up the Yangtsze for a campaign in the West. The people being ignorant of these facts, have circulated all sorts of rumours, and the Viceroy therefore issued orders that the above *precis* should be published. It is recommended that the public should not entertain any feelings of uneasiness. If any mischievous stories are circulated their authors will be punished.

(NON-OFFICIAL.)

GENERAL TUNG.

Shanghai, Dec. 6.

General Tung is said to have left Si-ngan on the 4th instant for Kansu.

(RECEIVED IN TOKYO)

JAPAN AND BRAZIL.

The Brazilian Constitutional Assembly has passed a motion to appoint a Minister once more in Japan. A letter from that country says that the Government included in the Budget for next year an appropriation for the purpose of a Legation in Tokyo, and that, after the usual procedure and some discussion, the Assembly adopted the item. The Budget Committee of the Upper House, however, elided the appropriation, and the House voted the first and second readings of the Budget thus amended. When the third reading was taken, the Committee's amendment was opposed, and the House finally voted to restore the appropriation as passed by the Assembly.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

MR. McKINLEY'S MESSAGE.

Washington, Dec. 3.

Congress met to-day. The President, in his Message, after discussing the Chinese complication, said that to grant complete freedom of conscience in China would be, in his opinion, one of the foundations of progress. With regard to the question of indemnity, he said that if China could not find funds to meet the demands of the Powers, it might be advisable to accept, in lieu of a part of the sum, guarantees for increasing the rights and privileges hitherto enjoyed by foreigners in China. The most important point was to provide that China should be equally open to the trade of all countries. He had endorsed Russia's proposal that, in the last resource, the problem of the indemnity should be submitted for decision to the Arbitration Court at The Hague, because he believed that whatever resolution that tribunal adopted would be calculated to increase China's strength and prosperity. With reference to Japan, the Message contained a long and laudatory statement. In carrying the new treaties into operation Japan had been able to employ her judicial and administrative machinery independently in such a manner as to avoid all international complications, and by this evidence of progress had secured for herself a high place in the comity of nations. She had also assisted materially, in cooperation with other Powers, to relieve the Legations and the community in Peking, to remove the difficulties of the complication, and to bring about an agreement between the Representatives at the peace conferences. Her declaration in favour of preserving the integrity of China and of keeping that

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empire's territories open to the trade of the world, had been frank and sincere. It would be difficult to estimate the influence exercised by Japan in the Far East for the preservation of peace and good order and the development of fair trade. Great thanks were due also to the Japanese Government and the Japanese Naval Authorities for the assistance rendered by them on the occasion of the grounding of the *Oregon*. The President further stated that he believed there would not be any further cause for complaints such as those preferred by Japan last summer in connexion with the sanitary measures enforced against Japanese subjects on the Pacific Coast, and the restrictions imposed on Japanese immigration in California and Colorado. (These restrictions have been pronounced unconstitutional by the Supreme Court).

(FROM THE "N-C DAILY NEWS.")

Tientsin, Dec. 6.

In the German reverse near Kalgan Count York was killed in the fighting, and the expedition was not very successful in other directions.

A large force of Viceroy Chang's Hupeh "rescue" army is reported as stationed in South Chili. Its object is unknown

The famine in Shensi is increasing; human flesh is being offered for sale, and the officials are unable to prevent it.

Taotai Tan Wên-huan, formerly of Tientsin, an active Boxer leader and prime mover in the Paoting murders, is to be decapitated at Tientsin to-morrow. A big feature is being made of this event.

Tientsin, Dec. 3.

Placards foretelling a further outbreak are re appearing in the native city, and some foreigners have been hooted. Every effort is being made to trace the origin of the placards.

A prominent Chinese urges the Allies to prepare for trouble in the winter, and refrain from small expeditions in the interior and among the hills.

The recent edict which reported the arrest of Prince Tuan and Yü Hsien is utterly discredited.

On Sunday morning two Chinese attempted to blow up the East Arsenal. Happily the only result was that they were both killed by the explosion.

(FROM "DER OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD.")

Tientsin, Dec. 2.

The Chinese press reflects this opinion, making several statements that the Court, or the Emperor, may shortly be expected to return to the Capital, and that arrangements for a preliminary settlement are well forward.

Peking, Dec. 3.

On 30th November the mixed detachment, which has heretofore been commanded by Colonel Count York and is now under the command of Major-General Baron Gayl, burnt three Boxer villages near the Ming tombs to the ground. Twenty-three Boxers, who were arrested on this occasion, were executed on the spot.

Probably the first train over the reconstructed railway from Peking to Yangtsun will run next Monday morning.

Berlin, Dec. 3.

President Krüger was confidentially informed immediately after his arrival at Berlin, that the German Emperor would decline any attempt at mediation in the South-African question; he would observe under all circumstances the strictest neutrality. Thereupon President Krüger left Berlin almost at once. He passed Cologne this morning on the way to Holland.

Court Alvensleben, German Minister in Brussels, has been appointed German Ambassador at St. Petersburg, to succeed Prince Radolin.

The commander in chief of the British forces in South Africa, Lord Roberts, will leave Capetown on the 11th inst. for Europe.

It is reported from Rome that from many circles in Italy telegrams have been sent to Count Waldersee congratulating him for having successfully employed Italian troops in the expeditions throughout South Chili.

CHESS.

All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 501.

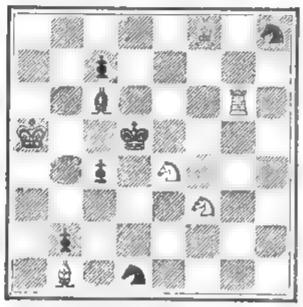
Key-move, Q to Kt 7.

P to Kt 8(R)	P to R 8(Q)	Q to B 6, mate	
1 ———	2 ———	3 ———	
K to B 4	K to Q 3		
	... ..	Q to R 7, mate	
	2 ———	3 ———	
	K to Q 5		
	... .	Q 5 or R to Kt 5, mate	
	2 ———	3 ———	
	K to Kt 4		
	P to R 8(Kt)	R to K 5, mate	
1 ———	2 ———	3 ———	
K takes P	K to Kt 4		

PROBLEM No. 503.

By JAMES TELFORD.

Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Six Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 645.

The following little game was played at the Berne Chess Club. We give it merely as a useful warning to the student, so that he might be forewarned should occasion require.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—A. Duhm. Black—M. Pestalozzi

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	8 Kt B3	KtxB
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	9 Kt Q5	Castles
3 B Kt5	K B3	10 KtxBch	K Rsq
4 Castles	KtxP	11 Q R5	P KKt3
5 R Ksq	Kt Q3	12 Q R6	R Ksq
6 KtxP	KtxKt	13 R R5	PxR
7 RxKt ch	B K2	14 Q B6	Mate

Black's mistake obviously is Kt takes B instead of 8 ... .Castles. With 11—Q to R 5 White threatens 12—Q takes P ch and R to R 5 mate. Black, therefore, assumed 11.....P to Kt 3 to be a temporary defence. But any other move was not much better either, for 11.....P to K R 3 would be answered by P to Q 4 and the sacrifice of the Bishop, and 11..... P to K B 4 by 12—Kt to Kt 6 ch &c. So the game could not be saved.

GAME No. 646.

A pretty little game in which Mr. H. F. Lowe concedes the odds of the Queen's Knight. His opponent, not being familiar with the opening, is subjected to a violent attack, and a brilliant termination is brought about.

CUNNINGHAM GAMBIT. (*Remove White's Q Kt.*)

White—H. F. Lowe. Black—X.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	10 Kt K5ch	K Ktsq
2 P KB4	PxP	11 QxKt	P Q3
3 Kt B3	B K2	12 Q R5	Q K2
4 B B4	B R5ch	13 R B7	Q Ksq
5 P Kt3	PxP	14 RxPch	KxR
6 Castles	PxPch	15 B R6ch	K B3
7 K Rsq	Kt R3	16 QxBch	K K3
8 P Q4	Kt R5	17 P Q5ch	KxKt
9 BxPch	KxB	18 B Kt7 mate	

The Cunningham Defence (3.....B to K 2) is less favourable than any other, but Black should get a good game in this form, White playing 5—P to Kt 3 instead of 5—K to B sq. Black spoilt his game with 7.....Kt to R 3, the best continuations being 7.....P to Q 4; 8—B takes P, Kt to K B 3; 9—B takes P, ch, K takes B; 10—Kt takes B, R to K B sq, &c. If 9—Kt takes B, then 9.....Kt takes B, &c. As played, White gets an irresistible attack, finishing with a pretty mate, and he might have given the odds of the Q R as well, that piece never coming into use at all.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich 1	Sa. Dec. 15
America	O & O Co	Doric 2	M. Dec. 17
Canada, &c	C. P. R Co.	Em. of China 3	W. Dec. 19
Hongkong	O & O. Co.	Gaelic 4	Th. Dec 20
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 5	Tu. Dec. 25
Hongkong	M. M Co.	——	W. Dec. 26
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Dec. 27
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Sa. Dec. 29
America	P M Co.	Rio de Janeiro	W. Jan. 2
Hongkong	P. M Co	China	Sa. Jan 5

1 Left Shanghai on the 11th inst
2 Left San Francisco on the 28th ult.
3 Left Vancouver on the 6th inst
4 Left Hongkong on the 11th inst
5 Left San Francisco on the 6th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	N. D Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa. Dec. 15
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Dec. 15
Hongkong	C. P R Co.	Em. of China	M. Dec. 17
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Tu. Dec 18
Shanghai	N Y. K.	Hakuai Maru	W. Dec. 19
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M Co.	Oceanien	F. Dec. 21
America	O. & O Co.	Gaelic	Sa Dec 22
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	W. Dec. 26
Canada, &c.	C. P R Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Dec. 28
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu. Jan. 1
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Th. Jan 3

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, M. Nishihara 6th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 6th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 7th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, 1st Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aspern, Austrian cruiser, 2,500, W. Weber, 8th Dec., —Kobe, 6th Dec.

Maria Theresa, Austrian cruiser, 5,900, V. B. R. Sambushi, 8th Dec.,—Kobe, 6th Dec.

Zenta, Austrian cruiser, 2,500, Mantolmann, 8th Dec.,—Kobe, 6th Dec.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 8th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 6th Dec., General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 9th Dec., Kobe, 6th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gisela, Austrian steamer, 2,640, F. Masca, 9th Dec., —Trieste via ports, and Moji, 7th Dec., Mails and General.—Browne & Co.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, Panton, 8th Dec., —Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 20th Nov., Mails and General—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Muke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S. Kawamuro, 10th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2 422, W. B. Seabury, 11th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 20th Nov., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 11th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, J. W. Ekstrand, 11th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 9th Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakuma, 12th December.—Kobe, 10th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mazagon, British steamer, 3,280, R. S. S. Book, 12th Dec.,—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Wittenburg, German steamer, 2,363, Hempel, 13th Dec.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Hongkong, 5th Dec., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, Schmitz, 13th Dec., —Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 12th Dec., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 13th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 12th Dec., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Durrande, 7th Dec., Marseilles via ports, Mails and General. —M. M S.S. Co.

Queen Adelaide, British steamer, 1,835, F. McNair, 7th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, R. Machida, 7th Dec.,—Yokkaichi via Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, J. Nagao, 7th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, J. Miyagi, 13th Dec.,—Uraga, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Yezjo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Y. Yamanouchi, Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, K. Tsuda, 9th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 8th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 10th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Terrible, (14), British cruiser, 14,000, Capt. Percy Scott, 10th Dec.,—Hongkong.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J Panton, 11th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 11th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Muke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, Kawamuro, 11th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, W. B. Seabury, 12th Dec,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General P. M. S.S. Co.

Flottbek, German ship, 1,888, M. Schoemaker, 12th Dec.,—Port Townsend, Ballast.—Otto Reimers & Co.

Gisela, Austrian steamer, 2,640, F. Mosca, 12th Dec., —Trieste via ports, General.—Browne & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 12th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 12th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 12th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,972, J. W. Ekstrand, 13th Dec.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports.—Mr. S. Clant, Mr. F. Cotes, Mr. P Fordem, Mr. S. Spidiam, Mr. F. Down, Capt. R. Nagao, Miss Averill, in cabin; Mr. S. Adzuma, in second class; 9 Japanese, and 1 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Austrian steamer *Gisela*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Sanders, Mr. Pucher, Mr. Mehta and boy, in cabin; 2 on deck.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash.—Mrs. M. S. Hill and two children, and Messrs. J. A. Hawkins and E. Anderson in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss Bather, Mr. E. Creratin, Mr. S. Garratt, Mr. H. H. Horsey, Mrs. M E. Haskell., Miss F. A. Haskell, Rev. and Mrs. Hamblin and 2 children, Mrs. H. G. Limric and 2 children, Mr. H. S. Lochead, Mrs. E. M. Neise, Mr R. Lyons, Mr. W. H. Ray, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Walter, Mr. and Mrs. M. Botkin, Mrs. B. P. Cole, Mr. B. T. Horsey, Mr. O. W. Heim, Miss K. L. Haskell, Mr. Z. Horikoshi, Miss E. Houston, Capt. C. Leregne, Miss M. L. Miller, Mrs. C. C. Osborne, Mr and Mrs. G. Pauling and valet, Miss Walter, and Mr. W. A. White, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. A. J. Cameron, Mr. C. D. Keading, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Van Horn, Mr H K. Hall, Miss A. V. Patton, Mrs. E. B. C. Wallace, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Miss F. Estey, Miss A. Hammond, and Miss M. R. Hillman, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mrs. L. Blodget, Mrs. R. H. Orr, Miss C. Innes, Mrs. N. Pratt, and Dr. and Mrs. J. D. Trawick, in cabin. For Hongkong: Miss B. Campbell, Rev. and Mrs O. C. Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. P. Crompton, Mr. M. C. Emerson, Miss M. Murphy, Mr. F. S. Clarke, Mr. A. G. Center, Rev. and Mrs. C. N. Dubs and child, Rev. and Mrs. G. L. Gelwick, and Mr. E. C. Tobey, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Oceanien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Chambon, Mr. Hayashi, Mr. Nicholas, Mr. Oggen, Miss Beretta, Mrs. Monteggia, Mr. Ichanach, Mr. Siamuri, Mr. Peress, Mr A. Chalhout, Miss Atkinson, Mr. A. Roussine, Mr. G. Heller, Mr. Ginketa, Mrs. Hill and amah, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Min Tun, and Mr. Lucas, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports:—Lieut. Wm. H. Nolle Lieut. Altstaetter, Capt. Jansen and servant, and Mr. Osborn, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. A. Mailhot, Mr. W. H. Decker, Mr. G. E. Betts, Mr. J. Goodnow, Mr. A. F. Chamot and servant, Mrs. A. F. Chamot, Master Peter Smith, Miss M. Henshall, Miss E. Ridley, Mr. S. O. Friede, Mr. Smith, Mr. H. Cromers, Mr. J. A. Stronquest, and Mr. Lee Wee, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Marseilles via ports.—Mr. A Diatchoff, Mr. G. C. Bouman, Mrs. O. A. Veselago, Capt. Bobo, Mr. A. J. L. Dewette, Mr Chun Son, Mr. J. Hutchinson, Mr. J. Austin, Major and Mrs. Pearce, Mr. Dionosolki, Mr. Lawrence Wright, Mrs. and Miss Folger, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Heintze, Mr. and Miss Duberly, Mr. Look Chu, Mr. Vault, Mr. Dekhamps, Mr Bruel, Mr. Albertini, Mr. Vandale, Mr. Bertrand, Mr. Marelly, Miss Feru Ninui, Mr. Lum San and child, and Mr. R. H. Chaudson, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports —Admiral Beardslee, U.S.N., Mrs. Beardslee, Mrs. L. Blodgett, Mr. A. Botken, Mrs. A. Botken, Mr. A J Cameron, Miss B. Campbell, Mr. Alex. G. Center, Mr. F. S. Clarke, Mr C. S. Coy, Rev. O. C. Crawford, Mrs. O. C. Crawford, Mr. Paul Crompton, Mrs. Paul Crompton, Dr. F R. Day, Mrs. F. R. Day, Rev. N. C. Dubbs, Mrs. N. C. Dubbs and child Mr H E. Dunway, Mr. H. O Elkington, Mr. M. G. Emerson, Miss Ethel Estey, Rev. G. L. Gelwicks, Mrs. G. L. Gelwicks, Mr. H. K. Hall, Miss A. Hammond, Mrs. Mary E. Hillman, Miss C. Innes, Mr. C. D. Keading, Mr. Richard Kirby, Mr. H. C. Matheson, Mrs. Mordhurst, child and servant, Miss K. Murphy, Mrs. R. H. Orr, Miss A. V. Patton, Miss F. D. Patton, Mrs. H. Pratt, Dr. Rawson, Mrs. Rawson, Miss Rawson, Mr. Geo. E. Richardson, U.S.N., Mrs. Percy Scott, Mr. Graf von Sodan, Mr J. K Taussig, U.S.N.C., Mrs. E. D. Taussig, Mr. E. A. Tobey, U.S.N., Dr. J. D. Trawick, Mrs. J. D. Trawick, Mr. G. W. Van Horn, Mrs. G W. Van Horn, and Mrs. F. B. C. Wallace, in cabin.

EXPECTED.

Per German steamer *Prinzess Irene*, from Europe via ports:—Mr. Alexander Jahn, Mr. L. Honigmann, Mr M. Maultzsch, Mrs. A. H. Dare, child and servant, Miss E. Gardner, Mr., Mrs. and Miss G. H. Hodgson and servant, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Mitchell, Rev. F. Madeley, Mr. and Mrs. W. Poate, child and servant, Mrs. Simpson Mr. A. Greppi, Mr. A. Oestmann, Mr. F. R. Bleifus, Mr. S. Ogawa, Mr. S. Pohl, Mr. Paul Ritter, Mr. J. F. Bacon, Mr. Sydney Phillipps, Mrs. S. M. Phillipps, Miss M. Phillips, Mr. E. Wismer, and Miss A. Wismer, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Marseilles via ports.—Raw silk for Europe, 937 bales; Waste silk for Europe, 828 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

This market will continue dull till after the new year holidays.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE	
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.	2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds. 45 inches..		4 75 to 6 50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches ..		2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches		3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD	
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches...		0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD	
Flannels	Y.	0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.		0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches		0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches		0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches		0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches		0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb...		0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches		9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches		0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches		2 15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24, 25 yards, 32 inches		2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE	
Nos. 16 24, Singles	Y.	150.00 to 155.00
Nos 28 32, Singles		Nominal
Nos. 38/42, Singles		Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles		190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 42, Doubles		190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2, 80, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2, 60, Gassed		295.00 to 310.00
Nos 2 80, Gassed		360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed		Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling		30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach		Nominal
Chinese		

METALS.

As already intimated very little briskness can be expected in this market till January.

	PER PICUL	
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y.	5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted		5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron		6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets		12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted		7 70 to 8.20
Tin Pates, per box		7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3		2 65 to 2 80
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)		6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE

More business and prices have advanced slightly.

American	$2 84
Russian	2.68
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

The sugar market remains about the same.

	PER PICUL	
Brown Takao	Y.	5.30 to 6.00
Brown Manila		5.70 to 6.90
Brown Daitong		4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton		5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang		7.30 to 8.70
White Refined		8.30 to 9.95

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Another spurt took place at the beginning of the week, when a few hundred piculs were put through at quotations. But there seems nothing to sustain the market at its present level, and at closing quotations are more or less nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine		None
Filatures—Extra Coarse	Y.	950 to 960
Filatures—No. 1, Fine		900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse		820 to 830
Filatures—No 1½, Fine		850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse		800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, Fine		820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse		None
Common—Coarse		None
Re reels—Extra		Nominal
Re reels—No. 1		780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 1½		760 to 770
Re reels—No. 2		740 to 750
Re reels—No 3		720 to 730
Kakedas—Extra		None
Kakedas—No 1		820 to 825
Kakedas—No. 1½		800 to 805
Kakedas—No 2		780 to 785
Kakedas—No. 2½		750 to 760

WASTE SILK.

Quotations are all nominal. Small business and very little demand.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	155 to	100
Noshi—Filatures, Good	145 to	150
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	150 to	155
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	140 to	145
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	None	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	110 to	115
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	100 to	105
Noshi—Bushiu, Best		
Noshi—Bushiu, Good		
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium		
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	100 to	110
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	90 to	95
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	130 to	135
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	120 to	125
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	55 to	60
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	45 to	50

TEA.

There has been little business and prices are unaltered.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	34 to 35
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	26 to 27
Good Common	24 to 25
Common	22 to 23

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per T. K. K. steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco, Dec. 5:—

	Bales.
Averill & Co.	50
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	64
Otto Reimers, & Co.	25
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	362
Doshin Kaisha	20
Total	521

Per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, and P. & O. steamer to Shanghai, for France, Dec. 7:—

	Bales.
Siber, Wolff & Co.	20
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	25
Total	24

Per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, for France, Dec. 7:—

	Bales.
P. Dourille	1
C. Gaissam	5
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	5
Longin & Co.	1
Nabholz & Co.	14

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Pila, Ulysse & Co.	71
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	105
Siber, Wolff & Co.	232
Sieber & Co.	109
Varenne & Co.	177
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	27
Total	937

TO 10TH DECEMBER, 1900.

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	25
Averill & Co.	535
Bavier & Co.	592
Chauvin & Co.	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	170
H. Dent & Co.	424
P. Dourille	143
Findlay Richardson & Co.	120
C. Gussani	25
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	2,105
Longin & Co.	353
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	1,674
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	1,313
Otto Reimers & Co.	1,540
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	441
Siber, Wolff & Co.	2,872
Sieber & Co.	1,337
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	263
Varenne & Co.	1,100
Vivanti Bros.	1,082
Kuto Gomei-Kaisha	3,681
Doshin Kaisha	751
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	1,021
J. Ishii	236
Total	22,143

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, December 13.

Silver from London ⅛ higher and discount firm, sterling quotations from China unchanged and local rates steady.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅜
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49 3/8
— Private 4 months' sight	50 7/8
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	*3 7/8 d/o prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*1 ½ d/o prem.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 69
— Private 10 days' sight	* 71
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29 7/8

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, December 13.

Kirin Breweries were again sold to-day at *yen* 142.50. Engine and Iron Works—Offers for shares are wanted. Grand Hotels—A few shares can be placed at *yen* 230. Club Hotels—Offers for shares are wanted. Oriental Hotels, old shares are obtainable at *yen* 140. Langfeldts—A few shares can be had at *yen* 90. Helms are steady at *yen* 58. Laundries—Offers for shares are wanted.

Offers for Y. U. Clubs and Laundry debentures are wanted. Nagasaki Hotel first issue debentures are obtainable at par

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	207.50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	142 50 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	230 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	■ S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	140 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders), ¥12 50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	115 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd., ¥20	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd, ¥100	90 S.
Helm Bros, ¥50	58 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd, ¥50	50 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100.	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent Deb., ¥100.	107 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	100
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	108 N.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥75	Nominal
Maples Hotel, preference shares ¥100	100 S.

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LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, December 13.

Japan Breweries changed hands to-day at *yen* 142.50 at this price more shares are wanted. Grand Hotels, buyers at *yen* 230. Langfeldts, sellers at *yen* 90.

Hongkong Lands have been sold to Hongkong to-day at $188.

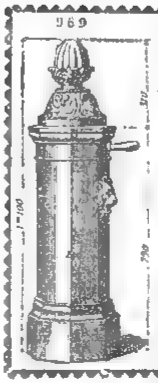
YEN.

Yokohama E. & J. Works	207.50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	230 Buyers.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	142.50 Buyers.

RICE MARKET.

Fukagawa Godowns, Tokyo, Dec. 12.

Retail per *Yen*—First quality 5 sho 7 go, second, 5 sho 9 go: third, 6 sho 1 go; fourth, 6 sho 6 go; fifth, 7 sho 1 go.



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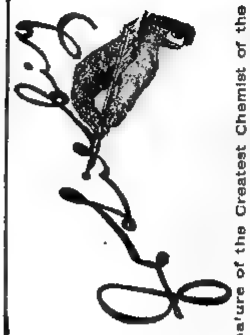

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA SATURDAY, DEC. 22ND, 1900.

DEATH.

Suddenly, on the fourteenth of November, at his residence in Hamilton, Ont., Canada, GEORGE DUNCAN RISCH, father of Miss Mary Risch of Tokyo.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. HAYASHI, Japanese Minister to Korea, was to arrive at Moji on the 19th inst.

IT is stated that the Kaikoku Life Insurance Co. will be suspended at no distant date.

TAKAGI SAIKICHI has been arrested by the Yokohama police on a charge of fire-raising.

THE Chinese complication does not appear any nearer a solution than it did three months ago.

LIEUT.-GENERAL KODAMA, Governor-General of Formosa, left Taipeh on the 18th inst. for Japan.

A COW suffering from rinderpest was found at the Yokohama Railway station on the morning of the 18th inst.

TRAFFIC between Hino on the Omi Railway and Kisegawa on the Kansai Railway will be opened on the 25th inst.

THERE has been a terrible shipping disaster off Malaga, involving the loss of a German training frigate and many lives.

TWELVE *geisha* who attended the Paris Exhibition returned to Japan by the M. M. steamer *Oceanien* a few days ago.

THE American ship *Swolfield* arrived at Nagasaki on the 12th inst. in tow of the *Asaguo Maru*. She will be repaired at that port.

A TELEGRAM received at Tokyo from Tsu dated 17th inst. states that the Murayama silk factory was burnt early that morning.

THE news from South Africa this week tells of several serious disasters to the British forces, and the renewed activity of the Boers.

THE officers of the Imperial Body Guards hold their annual duck hunt at Shinhama, Chiba Prefecture, on or about Dec. 24th.

A TELEGRAM received in Tokyo from Kanazawa dated 16th inst. states that No. 15 tunnel of the Hokuriku Railway caved in on that day.

FIVE gamblers were arrested at Chitosecho, Yokohama, by the Kotobukicho police on the night of the 12th inst. They were gambling at the time.

FIRE broke out in a primary school at Tsurumimura, Tachibanagori, Kanagawa Prefecture, on the night of the 12th inst. The school was totally destroyed.

THE trial of the line between Omori and Kawasaki on the Kei-hin Electric Railway will be made on the 21st inst., and it is expected that it will be opened on the 25th.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha direct line between Osaka and Moji will be reopened in January next. It was suspended a few months ago owing to the China trouble

To all intents and purposes a milk-famine prevails in Yokohama owing to the spread of foot-and-mouth disease. The authorities have shut down several of the local dairies.

CAPTAIN INOUYE, Commander of the *Izumi Kan*, accompanied by Vice-Admiral Yamamoto, was received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor on the morning of the 13th.

CONSIDERABLE excitement has been caused at Delrosa, a small town in California, by the action of a vigilance committee in unceremoniously ordering five Japanese out of the county.

A SOLDIER named Ogawara Saichi has been sentenced by a Court Martial in Tokyo to pay 10 *yen* and suffer six months' imprisonment for having induced a girl to commit suicide.

THE Orient Steamship Company's vessel *Ophir* has been chartered to convey their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York to Australia. They will have an escort of cruisers.

A MAN named Ota Heikichi and his wife Toki, living at Moyoshi-cho Itchome, Yokohama, have been arrested by the Kotobuki-cho police on charges of dealing in lottery tickets and of gambling.

PRINCE INKANTHOR of Cambodia, who recently made so much stir in France by denouncing certain French officials in his country, was a passenger to Singapore from Antwerp by the *Wakasa Maru*.

AMONG the choice items of news in Canadian papers just to hand is the following:—It is rumoured that Mr. Joseph Chamberlain is to be elevated to the peerage with the title of the Earl of Birmingham.

MR. MITSUNA NITARO, Yokohama, Captain of the steam-launch *No. 1 Hozon Maru*, belonging to Mr. Takase Risaburo at Kitanakadori, Yokohama, has been fined by the Tokyo Harbour police for towing 14 junks from Yokohama to Tokyo on the morning of 12th, this being four more than the lawful number.

A REPORT received in Tokyo from Mikurajima, Izu Island, states that earthquakes were very frequent from Nov. 5th to Dec. 1st. In several places the land was fissured and one man was killed by a stone which fell from a hill-side.

A TELEGRAM received at Fukushima Police station states that a train on the Iwaki Railway was derailed near Nakayama station by a snow slide on the 17th; 16 passengers were buried of whom 15 have been rescued, one being still missing.

FIRE broke out at Koshiki, Rokugomura, Yebaragori, on the 18th inst. about 3 p.m. and two houses were destroyed. The working of the telephone line between Tokyo and Yokohama was suspended in consequence until half-past nine the same evening.

A MAN named Kurozawa Ushiro was arrested by detectives on Dec. 14th at Akaba on a charge of stealing silk and other goods from railway cars. His thefts had extended over a long time, and it was only by setting a special watch for him that he was detected.

A GOLD watch and chain arrived by post at the Metropolitan police station on the morning of the 13th inst. It was found to belong to an American resident of Tokyo, who lost it at Asakusa, Tokyo, on the 16th Oct. The articlet have been returned to their owner.

A YOUNG Japanese named Matsuura Sakichi, employed by Mr. Yoshinaga Nizo at Moto-hamacho Nichome, Yokohama, was arrested at Hisakata-cho, by the Isezaki-cho police on the 15th inst., charged with stealing 460 *yen* from the safe of his employer. He had spent only 60 *yen*.

TWO men, Yeto Manzaburo, and Kozono Tamesaburo, both employed in the Osaka branch office of the Ryukeisha, Oita Prefecture, have been arrested on a charge of misappropriating *yen* 13,000 belonging to their employers. They had lost heavily in gambling and made up the deficiency from the office funds, declaring that burglars had taken the missing amount.

DR. HABERER, who lives at Negishi, had a painful experience on Friday. Returning home at 6 p.m. he fell into a newly-dug unprotected well (15 feet deep) close by a lane leading to his house and sustained fractures of the bones of his legs. His calls for help attracted attention and he was rescued from his unpleasant situation and assisted home.

KANDA SHINKICHI (a well known Yokohama burglar) and Iida Kumakichi were arrested on Saturday, the former at Shimbashi and the latter at Nigiwai-cho, Yokohama, charged with having entered several houses in Yokohama and Tokyo, armed with pistols and swords, and extorting money. They are said to have gained several thousand *yen* by this means.

THE following names have been assigned to the battleships, cruisers, and sloops included in this year's new shipbuilding programme, the British Admiralty having given orders for the construction of these vessels in the Royal dockyards and private shipbuilding yards:—Battleships; *Queen*, Devonport; *Prince of Wales*, Chatham. Armoured Cruisers; *Cornwall*, Pembroke; *Suffolk*, Portsmouth; *Berwick*, Beardmore and Co.; *Cumberland*, London and Glasgow Shipbuilding Co.; *Donegal*, Fairfield Shipbuilding Co., *Lancaster*, Armstrong, Mitchell and Co. Second-class Cruisers. *Challenger*, Chatham; *Encounter*, Devonport Sloops: *Odin* and *Merlin*, Sheerness.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Dec. 15.

There are various rumours about the peace negotiations. One is that a telegram sent to Viceroy Chang by a high official of Hupeh represents the Court as being prepared to accede to the foreign demands in four respects; first, that after peace is restored, the Court will return to Peking; secondly, that an indemnity of 280 million taels will be paid by China; thirdly, that foreign troops numbering 2,000 may be stationed in Peking, and fourthly, that one foreign adviser shall be employed by each Department of State. We need scarcely say that this story must be taken with all reserve. There is no reason to think that the Foreign Representatives have come to any final agreement about the amount of indemnity. A rumour recently circulated was to the effect that Germany demanded 18 millions sterling, France 14 millions, and Russia 10 millions for Manchuria alone; making a total of 42 millions, apart from the sums that would be asked for by England, America, Japan, Italy and Austria-Hungary, as well as by Russia on account of the Chili campaign. Probably these figures were exaggerated, but it may be taken for granted, we think, that China will have to meet a bill of at least 400 million taels. The United States Government suggested that a lump sum should be demanded, its amount being fixed with reference, not to the accounts of the several Powers, but to China's financial ability, and that on receipt of the money it should be divided among the claimants. That plan, obviously objectionable on theoretical grounds, was doubtless prompted by a desire to remove this troublesome question from the threshold of the negotiations, even though the methods of removal were defective. The proposal did not meet with the approval of the other Governments, but there is no reason to suppose that it has been replaced by a definite estimate of the sums necessary to satisfy the various claimants. In the absence of such an estimate, nothing seems less likely than that China should volunteer information as to the amount she is prepared to pay.

Another rumour is to the effect that the credentials of Prince Ching and Viceroy Li have been found informal, being, in fact, nothing more than a telegraphic message from the Court commissioning them to act as plenipotentiaries. No official news in that sense had been received in Tokyo when the rumour came to hand, and we are therefore disposed to doubt its accuracy. There has been much talk of the great seal's being in the possession of Prince Twan, and it has been conjectured that the Court would consequently find itself in a position to repudiate Ching and Li should their negotiations prove unsatisfactory. But that, too, is scarcely credible. It can not be doubted that the Court is in deadly earnest about concluding peace as speedily as possible, and that no formalities will be omitted which can promote that end.

There is good reason to fear, however, that the preliminary discussions have not reached a stage so satisfactory as was reported a few days ago. It was then supposed that the crucial question of the punishment of the instigators had been reduced to a practical form, and that the idea of insisting upon their decapitation had been abandoned. But Great Britain is said to have adopted an unexpectedly uncompromising attitude towards this problem, and it will consequently be necessary that the Foreign Representatives should hold another conference. It is a matter for great regret that England should take such a line. Doubtless Her Majesty's Government feels that public opinion is strongly roused, and feels also that whenever the punishment of prominent officials has been demanded hitherto in consequence of anti-foreign outrages, the demand has led to a fiasco, the punishments proving to be of a most temporary character and generally preluding promotions and rewards for their victims. But there are ways of averting such an issue without proceeding to extremities which must inevitably drive the Twan coterie to desperation, and which are quite impracticable. If the Powers could see any reasonable prospect of themselves executing this capital sentence in the event of the Chinese Government's refusal, there would probably be no difference of opinion, though many persons would continue to doubt the justice of the step. But the Powers have no such ability, and if they persist in preferring the demand, a hopeless deadlock must be anticipated.

Another story is that the Court at Si-ngan has issued orders against the use of foreign articles in any shape or form. Some champagne, soap, candles and matches sent from Anhui were rejected, and nothing produced outside of China is to be received in future. If that be true, it is very significant, and since an ounce of fact is worth a pound of theory, the effect upon foreign public opinion will be very bad.

Viceroy Liu is said to have suspended night-work at the Nanking arsenal, and to have dismissed 100 operatives.

The Viceroy of Canton is reported to have negotiated a loan of five hundred thousand dollars from a Hongkong firm; and, by way of contrast, Hunan has sent 170,000 taels to the Court at Si-ngan.

Monday, Dec. 17.

Russia appears to be still withdrawing her troops from Chili to Newchwang and Liao tung. The latest report estimates her strength westward of Shan-hai-kwan at a little over 5,000. This step is probably dictated by considerations connected with the comfort of the men during the winter.

It is stated that a sharp engagement took place near Hoshi-u on the 10th instant between a body of 1,000 Boxers and a Japanese detachment. The Boxers attacked a Japanese cavalry patrol and compelled it to fall back. Then the troops guarding Hoshi-u marched out, and drove off the Boxers, who, however, are represented as having resisted stubbornly and used fire-arms. Inasmuch, however, as they did not succeed in killing or wounding any one on the Japanese side, though losing heavily themselves, it can not be supposed that their resistance was very effective. Several of their barracks are said to have been taken.

The French are reported to be still pushing on towards Tai-yuen, where, it is said, they intend to establish themselves for the winter. The statement appears difficult of credence. There is no reason why the French should impose upon themselves the difficult task of keeping their army supplied at such an inaccessible place as Tai-yuen. Did they decide to remain at Pao-ting, which is in communication by rail with Peking, the resolve would be intelligible, but Tai-yuen is is altogether out of the way. Possibly the idea in going there is to exact a bloody vengeance for the massacre committed during the dark days.

A telegram received in Tokyo says that the Court has issued instructions for affixing the great seal to the credentials of Viceroy Li and Prince Ching.

Tokyo newspapers publish a statement that Mr. Li, Chinese Representative at the Court of Japan, has been nominated Governor of Shun-tien-fu (*i.e.* Peking).

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHINESE COURT.

Tuesday, Dec. 18.

Of course the very deep-rooted distrust of the Chinese that exists among many foreigners must have a solid basis of some kind. But it often betrays critics into obvious extravagances. The Tientsin correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, for example, is persuaded that the Chinese Court is only temporizing with foreigners, and that "preparations are being steadily made for another anti-foreign outbreak. The journal to which he writes is not disposed to take the same view, though it speaks of "men, money, rifles, guns and ammunition that have been flowing northward through Tsing-Kiang-pu during the last few months" and recommends the allies "not to relax their vigilance, for there is nowhere where the unexpected happens so often as in China." It appears to us quite a delirium of suspicion to imagine that the fugitive Court can seriously contemplate any renewal of the struggle on aggressive lines. Preparations may be in progress to make a final desperate stand should the terms of peace advanced by the allies prove quite unendurable. But the bubble of hope must have burst long ago in the breast of all military Chinamen. They must know well that if they could effect nothing when their armaments were still complete and their armies a reality, there is not the remotest possibility of effecting anything now that their resources have been shattered, their armies dispersed and their enemies enormously strengthened. As to the question of temporizing, truly we think that the Chinese might be excused if they alleged that the boot was on the other foot. The relief of Peking was effected on the 15th of August. Since that time, there has not been any armed resistance worthy of the name on the Chinese side. Desultory fighting has taken place, it is true, but the allies have gone to seek it. In fact, it may be said that during three months the forces of Europe and America have been quietly stationed in Chili waiting for something to turn up. And during three months the Powers have been consulting about the demands they will formulate for China's acceptance. They have not agreed even yet. China has not displayed any disposition to resist a settlement, but the Powers can not arrive at any understanding between themselves. Suppose that, after the terms have been definitely set forth, China devotes three months to thinking what she will do about them. Then indeed there will be an outcry. Then indeed we may be prepared to hear the critics discover all kinds of sinister motives in her delay. For the present, at all events, let us keep before our eyes the fact that the delay is on the foreign side, and that to accuse China of temporizing would be to expose ourselves to just ridicule.

A German and a French transport reached Chin-wang-tao on the 14th instant. They carried horses and provisions.

It is stated that a party of Chinese troops and Boxers were menacing the position of a British detachment, 20 miles west of Peking, on the 13th instant.

The Chinese Pleinpotentiaries Li and Ching are said to have obtained a draft

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the peace proposals and to have forwarded it to Viceroys Chang and Liu for their examination and advice. The proposals consist of 14 headings and about 104 articles.

The Peking-Tientsin railway seems to have been at length got into working order. It was to be opened to traffic on the 15th instant

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

Wednesday, Dec. 19.

A somewhat sensational telegram is published by the *Jiji Shimpo*. It is to the effect that the Foreign Representatives are still discussing the terms of peace and that they have prepared a document containing over a hundred clauses. These they have determined to submit to the Chinese plenipotentiaries in the form of an ultimatum, requiring that there shall not be the smallest alteration or modification, but that 'the whole must be accepted *en bloc*, and declaring that, in the event of any semblance of refusal on China's part, military measures will be at once taken. The telegram adds that, in view of the hopelessness of the situation, several members of Li Hung-chang's household have set out, or are about to set out, for Shanghai. It is not possible to place implicit credence in this statement. We may assume that the Powers will show a resolute front, but not that they will put their demands into the form of an ultimatum from the outset. According to news hitherto received, the idea of presenting an ultimatum applied only to the demand for the punishment of the instigators, and was abandoned even in that matter. Can it be supposed that the whole body of proposals are now to be submitted in that form?

A CURIOUS QUESTION.

It is stated, by the *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent, that the German officers in Chili have demanded that Dr. Morrison, *The Times'* correspondent in Peking, and also the correspondent of the *Morning Post* shall be arraigned before a court martial because they reported to the journals they represent that Colonel York's death occurred in a reverse suffered by his troops at the hands of the Chinese, and was not due, as reported, to accidental suffocation by charcoal. The same story—namely, the story of a defeat—reached this country, but no one paid much attention to it. It would be a strange proceeding, however, to try these gentlemen by court martial, nor do we see how such a step could be taken. The court would have to be convened by the British General and would have to consist of British officers; but it would scarcely be possible to induce the British General to convene a court for such a purpose, and we deem it very doubtful whether the Court could take cognisance of such an offence. German methods of dealing with newspapers are much more drastic than English methods.

Russia is said to have now completed her arrangements for establishing military communication between Shan-hai-kwan, Liaotung and Mukden. In other words, she is in complete occupation of Manchuria.

The Yang-tsung and Peking section of the railway is now fully repaired, but it appears that the locomotives handed over by Russia are not in a working condition, and that traffic is still interrupted in consequence.

It is alleged that the Viceroy of Min-che, Hsü Ying-kuei, has applied to the Bank of Formosa for a loan of 500,000 taels, offering as security the Ma-wi docks. Mr. Soyeda, President of the Bank, is expected to come to Tokyo on the 20th in connexion with the application.

THE COURT OF PEKING.

Thursday, Dec. 20.

Governor Yuan Shi-kai is said to be exerting all his influence to procure the return of the Court to Peking. He is reported to have informed their Majesties that if they wish to restore peace speedily, they must come back to the capital; that they have nothing to apprehend from the foreign troops, and that if they agree to make the journey, he will undertake to provide soldiers to guard the route We have very little faith in the success of these efforts on Yuan's part. Peking seems to us to be practically an impossible place of sojourn for the Imperial Court at present. The city draws its supplies mainly, almost wholly indeed, by the routes of the sea and the Peiho, both of which are in command of the foreign troops. Even the line of communications with the interior *viâ* Pao-ting and Tai-yuen, is now closed. Thus, the Court, if it returned to Peking, would be absolutely dependent upon foreign complaisance for the supply of even food stuffs, and, at the same time, it would be at the mercy of the allied armies in a military sense, since they would assuredly insist on holding their line of communications between Peking and Tientsin. All these things being quite patent to the Court, and it being further evident to the chief officials in its *entourage* that they are much safer at Hsiang—which seems to be the most approved spelling of the place generally written Si-ngan,—we have not the least expectation that Governor Yuan's representations will be successful.

THE OPERATIONS OF THE ALLIES

A telegram received by the *Tokyo Asahi* says that Count von Waldersee has issued instructions in the sense that, unless the Boxers are proved to be molesting or injuring peaceful citizens, no further military operations are to be undertaken against them. It is a matter for sincere satisfaction that such an order has been at length considered possible, but there is a touch of unintentional irony in its tone. For if the views of peaceful Chinese subjects could be obtained, they would probably say that they had suffered far more at the hands of the allied troops than at the hands of the Boxers. We are inclined to think, indeed, that the custom of burning villages which are supposed to have harboured Boxers has been the most inhuman phase of this struggle. It may have been necessary, but it was certainly a miserable alternative.

RECIPROCAL

Probably the next thing we shall hear from China is that Viceroy Li and Prince Ching are asking questions about the credentials of the Foreign Representatives. It is not understood that any Western Government has yet conferred the status of plenipotentiary on its Minister in Peking. Rumours speaks of some such step being contemplated by certain Powers, but nothing definite seems to have been done yet.

Friday, December 21.

We are tempted sometimes to think that the correspondents of our Tokyo contemporaries, when inconvenienced by a dearth of news, set themselves to compose general statements for transmission over the wires The *Asahi's* correspondent in Shanghai, for example, announces telegraphically that Russia is striving hard to secure not only Li Hung-chang but also Prince Ching as her allies. That is indeed startling news! Any one might have announced it without serious fear of contradition. Of course Russia is looking after her own interests. Why not? We shall probably soon be treated to a revival of the ridiculous canard that she is using bribes to corrupt Chinese high officials. Viceroy Li, at the time when a few tens of thousands of dollars were supposed to have induced him to sacrifice Chinese interests to Russian, was in possession of a private fortune variously estimated at from 50 to 70 million taels.

The famine in Shensi appears to be very acute. We hear of money being collected by high officials and forwarded to the distressed district. Certainly an evil fate seems to pursue the Court. That the very province selected by their Majesties as a place of refuge should become the scene of such a calamity will probably be regarded in China as a judgment of heaven.

There is a rumour that Italy is about to utilize the present opportunity by practically asserting her claim to Sam-mun Bay. One of her frigates is said to have proceeded thither with orders to land marines and construct barracks. What Italy wants with territory in China we can not pretend to say, but she has her own reasons, no doubt. Probably one consideration is reluctance to be left out of the general scramble for concessions

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Japan has withdrawn one half of the troops landed by her in Shanghai. They returned by the *Toyohashi*, a torpedo-depot ship.

The latest rumour is that the Washington Government has resigned itself to the inevitable necessity of the partition of China, and that, although disapproving of such a step, it regards it as a lesser evil than separating itself from the concert of Powers. The immediate reason of this conclusion is that since the indemnity demanded by the Powers will be altogether too large for China to pay in money, some part of it will have to be taken in territory, and when that alternative is resorted to, there will be a general laying on of hands. The United States will then appropriate Fuhkien, inasmuch as the possession of Amoy will be convenient for preserving communications with the Philippines. Of course this rumour is nothing more than an amplification of the news recently received that the Washington Government had expressed the opinion that some part of the indemnity would probably have to be taken in the form of concessions. That view furnished quite sufficient grounds for a story such as is now circulating. But America, of course, had tradal concessions only in view. We may be absolutely confident that the ball of partition will never be set rolling from Washington, directly or indirectly.

Captain Martini, of the French Navy, gave an entertainment in Hiroshima on the 15th instant, to celebrate the complete recovery of the last French patients treated in the Japanese military hospital at Hiroshima. Our readers already know that 114 French officers, non-commissioned officers and men were carried from Taku in Japanese ships and placed in the hospital. There were also 2 Austro-Hungarian patients. Among the French, 58 were wounded and 56 were suffering from illness. Captain Martini spoke in very strong terms about the great skill and kindness shown by the Japanese hospital staff to his countrymen, and alluded in most earnest language to the remarkable good will displayed by the people of Hiroshima in

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loading the patients with presents. He declared that these gifts would be treasured for ever as mementoes of sincere friendship, and that his country would never forget the treatment received by its wounded and sick soldiers.

POLITICAL MATTERS.

An incident, now happily rare, has occurred in Tochigi Prefecture, namely the closing of the Prefectural Assembly. Formerly such an event was common enough, owing to collisions between the Governors and the Assemblies. In the present instance the trouble seems to have had its origin in a dispute between political parties. A Liberal abused the Vice-President; a Progressist introduced a motion for the punishment of the offending member; the Liberals introduced a counter motion of want of confidence in the Vice-President, and the dispute waxed so keen that the Governor interfered and suspended the Assembly

A disgraceful affair occurred on the 16th instant at a friendly meeting of the Tokyo branch of the *Seiyu-kai*. It arose out of the bribery scandal. Among those present was Mr. Ooka Tsutomu, manager of the *Chuo Shimbun*, a newspaper which, although its tone is generally friendly to the Liberals, has not hesitated to denounce in strong terms the persons suspected of taking bribes. The meeting was attended by Mr. Ito Nitaro, who is reputed to be a *soshi* leader, and who seems to have been accompanied by a party of stalwarts. Mr. Ooka having addressed to the meeting a speech in which he expressed the hope that his relations with those present, many of whom he then met for the first time, would be close and pleasant, Mr. Ito rose and declared that there could be no amicable relations with the manager of a paper which published such slanders After a brief exchange of remarks, Ito and his followers fell upon Mr. Ooka and beat him into a state of insensibility.

The talk of a probable split in the ranks of the Progressists seems to have been without serious foundation. Rumour said that the original Reform Party (*Kakushin-to*) led by Baron Kusumoto, was agitating for a reorganization of the Progressists, the idea being to publicly make Count Okuma President and Baron Kusumoto Vice-President. The original Progressists, under the leadership of Mr. Inukai Ki, opposed this project, which would have impaired Mr. Inukai's influence. While the friction was at its height, the affair of Mr. Nakamura Yaroku occurred —namely, his alleged connection with frauds committed again Sun and the Chinese rebels in the matter of supplying arms. Mr. Nakamura was a pillar of the Kusumoto section, and rumour said that the latter strongly opposed a proposal put forward by the Inukai section for the expulsion of Nakamura from the party. It was predicted that when this question came up for open discussion, a collision would occur. But the forecast has not been fulfilled. A meeting of the Parliamentary Members of the Progressists was held on the 16th instant, and the expulsion of Mr. Nakamura was endorsed without the slightest symptom of dissension.

With reference to this affair of Mr. Nakamura, it is difficult to arrive at the facts in the absence of testimony better than that furnished by the yellow press of Tokyo. Mr. Inukai Ki, however, in addressing the meeting on the 16th instant, openly declared that Mr. Nakamura had been guilty of forging documents. The outlines of the story, so far as we can trace them, are that Nakamura undertook to furnish arms and ammunition to Sun Yi-hsien and the Kwantung rebels, receiving a sum of 300,000 *yen* for the purpose; that he actually shipped a quantity of arms by the *Nanobiki Maru*, which was lost; that he forged receipts, purporting to have been written by the Okura firm and putting the price of the arms and ammunition at a figure some forty or fifty thousand *yen* higher than he had really paid, and that he further charged against his Chinese clients a sum of twenty or thirty thousand *yen* falsely said to have been spent in purchasing the connivance of high officials. We can not tell what truth there may be in these charges, but it seems pretty certain that Mr. Nakamura has been guilty of some chicanery.

As for the Progressists, after disposing of the Nakamura affair, they proceeded to deal with the question of re-organization, whereupon Baron Kusumoto, who was supposed to be aiming at the office of Vice-President, rose and proposed that the office of Vice-President be excluded from the project. An animated discussion ensued, the result being that Baron Kusumoto's motion was carried by 38 to 29. Mr. Inukai thus stands in the position of having gained his point by the assistance of his supposed opponents. The organization adopted was Count Okuma for President, a Political Committee of five, and a Council of 40.

When the Kusumoto motion was passed, a spectator in the gallery—a *soshi* he is called in the reports, every one that makes a vocal or muscular demonstration being dubbed *soshi* — shouted "So then you've all been squared. That is the result of the Hoshi ga-oka conference, is it?" This commentator was hauled down from the gallery, and a struggle ensued between him and Mr. Oishi Masame, the *soshi* finally being expelled amid laughter. The decisions of this meeting will now be submitted to a general meeting. We may add that, according to the *Niroku Shimpo*, the arrangement now concluded is only patch-work. The Progressists, it insists, are still divided into two sections, the Inukai section and the anti-Inukai section

It has probably been observed by our readers that much of the time of certain Cabinet Ministers has been devoted of late to attending, and speaking at, political meetings in distant places—meetings of the *Seiyu-kai* branches. This habit seems to have become detrimental to the discharge of Ministerial duties, and it has accordingly led to a proposal for a change of organization in the *Seiyu-kai*. The gist of the change is that Ministers of State will no longer be members of the General Business Committee of the *Seiyu-kai*. It will be competent for them to attend the committee's meetings and express their views, but they will not be actual members, and will consequently cease to attend provincial gatherings in that capacity. Another change anticipated is that a Special Business Committee of five and a Council will be organized. These questions are in the hands of Marquis Ito, who will decide them as he thinks wise.

The *soshi* that beat Mr. Ooka at the friendly (!) meeting of the Tokyo branch of the Seiyu-kai has been arrested.

The Progressists held their general meeting in Tokyo on the 18th instant, Baron Kusumoto acting as Chairman, and some three hundred members being present Measures of reorganization were unanimously adopted on the lines already described in these columns; namely, that Count Okuma should be President, that there should be a business committee of five, nominated by him, and that there should be a council of ninety, concerning whose nomination nothing seems to have been decided. Count Okuma addressed the meeting. After thanking them for the honour conferred on him and expressing apprehension that his want of ability combined with his crippled condition would prevent him from doing as much as they expected, he spoke of the party under Marquis Ito's leadership. While frankly admitting its superior strength, he expressed doubts of its cohesion, and declared that the Progressists, having the country at their back, need not be uneasy about the ultimate result. Passing, then, from generalities to particulars, the Count claimed that whereas the *Seiyu-kai* had been organized with the avowed intention of purging political parties of their corrupt elements, and whereas only four months had elapsed since it came into existence, a number of its members were already in the hands of the police on charges of dishonest practices. He himself had hoped that the Ito Cabinet would enjoy a long life and that its career would illustrate the best phases of constitutional government But the hope had proved illusory, for the Cabinet did not hesitate to admit corrupt men to the Administration. There was nothing left, therefore, but to attack it, since the purification of society and of politics was the urgent need of the time.

An association called the *Seiyu Shōkō* Club has been organized. Connected with it are some of the leading merchants and manufacturers of Tokyo—as Mr. Shibusawa, Mr Okura Kihachiro, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, Mr. Amenomiya, Mr. Yokoyama, &c. The first meeting was held in the Imperial Hotel on the 17th instant, Mr. Amenomiya sitting as Chairman. Mr. Inouye Kakugoro made a brief speech, the gist of which was that business men had reason to hope that their interests would receive wise protection from the present Cabinet, in which event they would support it, persuaded that its longevity must make for the prosperity of Japan in particular and of the Far East in general A draft of rules was read and approved, and Messrs. Inouye and Yokoyama were appointed Managers, the head office being located in the Imperial Hotel.

The above meeting further resolved that the policy of the Party should be reform of officialdom and of political society; the preservation of China's integrity and of the peace of the Orient; and that, while no opposition should be offered to expenditures connected with the Chinese affair or with essential public business, every outlay of a non-pressing character must be postponed

The Ibaraki branch of the Seiyu-kai held a successful meeting in the Tokiwa Park at Mito on the 15th instant. It was attended by Mr Hoshi Toru, Mr. Kataoka, Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, Mr. Okura Kihachiro, Mr. Yokoyama Magoichiro and others, and messages were read from Marquis Ito, Baron Kaneko and Mr. Takashima Kaiemon.

The *Teikoku-to* (Imperialists) held a meeting on the 19th instant in Tokyo, and passed a resolution that the present Cabinet's attitude towards the Constitution is contrary to the principles of the Party. Mr. Sasa Tomofusa explained this resolution. He said that

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when the Ito Ministry was organized, its platform had seemed to be very nearly in accord with the political creed of the Imperialists, who believed that Cabinet Ministers had no responsibility to the Diet, that they held office solely by the Sovereign's mandate, and that they were not even jointly responsible to the Throne, being individually his Majesty's nominees. Marquis Ito, however, adopted the doctrine of collective responsibility, and the Imperialists felt bound to differ from him. Mr. Sasa did not explain the indications which led him to give this definition of Marquis Ito's views. He passed on—unless he is imperfectly reported—to speak of party men being appointed to high offices of State, as when Marquis Ito himself, though the avowed leader of the *Seiyu-kai*, held posts in the Household Department, and Marquis Saionji, though a member of the *Seiyu-kai's* Committee, was named President of the Privy Council. Apparently the Imperialists would exclude party politicians altogether from administrative posts.

Another resolution adopted by the meeting was the familiar *kwanki shinshuku*, or purification of officialdom. They attach considerable importance, it would seem, to the arrest of members of the Tokyo Town Council—though these are not in any sense officials, being honorary officers elected by the citizens—and also attach importance to the rumours of corruption in high places. At any rate, they regard it as a duty of prime importance that corrupt practices should be checked, and in that respect they have the present Cabinet with them.

Yet another resolution related to foreign policy. Briefly speaking, the Imperialists come out "flat-flooted" in favour of preserving China's integrity and "assisting Korea." We employ their own euphuism when we say "assisting." They allege that ever since the war of 1894-5, Japan has stood pledged before the world to aid Korea, and that they are entirely in accord with Prince Konoye's agitation in favour of China's integrity, a policy which has now received the approval of the civilized Powers, as is proved by the Anglo-German Agreement.

The Imperialists do not command a large force in the Diet. The most favourable estimate does not assign to them more that 25 or 26 votes in the Lower House, and whether they join the Opposition or support the Government, the latter's majority stands secure. Thus the chief interest attaching to the platform now announced by Mr. Sasa and his followers, is that it represents the first genuinely conservative declaration of doctrine put forward since the opening of the Diet. In former years, men like Viscounts Tani and Torio, military politicians as they may be called, spoke with bated breath about the prerogatives of the Throne and the superiority of the Imperial mandate to any parliamentary pronunciamentos. But there was not much fervour in those declarations. For all their professed loyalty to the Throne, Japanese politicians used to clamour so loudly for party Cabinets that any one advancing a contrary view became a species of political pariah. Times have changed. Mr. Sasa and the *Teikoku-to* now go to the fullest length of explicitness in their definition of Cabinet responsibility to the Sovereign alone. They are genuine and thorough conservatives. Are they the nucleus of a powerful party, or do they represent a mere bubble on the stream of radicalism?

In compliance with the resolution that Ministers of State shall no longer be members of the Business Committee of the Seiyu-kai, Baron Kaneko, Baron Suyematsu, Mr Hoshi, Mr. Hayashi and Mr. Matsuda have all resigned their positions as committee-men, and Marquis Ito has nominated three *remplacants*. Mr Kataoka Kenkichi, Mr. Ibara Soroku and Mr. Hara Kei. This seems to us a wise measure, for there was an obvious disposition on the part of some Ministers to sacrifice their official duties to party exigencies.

THE "TSUKISHIMA MARU."

Saturday, Dec 15.

News has been received by telegraph that a vessel answering to the description of the *Tsukishima Maru* was seen in a sinking condition near an island called Kuronejima, which lies to the south-east of Izu. The ship was flying signals of distress and was evidently on the point of overturning. She is said to have been about a thousand yards distant from the island, and as the water at that place is only from 15 to 26 fathoms deep, no great difficulty should be experienced in searching for her, supposing that she sank there. Many persons are said to have seen the sinking ship, but the telegram was despatched before measures had been taken to investigate the truth of the report. Among the various conjectures as to the cause of the vessel's loss, one was that her cargo of coal shifted, and, that, the crew finding it impossible to cut away her steel masts, nothing could be done to prevent her overturning. But if the ship foundered at a distance of only 1,000 yards from shore, it is scarcely conceivable that evidences of her loss should not have been abundantly forthcoming.

Monday, Dec. 17

A report has been received in Tokyo that thirteen corpses dressed in foreign clothes were cast up at Kujiukuri-ga-hama in Chiba Prefecture a few days ago—the date has not yet been fully ascertained. They were buried by the fishermen of the district, and steps are now being taken to disinter the bodies for purposes of identification. It is estimated that if the *Tsukishima Maru* was wrecked off Ishimura-zaki near Numazu, as has been hitherto supposed, the tide would have been likely to carry some of the bodies and the wreckage to precisely the place in Chiba Prefecture whence this news comes. The report adds the bodies were tied together

Since writing the above, we learn that a reporter sent by the *Jyi Shimpo* to Chiba to investigate the rumour as to the stranding of 13 corpses at Kujiukuri-ga-hama, has returned with intelligence that, during the whole month of November, not one corpse nor any wreckage was cast up on the Chiba coast Thus what promised to be a clue to the fate of the *Tsukishima* has again proved elusive.

EDUCATIONAL.

The High Council of Education has rejected the proposal put forward by the Department of Education for declaring that normal schools might henceforth be established by private enterprise. The reason—the only reason so far as we can discover—assigned by the Council for this most regrettable decision was that, even though private enterprise were sanctioned in that field, no prospect offered of its being employed Surely that is a singular line of argument! Private educators have not turned their attention to normal schools on any considerable scale because it would have been idle to do so while an official veto precluded them from establishing institutions which would be publicly recognised. What hope is there for a private projector when he has to confront the fact that a diploma granted by his school will not be regarded as qualifying its holder for the position of teacher, whereas the diploma of a public school is amply sufficient for that purpose? The present system effectually stifles private enterprise, and now we have the grave and reverend signiors of the Council declaring, in effect, that since private enterprise is in a state of inanition, the system which kills it should be preserved. This is not the first example of fossilized intelligence furnished by the High Educational Council.

The Council had a keen dispute also about a proposition to remove the item of "Chinese literature" from the curriculum of the Normal Schools. This proposal had received the approval of the Committee, but when it came up for debate, a strong party, headed, as might have been expected, by Professor Inouye Enryo and Viscount Tani, opposed the change, which was advocated by Professors Yamakawa and Nemoto, with a numerous following. No decision was arrived at.

CALENDARS.

We have received the calendars of the Aliance Insurance Company, the Law Union and Crown Insurance Company, and the Netherlands Insurance Company, for 1901. The Netherlands Company is essentially practical as to the size and arrangement of its calendar. It adopts the unique principle of utility and pays no attention to ornament, neither does it attempt to make its calendar a medium for advertising figures. The Law Union and Crown issues a handy and decidedly tasteful card, from which we learn that it has an income of over 8 million *yen* annually, and that its total funds exceed 46 million *yen*. The Alliance makes no departure from its familiar form, nor, indeed, is any departure advisable. We learn from its calendar not only the names of its Directors, headed by Lord Rothschild, but also that its subscribed capital is 50 million *yen*, and that its funds exceed 44 millions. The Agents for the Netherlands in Yokohama are Messrs. M. Raspe and Company, those for the Alliance, Messrs. Jardine Matheson and Company, and those for the Law Union and Crown, Messrs Samuel Samuel and Company.

"DIALOGUES ON HARBOUR AFFAIRS."

Under the above title Captain Mahlmann, Adviser in Harbour-Office Affairs at Kobe, has published a brochure, the object of which is to supply to boarding officers a number of English phrases such as are likely to be of use to them in the discharge of their duty. It appears to us that the phrases are excellently chosen and that they should be of very great assistance in facilitating the discharge of harbour functions and in preventing friction between boarding officers and masters of vessels. Captain Mahlmann is thoroughly competent to perform the task he has undertaken in this brochure, and we can not doubt that his labours will be of much service to Japanese harbour officials.

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VIOLATED CONTRACTS.

In 1867 there was published in a Yokohama newspaper an appreciation of Japanese and foreigners in their dealings with each other, and one of the traits assigned by the writer to the Japanese was a disposition to violate their contracts, leaving goods on the hands of the foreign importer if the state of the market rendered it inconvenient to take delivery. In 1900, just 33 years later, the same complaint is again made, and it has been made repeatedly in the interval. More than once—indeed many times—we have commented on the fact in these columns, and have suggested that for the sake of the foreign and the Japanese merchant alike, it was most desirable that the former should adopt some means of checking this evil state of affairs. In making that suggestion, need we say that it was not our intention to cast reflections upon the foreign merchants' shrewdness. He may be presumed to know his own business very much better than outsiders can possibly know it, and as an individual he would doubtless take steps to protect himself effectually were such steps reasonably possible. But what the individual can effect in a case of the kind must always be more or less insufficient. Combined action, on the part of a large majority at least of the foreign merchants, is essential, and has always been recognised as essential, for if any considerable number remain outside the combination, its purpose can not be fully realized. What measures the combination should adopt, we do not pretend to suggest. Whether defaulting Japanese should be tabooed, or whether bargain money should be exacted in every case—these are questions which the foreign merchants can answer more intelligently than any one else. But that something should be done no one will doubt, for the evil is patent, and there is no evidence that it has been appreciably mitigated in all these years. We repeat that iteration of complaint without any resolute attempt to apply a remedy suggests resourcelessness, but we do not mean to suggest—as the *Japan Gazette* infers—that "the mercantile population of Yokohama are all fools," neither are we—as the same journal implies—ignorant of the great difficulty of the problem. Indeed, the explanations offered by our contemporary in some detail are merely a recapitulation of facts which have appeared in our own columns from time to time. It appears to us, however, that in such a matter journalistic comment may have its uses, for the great desideratum is union on the foreign side, and union is likely to be promoted by ventilating the subject. The temper of men who angrily resent every criticism is certainly not calculated to bring about the desired combination.

THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

A curious point has arisen, we read in the *Niroku Shimpo*, in connexion with the working of the Government's tobacco monopoly. According to law, the Government buys up all leaf-tobacco imported from abroad, and sells it to the manufacturers in Japan at a price including a heavy duty. By that device, injurious competition is supposed to be obviated between the home grown and the imported leaf. But the whole of the trade in cigars and cigarettes manufactured with imported tobacco has now fallen into the hands of Messrs. Murai Brothers & Company, who are really representatives of American capitalists. This firm consequently imports from America all the tobacco it needs, and being master of the situation, puts its own price on the imported article, which price it takes care to make so small that the *ad-valorem* duty is reduced materially, and the firm, when it repurchases the tobacco from the Government, escapes a large part of the duty that would have to be paid under ordinary circumstances. The *Niroku* alleges that this method of procedure is greatly embarrassing the Government, which finds its tobacco monopoly threatened with defeat. But it is plain that a remedy can be applied without much difficulty. The Government has only to change the *ad-valorem* into a specific duty

SOUTH AFRICA.

The news from South Africa at present is distinctly painful reading for Englishmen There is no reason, of course, to feel serious uneasiness. What is happening is simply that the Boers are taking advantage of the warm weather to carry on guerilla warfare on a large scale under specially favourable circumstances. All that the Boer now wants for campaigning purposes is a supply of food in his holsters. He finds ample fodder for his horse on the veldt, and with an almost limitless extent of difficult country for manœuvring, he can strike heavy blows at unexpected points of the British lines. To exterminate the nomad forces that De Wet and Delarey have under their command, it would be necessary to seal all the passes of the mountains, an operation demanding probably three times the force now available for any such purpose. It is all sheer waste of life for no useful purpose whatever. A strong effort on the part of the Boers was natural at the moment of Kruger's visit to Europe, their purpose being to prove that any nation helping them might still count on their helping themselves. But there is not now the remotest prospect of any nation's helping them, and meantime hundreds of valuable lives, their own and those of their foes, are being sacrificed among the South-African mountains. What is particulary humiliating is the news, now too often repeated, that so many hundred British troops have been captured and then released. The Boers, of course, being nothing more than a flying column and having no provisions to spare, can not detain prisoners But that does not make it the less disagreeable that they should have it in their military power to do so if they pleased. It is difficult to understand how they manage to drive our people into hopeless positions, or to surprise them there, so often. Intricate and mountainous as is the country on the east of the Free State, it ought to be tolerably familiar to the British by this time. Just at the present season last year we were hearing of the disasters of Gatacre, Methuen and Buller. December is evidently destined to be a black month in South-African annals.

FOREIGN EMPLOYÉS IN JAPAN.

A Chinese correspondent of this journal having stated that "Europeans did the work of organization in modern Japan," the *Japan Times* inquired "how could the men do the work of organization who have never been allowed to have any share in the executive branch of work whether in the Government or in business?" This objection of our contemporary's startled us when we read it, but we passed it over as a side issue. The cudgels have now been taken up on behalf of the foreign *employé* by Mr. W. B. Mason, who alleges that "the foreign *employé* was for many years almost the sole executive power in many of the Japanese Government Departments." That statement also seems inaccurate. By "executive power" we understand the persons wielding the authority of government, and most assuredly no such authority has ever been vested in any foreigner by his Japanese employers. No foreigner has ever had any financial direction nor any control over the Japanese serving in the department to which he belonged. So far as our experience and information indicate, the role assigned to the foreigner has been merely that of adviser or teacher. His advice has been freely sought, and in the matter of instruction he was originally left to strike out his own course in the subjects assigned to him. But the Japanese always reserved to themselves the right of adopting or rejecting his counsels. Indeed they rejected them much oftener than they adopted them. Nevertheless it may be, and is we believe, correct to say that the foreign *employé* took a large part in the work of organization in modern Japan. He had no power to enforce the systems he drafted, but without his aid the Japanese would have found the operation of drafting much more tedious and difficult than it proved. It appears to us that the truth is very closely approximated when we say that the Japanese saw pretty clearly what they wanted, and that while the credit of suggesting means belongs to the foreign *employé*, the credit of adapting them to her needs belongs to Japan. In some cases, notably the posts and telegraphs, the skeleton of organization was certainly articulated by foreigners, though the Japanese themselves converted it into a living and working entity. In other cases, the foreigner's share was much smaller. But no one can deny the high value of the work he did, though the new generation of Japanese have naturally a less vivid sense of it than their predecessors had

MR. HIRANUMA AND THE PEERS.

The *Asahi* and the *Niroku* allege that the members of the House of Peers are determined not to admit Mr. Hiranuma Senzo to the House. One of the political sections into which the House is divided—the *Chuwa-kai*—is said to have taken up the matter keenly, and finding its views generally supported, will take necessary steps to obtain a vote hostile to Mr. Hiranuma. A very nice question will thus be raised. It is true that Mr. Hiranuma once served a term in jail for bearing false witness, but, if we remember aright, he did not forfeit his public rights, owing to some question of time, and there is consequently no legal disqualification for his election now. Nor do we know of any provision of law which empowers a House of the Legislature to refuse admittance to a member duly elected and qualified. The Peers are represented as saying that the presence of Mr. Hiranuma in their midst would sully their escutcheon, but the question is whether they can give practical effect to that sentimental objection. In view of his record, Mr. Hiranuma might have been better advised had he abstained from seeking a place in the House of Peers. Having been elected, however, he will probably stand to his guns

All the six leading jockeys during the just-ended season in Germany are Englishmen, the respective order being Warne, Martin, Hedkford Jones, Iblett, and Toon.

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THE TOKYO SCANDAL.

Monday, Dec. 17.

The investigation into the charges of receiving bribes, preferred against certain members of the Tokyo Municipal Council, is still proceeding at the Local Court. It is stated that among the last witnesses summoned was an *employé* of Messrs. Favre-Brandt and Company, of Yokohama, the Court's object being to ascertain the truth of a statement that one of the contractors for iron pipes for the Water Works had purchased some twenty gold watches at the Yokohama store. Evidently no reliance can be placed in the statements recently published to the effect that the investigation was virtually over, and that the acquittal of the accused would follow immediately.

Another arrest has been made in connexion with the Tokyo scandal. The victim is Mr. Yokoyama Tomijiro, a member of the City Council. The Court is also calling a number of witnesses.

Tuesday, Dec. 18.

Four more arrests have been made in connexion with the Tokyo scandal. Among them are Mr. Iwai Kanesuke, a member of the City Council, and Mr. Toshimitsu Tsurumatsu, a well-known politician and member of the House of Representatives. The arrest of Mr. Toshimitsu has created a sensation, as he is a barrister with an extensive practice, and is supposed to enjoy the full confidence of Mr. Hoshi Toru. The other persons apprehended are Mr. Natsume and Mr. Nakamura, civil engineers. The excitement connected with the scandal is growing.

Wednesday, Dec. 19.

On Sunday, several newspapers, all published in the Progressist interest, united in declaring that the investigations conducted by the Tokyo Local Court had tended to incriminate Mr Hoshi Toru, that Count Inouye had urged him to resign and that Marquis Ito was determined to remove him from the Cabinet. On Tuesday, these allegations were emphatically denied by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Niroku Shimbun*, the *Jiumin* and the *Chuo Shimbun*. These five journals concur in declaring that the investigations have failed to fix even a shadow of responsibility on Mr. Hoshi, and that the story about Count Inouye and Marquis Ito is an unqualified fabrication. Mr. Hoshi, they predict, will come out of the ordeal absolutely scathless, and they add that he treats the whole affair with contemptuous *nonchalance*. The position of the *Mainichi Shimbun* is thus becoming more and more indefensible. It has never "let up" for one little moment, and it continues its attacks upon Mr. Hoshi with unabated vigour, supplementing them now with a simulation of joy that its accusations are about to be proved. How things will fare with the *Mainichi* should this portly bubble burst, it will be interesting to observe. Some persons now allege that when the *Mainichi* commenced its crusade, the hand of the proprietor, Mr. Shimada Saburo, was withdrawn temporarily owing to illness, and that he subsequently found it impossible to check the violence of the onslaught. We should be glad to accept that explanation were there any reason for doing so, but the responsibility of a newspaper proprietor is not so easily disposed of, and, besides, the letters written by Mr. Shimada himself to Mr. Hoshi, indicated clear concurrence with the charges levelled against the latter. There seems to be no alternative except that Mr. Shimada and the *Mainichi* should stand or fall together in this matter, though the public will doubtless retain its faith in Mr. Shimada's sincerity under all circumstances, whatever it may think of his judgment. Various side issues are raised in connexion with the scandal, but we shall not weary our readers by detailing them.

The *Fiji Shimpo*, discussing this question in a leading article, makes a comment which seems to us very shrewd. It is that the Progressists have always shown a disposition to attack merely for the sake of attacking, and without any due consideration of the grounds of assault. That kind of recklessness discredits them in the eyes of the nation. It recalls the old Buddhist saying that to spit at the sky is to soil one's own face. It is scarcely fair, we think, to lay this charge at the door of the Progressists only. Were we invited to indicate the tendency chiefly displayed by Japanese party politicians since the Constitution went into operation, we should have no hesitation in saying, carelessness of accusation. A big volume might be filled with the accusations and counter-accusations that have blackened the air since party politics became a feature of the national life. Much of the fault probably rests with the press, which habitually lends its columns to the ventilation of slanders without any apparent sense of responsibility. But whatever the explanation, there can be little doubt about the fact. It does not occur to the Japanese, apparently, that whether the sins they attribute to each other be real or fanciful, the foreign public's estimate of the nation's morality can not be improved by this spectacle. These thoughts were surely present in Marquis Ito's mind when he declined to place himself at the head of any of the existing parties. Were it possible to feel any confidence that the accusations of corruption now formulated by the Progressists against members of the former Liberal Party are prompted by a sincere desire to correct evil practices and restore the tone of political morality, all this commotion might be welcomed. But as the *Kokumin Shimbun* justly observes, the impression inevitably conveyed is that men attack each other as members of political parties, not as units of society, and that the whole object is to discredit an adversary rather than to raise the moral standard

Thursday, Dec. 20.

Some strange rumours have been published about the attitude of certain Cabinet Ministers towards Mr. Hoshi Toru in connexion with the Tokyo Scandal, but we have absolute assurance that these rumours are totally baseless so far as two of the Ministers referred to are concerned, and it may be taken for granted, we think, that there is no better foundation in the third case. Meanwhile, the investigations of the Tokyo Local Court have failed to discover any grounds whatever for suspecting Mr. Hoshi, and all possibility of proceedings being instituted against him has disappeared. The leading independent newspapers of Tokyo announce this result with satisfaction, but when we turn to the columns of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, on which the responsibility for the attack primarily rests, we find writing of a very different description. Nothing remains for the *Mainichi* now except recourse to the hackneyed pretence that the courts of justice are partial and the laws incompetent. The law, says the *Mainichi*, is like a spider's web: it can catch and hold the small flies, but a big wasp is always able to break through its meshes. Mr. Hoshi is too big to be caught Such is the conclusion of the discomfited journal. It even suggests that Marquis Ito has used his influence with the press and the judiciary to secure Mr. Hoshi's escape. The *Mainichi* does not emerge from this affair with any credit. All the institutions of its country seem to be equally black in its eyes. However, we must at least be fair enough to recall the charges preferred by the opposition press in England at the time of the Jamieson raid. Nothing is safe from assault when party politics direct the campaign.

MR. OZAKI YUKIO.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio denies emphatically that he has ever announced any belief in the partition of China. He does not place faith either in partition or in preservation as an item of international policy, his view being that if China can not defend herself, the disruption of her empire is inevitable, and that if she can defend herself, it is idle for foreign Governments to discuss her partition. We should have supposed, however, that one of Mr. Ozaki's hypothesis had ceased to be hypothetical, for surely no one can any longer pretend to think that China is capable of defending herself.

Mr. Ozaki is further unable to endorse the German press' interpretation of the Anglo-German Convention; namely, that whereas the convention bars England from interfering in any way between Germany and Shantung, it warrants Germany in interfering between England and the Yangtsze Valley. We are entirely of Mr. Ozaki's way of thinking. No one can imagine that German newspapers seriously maintain such a rendering. Their comments are evidently addressed to Russian susceptibilities, and they pay a very bad compliment to their neighbour's intelligence when they endeavour to foist upon her a theory so ridiculous. They are equally uncomplimentary to the morality of their own Government when they suspect it of such gross bad faith as would be involved in signing an agreement of the kind described by them. Shantung is Chinese territory, and if Germany, when pledging herself not to lay hands upon any part of China's territory, made a mental reservation to the exclusion of Shantung, she was guilty of deliberate chicanery. Of course she did nothing of the kind. She signed the convention in strict good faith and she will observe it faithfully. In this context we may allude to the belief entertained in some quarters that Manchuria is excluded from the purview of the Convention. How such a belief can be supported, no one has attempted to show Manchuria is just as much an integral part of China as is Chili or Honan. If Russia continues in occupation of Manchuria, the contingency contemplated by the third article of the Convention will have arisen, and no amount of sophistry can alter the fact. It may be considered axiomatic that when Japan became a full partner to the Convention, as only she, Italy and Austria have done, she included Manchuria in the term "Chinese territory," and it may further, be assumed that she will insist on that interpretation, which, indeed, it would be mere dishonesty to deny.

WEATHER AT SHOJI.

Below will be found the weather report compiled at the Hotel, Shoji, last week: –

	Temp Max	Min	Air Tem Lake	State of Weather,	Remarks in General
Sunday, 9th	36°	26°	38°	Fine	Cloudless
Monday, 10th	37°	28°	38°	Fine	the whole
Tuesday, 11th	38°	27°	38°	Fine	week.
Wed'sday, 12th	40°	28°	38°	Fine	
Thursday, 13th	41°	30°	38°	Fine	
Friday, 14th	42°	29°	38°	Fine	
Saturday, 15th	41°	29°	38°	Fine	

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KOREA.

A rumour comes from Sōul that the examination of the persons charged with exploding a bomb in the Palace last year, has incriminated several others, and that some changes are likely to result in the Ministry. It seems very strange that such an incident should occur after the lapse of so much time The arrests were made more than a year ago, if we remember aright, and if the accused had any revelations to make, they might have been expected to make them long ago, unless we are to understand that a year of the horrors of a Korean jail has been necessary to unseal their lips.

Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Representative in Sōul, embarked in the *Echigo Maru* at Chemulpho on the 16th instant. He returns for a short time to Japan.

Steps have at length been taken to guard against any unpleasant eventualities at Phyŏng-yang or Chinnampho. A force of Japanese police has been sent thither from Sōul and Chemulpho. Nothing is said as to the number of the police, but the plan adopted seems to have been that the men from Chemulpho should proceed, in the first instance, to Sōul, and having there joined forces with the detachment told off in that city, the united body should advance over-land to Pyŏng-yang. At another time of year, the sea route would be chosen, but the Tadong river is now frozen. Sixty rifles and five thousand rounds of ammunition have also been forwarded to Pyŏng-yang and Chinnampho, where they will be used by volunteers should occasion arise

THE LOSS OF THE "GUISENAU."

We publish, this morning, a telegram received at the Legation of France announcing the loss of the German frigate *Guisenau*, of the Mousses School, which sank at the entrance of the port of Malaga, with a loss of many lives The telegram does not contain any further particulars, but there is only too much reason to fear that among those who perished were several naval cadets, and that many German families of the upper classes will be thrown into mourning at Christmas time It is a strange and sad coincidence that such an accident should so nearly synchronise with a similar catastrophe in Japanese waters, the wreck of the *Tsukishima Maru*.

MR. KOMURA JUNTARO.

Mr. Komura returned from Europe on the 19th instant by the *Empress of Chuna*, reaching Tokyo at 11.30 a.m. He is now gazetted Minister Plenipotentiary at the Chinese Court, being relieved of his post as Japanese Representative in St. Petersburg, as well as in Sweden and Norway. The date of his departure for Peking has been fixed. for the 24th or 25th. His appointment seems to be universally approved, for he is recognised as one of the ablest and most active among his country's rising statesmen.

PEST.

The local authorities of Yokohama have issued a notice that rat's carcasses will be purchased by the municipality. This measure does not indicate that any symptoms of pest have appeared in Yokohama: it is purely precautionary, and the present occasion is chosen for making the announcement because the usual New Year's cleaning performed in all Japanese houses will furnish an opportunity for killing rats.

Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress have contributed a sum of 3,000 *yen* towards the cost of sanitary measures in Osaka.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

A report comes from Sendai that some 80 persons who went into the hills to cut wood for charcoal, were caught in a snow-storm, and nothing has been heard of them since the 14th instant. A rescue party despatched by the police, found the snow ten feet deep and was unable to proceed.

Shizuoka appears to have been the scene of strange doings lately. Some time ago, it was reported that an official had been arrested on a charge of forging passports for emigrants to America, and now the newspapers contain a complicated story, the gist of which is that criminal information has been laid against an inspector of police for engaging *soshi* to obstruct a missionary who was attempting to contrive the release of a prostitute, and for levying black-mail from the proprietors of brothels as well as from professional gamblers. The curious part of the story is that the head of the *soshi* has been arrested, on the strength of accusations preferred against him by the police inspector who is supposed to have employed him. We can not unravel the puzzle, but that there is some scandal seems evident.

There begins to be talk about the introduction of foreign capital by official intervention. Mr. Hoshi Toru is credited with a scheme for hypothecating the State railways for the purposes of a foreign loan, whereas Marquis Ito is represented as objecting to any transaction of borrowing on security. The stories are vague, and they do not derive substance from the fact that the Treasury was recently announced to have devised a plan which would enable it to dispense with foreign aid in continuing the *post-bellum* programme of productive works

Three Japanese subjects having been found residing on one of the hitherto uninhabited islands in the vicinity of Hawaii, the United States Government is said to have taken the precaution of intimating to Japan that the island belongs to America. The men are engaged catching birds and curing their skins.

It is stated that the associations of foreign and Japanese firms engaged in exploiting the gold mines of Esashi met with a certain measure of success at Peh-chang, during the season just expired, and that they contemplate a large extension of their operations. Mining engineers and machinery are to be obtained from America. The firms connected with this venture, according to Japanese newspapers, are Messrs R Isaacs and Bro., Sale and Co, the American Trading Company, and Mr. Iwasaki Yoshijiro

The High Educational Council met at the High School of Commerce on the 15th instant. Professor Kato Hiroyuki presided, and a series of questions was submitted by the Government for the Council's consideration. It is stated that one of the subjects to be debated by the Council will be the advisability of concouraging private enterprise in the field of education. The Government proposes that permission shall be given to private individuals to establish high schools and normal schools, and that such institutions, if duly organized, shall receive official recognitions. That is welcome intelligence. It has often been insisted in these columns that the deterrent policy adopted towards private educational enterprise by the Government is unwise.

A fire took place in the Minechi coal mine, Fukuoka Prefecture, on the 15th instant. The mine was immediately sealed. It had been producing 100 tons of coal daily.

It is stated that 18 foreign insurance companies were duly registered at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce from December, 1899, to the 15th December, 1900. Of these, 14 were fire companies, 3 marine and 1 transport. The applications of more than 70 are now under consideration, of which about 40 have failed to furnish sufficient information as prescribed by law.

The *Fiji Shimpo* catalogues the officials that have been summoned to Japan by the new Minister of Foreign Affairs, namely, Mr. Hayashi from Sōul; Mr. Akatsuka, acting Vice-Consul, from Fusan; Mr. Kirino, student interpreter, from Chin-nam-pho; Mr. Mayeda, from the Tientsin Consulate; Mr Hayata, student from Shanghai, and Mr. Takasu, student-interpreter from New York. Several of these, we imagine, have obtained leave to return on their own account.

It is alleged that at its meeting on the 16th instant the Cabinet, after much discussion, decided in favour of the proposal for increasing the taxes with the object of replacing the amounts drawn from the Three Capital Funds for the purposes of the campaign in North China. The Ministers of State for Foreign Affairs and for the Navy are said to have strongly supported the measure, Admiral Yamamoto contending that the Capital Funds ought not to have been used for war purposes. Naturally the officers of the Navy are anxious that no encroachments should be made upon the Naval Maintenance Fund of 30 million *yen*, which is already much too small for its purpose

The Cabinet is further stated to have passed the Budget for 1901-2 at the same meeting, without any amendments whatever.

Marquis Yamanouchi, who represents the former great clan of Tosa, has become engaged to Princess Sada, daughter of H I.H. Prince Fushimi. The newspapers give a list of the articles ordered for the bride's trousseau and equipage. It is expected that the wedding will take place in the beginning of February.

The *Official Gazette* publishes the Government's sanction for the formation of an aquarium in Osaka in connexion with the Fifth National Exhibition, which is to be held in that city in 1903.

On the 8th instant, there was launched at the Yard of Messrs. Vickers, Maxim and Company the line-of-battle ship *Asikasa* (15,200 tons displacement), which is the fourth of the first-class battle-ships ordered by Japan under the *post-bellum* programme.

The terms on which the present instalment of the Yokohama Waterworks loan is offered to the public are suggestive of the great scarcity of money now prevailing in Japan. A six-per-cent loan offered at 92, where the security is undoubted, would attract a rush of British and American investors if only the unhappy prejudice against lending money in Japan were removed. It is

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really quite an unique experience in financial history. Numbers of syndicates have been formed to lend or place money in China, but no one seems to think of including Japan in the field of such operations.

An exceptionally pleasant evening party was given on the 15th instant by Viscount and Viscountess Aoki at their residence in Bancho, Tokyo. It opened with private theatricals, a German and a French piece, the former entitled *Que pensez vous de la Russie?* and the latter *Un Crâne sous une Tempête*. The first piece required six characters, four gentleman and two ladies; the second, only two, one of whom remained absolutely silent throughout, his rôle being confined to facial expression and gestures while his wife poured the vials of her wrath upon his head. In both cases the acting was of a high type and elicited hearty applause. Dancing ensued in a spacious new ball-room to the excellent music of an Austrian naval band, and the party did not break-up until past two o'clock.

A conflagration occurred in Bakan at 3 a.m. on the 9th instant. It destroyed 172 houses, but the losses to insurance companies are said to aggregate only 24,000 *yen*.

The Tokyo *Asahi Shimbun* publishes a paragraph representing that the Echigo Oil Company has encountered serious trouble owing to dishonest extortion on the part of Mr. Omita, who has been connected with the Company since it commenced operations. The story now told is that Mr. Omita has refused to hand over valuable properties purchased in his name with the Company's funds. The paragraph reads very like an unprincipled attack upon Viscount Aoki, who appears to have rendered some assistance to the Company, as was very natural and proper. At all events, the Echigo Oil Company is under the direction of eminently shrewd men of business who know perfectly well how to manage their own affairs. We do not imagine that the *Asahi* intends to make any reflection upon the Company itself, but the publication of these injurious rumours about Mr. Omita can not be particularly agreeable to the Directors.

The *Official Gazette* publishes a facsimile of the new 100-*yen* note. It is a very pretty design. The colours used are black, orange and red, and the picture on the right side of the face is a likeness of Kamatari, the ancestor of the Fujiwara family; that on the left being a sketch of the shrine (Tanzan) in Kyoto where his memory is worshipped. On the reverse, in purple and red, is a medallion containing an elevation of the Bank of Japan, flanked by medallions with the numeral "100" surrounded by leaf-scrolls.

The *Doric* picked up the crew of a Japanese vessel of 67 tons, which was found drifting in a helpless condition 300 miles from the Japanese coast, The Japanese vessel had left Choshi in Shimosa bound for Sendai, and had been disabled by a storm on the 6th instant, after which she drifted helplessly for eleven days. Six men were saved. They said they had abandoned all hope of succour. Japanese papers speak in warm terms of the kindness shown by the officers, crew and passengers of the *Doric* to the destitute men. A collection of $110 was taken up in the cabin of the American steamer for the sufferers.

The investigations conducted by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce into the condition of insurance companies are said to be likely to affect the *Kaikoku Seimei Hoken Kaisha* (Island-country Life Insurance Company). The Company has a deficiency of 170,000 *yen* in its accounts, due in part to the fact that it has invested its funds in securities which can not be realized, and in part to the fact that it has expended large amounts on agents employed to attract insurers. Knowing that their affairs were not in a satisfactory condition, ths directors are said to have induced Mr. Nakamura Genyu, formerly Vice-Minister of the Army, to accept the post of President, which he did in all good faith, believing the concern to be quite sound, and investing ten thousand *yen* of his own in it. The unfortunate gentleman is said to be horrified at discovering the real state of affairs. In connexion with these investigations the officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce are reported as declaring that they have not the least wish to place any obstacles in the path of sound companies, but that it is their duty to protect the public, as far as possible, against frauds.

THE RADLEY PLAY.

Many residents in Yokohama and Shanghai will be interested, we imagine, in the following critique of the Radley Play given this autumn, with its favourable notice of "Beau" Hannen, the only son of the late Sir Nicholas Hannen:—

No word but that of praise can be used of the performance of Aristophanes' "Frogs," which was given on Friday evening by the boys of St. Peter's College, Radley. The general expression, indeed, among the large audience, and that a critical one, which had come together from Oxford and the surrounding district, was one of genuine surprise that a representation of so exacting a play by such youthful amateurs could possibly have been so good. No circumstance which might ensure success had been omitted. The music was that composed by Sir Hubert Parry for the Oxford Dramatic Society in 1892, the happy inventions of which excited now, as then, the admiration of all. The orchestra, under the direction of the Rev. G. Wharton, and consisting of boys and masters, assisted by a few well-known professionals, did ample justice to the music; and the choric songs were rendered with spirit, and generally well in tune, by the band of "Mystics," though the Coryphæus himself, otherwise admirably impersonated by E. P. Evans, occasionally wandered from the pitch in the longer recitative passages. The evolutions of the chorus had been carefully planned, and were carried out without a hitch. Whether in the solemn invocations to Iacchus, or in the lively and dramatic prelude to the trial scene, or in the quasi-serious prayer to the Muse, there was none of that stiffness and monotony which too often renders a great play incomparably dull. Then, again, the costumes and the stage effect were excellent. A grotesque corpse, a charming parlour-maid, and the introduction of Sisyphus, Ixion, and Tantalus undergoing their respective tortures, provided admirable by-play. Nor did any too fastidious a delicacy forego those occasional touches of vulgarity which are the essential charactenstic of ancient comedy. False quantities were commendably absent; and the distinctness of enunciation, as well as the care and confidence of the action, itself reflects the greatest credit on the ability of the boys and of the masters who trained them.

The principal part, that of Dionysus, was played with enthusiasm and a thorough understanding of the character by N. J. Hannen. It was perhaps a little overdone to start with; indeed, the excitement of the boisterous altercation with the croaking frogs, intensely amusing as it is, came perilously near betraying the actor into oblivion of his adopted tongue, and into anathemas couched in plain English. However, he soon settled down to his part, and in the last two acts was quite excellent. His slave, Xanthias was throughout delightful, and the manner in which the two played up to each other set an example which the other characters were not slow to follow. Not a point was missed, and the result was that the audience was kept in roars of laughter from beginning to end. The corpse scene was fully appreciated both by actors and spectators, and may vie with that in which the two old beldames vent their shreeching indignation on the unfortunate Dionysus for the palm of the evening. The trader Æacus on his entry was inimitable, the comic effect being heightened by the extreme youth of the actor, which was apparant through his get-up. The trial scene was amusingly done, though the Æschylus was a little too violent to be quite in keeping with the solemnity and unbending dignity which he is meant to display, and he was somewhat too snappy in his enunciation of the famous "lost a' bottle of rum" tag.

THE MEANING OF "C.I.F."

A correspondent writes:—"Could you find out, for the benefit of the whole mercantile community of this port, how local shipping firms interpret the cryptic letters 'C.I.F.' I enclose a clipping from a home paper which throws a confused light on the matter":—

What is the precise meaning of the term "C. .F.-" One would have thought that among merchants there could be no doubt as to the obligations imposed upon one who undertakes to ship goods on these conditions. A recent instance shows, however, that in the minds of experienced business men there may be differences of opinion upon the subject. A Manchester merchant bought a quantity of jute sacks from a house in Calcutta, to be shipped to Larnaca, in Cyprus, the advice of the sale stating "cost, freight, and insurance to be paid by us"—that is to say, by the Calcutta firm. Owing to the plague in India, the authorities at Port Said, where the sacks were to have been transferred to a steamer for Larnaca, would not allow them to be landed, and they were brought on to London. There they were put on board a steamer for the Eastern Mediterranean, and after some further difficulties and a second transhipment the merchandise at last reached its destination. Then arose the question, who should bear the extra cost of freight incurred by the roundabout voyage and the successive transhipments? The seller contended that having put the goods on board at Calcutta in proper condition and paid the insurance premium and the freight to Larnaca his responsibility ceased. The buyer held that the acceptance of the "C.I.F." terms imposed upon the seller the responsibility of discharging all the actual expense of freight to the port of destination, Larnaca. The dispute was referred to arbitration in Liverpool, and, as the arbitrators were unable to agree, the umpire settled the matter by giving his award in favour of the seller, thus throwing upon the buyer the unforeseen extra cost of freight. It would be interesting to know if any similar cases have occurred before, and how they were decided. According to this award it appears that when merchandise is sold on "C.I.F." terms the seller is discharged from all further liability as soon as he has shipped it in good order and paid for freight and insurance, even though the stipulated rate of freight should be subsequently found insufficient by reason of a diversion of the cargo. But is that the generally understood meaning of "C.I.F." terms?

POSTAL INSURANCE.

The Department of Communications has had under contemplation since last year the establishment of a system of postal insurance, with a view to encouraging a spirit of thrift on the part of the people. The subject, however, was not brought up in the last session of the Diet on account of circumstances connected with necessary investigations. We now learn from the *Chuo* that a proposal for carrying out the purpose in view will be made in the Diet about the middle of January next, the principal points of the system to be submitted for consideration being as follows:—

1. Postal insurance will in fact constitute a system of life insurance under the direct supervision of the Minister of Communications.

2. Insurance will be of three kinds, namely, for annuities for fixed periods, for life annuities, and for ordinary life insurance.

3. Fixed annuities will be paid for a certain number of years, from the time when persons insured have reached the age originally specified.

4. Life annuities will be paid without limitation as to period commencing at the age agreed upon by the person assured.

5. Premiums can be paid either in one sum or in installments for fixed periods, payment being considered as complete when postal deposits are made to the amount contracted for.

The new system is likely to afford considerable facilities to the public, owing to the fact that it provides complete machinery for agencies in every part of the empire, in the form of post offices, without entailing serious expense upon the Department.

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THE BUDDHISTS AND THE CHINESE COMPLICATION.

A REMARKABLE brochure has been published by the Superintendents of the six principal Buddhist sects in Japan. They call themselves "Representatives of the Great Japan Buddhists Union," and if we consider the importance of the sects by which they are delegated, there can be no doubt of their right to the title. The brochure, or "circular," deals with the Chinese emergency, and undertakes to set forth not only the causes chiefly responsible for the trouble but also the remedies that should be applied. The Buddhist prelates do not leave their readers long in doubt as to the general source from which aid must be sought. They look to diplomacy to provide an immediate exit from the dilemma, but they are "fully convinced that the work of eradicating the roots of evil and consolidating the permanent peace and welfare of China must be placed in the hands of the propagandists of religion." This exordium prepares us to find a strong plea advanced on behalf of the teaching and preaching of Buddhism, and to find also some sweeping condemnation of Christian interference. There is nothing of the kind. The pamphlet is in that respect a model of modesty and moderation. Its writers justify their pronouncement by reference to "the duty obligatory on them as preachers of religion," to their "friendly feeling towards China" and to their "sense of responsibility in connexion with religion" in that empire. But they utter no word of truculent self-assertion. Their appeal is to "the benevolent and generous ecclesiastics of the world," whom they ask to "pardon their audacity" and to "sympathise with their proposals for the sake of the welfare of the Chinese people and the tranquillity of the world at large"; and they frankly declare that though the religions of the world differ in tenets and in rites, "the fundamental principles of the higher classes of religion are in all cases essentially, if not entirely, analogous," since they are "based upon the principle of love for mankind," "which principle is utilized to destroy the darkness of life and to deliver myriads from sin and distress." They go on to say that, during the past ten centuries, "reverend ecclesiastics from all nations, especially missionaries from the various Christian Churches, have sailed to China in spite of its great distance," and, settling there, have, "with one heart, exerted their energies for the propagation of their doctrine and the development of Christian civilization. This they have done simply to the end that the zeal thus displayed for the furtherance of social happiness or welfare might have the effect of securing salvation for the Chinese people by virtue of that principle which commands general love for mankind." "In that respect," the writers of the brochure continue, "we, the followers of Buddha, can not sufficiently express our sincere admiration for them." Nor do they confine themselves to that magnanimous tribute. They are even frank enough to contrast their own efforts with those of Christian missionaries, and to admit unreservedly, that though the Buddhists of Japan also have entered the Chinese field, "they have not yet been able to achieve anything worthy of notice, and are ashamed of their inability to follow in the steps of, and bring about the result secured by, the Occidental Churches in the Middle Kingdom." It is very refreshing to encounter such large minded candour in the field of religious criticism. The Christian propagandists in China must be gratified to learn from such a source that their doings in that country have been "absolutely indispensable for the development of civilization," and that "the zeal and sincerity displayed by them are really extraordinary." But the Buddhist prelates do not merely commend: they criticise also. In their opinion, and history confirms their view, the Chinese people are not naturally exclusive, and would not, in the absence of strong incentive, assume towards foreigners the relentless, violent attitude they have recently showed. What is the explanation? It is that some of the missionaries have created suspicion and apprehension by proceedings which imply that they have "secured for themselves an immunity calculated to subvert the established customs and manners of the Chinese, and to indicate a tendency to ignore the statutes of the country and a desire to accomplish the most selfish ends by oppressing the Chinese Government and people." In short, the Buddhist representatives endorse the view so often advanced in Europe and America, that whereas the zeal and earnestness of the Christian propagandists have been beyond cavil, the policy of claiming official status for certain missionaries, and of interfering between Christian converts and lawfully constituted Chinese officials, as well as the territorial aggressions committed by some Powers under the pretence of exacting reparation for outrages against teachers of Christianity, have taught the Chinese to believe that the missionary is a political pioneer, that he is "followed by a Consul with a General at his back," and that "behind the man who comes with a bible in his hand, stands a warrior armed with a spear and sword." Such being their view, the Buddhist prelates entreat "the ecclesiastical authorities in the world to exercise their interference to restrain the missionaries from proceedings likely to create suspicion of their secret connexion with the foreign policy of their own countries," or proceedings which might be considered subversive of the social institutions of China. They are confident that by such means "the honest people of China may be induced to lay aside suspicion and apprehension, and to appreciate with delight the intrinsic virtues of religion."

Whatever may be said about the justice of these estimates and forecasts, the spirit in which they are enunciated is very striking. For the first time in history the Buddhists have addressed themselves to their Christian contemporaries with regard to an international question, and their manner of framing the address does them much credit.

THE QUESTION OF REGISTRATION.

WE alluded in a recent issue to the question of registration in the case of certain rights existing prior to the date of operation of the Revised Treaties, namely, July 17th, 1899, and we explained that, although security as against third parties is not guaranteed to such rights for a period longer than December 31st, 1900, without registration, the privilege of registering them does not cease at that date, but may be exercised at any subsequent time. The only disadvantage under which persons labour who fail to register before December 31st, is that, during the interval between December 31st and the time when registration is effected, security against third parties does not exist. In short, the Japanese Authorities say:—"Up to December 31st, 1900, we undertake, without registration, to protect, in so far as concerns the determination of priorities, such of your ante-treaty-revision rights as were available against third parties without registration when acquired, but if you want to have them protected after that date, you must register." Clear as that is, there appear to be still some doubts and perplexities. Perhaps a few further comments may therefore be useful.

And first, for the sake of assurance, let us see what the Ordinance really does say on the subject. Here is the precise signification.—

> A right in an immovable—*other than the ownership of a perpetual lease*—duly acquired by a foreigner, or a foreign juridical person, before the 17th of July 1899, *which was not registered before that date, but which was available against third persons without registration when so acquired*, may be set up against third persons without registration up to the 31st of December, 1900.

We have italicised portions of this *precis* in order to give prominence to points which it is essential that any one desiring to understand the question should bear in mind. Those points are, that *the ownership of a perpetual lease*—in other words, the tenure of land as fixed by treaty—is *not* among the rights under consideration; and that, further, all rights are excluded *which were registered before July 17th, 1899*, and which *were not available against third persons without registration*.

There is absolutely no ambiguity. Within the limits just defined, the advantage of registration for setting up a right against third parties is secured without registration up to December 31st, but in order to enjoy that advantage after December 31st, registration is necessary.

But, as a matter of fact, this question has been elevated to a position of importance which it has no intrinsic title to occupy. The rights affected are altogether negligeable quantities, and the original issue of the above Ordinance might have been regarded by foreigners with just as much indifference as its pending loss of effect by lapse of time should now be regarded. This phase of the matter appears to have received little attention, and we bespeak our readers' patience while we briefly elaborate it.

First, then, what are the registrable rights

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to which the Ordinance applies, and how are they affected? The rights are these:—

1.—Ownership.
2.—Servitudes.
3.—Preferential Rights.
4.—Pledges and Mortgages.
5.—Leases.

We may at once rule out of this list the second and third items, namely, Servitudes and Preferential Rights; for Servitudes never existed, and any Preferential Rights valid before July 17th, 1899, must long ago have ceased to exist.

Taking the other rights seriatim, we observe, with regard to the first—namely, Ownership—that it concerns buildings only, for land titles are explicitly excluded by the words of the Ordinance, "rights other than the ownership of a perpetual lease." Now what would be the object of registering a right of ownership in a house on a Settlement lot? The owner of the land is also owner of the buildings that stand on it. To register the latter, would be to seek protection against himself. No one, of course, would seriously contemplate such silliness. We may, therefore, rule No. 1 also out of the list.

Next as to No. 4, namely, Pledges and Mortgages. If we turn to the Order in Council of 1881, we find the following:—

22.—A deed or other instrument of mortgage, legal or equitable, of lands or houses in China or in Japan, executed by a British subject, may be registered at any time after its execution at the Consulate of the Consular district wherein the property mortgaged is situate.

23.—Registration is made as follows:—The original and a copy of the deed or other instrument of mortgage, and an affidavit verifying the execution and place of execution thereof, and verifying the copy, are brought into the Consulate; and the copy and affidavit are left there.

24.—If a deed or other instrument of mortgage is not registered at the Consulate aforesaid within the respective times following (namely):

(i.) Within fourteen days after its execution, where it is executed in the Consular district wherein the property mortgaged is situate.

(ii.) Within two months after its execution, where it is executed in China or Japan, elsewhere than in that Consular district, or in Hongkong:

(iii.) Within six months after its execution, where it is executed elsewhere than in China, Japan, or Hongkong, and in every such case, the mortgage debt secured by the deed or other instrument, and the interest thereon, shall not have priority over judgment or simple contract debts contracted before the registration of that deed or other instrument.

25.—Registered deeds or other instruments of mortgage, legal or equitable, of the same lands or houses have, as among themselves, priority in order of registration.

26.—(a.) The provisions of this Order do not apply to a deed or other instrument of mortgage executed before the commencement of this Order.

(b) As regards a deed or other instrument of mortgage executed before the commencement of this Order, the Regulations repealed by this Order shall, notwithstanding that repeal, be in force, and shall be deemed to have always been of the like validity and effect as if they had originally been made by Order in Council.

27.—The power conferred on the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court for China and Japan by Article 127 of the China and Japan Order in Council, 1865, of framing Rules from time to time, is hereby extended to the framing of Rules for prescribing and regulating the making and keeping of indexes, and of a general index to the register of mortgages, and searches in those indexes, and other particulars connected with the making, keeping, and using of those registers and indexes, and for authorising and regulating the unregistering of any deed or other instrument of mortgage, or the registering of any release or satisfaction in respect thereof.

Obviously the Pledges and Mortgages here alluded to do not fall within the purview of the Ordinance quoted above. They are excluded by the limitation, "*which was not registered before that date but which was available against third persons without registration.*" Pledges and Mortgages effected by British subjects *were* registered before July 17th 1899, or, if not registered, *were not* available against third parties. Therefore they, too, disappear from our list.

We are thus reduced finally to No. 5 on the list; namely Leases—that is to say, sub-leases. They are the only remaining registrable right affected by the Ordinance. But with regard to them also it is necessary to consider the object of registration. Against whom or what does the lessee of a house or of land seek security by registering his right? Obviously against the contingency that the owner of the property may sell it to a third party without making any provision for the continued recognition of the lessee's right. Such a danger is chimerical for all practical purposes in the foreign settlements. Lessors of houses or lands do not attempt such frauds against their tenants, and if they do, the tenant has always a legal remedy against the wrong-doer. We venture to say that even though the privilege of registering sub-leases without the payment of any fee were granted to foreigners, it would never be exercised by a solitary individual.

It will be plain from what we have here written that no reason whatever exists for uneasiness about the pending termination of the period of unregistered protection against third parties. The Ordinance is like the proverbial cat's tail: we can all be equally happy with it or without it. Possibly some of our readers may be disposed to think that, if there were grounds for issuing the Ordinance in the first instance, there must also be grounds for extending its period now. Well, in point of fact there never were any tangible grounds for such legislation. But we must remember that everything was not quite as clear two years ago as it is to-day, and, further, that failing an absolutely conclusive forecast, the Japanese Authorities may naturally have preferred to err on the right side. It was better to add a possibly superfluous Ordinance to the archives, than to incur the risk of imperilling any legitimate right.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Mr. Kurabara Ikaku contributes to the *Kyōiku Kōhō* an article entitled *Kokumin-sei no Tenkai*, (The development of Japanese national character), which is an attempt to give a philosophical meaning to the mythological events recorded in the *Kojiki*. Mr. Kurabara is of opinion that the leading characteristics of the Japanese mind are clearly indicated in that ancient record of the doings of gods and demi-gods. One of the chief results of Mr. Kurabara's investigations he states to be the fixed belief that the Japanese are essentially an emotional people (*ware wa Nihon kokumin wa kanjō teki no kokumin to iū koto wo dangen su*). To give some idea of Mr. Kurabara's method of interpreting the *Kojiki*, we furnish a brief epitome of his paper under the headings furnished by him. (1) *Ideas on creation.* Fixed ideas on creation are to be found in every part of the work. The idea of creation is expressed by the term 生生, *Seisei*. The "begetting" commenced with the coming into being in succession of the three gods Amenominakanushi, Takamimusubi and Kammimusubi.* These deities were all self begotten. Later on came the progenitors of all existences whatever, Izanagi and Izanami. The idea then is that all forms of existence originated with the gods. (2) *Ideas of life and death.* The idea of death first appears in the *Kojiki* connected with the retirement of Izanami to the land of shades after giving birth to Hinokagu-tsuchi-no-mikoto. It is said that Izanami "sickened and lay down," that is, she died. Her husband mourned her loss and sought her out in the land of shades, but only to find that the change wrought on her by death had rendered her quite repulsive to him. This is the germ of the antagonism between life and death that in later times revealed itself in so many ways. The passage in the *Kojiki* which describes the attempts of Izanami to recover her lost relationship to Izanagi,† her failure to do so, and the lasting antipathy to each other that followed is a very poetical and beautiful representation of the attitude of the Japanese national mind, (typified by Izanagi) in reference to death. The struggle between life and death that is perpetually going on in the world, and the final triumph of life, have formed the subject of much comment by all the great teachers of the world, Socrates, Christ, Confucius, Shaka, Mahomet and Zoroaster, and it is not a little interesting to observe that in the very early days of Japanese history, as the *Kojiki* legend shows, the notion prevailed that life was destined to overcome death. This worship of life, if we may so speak of it, by our ancestors was so great that not even the teaching of Buddhism in reference to the insignificance of human life proved strong enough to alter the national sentiment in reference to death. It has always been regarded with the greatest antipathy. There have been Japanese, and not a few, who have objected even to the use of the word death in conversation. Everything connected with death is regarded as defiling, so much so that a house in which funeral obsequies have taken place is considered unfit to be used as a place of worship for some time after a death. The Japanese then as a people are strong believers in the value of this human life of ours and always have been so. To them life is all supreme and full use of it is a matter of primary importance (3) The *evolution of ideas* (in the *Kojiki*). It is very noticeable that the gods produced as a result of the carnal connection of Izanagi and Izanami were all inferior beings when compared with those that were begotten by Izanagi after his separation from Izanami. It was after this event that those ethereal beings Amaterasu-ō-mi-Kami, Tsuki-yomi-no-Kami and and Take-haya-susa-no-wo-no-mikoto were begotten. According to the *Kojiki* countries were first created, then gods of a carnal type, then spiritual and superior beings; that is, the order was (1) matter, (2) animal life and feeling, and (3) mind. When mind appears clearly in the *Kojiki*, the operations of the three distinct faculties of which it is composed, the emotions, the intellect, and the will are plainly perceptible. The creation of holy gods is the final stage of the system of evolution contained in the *Kojiki*. Mr. Kurabara states at great length a very fanciful theory that he holds in reference to the relations to each other of the three above-named deities. He thinks that their actions as recorded are intended to represent the struggle for mastery of the three leading faculties of the mind, feeling, intellect and will, and he holds that feeling obtained the mastery, and he goes on to observe that Japanese history and literature support this view. The love song of Susa-no-wo is typical of the sentiments of the Japanese through the centuries that have passed since these lines were composed. It is only by bearing in mind that feeling predominates in the Japanese mind that the history of politics in Japan can be understood. Trace the changes that took place in the days of the Fujiwara, of Tachibana, Minamoto, Taira, and the leaders who lived in subsequent ages and you will find that they originated in a conflict between the feelings of

*Mr. Chamberlain renders these into English thus:—"The Deity Master-of-the-August-Centre-of-Heaven, the High-August-Producing-Wondrous-Deity, and the "Divine-Producing-Wondrous-Deity,—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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one party and those of another. A quarrel, woman's spite, jealousy, the personal element, in some form or other, these have been the moving powers in Japan.

In modern politics this is most conspicuous. Divisions exists that have no foundation in reason. Union is prevented on account of the personal feelings of the chief actors. Japanese morality consists of an appeal to the feelings. Filial piety, loyalty, what are they but sentiments? Our education is all centred on the education of the emotions. Until we pay more attention to the development of the intellect and the will we shall not be qualified to rank with the foremost nations. In England and Germany the intellect and the will are equally developed. In Russia the will figures more prominently than any other faculty. France, Italy, and Spain are emotional countries like Japan. An endeavour must be made to transform our national character.

† The passage referred to is thus translated by Mr Chamberlain:—"Last of all his younger sister Her Augustness the Princess-who-Invites (Izanami) came out herself in pursuit. So he drew a thousand-draught rock (a rock which would take a thousand men to lift) and (with it) blocked up the Even Pass of Hades, and placed the rock in the middle, and they stood opposite one another and exchanged leave-takings; and Her Augustness Izanami said,—"My lovely elder brother, Thine Augustness! If thou do like this, I will in one day strangle to death a thousand of the folks of thy land." Then His Augustness Izanagi replied, "My lovely younger sister, Thine Augustness. If thou do this, I will in one day set up a thousand and five hundred parturition houses (I will cause 1,500 woman to bear children). In this manner each day a thousand people would surely die, and each day a thousand and five hundred people would surely be born."—*Vide* Supplement to Vol. X of the Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan, pp. 37 and 38.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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Dr. Takakusu Junjirō has contributed to the *Yomiuri Shimbun* a series of six articles on the late Professor Max Müller. We extract from them a few passages bearing on the connection of the professor with eminent Japanese scholars. Dr. Takakusu alludes in a very touching manner to his own personal connection with the Oxford professor and mourns his death as that of a most warm-hearted friend. The first Buddhist scholars who studied Sanscrit under Max Müller, Dr. Takakusu reminds us, were Mr. (now Dr.) Nanjō Bunyū and Mr. Kasahara Kenju. In 1882, Prince Iwakura sent to an Indian Library a copy of a well-known Buddhist work called, 一切經, (Issaikyō). At the same time copies of various Chinese versions of Sanscrit books were sent to Oxford from Japan along with photographs of old manuscripts found in the Hōryūji (Nara). This drew Max Müller's attention to the Japanese and Chinese developments of the doctrines of the Mahayana system, known in China and Japan as the 大乘, Daijō. Dr. Nanjō rendered great assistance to Max Müller in this investigation and as a reward for his services was made Master of Arts. In the meantime his fellow-student Mr. Kasahara died. Later on Dr. Takakusu studied under the professor and subsequently translated works which were published in the Oxford edition of the Sacred Books of the East. In one of the last letters received from Max Müller by Dr. Takakusu the professor urged the advisability of establishing a Sanscrit Society in Japan on broad principles, whose chief object it should be to collect historical material hitherto unknown to the students of Sanscrit in other countries. Dr. Takakusu tells us he received the greatest encouragement in all his literary work from Max Müller. In the Sanscrit-Chinese dictionary Dr. Takakusu now has in hand the Oxford professor took the keenest interest, recommending a certain Oriental Society to undertake its publication. The affectionate regard felt for his Japanese pupils by the aged Sanscrit scholar was something very rare, says Dr. Takakusu. He closes his notice in a pathetic manner, lamenting that the voice which answered so many questions can be heard no more, and regretting that Professor Max Müller did not live long enough to hear that the Teikoku Tōyō-gakkai had been formed by his old pupils for the purpose of facilitating their investigations of Sanscrit literature generally and Chinese and Japanese versions of the Sutras in particular. Mr. Tokutomi Iichirō, the editor of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, writes an obituary notice of the late Sir Henry Acland four columns in length, in which an account of Mr. Tokutomi's personal interview with the aged physician last March is given. Sir Henry was an earnest Christian and tried to induce Mr. Tokutomi to accept his belief. Sir Henry asked me, says Mr. Tokutomi, whether I was a Christian, I replied, "I believe in reason, but not in divine mysteries" (*ware wa dōri wo shinjite, shimpi* 神秘 *wo shinzezu*). This answer seemed to go through the old man, and when I saw the effect it had on him I was sorry that I had made it. It did not represent all I believe by any means. But I was averse to following the example of so many young men that go abroad, in agreeing with what is said to them on religion for the sake of being popular and pretending that they are believers only to return to Japan and go back to their old life." Mr. Tokutomi was struck by the mental vigour and extreme earnestness of the famous scholar, who, at the age of 85 was as eager for information as though he were 25. To Mr. Tokutomi Sir Henry Wentworth Acland seemed the most remarkable personality he had ever met.

* * *

Reports of the meeting of students of the world's religions held in Paris in September last have appeared in various Japanese papers. According to the *Kokumin Shimbun* Mr. Fujishima Ryōon attended the meeting and delivered an address entitled "The present state of religion in Japan." Mr. Fujishima gave an account of the phases through which Buddhism has passed in the Meiji era. He was asked to prepare tables showing the comparative strength of the various creeds followed in this country. At the same meeting Mr. Chikasumi read a paper on "The History of Japanese Buddhist Philosophy," which was well received. Mr. Fujishima thinks that Japanese Buddhists need to have a literary organ in Europe, in order to make their influence felt among Oriental scholars of the West.

* * *

The *Fukuin Shimpō* publishes a report of the Rev. K. Ibuka's address at the Missionary Conference held in October last on "The Religious Signs of the Times." Mr. Ibuka said that the most noteworthy incidents of recent years as far as Christianity was concerned were the following:—(1) The issue of the Government regulations bearing on the building and opening of places of worship, and on the holding of religious meetings, &c. Prior to the issue of these orders the Government may be said to have sanctioned Christianity indirectly by taking no steps to oppose it. But this action of theirs was an emphatic public acknowledgment of the rights of Christians. (2) The second event worthy of mention was the submission of the Religions Bill to the Diet by the Government. Unfortunately it did not pass. But its wording and tenor showed very plainly that the Government was disposed to be friendly to Christianity. The Mombushō subsequently took an opposite course and by the issue of new Regulations for the control of private schools greatly embarrassed Christian teachers for a while. (3) The efforts being made to improve our customs constitute one of the favourable signs of the times. The need of something being done in this direction is now increasingly felt. (4) The earnest discussion of ethics which has been going on for many months past is worthy of attention. The defects in our moral system and in our moral practice are being realised, and Mr. Fukuzawa and many others have proposed remedies. (5) The necessity of insisting on the rights of human beings has been illustrated by the attempts made to rescue fallen women. This movement has led to the improvement of the laws bearing on prostitution. Thus slavish bonds have been broken and a distinct advance has been made in the vindication of human rights. (6) In China, though many hundreds of our fellow-Christian have been murdered, what has taken place has given to this country an opportunity of showing its sympathy with the sufferers in an unmistakable manner. Although Japan has always taught that all within the Four Seas are brethren, not until now has she had occasion to despatch an army to fight in the cause of humanity. It is somewhat remarkable that a country which at one time regarded Christianity with aversion should now take part in rescuing Christians from danger. The whole tone of Mr. Ibuka's address, as may be seen from the above, was optimistic.

* * *

Writing on the movement in favour of making the opening of the twentieth century an occasion for a great religious demonstration, the *Maishū shinshi* states that the English Wesleyans have already collected 8 million *yen* and the Congregationalists nearly 5 million *yen* towards the proposed celebrations. The Wesleyans expect to make two million new converts (where is not stated) and 100,000 Wesleyans are said to have offered themselves as special evangelists. In Japan the Evangelical Alliance collected 5,000 *yen* towards the celebration some time ago. The disturbances in China diverted the attention of the public for some time, but now efforts are being made to excite interest in the movement again. The Missionary Conference promised to further and support it in every way.

* * *

In the *Maishū Shinshi* appears an account of that extremely popular Shintō sect the Tenri-kyō-kwai. Some of the teaching of the preachers of this denomination is most objectionable and on the whole it may be said that the sect does much harm in the way it makes capital out of the superstitious tendencies of the lower orders. Such seems to be the opinion of Mr. Hachihama Kikusen, the writer of the article in the *Maishū Shinshi* on the rise and progress of the sect. We do not propose to reproduce this at any length, since in Dr. D. C. Greene's Asiatic Society's paper on the Tenrikyō (Vo.. XXIII.) all interested in the subject will find fuller information. In modern times nothing is more remarkable than the rapid success of the first promoters of the Tenri-kyō tenets. In a few years the sect could boast of 1,000 teachers and a million and a half of converts. On the occasion of the 10th festival of the sect no less a sum than 800,000 *yen* was collected. Since the death of its founder, a woman called Nakayama Miki, on Oct. 26th, 1887, every year the Tenrikyō-kai has shown a steady increase of adherents, until now they are said to number considerably over 2 million. But they consist, Mr. Hachihama says, almost exclusively of ignorant people, who are quite incapable of understanding or appreciating any of those superior elements which the teaching of the sect is represented by some as containing.

* * *

The *Koye*, the Roman Catholic organ, publishes an account of the persecution of the Nagasaki Christians furnished by Mr. Ebara Soroku, a member of the Diet and a Roman Catholic Christian. It was the steadfastness of the faith of the Christians who came under his notice that induced Mr. Ebara to enter the church. Certain Christians who had been arrested at Nagasaki were placed under the care of Mr. Nishiyama Shichō (now a Christian and a member of the Diet) the Governor of Nara Ken. Some of these were entrusted to Mr. Ebara, in order that he might induce them to renounce their faith. Three attempts were made to compass this object. (1) It was sought to overawe the Christians into a denial of their belief. A number of high class officials assembled in grand style in a magnificent suite of rooms. Into their presence the simple country folk from Nagasaki were ushered, and required to denounce Christianity. An old woman, bent almost double, acted as spokeswoman of the party, and expressed herself as follows:—"We have no excuse to offer for having broken the laws of the land by believing in Christianity, but notwithstanding what we have done, we are still Japanese subjects, though since we left Nagasaki we have been treated as though we were animals. For the sake of the faith we are ready to bear whatever pain you are pleased to inflict on us. Our only subject of regret is that the Government should sully its fame by the course it is now following. As to-day we are treated like human beings I have ventured to speak these words." (2) The second course followed was to expose two young Christians to special temptations with

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the hopes of their yielding and disgracing the faith. A young man and a young woman were shut up in a room together and secretly watched. But they were proof against the trial and came off unscathed, to the surprise of the spectators. (3) The third scheme was a fiendish attempt, devised after much thought by Mr. Nishiyama. He caused to be shut up in the same room a mother and her infant child. Both were starved, with the hopes that the distress of the child would induce the mother to relent. The mother grew weaker and weaker and could no longer nurse her child. From morning to night the child cried, but the mother refused the food offered her on the condition that she should renounce the faith, saying, "I prefer to die and kneel at the feet of the Lord." Nishiyama was so struck by this that he ordered food to be given to the woman. This steadfastness it was, concludes Mr. Ebara, that induced me and a great many others to become Christians.

* * *

In the *Kakushin* (革進) No. 10, appears a very thoughtful article from the pen of Dr. Motora Yûjirô entitled *Genkon no Rinri oyobi Shûkyô Mondai ni tsuite* (On ethics and religion as now discussed), the salient points of which we give below. In December of last year Dr. Inoue Tetsujirô published an article in the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* on "The future of Religion." In March of this year Dr. Murakami contributed to the same Magazine an essay entitled, "Religion in the Twentieth Century."* Then the publication of Mr. Fukuzawa's *Shûshin Yôryô* stirred up a good deal of interest. The views recently expressed on religion and on ethics had better be considered separately. On the subject of religion there is at the present time the greatest variety of opinion in Japan. This is to a large extent a reproduction of the tendency of thought in Europe and America. Conceptions in reference to the nature of God have entirely changed among a large class of thinkers in Europe. In ancient days men believed in a God that was a transformed man. In modern times the Divinity has been increasingly etherealised, if we may so speak, but this etherealisation has made men feel that there is something unintelligible and intangible about the character of the godhead and they have turned to Christ as a representative of God, whom they have idealised. Christ is preached as a high moral type. In a word the theological elements of religion have been made subservient to its ethical elements. Christ is now esteemed as a perfect man, but as no more. Both Dr. Inoue and Dr. Murakami show plainly that they have been considerably influenced by the tendency of Western thought. It is upon the ethical aspects of religion that they specially dwell. Dr. Inoue's reason for insisting on the necessity of the further development of religion is because it is so much needed as a basis for ethics. Dr. Murakami dwells on the need of turning men's thoughts to the ideal human personality of Shaka, that is, he expressed the view that it is the ethical side of religion that men feel the importance of at the present time. Mr. Fukuzawa's system of ethics is partly derived from Western sources and is partly the embodiment of his own experience. In the region of ethics the contest that is now going on is between State ethics and individual ethics. The question is which is to be supreme, the state or the individual. From the point of view of the State the individual ought to give way, but from the point of view of ethics the welfare of the individual is of primary importance. But is there any real antagonism between the two principles? Does not the State exist for the sake of the individual? Are not all its regulations designed for his benefit? The doctrine of individual liberty as proclaimed by Mr. Fukuzawa corresponds precisely with Kant's exposition of the same subject. The liberty granted to any individual must be so used as not to prevent other individuals from enjoying their right to act as they wish. But after all, the enjoyment of independence, the preservation of their rights by individuals, are only possible when a strong State exists. As a last resource the State alone can guard these rights. If the Boxers were allowed to overrun China, it would be of little avail to talk about personal rights. The State and individuals are essential to each other and their interests are for the most part identical, where they are not, the individual should give way. Such, we take it, is the opinion of Dr. Motora, though he by no means states clearly to which side he inclines.

* Both of the above-named articles were noticed in our monthly Summaries at the time of their appearance.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

* * *

The pen of Dr. Inoue Tetsujirô has been very busy of late. In addition to works wholly written by himself that have appeared during the past few months, he has edited and contributed a great deal of matter to a volume of essays called *Tetsugaku Sôsho* (A Collection of Essays on Philosophy), the first of a series, briefly noticed in our last summary. Mr Yoshida Kumaji's Essay, 180 pages in length, entitled *Rinrihô nô hitsuzen teki kisô* (The Essential Basis of Ethics) is an embodiment of Dr. Inoue's views as expressed in a series of lectures which Mr. Yoshida attended. The line taken is in the main that of Kant. The essential elements of ethics are treated objectively and subjectively. It is said that the views expressed in this essay are in all essential particulars those of Doctors Motora, Nakajima and Matsumoto. The essay contributed by Mr Kihira Masayoshi on "Practical-Ethics and Religion" is also a statement of Dr. Inoue's views. Dr. Inoue informs us that his reason for undertaking the publication of a series of essays on ethics, philosophy, and religion is that the necessity for devising some more effective method of enforcing morality than that now in vogue is urgent. In this scientific age men have turned their backs on historic Buddhism and historic Christianity alike, and yet the need of morality is universally felt. It is for philosophers to devise some satisfactory basis for ethics, and this can only be done by thorough discussion of all existing systems. The *Tetsugaku Zasshi* devotes its pages to these discussions, but it is unsuitable for the publication of long essays. Hence the issue of the *Tetsugaku Sôho*. In his review of the philosophy of the Meiji era, Dr Inoue says that it has been almost exclusively of a utilitarian type as far as it has gone, which is not very far. It is only recently that there has been any very earnest or thorough study of philosophy. Hitherto the ethical aspects of philosophy alone have received attention from Japanese students and these only in a desultory fashion. The views of foreign writers have been reproduced here, but there has been no attempt to found a school of thought. The foundations of philosophic opinion may be said to have been laid by early translators of the works of Bentham and Mill. The late Baron Nishi Shû translated Mill's "Utilitarianism" a great many years ago. Bentham's "Theory of Legislation"* was translated by Mr. Shimada Saburô, and his "Principles of Morals and Legislation" by the late Count Mutsu. Though Mr. Fukuzawa cannot be said to have publicly espoused the cause of Utilitarianism, his teaching has invariably been of a utilitarian type. Dr Katô has of late years placed himself under the guidance of Bentham and has figured as an earnest advocate of the Utilitarian system. Thus we see that the chief leaders of thought in Japan have almost exclusively adopted Utilitarianism or have been inclined that way. The weaknesses of Utilitarianism I conceive to be the following.—(1) This system makes the object of life, not to be the full development of man's nature as we find it, but the fulfilling of what is deemed a useful purpose apart from this. Hence the system starts with a mistaken notion of the chief object of life. (2) It says that the quality of actions is to be judged by results. But since results take a long time to declare themselves and are extremely varied and complex, how is it possible to decide on the nature of actions by results? In most cases we cannot afford to wait for the verdict. This notion is incapable of being put into practice. (3) It is vain for us to expect Utilitarianism to effect any substantial moral reforms. The system does not tell us plainly in what true happiness consists; its leading principle is indefinite and intangible. (4) To decide on what is the highest happiness of human beings is next to impossible. Hence the highest happiness of the greatest number is a more empty phrase incapable of being applied to real life. (5) Men's ideas of what constitutes happiness and pleasure vary according to their education, surroundings and dispositions. To some a life of abnegation and abstention yields more pleasure than any other life that they could follow. (6) Modern Utilitarianism is only a form of Epicureanism and has all the defects which adhere to that system of philosophy. We have only given the chief points of Dr. Inoue's vigorous attack on Utilitarianism. He shows great antipathy to the whole system. Whether he has rightly comprehended it as expounded by its chief modern advocates is a question which cannot be discussed here.

* No such title is given in Dr. Brewer's published list of Bentham's works, but Dr. Inouye may refer to one of Bentham's essays that was subsequently embodied in the "Principles of Morals and Legislation." (WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

Dr. Inoue Tetsujirô has lately published a short life of Sugawara Michizane under the title of *Kankô Shôden*. Dr. Inoue's reasons for preparing this work are stated in the introduction in the following terms.—The object of human beings should be to live an eminently rational life. Noble ideas need to be carried into practice in order to show their nobility. The highest form which sublime ideas can take is a sublime personality. Such a thing as a perfect human being does not actually exist, but we can by combining the virtues of many individuals create a perfect ideal man. With the object of furnishing materials for the creation of such a being I have published this short life, which is to be followed by the lives of other great men, Occidental and Oriental. From Kankô we have much to learn, as will be acknowledged by any one who studies his life carefully. Dr. Inoue's biography gives a concise but full account of the age in which the great sage lived, of his ancestry, his domestic surroundings, his writings and life long hardships and misfortunes, and ends with the observation that few greater lives have been lived than that of Sugawara Michizane, the Japanese student's god. The book sells at 35 *sen* per copy at the Fuzambô, Urajinbô-cho, Kanda, Tôkyô.

* * *

The Rev. C. Noss, of Sendai, has compiled a very useful set of tables of missionary statistics for the six North-Eastern prefectures of Japan. The Churches which are carrying on work in these parts, together with the years when their work commenced, and the number of converts, &c., are as follows:—(1) Russian Orthodox Church† (Dai Nippon Seikyô Kwai). Work first begun in Sendai, 1871. Total number of adherents enrolled 17,755. (2) Roman Catholic Church (Tenshu Kyokai). Work first begun in Sendai, 1880. Exact statistics not obtainable, estimated number of converts, 3,300. "In comparing the statistics of the Greek and Roman Churches with those of Protestants," says Mr. Noss, "it must be kept in mind that Catholics include in their figures all whom they have baptized, both adults and children." (3) Anglican and American Episcopalian Church (Nippon Seikô Kwai) Work begun in Aomori, 1890. Communicant believers, 203. (4) Reformed Churches in the United States (Nippon Kirisutô Kyôkwai). Work begun in Sendai, 1880, communicant believers, 1,150. Expended by the Mission, $6,070.44. (5) American Board Mission (Kumiai Kyokwai). Work begun in Sendai, 1885. Communicant believers, 282. Expended by the Mission, $1,538 32 (6) American Baptist Missionary Union (Shinrei Kyôkwai). Work begun in Morioka, 1880. Communicant believers, 365 Expended by the Mission, $275.87 (7) Methodist Episcopal Church. Work begun in Yonezawa, 1887. Believers, 807. Expended by the Mission, $2,598.00. (8) Evangelical Association (Fukuin Kyôkwai). Work begun in Sukagawa, 1894. Communicant believers, 47. Expended by the Mission, $606.27. (9) American Christian Convention. Work begun in Sendai, 1887. Communicant believers, 197.

† The translations of the Japanese titles of churches are in every case those of Mr. Noss.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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Expended by the Mission, $1,426.00. (10) Disciples of Christ Foreign Christian Misssionary Society. Work begun in Akita, 1884. Church. Work begun in 1895. Sendai only. Communicant believers, 12. Expended by Mission, $520.00. There are also a few "Plymouth Brethren" in Sendai and in Yamagata. A map of the Prefecture with mission stations marked accompanies the Book of Tables.

IMPORTANT CUSTOMS CASE.

The following is an unabridged translation from the *Official Gazette* of a decision given by the Minister of Finance in regard to an administrative action instituted by Mr. Ryle Holme in connection with the imposition of certain custom duties:

Petitioner: Ryle Holme, an English subject, Manager of Jardine, Matheson & Co., at No. 1, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, Kanagawa prefecture.

The principal points in the representations made by the said petitioner are as follow:—

The rum manufactured by the China Sugar Refining Company, Ld., in Hongkong, has hitherto, at the time of its importation to Japan with a certificate from the Japanese Consul in that place, been subjected to an *ad valorem* duty of 40 per cent. according to Import Tariff Table No. 392. The petitioner, taking as his standard the rate of alcohol contained in the rum within the prescribed limits, imported as samples, on 20th April this year, eleven bottles, each containing 4 *go*, from the aforesaid company. These he specially submitted to the inspection of the customs authorities by whom it was decided that the same should be subject to 40 per cent. *ad valorem* duty in accordance with Import Tariff Table No. 392. Orders were then given to the company mentioned for a supply of the commodity exactly similar in quality to the samples, and accordingly 10 casks of rum of the same quality as the sample already examined by the Customs authorities were imported by the steamer *Nippon Maru*, which arrived (in Yokohama?) on the 10th of June last. This time, however, 100 per cent. *ad valorem* duty was imposed, and consequently the petitioner referred the matter to the Superintendent of Customs by a note dated June 19th of the same year. A decision was given to the effect that the article in question was a distilled liquor instead of rum,—a decision with which he could not persuade himself to comply. The rum of the China Sugar Refining Company in Hongkong has been shipped to Japan during many years past, and is not in any way a new article of import. It is not unlikely, however, that the article in dispute, not being a rum which was intended to be preserved for a number of years, may have been deficient, to a certain extent, in flavour to fully satisfy the Customs Authorities. Still, there is no doubt that it was pure rum manufactured out of sugar molasses, according to the improved process adopted by the Company above referred to. Moreover as the quantity of alcohol contained in the rum recently imported does not exceed the limits which were notified by the Yokohama Custom House, in the beginning of this year, to be below 68 per cent., it must be recognised as pure rum, and not as any distilled liquor. Such being the case, it is to be desired that the decision given by the Superintendent of Customs should be withdrawn, and 40 per cent. *ad valorem* duty be hereafter imposed as heretofore upon the article above mentioned, in conformity with Import Tariff Table No. 392.

The defence of the Customs Superintendent is, in the main, as follows:

Although the petitioner insists that the article in dispute is rum, as the liquid contained in five of the casks is found to consist of 50.7 per cent. of alcohol, 0.1114 per cent. of extracts, 0.001417 per cent. of ashes, a trace of grape sugar, with a specific gravity of 0.9419 and a reaction of acid, while the constituents of the liquid in the other five casks are 60.6 per cent. alcohol, 0.1180 per cent. extracts, 0.00148 per cent. ashes, a trace of grape sugar, with a specific gravity of 0.9248 and a reaction of acid, both are wanting in the flavour that is peculiar to rum, and it must be regarded as a distilled liquor different from rum. Again, although the petitioner asserted that he has undertaken the import of the present commodity as he was required to pay only 40 per cent. *ad valorem* duty at the time of the importation in April last of the article similar to that now under complaint, the article in question had the quality as well as conditions appertaining to rum, and was not therefore to be regarded as one similar to the liquid now the subject of appeal. That being the case, it was quite proper that 100 per cent. *ad valorem* duty should have been levied by the Custom Superintendent on the article referred to, in accordance with Import Tariff Table No. 398.

Having collected for purposes of examination all the documents and samples bearing upon the question at issue, together with the reports from the Investigation Committee appointed in connection with appeals against the Customs Authorities, it is now decided that, although the appellant insists upon the similarity of the article in dispute to the rum for which he was required to pay 40 per cent. *ad valorem* duty as specified in Import Tariff Table No. 392, at each time when he previously imported it, yet as the sample presented by him is a brownish, yellow transparent liquid, destitute of the flavour peculiar to rum, and containing, as is shown by analysis, a greater quantity of isolated acid and a lesser amount of エステル, than the pure rum, while it is deficient in the quantities of alcohol, extracts, sugar, and ashes, and moreover the liquid distilled from it is not only not liable to be coloured in sulphuric acid, but presents, a dark brown hue when mixed with the latter, showing no remarkable signs of the reaction of tannic acid, the same is to be regarded as a beverage prepared by the addition of water and alcohol to the rum.

For these reasons decision is given as follows:—

The claims of the petitioner are without justifiable grounds.

December 13, 33rd year of *Meiji*.

Viscount WATANABE KUNITAKE,
Minister of State for Finance.

AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL BANKS.

After the promulgation of the Agricultural and Commercial Bank Law in April, 1896, measures were adopted in the various cities and prefectures to organise the banks provided for by that law, with the result that at present none of the three cities and 43 prefectures into which the empire is divided is without an institution of the kind. On the whole the enterprise has proved successful, for the amount of shares not taken up is only a little over 30 per cent. of the paid-up capital. At the end of June last the result of the transactions of these banks, as compiled by the *Shogyo*, was as follows:—

	Yen.
Paid up capital	21,813,581
Various reserves	323,060
Brought over from the previous account	71,441
Issue of debentures .. .	615,011
Total	22,823,093
Loans issued	16,456,179
Various bonds and other securities in hand	567,630
Total	17,023,810
Balance	5,799,283

Of these banks five have issued debentures namely:

Kanagawa	1,000,000
Yamanashi	1,000,000
Nagasaki	800,000
Gumma...	135,011
Akita	200,000
Total	3,135,011

The amount of paid-up capital, debentures, &c., is thus 22,820,000 *yen* as against loans aggregating 17 million *yen*, the balance of 5,799,283 virtually constituting a surplus. From this it appears that over 25 per cent. of the entire funds of these banks lay unused at the date mentioned, but as a matter of fact applications have since been received for loans to quite that amount. The institutions in Nagata and a few other prefectures which are characterized by the fertility of their soil and the wealth of their inhabitants, are reported to have experienced dullness in business, but in other localities the demand for loans has been extremely brisk, and an insufficiency of capital is felt by the banks.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

LATTER-DAY NOTES ON THE CHINESE QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SUNT QUIBUS IN SATIRA VIDEOR NIMIS ACER ET ULTRA LEGEM TENDERE OPUS.

SIR,—The last *N.-C. Daily News* has an article: "The signs of a break up." The editor and his friends are of course jubilant. But I think foreigners in China have not seen "the last of the bonnets of bonnie Prince Twan."

Ere the King's crown go down, there are crowns to be broke.

2.

The Powers are certainly going the right way about it for a break-up, *i.e.*, by taking sides with the parties and persons in the country. *Divide et impera*. That was how Poland was partitioned. The Yangtsze Viceroys are now on the same footing as the Shanghai tea-shops who put up signboards with the characters "foreign merchants" to tell people that they are under the protection of some unscrupulous alien.

3.

Frederick the great said of Maria Theresa that she was always crying and stealing. The British nation, I mean the man in the street, who has now the keeping of the conscience of the British nation,—is always protesting and stealing. In Africa, Mr. Chamberlain tried to steal and when caught, denied; then bullied the Boers into sending the ultimatum which made proud but unthinking Lord Salisbury flare up, and now—the Transvaal is annexed.

4.

I prefer the German Kaiser's method of open robbery to Mr. Chamberlain's method of stealing. The German method has the look of the old Viking method. Mr. Chamberlain's method looks very like Judas Iscariot's.

5.

Barrabas the Robber and Judas Iscariot have now entered into partnership to uphold the integrity of China! Judas' game is apparent enough. He wants to steal and if he should be caught, he can call upon Barrabas to back him up.

6.

It is time the sham of the "open door" policy is exposed. The British—I mean the British Judas, not the British nation,—have invented the "open door" policy, because they want to leave the cost and responsibility of government in China to the poor Empress Dowager and her mandarins, while they get what they want—all the benefit. Heads I win, tails you lose. The British Judas knows too that while he has the "Opium monopoly" and a Sir Robert Hart in Peking, he is better off *statu quo* than Barrabas or anybody. *Voila tout*!

7.

It is a wonder to me that the Empress Dowager does not "strike." I really don't see the fun of being the master of a house with an "open door" by which every vagabond, mischief maker and busy-body, over whom I have no control, can come and do what mischief they like and when in consequence my house is set on fire, nobody pays me compensation, but instead I have to apologise to the mischief maker and pay him damages! That is the plain matter of fact side of the "open door" policy.

8.

Great Britain and America send all their unemployed mischief-makers and busy-bodies who domineer and intermeddle with everything from the Empress Dowager to the poor women's feet. Germany sends all her German-Jew doggery, who swindle and demoralise the mandarins. France sends all her "black dragoons" who protect all scoundrels and rascals. When China, under such circumstances, gets on fire,—all the world and his wife wonder!

9

A poor widow lately had guests in her house who would not allow her to manage her own

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house in her own way and who willfully or ignorantly sets the house on fire. Then when distracted with distress and not unnatural resentment, the old lady still tries to send servants to their rescue, these guests barricade the door and shoot at the servants. What is the old lady to do? All sensible people would say—to leave such unreasonable guests to take care of themselves and take care of her own house. That is the pitiable tragedy of the siege in Peking in A.D. 1900.

10.

A true guest in your house is a friendly, unarmed, helpless person, who trusts wholly to you to protect him from harm. The more wholly he trusts to you to protect him, the more he approaches the true character of a guest and the more sacred your duty to protect him. But a person who is not friendly to you, who tells you to your face that he does not trust you and who, in your house not only arms himself to defend his person against you, but flourishes his pistol in your face, such a person is not a guest, but an intruder, and an enemy whom you have a perfect right, if you like, to shoot down. I wonder why publicists will talk Latin and not tell people in plain common sense English what *sanctitas legatorum* means.

11.

As all the Powers are complainants, judges and executioners all at once, I suppose the Empress Dowager will have to pay—pay—pay! But if I were the Empress, I would refuse to pay—even if the Powers had hold of me to send me to St. Helena—unless the Powers promise in future not to send to China any more of the three items—the German-Jew doggery, the black dragoons, and the busy-bodies.

12.

Ruskin once said that all bishops should be hanged. I would not even hang all missionaries in China. The man in the street is now trying to throw the whole blame of the present trouble on the missionaries. But honest Injin! If I have to choose between German-Jew doggery and bishops I think I would vote for bishops.

13.

Nevertheless I think all bishops and missionaries in China who have ever made common cause with the German-Jew doggery and now join him in his howl against the Chinese,—such missionaries should be hanged right off like Judas Iscariot who sold his Master for thirty pieces of silver. The rest of them should be horse-whipped because, like Peter, they have denied their Master and not stood up and spoken for the weak against the strong,—for Prince Tuan against the allied army. Practical men now-a-days do not believe in God or the Devil; they believe only in Interest. What interests then have practical men to still pay for bishops? That is perhaps because bishops are useful to practical men in exemplifying the modern gospel of knowing on which side the bread is buttered.

14.

Confucius says, "The gentleman understands what is right; the cad understands what will pay." He says again: "The meek respectable men of a place, who always rub their hands, agree with you, and take the respectable popular side of every question, such people are they who unmercifully destroy all feeling and sense in man for virtue, honour and manhood (*virtus*)."

15.

A man in a crowd during the French Revolution, excitedly bawled out *je demande l'arrestation des lâches et des coquins.* "I ask for the arrests of sneaks and cads." Now the real culprits responsible for the present state of things in China are not Prince Tuan and his Boxer lads. The real culprits are not even the German-Jew doggery, and the missionaries. The real culprits are the sneaks and the cads. Without the sneaks and the cads, the German-Jew doggery would not exist and the missionaries would not do harm—might even do good in China.

16.

In old Jewish times, a cad was called a Scribe and a sneak a Pharisee. Now if you want to see the utter caddishness of the modern scribe, you have only to read the Shanghai papers and see how they speak of the Empress Dowager. Indeed it is really funny to see how a writer in the *N.-C. Daily News*, tries to show his spite to the last drop of his thin sour, *petit bleu* blood, by repeating the word "slave girl" every time the name of the Empress Dowager is mentioned.

17.

Another leader writer in North China just before the present trouble expressed the opinion that the Empress Dowager had saved enough of money to make her wish, in case of trouble, to fly to Shênsi and make herself comfortable for life. It never occurred to this writer that it is impossible for the *aristocratissme* Empress of the Chinese Empire—like a Commissioner of Customs under Sir Robert Hart—to go home and make herself comfortable for life. The sneak's only and constant fear in life is lest he has not somewhat to put between his upper and lower mandibles!

18

Two thousand years ago, a Czar of China gave peace to the then Chinese world by burying alive four hundred scribes—called *literati*—who were at that time the ablest editors of the yellow press in China. The present Czar of Europe has tried to give peace to the world by the Hague Conference and has failed. The next Czar of Europe who wants to succeed must employ the ancient Chinese Czar's method.

19.

The Chinese Minister at Paris has told the world that the present peace negotiations are a mere show. It needs no ghost from the grave to tell us that. For there will be no peace for China or for the world, while the sneaks and cads are having it all in their own way, no peace possible until some honest thinking Czar in Europe, rallying all good men and true, starts on a cad and sneak hunt—where there will be real fine noble excitement and fun, which the present disgraceful Boxer hunt of the Allied army has not been. The only excitement of the Boxer hunt is loot.

20

But what I want to call the attention of the world to and of any strong honest Czar, Kaiser, President, Emperor, King, Statesman, who will listen to me, is this: that the sneak and the cad have entered into partnership. The sneak in Great Britain is known as the man in the street. His official title is Imperialist. Genealogically he is the true descendant of Judas Iscariot. The cad in Germany is the German-Jew doggery. His official title is Kolonial Politik. Genealogically he is descended from Barrabas the robber.

21.

I have been trusting for these four months, before speaking, to the traditions and feelings of the British nobleman, the English gentleman in Lord Salisbury to see him, while dealing with China, put his foot down upon the sneak, the man in the street, the Imperialist in Great Britain. I have also been trusting to the traditions and feelings of the Hohenzollern race, the Preussiche officier, in H.I.M. the Kaiser, to put his foot down upon the cad, the Germany-Jew doggery, Kolonial Politik in Germany. But now since they have failed me, now I have to tell them that if they will not take care of civilisation, the Empress Dowager, Prince Twan and his Boxer lads will have to take care of it.

22.

The friends of Mr. Kang Yu-wei are now very sad because they cannot reform China and the Empress Dowager. They will be very much sadder when they find in the end that instead of Mr. Kang Yu-wei reforming China and the Empress Dowager, Prince Tuan and his Boxer lads will reform and change the face of Europe and America.

23.

The Empress Dowager, Prince Tuan and his Boxer lads are not the enemies, but the real true friends of Europeans, and the true European civilisation that has been trying to realise itself since the last Great Boxer rising in Paris in '79. For the Empress Dowager, Prince Tuan and his Boxer lads have risen against the real enemies of Europe, of the world and of true Civilisation, —the sneak and the cad who have just entered into partnership to cheat, swindle, bully, murder and rob the world and finally to destroy all civilization in the world.

24.

Now, in conclusion, I would ask you, Mr. Editor, to rally all good men and true to join with us first in wishing bad luck and eternal damnation to the new partnership of the sneak and the cad, and then to commence and wage an unceasing relentless war of extermination against the two species—wherever and whenever we find them—the sneak and the cad.

25.

Last of all, as to-day is the 66th birthday of H.I.M. the Empress Dowager, I take the opportune occasion to ask you, Mr. Editor, and all good men and true who read these notes of mine, whenever they meet at this Yule-tide of the year, to drink as I am going to do to-day, to drink a big bumper to the health, happiness, long life—ten thousand years—and prosperity of Her Imperial Majesty the Empress of China, coupled with the name of Prince Tuan and his brave, braw, bonnie laddies.

To the Lords of Convention it was Prince Tuan who spoke,
Ere the King's crown go down there are crowns to be broke
Then each Boxer lad who loves fighting and fun
Let him follow the bonnets of bonnie Prince Tuan
Came fill up the cup and fill up the can
Came saddle my horses and call out my men,
Unhook the West port and let fire the gun
For it's up with the bonnets of bonnie Prince Tuan
Then tremble, sneaks, cads, in the midst of your glee,
Ye hae no seen the last of my bonnets and me.

Yours truly, MICHINO MALLECHO.

[We need scarcely say that in printing this letter, we do not by any means endorse it. But our readers will not object to know how a Chinese subject feels at this crisis.—ED. *J.M.*]

TOKYO ROADS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The darkest hour of the night is said to be that which immediately precedes the dawn.

In my letter on "Roads and road-making," published in yours of Nov. 24th, I gave it as my opinion that it required three times the draught and twice the time to pull a *jinrikisha* over a section of new road as being at present constructed; thus causing an expenditure of time and labour five times greater than would be necessary on a good road; this estimate was founded upon observations made when pebbles and earth were used layer upon layer in building up the road surface above the block-stone foundations; but a visit to Katamachi, Azabu, where work of reconstruction is now going on (on I suppose an improved plan), will enable anyone to convince himself in a very short time that that estimate of waste must be revised. The surface now uppermost on this road is composed of fine shingle and sand, some three inches thick, through which the unfortunate jinrikisha men have to struggle. After walking beside them this afternoon for some time and making careful observations I am convinced that their pace is reduced to one-third of what it would be on a good road, and that the labour of drawing their load is certainly four, even if it is not five, times as great as it ought to be, thus magnifying the cost of locomotion seven times.

Surely this must be the darkest hour for the jinrikisha men; no road-maker can possibly make things worse, so we and they may begin to hope that the dawn of reason must soon rise over the roads.

Is it possible to believe that taxpayers who find the money for this work will long tolerate it? Is it possible that those whose time and strength are thus wasted wholesale can long tolerate it? Both suppositions are alike impossible.

The road above mentioned has been almost impassable for weeks and weeks; and according to present appearances will continue so for weeks and weeks to come.

In my last letter to you I stated that, "given properly broken stone, delivered to order at convenient stone yards, roads like billiard tables, firm and smooth, can be made in four days, for less than 50 *sen* a *tsubo*."

Please contrast these facts.

These last four words are addressed to those in authority in this city who, I hope, through your influence, may be brought seriously to consider this important national question.

Hoping you will pardon my troubling you,
I remain yours truly,

GERVAS HOLMES.

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"THE MAP OF LIFE."*

It was a happy thought that led Mr. W. E. H. Lecky in his sixty-second year to give to the world in a permanent form the results of the experience of a life-time. The "Map of Life" shows beyond doubt that Mr. Lecky is a very keen observer of men and things and that he has the courage of his opinions. One impression which a careful reader of Mr. Lecky's review is sure to receive is that things are not what they seem, that beneath the surface in every direction there is an enormous amount of humbug, if we may use an expressive slang term. A great part of Mr. Lecky's new work is taken up in sifting the chaff from the wheat, the true from the false in human life as lived in England to-day. To men and women who know that life well Mr. Lecky' remarks will appear almost commonplace. But with persons who have spent most of their days in foreign countries and who are entirely dependent on books for a knowledge of the real life of so-called Christian England at the close of the nineteenth century, the opinions of a philosopher like Mr. Lecky will have great weight. "The Map of Life" is eminently a serious book and is marked by the tinge of sadness that characterises the observations of all deep thinkers when dwelling on "the inevitable setting of human life." The keynote of the book is given in the quotation from Tocqueville on the title page: *La vie n'est pas un plaisir ni une douleur, mais une affaire grave dont nous sommes charges, et qu'il faut conduire et terminer à notre honneur.* The subjects traversed by Mr. Lecky are as diverse as his wide experience in various capacities. The first chapters deal with some of the deeper questions of philosophy. The conditions conducive to happiness are detailed. The author is of opinion that "the circumstances of our lives and the dispositions of our characters mainly determine the measure of happiness we enjoy, and mere argument about the causes of happiness and unhappiness can do little to affect them." Into these circumstances and dispositions Mr. Lecky goes at some length, the general conclusion he reaches being that with some men the cards they receive as the result of shuffling over which they had no control are so bad that no amount of skilful play will enable them to win the game they are called upon to play. Even of those who are on the whole happily circumstanced, Mr. Lecky writes, "The substratum of life is sad, and few men who reflect on the dangers and uncertainties that surround it can find it even tolerable without much extraneous aid. The first and most vital of these aids is to be found in the creation of strong interests. . . . Men best attain their own happiness by absorbing themselves in the happiness of others."

Perhaps the best way of giving readers of this review some idea of the character of Mr. Lecky's new work is to state his opinions in a concise manner on the problems of life and some of the chief questions of the day. As far as possible this shall be done in his own words. Some of Mr. Lecky's generalisations are of great value. Here is one on English life and character, which seems to us a true representation of facts: "English character on both sides of the Atlantic is an eminently objective one—a character in which thoughts, interests and emotions are most habitually thrown on that which is without. Introspection and self analysis are not congenial to it. No one can compare English life with life even in the continental nations which occupy the same rank in civilisation without perceiving how much less Englishmen are accustomed either to dwell upon their emotions, or to give free latitude to their expression. Reticence and self-restraint are the lessons most constantly inculcated. The whole tone of society favours it. In times of great sorrow a degree of shame is attached to demonstrations of grief, which in other countries would be deemed perfectly natural. The disposition to dilate upon and perpetuate an old grief by protracted mournings, by carefully observed anniversaries, by long periods of retirement from the world is much less common than on the Continent, and it is certainly diminishing. . . . English Protestantism discourages, or at least neglects that minutely introspective habit of thought which the confessional is so much calculated to promote, which appears so prominently in the writings of the Catholic Saints, and which finds its special representation in the mystics and the religious contemplative orders. Improved conduct and improved circumstances are to an English mind the chief and almost the only measure of progress."

Pursuing the subject of English life further, Mr. Lecky reaches the conclusion that it is based on a judicious compromise between a high and a low ideal. That the English nation as a whole does not believe what it professes to believe he proves most conclusively. It is not pleasant to find that one's own countrymen as a nation are convicted of insincerity. But to us Mr. Lecky's arguments are unanswerable. He shall state his own case. The English profess to believe in Christianity and all that it implies. But their actions prove that they only half believe in it, argues Mr. Lecky. "The phrase Moral Compromise has an evil sound, and it opens out questions of practical ethics which are very difficult and very dangerous, but they are questions with which, consciously or unconsciously every one is obliged to deal. The contrasts between the rigidity of theological formulæ and actual life are on this subject very great, though in practice, and by the many ingenious subtleties that constitute the science of casuistry, many theologians have attempted to evade them. A striking passage from the pen of Cardinal Newman will bring these contrasts into the clearest light. 'The church holds,' he writes, 'that it were better for sun and moon to drop from heaven, for the earth to fail, and for all the many millions who are upon it to die of starvation in extremest agony, so far as temporal affliction goes, than that one soul, I will not say should be lost, but should commit one single venial sin, should tell one wilful untruth, though it harmed no one, or steal one poor farthing without excuse.'† (Newman's Anglican Difficulties p. 190). It is certainly no exaggeration to say that such a doctrine would lead to consequences absolutely incompatible with any life outside a hermitage or a monastery. It would strike at the root of all civilization, and although many may be prepared to give it their formal assent, *no human being actually believes it with the kind of belief that becomes a guiding influence in life.*‡ I have dwelt on the subject in another book, and may here repeat a few lines which I then wrote. If an undoubted sin, even the most trivial, is a thing in its essence and its consequences so unspeakably dreadful that rather than it should be committed it would be better that any amount of calamity which did not bring with it sin should be endured, even that the whole human race should perish in agonies, it is manifest that the supreme object of humanity should be sinlessness, and it is equally manifest that the means to this end is the absolute suppression of the desires. In material and intellectual advantages, no increase of human happiness, no mitigation of the sufferings or dreariness of human life can, according to this theory, be other than an evil if it adds even in the smallest degree in the most incidental manner to the sins that are committed." Mr. Lecky goes on to show that if this doctrine were believed life as lived by all the nations of the world must stop. The impracticability of the above formula renders compromise necessary. Men's creeds say one thing; men's lives necessarily say another, and so the belief of Christian England as a whole is undoubtedly not sincere. Confession of belief does not cost much and so men are apt to be free with their confessions. But acting up to belief is quite another question. Mr. Lecky explains to us in his lucid and fearless way how it is that the attendance at churches is no indication of real belief. He maintains that it is often a proof of scepticism. Writing on p. 198 of the growth of ritualism in the Church of England, he says, "There is, indeed, a type of mind which finds such services (Ritualistic) a happy anodyne for half-suppressed doubt. Petitions which in their *poignant humiliation and profound emotion no longer correspond to the genuine feelings of the worshipper,*‡ seem attenuated and transformed when they are intoned, and *creeds which, when plainly read, shock the understanding and the conscience, are readily accepted as parts of a musical performance.* Scepticism as well as belief sometimes fills churches. Large classes who have no wish to cut themselves off from religious services have lost all interest in the theological distinctions which once were deemed supremely important, and all strong belief in great parts of dogmatic systems, and such men naturally prefer services which by music and ornament gratify their tastes, and exercise a soothing, or stimulating, influence over the imagination." Writing on page 213 on the same subject of the discrepancy between real and professed belief, he says, "No one who knows the world can be insensible to the fact that a large and growing proportion of those who habitually attend our religious services have come to diverge very widely, though in many different degrees, from the beliefs which are expressed or implied in the formularies they use. *Custom, fashion,* the *charm of old associations,* the cravings of their own moral or spiritual nature, a *desire to support a useful system of moral training,* to set a good *example to their children,* their household, or *their neighbours,* keep them in their old places when the beliefs which they profess from their lips have in a great measure ebbed away."

Not the least interesting part of Mr. Lecky's book is that wherein he traces the working of the law of compromise in the various walks of private and public life. He tells us that an institution which all who know must feel to be one of the most striking that the world contains, the Church of England, the great promoter of refinement, culture, morality, charity and general good feeling, is held together by an all-pervading spirit of compromise. "There are to be found within it men whose opinions can hardly be distinguished from simple Deism or Unitarianism, and men who abjure the name of Protestant and are only divided by the thinnest of partitions from the Roman Church. And this diversity exists in a church which is held together by articles and formularies of the sixteenth century." Yet the English Church is not enfeebled by this diversity of opinion, according to Mr. Lecky. It was never more prosperous than it is now. What makes it so popular, according to the authority we are quoting, is the secondary benefits it confers on the whole of English society. Its clergy are for the most part highly educated men, many of them most eminent in literature, a large number of them liberal in sentiment and temperate in their dealings with those who differ from them.

Into a large number of the topics treated by Mr. Lecky we have no space to go. Against international political morality, and, in fact, against the moral maxims of the average public man he has some hard things to say. There is, he says, the widest discrepancy between public and private morality. "Nothing is more calamitous than the divorce of politics from morals, but in practical politics public and private morals will never absolutely correspond. The political code will never be the exact code on which men act in private life."

Of life in general he says, "The game of life is one of blended chance and skill," and the motto to be adopted is that of Seneca, *Sic præsentibus utaris voluptatibus ut futuris non noceas*—so to use present pleasures as not to impair future ones. With a large number of people tact contributes more towards their happiness than the highest intellectual endowments would did they possess them. Success does not always bring happiness. The desire for happiness is universal but that for success is far from being so. "The strongest man is by no means the most ardent climber, and the tranquil valleys have to many a greater charm than the lofty pinnacles of life." After sixty the powers of the average man begin to wane. The writer usually produces his best before that time. Among the Romans "there was a special law providing that no Senator, after

* "The Map of Life, Conduct and Character." By William Edward Hartpole Lecky. New Edition. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1900.

† This may be said to be a fair statement of the doctrine professed by all orthodox Protestants as well as by Roman Catholics.—REVIEWER.

‡ The italics are mine here and below.—REVIEWER.

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sixty, should be summoned to attend his duty. (*Seneca de Brevitate Vitæ*, Cap. XX.) Death is not to be dreaded, but welcomed as a sleep. The gloom in which certain Christian doctrines have enshrouded the end of life should be banished from the philosopher's mind and he should draw his imagery rather from the Greek tomb "with its garlands of flowers, its bright, youthful and restful imagery." "By a too common illusion of the imagination men picture themselves as consciously dead—going through the process of corruption, and aware of it, imprisoned, with the knowledge of the fact, in the most hideous of dungeons. . . . Nothing, if we truly realise it, is less real than the grave." . . . . . "In very old age an apathy steals over every faculty and rest—unbroken rest—becomes the chief desire. I remember a touching epitaph in a German Churchyard, "I will arise, oh Christ, when thou callest me, but oh! let me rest awhile, for I am very weary." . . . . "Death," indeed, as a great Stoic moralist said, 'is the only evil that can never touch us. When we are, death is not. When death comes, we are not.'" Life as a whole to the thoughtful is sad, and inevitably so, as the world is now constituted. "How large a proportion of the melancholy which is reflected in the poetry of all ages, and which is felt in different degrees in every human soul, is due not to any special or peculiar misfortune, *but to things that are common to the whole human race*. The inexorable flight of time, the approach of old age and its infirmities, the shadow of death, the mystery that surrounds our being, the contrast between the depth of affection and the transitoriness and uncertainty of life, the spectacle of the broken lives and baffled aspirations and useless labours and misdirected talents and pernicious energies and long-continued delusions that fill the path of human history, the deep sense of vanity and aimlessness that must sometimes come over us as we contemplate a world in which chance is so often stronger than wisdom, in which desert and reward are so widely separated; in which living beings succeed each other in such a vast and *bewildering redundance*—eating, killing, suffering and dying *for no useful discoverable purpose*—all these things belong to the normal lot, or to the inevitable setting of human life. Neither science nor civilisation have diminished this feeling of sadness. The more man is raised above a purely animal existence and his mental and moral powers are developed, the more this kind of feeling increases."

"God," says Emerson, "offers to every mind the choice between truth and repose. *Take which you please*, you *can never have both*." When in company with Mr. Lecky we feel that we are associating with a mind that has chosen to pursue truth rather than seek mental comfort. The majority of men demand from their teachers a comforting creed and in no way concern themselves as to what is true and what is false. With the last words of "The Map of Life" we close this imperfect representation of the deeper thoughts of one of our greatest living authors. "The great guiding landmarks of a wise life are indeed few and simple—to do our duty—to avoid useless sorrow—to acquiesce patiently in the inevitable."

CONCERT.

The present season of the Yokohama Choral Society opened well with the concert on Tuesday evening, which went most creditably, some of the numbers being given with marked success. The composition of the programme doubtless fully justified the employment of the term "ballad concert," but it may be noted with advantage by the members of the society that the public evinced a distinct preference for the purely musical features. We may take it, probably, that had the material been available to form a complete representation of vocal and instrumental music it would have been utilised, but it is a pity that there could not have been presented, say, a couple of duets, or trios, or one of these and an additional quartette, not necessarily of mixed male and female voices. There was, unfortunately, not a large audience, which in view of the entertainment presented was all the worse for those who stayed away.

The first part opened with the chorus "Hail to the Chief," and later "Blow, blow thou Winter Wind" was given, followed by the "Pearl Divers;" the "Sands of Dee" introducing the interval. In all four efforts there were evidences of most careful training; the parts were very evenly balanced; while the attack demonstrated how great is the advance already made by the society under Mr. Vincent's direction. Some signs of weakness that the trebles exhibited in the earlier choruses were absent in the two last mentioned, and these proved most tuneful and harmonious. The solo passages in the "Pearl Divers" were entrusted to Miss Vincent (treble) and Mr. S. H. Somerton (bass) and were adequately dealt with. Mr. N. G. Maitland's song "To Chlöe" was a capital number, his fine voice being heard to greater effect in this than in the encore solo with which he favoured the audience. Of the quartette "Lady mine, thy casement open," it is sufficient to say that it was a delightful piece of singing. Miss Andrews played a violin solo in a fashion which indicated wonderful command over her instrument, and the audience showed their estimate of her performance by compelling her to return and bow her thanks for their applause. The other items in the first part were a couple of recitations which Mr. Sharp gave in his usual easy and effective style.

There were two choral pieces in the second half and both were rendered admirably, the "Song of the Vikings" which closed the evening being particularly successful. Miss Strome was too nervous to do justice to her song at first but soon recovered herself and sang very sweetly indeed, receiving by way of reward a hearty storm of applause, and, when she appeared in response to an undeniable recall, a handsome bouquet of flowers. Miss Ross recited "Ben Duggan" with considerable dramatic force; Miss Poole's pianoforte solo was a delicate and expressive rendering, and Mr. Atkinson, who was heard for the first time in the Public Hall, made a decidedly favourable impression. His encore song was even better than his original essay. We need only mention that Mr. W. Karl Vincent was conductor to indicate the quality of the leadership, and Mr. A. Mason's abilities as accompanist are too well known to call for eulogy now.

Following was the programme:—

Chorus..... ...." Hail to the Chief " .....*Prout.*

Recitation... { (*a*) "Lady Clara Vere de Vere" .....*Tennyson.* (*b*) "Earth's Last Picture" ...*Kipling.* Mr. H. J. Sharp.

Song .....*"To Chlöe '...Sterndale Bennett.* Mr. N. G. Maitland.

Choruses... { (*a*) "Blow, blow, Thou Winter Wind" .....*Macfarren.* (*b*) "The Pearl Divers" .....*Hatton.*

Violin Solo.. ..." Ungarische Tänze ".....*Brahms.* Miss Andrews.

Quartette..." Lady, thy casement open "..... *Barnby.* Misses Vincent, Poole, and Messrs. E. W. Maitland, and S. H. Somerton.

Chorus .....*"Sands O' Dee" .....King*

INTERVAL.

Chorus ....." The Belfry Tower " .....*Hatton.*

Song ....." An unforgotten Song " .....*Wright.* Miss Strome.

Pianoforte Solo ....." Nocturne " .....*Field.* Miss Poole.

Song..... ....."Echoes" *Lord Henry Somerset.* Mr. A. H. Atkinson.

Recitation ....." Ben Duggan " .....*Lawson.* Miss Ross.

Chorus ....." Song of the Vikings "..... *Faning.*

THE LOSS OF THE "FUTAMI MARU."

JUDGMENT.

THE Tokyo Marine Court has given a decision in the case of Capt. Thom, of the N.Y.K. steamer Australian liner *Futami Maru*, which became a total wreck on Mindoro Island, near Manila, on August 18th last. The Captain's certificate has been suspended for six months, the Court being of opinion that the stranding and subsequent loss of the steamer was owing to faulty navigation on his part.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was held in Van Schaick Hall on Friday evening. There was a very good attendance. The paper by Mr. Cox, the lecturer of the evening, was in his happiest vein, replete with many a good story and excellent jest, and was greatly enjoyed. The musical programme which followed was very good, Madame Henckler being in excellent voice. We welcome back Mr. C. J. Whitney to the public platform: his two recitations were admirably delivered and loudly applauded. The following was the programme:—

Overture...Selections from "Masaniello"..... Auber
Miss Watt and Miss Wilson.

Lecture ....." Hedging and Ditching "..... Professor W. D. Cox.

Vocal Solo .... ."Lithauisches Lied ".....Chopin
Madame Henckler.

Recitation .."How Rubenstein Played". .... Adams
Mr. C. J. Whitney.

Piano Solo ....."Soirées de Vienne"...Schubert-Liszt
Mr. A. Mason.

Recitation....."Little Orphant Annie" Jas. Witcomb Riley
Mr. C. J. Whitney.

Vocal Solo..."Cavatina" from "Il Barbiero"...Rossini
Madame Henckler.

THE LATE DR. ANDERSON.

The Times has the following about the late Dr. William Anderson:—

The death occurred on Saturday (Oct. 27th) of Mr. William Anderson, F.R.C.S., Professor of Anatomy to the Royal Academy of Arts, and surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital. Mr. Anderson was born in London in 1842, received his preliminary education at the City of London School and his medical training at the University of Aberdeen and at St. Thomas's Hospital. He also studied for some time in Paris. At St. Thomas's he distinguished himself by taking several prizes and by being awarded the Cheselden Medal for proficiency in surgery and surgical anatomy. He was successively appointed demonstrator of anatomy, surgical registrar, and house surgeon. He became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1867, and a licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians the following year. In 1869-70 he was resident surgeon to the Derbyshire General Infirmary. After pursuing his studies for a few more years in London and Paris, Mr. Anderson, in 1873, accepted the appointment of medical director of the Naval Medical College, Tokyo, and in 1874 that of medical officer to the British Legation in Japan. He resigned both these appointments in 1880, and, returning to this country, was appointed assistant surgeon, and in 1891 surgeon, to St. Thomas's Hospital. On the death of Mr. John Marshall in 1891 he was elected, by a large majority, professor of anatomy to the Royal Academy. Mr. Anderson's teaching in Japan bore good fruit, most of his pupils being now leading medical men in Japan. A few of his pupils followed him to this country and continued their studies at St. Thomas's. During his stay in Japan he attained a good knowledge of the decorative and pictorial art of the Japanese, and formed a valuable collection of Japanese and Chinese books, pictures, drawings, and wood engravings. The collection, of which Mr. Anderson compiled a descriptive and historical catalogue, is now in the British Museum. In 1892 some of Mr. Anderson's former pupils in the Naval Medical College, Tokyo, founded in his honour a silver medal, bearing his name and effigy, which is awarded annually as a prize to the student who has most distinguished himself in surgery and surgical anatomy. In 1886 Mr. Anderson was elected a member of the Sei-I-kwai, the medical society of Tokyo, in recognition of his many and arduous labours on behalf of Japan. He was also a companion of the Order of the Rising Sun (Japan). Besides being the editor of "Heath's Practical Anatomy," and "Brücke's Beauties and Defects of the Human Figure," he was the author of "Deformities of the Fingers and Toes," "The Pictorial Arts of Japan," "Japanese Wood Engravings" (portfolio monograph), and of articles contributed to "Morris's Treaties on Anatomy," "Heath's Dictionary of Surgery," "Allbutt's System of Medicine," and to the transactions of medical societies and journals. Mr. Anderson married, in 1895, Louisa, daughter of the late Mr. F. W. Telly, of Leeds.

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FOOTBALL.

Any amount of enthusiasm and healthy "go" were thrown into the game of football played under Rugby rules on the Cricket-ground, Yokohama, on Saturday afternoon, and as a result spectators, of which there was a fair sprinkling present, were greatly entertained and thus magnanimously inclined to overlook any deficiencies in knowledge of rules and general practice. There can be little doubt we think, that, given fair encouragement, the Rugger game would become very popular in Yokohama, and we hope that Saturday's match may prove but the prelude of a series of such encounters—and will not be, as in some years, the solitary exception on the card. The afternoon, though grey and overcast, was not unpleasantly cold, the piercing wind of the previous Saturday being happily absent, and thus on-lookers managed to keep their blood circulating fairly comfortably, and the Pavilion, cosily heated for the occasion, did not attract many ladies until tea-time arrived.

Of the game little need be said. As we have hinted above, it was very fast at times, but the presence of so many more additional players than the rules provide for made it more or less of a scramble from beginning to end. Among the three-quarter-backs, Dyer and Sidney Wheeler distinguished themselves more than once, succeeding in making several good rushes, more particularly in the second half. Crawford, Tanaka, Strome, and Goddard showed up well among the forwards.

W. S. Moss, Captain of the Whites—an old county player in England—succeeded in getting first touch-down for his side, but he failed to convert. The Colours were next to attempt to score, Hayes touching-down directly behind goal. E. B. Clarke took the kick, but luck did not attend him. Play for a while after this was principally in the three-quarters territory of the Colours and several scrums resulted. Then W. J. White secured the leather and touched-down for the Whites. Again the ball went wide and low. On resuming after the kick-out, the Whites forced the pace again and several bits of creditable passing were seen. Shortly before the whistle blew for half-time, another try was placed to the Whites' credit. After the interval the play was very even, each side pressing alternately. Colours obtained one more try, which they failed to convert, and nothing further resulting, the game closed—Whites, nine points; Colours, six points.

CHINA NOTES.

News from Wei-hai-wei under date the 30th ult., is to the effect that the naval people there have woke up to the existence of piracy in the neighbouring waters. H.M.S. *Plover* with Mr. Barton, the civil magistrate, went to Thornton Haven on Monday, the 26th ult. and returned on the 30th. She caught four pirate junks and killed three and captured eleven of the pirates, releasing some seventy boats that had not dared to venture out to sea. A daily paper is expected to make its appearance shortly at Wei-hai-wei.

It is learnt on good authority in Shanghai that the Court is preparing to leave Hsianfu almost immediately, and it is not impossible that its next stopping-place will be Wuchang, where the Empress Dowager will place herself under the protection of H.E. Chang Chih-tung, the Emperor being possibly allowed to return to Peking. Enlightened Chinese assert that only the restoration of the Emperor to supreme power can really pacify China. If a peace is patched up with the Empress Dowager, allowing her and her Manchu gang to resume the government, and Prince Tuan's son to be still recognised as Heir Apparent, there will be fresh outbreaks all over China, and many Chinese will cut off their queues and become Japanese subjects.

A Canton dispatch printed in the *N.-C. Daily News*, says that at a meeting in that city of a Joint Commission of French and Chinese officials to investigate R. C. claims for the destruction last summer of churches and houses and property of converts in the district of Shuntê (coll. Shuntak), in Canton prefecture, it was found that the total value of those destroyed by the mob in that district amounted to over $275,000. It was further agreed to pay a cash indemnity for goods and chattels destroyed, but that churches and houses should be reconstructed by the Chinese Government and restored to their owners, many of whom were driven out of their villages and are now waiting to return to their homes. The returning refugees are, it is reported, to be escorted by a force of soldiers to their reconstructed homes, when the time arrives. As the indemnity demanded amounts to a large sum, the Chinese authorities have decided to make the gentry and notables of Shuntê pay it out of their own pockets as a punishment for their inability to prevent the riots last summer. The dispatch further adds that a French gunboat which had captured two of the mob leaders of the Kantsuh rioters, brought their prisoners the other day to that town and decapitated them on the banks of the river before a large number of inhabitants. The two heads were then stuck on poles erected for the purpose in the centre of the town to serve as a warning to the people round about.

A telegram from Tientsin, which appears in the *N.-C. Daily News*, says—"The Japanese Concession here has been enlarged on the north as far as Chakou and on the west as far as the South Gate of the native city. It is intended that part of the city wall shall be demolished, and the low ground filled in and made to connect with the city of Tientsin. Work has already commenced. The extension to the Concession measures about 500,000 *tsubo*, or 2,000,000 square yards, or over 430 acres." Commenting on the news, our contemporary says:—The Japanese undoubtedly deserve the extension of their Concession which they are taking at Tientsin, and the demolition of a portion of the city wall, with the use of the material to fill up the marshy ground which is to be included in the extension, is an excellent proposition. The more walls that are demolished in China, physical and moral, the better for the Chinese people

Says the *North China Daily News*:—Those who fondly believe that the Russians intend to voluntarily give back the port of Newchwang to China are invited to read the following translation of a proclamation issued by the Russian Administrator, whose name in Chinese is Ngao, on the 22nd ultimo:—

A RUSSIAN PROCLAMATION.

Ngao, deputed by the Imperial Russian Government Governor of the Port of Yingkow and also Commissioner of Customs, and Shih, Superintendent of Land-taxes, do hereby issue this joint Proclamation for the information of all.

As we are now investigating claims and surveying the lands and houses of this Port, you native inhabitants of Yingkow are hereby informed that those who possess title-deeds and bills of sale of land and houses belonging to you from an early date are commanded to produce them before this Yamên for examination, it being decided that all such property shall pay a tax of three per cent. on its value. You are hereby warned not to hide anything in order that you may avoid future trouble.

After the promulgation of these presents, you inhabitants of this Port must immediately come to this Yamên and declare clearly your property, and if anyone be discovered hereafter to have hidden any part or portion of his property from the authorities he will be punished by having all his title-deeds and bills of sale cancelled, made null and void and his property confiscated to Government as a warning to all. Disobey not this special proclamation!

The 10th day of the 11th month of the Great Russian Calendar.

The 1st day of the 10th month, 26th year of Kuang Hsü. (22nd November, 1900.)

Over 2,000 insurgent troops, tired of being hunted half-starved from pillar to post, have surrendered to the Americans in North-Western Luzon, and the insurgent leaders in Manila are thoroughly discouraged.

YOKOHAMA GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.

A fairly large number of parents of pupils and others interested in the work of the Girls' High School, Yokohama, assembled at the School on Thursday afternoon to witness the distribution of prizes to the successful girls. The room was tastefully decorated with flags and flowers, and presented with the happy faces of the children a very pleasing appearance. The Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., presided, and in his opening remarks referred to the regret felt by all at the severe indisposition of the Principal, Mrs. A. F. Cahusac, which prevented her from being present. He then presented the prizes as follows:—

Conduct Prizes—Class I. Jeannie Scott. II. Gladys Woolley. III. Iris Irwine. IV. Amy Unite.

Class Prizes—Class I. Edith Wilson. II. Alice Blundell. III. Basil Cahusac. IV. Amy Unite. Certificates for 2nd place: Elsie Blundell, Norah Stone, Iris Irwine.

French Prizes (Presented by Miss Leach)—Class I. Elsie Bundell. II. Bertie Cahusac. III. Iris Irwine. IV. Isabel Unite. Certificates for 2nd places. Muriel Harrington, Alice Blundell, Basil Cahusac, Amy Unite.

Drawing Prizes—Class I. (Prize presented by Miss Carst) Edith Wilson. II. Bertie Cahusac. Certificates for 2nd place Elsie Blundell, Dorothy Stone

Botany Prize (Presented by Miss Ross)—Edith Wilson.

Needlework Prize—Maydie Cahusac.

At the close, cheers were given for Mrs. Cahusac, the teaching staff, and the Chairman. On Saturday afternoon at 4.30 o'clock the annual Christmas entertainment by the pupils of the school will be given in Van Schaick Hall, No. 178, Bluff.

THE LATE DR. DENNYS.

The many friends of Dr. N. B. Dennys in the Far East and North Borneo will regret to learn of his death. He died, says the *China Mail*, on December 5th at the Peak Hospital, Hongkong after having been operated upon for the removal of a tumour on the neck. Dr. Dennys had a somewhat remarkable career in the East. Originally an Assistant Paymastsr in the Navy, he joined the Consular Service in China in 1863 and after the usual student's course at Peking, acted as Assistant Consul for some years. He resigned that service in 1865, and in the same year he become proprietor and editor of the *China Mail*. Some years later he visited New York and was engaged for some time upon several of the leading newspapers there. Returning to Hongkong he again became editor of the *China Mail* in 1872, and remained in that post until the middle of 1875. He was Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce in 1876, Secretary of the City Hall and Curator and Librarian, off and on, for seven years up to 1877. He then proceeded to Singapore, where he remained as Police Magistrate for several years longer. He received the decoration of the Dragon from the Chinese Emperor in 1878. Finally he was selected as District Judge and Protector of Chinese in Sandakan, North Borneo, from which post he was on leave of absence when he died. Dr. Dennys is the author of several books, the most important being: "The Treaty Ports of China," which to this day is regarded as a standard work. In its production Dr. Dennys was assisted by Mr. W. F. Mayers and Lieutenant Charles King; Mr. Mayers' sketch of Canton being still one of the best descriptions extant. It may also be mentioned that Dr. Dennys was editor of "Notes and Queries on China and Japan," which magazine was followed up by the issue of *The China Review*, in 1872—a magazine which owed its origin to the versatile Doctor, and is now in its twenty-fifth volume. Dr. Dennys, it may be readily admitted, was of a most versatile disposition; he was an excellent linguist, a delightful companion socially, and wielded a most facile pen. He also had a decided turn for mechanical inventions, and he succeeded in several of these. Among the more successful inventions were those of the Zocus anti-fouling paint, the Dennys-Cuff system of electric lighting, and the flexible coffer-dam. We understand he fitted up, in an amateurish fashion, the first steam launch that steamed around Hongkong Harbour. Deceased was married and had a large family. His widow, who is now in England, will command the sincerest sympathy of her many friends here and elsewhere.—*China Mail*.

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THE MELBOURNE CUP.

Port Darwin exchanges give the result of the Melbourne Cup, run on November 6, as follows:—

Mr. T. Cumming's blk c *Clean Sweep* (Zalinski-Benzine) 3yrs. 7.0 1
Mr. R. Orr's br c *Malster* (Bill of Portland-Barley) 3yrs. 7.11 2
Hodges Bros' br m *Alix* (Trenton-Princess Alice) 5yrs. 6.12 3
Mr. F. W. Allen's b h *Dark Hammer-hand* (Carlyon-Lady Doris) 5yrs. 8.0 4

Clean Sweep was a rank outsider, and was not mentioned in the latest betting to hand from Australian papers. The same may be said as regards the third horse, Alix; Malster was one of the favourites at 100 to 8.

BURGLARY AND TRIPLE MURDER.

Three burglars the other evening entered a house at Yuimura, Minami-Tama-gori, Hachoji, occupied by a man named Okubo Fusakichi, with his family. Having tied up Okubo, whom they found in a room by himself, they took what money they could lay hands on, and also appropriated a sword. They then went to the kitchen and were helping themselves to food when Okubo's mother (aged 68) and his daughter, being aroused, came out of their sleeping chamber and began calling for help. The exasperated robbers at once seized them and killed both by strangling them. They then proceeded to Okubo's room and put him to death with the sword they had stolen. No arrests are reported.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The *Joso Shimbun* of Mito has been suspended.

The wrecked steamer *Inajima Maru* has been found between Hayashi-mura and Matsui in Akashi bay, distant one knot from land and in 51 fathoms of water.

Lieutenant Waki Yoshiichi, of the Eighth Cavalry Regiment, Second (Sendai) Division, committed suicide on the 18th inst. The cause was unknown.

Miss Timmis, a missionary from Chouping, who had been engaged in nursing at Wei-hai-wei this summer, died of enteric at Colombo on the 20th ult. on her way home

While torpedo-boats Nos. 15 and 20 were exercising in Honmoku Bay on the morning of the 17th inst. they lost a torpedo. Torpedo-boat No. 30 left Yokosuka for Honmoku on the 18th to search for it.

The house and lot at No. 111, Bluff, forming part of the estate of the late Mr. J. Diack, was exposed for sale by public auction by Mr. J. W. Hall on Monday and purchased by Mr. M. Russell for *yen* 21,000. The plot contained 341 *tsubo*.

On the evening of the 19th inst. a Japanese junk of Izu, laden with dried fish, bound for Yokohama, foundered in Honmoku bay. The four *sendo* were rescued by a fishing boat from Honmoku. The junk was floated next morning.

The *soshi* actor Kawakami Otojiro writes to a friend in Tokyo that his company left London for Japan on Nov. 9th by the *Kanagawa Maru*. He adds that they are "accompanied" by Mr. Kurino, Japanese Minister to France.

A man named Yamashita Risaburo was arrested by the Kotobuki-cho police on Dec. 18th charged with receiving six stolen bicycles, for which he paid *yen* 8 each, and of which he sold three for *yen* 40 each. The actual thief, Sugimoto Kintaro, has disappeared.

It will surprise many people in Shanghai and elsewhere to hear that King Lienshan, Director of the Chinese Telegraphs at Shanghai, who was arrested at Macao in February last on the charge of embezzling Government money, at the request of H. E. Li Hung-chang, who wanted to get him into his clutches to please the Empress Dowager, is still in prison at Macao, awaiting orders from Lisbon.

Fire broke out at Yedogawa-machi, Koishikawa, Tokyo, occupied by a dyer named Yokoyama Yasujiro, on the night of the 16th inst., and six houses were destroyed and one damaged. Yasujiro was severely hurt.

We have been asked to state that the amount realized from the Entertainment at Van Schaick Hall in aid of the destitute survivors of the Indian Famine was 90 *yen*, including contributions to the amount of 22 *yen*. The equivalent has been forwarded by bank draft to Mr. George Eddy, Y.M.C.A., Madras.

Australian exchanges contain the following telegram which explains the rather vague message sent by Reuter:—The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Councillor Thomas D. Pile, at the meeting of the Council on Nov. 5, declined to receive a motion by Councillor John Clancy to confer the freedom of the city upon Mr. Kruger. A tumult arose in consequence of the action of the Lord Mayor.

At the great chrysanthemum show held at the Royal Aquarium, London, in November, Mr. J. T. Simpson offered a special prize for the premier Japanese bloom. This was found in the collection of Mr W Mease, gardener to Mr. A. Tate, of Leatherhead, and proved to be a mauve incurved Japanese bloom and silver reflex florets named "Mrs. Barkley." It measured over fifteen inches from tip to tip.

In the Tokyo Marine Court on Tuesday judgment was given in the case of the collision between the N.Y.K. steamer *Ise Maru* and the Nowegian steamer *Calanda* near Nagasaki on Sept. 28th, resulting in the loss of the latter and the death of 20 persons on board her. The Court found that Captain Yoda of the *Ise Maru* had not been at fault in the navigation of his vessel, and, therefore, exonerated him from any blame.

We have received a copy of the English edition of "Holland Abroad" a publication issued in Amsterdam and Rotterdam and chiefly concerning itself with commercial matters. In this number is reprinted the appeal by the professors of various Dutch Universities to the professors of American Universities for assistance in bringing about peace in South Africa and there is also an installment of a "sketch of the growth of Dutch Commerce."

The N.D.L. *Princess Irene*, the latest addition to the fleet of the Norddeutscher Lloyd, is expected shortly in Yokohama from Europe on her maiden trip. She has been built for regular service on the line between Bremen and China, and is coming out after her first trip to New York. The *Princess Irene* is 545 ft. long over all, 525 feet on the water-line, 60 feet beam, and 37 feet 9 inches deep. Her tonnage is 9,100 tons, her horse-power 9,000, and displacement 15,000 tons. It is expected that the speed of the *Princess Irene* will be 15 knots.

The public hearing of case instituted against Mr. Agabeg by Mr. Pereira, claiming *yen* 1,860, value of 4,000 tea chests delivered, took place before Judges Oshima, Nozawa, and Hamamoto at the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Friday. It was stated that a judgment in default was given for plaintiff on the 10th June last and the defendant lodged a protest against the judgment on the 11th July. After commenting on defendant's absence, Counsel asked the Court to dismiss the plea and confirm the judgment in favour of plaintiff. Judgment was reserved.

A curious case was heard in the Yokohama-ku Saibansho on Wednesday morning, before Judge Matsuda, wherein Mr. Charles Eymard, of No. 154, Bluff presented a petition which alleged that the branches of a cherry-tree in the compound occupied by Mr. A. J. Easton trespassed on plaintiff's compound, thereby doing damage to his property. He prayed the Court to order defendant to cut off the mischievous branches at his own expense. Judgment in default was given for plaintiff.

Fire broke out on board the Blue-funnel steamer *Achilles* early on Thursday morning, as she was laying in Yokohama harbour, but thanks to the ready assistance rendered by the Austrian warships, the water police and the N.Y.K., the flames were got under control within an hour, before any serious damage could be done. A quantity of saltpeter became ignited, it seems, and the flames quickly spreading to straw mattings, etc., lying near by, four cases of satin were burnt. Fortunately, very little damage was sustained by the steamer.

Japanese residents in the various ports of Korea at the end of November numbered as follows:—

	Houses.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fusan	1 140	2,981	2,749	5,730
Mokupo	228	538	346	884
Gensan	127	260	158	418
Ninsen	1,027	2,479	1,942	4,421
Soul	583	1,062	1,026	2,088
Gensan	364	918	678	1,596
Joshin	18	25	14	39

The United States cable steamer *Burnside* recently entered Hongkong carrying a quantity of submarine cable, and sailed for Manila on the 28th of November. She is to be engaged laying a cable between the Philippine Islands, Manila, and San Francisco. She had on board about 550 miles of deep-sea cable and 250 miles of shallow-water cable, and she will commence operations from Manila, returning to New York about April next for a new lot of cable to continue the line to Honolulu and San Francisco. Several well known experts are on board. It is stated that the United States Government is bent upon developing its influence in the Philippine quarter

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday, before Judge Sato, Mr. E. Becker, of Becker & Co., No. 40, sued Mr. K. Takeuchi, of Aioicho Nichome. Mr. Uzawa appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Sekijima for the defendant. Plaintiff said that defendant gave him on Oct. 29th, 1900, two promissory notes on the One Hundred Bank, Yokohama. One was for *yen* 1,132, which fell due on Nov. 15th, and the other for *yen* 1,208, due on Dec. 10th. In both instances, however, the defendant failed to fulfil his promise, and did not pay. Plaintiff therefore claimed payment of the money mentioned in the promissory notes, together with interest at 6 per cent. The two promissory notes produced to the Court were shown to defendant's counsel, who denied that his client had any knowledge of having issued them. The hearing was adjourned till Jan. 15th pending the examination of the defendant's stamp.

Mr. Hellemann, chief officer of the N. D. L. steamer *Prinsess Irene*, whilst superintending the mooring of the vessel on her arrival in Colombo Harbour, on Nov. 29, was knocked down by the hawser, which snapped from the strain in bringing the steamer up to the buoy. His right leg was badly fractured, the muscles and arteries being so torn that the unfortunate man lost a considerable amount of blood before receiving prompt surgical aid. Eventually the leg was amputated on shore, but the poor fellow died from the effects of the terrible shock. The deceased officer, who was very popular on board, was only 38 years of age, and was making his last voyage as chief officer previous to taking up the command of one of the Company's steamers. He leaves a widow and two children to mourn his untimely death. Two days after leaving Colombo, a steward of the same ship "being tired of the work" jumped overboard and was never recovered despite every effort.

The inconvenience caused to export merchants by the fact that no accurate statistics have yet been compiled with regard to Nishijin woven goods, seems about to be remedied. In order to supply the lack of information, Mr. Matsumuro, President of the Nishijin Textile Dealers Union, has taken upon himself the trouble of visiting each manufacturer in the district, and has thus collected necessary facts after spending four months in the task. According to his investigations, the total output for the year from June, 1899, to July last was 10,233,529 *yen*, of which the greater portion was represented by *shuchin*, satin, and crepe, and

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a lesser quantity by *hakata*, cotton, flannel, and *habutae*. The number of families engaged in the production of the Nishijin textiles totalled 4,421, and the factories aggregated 101, with 12,822 looms, 974 looms being suspended. The members of families working at them numbered 8,277, against 5,083 artisans and 6,505 apprentices. During the winter of last year the general depression of trade proved a serious drawback to the industry under notice, and the depression having continued up to the present time, numbers of looms have been suspended or entirely abandoned, with a corresponding decrease in the number of artisans and apprentices employed. The consequence of all this was a serious diminution of the output in comparison with any of the previous years.

The American sailing vessel *George Skolfield* entered Nagasaki harbour on Friday evening, in tow of the Mitsu Bishi Company's tug-boat *Yugao Maru*. The former vessel has had an eventful voyage. She was on her way from San Francisco to Port Arthur with a cargo of hay and grain. On the 25th ult. while attempting to make the Van Diemen Strait, she unfortunately stranded off Miyazaki, Hyuga Province, but subsequently came off unaided. Temporary repairs were effected to the damaged hull, and it was decided to bring the vessel to Nagasaki to ascertain the extent of the damages. The vessel arrived to within eight miles of the entrance to the harbour but during the night was blown out to sea in the direction of the Gotos. She again attempted to reach the port, but failed, and was obliged to run across to Amakusa, where she dropped anchor in Tomioka Bay. A telegram was sent to Nagasaki asking for assistance, and the *Yugao* was dispatched to tow the vessel here. The ship presented a strange appearance as she entered the harbour. Her cargo had shifted and the vessel had heeled over considerably. She will go into dock for repairs, after discharging her cargo, which, it is believed, is all spoiled.—*Nagasaki Press.*

While the month of November usually witnesses more or less of an increase in the amount of bank deposits, the reverse was the case this year, in spite of an increased number of depositors. The anomaly therefore can only be accounted for by the withdrawal of large sums from the ordinary banks. The following are comparative figures for the two principal Savings Banks, Osaka and Nippon:—

	At end of November. Amount in yen.	At end of October. do.	Decrease in yen.
Osaka Savings Bank	6,848,921	6,853,611	8,690
Nippon Savings Bank	3,227,443	3,228,602	1,159

The following particulars with regard to these bonds, issued for the 9th period, are given in the *Osaka Asahi* showing the names of banks where subscriptions were received, and the maximum value offered by applicants:—

Banks.	Number of applications.	Maximum offered.
Nanwa	3,059	21 50
130th Bank	2,052	21.00
Kitahama	1,695	21 00
Sumitomo	651	20.50
Agricultural and Commercial.	424	20 50
Branch of Imperial Commercial	92	20.20

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Mr. Attorney-General Griggs, it is announced, will leave the Cabinet next March "for business reasons."

A fierce tornado swept over Northern Mississippi and Central and Western Tennessee on Nov. 20. The loss of life was very heavy and the destruction of property immense. The Pacific coast was visited by a great storm the same day.

Mr. Charles N. Tweed, vice-president of the Southern Pacific Company, has been elected president of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company Mr. Schwerin remains vice-president and general manager of the company with headquarters in San Francisco.

Twenty-one persons died in Massachusetts last year aged 100 years or more. Sixteen of the twenty-one were women—three of the sixteen never having been married. Eight of the twenty-one were born in Ireland, three in Canada and three in other foreign countries—leaving seven native-born, six of whom were of Masachusetts nativity. The oldest was two months over 106 years.

The mathematical experts of the census bureau have figured out that the centre of population of the United States is still in the state of Indiana, but has shifted slightly to the north and west since the enumeration of 1890. In that year the pivotal point was located about twenty miles east of Columbus, Bartholomew county, in southern central Indiana. This year it is determined to be seven miles north of Columbus.

Matrons of infant asylums, according to *The Nursery*, "say that a young infant will be cross all day if dressed in a gray frock, but contented and happy if dressed in a bright red frock. Children from two to four are much less affected by the colour of their dress. It is commonly observed in kindergartens that the younger children prefer the red playthings, while the older childen prefer the blue."

It seems strange that so good an expert as the late Thomas G. Appleton should have had foisted upon him spurious statuettes from Tanagra. Yet of the twenty-eight terra cotta figures from the ancient Grecian city which he gave to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts twenty-five have been found to be made in 1874 by a clever Greek artist of Athens. There will be wailing in Boston, where Mr. Appleton had a large following as an authority in classic art.

The U.S. Navy Department on November 22nd entered into a contract with the Holland Submarine Boat Company for the construction of a boat of the type of the six heretofore contracted for, to replace the *Plunger*, the company agreeing to take the *Plunger* off the hands of the Government and to build in her place the best type of modern submarine boat for the sum of $170,000, refunding to the Government the sum of $90,000 already paid on the *Plunger* and the sum of $4,365, which represents other expenses to which the Government has been subjected

According to the *California Fruit Grower* the dry and sweet wine production of California was as follows:

	Gallons.		Gallons.
1892	15,000,000	1896	13,500,000
1893	22,700,000	1897	34,000,000
1894	16,000,000	1898	18,579,000
1895	14,000,000	1899	23,433,000

California's brandy production was as follows:

	Proof gallons.		Proof gallons.
1892 93	2,200,617	1896-67	1,120,000
1893 94	2,007,065	1897-98	1,442,468
1894-95	2,000,000	1898-99	1,699,035
1895-96	1,000,000	1899-1900	3,256,513

Clement A. Griscom, head of the International Navigation Company, writing to a technical society on the outlook for ship-building in the United States says:—The next twenty-four months will show an increase over the past twenty-four months as great as the records of the latter exceed those of previous periods. Since the end of June there have been launched, begun, or contracted for 78 steel steamships of 350,000 gross tons, including 10 ocean steamships each of 10,000 gross tons or over. Part of this work will extend over a period of two years, but in the twelvemonth from last June 250,000 tons of steel steamships will have been launched in the United States.

The United States monitor *Nevada*, in tonnage the largest Government vessel ever built by the Bath Iron Works, was launched on Nov. 24. The vessel was released and started down the ways in a novel manner by Miss Annie C. Boutelle, youngest daughter of Congressman Charles A. Boutelle, who christened her. The hull, held in place until the last moment by a careful adjustment of the shoring and a strong cable, was set free by severing the rope at the proper moment. Miss Boutelle used a silver hatchet provided by the builders. As the monitor started down the ways Miss Boutelle dashed a bottle of American champagne across the bow and christened the vessel *Nevada*. The *Nevada* is one of four sister ships now under construction in American yards. She is a single-turret monitor, designed expressly for harbour defence. The dimensions are as follows: Length 252 feet, beam 50 feet, draft 12 feet 6 inches, displacement 3,234 tons. Her contract speed is required to be 11.5 knots. Her batteries will consist of two 12-inch breech-loading rifles, four 4-inch rapid-firing guns, three 6-pounders and four 1-pounders.

The activity in the American shipbuilding industry is indicated by letters which have been received by the *Manufacturer's Record* from several of the largest companies. The Harlan & Hollingsworth Company, of Wilmington, Del., states that it has contracts for next year which will aggregate 20,000 tons. The New York Shipbuilding Company, of Camden, N.J., which has just begun operations, has contracts which will aggregate 20,000 tons capacity, while the American Shipbuilding Company, of Cleveland, Ohio, will complete 40,000 tons of contracts this year. This company is also building several vessels which will be used in the Atlantic coastwise service, and one which will be fitted to take cargoes to foreign ports. These estimates do not include the two vessels which have been ordered for the Atlantic Transport line, to carry 18,000 tons of cargo each, and the four which will probably be contracted for in the near future by the same company, to be built in the United States shipyards.

When the general conference of the Protestant Episcopal church meets in San Francisco next October, three new canons on the subject of marriage and divorce will be placed before that body for its consideration. By these canons ministers of the Episcopal denomination are absolutely prohibited from remarrying either party to a divorce suit; divorced persons who have remarried outside the church are barred from reëntering into its communion; all means of grace with in the dispensation of the church are denied to the offending party to a divorce suit who shall have remarried. While the offender is outlawed from fellowship in the church, provision is made for his or her readoption into the church on the condition that there is a show of true repentance and separation from the party to the second marriage.

The Actors' Church Alliance of America has begun an active campaign against Sunday theatrical performances and its members promise to keep it up until actors have one day of rest in seven, the same as persons in the ordinary avocations of life It claims to have caused the arrests which have been made at New York theatres on recent Sundays, and it is now keeping an eye on the prosecution of these cases. The Rev. Francis J. Clay Moran, chairman of the law committee, has given out a copy of a letter which he had sent to Deputy Chief Cortwright the other day, dealing with the subject. It had been stated that the arrests in question were due to the actions of the Tammany purity committee and Mr. Moran took occasion to correct this impression. He said that the law committee of the alliance had not had any communications with the Tammany committee in any way and knew nothing of its action.

"One listens with an ill-concealed impatience to the stories of the revival of sailing days. But why not? Has steam eternally banished sails from the ocean?" questions the *Marine Review*. "Freighters are getting larger and larger, and the economy of the marine engine is a science. But notwithstanding this the sailing ship is indisputably in possession of various routes of trade. For those deliveries in which time is no object it is the most economical transport. No matter how cheap fuel may become wind is cheaper. In fact, fuel is likely to become more expensive from year to year. There is no exhaustion in the European supply, but the veins are growing deeper and deeper and are constantly costing more and more to mine. This condition cannot fail to increase the operating expense of steam vessels. On the other hand, it is only the excess of price of English coal that permits Amer-

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ican coal to be landed in steam carriers at a profit in the European market. Is there not a legitimate field in the coal-carrying trade for the sailing ship with just sufficient auxiliary machinery to handle its cargo, to propel it slowly in a calm, to give it steerage way in a storm and to work its way in and out of harbours without the use of a tug? This field is suggested because there is a present European market for American coal if the cost of freight can be brought low enough. There are already other trades in which the sailing vessel, equipped with some steam power, can hold its own. It would seem as though the day of the sailing craft is by no means done."

Senator Cushman Kellogg Davis, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, died at his home in St. Paul, on Nov. 27. He had suffered greatly during two months of sickness and gradually sank away, being unconscious for several hours before death, and, so far as could be known, suffered no pain. Mr. Davis' first chairmanship of the Senate was of the Committee on Pensions, which he held throughout his first term. He was the author of the pension law of 1890, which terminated the demands for excessive pension legislation and also satisfied the old soldiers. As a member of the Committee on Territories Senator Davis led the fight for the admission of the Dakotas to Statehood, making his first speech in the Senate on that subject. As a student and an authority on international law Senator Davis furnished briefs to President Harrison and Secretary of State Blaine on the Chilean dispute and the Bering Sea controvesy.

Since the result of the elections in both the United States and Canada became known, says *Bradstreets*, there has been a revival of the talk which has languished for some time past about a settlement of the questions in dispute between the two countries. Both the existing administrations having been continued in power, the way is open for a hopeful resumption of the work of the Anglo-American Commission. It would redound greatly to the credit of both administrations if a complete settlement could be arrived at.. The Alaskan boundary question still awaits a solution, only a temporary modus vivendi having been agreed upon. Other unsettled boundary questions concern the unmarked border between the two countries near Passamaquoddy Bay in Maine and at points between Wisconsin and Minnesota and Canada. There also remain the issues over Bering Sea and the catching of fur seals, the long standing question as to fishing rights in the North Atlantic and that as to the regulation of fishing on the great lakes, questions regarding wrecking and salvage on the ocean and the great lakes in coasting waters, and that as to modification of the treaty arrangement under which only one war vessel can be maintained on the great lakes with a view to allowing warships to be built on the lakes and thence floated out to the ocean.

It is reported that Rear-Admiral Frederick Rodgers, now on duty in Washington as president of the Board of Inspection, will be sent to the Asiatic station next spring, as his term of shore duty will end then, and he may relieve either Admirals Remey or Kempff. Admiral Rodgers, known in the Navy as Turk Rodgers, comes of a family that has long been famous as sea fighters. Admiral John Rodgers, one of the heroes of the War of 1812, was his uncle, and Admiral C. R. P. Rodgers, known in other days as the Chesterfield of the Navy, was his cousin. Frederick Rodgers is still in the prime of life, and his tall, commanding figure has all the vigour of youth; but he was born in Maryland, Oct. 3, 1842, entered the Naval Academy at 15 and was graduated at the beginning of the war, immediately joining the frigate *Wabash*, on which he was appointed acting master the same year. He received his Lieutenant's commission July 16, 1862, when he became executive officer of the *Kineo* and took part in the engagements at Donaldsonville, Port Hudson and College Point, La. He was commissioned a Lieutenant-Commander soon after peace was declared under the apple trees at Appomattox and went to the *Sacramento*, which was lost in the Bay of Bengal on the 6th of June, 1867. During the war with Spain, Rodgers, then a Captain, commanded the monitor *Puritan*, one of Rear-Admiral Sampson's fleet. He became a Rear-Admiral in March, 1899.

EUROPEAN NOTES.

Brigadier-General H. Pipon, C.B., commanding Royal Artillery with the British Field Force in China, who was due to retire under the age rules this month, has been granted an extension of time in his appointment.

It is interesting to note that the new Spanish Prime Minister, General Azcarraga, is a native of the Philippines. He was born in Manila, his father being a Spanish officer and his mother a Tagal Indian. He was educated in Madrid, and went to Cuba, where he married a planter's daughter. The Premier owns considerable property in Manila.

On the morning of Nov. 2nd the new battleship *Glory* was commissioned at Portsmouth. She will replace the *Centurion* as flagship of the British fleet in Chinese waters, and will be the flagship of Admiral Rawson, when he succeeds Admiral Seymour. The *Glory*, which is one of the most powerful ships in the navy, has cost nearly a million sterling.

During the recent military manœuvres in France a new automobile carrying a dynamo and searchlight was brought into action. It could explore the country for nearly two miles round. We may add that the Scotte traction automobile did well. One morning it left Paris with 50,000lb. of grain for the front, and returned the same evening, having covered 50 miles in all.

M. Frederic Godet, whose death is reported from Switzerland, was a theologian whose claims to respect as such would not be disputed even by the Germans. He has been much read in England by theological students, and his works are held in high esteem. M. Godet belonged to the Swiss Reformed Church, and his writings are on orthodox lines. He was at one time tutor to the Empress Frederick.

The fortune of £150,000, which the late Lord Russell of Killowen left, is nothing extraordinary for a successful lawyer of the highest rank. But when one reflects on what it was that the late Lord Chief Justice started from, it must be admitted that it is a great sum to have been made entirely by professional work. There are not many other countries—perhaps none except the United States—in which such a career would have been possible.

Captains H. J. Cotter, 21st Company R.G.A., J. R. Wilson, 90th Battery R.F.A; F. B. D. Broadrick, 97th Battery R.F.A., and E. S. E. W. Russell, "Y" Battery R.H.A., have been selected for service with the 1-pounder Vickers-Maxim guns in China. These officers have been ordered to proceed to the works of Messrs. Vickers, Sons, and Maxim, at Erith, for a course of instruction, and then to join the Maxim gun detachments now concentrating for duty at Woolwich pending embarkation.

Lord Wolseley, speaking on Nov. 1st at the Sheffield Cutlers' Feast, said that undoubtedly we must have alterations in the British Army. A commander-in-chief, he continued, might inform the Government that certain changes were absolutely necessary, and the reply be that there was no money to carry them out. It was unfortunate that when an expert made such recommendations it was not possible for the Government to lay them before the British public, for the neither they would get rid of the commander-in-chief or his advice would be followed.

Mr. Astor has just given the munificent donation of £10,000 to the Cambridge University Benefaction Fund. The total sum contributed to this fund now amounts to about £67,000, in addition to £15,000 which has been assigned by the trustees of Miss Squires' will to the building and furnishing of a Law Library. The donations hitherto received will satisfy some of the most pressing needs of the University, but they fall very far short of the sum of £500,000 which the Duke of Devonshire, at the meeting at Devonshire House, said was the minimum sum necessary to equip the University with the buildings and endowments which it requires.

By the death of Capt. William Smith, late harbourmaster at Dunbar, the local Sailors' Society becomes extinct, Capt Smith being the last remaining member and its box-master. The society, which was composed of master manners and mates, has been in existence many years, and had for its main object the providing of funds for the poor of the craft. It was granted a charter by the burgh of Dunbar in 1730. Last year Capt. Smith presented a petition to the Court of Session, as the last remnant of the society, to "break up the box," which is worth £1,500, and to settle a scheme of administration, which he suggested should provide for the sustenance of indigent persons of the port of Dunbar. The petition was, however, refused, and the box money must now fall to the Crown.

In the British Government as at present reconstituted the youngest member of Cabinet rank is Lord Selborne, who is only 41. Next to him comes Mr. Brodrick, who is 43, then Mr. Walter Long, who is 46, and then Mr. Akers Douglas, who is 49. Then come Lord Balfour of Burleigh, aged 51; Mr. A. J. Balfour, aged 52; Lord Lansdowne, aged 55; Lord George Hamilton, also aged 55; and Mr. Chaplin, aged 59. The other Cabinet Ministers are over 60, the oldest being Lord Halsbury, aged 75, and the next oldest Lord James of Hereford, aged 72. Lord Salisbury is 70.

Cremation is certainly becoming popular, said a London paper on Nov. 2nd. Within a few days the remains of three well-known men, Mr. W. L. Thomas, Mr. W. Yardley, and Mr. Sims Reeves, have been incinerated at Working, there have been innumerable examples of the same tendency within the last few years. It was only in 1884 that Mr. Justice Stephen decided that this process of disposing of the dead was legal, and the erection of the crematorium which had been stopped by the authorities in 1879 was then proceeded with, and was first used in March 1885.

There was a time in the fourteenth century when gold mines in Spain were worked at a profit. It is now rumoured that several fresh discoveries of gold have been made. Some of the sands of the River Menyanares are said to contain enough gold to repay the cost of washing, and a well-known miner has just asked for the concession of claims close to Madrid, which, like Pretoria, is said to be founded on a gold bed. It is known that long ago Philip the Second's prospectors discovered quartz containing a fair proportion of gold. Whether the find will make good the deficiencies of the Spanish Treasury is another matter.

The startling intelligence was published by the Board of Trade on Oct. 30th that a case of plague had been discovered on a steamer in the port of London. On the arrival of the steamer *Ben Lomond* from the Philippine Islands on the 26th Oct., a member of the crew was found by the medical officer of the London Port Sanitary Authority to be recovering from suspected chronic plague. The ship was detained at Denton for the removal of the man to hospital and for the necessary disinfection. The malady from which he suffered was afterwards pronounced by Dr. Klein to have been of the nature of plague.

The Postmaster-General announces that arrangements have been made for facilitating and cheapening telegraphic communication with Her Majesty's military and naval forces on active service in China. The Eastern, Eastern Extension and Great Northern Telegraph Companies have generously undertaken to transmit telegrams to and from officers and men at half-rates—that is, at 2*s.* 9*d.* a word, instead of 5*s.* 6*d.* "Shanghai" is to be used as the last word in the address in all cases, but it will not be charged for. The telegrams must be handed in at postal telegraph offices, and not at the offices of the companies.

Five years hence, if Parliamentary sanction is given next session to the scheme which the Bristol City Council has promoted, that historic port will be in possession of an ocean dock at Avonmouth capable of accommodating the biggest steamers afloat. A sum of £1,804,000 is the estimated cost of the works, the plans of which have been prepared by three eminent engineers, Sir Wolfe Barry, Sir Benjamin Baker, and Mr. Hurtzig. In addition to the tidal dock, there will be constructed in the channel two berths where the largest steamers can lie for four hours on every tide. It has taken some years for the city to make up its mind to incur the necessary outlay, and meantime while Bristol has stood still, the size of vessels employed in the merchant service has steadily increased, and in many instances grown out of all proportion to the accommodation she can provide.

An interesting memorial of Charles Dickens is now in course of destruction by the housebreaker, states a correspondent. Tavistock House, Tavistock-square, to which he removed on leaving Devonshire-terrace, in 1851, is being pulled down by the ground landlord, the Duke of Bedford. The dismantling began a few days since; the windows are out, and the roof is being removed. Up to the present week, the house, which was a handsome, substantial, and well-kept building, remained externally just as Dickens left it in 1860, and as it stands in the engraving in Forster's *Life of Dickens*. It has undergone some vicissitudes since Dicken's days. He sold it to Mr. Davis, a Jewish gentleman. Mr. Davis was succeeded by Mr. and Mrs. Weldon, with whom Gounod lived for some time, holding singing classes in the large drawing-room. Of late years, the house has

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been a Jews' College, and latterly has, for some months, been empty. It stands behind the north-east corner of Tavistock-square, and like its neighbour, Bedford House, which is also being dismantled, is too large for the neighbourhood.

At a Parliamentary election in the North of England a candidate was persistently heckled by a chimney sweep, who appeared at the meetings in his full "warpaint," that is, attired in his sooty garb, with bag on shoulder and face and hands unwashed. It was difficult to shake off this literal "bête noire," but at last the persecuted candidate disposed of him in his polite manner, with "If the gentleman in mourning—" He had no need to go further, for the crowd, tickled by this description of his opponent, crowned the rest of the sentence in roars of laughter, and the inquisitive sweep was heard no more.

The recent graduation ceremony at Glasgow University was the scene of much boisterous fun. So badly did the students behave that Principal Story, who was received with cheers, hisses, cat calls, and ironical singing of "Tell me the old, old story," said, "I wish to say, before leaving this hall, that I have never in my life been face to face with an audience which had so much reason to be ashamed of itself. For the last half-hour you have behaved with the stupidity and violence which one would have expected from uncultivated boors only."

In the November *Forum*, Mr. A. Maurice Low speaks of the change that is impending in European armies in the matter of infantry. He maintains that the foot soldier is an anachronism, that he cannot be a fighting machine as well as a beast of burden, and that it is absolutely essential, both to mobility and to effectiveness, to mount the infantryman. The mounted infantryman, he says, will not be a cavalryman in any sense of the world. Infantry tactics will be the only tactics he will know, but by being mounted his strength will be conserved, and his effectiveness trebled.

A danger connected with the gymnasium has been revealed at an inquest on a Southport schoolboy. The lad had been practising what is known as "muscle grinding." He suspended himself from a horizontal bar by the bend of his elbows, and began to revolve with this as an axis. In doing so his coat gradually got hunched up with each revolution, and was drawn tighter and tighter round the neck. It was finally drawn as tightest in the downward descent—a movement beyond his control—and as he hung unable to release himself he died because he was not able to breathe. The coat was so tightly wound round him that it could not be unbuttoned, and had to be cut with a pair of scissors.

According to the *Law Journal* no better memorial of the late Lord Russell of Killowen could be devised than a statue in the building in which he won his greater triumphs at the Bar and made his enduring reputation on the Bench. At present the marble bust of Sir George Jessel in the northern corridor is the only piece of statuary that perpetuates the memory of a judge. The erection of a statue to Lord Russell of Killowen might well be followed by similar memorials of other great judges. Selborne, Herschell, Coleridge, Esher, Bowen, and Chitty have all passed away in recent years, but no steps have been taken to perpetuate their memory.

A remarkable story is told of some birds kept by the late Mr. Francis Stanier, of Pepplow Hall, near Market Drayton. Mr. Stanier was a millionaire and a well-known philanthropist, and was very fond of birds. He had some favourite American and Japanese geese, which he fed with his own hands, and which were kept on a pool near the Hall. He died about a month ago, and, strange to relate, during the last hours of his illness these birds, numbering over 100, flew round his bedroom window, beating their wings against the glass. They would then fly over the roof of the house, and all the time they were uttering a weird, screeching noise. In almost the last moments of the squire's life the whole flock of birds disappeared, and not one of them has been seen since.

The French Northern Railway are continually endeavouring to improve their International services, and an official Note issued from the Company's offices gives details of some interesting experiments which were carried out on Oct. 27th on the line between Paris and Calais. A train weighing 250 tons, drawn by a new locomotive and composed of seven coaches on bogie trucks, had been fitted with a new class of brake, in addition to its ordinary Westinghouse brakes, the effect of which is to diminish the shock when a train proceeding at a great speed is suddenly drawn up. The experiments were entirely successful, and the time of the Paris-Calais express, which covers the 298 kilomètres between the two places in 3 hours and 39 minutes, is doubtless destined to be permanently reduced at an early date. The special train on Oct. 27th established a world's record. The English mileage between Paris and Calais is 185 miles, and this distance was covered in 184 minutes 30 seconds, as the train left Paris at 8 a.m., and reached Calais Maritime Station at 11.7 a.m.

The English Court of Appeal is now representative of all four sections of the United Kingdom, though its jurisdiction is confined to two. England is represented by the Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Rigby, Wales by Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, Ireland by Lord Justice Collins, and Scotland by Lord Justice Stirling, who is, by the way, the only Scotchman now on the English Bench. All the members of the Court except Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, who belongs to Oxford, are Cambridge men. Both Lord Justice Romer and Lord Justice Stirling were Senior Wranglers. Lord Justice Rigby, who, as senior Lord Justice, will now preside in Appeal Court II. was Smith's Prizeman. Lord Justice Collins obtained high honours in Classics, and became a Fellow of Downing College; and the Master of the Rolls rowed in the University race.

The War Minister, General Kuropatkin, has authorished a credit of two and a-half millions of roubles from the Military Treasury, to be increased shortly by a similar sum from the Imperial Exchequer, for the purpose of providing extra barrack accommodation for the troops on the Western frontier, the number of which is to be largely increased. In military circles it is stated that the Army located in the Western governments adjacent to the German and Austrian frontiers is to be increased to a standard strength of three hundred troops of all arms. The reason for this new and extraordinary military disposition in Western and South-Western Russia is not quite apparent, and, speculatively, can only be explained on the hypothesis that the *entente* between Russia and the Central League is not so cordial and trustworthy as heretofore, or, it may be, General Kuropatkin, who is a soldier-Statesman, given to reckoning with all manner of future possibilities, and taking precautionary precautionary measures accordingly, deems it expedient to be prepared for any untoward complication which may ultimately arise out of the Chinese imbroglio.

The death of Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein, the eldest son of Prince and Princess Christian and a grandson of the Queen is universally deplored. The news was received on Oct. 29th from Pretoria in a telegram stating that his Highness had died from enteric fever. It was previously announced by the War Office that Prince Christian Victor was suffering from enteric fever, and Princess Christian, who was at Cumberland Lodge, was kept well-informed of her son's condition. He was reported to be "not so well," and though grave anxiety was caused, the announcement of his death was not expected, and came as a great shock. It is understood that by the special desire of Her Majesty and of Prince and Princess Christian the public announcement was delayed for a short time in order to avoid throwing any gloom over the festivities connected with the reception of the City Imperial Volunteers. Princess Christian was preparing to leave Cumberland Lodge for London to witness the Volunteers march through the streets when the sad tidings were conveyed to Her Royal Highness, who immediately cancelled all her engagements. The late Prince, in accordance with his wish, was buried at Pretoria. Prince Christian Victor, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., was the eldest son of Prince Christian and Princess Helena Augusta Victoria, second daughter of Her Majesty. He was born on April 14, 1867, and was educated at Wellington College and Magdalen College, Oxford, and afterwards at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. He was Captain and Brevet-Major of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, and was Knight of Justice of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England. He had seen twelve years' service in the Army, and had taken part in the Hazara Expedition (1891), Expedition (1891), and in the Asazai Expedition (1892). He also served with the Soudan Expedition in 1898 and was present at the battle of Omdurman. He was several times mentioned in dispatches.

Writing of the home coming of the C.I.V.'s an eye witness said:—Some extraordinary scenes were witnessed as the regiment wended its way through the surging crowds in the streets. The day began in peace and brightness and good will and good organization at Southampton; it ended, if indeed it can be said to have ended at all, in darkness and confusion and mismanagement, and in many serious accidents. Very rarely indeed does a London crowd so misconduct itself as to spoil its own enjoyment, but when it does misbehave there is no holding it; and this was one of those occasions. To put the story of the day into a sentence, all went merry as a marriage bell until the procession was beginning to emerge from Pall mall, but then, at the bottom of Waterloo-place, the crowd got out of hand, and it was worse again at Charing-cross, and in the end mob and military and police became a huddled mass through which the men whom London delighted to honour fought their way in single file and anyhow to the City. The police were helpless, the Volunteers told off to line the route were worse than useless, and the situation was every now and then rendered dangerous in the extreme by the rushes of rowdy people, who eventually blocked the whole of Fleet-street from end to end. The police passes issued by the Commissioner were of no avail whatever. The policemen themselves were hustled about in the crowd as if they had no authority or responsibility. The Volunteers were too much occupied in trying to find standing-room for their sisters, cousins, and aunts to afford the least protection to the general public, or to clear the way for the home-coming soldiers. The spectacle presented by the C.I.V. as they forged their way in single file down Fleet-street, some with fixed bayonets, some with no bayonets at all, and all carrying their rifles at a slant of their own choosing, was, to the least, pitiable.

The comments of the foreign newspapers on the Anglo-German Agreement make good reading, remarks the *Saturday Review*. Russian papers according as the humour takes them, represent England either as the creature of Germany, or Germany as the creature of England from the time when she supported the claim to pay the Sudan Expedition out of the funds of the Egyptian Exchequer, down to her unexpected refusal to fulfil the hopes raised by the Emperor William's telegram to ex-President Kruger. In France M. Méline's bitterness against the Government is shown in the *Republique* by an article representing the Agreement as the triumph of English diplomacy over the French disposition to establish a Franco-German entente, not, of course, against Russia, but against England. According to this view the German Emperor has received "full libery to satiate his conquering ambition in China" on the terms of giving up Mr. Kruger. The two "Imperialisms" British and German have for their programme war and annexations: a German China in Shantung or Peking: an English China in the Yang-tsze Valley.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Dec. 8th:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	18,584,900
Amount of convertible notes issued	193,551,021
Government deposits	35,671,347
General deposits	4,565,572
Exchange liability	31,274
Total	282,394,021
Cr.	
Discount notes	61,594,610
Foreign discount notes	13,349,100
Loan to Government	29,000,000
General loans	55,276,370
Exchange liability	2,420,634
Government bonds	52,471
Property	2,233,184
Bullion and Specie	66,041,712
Total	282,394,021

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	195,185,647
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	62,208,842
Silver	2,500,000
Total	64,708,842
Securities:—	
Government bonds	27,465,204
Government certificates	29,000,000
Government bills	10,212,537
Commercial notes	63,798,111
Total	130,476,852

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold		93,—
Silver	—	
General loans	—	422,[illegible]
Government deposits	1,143,681	—
General deposits	413,928	—

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THE DIRECT EXPORT OF PORCELAIN.

The *Keizai Zasshi* publishes some interesting facts in regard to the export of porcelain and earthenware from Japan. The amount of export, it remarks, seems to increase by about 10 per cent. annually. In the 23rd year of *Meiji* the total export did not exceed 1,240,000 *yen* in value, but last year the figure had swelled to 2,180,000 *yen*. Nevertheless, as there is a considerable discrepancy in prices between the two years mentioned, the figures for last year can not be directly regarded as showing a double increase in quantity, though the value has actually doubled.

At any rate, however, the trade in porcelain is making gradual progress year by year, as may be gathered from the statistics available. Yet it is curious to observe that the increase in the export has not influenced domestic manufacture in a corresponding degree. The total output in the 23rd year of *Meiji* was valued at 2,880,000 *yen* of which 1,240,000 *yen* worth, or 43 per cent., was exported. By the 30th year the output had increased to 5,160,000 *yen*, but the export did not exceed 1,810,000 *yen* or 35 per cent. From these facts it may be inferred that the volume of export did not keep pace with the manufacture in the interior—a phenomenon which must inspire observers with feelings of regret. What may be the cause of this? Is it owing to a loss of reputation over the domestic manufactures, or to the diminution of the foreign demand for them? Neither of these assumptions is justifiable, for no information has ever been received from abroad which is likely to impair the reputation of Japanese porcelain. The fact is simply this, that Japanese productions were ousted from the foreign market by superior manufactures from Dresden and other places, in the natural course of competition. There is no reason, asserts our contemporary, to suppose, that Japanese porcelain is unable to compete with European manufactures either in value or quality. The evil lies in the indirect export of products, which entails heavy charges before they can reach their destination, the consequence being that they have to be sold at higher prices. A few remarks may be necessary on this point. It may be extremely difficult or even impossible for porcelain manufacturers to produce wares which are exactly the same as samples. Nevertheless, the process hitherto adopted by foreign firms, under the name of *kaiken* (inspection), tends to increase the number of wares disqualified for acceptance, in order that they may be bought at a reduction of 20 or 30 per cent. At the time of export these wares are labelled with the same prices as those accepted because corresponding to samples. This process may secure a large profit, but it is all the same a gross injustice. As to the period of manufacture, also, delay is inevitable, and there will be considerable difficulty in hastening deliveries. Apart from these facts another point has to be noticed. It refers to the commission usually squeezed by *bantos* or Japanese clerks in the employ of foreign firms. They have been accustomed to exact 2 per cent. as their fees, and 3 per cent. more is required for packing. Consequently 5 per cent. extra has to be added to the original value of the manufactures, and by so much the sale price has to be increased as compared with the case of direct export.

In America fashions are extremely changeable, and porcelain producers ought to direct their attention to this point in selecting the forms of, and paintings on, porcelain. So long, however, as the present system of sales is maintained it is impossible to become acquainted before February, with the fashions which began to appear about the time of Christmas. By undertaking direct export, all these peculiarities may be known one month earlier than has hitherto been the case.

As things now stand, the selling prices of porcelain have necessarily to be raised and the manufactures, when completed, are out of fashion. Abolish the present system of transactions, and there will be a 5 per cent. gain in the original value, and this may be appropriated for the improvement of quality or for reduction of the selling price, so as to secure for the commodity a footing for competition with foreign productions.

In view of these circumstances applications have been received from several merchants in New York and London, intimating through the Agricultural and Commercial Department or the Chamber of Commerce their desire to open transactions direct.

In this country the direct export of porcelain is undertaken by the Morimura firm only, because other dealers in porcelain are unable to start similar undertakings on account of the want of suitable machinery for accommodation. The failure of the Arai firm and others is in itself a fit illustration of this point, as they found it impossible to carry on their trade without the aid of institutions whence to obtain financial assistance. As a matter of fact foreign orders may be duly executed by obtaining advances on the security of the goods to be shipped, but this procedure entails no small trouble and inconvenience, on account of the reluctance of the banks to issue loans through fear of damage, to which porcelain is supposed to be greatly liable. Also buyers are unwilling to give to manufacturers credits by which the latter may secure a loan at the Yokohama banks at the rate of 7.0 per cent. on the original value. Thus, at home, the apprehension of bankers as to the risks appertaining to porcelain, and abroad, and want of confidence on the part of domestic manufacturers have virtually deterred the inauguration of a programme by which direct export may be promoted. Our contemporary condemns the Specie Bank in Yokohama on the ground that it ignores the principles of business in refusing to give accommodation to porcelain manufacturers, on the plea that the enterprise is attended with serious risks. Nothing can be more unjustifiable, asserts the *Keizai Zasshi*, than such a precaution.

Improvement in the method of packing, and more discretion exercised in loading and unloading the goods have considerably diminished the number of instances in which serious damage was sustained, the amount of loss at present being limited to 2 or 3 per cent. It is to be desired that the Specie Bank, setting aside all the prejudices it has hitherto entertained, should inaugurate a system of exchanges for export goods, in the interests of the porcelain industry in Japan.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

ENGAGING DE WET.

Shanghai, Dec. 14.

It is officially reported that General Knox is having a running fight with De Wet, who is moving on Reddersburg, where a column is ready to intercept him.

NEW PEERS.

Mr. G. J. Goschen and Sir Mathew White Ridley have been raised to the peerage.

PARLIAMENT.

It is expected that Parliament will be prorogued on Saturday.

INTER-UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL.

Oxford has beaten Cambridge at Rugby (football) by 10 points to 8.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

Shanghai, Dec. 16.

The Washington Senate has adopted an amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty, securing to America the defensive control of the Nicaragua Canal

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

Parliament will re-assemble on the 12th February.

A BOER SUCCESS.

Two thousand five hundred Boers under Delarey and Deyers attacked General Clements at Noordevetcht. The first attack was repulsed but the second was more successful, and General Clements retired to Petkjoort. The fighting was very severe. Colonel Legge, of the 20th Hussars, and Captains McLean, of the Dublin Fusiliers, Murdoch, of the Cameronians, and Atkins, of the Wiltshires, were killed.

THE MAGALIESBERG FIGHTING.

Shanghai, Dec. 17.

It is officially reported that General Clements retired unopposed to Commandonek. Five officers and nine men were killed and eighteen officers and 555 men are missing, including four companies of the Northumberlands.

A considerable amount of transport was lost.

The Boer losses were heavy

Five officers and 310 men have since been released by the Boers

MORE TROOPS CAPTURED.

The Boers surrounded and captured 120 of Brabant's Horse in a defile in the Lastron (?) district.

DEWET AGAIN ESCAPES.

Although a portion of De Wet's force is unable to pass the British lines at Thabanchu, his main body has escaped.

ANOTHER OFFICER KILLED.

Colonel Gawn, of the Lancasters, has been killed at Vryheid.

PARLIAMENT PROROGUED.

Parliament has been prorogued.

GERMAN TRAINING SHIP LOST.

Shanghai, Dec. 18.

The German training frigate *Guisenau* has sunk at Malaga. A hundred lives were lost.

CLEMENTS' REVERSE.

General Clements also lost six officers and forty-five men wounded.

While Clements was defending the camp the main Boer force surrounded the Northumberlands, who were driven to the edge of a precipice. Many died fighting though their ammunition was exhausted.

BOERS ENTER CAPE COLONY.

Shanghai, Dec. 19.

The Boers have entered Cape Colony after crossing the Orange River. They encountered the Cape Rifles and Brabant's Horse, who retired with some loss.

CHINA "LOOT" SEIZED IN FRANCE.

Forty cases of loot collected by General Frey in China have been seized at Marseilles by order of the Government who do not consider them as prizes of war.

THE DUKE OF YORK.

The Duke of York will visit Singapore *en route* for Australia.

THE "GUISENAU" DISASTER.

One hundred and thirty-six persons were drowned in the wreck of the *Guisenau*.

AMERICA AND THE CHINA QUESTION.

Mr. Secretary Hay has cabled fresh instructions to Mr. Conger at Peking removing the obstacles, and making it probable that all the Ministers will sign the Note.

FRANCE AND CHINESE LOOT.

Shanghai, Dec. 20.

France has restored to China everything taken from her by the French soldiers, except war material.

THE OUTLOOK IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The service at St. Paul's Cathedral in honour of Lord Roberts' return has been abandoned and the thanksgiving deferred until the operations in South Africa are concluded.

Lord Salisbury, addressing the Union of Conservative Associations, said that he was speaking at a time of some anxiety without knowing exactly what had taken place. The glory of our empire rests on the issue of the great enterprise (now being conducted in South Africa), wherein Great Britain must spare no effort to achieve success.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

FRENCH NEWS

Saigon, Dec. 13.

The Chamber of Deputies, after a discussion which lasted a month, has adopted the project of reform on beverages, freeing from duty hygienic beverages (wines, beers and ciders), and raising to 220 francs the duty upon alcohols and spirits.

The Netherlands Government has declared to Mr. Kruger that it was impossible for it to take the initiative in an arbitration.

THE MAGALIESBERG DISASTER.

Saigon, Dec. 16.

The English lost at Magaliesberg 14 killed and 570 wounded or missing.

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CHINA.

Saigon, Dec. 17.

It is telegraphed from Peking that an Imperial decree has been issued conferring full powers upon Li Hung-chang and Prince Ching.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

Saigon, Dec. 15.

The Chamber of Deputies has adopted the first article of the project of amnesty relating to the facts connected with the Dreyfus affair, with the exception of the facts of espionage and treason.

THE BOER WAR.

The Boers have driven General Clements from Megaliesberg, killing five officers.

GERMAN FRIGATE WRECKED.

Saigon, Dec. 18.

The German frigate *Guisenau*, of the Mousses School, has foundered at the entry to the port of Malaga. About 100 persons were drowned, and forty suffered injuries.

THE "GNEISNAU."

Saigon, Dec. 19.

The number of victims in the *Gneisnau* shipwreck does not exceed forty.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Saigon, Dec. 20.

The Chamber of Deputies, in a night's session, has adopted, after a lively discussion, the project of amnesty, and also granted amnesty to the facts of the action of strikes and association.

TROUBLE IN ALGERIA.

There are anti-Semite troubles in Algeria.

SOUTH-EASTERN CHINA.

News from Peking says that Prince Ching and the Viceroy Li have given assurances to M. Pichon that the movements of troops on the Indo-Chinese frontier applied entirely to the movements of brigands.

(Received in Tokyo.)

THE CZAR.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 15.

His Majesty the Russian Emperor is now convalescent, and will return shortly to St. Petersburg.

RUSSIA AND THE EXPORT OF ARMS.

Vladivostock.

By an Imperial Decree of the 4th of August the Russian Government interdicted the export of arms, ammunition and provisions across the frontier to China. The Decree was promulgated in the Semi-official *Gazette* at Vladivostock on the 25th of November.

SWITZERLAND.

Vienna, Dec. 17.

The Swiss Federal Assembly has elected Mr. S. Brenner to be President for the year 1901, and Mr. Chempu (?) to be Vice-President.

(From "The Ostasiatische Lloyd.")

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Berlin, Dec. 7.

The German Minister at Tokyo, Count Leyden, will not return to his post at Tokyo. He will be succeeded by Count Arco-Valley, while Count Leyden has been appointed Minister at Stockholm to replace Wallaitz, who goes to Brussels. Count Arco-Valley was heretofore Minister at Rio Janeiro, where he will be succeeded by Baron Treutler., who was two years ago secretary of the German Ligation at Tokyo.

At the Weser dockyard near Bremen a new cruiser has been launched and christened the *Medusa*.

The murderer and robber Goenczy has been executed at Berlin.

Berlin, Dec. 10.

Queen Wilhelmina of Holland received to-day President Krüger in a long audience.

The news that De Wet has surrendered is expected here from one hour to the other: his situation is desperate.

The prospects that the Reichstag will grant the amounts asked by the German government for the China expedition, are very good. A great majority of the committee, to which the matter was referred, takes up the same position as the government. The formal decision, however, will not be arrived at this year, as the committee has adjourned until after New Year.

The Prussian diet will be convened on January the 14th.

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

Peking, Dec. 9.

Yiko, one of Li Hung-chang's secretaries, a Manchu official of the Grand Secretariat, was arrested here to-day by order of the Commander-in-Chief. There is evidence that Yiko was in communication with the Boxers.

The Allies have now appointed a committee to take charge of the administration of Peking.

Fifty ships are ice-bound at and off Taku.

Peking, Dec. 13.

On the 10th inst. a number of mounted couriers were attacked by an overwhelming force of Boxers about eight miles north of Hosiwu. The couriers fled towards that place, where a picket to guard the communications was stationed.

The picket on receiving their information, at once advanced toward the place, where they found a force of about 1,000 Boxers, whom they at once attacked. The Boxers standing the picket was at first repulsed, but upon opening a murderous rifle fire the Boxers retired.

The next morning the Hosiwu garrison, reinforced by that at Matou, renewed the attack, completely dispersing the Boxer forces. Several Boxers villages were then attacked and taken possession of.

The losses on the Chinese side are reported to be very heavy, while among the attacking forces there were no deaths.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

GERMAN TROOPS IN ACTION.

Tientsin, Dec. 14.

The Germans have routed General Mei's force at Tsangchou. They looted his baggage and killed 43 men.

[There must have been some misunderstanding, or something must have happened that has not as yet reached us, to make the Germans attack General Mei; perhaps a misconception similar to that which led an English force to attack another Chinese General the other day. General Mei has been one of Yuan Shih-kai's right-hand men; he has been noted for his vigour in suppressing Boxers, guarding the Shantung frontier, and protecting missions, and it would seem that the German Commander has been misinformed by his interpreters or guides.]

MAIL NEWS.

NEW P.M. PRESIDENT.

New York, November 21.

The board of directors of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company held a meeting to-day, at which Charles H. Tweed, James Speyer and Ogden Mills were elected directors in place of George J. Gould, Samuel Thomas and Henry Hart, resigned. Mr. Tweed was elected president of the company on motion of Mr. Harris.

The Southern Pacific interest considered the name of Mr. Schwerin, vice-president and general manager of the company, in connection with the presidency, but it was deemed preferable by all concerned, including Mr. Schwerin, that the president should reside in New York, where the board of directors is located. Mr. Schwerin remains vice-president and general manager of the company, with headquarters in San Francisco.

CONGER'S APPROACHING RETIREMENT.

Washington, Nov. 24.

It is not probable that Edwin H. Conger will continue to represent the United States as Minister to China. His resignation or recall is expected shortly. The reason ascribed is ill-health. Conger has been under intense strain ever since the Boxer uprising began, and during the trying times of the insurrection in Peking he was subject to experiences so harrowing that it is not at all surprising that his health has broken. Some time ago it was said Conger might take a vacation and return to this country for rest and recuperation. It is understood, however, that as a result of his distressing experiences during the last few months Conger's health is so far destroyed that he is practically incapacitated for continued service in a diplomatic capacity—at least until after an extended period of rest and recreation.

It is not the purpose of the State Department forcibly to displace Conger if he should wish to remain Minister to China, but it is believed that he will welcome an intimation that the State Department is willing for him to retire to private life and seek in domestic quiet to restore his shattered nerves. There is no intimation here as to the name of Conger's probable successor.

KITCHENER'S POLICY.

New York, November 24.

A cable to the *Sun* from London says:—The London newspaper publishers have not yet been informed that Lord Kitchener has decided to expel correspondents from the scene of war, but the meagre and colourless dispatches now being received present strong evidence that he is enforcing in a modified form his Omdurman edict. The telegrams cease to mention the details of compulsory pacification on which the former Sirdar is engaged. His chief task now is to prevent the Dutch in Cape Colony from learning the details of farm burnings and the deportations of families. The latter are now sent to Natal when they are not confined in garrison towns in the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony.

The nerve tension which compelled Sir Alfred Milner, the High Commissioner in South Africa, to seek a few days' voyage away from dispatches has been more severe since the big operations at Lydenburg failed and left the end of the war as far off as ever. A friend who has just returned to England says Milner has been under fearful anxiety for a year past lest the big Dutch rising in Cape Colony should extend to the suburbs of Cape Town. Officers from the front tell him there will be fighting for three years yet.

Confidants of the Government are aware of the black outlook in South Africa, but say the Government will support Lord Kitchener to any length if he will only make the country habitable for refugees, reopen the mines and abate the war expenditures, which are still nearly £1,000,000 weekly.

A cable to the *Sun* from Cape Town says:—It is reported that a secret meeting of Afrikanders was held at Robertson, Cape Colony, thirty miles from Worcester, on the Cape Central Railway, yesterday, and that a number of those present pledged themselves to support the Dutch cause whenever called upon to do so.

London, November 24.

The forthcoming promotion of Major-General Lord Kitchener to a Lieutenant-Generalship elicits from Charles Williams, one of the leaders of the war critics, the bitterest indictment of that General ever published in England. He declares that General Kitchener meditates a reckless and ruthless extermination of the Boers, hoping to execute his atrocities amid silence like that of the tomb of the Mahdi. He believes the British officers and men will not endure this, and that Kitchener will stand revealed to the country as a scourge inexorable.

Mr Williams apologizes to Satan for mentioning him in the same breath with Kitchener, and maintains that the return of several general officers and the removal of General Kelly-Kenny from Bloemfontein confirms the suspicion that they would have nothing to do with Kitchener's dirty work.

It is almost needless to say that this bitter attack by no means represents the average opinion.

EXPENSIVE STOCK.

New York, November 25.

A cable to the *World* from London says:—One freehold share of the New River Water Company, which supplies the whole of East and North London with water, has been sold at auction for $600,000. The New River Company monopoly has been in existence since the time of James I, who sold the rights for $2500 per annum. This share last year brought an income of $15,000, but there is an early prospect of an immense increase in the value of the company's property, as the leases of New River real estate are falling in and the rents will be doubled. The share sold at auction was purchased by an insurance company.

BRITISH BARBARISM.

London, November 26.

Robert William Hanbury, president of the Board of Agriculture, addressing his constituents at Preston this evening and referring to Krüger's complaint of "British barbarism," said:—"This is no time for paltering with the dying embers of the Boer rebellion for rebellion it now is, and it must be stamped out vigorously."

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MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinzess Irene 1	Sa. Dec. 22
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 2	Tu. Dec. 25
Hongkong	M. M. Co.	Tamise	—
Hongkong	C. P. R Co.	Em. of Japan 3	Th. Dec. 27
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H kong Maru 4	Sa. Dec. 29
America	P M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro 5	W. Jan. 2
Hongkong	P M Co	China	Sa. Jan. 5
America	O & O Co.	Coptic	Th. Jan. 10
Canada, &c.	C P R. Co.	Em. of India	M Jan. 14
Hongkong	O & O. Co.	Doric	M Jan. 14

1 Left Kobe on the 21st inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 6th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 19th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 19th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 14th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa Dec. 22
Shanghai	N. Y K.	Sakio Maru	W. Dec. 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	W. Dec. 26
Canada, &c	C P R Co.	Em of Japan	F. Dec. 28
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Prinzess Irene	Sa. Dec 29
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu. Jan. 1
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Th. Jan. 3
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Tamise	F. Jan. 4
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu. Jan. 8
Hongkong	O & O Co.	Coptic	F. Jan 11
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em of India	M Jan. 14

CHESS.

(All communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor of the *Japan Mail*, No. 51, Main Street, Yokohama.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 502.

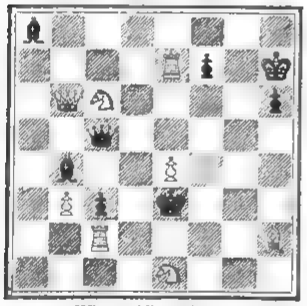
This problem seems to be hopelessly wrong. A correction is given by the publishing journal, namely, "Black R, instead of White, on K R 6," but as there is no Rook on K R 6, we must ask our readers to omit the problem.

PROBLEM No. 504.

By BARON WARDENER.

Second Prize *Tägliche Rundschau* Tourney.

Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.
White mates in two moves.

GAME No. 647.

One of a series of games played between C. Schlechter and Dr. Tarrasch during the former's short visit to Nuremberg on his way home after the Munich Tournament. The game is characteristic of Herr Schlechter's elegant and unostentatious style.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—C. Schlechter. Black Dr. Tarrasch.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	14 Q Ksq	Kt Q4
2 P QB4	P K3	15 R Qsq	Q B2
3 Kt QB3	P QB4	16 BxKt	PxB
4 Kt B3	BPxP	17 Kt K3	B R6
5 KKtxP	Kt QB3	18 KtxP	Q B5
6 P KKt3	Kt B3	19 Q Q2	K Kt2
7 B Kt2	B Kt5	20 KtxP	Q B3
8 Castles	BxKt	21 Q Kt5ch	K Rsq
9 PxB	Castles	22 R Q5	Q B7
10 B Kt5	Kt K2	23 Q R4	B B4
11 BxKt	PxB	24 P K4	B Kt3
12 PxP	KtxP	25 R KR5	Resigns
13 Kt B5	KtxP		

3.....P to Q B 4 is Dr. Tarrasch's favourite defence, which he tried against Schlechter probably not because convinced of its efficacy, but with a view of testing it. The pith of the defence is 4—B P takes P, K P takes P; 5—P takes P, Kt to K B 3; 6—B to Kt 5, B takes P; 7—P to K 3, B to K 3, with a good game. Schlechter, however, plays 4—Kt to B 3, followed by the King's Fianchetto, and after the short skirmish in the centre he had the better game, the advantage accentuating itself after 13—Kt to B 5!—the latter move being the initiative of a subtle combination the depth of which Dr. Tarrasch perceived too late, for he thought of breaking the attack by threatening to win the Exchange with 17.. ...B to R 6; but eventually he could not capture the Rook, for White replied with the powerful 19—B to Q 2, and then Black's game could no more be saved. After 20—Kt takes P Black's moves are forced; a succession of pretty moves follow, the prettiest being 24—P to K 4. If 24..... B takes P, then 25—Kt takes B, Q takes Kt; 26—Q to B 6 ch, Kt to Kt sq; 27—R to Kt5 ch and wins. A move latter Black resigns; for if 25 .....K to Kt2, then 26—R takes P ch, B takes R; 27—Q takes B ch, K takes Kt, 28—P to K5 ch, and Q takes Q.

GAME No. 648.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White—Marshall Black—Hymes.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P Q4	P Q4	31 Kt R6	R B
2 P QB4	P K3	32 R Kt7ch	K B
3 Kt QB3	Kt KB3	33 Kt B5	Kt Q
4 B Kt5	B K2	34 R Q7	K Kt
5 P K3	Castles	35 P B4	P R3
6 Kt B3	QKt Q2	36 P Kt4	K R2
7 B Q3	PxP	37 K K4	K Kt
8 BxP	Kt Kt3	38 P B5	PxPch
9 B Q3	KKt Q4	39 PxP	Kt B2
10 BxB	QxB	40 K Q5	P R4
11 Castles	KtxKt	41 Kt K6	R B7
12 PxKt	Kt Q2	42 R R7	RxP
13 R Kt	P QKt3	43 R R8ch	K R2
14 B K4	R Kt	44 RxP	P R5
15 Q R4	P QR4	45 R B5	R B7
16 B B6	R Q	46 K B6	P R6
17 Q Kt5	Q Q3	47 R B3	P R7
18 P K4	B R3	48 R R3ch	K Kt
19 P K5	BxQ	49 P R5	RxP
20 PxQ	BxR	50 P R6	R QR4
21 PxP	KR QB	51 K Kt6	R R2
22 PxR (Q)	KtxQ	52 P R7	R Kt7ch
23 KxB	RxB	53 K B7	R B7ch
24 Kt K5	BxP	54 Kt B5	R R7
25 RxP	R B	55 K Kt	RxP
26 K K2	P B3	56 KxR	Kt Kt4
27 Kt Q3	Kt B3	57 RxRP	Kt B6
28 K K3	R B2	58 P Q8	KtxR
29 P QR4	K B2	59 P Q6	Resigns.
30 Kt B5	K K2		

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,796, H. Peterson, 14th Dec.,—Uraga, 13th Dec., Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 14th Dec.,—Hakodate, 11th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, M. Nishimura, 14th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, 8th Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, U. Matsumoto, 14th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 15th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 14th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 15th Dec.,—Kobe, 13th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 15th Dec.,—Hongkong, 10th Dec., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, K. Machida, 16th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 15th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, De La Lande, 16th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinz Heinrich, German steamer, 3,902, R. Heintze, 17th Dec.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 16th Dec., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 17th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S. Kawamuro, 18th Dec.,—Kobe, 16th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 18th Dec.,—Kobe, 16th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 18th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 28th Nov., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 18th Dec.,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 19th Dec.,—Vancouver, B.C., 6th Dec., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Lindula, British steamer, 2,180, W. L. Stewart, 19th Dec.,—Madras via ports, and Manila, 12th Dec., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Japan, British steamer, 2,793, G. K. Wright, 19th Dec.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 18th Dec., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Achilles, British steamer, 4,483, R. J. Brown, 19th Dec.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 18th Dec., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Skarpsno, Norwegian steamer, 1,140, Tillefsen, 19th Dec.,—Portland, Oreg, via Bonin Islands, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hero, Norwegian steamer, 2,418, Syvertsen, 19th Dec.,—Hongkong via Moji and Kobe, 19th Dec., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yangtsze, British steamer, 4,148, H. L. Allen, 20th Dec.,—Glasgow via ports, and Kobe, 19th Dec., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, I. Noma, 20th December, —Kobe, 18th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 20th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 20th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 19th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Y. Yamanouchi, 20th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakuma, 14th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,039, N. Tate, 14th Dec.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, G. E. P. Cook, 15th Dec.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 15th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 15th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wittenburg, German steamer, 2,363, Hempel, 15th Dec.,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Ilhes & Co.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, U. Matsumoto, 16th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alsterdamm, German ship, 3,336, A. Cords, 16th Dec.,—Tacoma, Wash., Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, K. Machida, 17th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 17th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 17th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 17th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, Y. Kishi, 17th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Muramatsu, 18th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, Dec. 19th,—Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 18th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 19th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Mazagon, British steamer, 3,280, R. S. L. Cook, 18th Dec.,—Bombay via Kobe, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Nishimura, 19th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 19th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 20th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, from Shanghai via ports;—Mrs. H. Ross, Mr. A. Glover, Mr. Webster, and Mr. T. Yoshizaki, in cabin; Mrs. Y. Sakai, Mrs. T. Yoshikawa, Mrs. M. Tamenari, and 1 Chinese, in second class; 9 Japanese and 3 Chinese, in steerage.

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Per American steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong.—Mr. A. Allsen, Mr. P. Olsen, Mr. S. Samuels, Mr. L. Johansen, and Mr. N. Hansen, in second class, 43 Chinese, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, from Europe via ports:—Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. A. Churchill, Mr. M. Komura, Dr. Macaulay, Mr. Geo. R. Gregg, Miss F. Bringle, Mr. M. C. Wartenberg, Mr. Helmke, Mr. R. Hyrma, Mr. Krants, and 15 Marines, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. E. de Bavier, Mrs. F. R. Greene, Miss F. Lichtenberg, Capt. L. Dobrotvorsky, Mr. M. M. Kuhn, Mr. K. Yamamoto, Mr. R. J. Dunlop, Mrs. R. J. Dunlop, Miss L. Dunlop, Mr. E. C. Houston, Mrs. Houston and maid, and Mr. S. Hirata, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss L. L. Hunt, Mr R. Inglis, Mrs. E. C. Perrault, and Mr. J. H. Rolker, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. A. Forrest, Mr. M. F. Loewenstein, Mr. C. B. Moss, Mr. J. A. Maingay, Mr. C. H. Scott, Mr. A. B. Switzer, and Mr. C. L. Wong, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. Burchfield, Mr. A. Cameron, Mrs. A. Cameron, Mr. W. E. Clark, Mr. A. R. Dorr, Mrs. R. Dorr, Miss Ada Dorr, Miss Bessie Dorr, Dr. J. Donelan, Mr. E. W. George, Mr. Y. Komura, Mr. B. Kobayashi, Mr. L. A. Line, Mr. Marshall, Mrs. Marshall, Dr. Eliz. Reifsnyder, Mr. Jas. Rankin, and Mr. S. Tamura, in cabin; 6, intermediate; 520, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Japan*, from London via ports:—Dr. W. Vincent, and Mr. W. R. Yule, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rinduda*, from Madras via ports:—Mr. R. Misaka, Mr. J. Yasui, and Mr. L. M. Norcross, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Rosetta Maru*, for Sydney, via ports:—Mr. C. D. James, Mr. L. H. Esdil, Mr. M. Yagi, Mr. G. Murayama, Miss N. Watanabe, Mr. S. Krebs, Mr. C. Tobei, Mr. M. Miyazaki, Mr. H. Turson, and Mr. L. H. Tapley, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Honolulu.—Mr. G. E. Betts, Dr. A. Bevan, Mr. W. H. Becker, Mr. A. F. Chamot and valet, Mrs. A. F. Chamot, Mr. Howard Fallon, Mr. S. O. Friede, Mr. J. Goodnow, Mrs. J. Goodnow, Mr. E. Hartman, Miss E. Henshall, Mr. Geo. Lynch, Mr. A. Mailhot, Mrs. H. McCarthy, Mr. Eugene McCarthy, Mr. H. H. Morrell, Lt.-Col. L. M. O'Brien, U.S.A., Miss E. Ridley, Lieut. Chas. Rodler, Mrs. Chas. Rodler, Mr. J. H. Rosenthal, Master Pierre Smith, Mr. C. Y. Spearing, Mr. Fred. Wright, and Mrs. Fred. Wright, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinano Maru*, for London via ports:—Major Chas. Morton, Mr. M. Soga, Major T. Machida, Lieut. N. Date, Mr. C. Bennecke, Chief Eng. K. Miyazawa, and Mr. H. Baker, and Mr. A. McDowell, in cabin; Mrs. I. Inouye, Mr. and Mrs. Kato, Mr. K. Takagi, Mr. George Jones, and Mr. and Mrs. Monshita, in second class.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong and ports:—Mr. F. J. Abbott, Mr. E. de Bavier, Capt. L. Dobrotvorsky, Mrs. Geo. Eckley, Capt. O. W. Farenholt, U.S.N., Mrs. A. Forrest, Mr. P. H. R. Goedkoop, Mr. B. T. Horsey, Miss L. L. Hunt, Mr. L. Goldman, Mr. R. Inglis, Mr. J. A. Maingay, Mr. F. R. Moss, Mrs. E. C. Perrault, Mr. W. H. Ray, Mr. J. H. Rolker, Mr. C. H. Scott, Mr. M. F. Lowenstein, Mr. A. R. Switzer, Mrs. E. B. C. Wallace, Mr. W. A. White, Mr. C. L. Wong, and Mr. P. H. Wootton, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Miss A. Glolen, Capt. K. Fujioka, Capt. and Mrs. Takeshita, Mr. Webster, Mr. Holliday, Mr. T. Nakanishi, and Mr. Rosashin, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Smith, Miss R. M. Smith, Mr. B. W. Smith, Miss Robinson, Mr. Wm. Launder, Miss D. Harris, Mr. A. G. Hudson, Mr. F. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Hardcastle, Mr. Pinckard, Mr. F. Knight, Miss Knight, Mrs. E. H. Sharp, Prof. E. H. Sharp, Capt. Thos. R. Marshall, Mr. J. D. Bishop and native servant, Prof. Dr. Crusen, Mr. Kashimoto, Mr. R. Finch, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuska, and Mrs. George and amah, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Lindula*, for Rangoon and Madras, via Manila.—Mrs. Alfred, Mrs. C. E. Alfred, Mrs. Spratling and infant, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Goodrich, Mr. H. Kinman, and Mr. C. Hamilton in cabin, and one Japanese in steerage.

EXPECTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kanagawa Maru*, from London via ports:—Mr. M. Tezuka, Mr. F. S. James, Mrs. James, Miss James, Miss Dodds, Hts Ex. S. Kurino, Madame Kurino, Master S. Kurino, Master Y. Kurino, Mr. K. Henmi, Mr. J. Onishi, Mr. Westerveld, Mr. H. Hiroki, Mr. H. Motoda, Lieut.-Col. O. Yeto, and Major T. Hayashi, in cabin; Miss T. Murayama, Miss N. Kanta, Mr. H. Idzuka, Mr. O. Kawakami, Mrs. S. Kawakami, Mr. Y. Sato, Mr B. Nakamura, and Mr. N. Ashihara, in second class; 13 Japanese, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Preussen*, from Europe via ports.—Mr. W. Samson, Mr. Kirchner, Dr. T. Endo, Mr. Hans Sobotka, Mr. Robert Cordes, and Mr. J. Fiscus, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business is of the very smallest proportions.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE	
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	¥	2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches		4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches		2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches		3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.	0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannels	¥	0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.		0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches		0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 36 inches		0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches		0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches		0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb.		0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches		9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches		0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24 25 yards, 30 inches		2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24 25 yards, 32 inches		2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE	
Nos 16 24, Singles	¥	150.00 to 155.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles		Nominal
Nos 38 42, Singles		Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles		190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 42, Doubles		190.00 to 200.00
Nos 2 60, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2 80, Plain		Nominal
Nos 2 100, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2 60, Gassed		295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2, 80, Gassed		360.00 to 390.00
Nos 2, 100, Gassed		Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling		30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach		Nominal
Chinese		

METALS.

A small business has been done in iron and steel bars and in galvanised sheets, at low prices.

	PER PICUL	
Round and square ½ inch and upward	¥	5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted		5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron		6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets		12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted		7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box		7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3		2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (¾ to 1½ inch)		6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

Large deliveries are taking place but prices are unchanged.

American	$2 84
Russian	2.68
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

The market is steady and some 15,000 bags Hongkong refined have changed hands at quotations.

	PER PICUL	
Brown Takao	¥	5.30 to 6.00
Brown Manila		5 70 to 6.90
Brown Datung		4.30 to 5.50
Brown Canton		5 50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang		7.30 to 8.70
White Refined		8.30 to 9.95

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

After the activity recorded last week there has been a lull and the market is quiet, with prices weak.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine		None
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	¥	950 to 960
Filatures—No. 1, Fine		900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse		820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine		850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse		800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, Fine		820 to 830
Filatures—No 2, Coarse		None
Common—Coarse		None
Re-reels—Extra		Nominal
Re reels—No. 1		780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 1½		760 to 770
Re-reels—No. 2		740 to 750
Re reels—No. 3		None
Kakedas—Extra		None
Kakedas—No. 1		810 to 820
Kakedas—No 1½		790 to 800
Kakedas—No 2		760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2½		750 to 760

WASTE SILK.

The market is very quiet and prices are firm.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	155 to	160
Noshi—Filatures, Good	145 to	150
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	150 to	155
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	140 to	145
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	None	
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	110 to	115
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	100 to	105
Noshi—Bushiu, Best		
Noshi—Bushiu, Good		
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium		
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	100 to	110
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	90 to	95
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	130 to	135
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	120 to	125
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	55 to	60
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	45 to	50

TEA.

There is nothing doing; there are no arrivals, and the market is practically closed.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	34 to 35
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	26 to 27
Good Common	24 to 25
Common	22 to 23

COPPER.

No fresh business has been reported.

FISH OIL.

Shipments amount to 256 piculs, and there is little business. Prices for common oil are from *yen* 7.10 to *yen* 7.30 per 100 *kin*.

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per N. P. steamer *Victoria*, to Hongkong, and thence per P. & O. steamer for France, Dec. 11:—

	Bales.
Longin & Co.	71
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	15
Total	86

Per N. Y. K. steamer *Riojun Maru*, for Seattle, Dec. 13:—

	Bales.
Averill & Co.	50
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	111
Otto Reimers & Co.	235
Varenne & Co.	15
Kitto Gomei Kaisha	336
Doshin Kaisha	40
Total	787

Per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco, Dec. 15.—

	Bales.
Averill & Co.	50
Bavier & Co.	20
H. Dent & Co.	5
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	87
Siber, Wolff & Co.	23
Vivanti Bros.	198
Doshin Kaisha	12
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	111
Total	508

TO 10TH DECEMBER, 1900.

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	25
Averill & Co.	635
Bavier & Co.	613
Chauvin & Co.	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	170
H. Dent & Co.	420
P. Dourille	143
Findlay, Richardson & Co.	120
C. Gussani	25
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	2,303
Longin & Co.	424
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	1,674
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	1,313
Otto Reimers & Co.	1,765
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	456
Siber, Wolff & Co.	2,897
Sieber & Co.	1,337
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	263
Varenne & Co.	1,125
Vivanti Bros.	1,280
Kiito Gomei-Kaisha	4,017
Doshin Kaisha	803
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	1,132
J. Ishu	230
Total	23,564

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, December 20.

No change in silver from London and discounts ⅛ higher; sterling quotations from China ¼ lower and local rates on China firmer, but otherwise no alteration.

Hongkong Bank shares in London have advanced to £60 10.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	*3⅜% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*1% prem.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 69¼
— Private 10 days' sight	* 71½
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29⅝

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, December 20.

Yebisu Breweries new shares changed hands to-day at *yen* 42 50.

Kirin Breweries—Offers for shares are wanted. Engine and Iron Works are very quiet at *yen* 207.50 nominal. Grand Hotels were sold to-day at *yen* 230. Club Hotels—Offers for shares are wanted Langfeldts—A few shares can be had at *yen* 90. Laundries—Offers for shares are wanted.

Nagasaki Hotel first debentures can be had at par.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., ¥50	207 50 S
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., ¥50	142 S
Grand Hotel, Ltd, ¥100	230 Sa
Club Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	80 S
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. ¥100	140 S.
Oriental Hotel (Founders', ¥12.50	500 S.
Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., ¥100	Nominal
North and Rae, Ltd., ¥100	115 N.
Brett & Co., Ltd, ¥10	9 N.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd, ¥100	90 S.
Helm Bros., ¥50	58 Sa.
Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., ¥50	50 S
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	Nominal
Yokohama United Club 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	107 S
Brett & Co., Ltd 7 per cent Deb., ¥100	100
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	106 N
Nagasaki Hotel Ltd 7 per cent. Deb., ¥100	100 S
Oriental Hotel, new ordinary shares, ¥75	Nominal
Maples Hotel, preference shares ¥100	102 S

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, December 20.

Japan Breweries, buyers at *yen* 140. Offers are wanted for Helms. Grand Hotels, buyers at *yen* 230. Langfeldts, sellers at *yen* 90.

	YEN.	
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207.50	Sales.
Grand Hotel	230	Buyers.
Club Hotel	85	Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150	Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90	Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	140	Buyers.

TELEGRAPHIC QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, Dec. 18.

BANKS

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	$330 % prem	Sa
National Bank of China, Limited	253	Buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.

China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited	52	Sellers.
North China Insurance Company, Limited	Tls. 172	Sales.

FIRE INSURANCES.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	$295	Sellers.
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	76	Sales.

SHIPPING.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, Limited	33⅓	Sales.
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	49	Sellers.

MINING.

Punjom Mining Company, Limited	3⅛	Sellers.
Raub A'lian Gold Mining Company, Limited	48	Sellers.

DOCKS, WHARFS AND GODOWNS.

Hongkong & W'poa Dock Company, Limited	545 % prem.	S.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ld.	84	Sales.

Falling Hair

Falling Hair

Prevented by Warm Shampoos of CUTICURA SOAP, followed by light dressings of CUTICURA, purest of emollient Skin Cures. This treatment at once stops falling hair, clears the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, soothes irritated, itching surfaces, stimulates the hair follicles, supplies the roots with energy and nourishment, and makes the hair grow on a clean, wholesome scalp, when all else fails.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour,

Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, CUTICURA Ointment, to instantly allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the severest humour, when all other remedies fail. Sold throughout the world. Aust. Depot: R. TOWNS & Co., Sydney, N. S. W. So. African Depot: LENNON LTD., Cape Town, Natal, Port Elizabeth. "All about the Skin, Scalp, and Hair," post free. POTTER CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.

Trade Mark on WALTER MAC FARLANE & Co. GLASGOW SARACEN FOUNDRY every Casting.

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RAILWAY STATIONS, BARRACKS, FACTORIES, PUBLIC WORKS, MARKETS, ETC.

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Two Gold Medals, Calcutta Exhibition.

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Walter Macfarlane & Company, Glasgow, Scotland.

LANDS

Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited	188	Sales.
H'phrey's Estate & Finance Company, Limited	11¾	Sales.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Indo-China Steamship Company, Limited	96	Buyers.
Green Island Cement Co., Limited	19½	Sales.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.
Stock and Share Broker,
75, Main Street.

RICE MARKET.

Fukagawa Godowns, Tokyo, Dec. 19.

Sold, Japanese rice 8,022 hyo; arrived, Japanese, 12,657 hyo; in stock, Japanese, 117,065.

Retail per *Yen*—First quality 5 sho 6 go; second, 5 sho 9 go; third, 6 sho 1 go; fourth, 6 sho 5 go; fifth, 6 sho 9 go.

WATERING APPARATUS

Non-freezing & Ordinary Hydrants and Street Washers.
Garden Watering Boxes and Apparatus.
Gun-Metal, Copper, and Cast-Iron Cocks and Valves.

E. GUESNIER, E.C.P.,
Engineer and Sole Manfr.,
(Successor of ACHILLE CADET)
27, Rue des Taillandiers,
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回發行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 22ND, 1900.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Japanese Diet has risen for the New Year recess.

THE situation continues very grave in South Africa.

THE Kumamoto Ninth National Bank suspended payment on the 25th inst.

LI HUNG-CHANG having fallen ill, the peace negotiations in China are again postponed.

THE first-class battleship *Hatsuse* will leave England for Japan at the end of January.

THIRTY-THREE delivery men of the Iidamachi post office went on strike on the morning of the 23rd inst.

FIRE broke out in a sugar factory at Midoricho, Yokohama, at midnight on the 21st inst. One building was destroyed.

THE two big funds at the Mansion House stood thus on the night of the 10th ult.:—South African War Fund, £1,024,000; Indian Famine Fund, £386,100.

A FOREIGNER who lives in Kotobukicho, Yokohama, had his bicycle stolen from outside the Seamen's Mission, No. 82, Settlement, about 2 p.m. on Saturday.

A COOLIE, named Kido Eikichi aged 23, was arrested on Friday for stealing *yen* 100 worth of yarn while working on board the British steamer *Achilles* on the 29th instant.

A MAN named Fujimoto Zenji, employed in a milk shop at Onoye cho, Yokohama, was arrested by the Isezaki-cho police on the evening of the 24th inst. on a charge of spending *yen* 2,100 belonging to his employers. The defalcations extend from May last.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha's steamer *Taigi Maru*, 1,600 tons, 13 knots, was launched at Sakurajima, the branch of the Osaka Iron-works, on the morning of the 23rd inst.

LIEUT.-GENERAL Count Kawamura Sumiyoshi has been elected President of the Nippon Shobei Gisha (Volunteer Association), Count Kabayama declining the position on account of illness.

A YOUNG man named Iida Shotaro, a native of Chiba Prefecture was arrested by the Honjo Police on Dec. 20th on a charge of stealing a bag containing *yen* 1,040 at Honjo Station.

THE N.Y.K. steamer *Mikawa Maru* (1,940 tons), ran aground in the harbour of Hakodate when leaving on Dec. 21st for Yokohama. The cargo had to be completely discharged before the vessel could be floated.

AT a lecture before the Royal Society, Sir Norman Lockyer and Mr. W. Lockyer stated that an investigation of Famine records showed a coincidence between the rainfall and sunspots, a study of which would enable a forecast to be made

A GOLD screen valued at *yen* 600, the property of Kaneko Kanekichi, Sankocho, Shirokane, Shiba, Tokyo went amissing at Shimbashi Station on Dec. 20th. No clue has been gained as to its whereabouts.

A JAPANESE junk laden with timber, which left Fukujiu-mura, Chiba Prefecture, for Tokyo, on the evening of the 19th inst. foundered near Onagigawa. One *sendo* saved himself by swimming ashore but the other was drowned.

A BURGLAR broke into the villa of Mr. Otani Kahei, at Honmoku, Yokohama, about 8 o'clock on the night of Dec. 2nd. Nobody was in the house at the time except a momban and the thief left the place with only *yen* 1.20.

THE French transport *Tamais* arrived at Nagasaki on Dec. 20th from Taku via Chefoo, with seven passengers and 600 horses on board. After coaling there the vessel will leave for either Saigon or Marseilles.

THE Christmas festival in Yokohama and Tokyo was favoured with bright, cold, bracing weather. THE Yokohama Literary Society held a most enjoyable on Friday, the programme being bright and attractive.

A SÖUL dispatch states that the Korean Government has engaged a German bandmaster at a salary of 300 *yen* a month to teach the military bands. He gave his first lesson on the 17th inst. to the band of the Imperial Bodyguard at Söul

A STONEMASON named Hiraoka Yoshimatsu employed at the Specie Bank in Hanazakicho, 12 chome, Yokohama, got into a dispute with two fellow-workmen and in the sequel was seriously hit by blows from hammers, wielded by his opponents, who have since disappeared.

A JAPANESE junk laden with 15 tons of telegraph wire belonging to the Communications Department, left Yokohama for Kawasaki on the 21st inst. at 8 p.m. in charge of two *sendo*. When near Kawasaki the junk foundered owing to the heavy wind, and one of the *sendo* was drowned.

AN armed burglar boarded the Japanese junk *Kairyo Maru*, while anchored at Ishikawa Shichome, Yokohama, near Kamenohashi bridge, on the evening of the 21st inst. A *sendo* named Suzuki Sannosuke was sleeping on the boat and the burglar woke him up and demanded money. Suzuki gave the man *yen* 14.80, with which he decamped.

IT is feared that the *No. 2 Kyodo Maru*, belonging to the Osaka Tug boat Company, is lost, as nothing has been heard of her since she left Taichu, Formosa, for Keelung on Nov. 6th. She had a crew of 12 and two passengers. Her cargo consisted of 250 boxes of camphor, valued at *yen* 5,600.

A GIRL named Nishida Nui, 15 years of age, left Japan for America by the *America Maru* on the 22nd September, without a passport. She was refused a landing and returned to Yokohama by the *Nippon Maru* and was handed over to the Yokohama harbour police on the 25th inst. She had twice before been taken on board the *America Maru* at Kobe, only to be found at Yokohama by the harbour police. On the last occasion she was smuggled aboard in a bamboo basket.

PERE MARC DECHEVRENS, S.J., the well-known director of the St. Louis Meteorogical Observatory, St. Heliers, Jersey, and formerly director of the Jesuit observatory at Zicawei, near Shanghai, has invented a very ingenious "campylograph" for drawing beautiful figures composed of curves by simply turning a handle. The figures will probably be useful as designs in the decorative and textile industries. The inventor has prepared an album of 500 specimens, which he submitted to the Academie des Sciences, Paris.

A MAN named Kawashima Tomizo, of Chiba Prefecture, was arrested by the Isezaki-cho police on the 21st inst. He is charged with stealing a bamboo basket containing 67 articles valued at over 200 *yen*, from the Yokohama Railway Station on the 1st inst. On the 6th inst. when at Omiya station he stole 12 articles valued at 46 *yen*, and from other places stole goods to the value of over 400 *yen*. When arrested he wore the uniform of a porter in the service of the Nippon Railway Company. The stolen articles were all pawned in Yokohama.

A FISHING boat containing eight Japanese with two *sendo* left Honjo, Tokyo, at 4 a.m. on the 22nd inst. and began fishing near Kamagaishi, 6 miles from Funabashi, Chiba prefecture. The day was then fine and calm, but about two p.m. the sea began to rise and a woman in the company and many of the men were afraid. They hauled in their tackle ready to go home, when suddenly a whale, 40 feet long swam by. Opposite the boat it blew up a column of water, which swamped the craft. Fortunately the *sendo* managed to pick up all the folk little the worse for the adventure.

ONE of the leading foreign hotels of Nagasaki will shortly close its doors for a period of at least three years, says the *Nagasaki Press*. For some time past the German Government through its local Consulate, has been trying to secure eligible premises in Nagasaki for the accommodation of convalescent and sick troops from North China. The hospital ship *Gera*, permanently stationed at Nagasaki as the receiving vessel for German troops, is taxed to its utmost capacity and cannot receive any more patients, and the *Wittekind*, another hospital ship, has also a large number of sick and convalescent on board. The labours of the medical staffs of these vessels will be considerably lightened shortly, for the German authorities have secured a lease of the "Cliff House," Nagasaki, for three years, and the premises are to be used as a convalescent home for those troops who are well on the road to recovery. It is stated that the sum paid for the "Cliff House" is *yen* 900 a month.

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POLITICAL MEETINGS AND NOTES.

General Meeting of the "Rikken Seiyu-kai."

Saturday, Dec. 22.

It is the custom of Japanese political parties to hold a general meeting on the eve of the Diet's opening, in order to discuss the line to be taken during the session and the organization to be adopted. Marquis Ito's Party, the *Rikken Seiyu-kai*, held a meeting for that purpose on the 20th instant. The proceedings presented several points of interest. The first question to be settled was the leadership of the Party in the Lower House. Mr. Hoshi Toru led the Liberals last session, but he has now resigned the position of leader. It was announced at the meeting that Marquis Ito had appointed four members to discharge that duty, namely, Messrs. Matsuda Masahisa, Ozaki Yukio, Ooka Ikuzo and Haseba Junko. Mr. Matsuda is a Minister of State, but as he has three colleagues in the leadership of the House, he probably sees his way to performing the duties. Looking at Marquis Ito's selection, it is easy to see that all interests have been considered. Mr. Matsuda represents the old Liberals; Mr. Ozaki, the seceders from the Progressists; Mr. Ooka, the former National Unionists, and Mr. Haseba the Satsuma section.

Mr. Ishikuro Kanichiro, a member of the House, asked a question about the Tokyo Scandal. He said that as several newspapers had declared Mr. Hoshi Toru to be implicated in the scandal, and as rumour was busy with the subject, it seemed a matter of great importance that some definite information should be obtained as to Mr. Hoshi's position, and the Minister of Justice, being present, could perhaps furnish the desired information. Baron Kaneko responded to this question. He said that he could not make any reply in his official capacity, the investigations of the courts of law being beyond his purview, but he was able to state that up to the present no materials for instituting proceedings against Mr. Hoshi had been obtained by the Public Procurator.

Marquis Ito then spoke. He regretted that the state of his health made it difficult for him to address the meeting at any length. Referring to the origin of the *Seiyu-kai*, he explained that his sole purpose in organizing it had been to carry constitutional institutions to their completion in Japan, and to show to the world the satisfactory working of the charter granted by the Emperor under such unique circumstances. The organization had taken place on the 15th of September, and on the 20th the Cabinet had resigned, imposing on him the responsibility of forming a new Ministry. It was needless to say that he was not prepared to undertake the task. The Party had scarcely been called into existence. None of its arrangements were complete, and he felt, and openly stated, that to assume such functions from the very outset, might even imperil the cohesion of the Party. The Cabinet, however, persisting in its determination to resign, there had not been any recourse but to accept the Sovereign's mandate. To add to their embarrassments they had to deal with two problems of great magnitude, the Chinese question abroad and the financial depression at home. Only a very abundant exercise of zeal and judgment could enable them, under such circumstances, to achieve the purpose of their organization, and he looked to them for the exercise of those qualities.

The National Union.

The National Union held a general meeting in the Shintomi Theatre on the 20th instant, Prince Konoye in the chair. The Prince made a very outspoken speech. Referring to the peace negotiations, he concurred with the policy attributed to the Cabinet, namely, that since great difference of opinion existed among the Powers as to the injury suffered by them, the question of compensation should be left for subsequent discussion, and the points with regard to which all were agreed should be first settled. He then passed to the real purpose of his speech, a definition of what was meant by the integrity of the Chinese empire, which the National Union had been organized to maintain. Briefly speaking, his contention was that things should be restored to the status existing before the Boxer complications commenced. He insisted that beyond all doubt Manchuria was included in the territories of China, which the Anglo-German agreement pledged its signatories to preserve intact, and he declared that the state of affairs now prevailing in Manchuria was wholly inconsistent with any theory of China's integrity.

The meeting was thus asked to consider two resolutions. They were prefaced by a preamble of some length, declaring that the National Union had now obtained the endorsement of the whole nation, with the exception of a number of publicists whose vision seemed to be limited to party politics. The resolutions were these:—

The preservation of China's integrity, which is the aim of this association, has not only secured the approval of the people of this empire, but has also become the contention of the world at large. Nevertheless, the officials directing our foreign affairs sometimes show want of ability and resolution which betrays them into a weak and vacillating policy, while at the same time, the proceedings of certain foreign Powers are not calculated to inspire us with confidence. It is therefore necessary that our Association should redouble its efforts to rouse public opinion.

Special Resolution. — The present condition of Manchuria is opposed to the preservation of the integrity of the Chinese empire, and constitutes a menace to Korea, in our opinion. Therefore it is essential that some steps should be speedily devised to alleviate this state of affairs.

The meeting passed these resolutions unanimously, and decided that all measures for giving effect to them should be entrusted to Prince Konoye. Mr. Sasa Tomofusa then spoke with reference to the imperative necessity of succouring Korea and of restraining Russia's arbitrary proceedings in Manchuria. Mr. Shiba Shiro described the things he had seen in China, and Viscount Miura had the splendid assurance to deliver a lecture on the duty that men owe to humanity. Considering the record achieved by the Viscount in Korea, we are bound to admire his courage in discussing such a theme. But he is now a devout Buddhist pupil of the celebrated prelate Unsho, whose disciples are not allowed more than two meals a day and very scanty fare at that. Viscount Miura may therefore be an altered man.

Count Okuma attended at the head office of the Progressists on Monday, and announced the names of the five gentlemen selected by him for the office of committeemen; they are, Dr. Hatoyama Kazuo, and Messrs. Taketomi Tokitoshi, Shiba Shiro, Minoura Katsuto and Yamada Kinosuke. The Count then made a brief speech. After thanking the former committee for their steadfastness at the time when the Party was shaken by the formation of the Seiyu-kai, he declared that he had no intention of following the dictatorial method adopted by Marquis Ito in managing his Party, but that he intended to take every step in consultation with his followers.

Monday, Dec. 24.

The want of discipline inevitable, perhaps, in the early stages of party organization, seems to be showing itself in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. We read in the *Jimmin* that whereas the General Committee of the Party has agreed to a project of increased taxation put forward by the Cabinet, a strong section of the Party is opposed to it, and has sent a deputation to Marquis Ito asking for a general meeting of the Party to consider the problem before any parliamentary action is taken. The same journal publishes a vehement attack upon the composition of the General Committee, which, it declares, contains several members without any experience of party affairs, who serve only to create a barrier between Marquis Ito and his followers. The *Jimmin* further attacks the "High-collar politicians" in Marquis Ito's *entourage*, alleging that, though their ability is admitted, they hold the party politicians at arm's length and carry things with a high hand. We quote the *Jimmin* because, being virtually an organ of the former Liberals, and enjoying Mr. Hoshi's confidence, its utterances on such subjects merit attention, but we may add that the Opposition journals write as though a state of acute friction existed in the *Seiyu-kai*. It is alleged that some ill-feeling divides the leaders also, Mr. Ooka Ikuzo and Mr. Hoshi Toru being inimical to each other. How much these things may be exaggerated we can not tell, but there has been one tangible evidence of dissension in connexion with the organization of the Lower House. The four newly named leaders of the *Seiyu-kai* —Messrs. Ozaki, Matsuda, Ooka and Haseba—proceeded on the 22nd to appoint as "managers" a considerable number of members, the greater part of whom at once refused to serve in that capacity. Their reluctance is attributed to the fact that the office of leader (*innai sōmu*) had been declined by Messrs. Ozaki and Matsuda, so that there remained in that capacity only Messrs. Ooka and Haseba, under whom many of the members were unwilling to serve as managers. It would farther seem that a section of the *Seiyu-kai* are opposed to the idea of having four leaders in the House, their ostensible contention being that such a number is inconsistent with any theory of efficient management, but their real purpose being, so rumour says, to have Mr. Hoshi Toru re-instated solely in that post. Over a party whose elements show so little conception of discipline, we do not see how any leader can hope to rule successfully. It is very possible, however, that the shock of Mr. Hoshi's retirement has produced a temporary commotion which will presently subside.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a statement that a strong movement has been fostered in the House of Peers in opposition to the present Cabinet, and that it has obtained the adherence of 170 members. The movement has lost much of its force owing to Mr. Hoshi's resignation, but its leaders nevertheless sent a representative deputation to Marquis Ito on the 22nd instant, declaring that unless he accepted the counsel of the recalcitrants, they would pass a vote of want of confidence.

Another weapon has been furnished by Baron Kaneko's declaration that the Public Procurator had not found any materials to taking action against Mr. Hoshi. Some officials of the Department of Justice are said to have affirmed that the Minister of Justice was guilty of a serious indiscretion

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when he thus revealed the secrets of a preliminary tribunal. We need scarcely say that this cry is taken up and swelled into a strenuous chorus by the Opposition. In fact, there is hysteria in the air.

Tuesday, Dec. 25.

Things are evidently becoming quieter in the ranks of the Seiyu-kai. We explained in our last issue that there was an exhibition of dissatisfaction because Marquis Ito, in the sequel of Mr. Hoshi Toru's resignation of the leadership of the Seiyu-kai in the Lower House, had appointed four members to be leaders, namely, Messrs. Matsuda, Ooka, Ozaki and Haseba; and we further explained the the managers nominated by these gentlemen had declined to serve, and that Messrs. Matsuda and Ozaki had themselves resigned. It appears, now, that Mr. Haseba followed the example of his colleagues in resigning, and that Mr. Ooka alone remained of the four original nominees. Meanwhile a deputation from all the Seiyu-kai members of the House waited upon Marquis Ito, and told him that, in the opinion of the party, it would be very difficult to secure unanimity of action in the House, if the control of affairs were in the hands of four men. Marquis Ito accepted the recommendation, and Mr. Ooka also having submitted his resignation, it is now expected that Mr. Hoshi will be asked to resume his former functions as sole leader of the Party in the House. There may be some justice in the objection that the divided authority of four men would be an inefficient substitute for the control of one, especially such an one as Mr. Hoshi. But it should be observed that although we have called these four men "leaders," seeing that they were to take the place of the former leader, Marquis Ito appears to have rather contemplated a committee, for the name he gave to the four was *innai sômu* (general business managers in the House) However that may be, there is not much room to doubt that the real motive of this demonstration has been to bring about the re-instatement of Mr. Hoshi in the post of leader. We do not know why Mr. Hoshi resigned that position, but we conjecture that he thought it right to abandon simultaneously all the prominent offices held by him. His followers, on the other hand, probably think, and we cannot but share their view, that to accept Mr. Hoshi's resignations *en bloc* would amount to an eclipse which his enemies would be able to interpret as disgrace; whereas, if he retains the leadership of the *Seiyu-kai* in the House, the fact that he still possesses the confidence of his own Party will be clearly demonstrated, while, at the same time, the advantages of his acknowledged ability as leader will not be forfeited. Marquis Ito doubtless shares that view, and we may expect to see Mr. Hoshi reinstated as *innai sôri*

With regard to the question of increased taxation, which also threatened to cause some dissension in the Party, Marquis Ito, in deference to the representations of a deputation, agreed that the matter should be discussed by the Party before a final decision was taken. In pursuance of that arrangement, a meeting of the general committee was held at the Party's office in the fornoon of the 23rd instant and a meeting of the Council in the afternoon. The former meeting was with closed doors. Several Ministers of State attended, as did also the Premier, and full official explanations were given of the reasons in favour of increasing certain taxes, namely, those on *sake*, sugar, beer and some imported articles. An animated debate seems to have taken place at the meeting of the Council in the afternoon, but, on the whole, the Government's project appears to have found approval. The final decision was to be taken at a general meeting of the Party on the 24th instant but the result had not become known when we went to press. There is little doubt, however, that the proposal was carried.

Marquis Ito left Tokyo on the 24th instant for his Oiso villa, where he will remain over the New Year, the duties of Premier being discharged by Marquis Saionji during his absence. The Emperor has showed great solicitude about Marquis Ito's health, and expressed a definite wish that the Marquis should take further repose at Oiso, where he had been making marked improvement up to the time of his return to Tokyo.

The threatened opposition of the House of Peers to the Cabinet has been completely averted. It appears that the chief objection of the Peers was to Mr. Hoshi's retaining his portfolio, as they considered that such a step would expose the Cabinet to continued attack and excite public opinion. They also considered that greater care should be exercised in selecting officials, the text of their homily on that point being that Mr Okazaki Kunisuke, whom Mr Hoshi appointed to be Parliamentary Secretary of the Department of Communications, had formerly been convicted of a criminal offence. Another query raised by them had reference to political tours by Ministers of State. They considered that the activity shown by certain members of the Cabinet in attending and addressing provincial meetings was inconsistent with the proper discharge of their Ministerial duties. The main question, however, was the retirement of Mr. Hoshi, and that having been accomplished, the Peers were easily placated. It is said that the deputation sent by them to wait upon Marquis Ito, withdrew from the interview completely satisfied.

Thursday, Dec. 27.

Mr. Hoshi Toru seems unwilling to accept the post of leader of the *Seiyu-kai* in the Lower House. It is alleged that he forwarded a telegram to Tokyo on the 24th instant, intimating his reluctance, but that Marquis Ito has requested his presence in Tokyo before coming to any final decision. Mr. Hoshi is now at his Toyama villa in Tochigi prefecture.

MR. KOMURA ON THE SITUATION.

Speaking at a meeting of the Nippon Club on the 21st instant, Mr. Komura, the new Japanese Representative to the Court of Peking, after alluding to the suddenness of the recent outbreak in China, and dwelling upon the fact that Japan and Russia are the two Powers most interested in the event, went on to speak of the attitude of the Russians towards the Japanese. He claimed, as the result of his observations, that of all Western peoples the Russians treat the Japanese with greatest kindness and courtesy, and he insisted that the Japanese should regulate their conduct so as to show their appreciation of such treatment. It is noteworthy that each Japanese Representative in St. Petersburg tells the same story on his return home. Baron Nishi told it; Baron Hayashi told it, and now Mr. Komura tells it. The individual Russian is a charming person. He thoroughly understands and practises all the graces of social intercourse. It can not be wondered that Japanese Ministers residing in the Russian capital receive impressions such as Mr. Komura acknowledges.

Mr. Komura further said that he thought it should be easy for his countrymen to understand the conditions existing in Russia, because they were very similar to the conditions existing in Japan before the Restoration. There were the same omnipotence of officialdom; the same imperious attitude of the State towards the bread-earning elements of the population; the same submissiveness on the part of the people. An Englishman who had lived in Russia for 20 years, told Mr. Komura that after two or three years' residence a foreigner seemed to himself to know something about Russia, but subsequently the longer he lived there the more perplexed he became. It is an interesting fact that exactly the same comment has often been made by foreigners in Japan.

NEW MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS.

Mr. Hara Kei has been gazetted Minister of State for Communications, *vice* Mr. Hoshi Toru. The appointment appears to be received with much satisfaction in official circles, where Mr. Hara is recognised as a man of exceptional organizing capacity. He successfully represented Japan in Korea for a considerable period, and subsequently held the office of Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, after resigning which he accepted the post of editor of the Osaka *Mainichi Shimbun*. The paper enjoyed great success under his control, its circulation almost equalling that of the Osaka *Asahi*, which enjoys the reputation of being the most widely read journal in Japan. Mr. Hara never identified himself with any political party until the formation of the Seiyu-kai, when he departed from his attitude of neutrality and took a leading place in the new association. There was much talk of the portfolio's being given to Mr. Ozaki Yukio, but, able as Mr. Ozaki is, he labours under the disadvantage of having a host of political enemies, and his entry into the Cabinet would have exposed the latter to vehement attack.

CALENDARS.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's calendar for 1901 is, as usual, a work of art. The design is built up on the medallion principle with a ground of cherry blossoms and leaves; the idea being to show the four seasons. Spring is represented by the field of blossoms; winter by snow-capped Fuji seen through the boughs of pine-trees; summer by a noble steamer cleaving her way through gentle waves under balmy skies; and autumn by a dainty lassie looking from a verandah, maple-sprays clustering round the medallion that contains her. In the left-hand corner below is a chart showing the voyages made by the Company's steamers, which may now be said to encircle the globe, sailing eastward to America and westward to England. The almanac is contained in a nest of mauve-edged leaflets. This is certainly one of the prettiest calendars we have ever seen. It is well worthy of the artists who design the pictorial menus for which the big Japanese Company is famous.

Tamamura's Calendar for the season,—which, more by token, is not a calendar at all, but a tinted photograph,—is one of the best of this class of advertisement that we have seen. It is a typical farm house scene; the colours have been laid in sparingly but discriminatingly, and altogether Mr. Tamamura is to be congratulated upon his Christmas card.

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DISTURBED CHINA.

Saturday, Dec. 22

We gather from telegrams in the *Asahi Shimbun* that some special arrangements are now being made for the civil government of Peking. Apparently there is to be an united board of administration, as is the case in Tientsin, instead of the system hitherto pursued, namely, the government of the various districts independently by the troops of the various Powers.

It is difficult to know what is the exact state of the railway between Shan-hai-kwan and Tientsin, so many and so various are the rumours that reach us. The latest report is that two places between Shan-hai-kwan and Tientsin are still incomplete, but that the Russians, who have undertaken the work of repair, expect to have everything finished during the early part of January. It is evident that travellers now desiring to reach Peking from the South will have some difficulties to overcome.

With regard to the peace negotiations, it is alleged that the Foreign Representatives, though not satisfied with the credentials of the Chinese Envoys, which will have to be re-written or supplemented, are prepared to submit the terms of peace for the inspection of the Envoys, in order to facilitate the progress of the negotiations. A rumour has been circulated that the terms will not be intimated until the Foreign Representatives receive convincing assurance of the decapitation of eleven prominent personages supposed to have been implicated in the Boxer *émeute*. We need scarcely say that no credence can be attached to such a story. Japan certainly would not be a consenting party, we are persuaded, to any such extravagant and impracticable demand, and without unanimity on the part of the Powers, no ultimatum of the kind could be formulated.

The Peace Negotiations.

Monday, Dec. 24.

It is now generally believed that all the Foreign Representatives in Peking with one exception have signed the *note identique* embodying the terms of peace to be submitted to the Chinese plenipotentiaries. The exception is the United States Representative, who seems to have received, at the eleventh hour, a telegram from Washington desiring him not to sign if the note contained the word "irrevocable," as applied to the demand for the punishment of the instigators. That demand had finally taken the form that the punishment must be of the severest nature, but inasmuch as the Powers, by abandoning their original intention of indicating an explicit penalty, left the duty of passing judgment and pronouncing sentence virtually in China's hands, there was no longer any reason why the assent of the United States should be withheld, and it is consequently believed that the telegraphic message sent to Mr. Conger had been mutilated in transmission. Rumour says, indeed, that on seeking further instructions from Washington, Mr. Conger was able to abandon his attitude of dissent.

Meanwhile it is alleged that Great Britain has insisted on appending a clause to the effect that unless China accedes to the proposals of the Powers, no hope can be held out of the evacuation of Chili. That is practical, at all events, and since such a rider simply puts into clear language a condition existing by implication, no objection can be offered to it.

Shanghai, of course, continues to disseminate the most extravagant rumours, to the effect, *inter alia*, that the Chinese Government has consented to execute all the incriminated persons except Prince Twan, and that France and Russia have seized upon this exception as a pretext for openly adopting the policy of partition. It is enough to warn our readers that not the remotest reliance can be placed in such stories. As to another rumour that, in consequence of the famine in Shensi, the Court contemplates moving elsewhere, and has asked Viceroy Chang to report whether King-chow or Wu-chang is the more eligible for purposes of temporary sojourn, there is no inherent improbability. At all events, if the Court desires to be guided by the etiquette of precedent, there is no lack of places in the Yang-tsze Valley that served as imperial residences in former centuries.

Reports are again circulated that a Mohammedan uprising has taken place in Kang-su. The rebels are said to number forty-five thousand. General Tung having retired to Kang-su, in temporary disgrace, may have placed himself at the head of his old followers. On the other hand, his presence in that province may be the only foundation for the rumour. The Shanghai *provenance* of the tale invests it with the usual nebulosity

General Ma is said to have replied to Governor Yuan's appeal for the Court's return to Peking, that nothing of the kind is possible, in view of the excursions and depredations constantly undertaken by the allied forces under the plea of chastising remnants of the rebels.

Viceroy Chang is reported to have fixed a spacious site for a general foreign settlement at Hankow. The site is near the spot where a railway from the south would debouch.

The *Fuso* has started for Nanking.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a telegram to the effect that Li Hung-chang is seriously ill.

The Loot Question

It is highly creditable to the French that they have decided to restore to China everything taken from her except war material, but truly we fail to see how the thing can be managed. The telegraph told us, in the first place, that 40 cases of loot sent home by General Frey, had been seized by the Government at Marseilles, their contents not being within the category of legitimate war prizes; and then followed the sweeping statement that France had restored everything except war material. When one reflects, however, on the methods pursued by looters in the field, it becomes difficult to understand what course the French have adopted. To whom are the articles to be given back? If it were known that they had all been removed from the Palace, or from some special buildings, they could be restored to the rightful owners. But we may take it for granted that General Frey and his officers had little, if anything, to do with actual looting. What they did—what is always done—was to purchase things collected by the soldiers or sold at some of the loot auctions which seem to have been held. Where the soldiers obtained the articles no questions were asked, and the soldiers would probably have been puzzled to answer had they been interrogated. It is quite possible, also, that a great deal of loot was brought in and sold to foreigners by Chinese adventurers. The Christian converts, at any rate, are known to have helped themselves whenever they saw an opportunity of recouping some of the cruel losses to which they had been subjected, and the loot acquired by them was bought by foreigners in most cases. Hence the effect of this restitution scheme will be, in the first place to, inflict actual loss, probably heavy loss, upon persons who took no share in the actual looting but only purchased the looted articles for hard cash; and, in the second, to load the Chinese Authorities—for we presume that the restitution will be made through them—with a quantity of things which they will have much difficulty in restoring to their original owners, and which they will probably not give themselves much trouble to restore. In the interests of Western morality it would be satisfactory could some scheme of the kind attributed to France be carried into practice; but the difficulties in the way seem to us to be almost insuperable, and at the best, only a mere fraction of the loot could be given back. Articles that have passed into the hands of civilians are irrevocable

Tuesday, Dec. 25.

The landing wharf at Shan-hai-kwan was finished on the 18th instant, and has been placed at the disposal of all the Powers.

It is stated that Russia will leave a force in Kiu-lien to watch the frontier of Korea and Manchuria, and will withdraw the remainder of her troops in that district to Fen-hwang.

Arrangements have been made that the carriage of private goods between Peking and Tientsin must be sanctioned by the military authorities.

The Japanese volunteers in Shanghai were disbanded a short time ago, but we observe that, in accordance with the volunteer regulations of that Settlement, they have held a ceremony of re-organization

Rumour says that conservative and reactionary influences are making themselves felt more and more in the neighbourhood of the Chinese throne at Hsian, and that the only hope of giving effect to liberal counsels is to induce their Majesties to move either to Wu-chang or Nanking, where they would be in direct contact with the Yangtsze Viceroys.

The name of another eunuch is mentioned as having acquired dominant influence in the Empress Dowager's *entourage*. The two eunuchs now said to be supreme are Li Wan-tai and Li Lien-yung.

Viceroy Chang is credited with a striking appreciation of the present situation. He says that Liu Kun-yi, however excellent his judgment, is too old to undertake any large scheme of reform. Li Hung-chang and Prince Ching have all the will necessary for the purpose, but are entirely without military strength to enforce their views. Chang himself, acting in concert with Governor Yuan and Taotai Shêng, has made strenuous endeavours, but without success. The conclusion arrived at by the Viceroy is that the only hope consists in a resolute effort on the part of England and Japan to bring about the establishment of a strong progressive Cabinet in China.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram from Shanghai, doubly leaded and printed conspicuously, to the effect that the Viceroys and Governors of China are combining to drive out all foreigners, especially Russians. That is very interesting. When Shanghai newsmongers undertake to interpret the secret purposes of all the Viceroys and all the Governors, the world should constitute itself a respectful and attentive audience.

There appear to be a number of lawless Chinese in the neighbourhood of Tientsin. They are armed and mounted bandits, who,

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in the day-time, pose as loyal soldiers, and in the night pursue the trade of robbery and arson.

Thursday, Dec. 27.

It is reported that the Russian winter garrison of Fenhwan will be 700 men, and that it is to be supplied from Port Arthur.

Viceroy Li is again accused of holding secret relations with the Russian Government through the Chinese Representative in St. Petersburg and the Russian Representative in Peking. Li is certainly unsuccessful in stopping the mouth of rumour, which is one of the first duties of a diplomatist. Another report alleges that he has agreed to grant complete freedom of action to Russia in Manchuria, on condition that the Chinese are guaranteed local autonomy.

Taotai Shêng, it is said, has been appointed President of the Board of Punishments, and will proceed in that capacity to Peking, where he is to have an important share in conducting the peace negotiations. Another account, however, says that Shêng will probably not go northward at once.

The Chinese Court is said to have declared that under no circumstances will it agree to the decapitation of Princes of the Blood. We do not understand why such a declaration should have been made, since the Court is not asked to decapitate anyone. The penalty of death was undoubtedly contemplated by the Powers in the first instance, and it found clear expression in the list of conditions proposed for signature; but a modification was subsequently introduced, and the terms, as now submitted, are understood to demand only that the "severest punishment" shall be inflicted on the instigators. Something is thus left to China's discretion; namely, the selection of the culprits and the determination of the heaviest penalty imposable under the provisions of Chinese law. Under such circumstances, we should think that the Court would have wisdom enough to refrain from any announcement of heroic resolves.

On the 24th instant the peace plenipotentiaries are said to have assembled at the Spanish Legation in Peking and to have compared credentials. Viceroy Li was prevented by illness from attending. Nothing is reported as to the quality of the credentials, so we presume that there were no difficulties on that score. After this ceremony had been concluded, the Foreign Plenipotentiaries submitted the draft of the terms demanded by the Powers. It is said that the draft contains twelve articles, but nothing has yet been published as to their exact nature. They certainly, however, include the despatch of an ambassador to Berlin to apologise for the assassination of Baron von Ketteler and the erection of a monument to his memory; the restoration of the desecrated Christian grave-yards and probably the erection of monuments there also; the payment of an indemnity; the razing of the forts between Peking and Taku; the interdiction of the import of arms and munitions of war; the stationing of a foreign guard in Peking and of foreign troops on the line of communications between Peking and the sea; the arrangement of a secure site for the foreign Legations in Peking; the remodelling of the *Tsung-li Yamên*; the suspension of public examinations in the districts where anti-Christian outbreaks occurred, and the revision of the commercial treaties. All these conditions have been mentioned from time to time as entering into the Powers' demands, and since we have not heard that there has been any change of programme, we conclude that the list remains unaltered.

Friday, Dec. 28.

Rumour is still busy about a secret treaty between Russia and China. The agreement is now said to be on the verge of conclusion, and it is further alleged that the hesitation recently shown by England and the United States in authorizing their Representatives to affix their signatures to the peace-conditions note was owing to knowledge of these covert arrangements between China and Russia. Secret treaties between China and Russia are part of the stock-in-trade of the Oriental newsmonger. The Cassini convention occupied this field for several years, and it would be strange if the present occasion were suffered to pass without some out-trotting of the old bogey. The public knows perfectly well that whatever delay took place on England's part was due to Downing-street's difficulty in throwing over the capital-punishment clause at the eleventh hour, and that the apparent hesitation of the American Minister was owing to an error in a telegram. As for Russia's tenure of Manchuria, which is supposed to be the subject of agreement, the one thing that would immediately render that tenure insecure would be the conclusion of any arrangement with China as to its permanency. Russia has only to rest quietly on her oars. She is mistress of the situation so long as she does not openly assert her right of possession.

It is expected that Taotai Shêng will refuse the office of President of the Board of Punishments, conferred on him by the Court. There would be much difficulty and embarrassment in discharging the functions of that office at the present juncture, for when China agrees to the terms proposed by the foreign Powers, as she is pretty sure to do, the incriminated officials will be subjected to the ceremony of handing over to the Board of Punishments for the determination of penalties, and there might quickly arise a difference of opinion between the Board and the Powers as to the nature of the former's decision. Not that we anticipate serious trouble upon that point, seeing that the Powers have virtually agreed to let China exercise her own discretion in the matter. But it is tolerably certain that Prince Twan and his associates will not suffer anything proportionate to the ideas entertained by some foreigners as to their guilt, and we can well understand that a man of Taotai Shêng's progressive reputation should be unwilling to undertake duties which, if discharged to the satisfaction of the Court, must impair his character in foreign eyes.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a statement of the twelve conditions of peace said to have been submitted by the Representatives of the Powers to China. They are:—

1.—The execution of the officials implicated in the Boxer troubles. (This we know to be incorrect, for the proposal does not indicate any definite penalty, but merely requires that the severest punishment shall be inflicted, China being left to determine its nature.)

2.—The despatch of a Chinese Prince to Germany to make apologies for the murder of Baron von Ketteler.

3.—The posting of permanent guards at the foreign legations in Peking.

4.—The demolition of the Taku Forts.

5.—The prohibition of the import of arms.

6.—The suspension of official examinations for a period of 5 years in the districts where anti-foreign riots occurred.

7.—The revision of the commercial treaty.

8.—The reform of the organization of the *Tsung-li Yamen*.

9.—The payment of a recompense to the family of Mr. Sugiyama.

10.—The securing of the communications between Peking and Tientsin.

11.—The payment of an indemnity to the Powers.

12.—The establishment of new settlements.

We have reason to believe that this statement of terms is fragmentary and in some respects, misleading, but it indicates the general line of the conditions, as already reported in these columns.

Prince Ching, in accordance with a promise given to Field Marshal Waldersee, has issued instructions to the various bodies of Chinese troops in Chili, in the sense that they must abstain from all outrages against foreigners or peaceful Chinese, and that they will be rewarded after the restoration of peace.

It has been arranged that the place where the negotiations are held in Peking shall be guarded by a force from each of the foreign columns in turn. The Chinese Plenipotentiaries are to retain the guards hitherto employed by them, namely, a body of Russian troops.

THE QUESTION OF INCREASED TAXATION.

The Government's plan for increasing taxation is stated to be as follows:—

	Yen.
Increase of Sake Tax.....	9,879,000
Beer Tax	610,000
Sugar	6,797,000
Alcohol, Chinese *Samshu*, &c	32,000
Kerosene	850,000
Tobacco (import duty)	54,000
Tobacco Monopoly	3,204,000
Total.....	21,426,000

With regard to the purposes to which this increase of revenue is to be devoted, Viscount Watanabe has explained that, according to present estimates, the cost of the Chili campaign will amount to 28 million *yen* by the end of next March. Hitherto the Government has defrayed these outlays from the Naval Maintenance Fund of 30 million *yen*, and it thus appears that only 2 millions of the fund will remain at the end of March. Hence some other source of revenue must be provided for campaigning purposes after that date, since it is quite evident that the peace negotiations will occupy a long time, and that Japan will be unable to effect any reduction of the force of 10,000 men and twelve ships of war now employed by her in China. With regard to the two other funds of 10 million *yen* each, namely, the Education Fund and the Famine Relief Fund, they are both invested in five-per-cent. bonds, and any attempt to convert the bonds into cash, would seriously depress the market. Besides, the interest on these funds is already appropriated to purposes that can not be neglected. England, America and Russia have all been obliged to resort to increased taxation to meet outlays on account of the Chinese campaign, and Japan must follow their example. The Minister further explained that, in view of the present state of the market, it is hopeless to think of floating the domestic loans contemplated in connexion with the *post-bellum* programme: some substitute has to be found.

The Parliamentary members of the *Seiyukai* held a meeting on the 24th instant to consider the above question, and after hearing a statement from Viscount Watanabe and a speech in support from Baron Suyematsu, it was decided that a committee should be appointed to investigate and report upon the project.

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CONTEMPT OF OFFICIALS.

There used to stand in a prominent place among the press regulations an offence called *kwanri bujyoku*, or contempt of officials. Many editors suffered under that provision of law, and it was one of the first objects of political assault after the Diet came into existence. Had it remained without repeal, the recent crusade of the *Mainichi Shimbun* against Mr. Hoshi Toru would have been impossible, for the earliest of that journal's utterance would have brought upon its head a sentence of suspension. We do not speak altogether regretfully. The old law was arbitrary and inconsistent with the spirit of progress. The abuses caused by it were more numerous than the evils resulting from its repeal. But we do say that the procedure of the *Mainichi Shimbun* is emphatically to be classed among those evils. Day after day that journal has published articles abounding in epithets of the most opprobrious character. We have not kept count of them, but they would certainly number over a score were they collected. Evidently published on the principle of the drop of soft water that hollows the hard stone, they have become a phenomenon of the hour, attracting wide attention not by their intrinsic value, but by the extraordinary spectacle of importunate malice they present. Not once has the *Mainichi Shimbun* attempted to formulate a definite charge against Mr. Hoshi. Not once has it clearly stated that "he was guilty of this or that act"; or that "he perpetrated such and such an offence under such and such circumstances." It has simply called Mr. Hoshi names—a "State robber," a "chief of plunderers;" a "leader of pilferers" and so on. It is, of course, quite plain that if the *Mainichi* had been in a position to put any of its accusations into a form such as would be required by a Court of law, it would have done so. No one is so silly as to confine himself to vituperation if he can afford to be explicit. The inevitable inference, therefore, is that the *Mainichi* could not charge any specific act against Mr. Hoshi, and that its accusations were merely vague generalities. From that point of view, there can be no difficulty in finding an epithet for its procedure. Perfectly consistent, too, with such traffic in crude rumours, were its attempts to intimidate the judiciary. For when the Tokyo Court commenced its investigations, the *Mainichi* wrote that the independence and integrity of the judicial officials would be tested by the result of the inquiry, and when the case seemed to be taking a turn unfavourable to the accused, it lauded the Court for displaying those qualities, whereas, so soon as it was known that no materials for prosecuting Mr Hoshi had been found by the investigators, the *Mainichi* denounced them as mere creatures of the Administration. Altogether, the *Mainichi's* methods have been so extremely discreditable that they suggest a query whether the drastic amendment of the old press law was not premature, and whether its restraints are not still needed in the interests of society. Nevertheless, the answer should probably be in the negative. If neither a *Yorozu Choho* nor a *Mainichi Shimbun* would have been possible under the old law, we must not forget that the *Yorozu* and the *Mainichi* are, on the whole, exceptions so far as licence created by the new system of liberty is concerned. The offences of journals whose sense of responsibility is so defective, would not have been prevented by the original press law more effectually than they are by the existing law.

THE KANDA CATASTROPHE.

The popular fete of Toshi-no-Ichi in the Kanda district of Tokyo on the night of the 20th instant, was the scene of a terrible accident. Great crowds attended the festival, and when the affair was at its height, heavy rain began to fall. A rush seems to have been made by a part of the crowd in one direction for shelter, but meeting a wave of people advancing from the opposite direction, they began to struggle, and the result, so far as is known, was the death of five persons, three children and two old men, and the severe injury of five others. It is believed that there were many lesser wounds, but the record is incomplete.

The Kanda catastrophe proves to have been more disastrous than was originally reported. Ten people were killed and several hundreds wounded more or less severely. It is stated that five cartloads of clogs were collected on the following day at the scene of the disturbance. The cause was very simple. Owing to a sudden fall of rain, a portion of the spectators turned to seek shelter. They were so closely crowded together that some one who had the misfortune to fall was unable to rise. Several others were thrown down by the obstruction thus caused, and a commotion ensued which attracted fresh crowds. In the struggle, two or three way-side stalls were upset, and their kerosene lamps caused a conflagration which added to the confusion. That is all that can be ascertained; a surging crowd overthrowing its own units and trampling them to death. Among the killed were 3 children and 5 women.

KOREA.

Some time ago, news reached Japan that Russian troops had advanced through Manchuria as far as the Korean frontier and that a portion of them had actually crossed the Yalu, in pursuit of fugitive Manchurians. Antung was mentioned as the head-quarters of the Russian force. No confirmation was received of the incredible story that the Yalu had been crossed, and news is now to hand that, having accomplished the purpose of their march, the Russians have withdrawn from Antung in the direction of Newchwang.

A telegram from Sōul says that Li In-yang has been appointed president of the north-western railway, that is to say, the railway from Sōul to Wiju, which enterprise is still in the region of clouds. Li is a French scholar and has strong French proclivities. Rumour, therefore, does not lose the opportunity to suggest that a French Syndicate is again fixing its eyes upon this commercially unpromising but politically important line.

Mr. Hayashi, who has just come home from Sōul, says that no special meaning attaches to his return and that he expects to go back to his post in the spring. Concerning the rumour that the Russian Representative in Sōul has advised the Emperor of Korea to place his country under Russian protection, since Manchuria has become a Russian possession, Mr. Hayashi does not know anything certainly, but he is alleged to have said that M. Pablov is very capable of having taken a step. He characterizes as mere vapouring the talk of a bank being established in Sōul by Mr. Omiwa Chōbei, and he says that the proposal of borrowing 5 million *yen* from Russia is a very old story. We gather from his remarks published in the *Jimmin*—that Korea is in much want of money, having incurred great expense in connexion with the increment of her military establishment. With reference to the recent Korean Representative in Japan, Mr. Cho Pyong-sik, and the rumour that he had a special commission to contrive the rendition of the Korean refugees in Japan, Mr. Hayashi says that every Korean Minister hitherto sent here had such a mission. The refugees are supported by funds sent from Korea by the *Kwappin-to* (Charitable Society), which includes some Japanese among its members, but which is now in a moribund condition. Mr. Cho was a man of exceptional influence and position in Korea. There never was any intention, probably, of leaving him long in Japan. As to the newly appointed Representative, Mr. Song Ki-un, he is, Mr. Hayashi says, a man of erudition and ability, likely to make an efficient Minister.

The Korean Government is said to have refused the application of a German syndicate for the concession of the Sōul-Yuensan Railway, the reason assigned for refusal being that the concession has already been granted to Korean subjects.

According to news from Korea, the two officials recently appointed to positions of trust, namely, Li In-yong to be president of the Sōul-Wiju railway, and Chang Pong-hwan, councillor of the Privy Council, to be Chief Chamberlain, have been relieved of those positions in consequence of objections raised by Japan on the ground that these two men were among the judicial officials dismissed on account of the share taken by them in the trial, torturing and illegal execution of An and Kwong. It is satisfactory to find that Japan takes a determined stand in this matter, and that the penalties inflicted by the Korean Government in the sequel of that inhuman affair are not to be allowed to become merely nominal.

THE LATE REV. DR. GORDON.

Confirmation is now to hand of the death of the Rev. M. L. Gordon which we announced about a fortnight ago. Dr. Gordon was for several years a resident of Kyoto, where, as one of the leading missionaries of the American Board, he took a prominent part in the affairs of the Doshisha, and in everything that made for the good of Japan. Dr. Gordon expired on November 4th at his residence in Auburndale, Massachusetts, death, which was due to pernicious anæmia, being very sudden. He was far from being well in health when he left Japan last spring to attend the Ecumenical Council in New York, and was eventually obliged to have the paper prepared for that assembly read by another. After taking the best medical advice he resolved to abandon all idea of returning to Japan, but so keen was his spirit for the work that he loved that he was making arrangements to spend the rest of his brief span of days among the Japanese settlers in the Hawaiian Islands, among whom there are many Christians. But this was not to be. Dr. Gordon was one of those noble types of men that inspire new faith in humanity and confer dignity upon every work with which they are associated. A finished Japanese scholar and profound theologian, he gained a deep insight into the doctrines and spirit of Buddhism, which he expounded with frank conscientiousness worthy of his strong respect for justice. It would be difficult to overestimate the value of Dr. Gordon's work in Japan. Directly and indirectly, his influence proved widely useful to the cause he served so earnestly and loyally

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OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE DIET.

The Diet met on the 22nd instant for the purpose of organizing its sections An estimate of the numbers of the political parties in the House stands thus :—

	Votes.
The Ministerial Party (*Rikken Seiyu-kai*) ...	155
The Opposition (*Kensei Hon-to*)	10
The Imperialists (*Teikoku-to*)	14
Independents.....	30
Total	300

The Emperor in person opened the Diet on the 25th instant, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon. Marquis Ito was in attendance, and his Majesty, receiving the Speech from the Premier's hand, read it as follows :—

"We declare the Imperial Diet opened and announce to the members of both Houses:—

That we are pleased to be able to state that Our relations with foreign Powers are on a footing of constantly increasing friendship.

That on the occurrence of the lamentable disturbanee in North China, We caused to be despatched thither a naval and military force for the purpose of rescuing Our Representative, Our subjects, and the nationals of other countries. It is a matter of profound satisfaction to Us that Our forces, acting in concert with those of other Powers, displayed loyalty and bravery in the discharge of their task. Our Government, in cöoperation with the Powers, is now endeavouring to restore good order in China and to obtain guarantees for future peace.

That for the purpose of defraying the military outlays of the State as well as of placing its finances on a sound base, We have directed Our Ministers of State to prepare a project of increased taxation which will be submitted to you together with the Budget for the 34th fiscal year and various drafts of law.

That it is our desire that, acting in a spint of harmonious cö-operation, you should bring to the discharge of your important duties all necessary attention and care."

It will be seen from the above that the Ministry has definitively announced its determination of having recourse to increased taxation. The *Seiyu-kai* has not yet come to any decision on this question, but the strong probability is that it will endorse the Government's policy.

The House of Representatives subsequently assembled, and passed a resolution entrusting to the President the duty of preparing a reply to the Speech from the Throne. The President therefore presented the following :—

"With profound respect we beg to express our deep gratitude for Your Majesty's gracious action in opening the Imperial Diet and for the words addressed to us by Your Majesty. It shall be our endeavour, at this period when the nation is confronted by so many duties in the Far East, to bring to the discharge of our legislative functions the utmost care and circumspection, so that Your Majesty's august instructions may be obeyed and the important trust reposed in us by the nation may be fully discharged. With profound respect and humility the President of the House of Representatives, Kataoka Kenkichi, presents this."

Analysing the present House of Representatives, the *Jiji Shimpo* says that there are 130 farmers, 23 barristers, 12 officials, 26 merchants, 6 newspaper editors, 3 doctors, and 70 members without fixed professions. The conclusion is that the business interests of the country are not at all duly represented.

The Diet rose on the 26th instant not to meet again until the 20th of January. The standing committees, however, will work in the interval.

Friday Dec. 28.

The House of Peers has made the usual reply to the speech from the Throne; a reply embodying professions of profound respect, and promising to discharge the duties of legislation with all diligence and circumspection.

Prince Tokugawa Iyesato has been elected Chairman of Committee of the Whole House by the Peers, and the Representatives have chosen for the corresponding post in the Lower House Mr. Sugita Teiichi.

The organization of the Houses, including that of the standing committees, shows conclusive evidence of the commanding influence of the *Seiyu-kai*.

After the Houses had risen for the New Year's recess a general meeting of Parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai* was held, when the General Committee submitted a report to effect that Marquis Ito had invited Mr. Hoshi Toru to the accept the post of leader of the Party in the House of Representatives. This report having been adopted by acclaim, Mr. Hoshi Toru rose and said that he was willing to accept the position provided that it carried with it the power to nominate managers and all other officers necessary for purposes of organization within the House. He added that if even one dissentient voice were raised, or if even one member refused to accept the office indicated for him, he, Mr. Hoshi, would resign the post of leader This declaration having been received with loud and unanimous applause, Mr. Hoshi declared that he would lead the Party in the House, and do his best for its success. This may be regarded as the conclusion of the Hoshi incident. His "face" is completely restored. His Party have passed an unanimous vote of confidence in him, and Marquis Ito has practically endorsed it. Mr. Hoshi may have made so many enemies as to be temporarily unfit for the post of Cabinet Minister, but as a party leader he has no equal at present in Japan. His declaration when invited to accept the post of *sōri* in the Lower House sounded very like the setting up of an *imperium in imperio* within the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*, and, indeed, it is not easy to picture perfect discipline in any association where Mr Hoshi occupies a subordinate position. There is room for the exercise of his autocratic authority, however, within the walls of the Lower House, and we may perhaps hope that the cohesion of the *Seiyu-kai* has not been permanently impaired by recent events, and that it will not suffer from excessive self-assertion on the part of men like the retired Minister of Communications "By obedience learn to command" is a fine old motto, which ought to be graven upon the tablets of every party politician in Japan.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The Meiji Bank has managed to tide over its difficulties by borrowing a sum of two hundred thousand *yen*, and it will thus be able to continue its business.

The *Dai-ni-kyodo Maru*, an eighty-ton steamer belonging to the Osaka Hikifune-Kaisha, which left Taichiu for Kelung on the 6th of December, has not since been heard of, and her loss is regarded as certain. She had a crew of 12, including the master, and she carried 2 passengers. Her cargo consisted of 250 boxes of camphor, valued at 5,600 *yen*, the property of Count Yoshii.

The High Council of Education has risen after deciding, first, that private normal schools must not be sanctioned; secondly, that high schools established by prefectures or by private enterprise must not be permitted, inasmuch as there is not yet any university accommodation for their graduates; and thirdly, that the item "Chinese literature" must not be removed from the curriculum of high schools, middle schools, and normal schools. So far as we can judge, the only points upon which the Council accepted the suggestions of the Department of Education were that jurisprudence, and political economy should be taught in normal schools, and that moral philosophy, history and geography might be taught, as optional subjects, in middle schools.

The *Asahi* publishes a statement that a bad shooting accident occurred on the 7th instant at Morioka in Iwate Prefecture. A foreigner whose name, so far as we can decipher it, is Mr. C. B. Clausen, shot a child of twelve years of age. The foreigner is described as being a very skilled sportsman. He had already refrained from shooting owing to the neighbourhood of a child, but he failed to perceive the presence of another lad who was so unfortunate as to be in the line of fire. The child was not mortally wounded.

The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes an account of a disturbance said to have occurred at Shan-hai-kwan on the 28th of November between French and Japanese soldiers. Our contemporary's story lays the whole blame on the French, who are accused of having taken the wares of Japanese storekeepers without payment and severely beaten a lieutenant who remonstrated, the result being a general struggle between parties of both nationalities, in which seven Frenchmen and two Japanese were wounded. Doubtless there is another side to the story.

The magnitude of the operations of the newly formed branch of the Standard Oil Company in Echigo, seems to be astonishing the inhabitants. Two special officials have been despatched by the Customs in connexion with the landing of the company's plant, yet it is anticipated that the task can not be completed this year. The Company is said to project a line of delivery pipe 45 miles long. There has been some talk of an alliance on the part of Japanese oil men for purposes of competition, but the indications now point to combination with the big company as more probable.

A fracas is reported to have occurred on the 23rd instant at Moji between some members of the crew of a British steamer, and Japanese roughs. Two foreigners were severely injured and are now in hospital, one of them in a precarious state. Several arrests have been made.

A local contemporary suggests that the writer of "Latter-day Notes" which have been published in these columns, is not a Chinese, and that the editor of the *Japan Mail* has been deceived about him. It is perhaps, scarcely necessary to say that our contemporary's suspicion is incorrect. The writer of the "Notes" is unquestionably

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a Chinese, and we may add that his letters are published exactly as they reach us, without correction or change of any kind. We give place to them because it seems very desirable that the public should know something of what the Chinese themselves are thinking at this crisis.

Lieut.-General Baron Kodama has been appointed Minister of State for War, in conjunction with his present post of Governor-General of Formosa. Indeed, according to the phrasing of the Gazette which announces the appointment, the administration of Formosa will be the Baron's chief post and that of the War Office his secondary duty. Viscount Katsura resigns the portfolio of War. He has shown much obduracy in his resolve not to remain in office after the change of Cabinet, though public opinion was evidently in favour of his continuing to discharge the duties of a post which he has filled with much ability,

There is a report that the House of Congress has rejected the bill for removing the duty upon tea, but some hopes are still entertained of action in the Senate.

The Vancouver Court is said to have decided that the legislature had no competence to deprive naturalized Japanese of the franchise. A test case was brought before the Court by Messrs. Homma Tomekichi and Yamazaki Nei. It is not yet known whether an appeal will be taken.

The trouble in the Tokyo Beer Company has not yet been settled. There are two parties, the Yokohama and the Tokyo, but the former, being in possession of much the larger number of shares, has correspondingly greater power. At first the question was limited to action with reference to a loss of 114,600 *yen* made by the Company during the first half of the present year, the Tokyo section being desirous of writing that amount off the shares, and the Yokohama section advising that money should be borrowed at 8 per cent. to pay off the Company's indebtedness of 165,000 *yen*, on which interest is now being nominally paid at the rate of 4 *sen* daily, or 14.6 per cent. yearly. A fresh complication has occurred, however, owing to a discovery that the interest really paid to the company's creditors—of whom the Industrial Bank is the chief—is only 3½ *sen*, whereas one of the directors was pocketing the remaining half *sen*, thus enriching himself to the extent of some 2,600 *yen* yearly. This revelation has naturally led to much commotion, but the upshot seems to be that the losses will be written off the old shares and that new stock will be issued.

The Japanese Military authorities have been working for the past two years endeavouring to construct a balloon which should be not only impervious to climatic influences but also, in part at any rate, capable of direction. They are said to have succeeded.

The redoubtable Mr. Tanaka Shozo has been remanded for trial on a charge of contempt of court. It will be remembered that, in his capacity of an interested but not implicated spectator during the trial of the men accused of fomenting disturbance in connexion with the copper-mine trouble, he took the opportunity of charging the public procurator with receiving bribes and calling him a fool, aggravating the offence by a prodigious yawn. He is understood to have requested that his trial should be postponed until after the opening ceremony of the Diet which he wished to attend.

The affairs of the Higashi Hongwan temple in Kyoto appear to be falling into a state of increased confusion. The friends that undertook to try to effect a settlement have resigned their office, owing to the priests' failure to observe the conditions to which they had pledged themselves, and it is now expected that peremptory proceedings will be instituted by a bank which is the temple's creditor for an amount exceeding six hundred thousand *yen*.

The reported fracas between two Dutch sailors of a British ship and some Japanese gamblers at Moji, is now said to have been an affray of a very common-place description. The sailors were staggering along in a drunken condition, endeavouring to fix a quarrel on every one they met, when unfortunately they encountered two Japanese *otoko-date*, the stalwarts of whom Mr. Mitford writes in "Tales of Old Japan." A conflict ensued forthwith, the *otoko-date* being a species of gentry who never decline any challenge of the kind. One of them drew a short sword and with it inflicted several wounds upon the sailors. The matter is now under investigation.

The graduation ceremony of the Artillery and Engineers College took place on the 26th instant, Prince Kanin attending as the Emperor's Representative. Two hundred and eleven students graduated. It should be mentioned that this is a college where youths study after they have passed elsewhere through the courses necessary for qualification for commissions in the army.

EXPANSION OF LOCAL EXPENDITURES.

Any undue expansion of administrative expenses by the Central Government is regarded by the *Keizai Zasshi* as an abuse which ought to be remedied. The case is different with provincial, or rather prefectural, outlays, any increase in which, if devoted to the purposes which ought to be kept in view (civil engineering works, police improvement, spread of education and sanitary reform) must be matter of congratulation rather than of adverse comment. The undertakings which lie within the scope of the local authorities are closely connected with the amelioration of the social condition of the people, and no member of the community should begrudge money spent on that object. But our contemporary complains that local expenditures are not always bestowed on the purposes mentioned. It gives the following comparative figures representing the local outlays for 1892 and 1897 (25th and 30th years of *Meiji*):—

Items of Expenditure.	Settled accounts of the 25th year of Meiji. Yen.	Settled accounts of the 30th year of Meiji. Yen
Fu and *Ken* Assemblies ...	348,631	340,595
Local buildings and repairs	97,141	32,287
Salaries and travelling expenses of district officials, and office expenses	1,728,247	1,953,100
Building and repair of district offices	51,439	105,918
Police	4,702,036	5,577,137
Building and repair of police offices	107,140	200,042
Prisons and prison buildings	3,269,443	4,145,565
Public works	7,305,505	15,194,342
Expenses in aid of communal civil engineering works	2,541,268	5,576,837
Industrial, including aids...	246,386	947,131
Education, with aids....	1,270,893	2,994,643
Sanitation, hospitals, inclusive of subsidy	379,842	923,135
Relief funds	60,690	70,605
Election of representatives in the Diet	3,978	12,383
Expenses of dealing with municipal and prefectural taxes	315,107	495,138
Notifications and notices ...	50,547	51,797
Others.....	910,712	1,426,592
Total	23,389,005	40,047,237

Thus, during the past six years the local expenditures have increased from 23,380,000 to 40,040,000 *yen*, the difference being 16,650,000 *yen* or 71.2 per cent. As to details, the greatest increment is noticeable in civil engineering expenses, the amount having swelled from 7,300,000 *yen*, to 15,110,000 *yen*, with a balance of 7,880,000 *yen* or 170.92 per cent. Next come the aids to communal engineering works which increased from 2,540,000 to 5,570,000, with a balance of 3,030,000 or 110.94 per cent. Education expenditures rose from 1,270,000 to 2,990,000, the balance being 1,720,000 or 130.58 per cent; outlays for police increased from 4,700,000 to 5,570,000, showing a difference of 870,000, or 18.7 per cent; prison expenses, from 3,260,000 to 4,140,000 with a balance of 87,000 or 26.8 per cent; industrial outlays, from 240,000 to 940,000, indicating a difference of 700,000, or 280.45 per cent. In the item of miscellaneous expenses, the increment has been 600,000 *yen* or 37.3 per cent; in sanitation it was 540,000 or 140.32 per cent; in the outlays for districts the amount increased by 220,000 or 13 per cent., and finally the expense of dealing with the *Fu* and *Ken* taxes was augmented by 180,000 or 57.1 per cent.

Although the prison expenditures beginning with the present fiscal year have been transferred to the charge of the Treasury, the enormous increase during the past five years justifies the belief that the burden upon the local inhabitants will continue to grow. At all events, the steady and extravagant augmentation of outlays for provisional administration can hardly fail to excite the wonder, if not the apprehension of the nation at large. What strikes the eye at present in prefectural towns throughout the empire is the pretentious character of all the public edifices, but at the same time what surprises travellers in the interior is the clamour which is everywhere heard against the onerous burdens imposed upon people in the provinces. It has been observed that the Government frequently undertakes works which are as unnecessary as they are incompatible with the resources of the people. Bunglings of this kind may be excused if they arise from lack of judgment or discretion on the part of the authorities concerned, or from the conceit of the provincial inhabitants. What makes them inexcusable is the fact that by the machinations of political parties, the local expenditures are allowed to be deliberately miscalculated so as to render arrangements for public undertakings susceptible of error. The following table shows the manner of raising the necessary revenue.

Items of Revenue.	Settled accounts for 25th year of Meiji. yen	Settled accounts for the 30th fiscal year yen
Land tax rate (*chiso-zei*) ...	8,407,158	13,327,761
Family tax	3,186,328	5,318,830
Business tax.....	2,746,181	1,805,985
Additional impost in connection with business tax.....	—	711,707
Miscellaneous tax	1,671,686	3,486,200
Rate of imposition per head of population	0.40	0.58
Aids and grants from the Treasury	2,067,368	4,440,524
Contributions	120,295	212,683
Miscellaneous receipts	2,974,261	7,186,080
Brought over	5,813,238	9,390,410
Total..... .	26,969,515	46,039,190

FIRES.

Fire occurred in a printing office at Urawa, Saitama Prefecture, on the evening of the 25th inst. Ten houses and one godown were destroyed and three damaged. Seven men were injured

A little before twelve o'clock the same evening, fire broke out at Miyamachi, Omiya, and nine houses were burnt and two damaged. An hour later in the same street three houses were destroyed

A fire at Shioiri, Yokosuka, which broke out at 7.30 p.m. on the 25th, destroyed two houses.

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RESIGNATION OF MR. HOSHI.

TO the surprise of the public, and apparently of his colleagues also, Mr. Hoshi Toru has resigned his portfolio. His reason for so doing is set forth in a species of manifesto, from which we gather that he holds the theory that a statesman must regulate his conduct in such a manner as to avoid vehement attack, and that if he becomes the object of such attack, whether justly or unjustly, he loses his qualification for high office. A doctrine of that nature has been held in other countries to apply in the case of diplomatic officials. One of their first duties, according to some authorities, is to keep things quiet and to avert complications by preventing disputes. But that principle evidently pre-supposes a state of Society among whose members a due sense of responsibility exists; a state of society where neither politicians nor journalists regard slander as a useful weapon instead of avoiding it as a disgrace. Unfortunately that is not the state of Japanese society to-day. A section of the press is conspicuous for indifference to the prime duty of respectable and self-respecting journalism, and the public shows so much indifference towards its utterances that there is no safety for any reputation. A few, a very few, newspapers are careful to be guided by the dictates of truth and justice, but many lend their columns readily to the ventilation of any story that seems likely to create a sensation or to promote a political purpose. It is therefore easy to raise a storm of accusation against any person sufficiently prominent to warrant the effort, and if the logic of Mr Hoshi's reasoning be carried into practice under such conditions, the result is that any statesman can be driven from office by an organized outcry on the part of his enemies. That analysis of the situation now confronting us is, we admit, somewhat superficial. On the other side it may be argued, not without force, that however defective the exponents of public opinion, there is no possibility of rousing it to serious utterance unless some tangible material exists; that, in short, there can not be smoke without fire. Our view is, however, that partly owing to the undeveloped condition of newspaper morality in Japan, partly owing to the novelty of political discussion, ordinary rules of conduct are not entirely applicable here, and that, consequently, a better end would be attained if a man of Mr Hoshi's prominence undertook to demonstrate the impotence of newspaper slander instead of investing it with new force by voluntarily becoming its victim. Mr. Hoshi is evidently influenced by some subtle considerations which must not be omitted from any appreciation of his decision. He thinks that the office of cabinet minister should not, as a general principle, be held by any one who has failed to regulate his previous course so as to avoid noisy collisions with his opponents, and he thinks also, as a special principle that it is not loyal on the part of a Cabinet Minister to expose his colleagues to vicarious discredit on his own account. Those considerations, being entirely in accord with the code of morality summed up in the Japanese word *giri*, will certainly meet with approval. It will be agreed, we predict, that Mr. Hoshi has acted a manly part, and has fully discharged the intangible obligations believed to devolve on all prominent men in this country. He remained in office until his innocence of the charges preferred against him was definitely established, and he then resigned in obedience to principles which themselves constitute a vindication of his character. But while we give due weight to that view, we can not forget the hard fact that his enemies have driven him from office, and that in the eyes of the roughly-judging public the triumph is on their side. Neither can we doubt that the effect of this scandal will be to encourage further recourse to the discreditable weapons employed by the *Mainichi Shimbun* and sit coadjutors. Mr. Hoshi knows his public. The procedure he has chosen will win sympathy. Yet his slanderers set out to deprive him of his portfolio, and they have succeeded. Success of that kind is a dangerous precedent, especially under circumstances such as those now existing in Japan.

METAL WORK.

A VISIT to the principal shops in Honcho-dori, the shops chiefly frequented by foreign residents of Yokohama and by travellers landing here, shows that a trade of some magnitude has gradually sprung up in silver articles, such as spoons, dishes, bowls, vases, menu-stands, boxes and so forth. That there was room for large enterprise in this field is a fact often pointed out in these columns in past years, and we are not at all surprised to observe that our forecast has been verified. There was a time when, in spite of the evidence of extraordinary glyptic skill furnished by the sword ornaments which so many foreigners collected, no one appeared to think of getting silver utensils made in Japan, and when a race-cup or a presentation-piece was required, recourse was had to China or India, where the silver-smiths' work never could bear comparison with that of the Japanese. Such a mistake is no longer perpetrated. But if there is cause for congratulation is one sense, there is reason for much regret in another. It has fared with the work of the Japanese silver-smith precisely as it has fared with the work of the Japanese art-artizan in every branch; vitiation has been the result of his attempt to cater to foreign taste. Among the hundreds of silver articles displayed in the shops of Yokohama to tempt European or American buyers, we have not been able to find one that reaches the standard of even second-rate skill. All are of the same kind—profusely decorated with designs in high relief, which, when not obtained by the simple process of casting, are chiselled so rudely as to be without the smallest claim to technical excellence. There has always been a broad distinction between the Japanese point of view and the foreign with regard to glyptic work. The Japanese clearly distinguishes the pictorial aspect from the technical. As a matter of fact, the greatest Japanese chisellers of metal in all eras were not designers. They obtained decorative subjects either direct from contemporary artists, or from the numerous grammars of design which the artizan class possessed. Thus no credit belonged to them with regard to the design itself, unless it was the credit of making a tasteful selection. Their credit began and ended with the technical execution, and it is to the quality of the chiselling that the Japanese connoisseur looks, whereas the foreigner thinks primarily of the picture and the decorative effect. Of course, there are some practical considerations in favour of the latter canon, but its pernicious potentialities are very visible in the work of which we are now speaking. None of it, absolutely none, displays any of the qualities of vigour, grace, delicacy and naturalistic fidelity that distinguish the metal-artist of Japan as he is known among his own people. The whole aim of the Yokohama silver-smith seems to have been to produce what might be called a "handsome" object at small cost. He apparently knew that he was working for customers who would not recognise, or pay any attention to, skill in sculpture, and that if he showed them a really fine specimen at a correspondingly high figure, they would merely call him exorbitant and go next door, where an equally showy object could be had twenty or thirty per cent. cheaper. There is no other way of accounting for the absolutely uniform inferiority of all the specimens in all the shops. They have been forced down to a low technical level by the pressure of competition among sellers, and by a lamentable want of discrimination among buyers. Trade is trade, and if a demand exists for these rude articles, we do not say that it should not be satisfied. But the trouble is that the reputation of the Japanese sculptor of metals suffers. Such work does not invest him with any title to claim special superiority, or to become, as we believe he might become, the world's recognised craftsman in many branches of metal sculpture. Our readers, if they pause to reflect, will probably say that, after all, the fault is with the foreigner, and that since he is content with inferior work, the Japanese can not reasonably be expected to offer him anything else. We do not altogether deny it. What we urge, however, is that the Japanese might profitably make some effort to educate European and American customers to a higher standard. They might have sufficient enterprise to keep in stock a few really choice specimens, so that a foreigner unacquainted with the *kinzoku-shi's* real capacities, would have an opportunity of learning something about them by the aid of object-lessons. At present he has no such opportunity. The impression he must inevitably carry away from a visit to the

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Honcho-dori shops is that Japan's metal workers are very mediocre artizans, not standing much higher than the artizans of India or China. It is an unhappy state of affairs; a repetition, as we have said, of the familiar experience that the foreign market exercises a demoralizing effect upon Japanese art.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR DECEMBER

According to investigations completed by the gank of Japan (says the *Keizai Zasshi*), the amounts of national taxes to be collected by Government, and the calls on companies' shares during this month are estimated as follows:—

NATIONAL TAXES.	Yen.
Mining taxes for the next fiscal year	148,201
Hokkaido Marine Products (for the 4th period)	73,305
Total...	221,406

CALLS ON SHARES. Name of Company.	
Tokyo Electric Light (new shares for 2nd period)	105,000
Jômô Petroleum (new shares for 3rd period)	22,500
Nippon Land and Marine Insurance (3rd period)	625,000
Tokyo and Yokohama Electric Railway .	85,000
Naniwa Railway (new share for 2nd period)	26,000
Sangu Railway (3rd new shares)	60,000
Nankai Railway (2nd new shares for the 2nd period)	236,000
Total..	1,063,500
Grand total	1,284,906

This amount is to be taken into the vaults of the Treasury and of the various companies in the interior, within this month

As to the amount to be distributed in the form of interest on public bonds, dividends of companies, and redemption of their debentures, the figures stand as follows:—

INTEREST ON BONDS.	
Consols	3,867,340
War bonds	1,814,469
Old bonds.....	219,494
Tokyo Municipal Loan	238,800
Osaka Water Works bonds	8,980
Osaka Harbour bonds	292,800
Kioto Municipal bonds	23,463
Tokyo Municipal bonds....	200,000
Total.....	6,719,276

For the dividends of companies and the redemption of their debentures, the figures are:—

Dividends of Tokyo Electric Railway Co...	261,040
Dividends of Tokyo Electric Light Co. ...	95,000
Dividends of other companies	365,918
Redemption of debentures of Nippon Railway Co.	18,400
Total	740,358
Grand total	7,459,634

Thus the amount to be distributed exceeds that to be accumulated by 6,174,728 *yen*—a circumstance which may tend to ease the money market by the close of the year. As, however, the end of the year is usually characterized by stringency of the economic market, it is doubtful whether the opposite result will be experienced this year.

In investigating the condition of foreign trade it is to be remarked that while we have hitherto had an excess of imports, the month of November witnessed an excess of exports to the extent of over 1½ million *yen*, as a result of a diminution in the volume of convertible notes and the consequent depreciation of commodities. Nevertheless, as the total since January had already reached 85 million *yen* excess of imports, the exodus of specie continued steady even in November, gold and silver being exported to the amount of 1,614,549, and 1,283,949 *yen* respectively. The excess in the export of specie, however, being only 41 millions of *yen* since January, as compared with the excess in the import of merchandise, which amounted to 85 millions, the outflow of the metal is not likely to cease in the near future. As to prices, it may be of interest to observe that the average in November had risen to 181 against 180 in the previous month, showing an appreciation by 0.74 per cent. Compared with the corresponding period of last year, however, a falling off by 2.7 per cent. is noticeable.

At present, the exodus of specie has had the effect of diminishing the volume of notes in circulation, and it may confidently be asserted that unless issue above the legal limit is resorted to, prices will continue to fall, and exports will exceed the imports. This, in turn, will reduce the amount of specie to be exported, and a relaxation in the circulation of money will soon become apparent. But as the Bank of Japan is now prepared to increase the over-issue so as to meet the requirements of the economic community, prices have risen instead of falling.

CAUSES FOR THE RECENT DISTURBANCES IN CHINA.

By Rev. Henry Stout, D.D.

Much has been said and written concerning the recent disturbances in China, and incidentally some attempt has been made to indicate the reasons for the uprising. It is too soon for any one to hope to discover these reasons with any great degree of accuracy; that belongs to the historian of later times. But it is possible to point out some of the more prominent and efficient causes that lie somewhat upon the surface. That is the attempt of this article, made in the light of the history and customs of the people, the character and the conditions in which they have been placed in recent times.

In the first place, the very name of China by which the people have always designated their country, "The Middle Kingdom," indicates the attitude of superiority which they have assumed for themselves, and by which all other people are regarded as outside barbarians, inferior, and naturally despised. When these "barbarians" forced themselves upon China, this disposition of the people ran into dislike, accompanied with suspicion, and ended in cordial hatred.

The Chinese have always been a self-satisfied and self-contained people. In their conservatism they have refused to admit that the world moves, that society advances, and that customs must change. They will not learn that the world is for the people of the world. They have tolerated those who have come to them from outside, first from indifference and then from necessity. When difficulties have arisen, then they have temporized, manœuvered, and yielded only to force, being always willing to pay to be left alone. In all this unreasoning attitude towards the world at large, they have put themselves in the wrong, and prepared for themselves a day of reckoning.

The custom of organizing societies, generally secret, for the purpose of accomplishing certain ends in business, for affecting public opinion, the correction of abuses, actual or imagined, in society, the State, or general government, sometimes even aiming at the overthrow of a dynasty, as in the Taiping rebellion, is a very ancient one. In fact, the affairs of the country are largely under the control of such societies, which have sometimes accomplished great good. These societies have risen suddenly, become powerful, accomplished their end, and died of inanition with surprising celerity, or, they have been suppressed by imperial edicts, have changed names, and continued their existence and influence till some other subject claimed attention. Thus the machinery and the experience are always at hand to call into existence and conduct the affairs of such organizations, whenever occasion arises. The working of secret societies is a procedure that appeals powerfully to the Chinese character. He revels in its methods. The "Boxers" are said to be a society which was organized many years ago by country people in the Shantung province, for moral and religious study, for athletic exercise, and for mutual help and protection from other secret societies, and from the avarice of officials. It existed under such names as "The White Lily," and "The Big Knife." The latter name came into use when the governor of the province gave big swords to the members, to act as a kind of rural police in the protection of the country from lawless persons driven to robbery by losses through the overflow of the Yellow river. It was not long before they became worse thieves than those against whom they were to protect the people. When the recent agitation against foreigners began, the members of this society took a leading part and became known as "Boxers." They absorbed into their ranks the worst elements of society and of the soldiery, whom they often forced into the membership. One of the cardinal principles of the society in its original form has been maintained throughout, and has manifested itself in a religious frenzy for which the "Boxer" has become noted.

Notwithstanding this recent manifestation, with all its attendant hatred and cruelty shown to the Christians, foreign and native, there is probably no other people in all the world so tolerant of religion as the Chinese. Taoism, Confucianism,—which for many takes the place of religion—Buddhism, and Mohammedanism have been widely prevalent and their adherents amicably associated, frequently the same persons observing the rites of the different religions. Locally, Judaism and Christianity have had a place, the former being too insignificant to attract attention, and the latter sometimes falling into discredit and its adherents being occasionally subjected to persecution.

Here, then, are some of the conditions found in the history and in the characteristics of the people. If now we turn to an examination of the conditions of recent times, the later environment of the people, we find certain other facts that throw light upon this subject.

The Chinese find the foreigners in their country, coming in constantly increasing numbers of all classes, and with increasing influence. They are there under treaties forced upon the Government, often through war followed by heavy indemnities and the cession of territory. Hongkong, Tonkin, Formosa, Port Arthur, Wei-hei-wei, and Kiaochow, to say nothing about the suzerainty of the Liukiu islands and Korea, and the immanence of the Russians in Manchuria, remind the people of the fact that they have already lost tremendously at the hands of these foreigners. Some, through the personal benefits derived from trade, and others, on account of the benevolent work done in medical practice and education, or through the acceptance of the teachings of Christianity, are content to have the foreigners in the country. But the great mass cannot help regarding their presence with apprehension

The continued publication of articles in the foreign press in China for the last two years, upon the proposed partition of the country among the various European nations, as was done with Africa, attracted attention. These articles were translated, published, and discussed by the people not only, but found their way, of course, to the highest in authority. They were taken for what they stood, a real menace to the integrity of what still remained of the empire. It is hardly to be supposed that such seditious publications in any other country would not receive swift and drastic treatment at the hands of the authorities.

The concessions for the building of railroads and telegraph lines, and the opening up and working of mines have been secured under heavy pressure. The Chinese do not want these things. The manner of building the rail-roads and telegraphs, with disregard to the customs of the country, whereby *Fungshui* was supposed to be interfered with, and the cemeteries were violated, and through which the old methods of intercourse and transportation must cease, has been regarded with alarm. The people believe they see in these violations of the old customs the subversion of their country, and the common carriers that their very livelihood is threatened by these innovations. It is impossible for them to compete with rail-roads in carrying freight. They do not know that this same feeling of apprehension has been anticipated for them in every country where rail-roads have been introduced. They do not know that the result after the necessary readjustments have been made, has dispelled the illusion.

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In the ordinary everyday intercourse of foreigners with the Chinese, it must be admitted that there has been much to exasperate. The assumption of superiority on the part of the Chinese have been met with a counter practical application of the principle. The treatment, particularly of the lower classes, has too frequently been harsh and arbitrary. When they have gone abroad they have been made to feel that they were regarded as inferiors, that they were not welcome, and they have been legislated against. Foreign residents in China are often willing to admit that this harsh practice prevails, but they excuse it on the ground that it is the only way to get on with the people. However this may be, it must be admitted that in no sense can such conduct tend to conciliation and the production of good feeling.

As to the missionary question, which has figured so largely in all that been written upon this subject, there are a few things that must be borne in mind. In the first place, the Chinaman is so constituted that he is incapable of understanding disinterested benevolence. That men and women should leave their own country and go to a strange land, manifestly not to make money, because the missionaries do not seem to do that, but ostensibly to do good by healing disease and by teaching and preaching, with no ulterior secret, sinister motive, is to him unthinkable. The missionary is therefore an object of suspicion to ordinary Chinamen. When they see that violence done him is requited, as has sometimes been the case, by Government interference and seizure of territory, as in the case of Kiaochow by the Germans, they believe that he is is nothing more or less than a government agent in disguise. It is easy to understand how the belief in such sinister motives entertained by the missionaries is supposto be held also by their converts, who are assumed to be bewitched by their teachers. If the one is hated, so also is the other. Again, some years ago, after considerable diplomatic difficulty with the representatives of Roman Catholic Countries, the Chinese Government was induced to offer to confer the title of *Mandarin* upon the missionaries, supposing that in this way the settlement of difficulties arising through them might be facilitated by direct conference. The Roman Catholic Missionaries accepted the offer. This gave them rank and the right to appear in courts to press claims, or to aid in the defence of their co-religionists. Evil disposed persons took advantage of this and joined the Christians to secure the assistance of the priests. The Protestant missionaries did not accept the proffered rank, as being contrary to principles, but there have been cases when some of them have been sufficiently indiscreet to undertake to meddle in cases of litigation, or to press claims through the consular bodies. This has all proved to be irritating and disastrous.

One more fact should be noticed in this connection, namely, that while the Chinese are probably the most democratic people in the world, they cannot act except under leadership, for which leadership they naturally look to the officials, whom they fear or follow, as the case may be. The "Boxer" movement spread like wildfire over nearly the whole empire. In the southern and central provices it was held in check by resolute and determined viceroys. In the north it became rampant because it was countenanced by those in high places. Official sympathy and aid were given in many ways. The army was thoroughly affected. Government officials with peacock feathers in their hats were seen on the walls of Peking taking a leading part in the seige of the legations. The murderer of the German Minister was a man of rank. It therefore becomes perfectly clear that the protestations of friendship towards the foreigners on the part of the officials, and their declarations that what was done was the acts of an irresponsible but uncontrollable mob, were insincere. Had this not been the case no such disastrous events as those at Tientsin and Peking would ever have taken place. A few people in outlying districts might have been killed, but the "Boxer" movement would have lapsed from want of backing and efficient leadership.

Inquiring into the direct attacks upon the foreigners, it appears that the first to suffer at the hands of the mob were Belgians engaged in the building of a rail-road. In the investment of Tientsin and in the seige at Peking no distinction was made as to what class the foreigners belonged to, whether civil, military, or of the religious orders. All nationalities, Europeans, Americans, and Japanese, came in for an equal share of hostility. As a class, the missionaries have suffered most, both in loss of life and of property. The Chinese Christian converts were a special object of attack, suffering loss of property and unspeakable torture, generally ending in death. But all the Chinese known to be associated with foreigners were also set upon, whether they were employers or merely doing business with them. Those suspected of sympathy with the foreigners, and of favouring foreign innovations were held in suspicion, and often made to suffer. Even the wearing of clothing made of imported materials was enough at times and in certain places to condemn a man in the eyes of the zealots.

Thus it becomes clear that the madness of the "Boxers" and of their sympathizers, whether in the army or of the government, was not excited by, or directed against, any particular class. The missionaries suffered most simply because they were most exposed to attack, being distributed singly or in small companies far and wide through the country. The native Christians were attacked because they were marked as being associated with foreigners, and not because of their religious creed. It is a significant fact that a Buddhist temple built by the Japanese in Amoy was burned at this time. Probably no one would be foolish enough to argue that this temple was burned because it was Buddhist, but would admit that it was because it was the property of foreigners. The same truth ought to told for the Christian Churches destroyed. There were missionaries and native Christians in the sea coast and river towns, living alongside of the merchants and officials from abroad, but no one has heard of their being singled out and made to suffer as a class. They enjoyed the common protection of those easily defended settlements.

Therefore the conclusion must be reached that the reason—or want of reason—for the recent disturbances, with all the attendant cruelty and bloodshed, must be found in the one fact of hatred of foreigners and foreign innovations, incited by many and varied misunderstandings and unfortunate circumstances, for which the Chinese themselves and the foreigners are in a measure responsible.

A CHRISTMAS BREAKING-UP.

The Christmas breaking-up entertainment given by the pupils of the Yokohama Girls' High School in Van Schaick Hall on Saturday afternoon was particularly charming and delighted a large assemblage of parents and friends who assembled at the request of the Principal, Mrs. A. F. Cahusac. From the opening Carol, "Cold breaks the Christmas Dawn," until the strains of "God save the Queen" were lustily raised by the happy, childish voices, everything went without a hitch, the joyeous character of the occasion and hearty thoroughness in which the little lasses and lads carried out every item being emphasized in a striking manner. To Miss Burdett Leach must be accorded warm thanks for the way in which she trained the choruses and drilled the players in the calisthenic exercises, as well as for her superintendence of the hundred-and-one things which contribute to the success of such an entertainment—in every particular the children were a credit to their instructress. We do not intend in the short space at our disposal to particularize the various numbers of the programme: suffice it to say that the singing was bright and true; the recitations, even by the tiniest tots, were distinctly good, and the drills particularly attractive in their rythmic regularity. The recitation in character "Jill-of-all-Trades," was so well received that the Chairman (the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A.) was induced to take the audience into his confidence and reveal the name of the author, a duty which the programme had failed to perform. The author was Mr. A. F. Cahusac and he is to be complimented on the happy manner in which he adapted the song (and chorus) of *Sir Joseph Porter's*, in Sullivan's evergreen favourite "H.M.S. Pinafore" to the purposes of quite "another story."

The fairy-tale play which formed the second half of the programme was prettily mounted and excellently played, eliciting hearty applause. The overture, rendered by Miss Kathleen Stone, was one of the notable events of the evening. Programme:—

1—Carol..." Cold Breaks the Christmas Dawn" .....A. Scott Gatty
2—Calisthenics ...Dumb Bells..... —
3—Recitation....." The Duel"..... Eugene Field
Miss Norah Stone
4—Calisthenics...Rings and March.....J. Hullah
5 Song ....."Good Night"..... Cowen
6—Recitation.."Good Children Street" Eugene Field
Miss Iris Irwine
7 Calisthenics...Swimming Exercises... —
8—Song and March . . . . . —
9—Recitation in Character
" Jill-of-all-Trades"...A. F. Cahusac
Misses Edith Wilson, Jeannie Scott, Amy Gray and Maydie Cahusac, with Chorus of School Girls.
10—Action Song..."Swinging in the Orchard"..... ..F. Cowen
11—Recitation..."A Dear Little Girl"...A. F. Cahusac
Miss Bertie Cahusac.
12—Action Song..."Robin 'Robin"....A. Scott Gatty
13—Recitation... ." Playing School"..... —
Misses Helen McIvor, Isabel and Amy Unite, Sophie Cahusac and Master Ernest Esdale.

PART II.

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY,
A FAIRY-TALE PLAY IN FOUR SCENES,
Arranged and edited by W. T. Stead.

Characters.

Princess Mayflower, the Sleeping Beauty .....Miss Norah Stone
King .....Master Basil Cahusac
Queen .....Miss Gladys Woolley
Nurse .....Miss Alice Blundell
Fairy Rose, Fairy Lily, Fairy Buttercup — Good Fairies — Miss Iris Irwine, Miss Henrietta McIvor, Miss Elsie Esdale
Fairy Nettlestng, Wicked Fairy .....Miss Maydie Cahusac
Prince Valiant.....Miss Bertie Cahusac

Scene 1.—The Palace Nursery. Scene 2.—(16 years later) The Spinning Chamber. Scene 3.—Room in Prince Valiant's Palace. Scene 4.—Palace of the Sleeping Beauty.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

FOOTBALL.

The experiment of playing two games of football in one afternoon took place on Saturday and may, we suppose, be regarded as successful, though at the close of the second the ball was not clearly distinguishable. The trouble of course originated in Yokohama's lack of punctuality, the first game starting at 2.40 instead of 2.30. The Association play was very level, the Colours having perhaps the advantage, and time was called without a goal having been scored on either side.

The Rugby game began immediately, the teams being captained respectively by Messrs. K. F. Crawford (Colours) and W. S. Moss (Whites). Play was fast and ended in the Colours winning by seven points to three. Cartwright got a try for the Whites and E. W. Kilby one for the Colours. Anton scored a very pretty goal for the latter from a penalty kick.

A football match under Rugby rules was played at Vincennes last month between a team representing the Racing Club de France and a London fifteen representing the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the Westminster Bank. Fully 6,000 spectators were present. The Englishmen were seven points to the good at half-time, but they failed to stay, and were beaten by twenty-five points against eighteen.

The Rugby Football match played on Wednesday afternoon proved an interesting game, though very one-sided. As it was with many people a half holiday, there was a good attendance of visitors, on the ground and on the verandah of the pavilion. The game began shortly after 3 p.m. and was not finished till nearly 5 o'clock. The Yokohama youngsters, that is to say those

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born in Japan, showed a dash and go which carried everything before them, and ensured an easy victory over "The Rest," the game resulting in 26 points to the former, against *nil*. The score of the "Born in Japan" included a good touch down by Sydney Wheeler which was converted into a goal by Tanaka—the only goal scored in the game. There was some very pretty passing done by the two Kilbys, Allcock and others and altogether the game showed that the players were getting more used to the Rugby regulations. The players were as follows:—

Born in Japan (whites): Black.—E. B. Clarke
¾ backs.—E. W. Kilby, S. Wheeler, G. C. Allcock, Van Smith.
½ Backs.—Tanaka, H. W. Kilby.
W. S. Moss (Capt.), O. Strome, F. Pollard, W. J. White, W. B. Mason, A. Austen, A. Kingdon, A. N. Other.
The Rest (colours), W. Goddard.
A. S. Anton.
¾ Backs.—E. T. Dyer, J. S. Cartwright
½ Backs.—H. E. Hayward, K. F. Crawford
H. R. Barnard, H. Goldman, C. Levedag, G. G. Brady, V. Deacon, W. Schmaedecke, C. S. Thwaites, H. W. Clarke.

SHOULD BEER BE TAXED?

That beer should be taxed in the interests of national economy goes without saying, remarks the *Shogyo*. But before taking any steps to that end the Government must exercise due care. The beer brewing industry in Japan is still in its infancy and a due amount of encouragement and protection would undoubtedly benefit it. Beer was first introduced to the Japanese some twenty years ago, but it had a very limited range of popularity till 1884 and 1885. In those years German beer was largely consumed in the cities and provinces. In 1887 the Kirin Beer Brewery was established in Yokohama and in the same year the Yebisu Brewery was opened in Tokyo and the Asahi in Osaka. Other companies were formed later and the output of the whole during last year may be tabulated as follows:—

Name of Brewery	Name of Beer	Production (koku)
Nippon joint stock	*Yebisu*	37,000
Osaka joint stock	*Asahi*	27,000
Japan joint stock	*Kirin*	16,000
Sapporo joint stock	*Sapporo*	13,000
Tokyo joint stock	*Tokyo*	5,000
Marusan joint stock	*Kabuto*	6,000
Asada	*Asada*	2,000
Daikoku	*Daikoku*	1,000
Fukki joint stock	*Fukki*	1,000
Isogai	*Lion*	700
Hada	—	600
Meiji	*Meiji*	500
Hidaka	*Hinode*	500
Hakodate joint stock	*Hakodate*	800
Hokuriku joint stock	*Fuji*	200
Chitose joint stock	*Chitose*	200
Total		112,000

The gross total thus stands at 112,000 *koku* approximately. This, compared with the figures recorded several years ago, shows marked progress, still it does not exceed one-fortieth of the production of *sake* or rice liquor, and it may confidently be asserted that the beer industry in Japan will have to struggle vigorously for many years before it can secure anything like complete success. The above remarks, however, are confined to the productive capability of the industry under notice in so far as the present arrangements are concerned. The question of barley which constitutes the most important material in the manufacture of beer requires fuller and more careful consideration. It should be observed that barley of home growth, being much inferior in quality to foreign grain, is utterly unfit for the manufacture of palatable beer. The import of materials, particularly from Germany, is therefore absolutely indispensable in the present condition of affairs, the native barley being only used for mixing to the extent of 10 per cent. at most. These circumstances have led, during recent years, to the inauguration of a movement on the part of beer brewers, with a view to growing barley at home from imported seeds. The result of this, though insignificant, is not altogether unsatisfactory, for it has diminished the amount of imported grain to a certain extent. According to latest investigations the figures for this year's import of barley are as follows:—

Name of company.	Amount in *koku*.	Value in *yen*.
Japan joint stock	17,000	352,000
Osaka "	12,000	252,000
Nippon "	10,000	210,000
Sapporo "	3,000	63,000
Yebisu "	3,000	63,000
Marusan "	3,000	63,000

It will be seen therefore that Japan is largely dependent for her beer brewing materials upon foreign countries and that an attempt at taxation would be exceedingly harmful to the industry.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The average estimate of the present cotton crop, made by 139 members of the New York Cotton Exchange, is 10,075,000 bales. The highest estimate was 11,000,000 bales and the lowest 9,100,000.

Miss Eugenia Washington, a great grand-niece of General Washington, one of the founders of the Society of Daughters of the American Revolution and president of the Society of Founders and Patriots, died in Washington on Dec. 1.

The United States Mint executed during November 12,355,000 coins, valued at $2,254,458.14. Of this $116,338.14 was gold and was for the Government of Costa Rica. The rest was in American silver, nickel and copper. The value of silver coins was $1,908,000, and of base metal $230,120.

The Berlin *Borsen-Courier* states that representatives of the Standard Oil Company have arrived at Bucharest, in company with American geologists and engineers, in order to resume negotiations for the purchase of petroliferous territories belonging to the state and the concession of a pipeline conducting the oil from the centre of production at Campaina to the port of Constantza, on the Black Sea.

President McKinley has issued an executive order directing the United States Civil Service Commission to render such assistance as may be practicable to the civil service board created by the Philippine Commission to establish and maintain "an honest and efficient civil service" in the Philippines. The Commission is instructed to conduct civil service examinations there on the request of the board under regulations hereafter to be agreed upon by the two bodies.

Senator Stewart has introduced in the U. S. Senate a bill creating a Supreme Court for the Philippine islands, with five Judges, who are to be appointed for life, and each of whom is to draw a salary of $20,000 per annum. The bill provides for an appeal on writs of error to the United States Supreme Court in all cases involving more than $20,000, and in those in which the Constitution of the United States is involved. Speaking of his motive for placing the salary at so high a figure, Mr. Stewart said he had done so in order to secure men of character and professional standing for the office of Judge.

Cripple Creek, Col., is making a remarkable showing this year as a gold producer. During the first eleven months its mines have produced $4,222,458 more gold than they did during a corresponding period last year, and it is estimated that the total output of 1900 will amount to $23,758,300. This is a larger amount than the Klondike's output, and it will probably equal if not exceed, the combined gold production of both the Klondike and Nome districts. Coloradans are sanguine enough to believe that next year Cripple Creek's gold product will reach $30,000,000. These marvellous results are due as much to improved methods of mining conducted on the biggest scale as they are to the richness of the gold-bearing veins from which the metal has been extracted.

Some discussion is now being had in Porto Rico over the question whether or not the 15 per cent. tariff shall be terminated by the legislature lately elected. It may be recalled that the Porto Rican tariff act provides "whenever the legislative assembly of Porto Rico shall have enacted and put into operation a system of local taxation to meet the necessities of the government of Porto Rico by this act established, and shall by resolution duly passed so notify the President, he shall make proclamation thereof, and thereupon all tariff duties on merchandise and articles going into Porto Rico from the United States or coming into the United States from Porto Rico shall cease, and from and after such date all such merchandise and articles shall be entered at the several ports of entry free of duty." Under this provision the legislature chosen on November 6 will have the power to abrogate the tariff, by enacting legislation to provide funds for the necessities of the government. Opinion does not seem to have crystallized upon the subject up to the present, but it may be noted that some expressions of opinion are against the termination of the tariff, on the ground that it is very easily collected and helps the Port Ricans as borrowers, while the abolition of the tariff will require the imposition of a more burdensome and higher rate of internal taxation than is at present imposed.

Mr. C. R. Robinson, the head of the Towboat and Dock Company of Manila, who is now *en route* to the Philippines from the United States, informed a press correspondent just before he left San Francisco, that a syndicate would proceed at once to build a big railway system in the Philippines, thereby opening up territory in the island of Luzon. Mr. Robinson, in answer to the correspondent, said:—"That the promoters are sincere is indicated by the fact that they have gone so far as to survey, plan every detail of construction, and order material. More than $8,000,000 has been pledged, the bulk of the money coming from responsible New York and London houses. In addition to the railroad, it is proposed to construct a big dock at Marivales, which is about twenty five miles from Manila. By establishing a free port there a fine commercial trade would be secured to the enterprising capitalists." Mr. Robinson says it will take from four to five years to build the railroad. The grading can be done in from eighteen months to two years. A straight line has been surveyed, the idea being to branch out from the main road after the latter's completion and as the country is opened up.

Some interesting statistics of trade enlargement are brought out in a compilation of imports and exports made by the U. S. Chief of the Bureau of Statistics by decades since 1790, one hundred and ten years ago, and which for all practical purposes covers the life of the United States under the Constitution. Following is the table referred to:

	Imports.	Exports.
1790-1800	$614,845,454	$487,947,512
1801-1810	927,663,510	745,315,061
1811-1820	808,119,274	589,892,223
1821-1830	729,488,785	664,310,237
1831-1840	1,195,206,786	1,035,502,010
1841-1850	1,180,947,790	1,195,549,357
1851-1860	2,844,750,360	2,488,874,604
1861-1870	3,318,670,286	2,543,264,099
1871-1880	5,352,215,118	5,893,007,193
1881-1890	6,921,865,217	7,651,354,976
1891-1900	7,633,052,066	10,248,395,386
Total	$31,526,824,646	$33,573,412,688

	Excess of imports.
1790-1800	$126,897,942
1801-1810	182,348,449
1811-1820	218,227,040
1821-1830	35,178,548
1831-1840	156,704,776
1841-1850	*14,601,597
1851-1860	355,875,758
1861-1870	775,406,187
1871-1880	*540,762,075
1881-1890	*729,486,750
1891-1900	*2,615,543,320
Net excess of exports' 1790 to 1900	$2,046,588,012

* Excess of exports.

A writer in a recent number of the *Review of Reviews* states that Jamaica has no desire for annexation to the United States. Whatever may have been former attempts in that direction, says

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the writer, the inhabitants of the island are to-day as British as those of Great Britain. In spite of the present deplorable financial condition, in the face of the disaffection due to excessive taxation, although the representatives of the people have refused to legislate with the members appointed by the crown, Jamaicans do not look to annexation as their ultimate salvation. As in the case of the Danish West Indies, though in a different sense, the remedy is now looked for from within. And again it is the advent of the United States in the West Indies that furnishes the basis for stimulation. Capital is the present cry emanating from Jamaica. It was American capital and American brains which during the past ten years partly redeemed the island to itself. From the governor down to the lowest-caste coolie, all have praise for what the Americans have done. But will the investment of United States capital continue? Such is the burning question of the hour. Can the people of Jamaica keep on depending on Americans as their exploiters, or will they at last be forced to lend a hand themselves? All indications point in the direction that, with the fertile soil of Cuba nearer the United States, a great trade is to spring up between this island and the mainland. Then, Porto Rico likewise produces the identical staples with Jamaica. Before long shipments of fruit from Cuba and Porto Rico will prove these islands to be rivals of consequence to the British colony which has long held the monopoly.

The Division of Customs and Insular Affairs of the War Department has made public a summary of the first report of the Philippine Bureau of Forestry, organized in its present form under an order of the Military Governor, dated April 14, 1900. The director, Capt. Ahren, estimates the total number of tree species in the archipelago at nearly 500. Capt. Ahren states that from different sources of information he is led to believe the public forest lands comprise from one-fourth to possibly one-half the area of the Philippine Islands, or from 20,000,000 to 40,000,000 acres. There are fully 5,000,000 acres of virgin forest owned by the state in the islands of Mindoro and Paragua. The island of Mindanao, of some 20,000,000 acres, is almost entirely covered with timber, and even in the Province of Cagayan, Luzon, there are more than 2,000,000 acres of forest. He mentions tracts of virgin forests to be seen on the southern islands, where from 10,000 to 20,000 cubic feet of magnificent timber per acre were standing, with trees more than 150 feet in height, the trunks clear of branches for sixty feet, and more than four feet in diameter. He states that in these forests there are millions of cubic feet of timber which should be cut in order to thin this dense growth, so that the maximum annual growth could be obtained.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Trains on the Hankaku Railway went off the track three times on the 25th inst.

M. Loubet has conferred the Legion of Honour on M. Paul Brunat, Chairman of the French Municipal Council, Shanghai.

The Freemasons of Shanghai have decided to inaugurate the new century with a Ball, which will take place on the 30th of next month in the Town Hall.

About 30 yards of railroad slipped down Takinosawa, Saruha pass, Fukuhara-mura, Uzen Province, on the 20th inst., and four persons were buried in the landslide.

The formal opening of the railway to Korat took place on the 14th instant, when the King of Siam proceeded by special train to Korat and remained there a few days. No foreigners beyond the railway officials were invited to accompany the King.

Dr. D. K. Pearsons, the Chicago philanthropist, who has given a big fortune to colleges throughout the United States, has given another $50,000 to Colorado college. This is his second gift of this amount to this institution. It is payable January 1, unconditionally. Some time ago he promised it when the science hall was completed at $150,000 cost.

A telegram received by the *Jiji* from Moji, dated the 22nd inst., states that the British steamer *Goodwin*, laden with coal, left that port on the 21st, and ran ashore near Shirokizaki the same evening. Her cargo is being landed.

A Japanese junk owned by Nishimura of Oshima was run down by the C.P.R. steamer *Empress of China* off Honmoku about 4 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. The junk sank but the four *sendo* were rescued by a fishing boat which happened to be in the neighbourhood.

A *banto* named Migoro Shinsuke, employed by Hori Ryosuke in a coal shop at Akasaka, Tokyo, was arrested by the Yotsuya Police on the 23rd inst. He made an imitation weight purporting to represent 6 *kwan* 500 *me* and succeeded in robbing the Aoyama Palace of upwards of 25,400 lbs. of coal.

The General Omnibus Company of Paris is going to adopt the power of compressed air instead of horses. A great factory for compressing the air is to be erected at Billancourt. The air, at a pressure of 1,400lbs. per square inch, will be conveyed to the stations for omnibuses in steel pipes laid along the roadway.

The distinguished bravery of Mr. James Watts, whose ride from Tientsin to Taku during the height of the trouble in the North was the means of saving Tientsin, has been rewarded by the German Emperor. He has received the Rettungs-Medaille, which is a high civil decoration given for the saving of life.

A telegrgn has been received by Messrs. Dodwell & Co., to the effect that the steamer *Alpha*, which left Victoria for Yokohama the other day, sustained damage to her hull during the voyage, and on her way back to the former port foundered. The *Alpha*, which was a vessel of 700 tons, had a cargo of salted salmon.

It is proposed to form a company at Shanghai under the name of the Anglo-Chinese Fibre Co., Ltd., to acquire and work a process for degumming China Grass and extracting the fibre. The share capital is £10,000, in 5,000 ordinary and 5,000 deferred shares of £1 each. The Chartered Bank of India, etc., are the bankers of the company and Messrs. Holiday, Wise and Co. its agents.

Personality cannot always be excluded from journalism, and we (*N. C. Daily News*) trust to be allowed to quote from a private letter from the North which says:—"Sir Ernest Satow has made a very favourable impression in Peking, giving at once the impression of ability and a great deal of reserved strength; moreover, he is very dignified and has a Chesterfieldian manner and a scholarship to which Peking is not very much accustomed. Our folk all think he promises well; my informant was a French lady who is a good judge."

An armed burglar boarded a Japanese junk anchored on the Oka river, near Yoshihama-bashi bridge, early on the morning of the 26th inst. While the burglar was demanding money from two *sendos* another *sendo* ran off quietly and reported to the Kameno-hashi police station. The police constables, however, made such a noise in their heavy boots that the burglar's attention was aroused and he jumped into the water and swam across the creek, only to be arrested later. His name is Morita Kanekichi, Kimitsugori, Chiba.

Rear-Admiral McNair, so well-known in China and Japan as the immediate predecessor of Admiral Dewey as commanding Commodore of the U.S. Asiatic squadron, died at Washington suddenly on Nov. 28th, death being due to apoplexy. Frederick Vallette McNair was born in Pennsylvania Jan. 13, 1839. He entered the Navy after a course in the Naval academy at Annapolis Sept. 21, 1858, so that he was in the service more than forty-two years. He would have been retired on account of age on Jan. 13 next. He saw service under Farragut at New Orleans and ran the gauntlet at Vicksburg, winning promotion for gallant service. He became a rear-admiral in July, 1898, when Rear-Admiral Mathews was retired.

The fifth annual general meeting of the Mosquito Yacht Club was held on Thursday afternoon, a large number of the active members of the Club being present. The membership of the Club is at present 122. During the past season keen interest was shown in racing, there being in all 15 events. The following committee was elected for the ensuing year:—A. R. Owen, Commodore, H. W. Buckland, Vice-Commodore, F. L. Taverner, Hon. Secretary, F. J. Bishop, Hon. Treasurer, Committee, D. Marshall, P. Scott.

Following is the judgment of the Osaka Appeal Court in the appeal by F. J. Bardens, representative of Samuel, Samuel & Co., No. 54, Harima-machi, Kobe, the respondent being Tanaka Riyemon, No. 10, Higashi Kawasakicho, Kobe. The original judgment claimed damages arising out of a breach of contract in a rice transaction: The original judgment is quashed. The respondent shall pay *yen* 45,880 to appellant. The other claims of the appellant are dismissed. Costs of the original and appeal Courts are given against the respondent.

As a result of a conference held at Cardiff between the British Lords of the Admiralty and the South Wales coalowners, who usually supply coal for naval purposes, the former decided to call for tenders in respect of all known requirements for the year 1901, instead of dividing the order into some half-dozen seasons of the year as hitherto, and also for tenders under emergency conditions for the same period. It is expected that the order will run to about one million tons. This will be the largest order ever placed at one time for coal.

The supplement to the Encyclopædia Britannica seems to have something in common with Mr. Conrad's novel, "Lord Jim," which was begun in "Blackword" as a short story, and continued for love of the thing until it has issued in a long romance. Similarly, the supplement was to have been a one volume affair, and its good progress had been reported. Now we are told that Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace has handed over the editorship to Mr. Hugh Chisholm, and that the work will extend "to six or seven volumes, possibly more."

Spain is about to change her method of reckoning time, and, beginning on January 1st, 1901, the hours of the day will be numbered from one to twenty-four, instead of on the system now in use. The Queen-Regent has signed a decree establishing the new method of indicating time in the Spanish Kingdom. This decree provides that for all official and railway purposes, time shall be regulated by the time of the Greenwich Observatory, commonly known as Western European time. The hour of midnight will be designated as twenty-four. The interval, for instance, between midnight (24) and one o'clock will be designated as 0-05, 0-0, 0-59. Midday will thus become twelve o'clock.

From further particulars of the disaster to the training-ship *Gneisenau*, which have reached Japan through the German paper published in Shanghai, it appears that the vessel was lying in the Gulf of Malaga for gun-practice when suddenly a violent storm arose. So violent was the wind that all the anchor chains were broken, and the vessel began to drift towards a rock, whereupon the whole of the crew, consisting altogether of some four hundred and fifty persons, jumped overboard. As many as three hundred and fourteen men were saved, thirty-nine of whom have received injuries. Commander Kretschmann remained until the last moment on the bridge, and both he and the First Lieutenant, Berninghaus, are dead.

The prelude played by Sir Walter Parratt at the opening of the Memorial Service for the late Prince Christian Victor at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, says the *Jewish Chronicle*, is the Hebrew melody that was played at the Memorial Service for the late Duchess of Teck at Balmoral, when Her Majesty was present. It is an amplifi-

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cation by the late Cantor Naumbourg, of Paris, of the old chant that used to be generally and still is often introduced in the Benediction of the Priests (Numbers vi., 24-26) on the closing days of the Jewish festivals of Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles, when it is the custom to recall departed kinsfolk to mind in the prayer known as the "Hazkarath Neshamoth," or "Memorial of the Departed," and to make offerings to charity in their honour.

On 6th Nov. at Willis's rooms, London, Messrs. Robinson and Fisher opened a sale by auction of rare Japanese floral and arboreal plants and trees imported by Messrs. Yamanaka and Co. A Chabo Hiba, 2 ft. 6 in. in height, reported to be 200 years old, was sold for £11. Another of the same sort, but a green variety, in the shape of a tree overhanging a cliff, 9 in. in height and said to be 60 years old, went for £6 16s. 6d. A similar tree having regular branches, 2 ft. 4 in. by 3 ft. 4 in. and between 130 and 150 years old, was purchased for £16 6s. A golden Chabo Shiba, 20 in. high and 70 years old, sold for £5 15s. 6d.; and a wonderful specimen of pine—*Pinus Parviflora*—went for £14 3s. 6d. The latter has well-balanced and regular branches and must have been in the care of a skilful trainer, the trunk being in the shape of an octopus. Its height is 35 in., and it is stated to be 250 years old.

New proof of the probable truth of Mr. Andrew Carnegie's statement that Mr. John D. Rockefeller is the richest man in the world was given in the offer of $800 a share for 500 shares of Standard Oil stock, to be delivered January 1 next. The offer was made by Congressman Jefferson M. Levy. Assuming that Mr. Levy is not anxious to pay more than the actual value for Standard Oil stock, the holdings of Mr. Rockefeller in that company must be worth approximately $266,000,000. As is well-known, Mr. Rockefeller has large interests in many concerns besides Standard Oil. If he had increased his wealth in no other direction than through his Standard Oil stock during the last year he would still be worth about $95,000,000 more than he was a year ago. Mr. Rockefeller's annual income from his holdings of Standard Oil stock alone is estimated at about $16,000,000.

The *Glory*, the new flagship of the China Squadron, is, writes a naval correspondent to a home contemporary, the smartest flagship that Great Britain has ever sent to this station. Built by Laird's, at Birkenhead, she will have cost a good million or more by the time she gets to sea. Compared with the *Centurion*, the battleship which is the headquarters of the present Commander-in-Chief of the China fleet, the *Glory* shows a considerable advance. She is 30 ft. longer, over 2,000 tons heavier, better protected, and far more efficiently armed. The *Centurion's* barbette guns are of 10 in. calibre only. Those in the *Glory* are 12 in., of modern design, having a long range, and so mounted that they can be loaded in any position. This advantage is secured by having the loading chamber so constructed that it revolves with the guns. All that science and mechanical skill can do to secure rapidity of fire and staying power has been done for the *Glory*. She would be a very formidable enemy for any vessel to encounter. Beyond this, the ship is beautifully fitted.

A very sad accident occurred on board the British steamer *Athenian*, under charter of the U. S. Army, during her stay at Taku recently whereby the third officer, Mr. Davidson, came by his death in an extraordinary manner, says the *Nagasaki Press*. He was walking up and down the deck, chewing a small Japanese toothpick, when something occurred that caused him to laugh and to accidentally swallow the toothpick. At first the incident was deemed to be more or less of a jocular character and scarcely likely to be treated seriously, until the victim began to show signs of severe distress. Then the doctor of the ship was called, and shortly afterwards a messenger was sent ashore for further medical attendance. The toothpick passed down the unfortunate man's throat and into the stomatch. Almost immediately inflammation set up and despite all the skill that could be bestowed upon him he died in the greatest agony from peritonitis. The body of the unfortunate officer was taken to Shanghai for interment.

The transport *Indiana*, which went ashore on Pollilo Island some time ago, has been towed off uninjured by the *Pennsylvania* and has arrived at Manila.

The British ship *Dunsdale*, 1,779 tons, Capt. Rothery, arrived at Nagasaki on Saturday from Philadelphia, with a cargo of case oil. The vessel accomplished the voyage in 148 days.

Mr. Inagaki Chojiro, a student of law in the Imperial University, while shooting in Izu, on the 24th inst., was accidentally, shot by another of the party and died immediately.

On the 10th Dec. an over-crowded Canton river boat went on to the rocks near Yung K'i, owing to the breaking of her rudder, and in the confusion over 100 persons were drowned out of the 500 on board.

A hand-book of 35 pages issued by this well-known German Company gives an interesting retrospect of the conception and growth of the Norddeutscher Lloyd. Started in 1857 this line of steamships now carries on operations upon a truly gigantic scale, as may be judged from the fact that its tonnage (including ships in course of construction) amounts to 506,754; the horse power (also including that of ships not yet launched) is 410,000; and the value of the provisions consumed on board the vessels of the company in 1899 was 8,190,000 marks. The publication is handsomely illustrated, specially worthy of notice being several coloured views of the latest ships and of their sumptuous interiors.

The best of weather attended Christmas Day in Yokohama, the air being dry, clear and bracing. Most residences and places of business had already put up their New Year's decorations so that both in and out of doors the aspect was seasonably festive. The usual service was held on Christmas Eve in the Roman Catholic Church and was attended by a large congregation. Solo parts were most effectively taken by Mrs. Mollson and Mrs. Grauert. The Christmas Day service in the auditorium of the Public Hall, where the Christ Church congregation meet, was very impressive and the available space was all occupied. The solos in the anthem were taken by Mr. E. W. Maitland and Mr. S. H. Somerton, and the whole service was particularly bright, the congregational singing being an effective feature.

The *Official Gazette* gives the amount of currency in circulation as the end of last month as follows:—

Coins.	Amount in circulation. Yen	Increase or decrease on comparison with the corresponding period of last year Yen
New gold	8,108,627	D 1,718,777
Old gold	9,462,424	D 312 286
Total	17,571,052	D 2,031,063
Subsidiary silver	53,533,701	9,910,836
Subsidiary copper	17,446,923	D 59,642
Total	70,980,623	9,851,193
Total specie	88,551,676	7,820,130
Government paper	—	D 4,314,019
Bank paper	—	D 1,018,704
Convertible bank notes	200,697,014	D 27,633,405
Total	200,697,014	D 32,966,129
Total currency	289,248,690	D 25,145,998

Following is the judgment in the action in the Kobe Court in which the Russo-Chinese Bank is concerned:—

Appellant.—Kelly Raeburn, No. 18, Mayemachi, Kobe. Appellant.—L. M. Angelo, care of Margesam & Co., Armenian Street, Madras, British India, represented by Kusaka Kinetaro. Respondent.—Alfred Greynell, representative of the Russo-Chinese Bank, No. 77, Yamashitacho, Yokohama, represented by Masujima Rokuichiro and Hirata Joye. The Osaka Appeal Court has delivered the following judgment in the appeal against the original decision, claiming an increased deposit as security against a documentary draft drawn between the above parties. The portion relating to Kelly Raeburn in the original decision is amended. The claim against him by the respondent is dismissed. The appeal of E. M. Angelo is dismissed. The costs to be born by Kelly Raeburn in the original and appeal Courts shall be borne by the respondent, while the rest shall be defrayed by E. M. Angelo. The claim of the respondent for an attachment on the property of appellants is dismissed.

It is stated that Mr. Linden W. Bates, the American hydraulic engineer, has been asked to undertake the widening of the Suez Canal. He was to leave London for the Mediterranean in the latter part of November, at the Canal company's invitation, which bears the endorsement of the British Colonial Office. The corporation which controls the East African waterway is represented as desirous of rendering it available for the passage of ships of greater draft than can now be accommodated. They propose to accomplish their object by a colossal dredging process, and Mr. Bates' services are being enlisted owing to the fact that he has just completed three leviathan dredging ships for the Queensland Government, the largest of them a seagoing barge of 1,000 horsepower, which is about to leave Armstrong Whitworth's yards at Newcastle-on-Tyne. The Canal authorities, with the influence of the Colonial Office, have secured the Australian colony's consent to stop the machinery en route and test its efficiency for this purpose. On his return to Europe next year Mr. Bates will design, at the personal solicitation of the Czar, a comprehensive scheme of river, harbour, and canal improvement for the Russian Government. Two years ago he constructed some works on the Volga river in Northern Russia. He has a dock harbour contract in process of completion for Calcutta and expects to map out government works for Tasmania and Siam in the course of his present trip, prior to coming to Europe to improve the river Scheldt at Antwerp for the Belgian Government. In 1895, Mr. Bates helped to lay out the Chicago sanitary canal and designed the big Mississippi works at Memphis for the War Department.

CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH MISSIONARY WORK HAS BEEN CARRIED ON SINCE 1883.

THE REV. D. C. GREENE, D.D.

During the seventeen years since the last Missionary Conference in 1883, Japan has witnessed some of the most significant events of her dramatic history. While the secular historian will not fix upon that year as an epochal date in Japanese chronology, still it stands near two important concessions to the nation's demand for representation institutions, namely, the establishment of provincial assemblies in 1878, and the Imperial Rescript definitely promising a national constitution within ten years, which was promulgated October 12th, 1881,—concessions which will receive increasing attention from students of constitutional government.

Few foreign observers appreciate the strain to which the Government of Japan was subjected by the efforts of the reactionists who made their last desperate struggle in the Satsuma Rebellion, on the one hand, and those of the ultra-radicals on the other. A recent Japanese writer with abundant opportunities for knowing the opinions of the leading statesmen of the time, referring to the condition of affairs during that period of conflict says:—"The opposition divided itself into two factions, reactionists who, profiting by the conservative spirit of certain of the people, would establish a military oligarchy, if not a feudal system, radicals, or rather revolutionists, who, pushing the democratic principle to an extreme, would transform Japan into a pure parliamentary monarchy, if not into a republic."

Again the same writer says:—"We believe our readers can easily imagine what the political condition of our country would have been in case the constitution had not been promised in 1881, nor promulgated in 1889. . . . If the centralized form of Government had been continued for ten or twenty years after the organization of the Liberal and Progressive parties, who can say that the passionate radicals would not have appealed to violent means? . . . The inauguration of constitutional Government was

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at that epoch the only natural, not to say possible, way of solving the question at issue."*

Those who recall the fierce antagonisms of that period, of which 1883 might be looked upon as a representative year, will not regard this description as exaggerated. It was a time of intense excitement, and to all true friends of Japan one of great anxiety. The question continually arose in the minds of thoughtful men: Will the compromise measures and the accompanying promises of the Government serve to allay the prevailing excitement?

The place which political questions occupied at that time in the minds of the public render it fitting that in this account of the conditions under which missionary work has been carried on, the first place should be given to a brief sketch of the politics of the period which this paper is expected to survey.

INTERNAL POLITICS.

From the very beginning of the *Meiji* Era, the question of representative Government has occupied a prominent place in Japanese politics. In the so-called "Charter Oath" taken by His Imperial Majesty when he ascended the throne in 1868, the first article stands as follows:—

"A deliberative assembly shall be formed and all measures shall be decided by public opinion."

How far the thoughts of His Imperial Majesty and his counsellors had definitely crystalized at that time, it is impossible to say; but following the overthrow of the Shogunate a special council composed of the representatives of the feudal lords was organized. This council came to an end with the breaking-up of the feudal system in 1871. Other expedients for ascertaining the sentiments of the people were resorted to, but nothing approaching the modern conception of representative institutions was ventured upon until 1878, when in a cautious way provincial assemblies were established, simply for deliberation and counsel.

These provincial parliaments rapidly outgrew their constitution and took on a distinctly legislative character. At first this growth of influence, and even authority, was looked upon with suspicion by the provincial prefects; but the great advantage secured by devolving responsibility upon the representatives of the people led very early to a *modus vivendi* which gave the people a substantial share in, one might almost say the control of, the local administration.

The Imperial Rescript of 1881 was issued in the light of this experiment, though before its fullest and best fruit was known; still the Rescript undoubtedly carried special weight from the fact that it promised something not altogether new, but rather the nationalization and enrichment of a scheme which in a local and meagre form was known and prized.

Political excitement by no means disappeared,—indeed, if we leave out of account the armed conflicts of the preceding decade, it may be questioned whether the excitement was not greater after than before; but however this may be, it ceased to assume a threatening character, and it became evident that the wide statesmanship of the time was equal to the emergency, in spite of some harsh measures of repression which may perhaps be condoned, though they can hardly be justified.

It was natural that the two great clans, Choshu and Satsuma, which took the lead at the time of the Restoration, should exercise great influence upon the Government. So strong was that influence and so persistent, in spite of many changes of personnel, that a new word was coined to indicate the origin of these successive administrations. They were described as so many different phases of the *Sat-cho* syndicate which was said to control the Government. "Down with clan Government:" became a party cry. However, in the main the combination worked well and deserves much credit for what the nation has accomplished. Under this arrangement ministerial positions were not at all restricted to these two clans, but the power was in their hands, one might say almost continuously until the present cabinet was formed, largely out of new men, with little or no reference to their clan relationship.

The promised constitution was promulgated February 11th, 1889, and the first Diet met for organization in December, 1890. The Constitution provided for a ministry responsible solely to the Throne and the action of the Diet was limited to a relatively narrow sphere, the bulk of the Budget being purposely placed outside its control. The House of Representatives comprised 300 members from as many election districts into which Japan proper was divided. The House of Peers was made up of (1) princes of the Imperial Blood; (2) princes (dukes) and marquises sitting by virtue of their rank; (3) representatives of the counts, viscounts and barons elected by their respective orders; (4) one representative from each of the prefectures, chosen by the fifteen highest tax-payers from among their own number; (5) eminent men from different walks of life, appointed directly by the Emperor.

From the first session of the Diet until the war with China in 1894, the struggle for party supremacy begun outside was hotly continued within the Diet, greatly to the embarrassment of the Government. These parties were not differentiated so much by radically different policies, as by questions of method, or of traditional association, or, it would appear, often simply by purely personal attachments. As regards the purpose to secure enlarged scope for legislation the overwhelming majority of the lower house was stoutly opposed to the Government and stood firmly together, so far as destructive measures were concerned,—indeed, there seemed no sufficient reason why the various cliques should not unite into one strong party; but such a consolidation was not consummated, though a temporary union was effected some years later. This persistent conflict led to frequent dissolutions, but the authority of the Lower House gained fuller recognition and wider scope, notwithstanding the manifest purpose of the successive ministries to keep the Diet strictly within the field marked out by the constitution.

The war with China brought all parties into temporary harmony in view of their common determination to maintain the prestige of Japan. The Government received the enthusiastic support of the entire people and conducted the war to a successful issue, although owing to the interference of certain Powers, Japan was deprived of some of the fruits of her victory. To the effects of that war upon the life of the nation reference will be made elsewhere in this essay. It is sufficient here to note its influence upon the relations of the Government to the Diet.

The experience gained during the war showed impressively the advantage to the Ministry of a strong following in the Lower House of the Diet. This led the later administrations to ally themselves with one or another of the political parties. At times it has seemed that their alliance would speedily open the way for party government in the true sense of the term,—indeed, the late Okuma Ministry was hailed by some as a party ministry; but the present trend of affairs does not seem to be in that direction. Some of the ablest men, who a few years ago were the untiring advocates of the party government, are now urging the maintenance of the constitutional method of ministries responsible to the Throne.

It is interesting to note the synchronism between this reaction against party government and that manifest in recent years in Great Britain and even in the United States. The well-known letter of Prof. Goldwin Smith to the London *Times* nearly two years ago, in which he gave an affirmative answer to the question, "Is Party Government decaying?" was almost immediately reproduced in the *Kokumin Shimbun*. The distrust of parliamentary institutions in the United States on the part of certain thoughtful men is also well attested.

Here in Japan, the new conservatives, if they may be so called, are to be found often among the young men of education, some of whom have gained high scholastic honours abroad. Such men appear to hold their views tentatively, with as great a hatred of bureaucracy as their radical confrères; but others would emphasise the power of the Government at every turn, regarding the Diet as a necessary evil, the scope of which should be narrowed at every point. Apparently the political association lately formed under the presidency of Marquis Ito represents the former of these two sections of what, for lack of a better name, may be termed the new conservatives. So far, however, as this Association has declared its purposes, it would seem to limit its conservatism to the point now under consideration. In other respects it bids fair to become the organ of a true liberalism. The questions which this reaction raises possess great interest to the student of public affairs, but time forbids an attempt to answer or even to state them here.

This synchronism to which attention is called is not a mere coincidence,—what some would style a Nipponism which has just happened to manifest itself at this particular time. Neither is it on the other hand a mere imitation. It is rather a new and striking illustration of the close intellectual bond which binds Japan to the West. It is the natural reproduction in Japan of a habit of thought now current throughout the civilized world, and it is current here because Japan is now a part of the civilized world.

In this connection it is proper to note, as an index of the careful attention paid to the question of political reform, the provision for minority representation enacted by the present Diet. It is understood to be chiefly due to the efforts of Mr. Hayashida, the Secretary of the Lower House. This scheme greatly enlarged the election districts and provided that three or more representatives to the respective provincial and municipal assemblies should be chosen from each district, but at the same time allowed each voter to cast his ballot for a single candidate only. The first elections under this law were held in August and September of last year. The result is reported to have been even more satisfactory than had been expected. The effect was to give the minority a representation in each local assembly in very close accord with its strength in its respective province or municipality. An interesting exception to the equitable working of the system is, however, reported from one of the northern provinces, where it is said that a candidate of unusual popularity lost his election simply because his followers, fearing that this popularity would attract to him an undue proportion of the votes, cast their ballots for the other candidates of their party. The difficulty which this incident illustrates can, it is believed, be guarded against. At all events it is not thought by the supporters of the scheme to constitute a serious objection. A provision of this law, by lowering the property qualification, increased the total number of voters at the local elections from about 450,000 to 2,100,000. The national elections are now to be conducted upon a similar plan. Both the Government and the Lower House sought to place the suffrage upon the same basis as in the case of the local elections, but the attitude of the House of Peers rendered a compromise necessary. As a result, the number of persons entitled to vote in the national elections became, it is officially estimated, about one million.

Another provision of the new election law is intended to enlarge the representation of the commercial and industrial classes. Another removes the property qualification for membership in the Lower House. These two clauses working together will, it is believed, change considerably the complexion of the House, and by bringing in a larger proportion of *samurai* raise somewhat the standard of education and general intelligence.

LEGAL REFORM.

Very early in the *Meiji* Era, the work of legal reform was seriously taken in hand, with the aid of thoroughly competent foreign advisors, the value of whose services is gratefully remembered. Let any one read, for example, Mitford's Tales of Old Japan, or one of Encho's novels, in imagination reconstruct the society which they represent, and then contrast it with that which exists to-day. The comparison cannot fail to make a deep impression. The progress which it reveals has never been seen elsewhere within the same short space of time in all the world's history, and this progress is on the whole fairly represented by the codes.

Even as early as 1884 the jurists and penologists of Europe and America had in their hands the first edition of the criminal codes. Such men as Wines of the United States, Berner of Berlin, Mayer and Stein of Vienna, Labbé of Paris and others thought them worthy of high commendation. Van Hamel of Amsterdam wrote:—

"A penal code far from all reminiscence of a backward age and crude law, inspired by a liberal spirit, revealing a scientific sense, composed with a legislative art worthy of praise; a Code of Criminal Procedure, which does not deserve it is true to figure in the first rank and does not open any new horizons, but nevertheless sanctions, in general, the grand principles of modern procedure, the irrevocable conquests of civilization and justice; such are the precious gifts the Japanese Government has just made to its people."*

The Civil and allied Codes published more recently have been born of the same spirit. Their humane provisions have not in all cases been effective, partly no doubt owing to the large allowance made in the codes themselves for traditional usage and local customs, an allowance in general suitable and perhaps necessary, but which it would appear has been at times the occasion of serious injustice. This injustice must not be minimized, but emphasise it as we may, the administration of these various codes has resulted in a benefit so great that it would be difficult to overstate it. Both in the State and in the family, the individual has his rights defined and protection assured.

Van Hamel in the passage cited above refers to these privileges as "the precious gifts of the Japanese Government to its people," and he is justified in so doing. It would not be right to infer, however, that the people have had no share in the formation of the general system of law which the codes embody. They are truly the fruit of a sentiment widespread in the nation and which is in important particulars even in advance of the written law.

The press and the public school have fostered and disseminated this modern humanitarian sentiment—this respect for man as man—throughout the community to an extent not generally appreciated, and there is no reason to apprehend a reaction in this regard. There are, it is true, some points of importance which await revision. In criminal procedure, the liberty of the accused is unnecessarily restricted; the private examination of criminal defendants without the privilege of counsel, abandoned by Germany and France, is still in vogue; the discretion of the judges in the matter of bail and in the treatment of evidence would seem to be excessive, or at least unwisely

* The writer not long since was invited to dine with certain prominent men in a provincial capital. One of the guests was the warden of a large penitentiary and curiously enough four other guests had been the tumultuous days referred to in the text been arrested for political agitation and detained for a considerable time in a neighbouring prefecture under the care of this same warden. Of these ex-prisoners, one is a prominent member of the National Diet and another is the president of a local assembly. There could hardly be a better illustration of the efficacy of the pacific policy above referred.

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exercised, to the extent of seriously weakening the defence, and it is to be feared also, of lessening unhappily the respect of the people for the judiciary. Imprisonment figures far too largely also as a punishment for slight offences.

These codes and the administration of justice founded upon them must, of course, be judged from the standpoint of the law and practice of Continental Europe, and it is claimed that the revision of the criminal laws now in progress will bring them up to the high standard of France and Germany. Even the revised code, however, will present many points of contrast with the English and American systems, and it is difficult for one accustomed to the latter to speak fairly of the former, but it must not be forgotten that some of the most learned jurists of the world take sides against the English system and that, too, upon humanitarian grounds. However this may be, the Japanese codes, viewed as a whole, are the embodiment of a noble conception of the relations of the individual to society and to the State.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

When the period under review began, the question of treaty revision was receiving the eager attention of all thinking Japanese. The burdens imposed by extra-territoriality were serious at the outset and became heavier as the foreign settlements increased in size and the relations of Japan to the foreign Powers became more complicated. Even at the beginning, Mr. Townsend Harris perceived the difficulties which were impending. He wrote in 1858, "The provision giving the right of extra-territoriality to all Americans in Japan was against my conscience." Again he wrote, "I fear I shall not live to see it abrogated."* That the provisions of the old treaties were necessary at the time will be conceded by most candid students, both Japanese and foreign. That they were attended by some incidental benefits of great value is quite plain. Still, that they should have been continued in force so long without amendment was certainly not creditable to the Western Powers.

It is not necessary here to discuss the different attempts at revision made prior to 1894. The successive disappointments, place the responsibility where we may, produced a most unfortunate impression upon the nation and served to intensify the morbid nationalism which formed so unhappy a feature of the history of the past decade.

The struggle for revision practically ended with the signing of the British treaty in London, July 16, 1894. Ratifications were exchanged in Tokyo, August 25, of the same year. Treaties with the other Powers followed in due course. All agreed in providing for the assumption, on the part of the Japanese Government, of direct authority over resident foreigners. These treaties, excepting those with France and Austro-Hungary, came into operation on July 17th, 1899, those with the two Powers mentioned becoming effective on the 4th of August. For many years previous, the sentiment of the missionary community had been decidedly favourable to the abolition of extra-territoriality, and the missionaries accepted the new conditions with great cordiality. It was inevitable that the change should bring with it some inconveniences arising from unfamiliarity with the Japanese methods of governmental administration, but the transition has taken place without serious friction in any quarter, while experience certainly goes to show that the new order is much more favourable to healthful progress in every department of missionary work than the old.

If regard be also had to the broader interests of the whole body of foreign residents, in spite of certain important questions now under discussion, a hardly less favourable report must be made. While there are certain features of the Japanese law which Anglo-Saxons, at least, might wish different, and some which they view with deep regret, the system as a whole promises to work well and to be in harmony with the interests of all law-abiding residents.

The war with China, which was formally notified to the foreign Powers August, 25, 1894, and which terminated with the treaty of peace signed at Shimonoseki, April 20th, 1895, exerted, as has been described, a powerful influence upon domestic politics. Its importance in the history of international affairs was not less marked.

Speaking in general terms, the war may be said to have grown out of the constant interference of China in Korea, which produced a condition of unrest, not only in Korea itself, but also in Japan. Efforts to secure a definite understanding with the Chinese Government failed, and it became evident that China had resolved, so far from receding, to strengthen her position by the use of an armed force. The result was a war in which Japan exhibited unexpected military and naval strength, coupled with great skill in organization. The war came too late to exert an influence upon the movement for treaty revision; but, nevertheless, it secured for Japan a new place in the family of nations. The instructions issued to the commanders in the field embodied an enlightened philanthropy which was in the main manifest in the conduct of officers and men. The few lapses which occurred were in the face of unusual provocation. They were far less aggravated than some which have lately disgraced the Christian name in North China.

There can be no question that it is not only the purpose of the Government, but the will of the nation, that the military and naval forces shall be kept in strict discipline and restrained from all offences against non-combatants. The degree of success her commanders have met with in this regard has contributed not a little to the respect which New Japan has won from foreign observers.

The fact that the combined action of certain European Powers deprived her of what her people regarded as the natural fruit of her victory has affected unhappily the life of the people, for it has caused an undue concentration of thought upon the question of national defence and has led to an enlargement of armaments out of proportion to the wealth of the nation. The conviction is very strong, however, in all quarters, that encroachments upon the rights of Japan can only be prevented by a vigorous preparation for armed resistance.

THE GROWTH OF THE NATION.

As one of the results of the War with China, the island of Formosa and the Pescadores group, with a population estimated at about 3,000,000, came into the possession of Japan. This new territory is held as a colony with the view to its ultimate absorption as an integral part of the Empire. There have been many difficulties in the way of the administration of the colonial government, some of the most serious being due to the lack of homogeneity in the population. It cannot be said that they have been overcome. Progress has been slow, and opinions differ as to the degree of success obtained, but Japanese observers in general claim that substantial results have been gained and speak confidently of the future. This confidence is shared by some at least of the resident foreigners, and would seem to be justified.

The Hokkaido, the Jesso of the early Dutch geographers and the Yezo of later times, while no new acquisition, has not even yet been accorded the full rights and privileges enjoyed by the Empire at large. It does not, for example, have representatives in the Diet, and local self-government has been but partially introduced. Still, arrangements have been made by which six representatives will be sent to the next Diet. The population is yet sparse, but it is growing—in certain portions very rapidly. With the better means of communication to be afforded by the gradually growing railway system, and the harbour improvements now in progress, immigration will surely increase. The natural resources of the island, both as regards agriculture and mining, suggest a future of unusual material prosperity; and the residents, in spite of the intense cold of the winters and the many hardships of a *quasi*-colonial life, seem contented and hopeful.

The population of Japan proper, that is, excluding Formosa and the Pescadores, has grown from 37,451,764 in 1884 to 43,228,863 in 1897.*

Comparative statistics showing the distribution of the population for the year 1884 are not at hand,† but it will be sufficient for our purpose to take those of 1886 and compare them with the latest available, namely those of December, 1897.‡

In the eleven years, the total population of Japan proper increased from 38,151,217 to 43,228,863, that this is to say, thirteen and one-third per cent. The population of the cities and towns (*shi, cho, son*) of more than 10,000 inhabitants increased during the same interval from 4,506,060 to 7,383,168, that is, slightly less than sixty-four per cent., nearly five times the growth of the Empire at large.

It will, of course, be understood that certain allowances must be made in quoting these figures. In the first place, there was undoubtedly in 1886 a considerable number of towns whose population was verging on 10,000. The addition of a few score to the population of such towns would materially affect the percentage. Again, these divisions are governmental rather than sociological, and sometimes include no little rural population. For example, one *mura* in the list has a population of 25,000. Several other *mura* have over 20,000. The presumption is very strong that in these cases the population is altogether rural. Still again, recent political reorganizations have brought, not infrequently, outlying villages under the government of cities, so that their populations have gone to swell the number of so-called city residents.

Still, making due allowance for all these necessary defects in our calculations, we may still safely conclude that the city population has increased nearly perhaps fully, three times as rapidly as that of the nation as a whole. The percentage of increase of some of the important cities for these eleven years were as follows:—

Osaka	58	Nagoya	55
Yokohama	54½	Kobe	43½
Hakodate	40		

If we take the population of Hakodate given in the last British Consular Report, apparently from advance information from the census of 1899, we have an increase for thirteen years of ninety per cent.

From these comparisons it will be seen that many of the problems which are now perplexing the sociologists of the West will soon force themselves upon the attention of their Japanese colleagues.

The national revenue has risen rapidly, especially since 1891, when that derived from taxation stood at *yen* 103,231,000. That for the fiscal year ending in April 1900 was *yen* 236,715,000.†

The Army on a peace footing in 1891 was 41,379. It was in 1897 reported to be 97,379.

The navy in 1891 consisted of 30 vessels aggregating 42,284 tons, with a force of 9,563 officers and men. In 1898 there were 52 vessels aggregating 162,181 tons, with 24,779 officers and men. The tonnage now actually at the disposal of the Government is stated by competent authority to be about 200,000; while that under construction, or definitely provided for, will bring the total to not far from 250,000.

THE NATIONAL WEALTH.

In describing the growth of Japan, the increase in the national revenue has already been referred to. It is fitting that the national wealth upon which that revenue is based should also receive our attention. It is of course impossible to attempt an exhaustive statement, but it is essential to a comprehensive view of the conditions under which the missionary work has been carried on, that the degree of material prosperity which the nation has enjoyed should be indicated. It will be sufficient for our purpose to cite certain illustrative statistics relating to different departments of life.

In an old country like Japan one might not expect to see striking progress in agriculture, but the figures subjoined show a considerable increase in the area under cultivation, as well as in production. In the Hokaido alone in the single year 1897, the area under cultivation increased more than 100,000 acres. (See Acting Consul Chalmers Trade Report for 1899.)

During the twelve years from 1885 to 1897 the land classed as *ta* (usually called rice land, but not all devoted to the cultivation of rice) increased to the extent of 95,268 *cho*, other tillage land, 399,138 *cho*; amounting to 494,406 *cho* in all. A *cho* is equal to about two and one half acres, so that the total increase was, roughly speaking, 1,230,000 acres, a trifle less than eleven per cent.

Land actually under cultivation as rice land increased during the same interval by 176,858 *cho* and that devoted to *mugi*, that is, wheat, barley and rye, 215,480 *cho*, or eight and three-fourths, and fourteen per cent. respectively. In comparing the production, there is more difficulty because of the irregularity due to meteorological conditions; but if we take the average of the five years 1884-8 and compare it with the average of the years 1894-8, the result will be fairly trustworthy. Such a comparison shows a gain in the production of rice of twelve and a half per cent. and of a trifle less than twenty-eight per cent in that of wheat, barley, etc.

In the case of silk, statistics covering the same period are not at hand, but during the years 1888-97 the increase in the area planted with mulberry trees amounted to thirty-six per cent., while the production of raw silk increased by fifty-four and a half per cent.

In 1884 the number of manufacturing companies recorded was 379 with an aggregate capital of *yen* 5,048,299. In 1897 there were 1,881 companies with an aggregate capital of *yen* 105,381,106 *yen*. In the same interval the number of commercial companies increased from 654 with a capital of *yen* 8,987,560, to 3,630 with a capital of *yen* 260,227,479. Transportation companies increased from 204, with a capital of *yen* 6,891,534 to 454 with a capital of *yen* 164,684,155.

The sum total of the foreign trade for 1884 was *yen* 66,141,044. In 1897 it had become *yen* 452,046,000.

None of these figures are indicative of greater benefit to Japan than those bearing upon transportation. They suggest how much has been done to bring the different provinces together and all into close relations with the centres of the national life. It is, nevertheless, still true that the excessive cost of transportation is a burden which weighs heavily, especially upon the interior provinces.

Aside from these statistics indicative of business activity, it is worthy of note that the introduction of banks, which are now found in all the larger towns,

* See *Kenzo*, July 22nd, 1858.

* The Japanese census is taken on the 31st of December of each year. Certain portions of the returns generally appear in the following autumn, but the fully tabulated report is not published until two years after each census. That report is called the *Toki Nenkwan*. The Statistics of this paper are taken from *Toki Nenkwan* published in December, 1899, which gives the census of 1897.

† The growth of the urban population is unfairly represented by the statistics of the cities mentioned. Especially in Osaka, Tokyo, and Yokohama, the urban population has far overleaped the boundaries of the respective municipalities.

† Allowance must, of course, be made in these and following statistics for the decline in the value of silver and the recent adoption of the gold standard.

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and sometimes also even in the villages, insurance companies, public warehouses, etc., has tended to lower the rate of interest and to lessen the speculative element in ordinary commerce, and in this way has been of great service to the middle classes.

The increase in the volume of trade is of no little importance as showing the greater effectiveness of labour. Methods have been improved; the workman multiplies himself by the use to no small extent of labour-saving machinery, often of a humble sort no doubt, but still labour-saving.

The change in this respect has been much greater than is generally supposed. Perhaps no better illustration can be given than that of the ordinary blacksmith shops. They are humble enough, and their owners are still content with methods which seem awkward and ineffective; but if their outfit be compared with that which shops of the same relative grade would have had thirty years ago, it will be found that there has been added an imported anvil, a vice, one or more screw cutting tools, and quite likely an improved drill, representing altogether, probably, a capital several times the entire equipment of their forerunners. The aggregate of such investments on the part of the artisan classes must be very large.

But allowing for all this, there is, none the less, reason to believe that the average workman has become more forceful and performs his tasks with more energy than his fathers. In other words he has gained in some way a new moral impulse. What in the writer's judgment the source of that impulse is will be indicated later. At the same time the industrial activity thusillustrated has naturally lessened considerably the attention which might otherwise have been turned to religion.

EDUCATION

As the progress in education will be discussed in another paper, minuteness of detail will not be necessary here; still its importance and the close relation it sustains to the missionary work demand a place for it in this survey.

Owing to changes in the statistical arrangements and in the educational system, the year 1889 is taken as the starting point of our comparisons. In the case of the so-called "higher schools," which may be said to carry their students, perhaps, somewhat farther than the close of the Sophomore year in the American college, the starting point is the year of their organization. Before that time, their place was partially filled by schools of another name, but only partially, so that a comparison with them would be misleading. As the purpose is merely to illustrate the progress made, rather than to give an exhaustive statement of either the present or the past condition of the educational system of Japan, this lack of uniformity will not prove a serious defect.

The number of students increased as follows:—

		Institutions.	Instructors.	Students.
Imperial Universities	1889	1	229	839
	1897	2	198	2,255
Higher Schools.	1890	5	320	4,356
	1897	5	353	4,666
Middle Schools.	1889	55	1,123	12,352
	1897	159	2,308	53,691
Special Schools.	1889	84	1,430	16,518
	1897	272	2,589	36,914
Primary Schools	1889	26,102	65,665	3,031,938
	1897	26,860	79,209	3,994,826
Girls' Schools...	1889	25	278	3,274
	1887	20	310	6,799

The increased attendance at the universities and middle schools is very marked, and it is said that the supply of such schools is not yet equal to the demand. The attendance at the colleges has not greatly changed, because the limit of accommodation has been reached. The attendance at the primary schools is still less than it should be. The law passed at the last session of the Diet abolishing the fees hitherto paid by the pupils of the common schools will, it is believed, prove a great boon to poorer families. It will tend not only to bring more children into the schools, but also to keep them longer. Unfortunately a large number of children have been in the past withdrawn so early that their schooling has been of small benefit.

The reform in the method of writing the language which is receiving much attention in these days, if it can be made effective, will simplify the task of the children very greatly. Two methods have been proposed: one aims merely at reducing the number of Chinese characters to be used in ordinary literature to perhaps 1 200; the other seeks to abolish the ideographs altogether and to substitute the Roman Alphabet for the native syllabary. The Department of Education is interested in both methods. The difficulties in the way of transliteration are very grave, but sooner or later Japan must come to a phonetic system of writing, and the Roman letter possesses very great advantages over the native syllabary.

There has been, certainly of late years under the influence of an over-wrought nationalism, a disposition to bring all primary and middle schools, both public and private, into one inelastic system, with a rigidly prescribed curriculum. It is true the plans of the advocates of this system did not in terms include a prohibition of schools outside the system, but the privileges denied them, namely, postponement of military service and affiliation with the higher Government institutions, were so important, that it became a serious question whether they could secure students. This disposition found expression in the Private Schools' Regulations of August, 1899.

Many of the Christian schools had joined the so-called national system and had consequently adopted the prescribed curricula. In the new regulations there was a clause forbidding religious instruction in any schools following the curricula prescribed by law. As a consequence, most of the Christian schools gave up their licenses and the attendant privileges.

It was strenuously denied that this clause indicated any anti-Christian purpose, and some undoubted Christians have sustained the policy of the Government. The discussion which preceded the promulgation of the regulations, when they were before the High Educational Council, however, certainly showed on the part of certain advocates of the measure a decidedly hostile attitude to Christianity. The administration of these regulations has been less stringent than was feared and it is believed that the more serious disabilities will soon be removed. The privilege of postponing military service is already granted, irrespective of the religious features of the schools concerned.

This sketch of educational progress would be incomplete without a reference to the number of Japanese students who have studied abroad. What this number is, it is impossible to say for there are no available statistics, but it must be very large and include representatives of many departments of life. Among them a remarkable proportion have received recognition as advanced scholars in their special branches. They form an important link in the chain which binds Japan to the countries of the West. Their presence in their native land must in the long run tend toward harmony in thought and life between Japan and her sister nations.

THE PRESS.

After the school system and the supplementary schools, perhaps the most important secular agency at work in Japan is the Press. The printed page is already ubiquitous. The following comparison will indicate the progress during the period under survey.

	1884.	1897.
Books (titles) published .	9,893	25,578
Newspapers and Magazines, aggregate Circulation ...	61,162,611	431,813,536

As a result of the public school and the press many even among the lowly have come to take an interest in world politics. Some years ago the writer overheard two chair coolies on Mt. Hiei discussing the questions at issue in an American presidental campaign. A little attention to the subject will disclose a very remarkable widening out of the thoughts of many who seem to be living in the same world with their fathers.

ELEEMOSYNARY WORK.

An account of the extraordinary eleemosynary movement of the period might naturally find a place. That movement, however, is so important and its discussion would almost inevitably involve so much of detail, that it has very properly been made the subject of a separate paper. Nevertheless, its close relation to the spread of Christianity, and the fact that it serves as a noteworthy exponent of the new conception of the relation of the individual to society, which plays so large a part in the life of new Japan, both render a passing reference imperative.

It is impossible to say what degree of interest in the various forms of charity might have arisen, had organized Christianity never appeared in Japan, but attention may well be called to the extent to which the starting point of charitable effort has been found in the Christian community, as well as to the further fact that the leadership in such matters has been largely committed to Christian men. With no disposition to minimize the immense good accomplished by the Red Cross Society and the many Buddhist charitable organizations, it is impossible not to see in the large volume of work controlled by the Christian community, comprising about one-half of one per cent. of the total population, the evidence of a special sense of social responsibility.

THE ETHICAL SITUATION.

It was inevitable that the social and political agitation through which Japan has passed should leave a profound impress upon the ethical sentiment of the nation. The other day as the writer was riding by one of the Government schools which prepare students for the Military Academy, his jinrikisha coolie remarked, "I have two nephews in that school." The youths in question were the sons of a small farmer in a neighbouring prefecture. Under the old regime, men of that class would have been practically serfs. In some provinces they belonged to the land and lived lives determined for them by a rigid custom which included the crops they should raise, the clothes they should wear, and an abject subservience to their social superiors. Now the pathway is open not merely to military commissions, but to the highest offices of State. Such a radical change in social relations induced a new atmosphere, which has permeated every corner of the land.

The question at once arises. Has this changed atmosphere been favourable or otherwise to the character of the people? Many observers both Japanese and foreign think it has not. They claim that the morals of the people have deteriorated, some would say, to an alarming extent. It is asserted that the criminal population has increased, and especially that the number of youthful delinquents has become disproportionately large; that dissipation in various forms is rife in many schools; that politicians are corrupt, etc. One in close contact with the people hears such jeremiads almost daily. Still there is room to question whether the facts adduced warrant the wide inference drawn from them. As to the growth of the criminal population, it is by no means certain that this means an actual increase of offences against life and property. Probably life and property were never before so secure as now. The scope of law has been widened and the complicated conditions of modern life have brought within the jurisdiction of the courts many acts which in other days, if they met disapprobation at all, never came within the cognisance of the Government. As to the schools, the means of comparison hardly exist and the charges are too indefinite, and affect too small a proportion of the public schools to make them a satisfactory basis for a wide generalization; still there is reason to fear that the middle school system which brings together large numbers of young boys with a very inadequate substitute for parental guardianship is fraught with grave evils. As to political corruption, there is doubtless far too much, but a somewhat close attention to the political history of the past thirty years appears to show that the charges are greatly exaggerated. The most that can be said is that the new freedom, the new educational arrangements, and the new political system have been attended with certain serious evils.

On the other hand, it is clear that the national conscience is alive and that its criticisms extend into a broad territory which in former times was for the most part outside its view. Take for example the present attitude of public sentiment toward the lowly and despised, the *eooile*, the *eta*, and, recently, the prostitute. It is not merely that the law is interpreted in their favour, but that public sentiment is excited and stimulates the administration of the law. Take also the new sense of duty toward the afflicted and suffering embodied in the eleemosynary efforts already referred to. Even as regards the evils mentioned and whose existence must be admitted, it may well be doubted whether in any previous age, the condemnation by the public was ever so severe or so persistent.

A certain school of writers has demanded a special ethical system for Japan, based on the principle of loyalty; but there have not been wanting other forceful writers who have shown that a national system of ethics in these modern times is as unthinkable as a national system of mathematics or chemistry. There is not space to treat this subject fully, but as an illustration of the enlarged scope of ethical thought among leaders of public opinion, it is worth while to note two remarkable addresses delivered in the early summer of 1895, one by Professor Iyenaga, then of the Keio Gijku, Mr. Fukuzawa's famous University, and later of the Higher Commercial School of Tokyo, and the other by Marquis Saionji, at that time Minister of Education. Professor Iyenaga maintained that deeds like the attempted assassination of Li Hung-chang could not be treated as mere sporadic cases of crime, but that they were the legimate result of the defects of the Confucian system and proved its incompatibility with the facts of modern life. The Marquis Saionji in similar terms condemned the deficiencies of the old system and indicated that his administration would favour a broader and more cosmopolitan view of social obligations.

The writer hesitates to discuss the vexed question of commercial morality, but he ventures none the less to express his conviction that the development of large business interests is having a most valuable educative influence upon the mercantile classes and has already induced a more healthy public sentiment regarding commercial questions.

Japan, like her sister nations, clearly has her own peculiar ethical problems—some of them of much gravity; but at the same time her statesmen and moralists have every reason to be gratified by the promptness with which the people have recognised the responsibilities of the new regime and to believe that their problems can and will be solved. Taking the ethical situation as a whole, the outlook is full of encouragement.

THE RELIGIOUS SITUATION.

The most marked feature of the period under survey has been the rationalistic movement of the past

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twelve years. From the beginning of the period the rationalizing spirit has been abroad in Japan. In the first years, the deism of the eighteenth century attracted much attention. The old arguments of Tom Paine were revamped and used by the Buddhists as weapons against Christianity. That form of attack was not successful. While the onset was most severe the church seemed to grow most rapidly.

A few years later the new liberalism entered Japan. It spread rapidly and widely and wrought sad havoc with the faith of some who had been looked upon as leaders of the young church. Some have been disposed to place the responsibility with the representatives of the liberal theology in the missionary body. Possibly their presence may have accentuated the movement, but this is by no means certain. It had already gained headway before they came and it certainly went farther than most, perhaps than any, of them wished or expected. Among them were found some of the strongest advocates of spiritual religion, men who believed in and proclaimed a God of providence, belief in whom was the crying need of Japan.

The more probable view is that this wave of rationalism is simply the manifestation in Japan under special conditions of a force which has been felt throughout the civilized world. It is associated with the same agnostic philosophy and appears to be closely connected with the same evolutionary theories of the universe. The doctrine of evolution is not necessarily incompatible with a clear and definite Christian faith. There is every reason to believe that the faith of the Church will in due time become as fully adjusted to the doctrine of evolution as it is to the Copernican theory of the universe, which once was so serious a stumbling block but for the time being it has been a source of perplexity and doubt to many souls even in the oldest Christian lands. What wonder then that in the Church of Japan, so young in experience, it should have chilled enthusiasm and checked the faith of many.

It was but a natural result that preaching should become disproportionately apologetic and ethical, that there should be too little nourishment for the faith that worketh by love. The churches in every quarter have suffered,—some more than others no doubt, but all have had their life in some degree impaired. Signs are not wanting, however, of a revival of faith.

It would appear that not Christianity alone has felt the force of the incoming tide of rationalism. As regards Shintoism, the effect is seen in the denial that its ceremonies embody the idea of worship. They are, it is said, simply forms by which reverence for one's ancestors is expressed and which may properly be observed by any one, whatever his religious faith may be.

Among the Buddhists the result would appear to be more similar to that among the Christians. There is more stress laid on the ethical element in religion, at least this is the impression made upon the writer.

It is interesting to note, in passing, that as in other lands so in Japan, the growth of a rationalistic habit of thought among the more intellectual classes has been attended by a marked reaction in other quarters. The vagaries of Christian Science and other forms of superstition in America find their parallel in the *Tenrikyo* and the *Remmonkyo** of Japan.

Buddhism has felt in a marked degree the influence of Christianity, at least in its methods of work and in the life which it inculcates. It essays to organize its believers into young men's associations, women's and children's societies of various kinds, etc. They have their hospitals, orphan asylums and the foundation at least of one child-saving society has been laid, not to speak of a goodly number of schools formed in apparent imitation of the Christian schools.

In some quarters this competition has been attended with ill-disguised hostility, but in the main there has been little for the Christians to complain of,—indeed, it is gratifying to record that while the so-called Religions' Bill was under discussion in 1899 and the early months of 1900, the Abbot of the Western Branch of the great Shin sect used his influence in a most liberal and irenic spirit.

The only serious feeling of restriction came in connection with the Private Schools' Regulations whose effect upon the Christian Schools has been elsewhere sufficiently discussed.

The Religions Bill referred to above, while it failed to gain the sanction of the House of Peers, was evidently in accord with public sentiment. It failed of enactment chiefly because of the opposition of the Eastern Branch of the Shin sect; but there is every reason to suppose that with some possible modifications it will soon become law.

That bill recognizes the equality of Shintoism, Buddhism, and Christianity before the law. This is its chief characteristic. It is based upon similar legislation in most of the countries of Continental Europe, but is framed in a liberal spirit. While there are certain clauses the wisdom of which is at least questionable, there is nothing in it which will seriously restrict the liberty of belief or practice. This measure when once sanctioned by the Diet will be a fitting recognition of the position already accorded to the Christian Church.

Another paper will narrate the history of the Christian movement, but it will not be out of place to indicate by a few illustrations the place which Christian men have won in Japanese society. In doing so, use will be made of an article in the report of the Japan Mission of the American Board for the year ending March 31st, 1900.

According to the latest statistics, the number of enrolled Christians was as follows:—

Protestants	41,808
Greek Catholics	35,231
Roman Catholics	53,924
	130,963

Here we have in round numbers 121,000 Christians, representing a Christian community, including children (which are not included in the Protestant rolls) and other dependants, of not far from 225,000 souls, or about one-half of one per cent of the population of Japan outside of Formosa. This comparatively small body has already furnished one cabinet minister, two justices of the Court of Cassation (the national Supreme Court), two Speakers of the Lower House of the Diet, one of them having been twice elected, two or three vice-ministers of State, not to speak of several heads of bureaux, judges of the courts of appeal, etc.

In the first Diet, besides the Speaker, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, and eleven other members were Christians, out of the 300 members of the House,—nearly nine times the normal proportion. In subsequent Diets, the proportion has never been less than four times the normal. In the present Diet, besides the Speaker, thirteen members of the House are Christians, and among them are to be found some of the most efficient men in the Diet. One of them was elected in a strongly Buddhist district by a majority of five to one.

In the Executive Committee of the great Liberal Party last year, two of the three members were Christians, while for the present year the ratio is one to three in the same Committee.

In the army, there are said to be 155 Christian officers, that is, about three per cent. In the navy, too, there is a goodly proportion of Christian officers, including two or three of high rank. The late Rear-Admiral Serata was a most ardent Christian and prominent in the activities of the Church.

In the universities and Government colleges, both among the instructors and students, the Christians are found in abnormal numbers. The same is true of the students sent abroad at Government expense. There are, it is said, at the present time six graduates of one of the best Government colleges studying abroad, and among these, five are Christians.

Not less than three of the great dailies of Tokyo are largely in the hands of Christian men, while in the case of several others, Christians are at the head of departments on the editorial staff.

As has been already noted, the most successful charitable institutions are also under Christian leadership, and the volume of such work in Christian hands is very large. The largest public institution for the poor in all Japan is also greatly indebted to the wise counsel and efficient service which it has drawn from the same small fraction of the nation.

This prominence of Christian men in so many departments of life is not due—it cannot be due—to accident, it must be attributed to a certain stimulus which is the product of their Christian faith. They have made a deep impression upon society. They fill these numerous positions of influence because, in spite of much prejudice, they have proved themselves worthy and have won the confidence of their countrymen. The influence accorded them is an unconscious tribute to the faith which has made them what they are.

CONCLUSION.

In the various changes which have been thus hurriedly described, there is manifest the co-operation of two forces born of contact with Western nations,—two thoughts, which, if not strictly speaking new, have yet assumed such new definiteness in the minds of the people that they are practically new thoughts. They are the conception of national unity and the conception of the value of the individual. These two new thoughts introduced into a strong and vigorous nation have borne their natural fruit.

Those who years ago had the pleasure of listening to the accounts the lamented Dr. Verbeck was accustomed to give of his early experiences in Japan will remember the vivid picture he drew of the fragmentary condition of society and the intense jealousy and suspicion between the *shizoku* of the different clans. He stoutly maintained that national patriotism did not exist save in a very rudimentary form. Certainly local interests were in those days the most prominent and the most absorbing. Though we now know that a national movement had gained some headway, there is no evidence that it would have prevailed but for the effect of foreign intercourse. The nation, however, soon became ripe for the revolution of 1868 which unquestionably was carried rather than its promoters anticipated or desired, and Japan became a true empire.

Since that day, the patriotic desire to forward the interests of the Imperial House and of the nation has been an ever-present force in the minds of all intelligent subjects. This desire would in any case have become a powerful factor in the building-up of a centralized government, but within the period with which we are now concerned, it allied itself with the new nationalism (or shall we not say chauvinism?) which has been so conspicuous a feature of European and American history during the past twenty five years. As Dr. Nitobe has said, speaking of one aspect of this nationalism, "the Japanese anti-foreign reaction is but a wavelet in this universal wave." The political and social history of the period furnishes abundant evidence of the strength and persistence of this force and the great value, on the whole, of its operation. Its fruit may be seen in every department of activity.

But emphasize this nationalism as we may, we must not lose sight of the operation of the second, and, as the writer believes, more potent, of the two great forces, namely, the new conception of the value of the individual. In another section of this essay reference has been made to the vast extension of the sphere of the individual and the large liberty of action now guaranteed him under the new regime. The Japanese of to-day lives in a new world. Under the influence of this changed moral environment he thinks new thoughts,—he is a new man. His sense of responsibility is increased, his labour is more effective, and he has learned how to combine the fruits of this increased energy so as to multiply the national wealth and the national strength.

The effect of this new thought upon the life of men, upon social and political reform, has been precisely what it has been in Western lands during the past 400 years. In the West this thought was the product of Christianity, of Christian preaching, and came to men in an intensely religious form. They began to realize that men without distinction of age or sex stand face to face with a personal God. The first effect was seen in a warmer religious life, but that warmer religious life was followed by truer ethical conceptions, a keener sense of social responsibility, greater effectiveness of labour, and gradually by increased national wealth and strength.

Referring to this general subject, the London *Spectator* says (Aug. 21, 1897, p. 241)

"But no religious movement like Methodism, ever stops short at moral results, it stirs up the whole forces of our nature, it rallies and sustains the most subtile and active powers of man. Just as no greater harm was ever done to any nation, whether politically, intellectually, morally, or socially than was done to France by the banishment of the Huguenots, so no more effective stimulus to activity in every department of life has been applied than in the great religious movements of England. Lollardism, Puritanism, Methodism, all in their turn enlarged the national intellect, and the enlargement is seen just as truly in political and industrial life as in the region of faith and morals. Men are not built in water-tight compartments, but the sea of thought surges all over man's nature and creates a soul under the ribs of death."

In Japan the new life and energy may not have come so directly from a religious source, yet they have come from contact with Christian nations and are indirectly at least the product of Christian thought. They are also in the main developing in harmony with Christian sentiment. They are the result of a keener appreciation of the place of man in nature and the strong, one might almost say dominating, power of his will. That appreciation will be found in the long run to lead to a theistic view of the universe, that is, a view of the universe which places it under the control of an ever present Divine Will.

But this new life and energy have, even in Japan in an important degree developed under a strong religious stimulus. In another section attention has been called to the abnormally large number of Christians in high social and official positions. Consciously or unconsciously they are moulding public opinion. Christian congregations, too, are scattered all over the land. It would appear that an army of 2,500, possibly 3,000, young people passes out of the Christian schools every year, each having spent on the average four years under Christian training and having come to be more or less controlled by Christian conceptions of life and duty. They carry these thoughts with them wherever they go, not always actively propagating them, but still living lives more or less framed under the influence of Christian teaching, and helping to strengthen an

* Tenrikyo, or the Teaching of the Heavenly Principles, is a reactionary sect of Shintoism originating with an old peasant woman of Yamato. Its chief doctrine is that of faith-healing. Remmonkyo, the Teaching of the Lotus Gate, is a similar sect also originating with a woman. The latter, though born of a peasant family in Owari, was chiefly associated with town life in northern Kyushu. The adherents of these sects number several millions.

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ethical sentiment in harmony with it. Whatever obstacles may for the time seem to stand in the way of the progress of Christianity, so long as that sentiment grows and men become increasingly accustomed to the thought of their personal, individual, responsibility, the more sensitive must they become to the appeals of a religion which speaks of a personal God and a personal Savior.

Another thought of great interest is suggested by this review. It is the close intellectual relation which Japan sustains to the West. This does not mean that Japan has lost her independence, any more than the close intellectual relation between the United States and Germany, means that either nation has lose her independence,—certainly there is no loss in any invidious sense of the term. It is simply a plain matter of fact that any deep-moving current of thought or feeling which appears in one country of the civilized world sooner or later, possibly modified by local influences, makes itself felt in other lands. Japan in casting in her lot with the representatives of modern civilization has made herself partner in the good and ill which the great world movements cause. The construction of a national system of ethics or philosophy may for a time seem feasible to some minds, but in the face of such great tides of thought, its foundations give way and the unity of the family of Him who hath made of one blood all nations of men asserts itself

That Japan has already responded promptly and strongly to the movements of thought which agitate the civilized world must be evident to any who have watched her recent history. The morbid nationalism, the loss of enthusiasm for party government, the ethical movements of the past seventeen years,—all betray the same tendency toward unity of thought and life.

The ultra-liberalism, too, which has checked the growth of our churches is no isolated phenomenon to be assigned to local causes; it is rather the response which Japan has made to a movement manifest throughout the world. Local influences have no doubt modified it in certain features, but their effect would have been small, but for that tide of doubt which has shaken the world

To the Christian who believes in the triumph of the Gospel of Christ and the certain establishment of His Kingdom, this growing harmony of thought and feeling is a source of rich inspiration. If Japan shares with Western lands the doubts and conflicts of these troublous times, it is because she has become a true sister nation. When they shall have fought their way to a clearer and more definite faith, she will stand by their side and lift her voice in the same glad song of victory.

IN A JAPANESE HOME AT NEW YEAR.

By R. B. Peery.

(Written for the "Japan Mail.")

Some years ago, by invitation of a Japanese friend, who was at that time a student in Tokyo, I visited him in his home, and spent the New Year holidays there. My friend's father, Mr Masuda, is a prosperous merchant in the growing town only a few hours journey by rail from Tokyo. It is an interesting Christian household, and the opportunity of visiting it was a welcome privilege, the pleasure of which was greatly enchanced by the fact that the visit came just at the New Year Festival—the most brilliant and popular of all Japanese festivals.

On the last day of the old year I accompanied my student friend to his home, and was duly presented to his father, mother, and sister O Yone San. Mr. Masuda was a grave, kind-looking man, past middle life; his wife was one of those sweet, motherly old women who know how to make all around them comfortable, and O Yone San was a bright girl of sixteen summers, as sweet and bewitching as maidens are everywhere. As the friend of their son and brother, I was given a warm welcome, and made to feel quite at home.

Seeing the great pride my hosts felt in their son, and their joy at having him back with them, gave me a feeling of kinship to them. O Yone San seemed very proud of her big brother, who treated her with as much kindness and consideration as if she had been his sweetheart. They formed a happy, reunited family, and I was generously given a place in its sacred circle.

The preparations that had been diligently made for the festival so soon to begin were in evidence on every hand. The interior of the house was as clean and bright as a new dollar, while the picturesque little garden had been strewn with fresh white sand, and was cleanly swept, and arranged in perfect order. The front gate was ornamented by a large arch of evergreen, over which hung an artistic straw cable, with an orange, a dried persimmon, a red lobster, and a bit of charcoal tied in the centre. I believe the cable is expected to keep the devils out for a whole year; and the articles attached to it bring long life and happiness. O Yone San took me out to the kitchen, and showed me a large supply of *mochi* she and the servants had prepared for the occasion. There it was in a great pile—round cakes made of rice flour and beans, in various sizes and colours. Everybody is expected to eat *mochi* at this season, and it is said to give strength and courage for the battles of the new year.

In a little while supper was announced, and we all seated ourselves in a semi-circle on the soft mats, in the best room; little tables about one foot square and six inches high were brought in, and one was placed before each person; then nice lacquered bowls containing dainty bits of fish, eggs, and vegetables were placed on them; and a small tub of steaming hot rice was set down in front of us. A delicious evening meal it was! and we did it full justice. Noticing that O Yone San served the rice with her own hands, although there were plenty of servants in the houses, I made bold to ask the reason, when the host replied, with a fine piece of sentiment, "I always have my daughter wait on me at meals, as the rice seems to taste better from her hands."

When supper was ended, and our lilliputian tables were all taken away, Mr. Masuda said thoughtfully,

"Well, another year has gone, and we enter upon a new one to-morrow. It has been a hard year to most of us, but by the help of God I have been able to balance up my accounts and pay off all old debts, and now I can enter upon the new year with a clean record.

"Is it customary in your country to settle up old business and pay off all debts at the end of the year?" I asked. "Yes, indeed," he replied, "it is the aim of every man to begin the new year unencumbered and if he cannot do so there is no real joy in his heart on New Year's Day—although he must put on a happy exterior, and receive the congratulations of friends with smiling face."

There is a very pretty custom, sometimes observed in Japan, of holding a Watch-Meeting on New Year's Eve, bidding farewell to the old year, and welcoming the new. The Christian people have adapted these meetings to their own needs, and occasionally hold a beautiful little service just at midnight on the last day of the old year. My host said there was to be such a service in the chapel to which he belongs, and asked me to go with the family to it. We set out at 11 p.m., and after a brisk walk in the cool night air, under a full moon, in due time we arrived at the chapel. It was an ordinary Japanese residence, such as are frequently used for chapels here, with mats for a floor, paper partitions, and a roof of straw. Going inside, we found a party of twelve or fifteen men and women seated on the soft, clean mats, warming their hands by some little *hibachis*. The evangelist sat at the upper end of the room—a serious looking man of perhaps forty years.

Promptly at 11.30 the service began by the singing of a timely hymn, after which a short Scripture lesson was read, and an earnest prayer made. Then the evangelist, sitting in familiar fashion among his flock, made a plain, practical talk; reviewing the past year, and especially dwelling upon the manifold favours of God to the Church, the nation, and to most of us as individuals. He exhorted each one, very earnestly, to review his past life; confess his sins unto God; and begin the new year with a clear conscience, and a deeper consecration to the Master. The occasion lent impressiveness to the talk, and all were visibly affected by it. The minute hand of the clock was drawing near to 12, and two or three short prayers were called for during the remaining moments. The responses were ready and sincere.

Suddenly the old temple bell, which serves as a town clock, began slowly and deliberately sounding the knell of the old year and while its solemn tones were ringing in our ears we all, with united voice, breathed forth the Lord's Prayer—and the meeting was done. Then followed sincere congratulations, and best wishes for the new year; after which the people quietly dispersed to their homes.

We were all up early next morning, and everyone was dressed in his best clothes, and wore his sweetest smile—for of all days in the year this must be the most cheerful and happy. Notwithstanding the season, the sun shone warm and bright, and it was a glorious day. Breakfast was dispatched in a hurry, when Mr. Masuda and his son, each taking a huge pile of cards, started off to pay their New Year calls—for everyone must call on everyone else in Japan on New Year. O Yone San brought a fine screen and set it across the hall in front of the entrance; then she placed a richly coloured mat before it, and put a silver card plate on the mat, to receive the cards of expected callers.

Having no calls to make myself I went out to see what was going on the outside. A bright and varied scene awaited me. The whole town was in holiday attire, and all was bustle, hubbub, and confusion. Japanese people are generally slow and deliberate in their movements; but on this particular morning I found them as wide-awake as Yankees, running here, there, and everywhere, as fast as short legs would carry them. People were swarming back and forth through the streets like bees in a hive, and all looked gay and happy, faces that had been long and sour for months now being radiant with smiles. All the shops were closed—something which I have never seen on any other day of the year here—and a national flag was waving from each house, the bright red suns looking very pretty in their setting of spotless white. Large arches of evergreen or small living pine trees, ornamented each gate, and exuberantly happy little children, in gorgeous red and yellow robes, were playing around them in high glee. It was a brilliant scene, such as can be witnessed nowhere else but in Japan, and even here only on New Year's morning.

After gazing on this lively street scene for a while, I returned to the house, where I noticed that the card plate was already full to overflowing, but every few minutes one more rushed in, and throwing another card on the pile hurried away. I was surprised to see little boys coming and leaving their cards along with the men. In this ever-flowing stream of people there were no ladies: they must stay at home to receive guests the first day, and make their calls later. Most of the visitors simply left their cards, but occasionally an intimate friend of the family came inside, and offered his congratulations in person. The usual formularies were as follows:

"This is a splendid New Year! I offer my congratulations."

"Thank you, it is a fine New Year."

"Last year I received countless favours from you, and I pray that you will continue them throughout this year also."

"No, positively; it was I who was helped by you. Please favour me with your august assistance this year too."

Some very polite bows, and the caller is gone, only to be followed by others who say the same things in turn. It used to be customary for everyone to come into the house and make a long call; but the habit of simply leaving the card has fortunately supplanted this in recent years.

Mr. Masuda and his son came in at a late dinner hour, looking as if they had been in a walking race. And with good reason, for they had visited about five hundred friends and acquaintances during the forenoon, but they took it all as a matter-of-course, and were smiling and happy over it.

For dinner we had a big feast, and the special dish was *mochi*. Each one ate as much *mochi* as he could, thus laying up strength for use during the year. While the meal was in progress Mr. Masuda turned to me and said,

"We have all entered upon another year now, and are one year older than we were yesterday. I believe you count differently in your country, but with us the New Year is everybody's birth-day."

"How is that?" I asked.

"We call a child one year old when it is born, and two at the next New Year. Then it gets to be a year older at each succeeding New Year."

In the afternoon my friends went out to complete their calls. The pile of cards at our own door kept growing larger and larger, and this continued for the space of two days. Finally the mania of calling seemed to exhaust itself, and the card plate was removed.

On the morning of the second day postal cards began to come in from a distance, bearing congratulations by mail. It is thought very impolite not to present congratulations at this season, and if one cannot do it in person custom directs that it be done through the mail.

I was deeply interested in the presents my host received on this occasion. The grocer, the butcher, the vegetable dealer, all brought substantial presents, and solicited the patronage of the house for the new year. Several fine large fish were received from friends, fish being one of the prescribed presents of the season.

The holiday ended with a great feast, to which all friends of the family, and the clerks in Mr. Masuda's employ, were invited. After that the people gradually settled down to their former ways.

This New Year Festival, as I experienced it in the home of my friend, was almost romantic; and it was with a deep feeling of regret that I saw it pass, and bade my kind entertainers farewell.

Saga, Hizen.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE PURSUIT OF DE WET.

Shanghai, Dec. 21.

A portion of General Knox's force has abandoned the pursuit of De Wet for the purpose of dealing with the new situation created by the invasion of Cape Colony.

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CLEMENTS AND DELAREY.

Delarey's force is near General Clements' camp. Fighting is believed to be imminent.

SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

Shanghai, Dec. 22.

Owing to the invasion of Cape Colony by the Boers, martial law has been proclaimed in twelve additional districts of the Cape.

MORE CAVALRY FOR THE CAPE.

There is reason to believe that the Aldershot Cavalry Brigade will be ordered to South Africa, probably about the beginning of February.

THE INVASION OF CAPE COLONY.

Reuter's correspondent at Cape Town says it is estimated that fully 2,000 Boers have crossed the frontier.

Grave fears are entertained of the Dutch joining the invading force and of the rebellion spreading. The want of drilled mounted troops is being severely felt in South Africa.

THE HAY-PAUNCEFOTE TREATY.

The Washington Senate has adopted the Hay-Pauncefote treaty with further amendments.

BRITISH HOLD STRATEGIC POINTS

The British strongly hold the strategic points on the Orange River in rear of the invaders.

SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

Shanghai, Dec. 24.

The Government has arranged for the immediate despatch of cavalry reinforcements for South Africa.

The Australian colonies and New Zealand are being invited to send further mounted contingents.

Three thousand horses besides the usual monthly supplies are to be sent.

General French routed 2,500 Boers near Krugersdorp on Dec. 19th.

Another Boer commando has entered Cape Colony.

Kimberley is seriously threatened.

The railway has been torn up at three places beyond De Aar Junction.

The Standard Bank, in view of the gravity of the situation, has removed its assets from Graaff Reinet, Aberdeen and Craddock to Port Elizabeth, and its assets from other outlying places to Cape Town.

A BOER DEFEAT

Shanghai, Dec. 26.

De Wet is in the neighbourhood of Senekal.

Clements has defeated a force of 3,000 men with five guns under Delarey. The Boers were entrenched on a range of kopjes but the Inniskillings and Borderers stormed the heights. French arrived later and routed the fleeing Boers.

REINFORCEMENTS.

Some 5,000 men and 8,000 horses will be shipped to South Africa early in January.

THE INVASION OF CAPE COLONY

The Dutch are elated at the progress made in invading Cape Colony. It is openly stated that the whole district of Victoria West will join the raiders. The communications are practically unguarded owing to the insufficiency of troops.

KITCHENER AT DE AAR.

Lord Kitchener is at De Aar taking measures to crush the invasion.

The British have occupied Vritstown unopposed.

The Boers have retired in the direction of Prieska.

DECORATION FOR VON BÜLOW.

The Emperor William has conferred on Count von Bülow the Order of the Black Eagle. This is regarded in Berlin as specially significant on account of von Bülow's attitude towards the Boer war.

THE DREYFUS AMNESTY BILL.

Shanghai, Dec. 27.

The French Senate has adopted the Dreyfus Amnesty Bill.

THE HAY-PAUNCEFOTE TREATY.

President McKinley has forwarded the Hay-Pauncefote treaty (as amended) to London, but refrains from making any comments upon it.

The London press is calm, but says that the treaty is quite unacceptable in its amended form.

THE INVASION OF CAPE COLONY.

A large number of troops have been sent to Cape Colony from the North

Very few colonials have joined the invaders.

The British have occupied Vritstown unopposed.

The Boers have retired northward.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

CHINA.

Saigon, Dec. 21.

It is telegraphed from Washington that the Ministers Plenipotentiary have come to an agreement on the joint note which is to be submitted to the Chinese

[The above was delayed between Tokyo and Yokohama owing to a defect of the telephone.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE BOER INVASION.

Saigon, Dec. 23.

Two thousand Boers have invaded the north of Cape Colony

REINFORCEMENTS FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

Saigon, Dec. 23.

England is sending reinforcements of cavalry to South Africa.

CHINESE AFFAIRS

Saigon, Dec. 25.

Li Hung-chang being sick, the joint note will be presented as soon as he recovers.

Saigon, Dec. 26.

A French reconnaissance has beaten the Boxers at Touleong, 30 kilometres south of Tientsin. Sub-Lieutenant Contal, of the 16th Infantry of the Marines, was killed in capturing the village of Kwong-tsai.

The joint note has been handed to Prince Ching.

CHINA NEWS

(Received at the War Office.)

The Tientsin-Peking railway was opened for traffic on the 19th instant, and one train passes daily in each direction.

(Non-Official.)

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

A company of French infantry encountered a force of 2,500 Chinese troops on the 22nd instant, near Choh chow. A fight ensued, and the Chinese ultimately fled, leaving some flags, four guns and a quantity of rifles and ammunition. They retreated in the direction of Ku-gan.

[These indications are perplexing, Choh-chow being near Paoting, and Ku-gan near Yang-tsung.—Ed. *J.M.*]

(Report from Japanese Consul at Newchwang.)

Dated Nov. 30th.

There has been no special change in tradal conditions during the past two months. Commerce is gradually recovering. The freezing of the Liao-yang and the Pei-ho being imminent, few ships are entering or clearing. The disturbed condition of the Liao-tung district has put an end to almost all commerce between that place and this. If peace were restored, business would doubtless be brisk next spring as the crops have been excellent. [Here follows a detailed account of the ruling prices of commodities.]

(Report from the Consul at Newchow.)

Dec. 13

There is an inevitable falling-off in trade owing to the disturbed state of North China, which is a principal market for woven stuffs from this place. The weaving looms have greatly decreased in number (from 12,000 or 13,000 to 6,000 or 7,000). The operatives used to be 100,000, but a great number of them are now unemployed, merely living at the expense of their masters, or by pawning their goods or by public charity. The distress on the side of manufacturers also is very great. The big manufacturers have been reduced to a petty business and the small are acting as pedlers. Rice is cheap owing to a fine crop. Yarns showed an upward tendency in October. Oil is scarce, owing to the non-arrival of beans from Newchwang. On the whole, commodities have depreciated from 10 to 20 per cent. since the spring. The money market is very tight. Twelve per cent. is charged for loans on the best security.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

JAPANESE PARTY ATTACKED.

Tientsin, Dec. 25.

Captain Yuda, of the Japanese Navy, now on the retired list, with two Japanese merchants and seventeen Chinese coolies, proceeded on the 24th instant, under orders from the military authorities, to a place called Chau-sung-kiau, some 25 miles to the south-west of Tientsin, to procure fire-wood. The party was attacked by a number of Boxers, who appear to have been waiting for them. Captain Yuda, one Japanese and five Chinese were killed. A force has been sent by the Japanese Authorities to attack these Boxers.

(From the "Ostasiatische Lloyd.")

NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

Peking, Dec. 14.

The day before yesterday some Boxers attacked a small detachment of British troops some twenty miles west from here. No news has yet reached Peking about the outcome of the affair.

Captain von Usedom, who is attached to Count Waldersee's staff, fell with his horse to-day, thereby incurring a very complicated fracture of the shinbone with many small splinters. Probably amputation of the leg cannot be avoided.

Pekin, December 15

An imperial edict has been received here, conveying an order from the Emperor for the preparation of new powers for Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang, by which they will be accredited in proper form to the Ministers of the Allies as peace commissioners and will be provided with the fullest authority to act in behalf of the Chinese Government. The edict further states that the Imperial seal, which was left at Peking when the Emperor went away, and which is now in the hands of an elderly lady of the harem, shall be used in drawing up the necessary documents.

The Dutch Minister Knobel has reached Peking and has taken quarters at the German legation

Peking, Dec. 19

Vice-Consul Zimmermann, who was in charge of the German Consulate at Tientsin during the last few months, has been given the rank of Consul.

Lieutenant Count von Soden who was in command of the German detachment at Peking during the siege, and Staff-Surgeon Dr. Velde, who gained great credit for arranging hospital service and caring for the wounded at Peking, have been appointed chevaliers of the Order of the Legion d'Honneur.

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NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Berlin, Dec. 14.

In the German Reichstag a four days' debate about the refusal to receive President Krüger came to an end to-day. The explanation given by Count Bülow gives general satisfaction. It was a pure statement of fact and has done very much to dissipate the enthusiasm for the Boers, which was founded on erroneous supposit.ons and to put in its place a calm judgment of the case.

Next Sunday the marines relieved from the China station, who have taken part in the fighting at Taku, Tientsin and Peking, will march into Berlin, where large preparations are being made for their suitable reception.

Berlin, Dec. 18, 8.20 p.m.

The loss of the training ship *Gneisenau* proves according to the news since received less serious than was at first reported from Malaga. Since yesterday morning quite a large number of persons who were thrown upon more distant rocks have reported themselves as safe. As far as can be seen at present, thirty-six have been drowned. On the other hand, the number of the wounded, some of whom are very seriously wounded, is considerably larger than was before reported, and is now estimated at 150.

It is is cabled from South Africa that the hope of the British military leaders that De Wet will be captured within a short time has not been fulfilled. De Wet has, on the contrary, broken through the British lines. British affairs in South Africa have within the last few days taken an evident turn for the worse.

Berlin, Dec. 19.

The Hamburg-America Line intend to establish in the important harbours of China and Japan agencies of their own. The director-general of the company, Mr. Ballin, leaves for this purpose in a few days for East Asia.

All nations have sent condoling messages to Berlin on account of the *Gneisenau* catastrophe.

The commander of H. G. M. S. *Hansa*, Captain Pohl, has been recalled to the naval office at Berlin; he will be succeeded by Captain Paschen.

The Governor of Kiautschow, Captain Jaeschke, has been been decorated with the seeond class of the Order of the Red Eagle with oakleaves.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, Dec. 8th:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders	18,987,817
Amount of convertible notes issued	202,012,136
Government deposits	34,670,139
General deposits	3,159,283
Exchange liability	14,740
Total	288,835,117

Cr.	
Discount notes	66,346,456
Foreign discount notes	14,919,903
Loan to Government	28,000,000
General loans	55,736,953
Exchange liability	3,427,414
Government bonds	52,597,459
Property	2,234,985
Bullion and Specie	65,571,945
Total	288,835,117

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week:—

Amount of convertible notes	197,942,661
Bullion and Specie:—	
Gold	61,565,617
Silver	2,000,000
Total	63,565,617
Securities:—	
Government bonds	30,848,044
Government certificates	28,000,000
Government bills	9,834,537
Commercial notes	65,694,458
Total	134,377,044

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	842,432
Silver	—	333,333
General loans	—	1,162,309
Government deposits		348,887
General deposits		435,305

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer		Date.
America	P M. Co.	Rio de Janeiro	1 W.	Jan. 2
Hongkong	M M Co.	Manchē	2 F.	Jan. 4
Hongkong	P M Co.	China	Sa.	Jan. 5
Europe	N D Lloyd	Preussen	Sa.	Jan. 5
America	O & O. Co.	Coptic	3 Th.	Jan. 10
Canada, &c.	C. P R. Co.	Em of India	M.	Jan. 14
Hongkong	O & O Co.	Doric	M.	Jan 14
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th.	Jan. 17
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M.	Jan 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em of China	Th.	Jan. 24

1 Left San Francisco on the 14th inst.
2 Left Hongkong onthe 26th inst
3 Left San Francisco on the 22nd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.		Date.
Hongkong	N. D. Lloyd	Princess Irene	Sa	Dec. 29
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu.	Jan. 1
Shanghai	N. Y. K	Kobe Maru	W	Jan. 2
Hongkong	P. M Co.	Rio de Janeiro	Th.	Jan. 3
Europe, via S'ha	M M. Co.	Manche	—	
America	P M. Co.	China	Fu.	Jan. 8
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	F.	Jan. 11
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M.	Jan. 14
America	O & O Co.	Doric	W	Jan. 16
Hongkong	T K K	America Maru	Tu.	Jan. 18
Canada, &c.	C P R Co.	Em of China	F	Jan 25

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,881, J. B. McMillan, 21st Dec.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 19th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 21st Dec., —Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 20th Dec., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Seikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, C. Young, 21st Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, 15th Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,699, K. Yamamoto, 21st Dec.,—Kobe, 19th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 21st Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 20th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinzess Irene, German steamer, 6,686, P. Wettin, 22nd Dec.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 21st Dec., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Eva, German steamer 2,083, C. Petersen, 22nd Dec., —Hongkong via Moji and Kobe, 20th Dec., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Dardanus, British steamer, 2,992, T. G. Steeves, 22nd Dec.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 21st Dec., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, M. Nishihara, 23rd Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Polarstjernen, Danish steamer, 2,200, A. Calleson, 23rd Dec.,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 21st Dec., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Energia, British steamer, 2,064, E. A. Chaplin, 24th Dec.,—Victoria, B.C., 3rd Dec., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, S. Tsuji, 24th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 24th Dec.,—Kobe, 22nd Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 24th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Stromboli (36), Italian cruiser, 3,898, Capt. Bregante, 24th Dec.,—Kobe, 23rd Dec.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 24th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 25th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 6th Dec. Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Puyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Otchi, 25th Dec., —Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Wm. Frakes, 26th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, 24th Dec., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tsuan, British steamer, 1,460, O. Andersen, 26th Dec.,—Australia via ports, and Hongkong, 20th Dec., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, K. Noda, 26th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, U. Matsumoto, 26th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakuma, 26th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Muramatsu, 26th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Teijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, Y. Yamamoto, 17th December,—Kobe General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumunoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, S. Yamamoto 27th Dec.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Volute, British Tank steamer, 2,599, Carter, 27th Dec.,—Hongkong, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 27th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 26th Dec., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 27th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 26th Dec., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K. Nobeta, 27th Dec.,—Kobe, 25th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Lindula, British steamer, 2,180, W. L. Stewart, 20th Dec.,—Madras via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Prinz Heinrich, German steamer, 3,992, R. Heintze, 21st Dec.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, Schmitz, 21st Dec., —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, I. Nomo, 21st Dec.,—Moji via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, K Nobeta, 21st Dec.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 21st Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rohilla Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,216, K. Shirane, 21st Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Teijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Y. Yamanouchi, 21st Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, T. Tibballs, 22nd Dec.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,592, S. J. G. Parsons, 22nd December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 22nd Dec., —San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General, —O. & O. S.S. Co.

Muke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, Kawamuro, 22nd December,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Skarpsno, Norwegian steamer, 1,140, Tillefsen, 23rd Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hero, Norwegian steamer, 2,418, Syvertsen, 23rd Dec., San Diego and San Francisco, General,—Butterfield & Swire.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 22nd Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese, steamer, 3,766, H. Peterson, 24th Dec.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, R. Machida, 24th Dec.,—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yangtsze, British steamer, 4,148, H. L. Allen, 24th Dec.,—Tacoma, Wash., Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Japan, British steamer, 2,793, G. K. Wright, 25th Dec.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, S. Wada, 25th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, M. Takahashi, 25th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Eva, German steamer, 2,083, C. Peterson, 25th Dec., —Portland, Oregon, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Polarstjernen, Danish steamer, 2,200, A. Calleson, 25th Dec.,—Kushiro, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 26th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

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Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 26th Dec.,—Shangha via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Daraanus, British steamer, 2,992, T. G. Steeves, 26th Dec.,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ispern, Austrian cruiser, 2,500, Captain W. Weber, 26th Dec.,—Shanhaikwan.

Zenta, Austrian cruiser, 2,500, Captain Montolmann, 26th Dec.,—Uraga

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, S. Tsuji, 26th Dec.,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 26th Dec.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, De La Lande, 26th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, K. Sakuma, 27th December,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Wm. Frakes, 27th Dec.,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Iiteyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, U. Matsumoto, 27th Dec., —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Cheong Yuk Too, Mr. Jablonsky, Master Louie Roth, Mr. L. de Micheaux, Mr. K. Suenson, Mr. and Mrs. B. Roth, and Mr. Geo. A. Adam, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. Charles Clift, Mr. Joseph Eslick, Miss E. Hughes, Miss E. F. Boughton, Capt. C. R. S. de Koven, Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Scott, Master Carey Scott, Mr. Geo. C. Walker and Javanese servant, Miss Katie Walker, Mr. W. R. G. Rivington, Rev. Geo. Campbell, Miss L. Hartwell, Miss A. R. K. Stryker, Master Harold Scott, Master Louis Scott, and Master William Walker, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. T. Shidate, Baron Mizoguchi, Lieut. S. Hyakutake, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mr. Ch. W. F. Diercks, Mr. T. Unozawa, and Mr. K. Okamoto, in cabin; 27 in steerage.

Per German steamer *Princess Irene*, from Europe via ports:—Mr. Frank Heal, Mr. A. H. Dare, Mr. S. Pohl, Dr. Rutter, Mr. A. Schmidt, Mr. F. R. Bleifuss, Miss A. Wismer, Mr. E. Wismer, Mr. S. M. Phillips, Mr. James T. Bacon, Mr. A. Haynemann, Mr. F. Ritter, Mr. F. Nolster, Mr. Paul, Mr. F. Hoffmann, Mr. A. Serno, Mr. M. Blumer, Mr. F. Parrott, Mr. M. Telser, Mr. R. Ehlers, Mr. L. Niemann, Mr and Mrs. Saxton, Mr. Alex. John, Max. Maultzoch, Mr. E. Gardner, Mr. J. Madeley, Mrs. Simpson, Mr. C. Nossa, Mr. S. Ogawa, Mr. E. Faizullabhoy, Mr. E. Horstmann, Mr. Alfred Hosch, Mr. A. Lemke, Mr. J. Albert, Mr. F. D. Moody, Mr. C. C. Lawrence, Mr. Joseph Israel, Mr. W. Brent, Mrs. O. Take, and Rev. L. Mertz, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss P. Cottle, Mr. H. Fujishima, Mr. I. Fujiki, Mrs. W. W. Greene, Mr. T. Hosoi, Mr. S. Kimkozan, Mr K. Kato, Mr Matsudaira, Mrs. H. C. Hooner, Miss Jean Henry, Mr. W. L. Lingnecker, Mr. K. Niwa, Mr. R. Otsuki, Mr. Sam. Wyllys Pomeroy, Mr. Sam. W. Pomeroy, Jr., Miss Helen W. Pomeroy, Mr. S. Sano, Mr. C. L. Tilden, Mr. S. Togo, Mr. M. Yamane, Mr. J. Moore, and Mr. F. R. Sherman, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. T. Takasu, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss A. Goetz, Mr. E. Runge, Mr. H. O. Hoover, Miss W. H. Rouse, and Miss F. J. Plumb, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. G. H. Whitford, Mrs. G. H. Whitford, Rev. C. H. Lyon, and Mr. J. W. Brown, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports:—Col. and Mrs. M. Barber, Mr. and Mrs. Keswick, Lieut.-Col. Welchman, Capt. Percy Smith, Mr. M. B. Reinders, Mr. L. Fraser Hurst, Lieut. C. H. Lyman, Mr. G. F. Smithers, Mr. T. Barto, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuska, Mr. T. Dubgen, Mr. C. O. Beck, Mr. H. Bethell, Mr. Justus Briggs and Mr. J. W. Crowe, in cabin; Mr. B. Duff, Mr. C. A. Henning, Mr. F. Pope, and Mr. T. W. Yergey, in intermediate. In Transit.—Capt. Lockhart, Mr. Tytgat, and Rev. J. Goette, in cabin; 13 in intermediate; 225 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Matsuyama, Mr. Geo. Eckley, Mrs. Tenkate, and Mr. E. Frost and wife, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Dr. H. Tenkate, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. Robt. M. McWade, Mr. Peter Bergesin, Mr. C. Fowler, and Mr. H. Kodama and servant, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Oceanien*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Dick Fuller, Mr. Fritz Steinsh, Mr. E. Dumballe, Mr. Paul Job, Mr. Odon Hirtette, Mr. O. de Noailles, Mr. P. Monge, and Mr. M. Hayashi, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss E. F. Boughton, Rev. Geo. C. Campbell, Mr W. A. Castens, Mr Charles Clift, Mr. Paul A. Davis, Mrs. Paul A. Davis and child, Mr. Frank Deardorf, Mr. Jos. Eslick, Mr. C. M. Fassett, Mrs. C. M. Fassett, Miss C. Fassett, Mr. L. M. Fassett and servant, Miss L. Hartwell, Mr. C. Hartwell, Miss E. Hughes, Capt. C. R. S. de Koven, Miss Lewis, Mr. Edward Osborn, Mr. Otis A. Poole, Mr. W. R. G. Rivington, Rev. J. H. Scott, Mrs. J. H. Scott, Master Carey Scott, Master Harold Scott, Master Louise Scott, Miss A. K. Stryker, Mr. Geo. C. Walker and servant, Miss Katie Walker, Master Wm. Walker, Master Eric M. Worden, Master Warren H. Worden, Miss Mary O. Worden, and Miss Lena Zurfluh, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. Arai and servant, Mr. J. C. Brown, Mr. S. Garratt, Miss A. Goetz, Mr. H. C. Hoover, Rev. C. H. Lyon, Mr. Frank Moran, Miss I. J. Plumb, Miss R. H. Rouse, Mr. Edward Runge, Mr. I. Takase, Mr. G. H. Whitford, and Mrs. G. H. Whitford, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Japan*, for London via ports:—Capt. and Mrs. C. C. Talbot, 2 children 1 infant and nurse, Mr. J. Showell Plant, Mr. W. R. Yule, Mr. Heron, Mr. R. T. Clarke, and Mr. Macdonald, in cabin.

REPORT.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Capt. Wm. Finch, reports:—Left Hongkong on Dec. 11th, left Shanghai on Dec. 15th, left Nagasaki on Dec. 17th, left Kobe on Dec. 20th, and arrived at Yokohama on Dec. 21st. Fine weather and smooth seas throughout passage.

SILK SHIPMENTS.

Per French steamer *Oceanien*, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw silk for Europe, 687 bales. Waste silk for Europe, 452 bales.

Per British steamer *Japan*, for London via ports: Raw silk for Europe, 48 bales.

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Prinz Heinrich*:—

	RAW.				WASTE.			
	China.	Japan.	M'chow.		Italy.	France.	Suez.	Austria.
Siber, Wolff & Co....	208	164			61	70		
Otto Reimers & Co	542							1
Sieber & Co.	170							
Nabholz & Co	80							
Bavier & Co.				10				
W. Tallers								3
Dell'Oro & Co....					194			16

Total—1,174 bales, Raw Silk; 344 bales, Waste Silk.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Transactions are *nil* and business will be at a standstill until after the holidays.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.85
Grey Shirting—9lb, 31½ yds, 45 inches..	4.75 to 6.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches .	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ..	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches ..	PER YARD 0.22 to 0.32½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD
Flannels	Y. 0.45 to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.24 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 *to* 36 inches	0.65 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 *to* 65 inches	0.90 to 1.10
Cloths—Union, 54 *to* 56 inches	0.60 to 1.10
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb.	0.68 to 0.78
	PER PIECE
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.96 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0 lb 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.15 to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24 25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.80

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	Y. 150.00 to 155.00
Nos 28 32, Singles	Nominal
Nos 38 42, Singles	Nominal
Nos. 32, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	190.00 to 200.00
Nos 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	295.00 to 310.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	360.00 to 390.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	Nominal

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	30.50 to 31.00
Indian Broach, Chinese	Nominal

METALS.

Practically nothing doing.

	PER PICUL
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Iron Plates, assorted	5.70 to 6.20
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.70
Galvanised Iron sheets	12.20 to 13.70
Wire Nails, assorted	7.70 to 8.20
Tin Plates, per box	7.70 to 8.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.65 to 2.80
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1½ inch)	6.70 to 7.10

KEROSENE.

Large deliveries are taking place but prices are unchanged.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.68
Langkat	No Stock

SUGAR.

There is not much business and prices are unaltered.

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	Y. 5.30 to 6.00
Brown Manila	5.70 to 6.90
Brawn Daitung	4.30 to 5.50
Brawn Cantan	5.50 to 7.00
White Java and Penang	7.30 to 8.70
White Refined	8.30 to 9.95

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Demand is still slack and at the close of the year the market is very quiet and weak. Sales since the end of November have totalled 4,100 piculs and stock in Yokohama is now 20,760 piculs, of which 20,170 are Filatures and Re-reels.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra, Fine	None
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	Y. 950 to 900
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	890 to 900
Filatures—No 1, Coarse	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	800 to 810
Filatures—No 2, Fine	820 to 830
Filatures—No 2, Coarse	None
Common—Coarse	None
Re reels—Extra	Nominal
Re reels—No. 1	805
Re reels—No. 1½	770 to 775
Re-reels—No. 2	750 to 755
Re-reels No 3	805 to 810
Kakedas—Extra	None
Kakedas—No. 1	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 1½	780 to 785
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2½	750 to 760

WASTE SILK.

Market is still quiet but prices firm.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	145 to 155
Noshi—Filatures, Good	135 to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	150 to 155
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	140 to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	None
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	100 to 110
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	90 to 95
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	120 to 125
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	55 to 60
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	45 to 50

TEA.

No business to report.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	34 to 35
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	26 to 27
Good Common	24 to 25
Common	22 to 23

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

SILK EXPORTS.

Per N. P. steamer *Tacoma*, for Tacoma, Dec. 10 —

	Bales
Bavier & Co.	5

Per N. D. L. steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, for Europe Dec. 21:—

	Bales
Bavier & Co.	10
Nabholz & Co.	80
Otto Reimers, & Co.	542
Siber, Wolff & Co.	372
Sieber & Co.	170
Total	1,174

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Per M. M. steamer *Oceanien*, for France, Dec. 21 —

	Bales.
P. Dourille	47
L. Gouilloud	16
C. Guissani	53
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	167
Longin & Co.	4
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	30
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	65
Siber, Wolff & Co.	53
Varenne & Co.	195
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	5
I. Ishi	55
Total	687

Per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco, Dec 22 —

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	10
Averill & Co.	10
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	90
Varenne & Co.	140
Vivant Bros.	70
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	168
Doshin Kaisha	23
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	70
Total	581

To 24TH DECEMBER, 1900.

	Bales.
American Trading Co.	35
Averill & Co.	645
Bavier & Co.	627
Chauvin & Co.	10
China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	170
H. Dent & Co.	429
P. Dourille	190
Findlay, Richardson & Co.	120
L. Gouilloud	16
C. Guissani	78
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	2,560
Longin & Co.	428
Middleton & Smith	270
A. Mottet	60
Nabholz & Co.	1,754
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	1,343
Otto Reimers & Co.	2,307
Robison Silk Trading Co., Ltd.	521
Siber, Wolff & Co.	3,322
Sieber & Co.	1,507
W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd.	263
Varenne & Co.	1,460
Vivant Bros.	1,350
Kuto Gomei-Kaisha	4,187
Doshin Kaisha	826
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	1,202
I. Ishi	291
Total	25,971

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, December 27.

Silver from London $\frac{1}{16}$ higher and $\frac{1}{4}$ higher sterling quotations from Hongkong, but no change from Shanghai and locally rates for the mail per steamer *Empress of Japan* close as under.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¼
— — Bills on demand	2/0$\frac{1}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	2.55
— Private 4 months' sight	2.61
— — 6 months' sight	2.62½
America—Bank sight	49⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	50⅞
Germany—Bank sight	2.07
— Private 4 months' sight	2.12½
Hongkong—Bank sight	¾% prem.
— Private 10 days' sight	*1% prem.
Shanghai—Bank sight	* 69¼
— Private 10 days' sight	* 71½
India—Bank sight	151¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154
Bar Silver (London)	29⅝

* Nominal.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, December 27.

Grand Hotels are steady at *yen* 230. Langfeldts, sellers at *yen* 90. Japan Breweries, buyers at *yen* 140; offers of shares wanted. Helms, offers for shares are wanted.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	207 50 Sales.
Grand Hotel	230 Steady.
Club Hotel	85 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	150 Sales.
Langfeldt & Co.	90 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	140 Buyers.

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Soft White Hands
Luxuriant Hair
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Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour,

Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, CUTICURA Ointment, to instantly allay itching, inflammation, and irritation, and soothe and heal, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the severest humours, with loss of hair, when all else fails. Sold throughout the world. "All about the Skin, Scalp, and Hair," post free, of Aust. Depot, R. TOWNS & CO., Sydney, N. S. W. So. African Depot: LENNON LTD., Cape Town. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.

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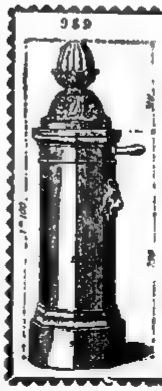

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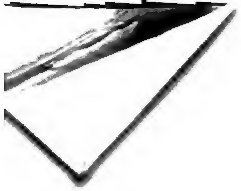

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